



Garden Talks

Current Presentations by Rutgers Master Gardeners of Hunterdon County

The speakers research specific topics that interest them and develop original, illustrated talks. Each presentation, which includes the opportunity for questions, lasts about an hour.

Three additional volunteers participate in each presentation. They operate the Master Gardener computer and projector, answer gardening questions, and assist the speaker. An informative handout on the topic is usually distributed. If necessary, a projection screen can be provided.

Typical audiences over the past 15 years have included garden clubs, libraries, seniors groups, and community organizations.

Underground Magic. Bulbs, rhizomes and corms are capable of storing all of their nutrients in underground storage structures within themselves. Discover the rich history, folklore and unexpected uses of these amazing flowers that come up every spring to brighten our gardens.

Conifers. The speaker, who owns a Christmas Tree Farm, discusses pine, spruce and fir trees. She will show listeners how to use the trees' foliage and cones to identify each variety and will have samples of each to clarify her points.

Language of Flowers

Flowers are used at happy celebrations and occasions of sadness as symbols of love, friendship and encouragement. The speaker discusses the powerful meaning of flowers throughout history, focusing on the Victorian era and "language of flowers" that was used to communicate secrets and sentiments.

Harvest from Containers—Potted Veggies.

See Why grow vegetables in containers? Pots are the perfect solution for gardeners with limited space or little time to care for a large garden. Potted veggies grown on patios, decks or balconies are handy to pick for a summer supper. The speaker will discuss containers, soil, plants and conditions needed to grow a variety of vegetables and herbs.

Making More Plants. Learn about starting your own seedlings, cloning cuttings and utilizing the bulblets found within bulbs. Planting, pinching, transplanting and hardening off are also discussed.

Heavenly Hydrangeas. Hydrangeas puzzle many gardeners. They wonder: Will lacecaps, mopheads or oakleaves thrive in my garden? When and how should I prune them? Can I turn my pink blossoms blue? Or my blue blossoms pink? A collector of these intriguing plants shares her experience.

Inside the Hive: Honeybees and Beekeeping

Learn about the insects that help pollinate one-third of our food and provide honey. An apiarist describes bees' lives and demonstrates some of her equipment.

Introduction to Italian Gardens Have you ever visited an Italian garden? Come join us for a journey to three beautiful and very different Italian gardens that we visited in Italy and learn about the history and influences that shaped their design and the famous people who commissioned them. The presentation also discusses how to add one or more feature from the Italian garden to your own garden design.

Sensory Garden. Sensory stimulation can extend beyond the sights and scents of plants. Consider adding touch, sound and taste to the pleasures provided by a garden. The speaker's suggestions will get you started.

Terrariums:Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow

Our speaker will show you the evolution of terrariums from 19th century scientific projects to today's creative hobby to future trends in enclosed plants. After watching a demonstration on how to make a terrarium, each listener will receive a complete instruction sheet.

Coming Soon:

Bog Gardening

Organic Gardening: Truths and Myths

*To request a garden talk or to obtain
more information, contact:*

Rebecca Magron,
*Horticultural Consultant and
Research Associate, Rutgers Cooperative
Extension of Hunterdon County*

314 NJ Route 12, Building 2,
PO Box 2900.
Flemington, NJ 08822-2900

908-788-1338
magron@njaes.rutgers.edu

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