

IMGC 2023

Full-Length Conference Planner

Detailed descriptions of conference offerings



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Key

- Concurrent Sessions—Included in registration
- Tours—Add-on event
- Workshops—Add-on event
- Evening Speaker—Add-on event

Evening Featured Speaker Bundle

EB01

Sunday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings

EVENING SPEAKER BUNDLE

What would a conference be without entertaining and fun evening events? Three are planned for you on Sunday, Tuesday and Wednesday of the conference. These festivities feature an engaging speaker and topic as well as snacks, a cash bar and opportunities for networking.

Sunday, June 18	<i>Leigh Hunt – Royal Horticultural Society</i> Making the United Kingdom a Greener and More Beautiful Place
Tuesday, June 20	<i>Sara Dykman – Adventure Educator, BeyondABook.org</i> Bicycling the Monarch Butterfly Migration Path
Wednesday, June 21	Dan Hinkley – Herronswood Gardens in Kingston, Washington The Forgotten Elements of Good Design

These three evening events not included with your registration.

You can purchase each event individually for \$49 later in the registration process, or purchase all three upfront for \$109 (save \$38).

\$109.00

Saturday, June 17

TS00

Anytime between 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM on Saturday and Sunday (June 17 and 18)

**TOUR | Tour of Private Gardens – Beauty, Elegance and Inspiration
Self-driving Tour**

\$45.00

Don't miss this rare opportunity to see six of the top private gardens in Kansas City.

On this self-driving tour, you visit the six gardens at your own pace.

- Wander through the gardens on your own schedule. See all the gardens in one day, or spread them across two days. Your ticket is good for anytime between 9 and 4 on both Saturday and Sunday.
- You'll receive a map and detailed directions on how to get to each garden.
- You may only visit each garden once. Additional tickets can be purchased starting in January 2023 at <https://www.johnson.k-state.edu>.

Get ideas, get inspiration, and enjoy the beauty created by these garden owners from years of honing their garden design skills. Bring your camera. Each garden is unique. From small city lots to acreage, from suburbs to inside the city, from formal to casual, you'll find inspiration to take back home to your own garden.

Come and immerse yourself in a day of luscious foliage and phenomenal gardens. (Don't forget your sun hat and walking shoes.)



If you want to see the six gardens but prefer to let somebody else do the driving, see **TS03**. It's a bus tour that includes lunch.

[Itinerary](#)

Sunday, June 18

TS01a/b

Overnight: Sunday, June 18 at 7:30 AM to Monday, June 19 at 5:00 PM

TOUR | Amber Waves: Two Days in the Kansas Heartland

See below

For	Choose	Price
Double occupancy	TS01a	\$397.00
Single occupancy	TS01b	\$467.00

Come to the conference early and sign up for the only two-day tour offered. We know some folks think Kansas is flyover country. But if you go no further than Overland Park, you won't really see Kansas. So come along with us on a two-day tour into the heart of Kansas. Experience the vanishing prairie exactly as it was 8,000–10,000 years ago. Unplowed. Untouched. Listen to the sounds of silence as you look out on rolling horizons as far as you can see. As Willa Cather writes, "Anyone can love the mountains, but it takes soul to love the prairie."

Kansas was once covered by prairie—tallgrass in the east where more rain falls, mixed grass in the middle, and short grass in the arid west. Of the 140 million acres of tallgrass prairie that once covered North America, only 4% remains, most of it in the **Flint Hills** of Kansas, a geological wonder not to be missed. Visit **Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve** in the Flint Hills and

Sunday, June 18 (cont.)

Maxwell Wildlife Refuge in the mixed grass Smoky Hills. This is your chance to breathe in the prairie, be amazed by its incredibly diverse ecosystem, and be surrounded by bison.

Tour the beautiful **Dyck Arboretum of the Plains**, which nurtures one of the largest native plant collections in Kansas. Learn the why and how for adding native trees, shrubs, grasses and wildflowers into your home landscape.

Stroll through **Botanica**, a garden paradise well-loved and cared for by the people of Wichita, KS. Botanica features over 25 theme gardens and over 4,000 species of plants, something to appeal to every interest.

By the time the second day draws to a close, you have looked across land that seems to go on forever and experienced the spectrum of Kansas horticulture—from prairie never broken by a plow to manicured botanical gardens. Then you can honestly claim you have seen Kansas.

Max participants: 50

[Itinerary](#)

TS02

7:15 AM – 10:00 PM

TOUR | Gardens, Roofs and Prairies in the Little Apple

\$179.00

Did you know there are two Manhattans, the Big Apple and the Little Apple? The **Little Apple** is nestled in the heart of the scenic Kansas Flint Hills and best known as the home of Kansas State University.

Here's your chance to experience all the Little Apple has to offer. It starts with a stroll through the **University's display gardens**. Not only are they a research area for K-State students, they are also a source of ideas for visiting gardeners. And they provide a quiet place to reflect and enjoy the beauty of this gorgeous campus.

The morning ends with a guided tour of the forward-thinking **green roofs** on campus. Enjoy your walk-about as local Master Gardeners and K-State staff share the environmental, social, economic and aesthetic benefits of green rooftops.

By midday, it's time sit back, eat and get refreshed.

Begin the afternoon by stepping inside the **Flint Hills Discovery Center** and getting a proper introduction to the tallgrass prairie ecosystem called the Flint Hills. Continue to the **Konza Prairie**, a tallgrass prairie preserve just outside Manhattan. Enjoy a 2-hour guided bus tour through the Bison Trail Loop where the bison may be visible. And don't worry . . . you'll have plenty of time to explore and take photos of the wildflowers and prairie vistas.

As the day wraps up, it's time to kick back, socialize with new friends, and enjoy a meal at the historic **Lazy T Ranch**. We have it on good authority that a cowboy poet is in residence, and he just might (just might . . .) entertain you.

A truly wonderful day in the Little Apple and on the prairie!

Max participants: 50

[Itinerary](#)



SESSIONS



TOURS



WORKSHOPS



EVENING SPEAKER

Sunday, June 18 (cont.)

TS03 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM (Bus tour) **\$125.00**

TOUR | Tour of Private Gardens – Beauty, Elegance and Inspiration
Bus tour with Lunch

Sit back and relax and let somebody else do the driving. Don't miss this rare opportunity to see six of the top private gardens in Kansas City. Get ideas, get inspiration, and enjoy the beauty created by these garden owners from years of honing their garden design skills. Bring your camera. Each garden is unique. From small city lots to acreage, from suburbs to inside the city, from formal to casual, you'll find inspiration to take back home to your own garden.

Come and immerse yourself in a day of luscious foliage and phenomenal gardens. (Don't forget your sun hat and walking shoes.) You'll meet new people while sharing the experience with them. What better way to spend a relaxing Sunday? A delicious lunch is also included.

Max Participants: 88

 If you prefer drive yourself and wander through the gardens on your own schedule, see **TS00** or **TS04**.

[Itinerary](#)

TS04 Anytime between 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM on Saturday and Sunday (June 17 and 18) **\$45.00**

TOUR | Tour of Private Gardens – Beauty, Elegance and Inspiration
Self-driving Tour

Don't miss this rare opportunity to see six of the top private gardens in Kansas City.

On this self-driving tour, you visit the six gardens at your own pace.

- Wander through the gardens on your own schedule. See all the gardens in one day, or spread them across two days. Your ticket is good for anytime between 9 and 4 on both Saturday and Sunday.
- You'll receive a map and detailed directions on how to get to each garden.
- You may only visit each garden once. Additional tickets can be purchased starting in January 2023 at <https://www.johnson.k-state.edu>.

Get ideas, get inspiration, and enjoy the beauty created by these garden owners from years of honing their garden design skills. Bring your camera. Each garden is unique. From small city lots to acreage, from suburbs to inside the city, from formal to casual, you'll find inspiration to take back home to your own garden.

Come and immerse yourself in a day of luscious foliage and phenomenal gardens. (Don't forget your sun hat and walking shoes.)

 If you want to see the six gardens but prefer to let somebody else do the driving, see **TS03**. It's a bus tour that includes lunch.

[Itinerary](#)

Sunday, June 18 (cont.)

11:45 AM – 8:15 PM

TS05 TOUR | Petals, Vines and Wines

\$199.00

If you love sampling local award-winning wines while making new friends with those who share your interest in wine, this is the tour for you. What better way to spend a relaxing Sunday and savor life?

- Visit **two nearby wineries** and sample a range of wines. Walk the vineyards, see how the grapes are processed, and talk with the winemakers themselves.
- Wine and art, the perfect pairing. That's why there's a stop at the **Monet Garden at the Overland Park Arboretum**, a replica of Claude Monet's own garden in Giverny, France. You'll be delighted by its sheer size (hundreds of plants), its vibrant color combinations, and its varying plant heights. It looks lush and wild with plants growing freely, just like the French artist's garden in France.
- At day's end, watch the sun go down and reflect on the good life with dinner specially prepared by **Chef Celina Tio**, a nationally known chef.

Fascinating Fact #1: Prior to Prohibition, Kansas and Missouri were the Napa Valley of the U.S. and led the U.S. in wine production.

Fascinating Fact #2: In the mid 1800s, it was rootstock from grapevines grown in the Midwest that saved the blight-ridden vineyards of Europe. European vintners used the hearty rootstocks, grafting onto them their threatened grapes. The made-in-the-USA rootstocks were able to resist the bacterial infections that were harming European grape harvests.

Max Participants: 50

[Itinerary](#)

8:30 AM – 1:45 PM

WS01 WORKSHOP | What Would Mother Nature Do?

\$105.00

FULL

Lenora Larson – Extension Master Gardener, Marais Des Cygnes District, Miami County, Kansas



It's not an overstatement to say you'll be amazed by this workshop, this woman, and Long Lips Farm, Lenora Larson's two-acre garden in rural Paola, Kansas. This workshop demonstrates sustainable gardening practices that work with, rather than against, Mother Nature. When a question or challenge occurs, this gardener steps back and asks, "What would Mother Nature do?" For instance, when does Mother Nature mulch? When does she clean up? How does she fertilize? The workshop also describes sustainable methods of planting, weed control and insect management.

Participants will see native plants in three settings: in a highly managed ornamental garden, in a Prairie Garden, and as a Prairie restoration. A special focus on butterfly host plants earned Long Lips Farm certification as a Butterfly Garden by the North American Butterfly Association. Participants should see native butterfly caterpillars and adults in the garden.

You will also leave with:

- A heightened appreciation of your garden as an interconnected ecosystem.
- How important a written plan and map are.
- Ideas for integrating natives and ornamentals to maximize the aesthetic appeal.
- How to choose "Plants with Purpose" for wildlife.
- Ideas for applying sustainable maintenance techniques.

Sunday, June 18 (cont.)

And you'll find out how Long Lips Farm got its name!

Schedule

1. 8:30 a.m. – Conference Center – 30-minute presentation that illustrates sustainable gardening practices
2. 9:00 a.m. – Board bus and travel to Long Lips Farm to see the system in action and ask questions
3. Box lunch
4. 1:00 p.m. – Board bus back to Conference Center

Max participants: 34

BIO: Lenora Larson is a proud science geek with a life-long love of wildlife, especially the crawly and creepy kind. She has a degree in microbiology from Michigan State University and is retired from a career in healthcare, which included cancer research, homecare and mental health services. She also attended the prestigious Cranbrook School of Art and fills her garden with hand-made sculptures and decorated vessels.

In 1981, she embraced her job transfer from downtown Detroit to rural Miami County as an opportunity to live on a farm and own livestock, which she named Long Lips Farm. The 27-acre property was an abandoned pasture so in 1982, Lenora began creating a garden. As an amateur botanist, she focused on native plants, many of which turned out to be butterfly host plants. In 1994, she committed to butterfly gardening with a passion that has crossed the line from hobby to obsession. She now maintains a two-acre NABA certified garden (North American Butterfly Association) in the English Estate landscape style.

Lenora has been a Marais des Cygnes Extension Master Gardener since 2011 and also belongs to the local chapters of the Idalia Butterfly Society and the Kansas Native Plant Society. She writes about butterflies for three magazines and is a frequent presenter to gardening and community groups. Her garden functions as a learning center with educational tours scheduled throughout the summer months. Lenora is on a mission to demonstrate to other gardeners that you do not have to compromise on beauty and function when you invite wildlife to share your garden.

12:30 PM – 2:30 PM

WS02 **WORKSHOP** | Identifying Common Plant Problems

\$45.00

Judy O'Mara – Director, K-State Plant Disease Diagnostic Lab, Kansas State University



Extension Master Gardeners are often the front line for identifying plant problems and making recommendations for home landscapes and gardens. Anyone who has ever worked a garden hotline knows you have to be part detective to be successful. This workshop provides a hands-on opportunity to improve your plant pathology detective skills.

- Learn how to apply the same problem-solving process used by professionals.
- Discover how to identify common problems quickly and easily.
- Find out how a site history can help solve mystery problems and more.

Attendees will leave more confident in their ability to identify plant problems at home and in the community.

Max participants: 25

BIO: According to educator/plant disease diagnostician Judy O'Mara, her favorite classrooms are filled with third graders and Extension Master Gardeners. Why? Because both share her enthusiasm for plants. As director of K-State's Plant Disease Diagnostic Lab for 34+ years, Judy's reputation as

Sunday, June 18 (cont.)

chief detective of plant disease is indisputable. In addition to her work in the lab, since 1990, she has trained hundreds of Kansas Extension Master Gardeners in how to accurately diagnose common plant problems. She is also an instructor in K-State's College of Agriculture where she teaches crop and landscape disease diagnostics to future horticulture industry professionals.

