Cole County Spring Workshop Series Summary

With a total of 68 attendees over their workshop series, Cole County was very satisfied with the outcome. Those surveyed after the workshops replied positively, indicating that they will be able to take home and apply the information that was presented! Some people commented that they would start using rain barrels, plant natives, and start composting.

Session 1 Covered Turf Care practices and 23 of 24 attendees surveyed indicated that they would change some gardening practice as a result of attending the workshop. Some noted they learned they were doing things they shouldn’t, some noted that they would raise their mower height, leave grass clippings, and switch from a synthetic to organic fertilizer.

Session 2 was covered by The Jefferson City News Tribune and featured on Tuesday, March 31st in an article about Pat Guinan’s presentation on Climate Trends.

Session 3 was mostly attended by Master Gardeners and focused on organic vegetable gardening to reduce pesticide use. Of the 13 attendees surveyed, all indicated that they would apply something they learned from the workshop. Examples include using organic fungicides, changing watering methods, using raised beds, and using hoops to help floating row covers be more effective.

The Cole County Healthy Yards for Clear Streams was invited by DNR on April 24th to have a booth for The Capital Earth Day. See website: http://www.dnr.mo.gov/earthday/ Capital Earth Day drew over 1800 students and their families. This event targets 5th graders, but is open to the general public too. The HYCS booth handed out brochures about the program and featured insect displays borrowed from the MU Entomology museum along with live, Madagascar hissing cockroaches.

Way to go, Cole County!