



Springtime at QWL

Upcoming Events

**Dubuque Renaissance
Faire May 21-22**

**Dubuquefest Fine Arts
Festival May 20-22**

**Catfish Festival May 27-
29**

**Americas River Festival
Chicago playing on Fri-
day night June 10-12**

**Father's Day Luncheon
Cruise June 19**

Fireworks Cruise July 3

Garden Party

On May 14th a group of garden enthusiasts descended upon Quiet Walker Lodge to do some serious planting. Friends from around the area gave us a multitude of plant slips and blubs to plant at the lodge.

The ground had been prepared the month before using the lasagna layering method which involves lay-

ering brown and green materials one over another to produce good compost.

I put the deer fence and gate up the week before so that the deer would not eat the new garden. I had to hire someone to pound the stakes into the ground and then I wrapped deer fence around the stakes forming a seven foot barrier for the

deer. I also made sure I had enough folded over on the ground to prevent those little furry bunnies from

going under the fence to munch on the tender plants.

It took us most of the day to plant the garden. We had a potluck lunch and enjoyed the evening looking at our accomplishments!

I tried to plant some plants that would attract butterflies. I was able to get Butterfly weed in four beautiful colors and I am hoping I will see many more butterflies with the addition of these plants. I also have a crabapple tree planted in the garden to attract more birds. Hopefully the garden will grow and provide food for the birds and butterflies as well as flowers for the guests that come and visit the lodge.



Vegetable Garden

Besides planting the songbird garden this May, I also planted my vegetable garden. I have been growing the plants from seeds in the greenhouse. Someone told me to use egg cartons to start the seedlings. This worked great as the carton kept the little seeds moist. As the seedlings grew, I transplanted them to small peat pots until the weather was good for planting outside.

I found vegetable bed kits made out of recycled

material at Sam's. They were easy to put together and are guaranteed not to crack or rot. After laying them out, I covered the bottom with newspaper for weeds and netting to keep gophers or other creatures from tunneling under the beds. Last week I planted the 18 beds with a variety of vegetables and I am excited to watch my produce grow!