1:30 PM – 3:30 PM

WS03 **WORKSHOP** | **Understanding Design Principles and Applying Them to the Landscape**

\$45.00

Terri James – Extension Educator, State Master Gardener Coordinator, University of Nebraska–Lincoln



If you want to better understand how to apply tried-and-true design principles to a new garden project you have in mind, this workshop is just the ticket to get you on your way. Terri will cover:

- Principles and elements of design.
- How to apply them to a landscape project.
- Evaluating a site and creating a design before jumping into buying plants.
- Assessing environmental factors that affect your site.
- Identifying needs and intended use up front.
- Designing for sustainability.

You'll have fun taking what you've learned and applying it to a real project during the workshop.

Max participants: 40

BIO: *Terri James is an Extension Educator at the University of Nebraska in Lincoln. She coordinates the Extension Master Gardener Volunteer program for the state, develops content for the Backyard Farmer program, and coordinates and teaches the local Master Gardener program at the East Campus. She is also part of a group working on publications outlining the importance of consumer horticulture to everyday life. She earned her BS in Horticulture–Landscape Design and her MS in Public Gardening from the University of Nebraska–Lincoln. Before her work at the University of Nebraska, Terri was the landscape manager and designer with the Nebraska State Fair in Lincoln.*

2:00 PM – 4:00 PM

WS04 **WORKSHOP** | **Arranging Flowers and Foliage from Your Garden**

\$85.00

Craig Sole – Owner and Operator, Craig Sole Designs, American Institute of Floral Designers



Craig Sole is known for his joyous floral creations and a more natural look in floral design. Learn the concepts of floral design and how to incorporate fresh cut flowers and foliage from your garden into creative displays. Select, snip, clip, design . . . come and express your creativity with nature's bounty as Craig shows the tips and tricks of the trade to artfully design and arrange a vase. You'll leave the workshop with your own floral creation using a variety of mixed flowers and foliage. Funny and fun. . . creative and talented . . . delightful to be around. You'll fall in love with Craig Sole just like all his customers do.

Max participants: 40

Materials: Provided

Sunday, June 18 (cont.)

BIO: As the owner of Craig Sole Designs (craigsoledesigns.com), Craig has created art with flowers for over 37 years. He is one of the regions most recognizable and respected floral designers. Craig says the job gives him an outlet for his true obsession: color. He can't help but convert others to his love of color. "I cried when I saw Monet's Water Lilies." He uses his floral arrangements to help others see the bright side of life. His motto: "Life is too short to be boring." Walk into the bungalow in historic downtown Overland Park that is Craig Sole Designs and you'll experience a colorful wonderland of all things floral. He sources his flowers from local growers whenever possible. In 1992, Craig was accepted into the prestigious American Institute of Floral Designers.

3:00 PM – 5:00 PM

WS05 **WORKSHOP** | Identifying Common Plant Problems **FULL** \$45.00

Judy O'Mara – Director, K-State Plant Disease Diagnostic Lab, Kansas State University



This is the same workshop as WS02.
For a description, see **WS02**.



6:30 PM – 8:30 PM

ES01 **EVENING SPEAKER** | Making the United Kingdom a Greener and More Beautiful Place \$49.00

Includes, snacks, a cash bar and opportunities for networking

Leigh Hunt – Principal Horticultural Advisor, Royal Horticultural Society, United Kingdom

Sit back and take an enjoyable visual tour around the captivating gardens of the United Kingdom. Discover a variety of environments, changing conditions, and developing approaches to growing, ranging from Scotland to the South Coast. Learn about the focus on sustainability and making gardens work harder for the environment. We are sure you will take away many tips that can be applied to your gardens for greater success and beauty.

BIO: Leigh leads a team of Assistant Advisors within the Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) Advisory Service. They answer over 70,000 questions each year from RHS members and flower show visitors. A popular speaker on a variety of programs, his work is based on scientific research, ensuring the advice is evidence-based and up to date. Leigh leads the Society's urban greening program and uses scientific proof to highlight the remarkable benefits of urban gardens. The goal is to inspire homeowners to value and improve their own gardens, and influence organizations who work in this field. Professionally trained at the Kew Royal Botanic Gardens, Leigh has worked as a technical advisor on BBC Gardeners' World Magazine for five years.





If you plan on going to all three special evening events (Sunday, Tuesday and Wednesday), you'll save \$38 if you purchase them in a bundle for \$109.

To purchase them as a bundle, scroll back to the first page of the registration system and select the **Evening Featured Speakers Bundle**.

7:30 AM – 4:30 PM

TS06 TOUR | Escape to Eastern Kansas, Where Delightful Gardens Abound FULL \$105.00

A visit to beautiful gardens always creates an extraordinary time.

The first stop on the tour is **Susan Rendall’s garden** on the outskirts of Lawrence, Kansas. Susan’s garden is what happens when dreams come true. She had her heart set on creating a country garden in a massive way on the prairie—and she did. Come and see what’s possible when a gardener is not restricted by a city lot and her heart is free to create. It’s a showstopper.

Topeka is up next. There are some gardens that make you want to run home and do the same thing, and **Bob Saathoff’s garden** is one of them. It’s a magnificent woodland shade garden with a creek to boot. Like most gardeners, Bob didn’t know when to stop. The more planting he did, the more his gardening passion grew. His garden is home to a rich profusion of shade-loving plants. Walk the garden with Bob as he gladly shares what he’s learned about shade gardening.

After lunch, enjoy the beauty and tranquility of two public gardens in Topeka:

- The 2.5-acre **Ward-Meade Botanical Garden** is home to over 500 varieties of flowers, shrubs and trees, many labeled with their botanical names. The garden also features large collections of daylilies, hostas and conifers. For you history buffs, wander over to Old Prairie Town in Ward-Meade Park and see a fully-functional replica of a frontier Kansas town in the 1800s.
- The day winds down with a nature walk at **Ted Ensley Gardens** perched along the shore of a small picturesque lake. See nature at its best as you meander through beautiful gardens, groves of trees, waterfalls, streams, ponds, and bridges crossing over to this and that. Peaceful. Colorful. Relaxing.

BONUS: If you’re a collector of state capitals, mark Topeka, Kansas off your list. You’ve been there!

Max Participants: 44

[Itinerary](#)

7:30 AM – 4:15 PM

TS07 TOUR | Pockets of Opportunity: An Urban Farm Tour \$105.00

Live. Laugh. Love. Farm. Take this tour and feel the excitement that grassroots change is bringing to the urban core. Not only is the urban farm movement alive and well in the heart of Kansas City, it’s flourishing. In fact, Kansas City has one of the most vibrant urban agriculture communities in the country.

All five of the urban farms on this tour share a common passion: ending food inequity in the urban core and providing people with easy access to fresh, homegrown produce.

- Visit **Kansas City Community Gardens** and **Cultivate KC**, two non-profits who are the motherships in Kansas City for the urban farm movement.
- Visit **Young Family Farm**, **Woodland City KC** and the **Urbavore Urban Farm**, three for-profit farms, each unique from one another.

You’ll get insight into what it takes to run a farm business in the city. Meet the leaders who repurposed vacant lots and are making a social impact. See what’s happening on as little as a quarter-acre of land. Listen as the farmers tell their own unique stories on how they got started, what’s important to them, and how their farms operate today.

Monday, June 19 (cont.)

You'll also get ideas for:

- Your own home garden.
- Expanding a hobby garden plot to a for-profit business.
- Encouraging small urban farming in your own community.
- Working with your local government and civic leaders to get urban farming started.

Get inspired by neighbors working together to feed each other! You'll be awed by the dedication to the local community by the urban farmers on this tour.

Max Participants: 50

[Itinerary](#)

TS08	7:45 AM – 5:00 PM TOUR Preserving the Future: Monarchs, Wetlands and Prairies	Almost FULL	\$105.00 <input type="text"/>
<p>If you love being out in nature and being inspired by what others who care are doing to preserve and sustain the environment, this is the tour for you. Preservation and sustainability are at its heart as you venture over to Lawrence, Kansas.</p>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wetlands are a major player for preserving the future and the Baker Wetlands are doing their part. These 927 acres on the open prairie are home to hundreds of species of animals and plants. Wetlands are vital to human life and planet life, and indispensable for the critical “ecosystem services” they provide. If you’re a birdwatcher, you’ll especially love the Baker Wetlands.• Created in 1992 by KU professor Dr. Chip Taylor, the Monarch Watch lab will fill you with optimism and hope for the future. We all know the future of monarch butterflies is in trouble and they need our help. See what Dr. Taylor, his staff, and thousands of volunteers across the U.S., Canada and Mexico are doing to preserve the future of the monarch. The lab is rarely open to the public, so don’t miss this chance to join the staff and see the lab’s innerworkings.• Walk through the very first Monarch Waystation (butterfly habitat) maintained by the Douglas County Master Gardeners. It’s spectacular.• It would almost be sacrilegious to be in Kansas and not experience the tallgrass prairie. Walk the Rockefeller Prairie Trail and go back in time and see the vanishing tallgrass prairie exactly as it was 8,000–10,000 years ago, unplowed and untouched. View what the first settlers saw in the 1800s as they crossed the Great Plains and moved westward. Breathe in the prairie, hear the birds, and feel the wind on your face.			
<p>So! Come and see what colors nature is wearing the Monday before the conference officially kicks off.</p>			
<p>BONUS: For basketball fans, the bus drives by Allen Fieldhouse on the University of Kansas campus, the shrine to the inventor of basketball, James Naismith. It’s also home to KU’s 2022 NCAA Men’s Basketball National Championship team.</p>			
<p>Max Participants: 50</p>			
<p>Itinerary</p>			

Monday, June 19 (cont.)

8:00 AM – 4:00 PM

TS09 TOUR | Nelson-Atkins Museum: Experience Gardens Through Art

\$105.00

Art and nature come together in this exclusive tour created for IMGC attendees by docents at the Nelson-Atkins Museum.

The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art—or “the Nelson” as Kansas Citians call it—is the cultural jewel of Kansas City. With its outstanding collection of 40,000 works of art, the Nelson is also recognized as one of America’s finest art museums. It offers visitors the opportunity to explore civilization from ancient times to modern day through the eyes of painters, sculptures and craftsmen from across the globe and centuries.

- Working from the outside in, walk with docents on a tour of the **Donald J. Hall Sculpture Park**. The 22-acre sculpture park is expansive and open, wrapping around the front and back of the museum. It’s home to over 35 sculptures, many of them massive, by several of the 20th century’s finest artists. You’ll learn about the famous shuttlecocks sprawled along the front of the museum. Weighing in at 5,500 pounds each, they are pretty hard to miss!
- Step inside the grandeur of the museum and lunch at the romantic and memorable **Rozzelle Court**, a restaurant fashioned after an open-air Italian courtyard.
- On a special “**Arts in Bloom**” tour, discover the common ground you share with artists inspired by nature. Museum docents have selected several works of art to see that depict and celebrate flowers, gardens and nature. Listen as they share information about the artists and artworks, provide social and historical context, and create connections with everyday life.
- Shop at the **Museum Store**. The store offers extensive selections of unusual gift items, art and design books, home décor and cards.
- You’ll also stop at the **Kauffman Memorial Garden** across the street from the Nelson. A garden right out of a storybook, this lush, European-style garden features 7,000 plant varieties, playful fountains, and elegant pieces of sculpture. You’ll feel whisked away to another world.

As Thomas Merton says, “Art enables us to find ourselves and lose ourselves at the same time.” Come find yourself and lose yourself for a day at the Nelson.

Max Participants: 42

[Itinerary](#)

8:15 AM – 4:00 PM

TS10 TOUR | Midtown Gardens: From Prim and Proper to Wild and Woolly

\$105.00

Don't miss touring four inspirational gardens in the heart of Kansas City that provide a study in contrasts.

First, go back in time as you explore the **Shawnee Indian Mission**, a National Historic Landmark. Learn about its 180-year history, which reflects the changing times in the history of Kansas. Listen as your guides tell the story and historical significance of the four demonstration gardens planted and maintained by Master Gardeners. These gardens are a reminder of the expansive fields once planted at the Mission.

Next stop is the beautifully curated **Rose Garden at Loose Park** featuring close to 3,000 roses of nearly 150 varieties on 1.5-acres. You’ll instantly understand why over 250 weddings are held here

Monday, June 19 (cont.)

each year. For you history buffs, Loose Park was the site of the Battle of Westport, the largest Civil War battle fought west of the Mississippi.

After lunch, continue to a garden that's right out of a storybook, the stunning **Kauffman Memorial Garden**. This lush, European-style garden features 7,000 plant varieties. They include vintage and modern perennials, annuals, shrubs, bulbs and trees, as well as playful fountains and elegant pieces of sculpture. Be assured there's surprise and delight around every corner. You'll feel like you've been whisked away to another world.

Now, imagine a special spot in the heart of Kansas City's urban core where city dwellers can connect with nature and take a break from the fast pace and jarring sounds of city living. That special place is the **Anita B. Gorman Conservation Discovery Center**. In contrast to the classical style of the Kauffman Memorial Garden, the Discovery Center offers eight acres of natural areas with paved and natural trails through forest, woodland, wetland, prairie habitats and wildlife. Step in and step closer to nature and local wildlife.

Max Participants: 50

[Itinerary](#)

TS11

8:30 AM – 4:15 PM

TOUR | Educating the Gardener in You!

Almost FULL

\$89.00

The contrast between the stops on this tour are sure to get the gardener in you thinking in new ways. Each garden experience is different from the other, but each offers new perspectives and things to be learned. As they say, good contrast and makes good drama.

The tour begins at the **Backyard Garden**. Keep your notebook and camera handy. The Backyard Garden is an idea generator. It is intentionally designed to be chock full of plants and efficient growing techniques that are easily copied by an average backyard gardener. (That's why it's called the Backyard Garden.) At one acre, it's the largest demonstration garden of your conference hosts, the Johnson County EMGs, and they are eager to share it with you.

