



## MASTER GARDENER PROGRAM – HENNEPIN COUNTY

# Presentation Offerings -- 2017

### SPRING / SUMMER

#### **Butterfly Gardening**

Discover the life cycle of a butterfly, learn about choosing host and nectar plants and take the next step and start creating your own butterfly garden!

#### **Edible Gardening**

Ideas and methods to incorporate edible plants into just about anywhere in your landscape. New ways to think about growing edibles.

#### **The Evolving Garden**

Ideas and practices to allow you and your garden to age gracefully together.

#### **Care of Houseplants**

This presentation introduces basic principles of houseplant care including watering, soil, and light. It also presents suitable plants for various conditions such as low-light, medium-light, low-humidity, etc. along with specific care information for plants in the presentation. Handouts include a plant list and an article about insect control.

### COMPOSTING

#### **Backyard compost Basics**

A discussion of compost basics for people who are starting or using an outdoor compost setup. We'll discuss why to compost, the biology of compost, what kind of bin to use and where to locate it, what to put in it, how to maintain and troubleshoot your compost, composting in a Minnesota winter, and what to do with the finished compost in the garden.

#### **Worm compost basics**

A discussion of compost basics for people who are starting or using an indoor worm compost setup. We'll discuss why to compost with worms, worm biology and habitat, what kind of bin to use, good places for worm bins, how to maintain and troubleshoot your worm bin, how to harvest vermicompost, and what to do with the finished compost.

### **Container Gardening: A How-To Guide**

Container gardening is the practice of growing plants in containers instead of in the ground. After this presentation we hope that attendees will know how to design and care for a container garden, feel more confident in designing, starting and maintaining a container garden and be ready to plant a container garden.

### **Flowers for Pollinators**

Become inspired to create healthy pollinator habitats in your community by attending the *Flowers for Pollinators* presentation. Dive into the science of pollination with Master Gardener Volunteers to discover what types of flowers bring pollinators to the garden. Learn how to identify the pollinators you'll see in the neighborhood, and develop an understanding of the threat they face in our communities. You'll leave this presentation empowered and inspired to create pollinator-friendly habitats in your community - so help pollinators thrive in your community by attending a *Flowers for Pollinators* presentation.

### **Growing, Harvesting & Enjoying Herbs**

Take the mystery out of both growing and using/storing these easy care plants for landscaping, food and drink use, pollination, decorating, and more!

## **PERENNIALS**

### **Perennial Gardening Basics**

This program provides a broad overview of how to grow perennial garden plants. A review of common perennials will be provided along with the desired growing conditions and best practices.

### **Perennial Shade Gardening**

Got shade? Learn about techniques and best practices for growing perennials in shady places, It's much more than just Hostas! (though we like them too!)

### **Getting the Most From Your Perennial Garden**

Learn more about managing your perennial garden, from diseases, pest and dividing techniques. We will also discuss how to renovate and rejuvenate a mature garden.

### **Rain Gardening**

A rain garden is a bowl-shaped garden designed to absorb excess rainwater run-off from a house and its associated landscape. Learn how having a rain garden benefits the environment, how to make one and what plants are suitable.

### **Sustainable Lawn Care**

Create a healthy lawn using fewer inputs like water, fertilizer and time, while still having a positive impact on the environment

### **VEGETABLE GARDENING**

#### **Your First Vegetable Garden**

Get your garden off to a smart start. Learn the basic information you need to become a more successful vegetable gardeners. You will learn some common terminology; where to locate your garden; selecting cool and warm weather vegetables to grow; whether to direct seed or select transplants; how to minimize insect damage and soil diseases without using chemicals; types of traditional and creative gardens to consider; the basic tools you will need; how to use companion, successive, and succession planning to extend your harvest; and some practical ways to control animals and weeds.

#### **Square Foot Vegetable Gardening**

Are you one of the many people who love to garden but have limited space to do so? Join us for an interactive session on how you can grow your own vegetables and ornamentals in a small space. Led by Extension Master Gardener Volunteers – Hennepin County, learn the basics of this exciting new trend.

#### **Advanced Vegetable Gardening**

Grow beyond the basics with this interactive program. You will learn how to create a simple multi-year rotational plan to minimize diseases and insect damage; how to extend your season in the spring and fall; the no-till method for weed-free gardening; when and how to use different mulches and the benefits of each; best practices for organic gardening; when and how to use organic and chemical fertilizers; how to attract beneficial insects to your garden; how to amend your garden soil; saving seeds from your favorite veggies; and how to make and use compost the easy way.

#### **Water Wisely: Healthy Plants, Healthy People, Healthy Planet.**

People who care for a yard or garden can help protect water resources by being wise about watering practices, starting in their own backyards. This one-hour class covers recommended watering practices for gardens, lawns, and trees and shrubs. Master Gardeners can also present partial sessions of the class covering just one of these three watering areas.

## **SUMMER / FALL**

### **Care of Houseplants**

This presentation introduces basic principles of houseplant care including watering, soil, and light. It also presents suitable plants for various conditions such as low-light, medium-light, low-humidity, etc. along with specific care information for plants in the presentation.

### **The Evolving Garden**

Ideas and practices to allow you and your garden to age gracefully together.

### **Fall Yard and Garden Care**

Tasks and guidelines for preparing your lawn and gardens in the fall for a better growing season the next year.

### **Spring Flowering Bulbs**

Fall's the time to plant those beautiful spring-flowering bulbs. Learn from a Master Gardener how to plant many types and enjoy slides of spring-flowering favorites.

### **Worm compost basics**

A discussion of compost basics for people who are starting or using an indoor worm compost setup. We'll discuss why to compost with worms, worm biology and habitat, what kind of bin to use, good places for worm bins, how to maintain and troubleshoot your worm bin, how to harvest vermicompost, and what to do with the finished compost.

## **WANT TO REQUEST A MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEER SPEAKER?**

Contact Terry Straub at [hcmg@umn.edu](mailto:hcmg@umn.edu) or 612-596-2130.