

TOURS

(The Tours sign-up table has more detailed information.)

Wednesday, June 26, 2013 — Huron in Bloom Garden Tour

Huron has an abundance of beautiful public and home gardens that are waiting to be discovered! Join us for a full day of garden tours and seminars on your favorite gardening subjects. We have teamed with local businesses and homeowners to bring you a wide variety of gardening styles and topics that will make your yard and garden a “home vacation” hot spot for your friends and family. The tour schedule is listed below; you may join us at any time during the tour. Homes are open only during the scheduled times with the homeowners present to tell you all about their gardens. Maps of the tour stops will be available at a later time. We'll end up the afternoon at East River Nursery for a garden seminar and shopping time at their year-round garden center and gift store.

8:00-8:45 a.m.

Putters and Scoops/Ravine Island

Huron's historical roots are evident in the beautifully remodeled bath house at Ravine Lake Park on the east side of town right along Highway 14. Currently the bath house is home to Putters and Scoops, an ice cream shop and restaurant that serves the hundreds of people that come to the lake during the summer. If you have time during your stay, come back and enjoy a round of miniature golf and enjoy homemade ice cream from South Dakota State University's famous dairy program! Melanie Harrington and her family, as well as many volunteers, have been instrumental in getting this public area developed in the last five years; working diligently to improve the grounds by adding perennial flower beds and flower planters. You'll enjoy the stroll over the bridge to the small island where flowers abound. Get your daily exercise on the paved bike and walking trail that surrounds the lake or hit the water with the available rental paddle boats!

9:00-9:45 a.m.

Doris and Leland Skow Residence, 456 Lawnridge SE

Just a short hop away from Ravine Lake is a garden on the banks of the James River. Doris has perfected the art of gardening on a steep slope with her stone retaining walls that bloom profusely with perennials, shrubs and annuals throughout the season.

10:00-10:30 a.m.

Winter Park Memorial Rose Garden, 5th St. SE/Kansas Avenue

Huron has many beautiful parks, but Winter Park is extra special with the recent addition of the Memorial Rose Garden. The Huron Garden Club came up with the memorial garden concept and initially the garden was located on the south side of the Public Library in Campbell Park. The library underwent an expansion project a few years ago and it was decided to move the rose garden to Winter Park. Currently the garden contains varieties of hybrid tea roses that are cared for by the city parks department. Last year, a major fundraising effort provided funds for the stone block wall on the north side of the garden. Future plans include development of more beds with hardy shrub roses. The area is also being developed as an outdoor venue for weddings and family events. The white gazebo was moved from Riverside Park after major flooding of the James River restricted use of the area.

10:45-11:30 a.m.

Shari and Wes Goehner, 1631 Kansas SE

If you garden in a small space, then this is the stop for you! Shari has a very tiny backyard and side-yard garden that is packed full of perennials, shrubs and annual flowers. There isn't a square inch of space that isn't producing color all summer long. Take note of the charming recycled yard accents that abound. Shari loves re-using and re-purposing antiques and items that others might just toss in the garbage!

11:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

Connie and Loren Ross Residence, 1956 Illinois SW

Connie has always been an avid gardener, so when the empty lot next door to their home came up for sale, they jumped at the chance to enlarge their garden. Loren and Connie have developed a lovely area with winding pathways that take you to many different theme beds. Make sure to notice the numerous shrub varieties, as well as perennial and annual flowers. Interesting garden art has been added over the years to accent the beds.

12:15-1:30 p.m.

Lunch Break, (Location to be announced)

1:45-2:30 p.m.

Melanie and Bruce Harrington Residence, 1919 McDonald Drive

The Harrington family is very busy, not only taking care of Ravine Lake Park, but also gardening in their own backyard. This charming garden is located in one of the older residential areas in Huron with mature shade trees.

2:45-3:30 p.m.

Julie and Del Hoffmann Residence, 4233 Dakota Avenue South

Just a short drive south of Huron, this residence belongs to the owners of East River Nursery. They use their personal home garden as a test plot for new and unusual varieties of trees, shrubs and flowers that might survive our South Dakota winters. Landscape clients also may tour the garden to gain ideas for their own yards. The nursery specializes in hardscape installations, so take note of the charming front entrance to the home constructed of tumbled block and a white arbor. The vegetable garden in the backyard also has some interesting ideas that you may not normally see in a regular garden.

3:45-5:45 p.m.

East River Nursery, 5659 Dakota Avenue South

This nursery has been in business for the last 29 years and is owned by Julie and Del Hoffmann. When you arrive at the store we will be gathering in the meeting room for a short gardening seminar. After the seminar you may enjoy shopping in their expansive year-round greenhouse and gift store. The Hoffmann family and their employees did all of the finish work inside their new store that was constructed in 2005, including over 4000 square feet of ceramic tile, white washed wood walls, and custom displays. Their business includes a full line of services including landscape design and installation and a seasonal Christmas store.