Next, you'll get a peek into the world of agricultural science and research. You're in for a treat with an exclusive tour of the **K-State Olathe Horticulture Research and Extension Center**. Get an insider's look at the agricultural and horticultural research being done for Kansas and the Midwest. See how plants and crops are put through the ringer to improve them and arrive at the best practices for tending them. You'll walk away inspired by what research scientists do and their dedication to improving crops and preventing crop failures.

Wild and free is next. You're off to the prairie. It would be almost sacrilegious to be in Kansas and not experience the tallgrass prairie. Over 140 million acres of tallgrass prairie once covered North America, including Kansas. Only 4% remains today, most of it in the Flint Hills about 120 miles away. But you're in luck! Kill Creek Prairie is close by and contains a 20-acre prairie remnant. Listen to the quiet shhhshining of the winds through the grasses against the sweeping, open horizon. Go back in time and see the vanishing tallgrass prairie exactly as it was 8,000–10,000 years ago, unplowed and untouched. Learn about the prairie's rich history, its unique and complex ecosystem, and why prairies are so important to humans, plants and animals.

The last stop of the day is a sharp contrast to Kill Creek's stretches of open grasslands. The lovely **Monet Garden at the Overland Park Arboretum and Botanical Gardens** is a replica of Claude Monet's own garden in Giverny, France. It's lush with many trees and shrubs and hundreds of

Monday, June 19 (cont.)

varieties of perennials, annuals and bulbs that replicate the colorful palette of the original garden. And, of course, there is a lily pond. It's quite possible you'll be inspired to create a Monet Garden in your corner of the world.

All in all, it's a field trip kind of day!

Max Participants: 50

[Itinerary](#)

WS06

9:00 AM – 11:00 AM

WORKSHOP | Nature Journaling

Carrie Carlson – Artist and Teacher, Carrie Carlson Art

Nature journaling is the mindful practice of connecting with nature by using all your senses, making and recording observations, and being curious. What better way to expand your enjoyment of gardening! Participants in this basic workshop:

- Practice using words, pictures and numbers to document the natural world around them.
- Discuss tools, materials and resources.
- Explore observation prompts.
- Practice basic drawing skills.
- Learn to appreciate even the smallest details Mother Nature has to offer.

And don't worry—no previous art experience is necessary!

Max participants: 25

Materials to bring: Please bring your own sketchbook and drawing supplies.

BIO: *Carrie Carlson is a scientific illustrator and educator who loves filling sketchbooks with nature journaling (carriecarlsonart.com). She teaches high school art full time as well as a variety of art classes for Chicago's Morton Arboretum, including nature journaling, watercolor and drawing birds. She has an MFA in Scientific Illustration, MA in printmaking, and is pursuing a PhD in Art + Design Education. Carrie is an active member of the Guild of Natural Science Illustrators and confesses to being a bit obsessed with bumblebees. She shares her home with three cats and three turtles where she "tends a rowdy garden."*



\$45.00

WS07

9:30 AM – 11:30 AM

WORKSHOP | Every Gardener Is an Artist

Donna Houtteman – Owner, ART BLOCKS

Raise your hand if you fall in love with beautiful plants at the garden center but aren't sure how to put them together to make a wow-factor design. Instead of starting from scratch on garden design, join Donna Houtteman as she shows how to fast-forward the process. Be prepared for lively conversation with this engaging presenter!

- In this visually rich presentation, Donna uses examples from Mother Nature and masterpieces of art to bring understanding of the elements of design and how they work together to create something that is aesthetically pleasing.
- Learn how to translate the principles of design found in Mother Nature and the art world to garden design.



FULL

\$65.00

Monday, June 19 (cont.)

- Learn how to use a color wheel. (You'll get one to take home.) When you get down to it, gardens are really about color. Why do certain combinations work why others don't? A color wheel helps combine different colors of blooms, foliage and other elements in ways that are pleasing.
- And, of course, discover the artist in you!

Max participants: 25

BIO: Donna Houtteman is the owner and creator of ART BLOCKS (artblockskc.com), a novel concept of mini-classes in art history for the purpose of enriching people's lives through the joy of art. ART BLOCKS is the culmination of her lifelong passion for sharing her love of art. Donna's many involvements in the art world include being a docent at the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art for 22+ years, an art instructor at the Kansas City Art Institute, and a popular teacher and presenter in venues from coast to coast. Donna's latest passion is in the gardening world, which is no surprise since her mother was a Master Gardener. She has a degree in Fashion Design from the Fashion Institute of Technology in New York City.

10:00 AM – 12:00 PM
WS09 **WORKSHOP** | Paper Flowers That Never Wilt!

\$45.00

Teresa Halbersma – Extension Master Gardener, Johnson County, Kansas

What's the secret to creating beautiful bouquets that need no water and never wilt? Learn the answer when you join the fun of making one-of-a-kind flowers using papercraft. The workshop includes:

- Supplies (pattern, scissors, glue gun, paper) to make a festive flower during the workshop.
- Instructions and a basic pattern for creating larger, more intricate flowers out of paper or foam at home.

This fun floral craft is one you'll want to share with fellow gardeners when you get home.

Max participants: 20

Materials: Provided

BIO: As much as Teresa Halbersma loves gardening, she's also a passionate crafter known for creating gorgeous flowers that never wilt. Some of her paper and foam blossoms are as large as 40 inches! Thirteen years ago, Teresa joined the Extension Master Gardener program in Springfield, Missouri. Today, she's an active member of the Johnson County, Kansas program. In addition to being a Master Gardener volunteer, Teresa is a board member of the Overland Park Arboretum where her floral creations have been featured at the Arboretum's STEMS fundraisers.



10:00 AM – 12:00 PM
WS08 **WORKSHOP** | Positive Ways to Deal with Negative Behavior

\$45.00

Diane Oakes – Owner, A Better Way Mediation Services

If you want to be happy for a lifetime, be a gardener. However, even gardeners have to eventually return to the real world where we interact with all kinds of people. Happy and unhappy. Angry and frustrated. This workshop is designed to help you deal with friends, family, officemates, even the people you meet while volunteering who exhibit negative behavior. You'll learn:

- How and why emotions such as anger and frustration impact behavior.
- Two techniques for successfully diffusing interpersonal conflict.



Monday, June 19 (cont.)

This interactive workshop includes helpful practice-as-you-learn exercises.

Max participants: 25

BIO: *Douglas County Kansas Extension Master Gardener Diane Oakes launched a successful second career in conflict management after retiring as CEO from the Kaw Valley Girl Scout Council. Today, she teaches co-parenting and mediates parental disputes while overseeing the Douglas County Domestic Mediation Program she helped found. Her credentials include being a Kansas State Supreme Court-approved court mediator and a graduate of the Wharton School of Business Executive Leadership Program.*

WS10 **WORKSHOP** | **Natural Garden Design: Use Layers and Green Mulch to Reduce Management and Increase Ecosystem Function**

FULL

\$95.00

1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Benjamin Vogt – Owner, Monarch Gardens

In this workshop, you'll discover how to garden in synch with nature using the processes and designs found in native plant communities. The result is a garden that's as attractive as it is sustainable, low maintenance, and supportive of existing ecosystems.



- Learn how to use a plant's natural tendencies to fill in niches and increase drought resilience.
- Unearth the benefits of using green plants—instead of wood—as mulch in both sunny and shady sites.
- Develop an action plan for creating your own naturally designed garden.

Participants will leave inspired to think differently about sustainable urban garden design.

Max participants: 30

Optional materials (not required): Pen, pencil, paper, and cell phone, tablet or laptop

BIO: *Benjamin Vogt owns Monarch Gardens (monarchgard.com), a prairie-inspired design firm based in Nebraska. He is a newer voice in the field of native landscaping. He is the author of "A New Garden Ethic: Cultivating Defiant Compassion for an Uncertain Future" and "Prairie Up: An Introduction to Natural Garden Design." Benjamin's writing and photography have appeared in several books such as My American Garden and Lawn Gone, as well as magazines including American Gardener, Fine Gardening, Garden Design, and Horticulture. He speaks nationally, inspiring his audiences to think in different ways about the environment and sustainable urban design.*

WS11 **WORKSHOP** | **iPhone Photography Explorations**

\$95.00

1:30 PM– 3:30 PM

Jim Richardson – National Geographic Photographer, Owner, Small World Gallery

Few cameras have changed photography as much as the mobile phone. This hands-on workshop by National Geographic photojournalist Jim Richardson explores the visual storytelling capabilities of this pocket-size communications tool.



- Learn the fun of taking better photos from a pro.
- Find out how to connect the photos you take with friends, online platforms, and others who want to see them.
- Practice your camera's many functions on-the-spot in a group setting.

Monday, June 19 (cont.)

- Discover apps for creating more impactful photos, especially for social media posts.
- Leave with new tools and proven techniques for improving the stories you tell in personal and professional communications.

Don't miss this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to learn from an international award-winning storyteller who has practiced and taught his craft for over 40 years.

Max participants: 100

Materials to bring: Your phone. While the workshop concentrates on iPhones, much of what is taught will be useful no matter what camera you use.

BIO: *Jim Richardson is a photographer for National Geographic where he has photographed more than 50 stories. Jim's work has taken him around the world covering issues of the environment, cultures and travel, landscapes, and perils to the night sky. His ongoing coverage of food and agriculture issues has been a centerpiece of National Geographic's coverage of world food.*

Jim is also known for his documentary photography of small towns and rural issues. CBS News Sunday Morning twice profiled his 35 year-long journal of Cuba, Kansas. ABC News Nightline chronicled Jim's coverage of the Columbia River and the process of assembling the resulting National Geographic Magazine story. Martha Stewart Living and myriad books and magazines have profiled his work. His 1979 study of adolescence, "High School USA," is now considered a photo essay classic and is used in college classrooms. In 2015, he was honored by his fellow National Geographic photographers as their "Photographer's Photographer."

2:00 PM – 3:30 PM

WS12

WORKSHOP | The Herb Lovers Garden Workshop

Almost FULL

\$65.00

Sue Goetz – Garden Designer, Consultant, Speaker and Author, Creative Gardener

This hands-on workshop is for the gardener interested in planting, nurturing, harvesting and creatively using herbs. It covers everything from aromatics and healing to edible flowers and culinary flavors.

- Learn how to create tasty treats, body care products, and household remedies.
- Gather tips for growing herbs, landscaping with them, and using them in recipes.
- Take home samples of a culinary seasoning salt and healing herb bath blend.

You'll leave knowing how to infuse, blend, mix, season and capture the flavor and fragrance of everyone's favorite herbs.

Max participants: 30

BIO: *Sue Goetz is an award-winning garden designer, writer and speaker. Through her business, Creative Gardener (suegoetz.com), she works with clients to personalize outdoor spaces, from garden coaching to full landscape design. A popular speaker and hands-on workshop leader, Sue is all about creativity in and out of the garden. Her garden design work has earned awards at the Northwest Flower & Garden Show, Sunset Magazine Western Living, Fine Gardening, and the American Horticultural Society. Sue is a Certified Professional Horticulturist (CPH) and ecoPRO certified in sustainable landscaping. She lives and gardens in the beautiful Pacific Northwest.*



Monday, June 19 (cont.)

2:00 PM – 4:00 PM

WS13 **WORKSHOP** | Paper Flowers That Never Wilt!

Teresa Halbersma – Extension Master Gardener, Johnson County, Kansas

 This is the same workshop as WS09.
For a description, see **WS09**.



\$45.00

Tuesday, June 20

9:45 AM – 5:15 PM

TS12 **TOUR** | KC Arts and Architecture Tour

If you're an architecture fan or a history buff or love the extravagant—or all three—then this is the tour for you. This is a culture and information-rich tour of two of Kansas City's most celebrated landmarks, the **Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts** and **Kansas City's Union Station**.

Built in 2011, the mega-modern **Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts**, or "the Kauffman Center" as Kansas Citians call it, was designed by renowned architect Moshe Safdie. It is built on a hilltop with an expansive glass wall overlooking the city. Honored as one of the world's 15 most beautiful concert halls, this rarely-offered tour is a behind-the-scenes look at the Kauffman Center's history, performance venues, Casavant Freres pipe organ (one of the finest concert organs in the world), and the unique engineering and construction techniques required to bring about Moshe Safdie's design.

The tour delves even deeper into the engineering and construction techniques behind the Kauffman Center with a visit to **Zahner Manufacturing**, the architectural metalwork company that provided many of the metalwork features you see at the Kauffman Center.

In contrast to the modern architecture and engineering of the Kauffman Center, to enter the doors of **Kansas City's Union Station** is to pass through the gates of time, both in history and architecture. Built in 1914, Union Station was the third largest train station in the world at the time. Designed by noted Chicago architect Jarvis Hunt, the architecture is in the grand, larger-than-life Beaux-Arts style, which was popular in the United States and France in the late 1800s and early 1900s. From the soaring ornate ceilings in the Grand Hall and 3,500-pound chandeliers to the massive clock hanging in the central arch and the rose-brown marble floors, this is one historic site you shouldn't miss. No wonder it is on the National Register of Historic Places.

Have your camera at the ready. Both buildings are a photographer's delight.

Max Participants: 50

[Itinerary](#)

\$105.00



The following **6 sessions** are from 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM.

Please choose one.

10:00 AM – 11:00 AM **FULL**

CS01 **SESSION** | **The Best Herbs to Use in Landscape Design**

Sue Goetz – Garden Designer, Consultant, Speaker and Author, Creative Gardener

It's time to think outside the herb garden. Incorporating herbs into the landscape is a new look at the traditional way of growing herbs. Low maintenance, water misers, pollinator attraction, and fantastic foliage. These are just some of the reasons for using herbs throughout the landscape.



- Get to know the best herbs to use in your landscape, from meadow makers to pollinator attracters.
- Learn about the best herbs for hedges, groundcover, containers and large spaces.
- Discover design tips on how to mingle and mix herbs with ornamental plants.
- Walk away with recipes for edible and bath/spa products that anyone can make.

