

Berkeley-Jefferson Extension Master Gardener Association

Speaker's Bureau Program Topics - 2017

(An * indicates the topic is or can be adapted for a younger audience)

Topic	Description	Length minutes	Type	Intended Audience
Bee Basics: An Introduction to our native bees	The majority of food crops are pollinated by bees; 80% of temperate plants require an animal pollinator in order to reproduce. There are over 4,000 native bees in the U. S. This program is an introduction to our native bees and why they are important to each and every one of us.	30	Slides	General
*Composting	Techniques, types of compost piles, problems, Q & A session. Long program available.	60 or 90	Slides & Demo	Adults, MG Students, Children
*Creating a Butterfly Habitat – Help a Monarch	Monarch butterflies are amazing creatures! Learn about the monarch life cycle, its North American migration routes, host plants & nectaring plants. Learn the common butterflies in the area, how to create a butterfly habitat, and how to have a certified monarch waystation.	45	Slides	Adults, Children
Growing Daylilies	Learn about the many types, sizes and colors of daylilies, how to pick the right daylily for your yard, plus tips on growing and caring for your daylilies.	20-30	Talk & Demo Story board	Adults
Ecological Gardening	Defines Ecological Gardening, discusses the importance of thinking of our gardens in an earth friendly way. Earth friendly ways to control pests, save water, etc.	40-45	Slides	Adults
Flower Choices	Discusses several options available for planting in a flower garden and advantages / disadvantages of different types of plants. Slides of speaker's garden demonstrate some of these plant options.	40-45	Slides	Adults
Garlic	Garlic culture, propagation & uses. Different types of garlic shown. Learn the what, why, who, where, when, how of garlic.	15	Talk & Demo	Adults
The Healthy Gardener	Teaches how to develop fitness, energy conservation, and adaptive strategies to facilitate safe, enjoyable and productive lifelong gardening. Long program available.	45 or 90	Hands-on Workshop	Adults
Herbs	Demonstrates groups of herbs in container plantings. Uses and planting conditions for the herbs in the containers are described.	30	Talk & Demo	Adults
Insects in Your Garden: Friends & Foes	Introduction to common insects found in West Virginia gardens. Emphasizes importance of life cycles in identifying insects & in Integrated Pest Management (IPM)	35-40	Slides	Adults
Invasives and YOU	Describes the traits of invasive plants & discusses the environmental importance of controlling them. Examples of invasives of WV.	30-35	Slides	Adults
Is that a Weed?	Describes some valuable qualities of 'weeds'. Information on weed control least harmful to our environment. Encourages gardeners to think about a natural approach to a backyard.	35-40	Slides	Adults
Mushrooms	This program is in development.			
Mulching	Discusses different mulches and their uses, and the benefits of using mulch in a garden.	20	Storyboard	Adults

Native Plants Through the Seasons	Identifies many native plants found in WV throughout the year & discusses benefits of using native plants in landscape plans.	40-45	Slides	Adults, MG Students
Pollination & Pollinators	Describes the importance of pollination and pollinators in our environment.	30	Talk	Adults
Pollinator Friendly Gardening	Introduces the world of pollinators and their life histories. Larry Stritch U.S. Forest Service, National Botanist (Emeritus) explores how gardeners can improve the lives of pollinators and increase the quality & beauty of their gardens at the same time.	25-30	Slides	Adults
*Seed-starting	Talk & demonstration of the steps for success in starting plants from seed.	40-45	Slides & Demo	Adults, Children
Spring Wildflowers of the Eastern Panhandle	Introduces the lovely spring wildflowers of Berkeley, Jefferson & Morgan counties. Enjoy beautiful photography and learn interesting facts about these spring beauties' natural histories from Larry Stritch, U.S. Forest Service, National Botanist (emeritus).	30-40	Slides	Adults
Square Foot Gardening	Describes square foot gardening, benefits of, and the 10 basic steps, with emphasis on plant and seed spacing. Long program available.	60 or 90	Talk & Demo Slides	Adults
Straw Bale Gardening	How to grow all sorts of plants using straw bale gardening – and the benefits of this gardening approach.	30	Talk Storyboard	Adults
Trouble in the Tomato Patch	Tips on providing a good growing environment for your tomatoes. Do's & Don'ts for raising healthy tomatoes. Common diseases shown and discussed.	20-30	Talk Storyboard	Adults
Using Natives in the Garden	The use of native plants in the home landscape to support plant & animal species in our environment.	30	Slides	Adults, MG Students
Who are Extension Master Gardeners	History, purpose, training requirements, ongoing service and education requirements, activities.	20	Talk/handouts	Adults, Civic Groups
Work Together to Save Honey Bees and Native Pollinators	Learn about helpful plants anyone can use to reverse the decline of pollinators & improve habitat, and why pollinators are so critical for life on earth.	35-40	Slides	Adults
You Can Grow Dahlias	Tips on growing the different types of dahlias – growing conditions, staking, winter storage, etc. Very colorful slide program.	30-35	Slides	Adults

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