



2017 NASGA Summer Tour

Day One – Tuesday August 15, 2017

Minnesota Landscape Arboretum

Chaska, Minnesota

Visitors to the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum enjoy more than 1,200 acres of manicured gardens, woods and prairies, accessible via 12.5 miles of walkable trails and garden paths. The vast space, divided into 28 named gardens and 45 plant collections, showcases more than 5,000 plant species and varieties. Highlights include a Japanese Garden, Daylily and Chrysanthemum Walk, Kitchen Herb Garden, Maze Garden and Peony Walk.

As a premier northern garden, the Arboretum was borne out of the University of Minnesota Horticultural Research Center and established in 1958, with the Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis, Lake Minnetonka Garden Club, Minnesota State Horticultural Society and other community supporters creating the Arboretum as a gift to the University of Minnesota.

Untiedt's Vegetable Farm

Waverly, Minnesota

Founded in 1971 by Sue and Jerry Untiedt, Untiedt's Vegetable Farm is located near Waverly, Minnesota. The original 40 acre farmstead serves as home base to their medium-sized family-farm enterprise. In addition to their road side vegetable stands and garden centers, Untiedt's is proud to offer a Community Supported Agriculture program (CSA). 50 different small fruits and vegetable crops are being raised at Untiedt's. Along with that large selection comes the extended "harvest window," which is much wider than most other Minnesota growers because they farm many crops under high tunnels. You can recognize their locations by the red, green, and yellow gazebos and the words "We Grow For You."

The Berry Patch

Forest Lake, Minnesota

The Berry Patch is owned and operated by long time NASGA member and current board member Kevin Edberg. The Berry Patch planted its first strawberries in 1972, making it one of the first berry operations in the northeast metro area. Red raspberries were planted a couple years later, and the first blueberry plants in 1981. Today there are about six acres of strawberries, two acres of raspberries and eight acres of blueberries.

Over the past 40 years, they have innovated with other crops, including day neutral strawberries, yellow and purple raspberries, tart cherries, asparagus and vegetables. They have also been progressive in adopting new growing methods, particularly Integrated Pest Management (IPM).

Pine Tree Orchard

White Bear Lake, Minnesota

The Jacobson's have been active members in NASGA for many years and Bill has been on the board for 4 terms including a stint as president in the late 90's.

In 1950, Art and his wife, Dickey, moved out to the orchard and eventually purchased it in 1958. The original orchard of 25 acres is now over 300 hundred acres; planted in apple trees, strawberries, pumpkins and corn for the corn maze. In 1963, Pine Tree Orchard purchased an additional orchard in Preston, Minnesota. Today, all six adult children are actively involved in growing and marketing apples and strawberries. Each family member has his or her own special interest. The farm is a popular PYO destiny for strawberries and the bakery and market features a myriad of products produced from fruit grown on the farm.

Day Two – Wednesday August 16, 2017

Govin's Meats and Berries

Menomonie, Wisconsin

John and Julie Govin offer a unique experience with a selection of Pre-picked and Pick Your Own Strawberries as well as other entertainment including a corn maze, pumpkins and fall activities. Govin's also offers as their name suggests custom cuts of lamb and chickens. They invite families out in the spring to enjoy interacting with the baby lambs. The farm also features The Weddin' Barn and breeds Great Pyrenees dogs and offers puppies for sale.

Red Cedar Valley Farms

Menomonie, Wisconsin

At Red Cedar Valley Farms they focus on the production of June bearing strawberries and market them both as a Pick Your Own crop as well as having fresh picked berries at the farm and at three satellite farm stands.

Afton Apple Orchard

Hastings, Minnesota

Frank and Cindy Femling have been NASGA members for many years. Frank and Cindy have over 200 acres producing delicious Minnesota grown strawberries, raspberries, pumpkins and 14 different varieties of apples. The farm also features a HUGE unique playground, Straw Mountain, Retread Hill and Johnny Combine. They also has a petting farm and their renowned "Moo Moo Choo Choo" train as well as a new jumping pad. In the fall they offer hayrides into the orchard for picking as well as a 15 acre corn maze. They also market their value added products including frozen unbaked apple pies, frozen apple crisps, and homemade jams. They also offer a rental hall for weddings and other events. Frank is quite a fabricator and has many items on the farm that are quite unique but very functional.

Gertens Greenhouse**Inver Grove Heights, Minnesota**

Gertens started close to 100 years ago growing vegetables and quickly adopted the motto “Buy from the Grower.” Today they pride themselves on growing the best variety and quality plants, trees and shrubs. Their retail store is more than 40,000 square feet in size offering the widest selection of annuals, perennials and nursery stock in the Twin Cities, Gertens is only one of a handful of garden centers that grows the majority of the goods they sell. They recently constructed a 2.5 acre modern greenhouse and boast a 4th generation of family working on the farm. Gertens sells a variety of garden center items in addition to their plants and has a very dynamic website for its customers.