BIO: *Sue Goetz is an award-winning garden designer, writer, and speaker. Through her business, Creative Gardener (suegoetz.com), she works with clients to personalize outdoor spaces, from garden coaching to full landscape design. A popular speaker and hands-on workshop leader, Sue is all about creativity in and out of the garden. Her garden design work has earned awards at the Northwest Flower & Garden Show, Sunset Magazine Western Living, Fine Gardening, and the American Horticultural Society. Sue is a Certified Professional Horticulturist (CPH) and ecoPRO certified in sustainable landscaping. She lives and gardens in the beautiful Pacific Northwest.*

10:00 AM – 11:00 AM

CS02 **SESSION** | **Working with Weed Ordinances and HOAs**

Benjamin Vogt – Owner, Monarch Gardens

The Weed Police. Have you ever received a threatening note in your mailbox, taped to your door, or staked into your yard saying you'll soon be fined for weeds in your native plant garden? Don't worry about it. We're going to explore a slew of strategies for dealing with both city code enforcement and HOAs (Homeowners Associations). Learn how to work with neighbors and weed authorities by both tweaking your landscape and studying up on the ordinance language. You'll even learn about some victorious examples from around the country.



BIO: *Benjamin Vogt owns Monarch Gardens (monarchgard.com), a prairie-inspired design firm based in Nebraska. He is a newer voice in the field of native landscaping. He is the author of "A New Garden Ethic: Cultivating Defiant Compassion for an Uncertain Future" and "Prairie Up: An Introduction to Natural Garden Design." Benjamin's writing and photography have appeared in several books such as My American Garden and Lawn Gone, as well as magazines including American Gardener, Fine Gardening, Garden Design, and Horticulture. He speaks nationally, inspiring his audiences to think in different ways about the environment and sustainable urban design.*

10:00 AM – 11:00 AM

CS03 **SESSION** | **New-Media Marketing Best Practices to Foster Extension Master Gardener Program Growth**

Dr. Cheryl Boyer – Professor and Extension Specialist, Nursery Crop Production and Marketing, Kansas State University



It's no exaggeration that the digital age has transformed how organizations connect with their audience. Social media, e-newsletters, websites, email, YouTube . . . the list goes on. Which ones are best for growing and marketing your EMG program? Some? All? New technologies present new opportunities! Today's digital tools are easier than ever to use to reach your audience—and vice versa. Learn more about:

- Platforms and resources for marketing your EMG program.
- Marketing and communications choices that work well for EMG programs, both local and state
- How to develop a digital marketing plan for your EMG program.

BIO: *Dr. Cheryl Boyer is an Associate Professor and Extension Specialist for nursery crop production and marketing at Kansas State University. She is co-creator of the Center for Rural Enterprise Engagement. Her research has focused on alternative potting materials for nursery crops and social media marketing for retail garden centers. Dr. Boyer thrives on helping make the green industry more successful and Extension resources more accessible. She has a BA in Landscape Architecture and an MS in Horticulture from Oklahoma State University, and a PhD in Horticulture from Auburn University.*

10:00 AM – 11:00 AM

CS04 **SESSION** | **How Crevice Gardens Can Be Used Anywhere for More Things Than You Think**

Kenton Seth – Garden Designer, Owner of Paintbrush Gardens



Your gardening canvas just got bigger! Join Kenton Seth, a pioneer in modern crevice gardening, as he shows how to bring a miniaturized mountain environment into your yard using crevice gardening, a specialized rock-garden technique. Mountains and deserts are home to some of the most interesting plants in the world. With crevice gardening, you can bring these alpine and desert gems into your yard to enjoy by mimicking the climate they thrive in. (When you see a dandelion growing through a tiny sidewalk crack, rooted and happy with little to no soil in sight, you are essentially seeing a crevice garden in action.) Learn how to make the perfect home for plants from rocky places. The pictures will inspire you to get creating! Kenton will cover:

- How crevice gardens compare to more traditional rock gardens.
- Diverse and interesting ways to use them.
- How to design, construct and plant a crevice garden for your climate.
- Techniques and tips for successful planting and drainage.
- The soil mix. (Crevice plants don't know humus and compost.)
- Which plants love a crevice garden and where to find them.
- Stone selection. It's the interplay between the rocks and plants that gives a crevice garden its character.
- Ecological benefits of crevice gardening.

BIO: *Kenton Seth is a Colorado-based garden designer, hopeless plant junkie, and native plant hunter. His love of backpacking, the outdoors, and the "odd wildflowers, especially rare and endangered species" combine to inspire his passion for crevice gardens. Kenton owns Paintbrush Gardens (paintbrushgardens.com), a landscaping company specializing in creating crevice gardens, drought-tolerant natives and meadows for homeowners, businesses and public spaces. Kenton has traveled extensively nationally and internationally to build over 50 crevice gardens. He writes for a variety of publications from local plant clubs to national magazines and international rock garden clubs and has authored a book on crevice gardening. His Facebook page, Modern Crevice Gardens, is devoted to the friendly international sharing of ideas about crevice gardening. Kenton and his partner Tori grow vegetables, ride bikes, and watch sunsets over the canyon country in Fruita, Colorado.*

10:00 AM – 11:00 AM

CS05 **SESSION** | **The Humane Gardener: Nurturing Habitat for Wildlife**

Nancy Lawson – Nature Writer and Habitat Consultant, The Humane Gardener



Why do we call some insects “beneficial” and others “pests”? Why do we welcome some animals and treat others as nuisances? Why are some plants considered desirable while others are weeds? In this myth-busting talk, learn how common growing methods often perpetuate misperceptions about wild neighbors. Discover practical ways to put humane gardening philosophies into action by:

- Protecting nesting and overwintering sites.
- Eliminating hazards.
- Nurturing plants that provide refuge.
- Reducing disturbance.
- Humanely resolving conflicts with commonly misunderstood creatures.

BIO: *Author of The Humane Gardener: Nurturing a Backyard Habitat for Wildlife, Nancy Lawson is a nature writer and habitat consultant. She founded The Humane Gardener website (humanegardener.com) to pioneer creative planting strategies and animal-friendly landscaping methods. Her presentations inspire even seasoned horticulturists and wildlife experts to look at their landscapes in a new way. Certified as a Chesapeake Bay Landscape Professional, Master Naturalist, and Master Gardener, she partners with nonprofits in the Washington D.C. region. She has been featured in The New York Times, The Washington Post, Oprah magazine, and other media outlets. Look for Nancy’s soon-to-be published Wildscape: Trilling Chipmunks, Beckoning Blooms, Salty Butterflies, and other Sensory Wonders of Nature.*

10:00 AM – 11:00 AM

CS06 **SESSION** | **Beyond Sumac: Anacardiaceae in and Around the Garden**

Dr. Susan Pell – Executive Director, United States Botanic Garden



When you hear the word cosmopolitan, usually Anacardiaceae doesn’t come to mind (pronounced anna-cord-dee-ay-cee-ay). But after hearing Dr. Pell’s talk, it might. Cashews, mangoes, pistachios, sumac, smoke tree, poison ivy, poisonwood, and even pink peppercorns are all members of the Anacardiaceae, better known as the cashew family. Come on a journey and learn about the incredible and surprisingly diverse cashew family.

- The evolution, economic and ecological importance of the cashew family
- It’s many cultural uses
- The family’s toxicity. They all contain an oily irritant that most people are allergic to called urushiol in at least some of their plant parts. There’s a reason you don’t see unshelled cashews at the supermarket!
- How to manage around poison ivy and give it the respect it deserves
- The remarkable ways in which some members of the family defend themselves against microbes.

BIO: *Dr. Susan Pell is a garden leader, botanist and science educator with interests in improving science communication and increasing the participation of underrepresented groups in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics). She’s dedicated to building strong teams in museum and public garden settings and showing people the coolness of plants. Dr. Pell is currently the Executive Director at the United States Botanic Garden. She has 20 years of experience working at botanic gardens as a leader, educator, scientist and communicator. Her PhD is in plant biology, and her research specialty is evolution of the cashew (Anacardiaceae) family.*



The following 7 sessions are from 11:15 AM – 12:15 PM.

Please choose one.

11:15 AM – 12:15 PM

CS08

SESSION | Blending Diverse Volunteer Groups in a Community Teaching Garden

Theresa Badurek –Urban Horticulture Agent and EMG Coordinator, University of Florida/Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (UF/IFAS) Extension, Pinellas County



Come and learn the fundamentals of setting up and running a community teaching garden. Take a front row seat as Theresa explains how the Ochs Community Garden (pronounced "oaks") works for Tampa Bay residents of all ages, backgrounds and cultures. The Ochs Garden is a multi-generational community garden where Master Gardeners, 4H youth and community gardeners all grow, learn, sweat, and dig together. The garden is fun. It's an innovative approach to urban agriculture education. Theresa will cover:

- The process, challenges, and lessons learned.
- How to foster a diverse community garden.
- How to build teamwork, trust and integrity among volunteers with different cultures, life experiences and talents.
- How to identify appropriate volunteer groups to combine together.

BIO: *Theresa Badurek is the Urban Horticulture Extension Agent and EMG coordinator for the University of Florida/IFAS in Pinellas County, Florida. (IFAS = Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences) Theresa has a bachelor's degree in biology from the University of Central Florida with a focus on botany and Florida ecosystems. Her master's degree is in landscape architecture from the University of Florida with a focus on sustainable design. She is also a certified arborist.*



11:15 AM – 12:15 PM

CS09

SESSION | Native Medicinal Plants of the Prairie

Kelly Kindscher –Senior Scientist, Kansas Biological Survey, Professor, Environmental Studies Program, University of Kansas



Come and learn about the great pharmaceutical house on the prairie. The Plains Indians found medicinal value in more than 200 species of native prairie plants. Science is starting to recognize the contributions they made to horticulture, their use of native plants for healing, and the novel chemicals they contain.

- Learn about the history, ecology and pharmacology of medicinal prairie plants.
- Be introduced to the fascinating world of ethnobotany (the study of how indigenous peoples use native plants).
- Enjoy the wonderful stories and folklore of prairie plants.

BIO: *Kelly Kindscher, PhD, is a senior scientist at the Kansas Biological Survey and a Professor in the Environmental Studies Program at the University of Kansas. His research specialties are plant community ecology, conversation biology, restoration ecology, botany and ethnobotany. He is known as a passionate speaker for the wild—wild prairies, wild plants and wild landscapes. Kelly has also authored several books on medicinal and edible plants native to the prairie.*



11:15 AM – 12:15 PM

CS10 **SESSION** | Kids Ask Dr. Bug: Engaging the Public in Insect Conservation Through Edutainment

Dr. Tamra Reall – Field Specialist in Horticulture, University of Missouri Extension-Jackson County, Missouri



Our local Master Gardeners love Dr. Bug, and so will you. Dr. Reall’s expertise and edutaining presentations make entomology engaging for audiences of all ages. Insects are essential parts of healthy ecosystems and human wellbeing. Yet, insect decline is occurring at an alarming rate. How do we engage the public in learning more about these incredibly important organisms when it seems that many people would rather they didn’t exist? Dr. Reall covers:

- The importance of insects in our ecosystems.
- The value of sharing research-based information in easy-to-understand soundbites.
- Finding media opportunities to support insect conservation.
- Tips for writing engaging and educational articles.

BIO: *A transplant to the Kansas City area, Dr. Tamra Reall is the University of Missouri Extension Horticulture Specialist in the Urban West Region. Her focus is home horticulture, food security, urban entomology and environmental stewardship. A skilled educator, public speaker and bug expert, she is the author of Kids Ask Dr. Bug and Native Bees with Dr. Bug. She delights in answering questions like “If a bug bites me, will I get superpowers? Are insects right or left-handed? Why do flies exist?” Outside of work, Dr. Reall enjoys being a mom, gardening, her involvement in the community and, of course, collecting bugs.*

11:15 AM – 12:15 PM

CS11 **SESSION** | Pruning Like a Pro: Tips for Trees and Shrubs

Matt McKernan – Horticulture Agent, K-State Research and Extension-Sedgwick County, Kansas



Pruning is a basic gardening skill that intimidates most people. It is both an art and a science, which means there are many ways to prune correctly and poorly. Every snip, clip and cut can affect your plant in different ways for years to come.

- Attend this fun and lively session and gain a better understanding of how trees and shrubs respond to pruning.
- Learn the three main reasons to prune.
- Learn proper cutting techniques and how to prune for good tree structure.
- Leave knowing how to prune like a pro for happier, healthier landscapes.

BIO: *Known for his humorous presentation style, Matthew McKernan has a Bachelor of Science in Horticulture and Landscape Design from Kansas State University. His horticulture education included several study-abroad programs. Matthew currently is the Horticulture Extension Agent in Sedgwick County, Kansas. He educates residents and businesses about everything from pruning trees and shrubs to best practices for growing flowers and turfgrass. Born and raised in Wichita, Kansas, he grew up spending time at Wichita’s Botanica where his father is the Landscape Supervisor.*

11:15 AM – 12:15 PM

CS12 **SESSION** | **Bees and Pesticides: What Are the Facts?**

Dr. Raymond Cloyd – Professor and Extension Specialist in Horticultural Entomology/Plant Protection, Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kansas



Seventy-five percent of the world’s food crops depend on honey bees and other pollinators. We all understand the benefit of pollinators and the need to protect them. There is, however, a lot of fact and fiction on this topic. Which is which? Join Dr. Cloyd, a well respected researcher, as he separates fact from fiction. Learn from an expert about:

- Direct and indirect effects of pesticides on honey bees.
- The impact of parasites, diseases, and habitat loss and changes on honey bees.
- Laboratory studies that reached different conclusions than field researchers.
- How you can help protect the honey bee population in your local community.

