

News Column, May 23, 2011  
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## Growing Green with Extension Educator Robin Trott Master Gardener Bus Trip

Experienced and novice gardeners, set aside Wednesday, June 22 for our annual Bus Tour, sponsored by University of Minnesota Master Gardeners: Douglas County. The cost of this year's tour is \$20, and includes three exciting stops:

1. Chuck Levine, Urban Horticulture Teacher in the Anoka/Hennepin school district, author of "Gardening in the Midwest", and co-author of the "Minnesota Gardener's Guide", has graciously invited us to his private garden. A native of Duluth, Levine holds degrees from the University of Minnesota - Crookston (UMC), and a master's degree from the University of Minnesota - St. Paul. Known as "The Garden Guy," Levine and his wife, Tarri, live in Roseville where he has a one-acre garden. Come join us on a tour of his unique urban garden.
2. St Paul Campus Display Gardens: This garden includes a combination of landscape features such as decks, patios, water features, fences, walls, seating, walkways, a pergola and a kiosk. Woody plants, herbaceous plants and turf are featured in both landscape and trial settings. The Department of Horticultural Science Display and Trial Garden is made up of 15 segments. These include: Outdoor Classroom, Perennial Garden (Sun & Shade), Water Garden, Texture Garden, Sustainable Garden, Minnesota Garden, Kiosk, Annual and Perennial Trial Areas, Prairie, Low Maintenance Turf Trials, Grass Identification Area, Headhouse, Alderman Hall, and Mullin's Woods. Come take a guided tour of these spectacular gardens.
3. Linder's Garden Center: Linder's Greenhouse & Garden Center is a three-generation family owned business. Linder's was started by Albert Linder in 1910, who grew celery and other vegetables to take to market. Over the years as the demand changed, he transitioned to growing flowers and phased out the vegetables. Currently operated by Albert's grandchildren, Linder's now produces over 13 million annual plants from more than 600 varieties, 500,000 perennials from over 800 varieties and 50,000 poinsettias. Linder's is also the only garden center in the Twin Cities to guarantee their trees, shrubs, perennials and roses for two years. Linder's Garden Center carries an extensive collection of trees, shrubs, perennials, annuals, roses, indoor plants, seasonal blooming plants, water gardening plants, and all the supplies and tools needed to be successful gardeners. Shop to your heart's content and then have lunch on your own at nearby Rosedale Center Mall.

The bus loads at Viking Plaza Mall, near Herbergers, at 7 AM, and departs at 7:15, sharp. Our estimated return time is between 5:00-5:30 PM. Registrations may be dropped off or sent to the University of Minnesota Extension office at 720 Fillmore Street, Suite B090, Alexandria. For more information, call 320-762-3890. Registrations will be accepted until the bus is full, so act soon.

Hope to see you there! Until next time, happy gardening!

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*Science, or para-science, tells us that geraniums bloom better if they are spoken to. But a kind word every now and then is really quite enough. Too much attention, like too much feeding, and weeding and hoeing, inhibits and embarrasses them. -Victoria Glendinning*