

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Southern IA Nut Tour and Field Day

Nut production, agroforestry & water quality

Centerville, Iowa (Sept. 14th 2024) — Join the Iowa Nut Growers Association (INGA) for a fun filled day talking nuts and agroforestry at the Indian Hills Community College/INGA Nut Test Plot growing there. We will meet at 10:00 am for a tour of the research planting & test plot on the campus of Indian Hills Community College located at 721, N 1st St. in Centerville Iowa. Attendees can enjoy a leisurely ride on the “Chestnut Express” wagon while learning about all the various nut species being grown, including hazelnuts, black walnuts, pecans, hickories, chestnuts and more. The afternoon includes a tour of the Wayne and Ilona Strovers Farm north of Chariton.

“If someone is serious about growing chestnuts, or other nuts in Iowa, this would be a good event to attend so they can see what mature trees producing nuts look like and learn from others already doing it” said Iowa Nut Growers President Mary Ellen Miller. Lunch is provided but registration is required for lunch count.

The afternoon will feature a forest and orchard tour with owner Ilona Strover and retired DNR Forester Duane Bedford who will explain the initial tree planting layout/plan and pre-planting site prep. DNR District Forester Jeremy Cochrane will review the species planted, planting method, tree protection, post-planting maintenance, etc. Ilona will outline future plans for these trees. Handouts will be provided with more detailed information.

Attendees can ride the Chestnut Express, a “people mover wagon” supplied by Wayne County SWCD, at both Indian Hills and the Strovers Farm to accommodate a wide range of participants. Lunch is free, courtesy of Indian Hills Community College, but registration is required for lunch count. Register here <https://forms.office.com/r/n2fNzZ1CaK> by Tuesday, Oct. 1st or visit the Iowa Nut Growers Association website at <https://iowanutgrowers.com/>

Contact Jeff Jensen at jeff@jenagres.com 515-320-6756 or Mary Ellen Miller at rosehaven1760@gmail.com 515-783-6390

Who: Iowa Nut Growers Association and Indian Hills Community College
What: Southern Iowa Nut Tour and Field Day
Where: Indian Hills Community College, 721 N 1st St, Centerville IA & Wayne & Ilona Strovers Farm, 54863 250th Ave. Chariton IA
When: Saturday, Oct. 5th starting at 10:00 a.m.
Why: Tour the research plot, learn about nut production, experience agroforestry
How much: This event is FREE with lunch provided but registration is required at the link below <https://forms.office.com/r/n2fNzZ1CaK>

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