BIO: *Dr. Raymond Cloyd is a Professor and Extension Specialist in Horticultural Entomology/Plant Protection at Kansas State University, the land-grant university in Manhattan, Kansas. Cloyd received his MS and PhD from another land-grant school, Purdue University in Indiana. His research involves plant protection/pest management in landscapes, interiorscapes, greenhouses, nurseries, conservatories, Christmas tree farms, and fruit and vegetable production facilities. A respected researcher/author, Dr. Cloyd is a frequent speaker at state, national and international conferences.*

11:15 AM – 12:15 PM

CS13 **SESSION** | **The Future of Gardening Advice—Learning from and Adapting to a Global Pandemic**

Nikki Barker – Senior Horticultural Advisor, Royal Horticultural Society, United Kingdom



The Royal Horticultural Society is the United Kingdom’s leading gardening charity dedicated to advancing horticulture and gardening practices. The RHS manages a vast gardening advice service. COVID forced them to make changes so they could continue to provide the best service and also reach new people. Come and hear their lessons learned. Many can be applied to your own EMG organization. Nikki will focus on:

- How the RHS manages its gardening advice service.
- Resilient and adaptable approaches to delivering advice services.
- How to raise the profile of your advice services.
- The huge potential for enhancing advice services.
- New skills needed now and in the future.
- The most likely future needs.

BIO: *Nikki Barker is the Senior Horticulture Advisor at the Royal Horticultural Society in the UK. She began her career at Oxford Botanic Gardens, and has spent over 37 years working in the horticultural industry, including being a former lecturer and commercial manager at Hadlow University Centre. She is a regular contributor to the RHS Garden Magazine and RHS podcasts. Nikki is passionate about plants, propagation and inspiring the next generation of gardeners.*

Tuesday, June 20 (cont.)

CS14

11:15 AM – 12:15 PM

SESSION | Water-Wise Landscape Design

Donna Hoffman – Assistant Extension Educator for Horticulture, University of Wyoming Extension, Natrona County



With drought and extreme weather events on the rise over the last two decades, it is more important than ever to know which plants not only survive but thrive in drought situations. What we plant need not negatively impact water use and our landscape. Join Donna as she skillfully weaves together landscape design and plant selection into water-wise landscaping. She will walk through the steps for creating a new landscape or redesigning the one you have. You'll love the results!

- Beauty
- Less work
- Fewer resources used
- More positive impact on the environment
- Landscapes that evolve and mature in a sustainable way

BIO: *Donna Hoffman is an Extension Educator and Master Gardener Coordinator for the University of Wyoming Extension in Natrona County. She started at the Extension during the drought in 2002. Today, 21 years later, her passion for Xeriscaping and smart plant choices have only intensified. She loves teaching about water-wise landscaping and spreading the word. She is the lead contact for Plant Select introductions and releases in the demonstration and test gardens at the Agricultural Resources and Learning Center (ARLC), home to the University of Wyoming's Extension programs for Natrona County.*



The following **6 sessions** are from 1:45 PM – 2:45 PM.

Please choose one.

CS15

1:45 PM – 2:45 PM

SESSION | Growing Color: Plants as Natural Dyes

Maria Beebe – Extension Master Gardener, Riley County, Kansas

Gina Beebe – Research Specialist/Ecologist, University of Missouri



Natural dyes have been used to color the fibers of our lives for thousands of years. Buried beneath the popularity of synthetic dyes used in fast fashion is the art of natural dyeing. It's making a resurgence. Within our gardens and landscapes, there is a plethora of plants for creating beautiful, sustainable, and light-fast colors on both animal and plant-based fibers. Join Maria and Gina in learning about:

- The history and uses of natural dyes throughout the world.
- How cultures have used plants and other living organisms to make the charismatic colors we know and love like indigo and red cochineal.
- Basics of natural dyeing.
- How to create naturally dyed fibers at home.
- Common garden and native plants for natural dyeing.
- Which parts of plants to harvest for dyeing and how to cultivate them for the intention of dyeing.
- Ethical and sustainable foraging practices.

BIO: Maria Beebe, a Master Gardener in Riley County, Kansas, has always loved growing plants, and particularly growing plants with a purpose. She is an avid knitter who discovered how to use natural dyes to color fiber. Maria especially loves to color yarn and to learn how colors interact with various types of fiber, such as wool, alpaca, silk and cotton.

Gina Beebe is an ecologist and botanist by training. She has spent years professionally cultivating an understanding of plant identification and Earth systems. The underlying foundation of this professional path is a passion for understanding our relationship to plants. Plants are a cornerstone of creative expression for Gina. She believes that through natural dyeing we can connect more deeply to our landscapes while finding authentic ways for self-expression.

1:45 PM – 2:45 PM

CS16

SESSION | Essential Crops and Edible Weeds: Traditional Indigenous Backyard Gardens

Devon Mihesuah – Cora Lee Beers Price Professor, Humanities Program, University of Kansas



Explore the history of indigenous gardens, an overlooked area of garden history. Join Devon Mihesuah as she brings to light the wisdom and gardening techniques used by the Five Tribes (Cherokees, Chickasaws, Choctaws, Muskogee-Creeks and Seminole Native American nations). Learn about:

- Their large community gardens and how the harvest was divided.
- The formal rules for planting, maintaining and harvesting.
- Favorite foods and medicinal plants found in individual family gardens.
- How the family gardens and community gardens worked together to sustain the tribes.

BIO: Devon Mihesuah is an enrolled citizen of the Choctaw Nation and a previous editor of the American Indian Quarterly. She is the Cora Lee Beers Price Professor for the Humanities Program at the University of Kansas. An historian by training, Devon is the author of numerous award-winning non-fiction and fiction books. Her career has been devoted to the empowerment and well-being of indigenous peoples and she regularly speaks nationally and internationally on these topics. She has received numerous awards including the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Ford Foundation, and the American Council of Learned Societies.

1:45 PM – 2:45 PM

CS17

SESSION | Using Social Media for Education and Elevating Diverse Voices

LeAnn Locher – Statewide Master Gardener Outreach Coordinator, Oregon State University



Social media is here to stay. It gives EMG programs more reach than ever for teaching and sharing knowledge in meaningful ways. Come and hear how Oregon State University Extension is using social media to better serve the needs of the gardening public and carry out their Master Gardener mission. LeAnn Locher will discuss:

- Designing educational content for Instagram and Facebook.
- Big do's and don'ts for using Instagram.
- Nuts and bolts for getting readers to stop and read posts.
- Tapping into the vast amount of content you already have and delivering it on social media.
- What "gamifying" is and the advantages of using it.

- Delivering the same content on multiple platforms.
- Ideas for growing diversity, equity and inclusion in your EMG program.

BIO: *LeAnn Locher is the statewide Master Gardener Outreach Coordinator for Oregon State University Extension. With a 20-year background as a marketing and communications consultant, LeAnn oversees branding, marketing, website management, social media, and diversity initiatives for the Extension. She is also part of a task force for expanding diversity, equity and inclusion in the state’s EMG program. LeAnn has a BA in Information and Communication Studies from California State University.*

1:45 PM – 2:45 PM

CS18

SESSION | **Hostas: Everything You Want to Know About America's Most Popular Perennial**

Rob Mortko – Extension Master Gardener, Johnson County, Kansas, Owner of Made in the Shade Tissue Culture Lab



What makes hostas the top-selling perennial in America? Come find out from nationally recognized hosta expert, Rob Mortko. Known as “The Hosta Guy,” his plant knowledge is also relevant to our entire international audience. Join Rob and gain a better understanding of:

- The most popular cultivars.
- Why hostas, a native of Korea, can grow just about anywhere.
- Cultural requirements needed for hostas to thrive.
- The latest hybridizing trends.
- How to grow better hostas.
- TRUE or FALSE? “Hostas are shade loving plants.”

BIO: *Rob Mortko has been a shade gardener and hosta aficionado for over 35 years. Rob and Sheri Mortko’s garden has been featured on tours as well as TV and in gardening publications. During his chemical engineering career, he also operated a retail/mail order hosta specialty nursery. Today, his focus is propagating new hosta cultivars such as Heart and Soul, Mouse Capades, Rising Star, Carry On, and award-winning Stitch in Time. Rob is a popular speaker and writer who has served on the board of the American Hosta Society, American Hosta Growers Association, and Midwest Regional Hosta Society.*

1:45 PM – 2:45 PM

CS20

SESSION | **What Do Public Gardens Have to Offer Master Gardeners?**

Dr. Susan Pell – Executive Director, United States Botanic Garden



Public gardens and greenhouses have always been sources of inspiration for Master Gardeners. And there’s more, a lot more, to take advantage of. Join Dr. Pell as she delves deeper and explains the opportunities and resources available to Master Gardeners, not only at public gardens across the United States, but also around the world.

- Learn how to access the training, educational materials, courses, expertise and even plants that are available.
- Take a look at examples of successful partnerships between Master Gardeners and public gardens.

BIO: Dr. Susan Pell is a garden leader, botanist and science educator with interests in improving science communication and increasing the participation of underrepresented groups in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics). She’s dedicated to building strong teams in museum and public garden settings and showing people the coolness of plants. Dr. Pell is currently the Executive Director at the United States Botanic Garden. She has 20 years of experience working at botanic gardens as a leader, educator, scientist and communicator. Her PhD is in plant biology, and her research specialty is evolution of the cashew (*Anacardiaceae*) family.

1:45 PM – 2:45 PM

CS21 **SESSION** | Attracting Hummingbirds to Your Backyard

Chuck Otte – Agriculture & Natural Resources Agent (Retired), K-State Research & Extension-Geary County, Kansas



Want more hummingbirds to visit your yard this summer? It’s easy when you use hummingbird-friendly plants in your landscaping and choose the right feeders. Come and learn:

- Basic needs of hummingbirds.
- Which flowering plants attract hummingbirds and how to use them in your landscape.
- How to make your own sugar nectar for feeders.
- Why it’s essential to clean feeders to keep hummingbirds healthy.
- Other bird species that feed at hummingbird feeders and how to cater to their needs.

Even if you don’t live in an area with hummingbirds, it’s fun to learn about these fascinating winged acrobats that can fly forward, backward, even upside-down and hover.

BIO: Chuck Otte was a County Extension Agent for 40 years before retiring. A birder since the age of four, Chuck is an active member of the Kansas Ornithological Society and currently serves as its secretary, newsletter editor, secretary of the bird records committee, and webmaster (<https://ksbirds.org/>). He’s also the co-author of two books on the birds of Kansas.



The following **6 sessions** are from 3:15 PM – 4:15 PM.

Please choose one.

3:15 PM – 4:15 PM

CS22 **SESSION** | Techniques to Boost Your Harvest: How to Grow More Produce in Any Size Garden, Even Containers

FULL

Jennifer Stefanichik – Extension Master Gardener, Johnson County, Kansas



Have an interest in growing more of your own produce? Have a vegetable garden and want a better harvest? Whether new to food gardening or experienced, you are sure to learn new techniques that will have your harvest baskets overflowing with delicious, healthy, home-grown produce. Learn how to:

- Boost your harvest in three easy steps.
- Master key garden maintenance practices.
- Increase garden yield by selecting the right plants for your region.
- Cultivate a prolific garden no matter the size of the plot or pot.



Tuesday, June 20 (cont.)

- Extend your harvest window.
- Use vertical gardening, succession planting, and intensive planting to improve harvest bounty.

BIO: Jennifer Stefanchik is an Extension Master Gardener with Johnson County, Kansas. From balconies in Chicago to large backyard gardens in Kansas, Jennifer has been growing vegetables for over 20 years. She writes a popular bi-monthly vegetable gardening column in the Kansas City Gardener's Connect newsletter and is a popular speaker on vegetable gardening in the community.

3:15 PM – 4:15 PM

CS23

SESSION | Gardening Safely and Minimizing Risk

Gail Brandys – President, Occupational & Environmental Health Consulting Services, Hinsdale, Illinois

Dr. Angela O'Callaghan – Social Horticulture Specialist, University of Nevada Cooperative Extension



Heat stress. Poison ivy. A sore back. We all know these are common complaints among gardeners. But do you know how to recognize and resolve less common safety challenges facing the modern gardener? As a Certified Safety Professional and Master Gardener, Gail Brandys is an expert in gardening safety. Join Gail in learning how to garden safely for many years to come by minimizing illness and injury. Get the latest information on:

- Repetitive motion injuries, ergonomic tools, soil and plant toxins, hazardous vertebrates and invertebrates, ladder safety, and electrical tool safety.
- Tips for dealing with personal handicaps and challenges that impact gardeners as they age.
- Gardening hazards in your part of the country.

BIO: Gail Brandys is a Master Gardener in Las Vegas, Nevada, with over 40 years of gardening experience in different parts of the United States. She has a Master's Degree in Industrial Safety Management and is a retired Certified Safety Professional with extensive background in occupational and construction safety. A frequent speaker on safety-related topics, Gail has presented at national and international conferences for the past 20 years.

Dr. Angela O'Callaghan served as Nevada Social Horticulture Specialist and associate professor at University of Nevada Cooperative Extension from 2000 through 2021. During this time, she:

- Expanded the Master Gardener program from 150 to 250 trained volunteers.
- Created a school gardens program that expanded to the Youth Horticulture Education Program, which worked with in-school projects, the Junior Master Gardener Program, and youth in corrections programs.
- Created a Growing in Small Places horticulture training for local residents who desired training in desert gardening.
- Created a Community/Healing gardens program, working with neighborhood organizations as well as low-income senior citizen housing.

Dr. O'Callaghan retired in December 2021 and was awarded Emerita status.

3:15 PM – 4:15 PM

CS24 **SESSION** | Teaching and Outreach Strategies for Engaging Underserved Cultural Audiences

David Lott – Horticulture Educator and Master Gardener Coordinator, University of Nebraska Extension

Sandra Barrera Fuentes – Rural Prosperity and Latino Small Business Educator, University of Nebraska Extension



Have you wanted to work with and teach people from different cultures and languages in your Master Gardener program, but simply don't know where to start? Come and learn from two Nebraska Extension educators who are doing just that. They are changing the picture in Nebraska, a state that has traditionally underserved cultural audiences in the field of horticulture.

Learn valuable information on:

- Culturally appropriate marketing, teaching and evaluation strategies.
- Creating a program that's culturally beneficial to the immigrant population you wish to serve.
- Strategies for immediately attracting and teaching new populations of Extension users.

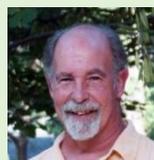
BIO: *David Lott is the Horticulture Educator for the Nebraska Extension in North Platte. He serves a 16-county region in west central Nebraska with a growing Latino population. He specializes in home vegetable and fruit production and resource-efficient landscapes. He also oversees the Master Gardener program in west central Nebraska.*

Sandra Barrera Fuentes is the Latino Small Business Educator for Nebraska Extension statewide. She connects Hispanic entrepreneurs and immigrant populations with Extension services, and supports them with the resources needed to start their business, grow it and sustain it. Sandra also leads the Grand Island Latino Network.

3:15 PM – 4:15 PM

CS25 **SESSION** | Bringing a New Plant to Market

Bill Malouche – President/Owner, National Nursery Products-Kansas City



Ever wonder how a plant gets from the idea stage to showing up at your local nursery? Come and join Bill Malouche as he draws back the curtain on this lesser-known journey. Bill will also cover the latest information on:

- Current trends in the hybridizing and breeding of new perennial introductions with beautiful color, new forms, and better performance in the landscape.
- How tissue culture enables the rapid introduction to the marketplace of an overwhelming selection of new plants.

BIO: *Bill Malouche studied horticulture at Kansas State University prior to working for several horticultural companies in the Kansas City area. For the past 29 years, Bill has owned and managed the Kansas City office of National Nursery Products, a horticultural sales, marketing and consulting group. It represents regional and national wholesale growers, greenhouse growers, retail garden centers, and landscape professionals. Bill continues to participate in educational programs on the ecological uses of horticultural plants. He frequently attends a variety of professional green industry symposiums, lectures and workshops.*

3:15 PM – 4:15 PM

CS26

SESSION | Understanding the Spectrum of Disabilities and Expanding Your Outreach

Paul Jones – Manager, National AgrAbility Project, Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana



FACT: The U.S. has almost 50 million people with disabilities. That's a lot. According to the U.S. Department of Labor, people with disabilities are the nation's largest minority. The number gets even bigger when adding functional limitations not defined as disabilities—such as arthritis, mobility issues and age-related conditions. Paul will cover:

- How to make gardening and Master Gardener activities truly accessible and inclusive to people of all abilities.
- The spectrum of disabilities—physical, emotional, sensory—and how to address them in your Master Gardener program.
- Educational resources and technology for making gardening more accessible.
- Practical steps for improving accessibility.

BIO: *Paul Jones is manager of the National AgrAbility Project, a USDA-funded outreach program for agricultural workers with disabilities, administered through Purdue University. He has been a staff member in Purdue's Agricultural Safety and Health Program since 1998. Paul began managing the Indiana AgrAbility Project in 2000 and the National AgrAbility Project in 2008. Paul specializes in developing educational resources, including publications, videos and distance learning activities related to gardening accessibility.*

3:15 PM – 4:15 PM

CS27

SESSION | Plant-Derived Essential Oils: Are They Effective Against Insect and Mite Pests?

Dr. Raymond Cloyd – Professor and Extension Specialist in Horticultural Entomology/Plant Protection, Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kansas



There is a growing interest in controlling pest problems using natural products. Because they are naturally occurring oils and plant extracts, people think they are safer. But are they? Do they work? Do they have side effects? Dr. Cloyd is a well respected researcher on plant oils. Join him as he guides you in understanding their use and effectiveness. Get the latest information on:

- The background on plant-derived essential oils.
- Products from plant-derived essential oils that are commercially available for managing insect and mite pest populations.
- Scientific research on the benefits and limitations of plant-derived essential oils.

BIO: *Dr. Raymond Cloyd is a Professor and Extension Specialist in Horticultural Entomology/Plant Protection at Kansas State University, the land-grant university in Manhattan, Kansas. Cloyd received his MS and PhD from another land-grant school, Purdue University in Indiana. His research involves plant protection/pest management in landscapes, interiorscapes, greenhouses, nurseries, conservatories, Christmas tree farms and fruit and vegetable production facilities. A respected researcher/author, Dr. Cloyd is a frequent speaker at state, national and international conferences.*

Tuesday, June 20 (cont.)

\$49.00

ES02

6:30 PM – 8:30 PM

EVENING SPEAKER | **Bicycling with Butterflies**

Includes, snacks, a cash bar and opportunities for networking

Sara Dykman – Adventure Educator, BeyondABook.org



Sara Dykman made history in 2017 as the first person to bicycle alongside monarch butterflies as they made their 10,201-mile annual migration. She bicycled from Mexico through the United States to Canada—and back. A lifelong learner, Sara’s goal was to tell the monarch’s story through an amazing “butterbiking” adventure that included four flat tires, getting lost in New York City and eating plenty of peanut butter. Along the way, she visited over 50 schools and nature centers showing over 9,000 students that anyone can be a scientist, conservationist and adventurer. Join Sarah to discover what we can do to protect, preserve and enhance the life of the mighty monarch. According to Sara, “My goal is to inspire people to see and appreciate what’s in their own yards. Too often we look, but don’t see.”

BIO: *Sarah Dykman, a native Kansan of Johnson County, is the founder of BeyondABook.org, which fosters lifelong learners, boundary pushers, explorers and stewards. She is the winner of the 2021 National Outdoor Book Award. She works in amphibian research and as an outdoor educator, guiding young people into nature so they can delight in its complicated brilliance. She hopes her own adventures—walking from Mexico to Canada, canoeing the Missouri River from source to sea, and cycling over 80,000 miles across North and South America (including the monarch migration trip)—will empower young and old to dream big.*



If you plan on going to all three special evening events (Sunday, Tuesday and Wednesday), you’ll save \$38 if you purchase them in a bundle for \$109.

To purchase them as a bundle, scroll back to the first page of the registration system and select the **Evening Featured Speakers Bundle**.

Wednesday, June 21



The following **6 sessions** are from 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM.

Please choose one.

CS29

10:00 AM – 11:00 AM

SESSION | **Weed-Free Gardening**

Tasha Greer – Writer, Teacher, Homesteader, Farmer

Let’s get into the weeds! Make weeds your allies in creating a more peaceful, non-toxic garden using the ideas in this presentation.

- Learn to decipher the clues weeds offer about the current condition of your soil.
- Learn how to reduce weeds using four steps to garden care for long-term soil stability.



Wednesday, June 21 (cont.)

- Get tips to help you suppress weeds while solving soil issues.
- Use weeds as a free resource to nourish and beautify your garden.

BIO: *Tasha Greer is an “Epicurean homesteader” and writer focused on simple, sustainable living (simplestead.com). She’s the author of Grow Your Own Spices and Weed-Free Gardening and a contributor to Mother Earth News, The Grow Network, Grit and Morning Chores. Tasha’s obsession with great food, gardening and simple living led her to homestead in beautiful Surry County, NC. There she raises goats, chickens, ducks, worms and more on a 10-acre property with lots of help from her partner in good living, Matt Miles. She volunteers with gardening organizations in her community and teaches classes on edible landscaping and organic gardening.*

10:00 AM – 11:00 AM

CS30

SESSION | Personal Impacts and Public Value – The Ripples of Volunteerism

Anne Yasalonis – Residential Horticulture Agent, Master Gardener Volunteer Program Coordinator, University of Florida’s Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences and Extension, Polk County, Florida



Ripples are tiny waves generated when someone drops a stone into the water. Ripple Effects Mapping is generating some big waves in the world of evaluation. If you are an Extension professional or a Master Gardener coordinator looking for a new tool to measure the impact of your EMG program in the community, come and learn about Ripple Effects Mapping. A team of Extension professionals at the University of Florida tried it out and loved the results. REM is simple and inexpensive. It captures the impacts of complex work. It’s motivating and inspiring. The visual nature of ripple maps makes it an ideal tool for communicating program impacts with stakeholders. Join Anne and learn how to:

- Use REM and develop inquiry questions.
- Recruit volunteers and conduct REM sessions.
- Map results.
- Effectively share results with program funders, participants and cooperating agencies.

BIO: *As Polk County, Florida’s Residential Horticulture Agent, Anne Yasalonis provides research-based education about Florida-friendly landscaping and best management practices for home lawn and landscapes. An active blogger, Anne is also responsible for producing/managing monthly newsletters, workshops, webinars and social media sites. In addition, Anne is the county’s Master Gardener Volunteer Coordinator managing an active group of 80 Master Gardeners.*

10:00 AM – 11:00 AM

CS31

SESSION | Friendly Inclusive Gardening (FIG): Garden Design for All Ages and Abilities

Stephen Cantú – Extension Master Gardener, San Diego, California



How do you experience the joy of gardening when you have mobility or accessibility challenges? Learn about the FIG program – Friendly Inclusive Gardening – developed by Stephen Cantú, a wheelchair user. He developed it when realizing many in the general public and the Master Gardener program didn’t have an understanding about mobility issues when setting up home, school, or community gardens.

- “Friendly” means safe and easy to move around and using tools properly.
- “Inclusive” is for all ages and physical abilities.
- “Gardening” is just that . . . gardening!

The FIG approach offers ideas for all gardeners. What works for those with physical challenges makes gardening easier for everyone else

BIO: *Stephen Cantú is a two-time Paralympian and a Master Gardener with the Master Gardener program in San Diego County. Making gardening more inclusive has been on his mind ever since a job site accident led to his wheelchair use four decades ago. "An environment should be designed to meet the needs of all people who wish to use it." He gardens on a 2-acre paradise of edibles, fruit trees, succulents and berries on a hillside in Bonita, CA. Stephen is also a woodworker, journeyman carpenter and a consultant on accessibility and ADA compliance.*

10:00 AM – 11:00 AM

CS32 **SESSION** | Growing and Blooming Orchids Successfully

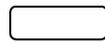
David Bird – CEO, Bird’s Botanicals

ORCHIDS. Mysterious . . . exotic . . . beautiful . . . difficult to get to bloom. These are the four descriptions orchid grower David Bird hears most often from gardeners. For many people, orchids are a plant of high interest but low confidence when it comes to actually growing them. Join David as he takes out the mystique and gives you the facts on:



- The proper culture of several orchid genera.
- How to have these beauties grace your home for many years to come, not just a few months.
- Which orchids he recommends growing (he'll bring them along for you to see).

BIO: *David Bird has loved orchids since he was 16 years old and got his first glimpse on a trip to Hawaii. He took five flowers home and began the long process of learning to care for this difficult plant. It sparked a lifelong passion. In 2001, he started his own business as an orchid grower, Birds Botanicals (birdsbotanicals.com). "Start with one orchid, at 20 you're hooked, at 60 you're obsessed, and at 10,000, there's no turning back." Orchids are his favorite, but he also grows a wide variety of cool and unusual plants. He is considered one of the biggest orchid growers in the Midwest.*



10:00 AM – 11:00 AM

CS33 **SESSION** | Plants for Birds

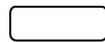
Marshall Johnson – Chief Conservation Officer, Audubon Society

How do we restore vital habitats for birds in our communities? How do we help them adapt and survive in the face of climate change? Join this dynamic speaker from the Audubon Society and learn more about:



- The benefits of choosing native plants for our yards and public spaces.
- Audubon’s easy-to-use Plants for Birds program.
- Ways to have a positive impact on birds right where you live.
- The best plants to entice birds to make your garden their home.

BIO: *As Chief Conservation Officer, Marshall leads the conservation work at Audubon to address the dual crises of unprecedented climate change and biodiversity facing birds. He spearheaded a grasslands project that conserved nearly 500,000 acres. He also led America’s largest regenerative, bird-friendly land certification effort for protecting North America’s fragile grasslands. He helped to create 36 new nature parks across North Dakota, creating safe passage for migratory birds and returning 2,000 acres back to nature. Marshall is a graduate of the University of Minnesota and is based in Fargo, ND.*



Wednesday, June 21 (cont.)

10:00 AM – 11:00 AM

CS34 **SESSION** | Keys to Success for School Garden Programs That Thrive

Whitney Cohen – Education Director, Life Lab, Santa Cruz, CA

Why do some school gardens take root and become well-established, while others fizzle and fade? Get the antidote to Fizzle-and-Fade from Whitney Cohen, an expert in garden-based education for children. If you are involved in a Junior Master Garden program, school gardens, or want fun ideas for involving your own children in gardening, this is the presentation for you.



Whitney will discuss:

- Key elements of school garden programs that are resilient.
- Tools and strategies from school gardens across the country that are thriving.
- How garden-based education can fill multiple needs of schools.

BIO: *Whitney Cohen is the Education Director at Life Lab, a nationally recognized organization that teaches people to care for themselves, each other, and the world through farm- and garden-based programs. Guided by her joy in being outdoors with children, she is the author of the award-winning Kids' Garden activity card set and a contributor to other garden-based learning activity guides. She presents hands-on garden education workshops to varied audiences across the country, including Master Gardeners. Her expertise in gardening with children comes from years as an environmental educator, a middle school science teacher, a teacher trainer and a mother.*



The following **6 sessions** are from 11:15 AM – 12:15 PM.

Please choose one.

11:15 AM – 12:15 PM

CS36 **SESSION** | The Giving Grove: Inspiring Community Orchards Across America

Ashley Williamson – Co-Director, The Giving Grove

Matt Bunch – The Giving Grove

Little orchards. Big impact. Will your city be next in joining this food sovereignty movement? The purpose of the Giving Grove's work is to inspire and excite neighborhoods about growing food by way of fruits, berries and nuts. Since the Kansas City nonprofit started planting gardens and orchards in 2013, its footprint has expanded to almost 400 orchards in 10 cities, and this network of cities is growing rapidly.



Beyond providing fresh food to the communities they serve, Giving Grove's orchards have also cultivated a network of community stewards—volunteers who take ownership of the orchard installation, orchard maintenance and neighborhood engagement, particularly during harvest season. Stewards not only invest in their neighborhoods, they also participate in life-long horticulture education, learning how to orchard holistically and organically. This grassroots-inspired idea is now being replicated in cities across America.

Join Ashley and Matt as they describe:

- A brief history of the program.
- Important nuances in getting a neighborhoods' involvement.
- The benefits of a multi-city network in creating innovation.
- The impact this program is having on health, equity and strengthening of community—all while beautifying disinvested neighborhoods.

BIO: Ashley’s passion is local and international program development, community engagement and research. She has a Master in Social Work Advocacy, Policy and Administration. She is committed to connecting people, ideas and policies. A dedicated Kansas City community member, Ashley is involved with the Unified Government Wyandotte County Board of Park Commissioners, Community Capital Fund Board of Directors, and the Pride Charitable Fund Advisory Board. She always looks forward to a good podcast, book, or the next time she can work in her ever-expanding vegetable garden or neighborhood Giving Grove orchard.

Working in the horticulture field since 1994, Matt’s experience spans retail, municipal and botanical gardens as well as non-profit community horticulture. He has planted over 10,000 trees and has a passion for growing food and native plants. Matt continues to botanize the Kansas City area while searching for new champion trees and new plant records. When he is not gardening, he is cooking produce from the garden and helping raise a couple of teenagers.

11:15 AM – 12:15 PM

CS37

SESSION | Growing Edible Natives in Your Garden

Dr. Nadia Navarrete-Tindall – Extension Associate Professor and Specialty Crops Specialist, Lincoln University of Missouri



Expand your culinary horizons and come away with some tasty recipes to boot! You don’t have to become a forager to enjoy the many edible native plants that are quite tasty. Dr. Navarrete-Tindall will cover:

- How to grow edible natives right along with other edibles in your kitchen garden or landscape.
- Plant identification and general information about propagation and establishment to get you off to a good start.
- What to plant, when to plant, and what to harvest for each edible plant.
- Lots of recipes to try when you get home.

BIO: Dr. Nadia Navarrete-Tindall, a native of El Salvador, is a professor at Lincoln University in Jefferson City, MO. An expert in native plants with over 20 plus years’ experience, she is in charge of the University’s Specialty Crops/Native Plants Program. Through outreach and education, Dr. Navarrete-Tindall focuses on increasing awareness of native plants as specialty crops and their importance in conservation, especially as relates to native pollinators. In 2008, she received Missouri’s highest conservation honor when she was inducted into the Conservation Hall of Fame as a Master Conservationist.

11:15 AM – 12:15 PM

CS38

SESSION | How Using Online Training May Help Increase MG Diversity and Lessons Learned Along the Way

Dr. Jeff Wilson – Assistant Horticulture Professor/State MG Coordinator, Mississippi State University Extension



COVID forced many states to change how they deliver Master Gardener training, including Mississippi State. In 2021, they began using online delivery for initial EMG training. They learned a lot! Come and hear about the good, the bad and the ugly. Dr. Wilson hopes to give you a leg up as you move to online training or do more of it. If you are an Extension Agent or Master Gardener Coordinator, you won’t want to miss this presentation.

Wednesday, June 21 (cont.)

Jeff will focus on:

- Lessons learned—what worked and what didn't.
- How online training helped increase diversity.
- What to expect and what to avoid.
- How to evaluate its effectiveness.
- How well going online connected with Master Gardener volunteers.

BIO: *An Assistant Horticulture professor and the state Master Gardener Coordinator for Mississippi State University Extension, Dr. Wilson has 40 years' experience in the horticulture field. He has a BS and an MS in Horticulture from Auburn University, and a PhD in Agricultural Information Sciences from Mississippi State University.*

11:15 AM – 12:15 PM

CS39 **SESSION** | Cacti and Succulent Varieties and Growing Tips

Judy Pigue – Past President, Cactus and Succulent Society of America

Have you ever bought a colorful succulent from the garden center only to have it die a few weeks later? Do you struggle with growing succulents and cacti for more than one season? Worry no more. A leader in the Cactus and Succulent Society, Judy will teach you how to grow them successfully throughout the year. You'll be able to touch actual plants and see what healthy succulents can be. You'll walk away knowing:



- The differences between succulents and cacti.
- Growing tips to ensure your plants thrive indoors or outdoors.
- Recommended varieties to get you started off right.
- What healthy plants should look like.

BIO: *Long time member and past president of The Cactus and Succulent Society of America, Judy Pigue is passionate about growing succulents and sharing her experiences with others. She is a talented artist and illustrator, skills that are reflected in her own hardy cactus and succulent home garden. Judy has been fortunate to travel and see many cacti and succulents up close in their natural habitats, including several trips to Argentina, Chili and Baja.*

11:15 AM – 12:15 PM

CS40 **SESSION** | Mini-Forest Revolution

Hannah Lewis – Editor, Biodiversity for a Livable Climate

So much of the climate conversation is powered by the fearful narrative of a dying planet. Hannah Lewis offers a different story. The mini-forest revolution is a movement to restore biodiversity in our cities and towns by transforming empty lots, backyards and degraded land into mini-forests. Hannah Lewis presents the Miyawaki Method, a unique approach to tree planting conceived by Japanese botanist Akira Miyawaki. Join Hannah as she:



- Explains how tiny forests the size of a tennis court grow quickly and are much more biodiverse than those planted by conventional methods.
- Explores the science behind why Miyawaki-style mini-forests work and the myriad environmental benefits.
- Shares the stories of mini-forests that have sprung up across the globe within diverse types of terrain, climate and location and the people who are planting them.

The Miyawaki Method can be done by people everywhere. We do not have to wait for nations and corporations to act. Mini-forests are a gift to a despairing world and a recipe of hope, powered by love and a trowel. Hannah Lewis is the leading the way. She’s doing it, and wants you to know you can do it too.

BIO: Author of *The Mini Forest Revolution*, Hannah Lewis is a freelance writer focusing on people, nature and conservation. She edits the “Compendium of Scientific and Practical Findings Supporting Eco-Restoration to Address Global Warming” published by Biodiversity for a Livable Climate, an environmental non-profit. Hannah worked for many years supporting sustainable food systems in the Midwest, and then shifted toward the entwined crises of climate change and biodiversity loss. Hannah discovered the Miyawaki Method while living in France. She has a BA in Environmental Studies from Middlebury College in Vermont and an MS in Sustainable Agriculture and Sociology from Iowa State University.

11:15 AM – 12:15 PM

CS41

SESSION | Connecting People and Plants

Terri James – Extension Educator, State Master Gardener Coordinator, University of Nebraska–Lincoln



Pam Bennett – Horticulture Educator, State Master Gardener Volunteer Program Director, Ohio State University Extension



Sheri Dorn – Extension Horticulturist, State Master Gardener Coordinator, University of Georgia

As Horticultural professionals and Master Gardeners, we instinctively know the communities we serve and environment are better because of what we do. But how much better? Join our three panelists as they provide the answer. They detail the depth and breadth of the everyday benefits and value of gardening, both to individuals and communities. Consumer horticulture and the science-based education we provide has far reaching effects. Listen as the panelists put facts and figures around the many areas we impact, including:

- The economy and businesses
- Environmental sustainability
- Health and well being
- Community beautification and green spaces
- Local food production

BIO: Terri James is an Extension Educator at the University of Nebraska in Lincoln. She coordinates the Extension Master Gardener Volunteer program for the state, develops content for the Backyard Farmer program, and coordinates and teaches the local Master Gardener program at the East Campus. She is also part of a group working on publications outlining the importance of consumer horticulture to everyday life. She earned her BS in Horticulture-Landscape Design and her MS in Public Gardening from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Before her work at the University of Nebraska, Terri was the landscape manager and designer with the Nebraska State Fair in Lincoln.

Pam Bennett is a Horticulture Educator and the state Master Gardener director at Ohio State University Extension. She specializes in herbaceous ornamental plant trials and presents programs on annuals, perennials and landscape topics locally, statewide and nationally. Pam is the co-author of Garden-pedia, An A-to-Z Guide to Gardening Terms. She also writes a weekly gardening column for the Springfield News and Sun and the Dayton Daily News, authors the bi-monthly Ask the Expert Column for Ohio Gardening magazine and writes for popular gardening magazines. Pam also teaches nationally and internationally on a variety of horticulture and volunteer management topics.

Wednesday, June 21 (cont.)

Sheri Dorn is an Extension ornamental specialist in the Horticulture department and state Master Gardener coordinator at the University of Georgia on the Griffin Campus. As a gardener, Sheri is passionate about vegetable gardening and color in the garden. She enjoys raising vegetables and small fruits with her family. She loves to plant colorful container gardens with annual and perennial combinations, and tries to visit public gardens whenever possible. As a researcher, Sheri is most interested in the human dimension of horticulture. She seeks to quantify engagement with plants and to describe underlying motivations and benefits for doing so using a primarily quantitative approach.



The following **6 sessions** are from 1:45 PM – 2:45 PM.

Please choose one.

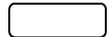
CS43 1:45 PM – 2:45 PM
SESSION | Grow Your Own Spices

Tasha Greer – Writer, Teacher, Homesteader, Farmer

Learning to grow spices used to require acts of dangerous espionage. No more! Spice up your garden, your plate and your health with your own fresh, homegrown spices. Unlike herbs, spices come from the seeds, roots, bark, or berries of plants, which means growing, harvesting and preparing spices is a lot more nuanced than growing leafy herbs.

- Learn to masterfully grow any spice without risk to life or limb.
- Journey deep into the secrets for growing some of the most exotic spices at home, including vanilla, peppercorns and turmeric.
- Learn about the mysterious and critical processes of inflorescence, pollination and senescence.
- Get historically guarded harvesting and processing tips.

BIO: *Tasha Greer is an “Epicurean homesteader” and writer focused on simple, sustainable living (simplestead.com). She’s the author of Grow Your Own Spices and Weed-Free Gardening, and a contributor to Mother Earth News, The Grow Network, Grit and Morning Chores. Tasha’s obsession with great food, gardening and simple living led her to homestead in beautiful Surry County, NC. There she raises goats, chickens, ducks, worms and more on a 10-acre property with lots of help from her partner in good living, Matt Miles. She volunteers with gardening organizations in her community and teaches classes on edible landscaping and organic gardening.*



CS44 1:45 PM – 2:45 PM
SESSION | Landscaping with a Prairie Palette

Carol Davit – Executive Director, Missouri Prairie Foundation/Grow Native! Program, Columbia, Missouri

Carol Davit tells a compelling story of why the prairie matters. Native grasslands occur globally in the form of prairies, glades, savannas and other grassland-natural communities. In addition to their in situ biological values, grasslands are reservoirs of seed for the native landscaping industry, and provide inspiration for attractive native gardens.



Wednesday, June 21 (cont.)

Carol will discuss:

- How to incorporate prairie plants into Missouri and Kansas landscapes for vibrant, living landscapes.
- Prairie ecosystems.
- The history of prairies in other parts of the world, their conservation significance, and universal best practices for prairie gardening – a captivating subject even if you don't garden in the Midwest.

BIO: Carol Davit oversees the operations of the 56-year-old Missouri Prairie Foundation and land trust, including the Grow Native! Program. She has worked for 25 years in conservation and environmental communications, development, administration and leadership for private and nonprofit conservation groups, and also municipal and state governments. Editor of the Missouri Prairie Journal since 1997, Carol writes articles on native gardening, edits field guides, and speaks at conferences on native gardening, prairie conservation and related topics.

1:45 PM – 2:45 PM

CS45 **SESSION** | Kahoot! Educating Master Gardeners and Our Communities with a Smile

Tena van Andel – Extension Master Gardener, Toronto, Canada

How do we inspire Master Gardeners to learn? How do we spice up the same old lecture on container gardening? Kahoot! Kahoot is a subscription-based tool on the web that lets you create online trivia games that are fun and, most importantly, educational. It has over 100 million games on every topic imaginable. Learn how the Master Gardeners of Ontario, Canada, adapted Kahoot for meaningful continuing education and spicing up presentations to our communities. Come play!



- See for yourself how easy it is to use.
- Discover how Kahoot can spice up otherwise ho-hum lectures.
- Get tips and tricks for creating and using different types of “kahoots” (learning games).
- Let's explore the possibility of how EMGs everywhere could contribute to a network of high quality garden education.

BIO: Tena van Andel has been a Toronto Master Gardener since 2005. Tena says although she's served in several key Master Gardener leadership roles, her most rewarding volunteer experience is that of an educator and presenter. A former IMGC presenter, Tena's topics range from orchids, balcony gardening and invasives to green roofs, houseplants and gardening disasters. When she's not volunteering, she's busy rewilding a 19th century farm property and teaching garden fitness.

1:45 PM – 2:45 PM

CS46 **SESSION** | Inspiring Your Inner Artist with Nature's Art

Donna Houtteman – Owner, ART BLOCKS

Mother Nature is the perfect engineer and design guru. She has been creating and optimizing her designs for millions of years. She has R & D in the bag. What are her design principles? How might you apply them to garden design? Join Donna as she guides you in seeing nature's design principles at work—from seashells, fern fronds, sunflowers and pinecones



Wednesday, June 21 (cont.)

to hurricanes, the human embryo and summer solstice. In this visually rich presentation, Donna shows you:

- How color, line, shape, form, texture, space and the Golden Ratio repeatedly occur in nature.
- Examples of gardens that take their inspiration from nature's unifying patterns.
- How to apply the Golden Ratio in nature to bring structure, harmony and visual appeal to your garden design.

BIO: Donna Houtteman is the owner and creator of ART BLOCKS (artblockskc.com), a novel concept of mini-classes in art history for the purpose of enriching people's lives through the joy of art. ART BLOCKS is the culmination of her lifelong passion for sharing her love of art. Donna's many involvements in the art world include being a docent at the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art for 22+ years, an art instructor at the Kansas City Art Institute, and a popular teacher and presenter in venues from coast to coast. Donna's latest passion is in the gardening world, which is no surprise since her mother was a Master Gardener. She has a degree in Fashion Design from the Fashion Institute of Technology in New York City.

1:45 PM – 2:45 PM

CS47

SESSION | The Need for Monarch Waystations

Dr. Orley (Chip) Taylor – Founder and Director of Monarch Watch, Professor, Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, University of Kansas



How can you not love a tiny, gorgeous creature that flies from Mexico to Canada to keep its species on the Earth? Monarch butterflies are one of our most iconic insects. And they need our help. Join this entertaining speaker and outstanding scientist and learn how you can help.

- Habitat loss and climate change is a double whammy that monarch butterflies face.
- You can help by creating Monarch Waystations (monarch habitats) in home gardens, at schools, businesses, parks, zoos, nature centers, along roadsides, and on other unused plots of land.
- Monarch Waystations provide resources necessary for monarchs to produce successive generations to sustain their migration. Without milkweeds, monarchs are not be able to produce the numbers that culminate in the migration each fall. Similarly, without nectar from flowers, these fall migratory butterflies are unable to make their long journey to overwintering grounds in Mexico.
- Improving life for the monarch improves life for all pollinators.

BIO: Dr. Orley "Chip" Taylor is an insect ecologist. A champion of monarchs, he founded Monarch Watch (monarchwatch.org) in 1992, an outreach program for education, research and conservation for monarch butterflies. Monarch Watch has tagged over two million monarchs so they can study their migration habits. The organization has done more to enlighten the world about the unique charms and challenges of the monarch butterfly migration than any other. In 2005, he created the Monarch Waystation program because habitats for monarchs are declining at a rate of 6,000 acres a day in the U.S. Dr. Taylor continues to mobilize citizen science and gardening support to restore the habitat needed to preserve this species.

Wednesday, June 21 (cont.)

1:45 PM – 2:45 PM

CS48 **SESSION** | **Children in the Garden, A Sensory Experience**

Rene Bookoff – Extension Master Gardener, University of Maryland Extension Master Gardener Program

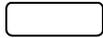


Children’s gardens are a big part of the Master Gardener mission. Because sensory experiences are so important to a child’s development, creating a sensory garden for children is a natural fit. Join Rene as she walks through the how-tos for creating a sensory experience in a community children's garden in Maryland. The photos will inspire you!

Rene will explain:

- The evidence and research about the benefits of gardening with children.
- The value of sensory experiences within the first six years of life.
- Major benefits of gardening with young children.
- Plants for engaging all of a child’s senses.
- Precautions to take when planning a sensory garden for children.

BIO: *Gardening is in Rene’s bones. She’s been gardening most of her life. She has a BA in Family Studies and an MA in Occupational Therapy. She loves to find ways to combine her educational background with gardening. Rene has been a Master Gardener with University of Maryland Extension for seven years.*



3:00 PM – 6:30 PM

TS13 **TOUR** | **A Relaxing Outing: Behind the Scenes at Boulevard Brewery**

Do you like beer? Are you curious about how it’s made? Then gather your friends and head downtown to Kansas City’s Boulevard Brewery. You’ll have a fun and sociable afternoon exploring Kansas City’s oldest and most successful craft brewery. Located on Southwest Boulevard (the Brewery’s namesake), Boulevard is known in the Midwest for its delicious ales, IPAs (India Pale Ales), wheat beers and, more recently, its hard seltzers and craft cocktails.

Follow your guides, including one of our own Master Gardeners, as they give you a behind-the-scenes look at how craft beer is made and the ingredients that go into it. And yes! Get ready to sample some of Boulevard’s delicious brews at the end of the tour. Experience for yourself why Boulevard is one of the most successful craft brewers in America. It’s a great way to spend a summer afternoon in Kansas City.

Snacks and flatbreads are available for purchase. Return to the Convention Center around 6:30, just in time to meet your friends for dinner.

Max Participants: 50

[Itinerary](#)

\$55.00

 The following **6 sessions** are from 3:15 PM – 4:15 PM.
Please choose one.

3:15 PM – 4:15 PM

CS50

SESSION | The Art of Gardening Monet Style

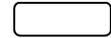
Gale McRoberts – Extension Master Gardener, Johnson County, Kansas

Have you wanted a Monet-style garden but thought it was too involved? Then this is the session for you. Come be inspired and entertained at the same time as Gale McRoberts explains how to bring art and gardening together to create a Monet-style garden. Claude Monet transformed the art world by infusing his paintings with his distinctive impressions of color and light. Did you know he transformed gardening design as well?



- Learn about the unique blending of Monet's artwork with his garden design.
- Learn the nine design elements of a Monet-style garden and how to use color and design to create your own.
- Enjoy a virtual tour of both Monet's famous garden in Giverny, France and the Monet Garden at the Overland Park Arboretum. Gale will compare the two.

BIO: *Gale McRoberts is a life-long gardener who joined the Johnson County, Kansas Extension Master Gardener program in 2010. Although she has worked in several EMG demonstration gardens through the years, Gale says her first love will always be the Monet Garden at the Overland Park Arboretum. As volunteer co-chair of the overall garden, section captain of the South Walk and a professional career coach, Gale is just the person to inspire and guide you in planning and planting your own Monet-style masterpiece.*



3:15 PM – 4:15 PM

CS51

SESSION | It's Not ALL or NOTHING! Protecting Pollinators While Still Enjoying Plants of All Kinds

Pam Bennett – Horticulture Educator, State Master Gardener Volunteer Program Director, Ohio State University Extension

Many gardeners today are focused on the pollinator plight and doing all they can to protect and promote them. Yet other gardeners, especially the gardening public, are unlikely to turn their front lawns into native meadows. They want to enjoy the plants they love without feeling guilty for not planting all native plants. IT REALLY DOESN'T HAVE TO BE ALL OR NOTHING!



Gardeners can have a great blend of native plants and new cultivars and species without feeling guilty. This is the important thing: Plant some plants to help encourage pollinators while still enjoying the look of your garden. This session focuses on:

- How to balance the landscape and still benefit pollinators.
- Protecting and planting for pollinators.
- The latest research on cultivars and pollinators.
- How to incorporate native plants into a pre-existing landscape.
- Non-native plants for attracting pollinators.

BIO: *Pam Bennett is an assistant professor with Ohio State University and serves as the director of the Ohio Master Gardener Volunteer Program. She is also a horticulture educator and director for OSU Extension in Clark County. She has a BS in Landscape Horticulture and an MS in Human and Community Resource Development from Ohio State University. Pam presents programs locally, statewide and nationally on annuals and perennials as well as other landscape topics. She also specializes in herbaceous plant trials and is a frequent writer for popular gardening magazines and trade publications.*



SESSIONS



TOURS



WORKSHOPS



EVENING SPEAKER

3:15 PM – 4:15 PM

CS52 **SESSION** | Engaging Master Gardeners as Citizen Scientists

Matt Jones – Horticulture Extension Agent, North Carolina Cooperative Extension



Caroline Richardson – Program Assistant, Extension Master Gardener Program, North Carolina State University

Citizen scientists are all the buzz. As the name implies, citizen scientists are people from the general public (citizens) who collaborate with professional scientists in doing applied research. For Extension professionals, Master Gardeners are a natural for collaborating on horticulture research. They love to learn. They have first-hand knowledge and experience. They live where the rubber hits the road in the gardening community. Extension services in North Carolina successfully experimented with using Master Gardeners as “citizen scientists.” The co-presenters will focus on:

- Engaging Master Gardeners to expand Extension’s capability to do cost-effective research statewide.
- Identifying county, regional and statewide research projects that Master Gardeners can realistically help implement.
- Coordinating research projects statewide.
- Using technology to boost interactions across counties.

BIO: *Matt Jones has been a county extension agent with North Carolina State University in Chatham County since 2018. His outreach programs target home gardeners, ornamental nurseries and landscape professionals. He also coordinates the EMG program in Chatham County. Matt has a master’s degree in botany and horticulture from the University of Oklahoma and L’Alma Mater Studiorum–Università di Bologna.*

Caroline Richardson has worked in partnership with volunteers as a program coordinator and interpreter in the field of public horticulture for over 20 years. Currently the Program Assistant for the North Carolina Extension Master Gardener program, Caroline supports statewide continuing education and recognition opportunities for EMG volunteers. Caroline holds a master’s degree in plant biology from the University of New Hampshire.

3:15 PM – 4:15 PM

CS53 **SESSION** | New and Recently Introduced High Performing Annuals for 2023

Mike DeRee – Ball Seed Company, Sales Representative



What gardener doesn’t want to attend this presentation?! Join Mike DeRee from Ball Seed Company as he talks about new annual varieties introduced in 2023, the must-haves, and rock star annuals from the past couple of years. He’ll also entertain and enlighten you with stories about the plant industry, an industry that is both historical and newly forming at the same time.

BIO: *Mike DeRee is a first generation American. His parents immigrated to America in 1954 with a dream of starting a family bulb business. The dream broadened to selling flowers and the family greenhouse business was born in the mid-1960s. Mike worked in the family business one way or another, and then joined Ball Seed Company as a territory sales representative. For the last 26 years, Mike has serviced greenhouse growers in Kansas, Missouri and Nebraska. His passion is to “color the world one successful gardener at a time” by assisting growers in plant selections that ensure success for consumers.*

3:15 PM – 4:15 PM

CS54

SESSION | The Alchemy of Compost, How 2+2=9 If You Let It

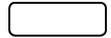
Stan Slaughter – Director of Education and Outreach, Missouri Organic Recycling, Kansas City, Kansas



We all want better compost faster, an easier composting process, and more waste reduction. Composting is part art and part science. Most gardeners know the science, but many struggle with the art and how to make composting work for them. Take a walk with Stan as he goes beyond the basics and delves deeper into the science and process for success. Leave with an advanced understanding of healthy soils and how you can improve the vitality of your garden. Learn more about:

- The amazing properties of compost.
- The synergies compost unleashes in the soil.
- Exciting new discoveries at the forefront of composting.
- How to shrink your carbon footprint through organics management.
- How to explain the benefits of composting to both gardeners and non-gardeners.

BIO: *Anyone who has heard Stan Slaughter speak knows why he was recognized as the National Compost Educator of the Year in 2000. A lifelong gardener with degrees in biology and education, Stan understands the alchemy of composting and how to explain its benefits in language everyone can understand. An internationally respected environmentalist, in 2016, Stan was invited by HRH Prince Charles to present this same topic in the United Kingdom. A popular speaker at Master Gardener events here at home, Stan is known for being a leader in soil remediation and regenerative agriculture.*



3:15 PM – 4:15 PM

CS55

SESSION | Lilac Renaissance

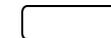
Brian Morley – Owner, Bergamot & Ivy Design



Lilacs . . . “In springtime, love is carried on the breeze.” Brian Morley fell in love with lilacs, so much so that he “bought the farm,” both literally and figuratively, and now grows and collects many varieties of lilacs as well as creates new hybrids. For many of us, the fragrance of lilacs is the very breath of Spring and perhaps a strong connection to times past. Today, however, lilacs are making a huge comeback across the globe. From the United States to Russia, Japan and Germany, there are thriving lilac growers all over the world working to preserve rare and old varieties and creating new and exciting ones. Join this excellent presenter as he talks about the modern-day renaissance of the lilac.

- Learn more about the International Lilac Society, their extraordinary Lilacs Journal, and sources of quality lilacs.
- Get recommendations for the best varieties beyond the old-fashioned purple.
- How to plant and care for lilacs.
- You won’t want to miss seeing Brian’s slideshow! It’s full of incredible images of many special, rare lilacs as well as those from his own collection.

BIO: *Born in the Kansas City area, Brian Morley first learned his love of gardening and horticulture from his parents and has been obsessed ever since. “I grew up working with flowers as a second nature, so fine floral design is like breathing to me.” He opened Bergamot & Ivy 30 years ago (bergamotandivy.com) and also does interior design. Brian’s love of plants and flowers continues through designing cut flower arrangements at Bergamot & Ivy. On his farm outside Kansas City, he loves exploring the natural world, growing many of the blooms sold at the shop, and collecting and cultivating lilacs. He has a BFA in design from the University of Kansas.*



\$49.00

ES03

6:30 PM – 8:30 PM

EVENING SPEAKER | The Forgotten Elements of Good Design

Daniel Hinkley – Director Emeritus, Windcliff and Heronswoods Gardens

You will not want to miss this chance to see and hear one of America’s foremost horticulturists and plantsmen. Daniel will help us understand what it takes to create a pleasing landscape. Using his talents, background and experience, Daniel will incorporate his style and humor into an enjoyable presentation that will provide us with practical ways to enhance and enjoy our landscapes.



BIO: *Daniel Hinkley, renowned horticulture consultant, plant explorer, author and lecturer, is the creator of two iconic gardens in Washington State, Heronswood and Windcliff (danielhinkley.com). A talented writer and speaker, his information has appeared in Fine Gardening, PBS Nova, and as a garden consultant for Martha Stewart. Daniel has authored several best-selling books and publications. He will bring his unique style, experiences and humor for an enjoyable presentation. Above all, he is committed to solid and sustainable horticultural practices, landscapes of distinction, and plants that are more beautiful, more vigorous and more surprising. He is passionate about raising the collective awareness of the diversity of plant life on Earth as well as the magic and mysteries of our natural world.*



If you plan on going to all three special evening events (Sunday, Tuesday and Wednesday), you’ll save \$38 if you purchase them in a bundle for \$109.

To purchase them as a bundle, scroll back to the first page of the registration system and select the **Evening Featured Speakers Bundle**.