



## 2017 GARDENING PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

**January 28** – Birds, Bees, Butterflies, and Blooms

**February 15** – Gardening Mistakes

**March 11** – Symposium

**March 16** – Emerald Ash Borer

**April 29** – Pest Management

**May 6** – Plant Expo

**June 3** – Hands-on in the Garden

**July 12** – Evening in the Garden

**August 22** – Lawn Renovation

**September 9** – Insect Festival

**October 25** – Natives Gone Wild

**November 15** – Whimsical Containers



**\*Pre-registration** by email at [rmgofmcprograms@gmail.com](mailto:rmgofmcprograms@gmail.com) is the preferred method of signing up for programs unless otherwise noted; or call the Extension Office at 609-989-6830 during business hours.

**Free parking** available at all program and event locations.

**All Events** are rain or shine.

**Saturday, January 28, 1:00 - 3:30 PM**  
**Tulpehaking Nature Center**

157 Westcott Avenue, Trenton

### Birds, Bees, Butterflies, and Blooms

*Presentation and Guided Walk by Mary Anne Borge,  
Noted Naturalist and Photographer*



What can you do to attract birds to your garden? What are the best plants to entice bees, butterflies, and other beneficial insects to make their homes with you? What maintenance techniques are most hospitable for these garden visitors and residents? Guest

Naturalist Mary Anne Borge will answer these questions and inspire you with her beautiful photographs to plan for the upcoming growing season. An optional guided walk will follow the presentation. *This program is co-sponsored with the Friends for Abbott Marshland and the Mercer County Park Commission. \*Space is limited and registration is required for both the presentation and the walk.*

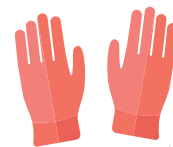


**Wednesday, February 15, 7:00 - 8:30 PM**  
**Extension**

### Ten Most Common Gardening Mistakes

*Presentation by Barbara J. Bromley,  
Mercer County Horticulturist*

Everybody makes gardening mistakes! Brand new gardeners and even lifelong green thumbs make them. It happens to the best of us. Barbara J. Bromley, who has been the Mercer County Horticulturist for many years, and, by her own admission, has made a few mistakes herself, will highlight the most frequent gardening mistakes she has seen and heard about over the years. Some will be familiar, but others may surprise you. *\*Pre-registration is recommended.*



Join us for our tenth annual Garden Symposium. We have an exciting line up of speakers: *Tony Avent*, famed

plantsman and owner of Plant Delights in Raleigh, North Carolina; *Ruth Rogers Clausen*, author of *Essential Perennials*, lecturer and judge at botanical gardens and flower shows around the world; popular *Ken Druse*, inspirational author back by popular demand, and *Don Leopold*, distinguished professor and environmental advocate for sustainable landscapes. Mercer County's *Barbara J Bromley* will be on hand to answer your gardening questions. Details, as well as a registration form and fees, are found at [mgofmc.org/symposium](http://mgofmc.org/symposium) or by calling 609-883-6397 or emailing [mgofmcsymposium2017@gmail.com](mailto:mgofmcsymposium2017@gmail.com).

Thursday, March 16, 7:00 - 8:30 PM  
Mercer County Library, Lawrence HQ Branch,  
2751 Brunswick Pike, Lawrenceville, NJ

## **Emerald Ash Borer Treatment Options**

*Presentation by Pam Zipse and Nicholas Polanin of Rutgers University*

The dreaded Emerald Ash Borer is in our community and thousands of ash trees are now under threat. The damage has been devastating, killing true ash trees all across America. If you want to save the tree, you have to act quickly. What can you do? Pam Zipse, Outreach Coordinator of the Rutgers Urban Forestry Program of the NJ Agricultural Experiment Station and Nicholas Polanin, Somerset County Agent, will walk you through your options, including a

mechanism for evaluating the costs of treatment versus removal. *This program is co-sponsored by the Friends of the Lawrence Public Library.*

*\*Pre-registration is recommended.*



Saturday April 29, 10:00 - 11:30 AM  
Howell Living History Farm

70 Woodens Lane, Lambertville

## **Integrated Pest Management for the Homeowner**

*Presentation by Meredith Melendez, Mercer County Agent*

Integrated Pest Management is a strategy and decision process developed for large agricultural producers that can also be applied by homeowners to limit or avoid altogether the use of toxic chemicals. You will learn how to use these principles for long-term prevention of pests and their damage through a combination of techniques such as biological control, habitat manipulation, modification of cultural practices, and use of resistant varieties. Whether you hire a professional landscaper or do it all yourself, you need to know the very best practices.

*\*Pre-registration is recommended. This program is co-sponsored with the Friends of the Howell Living History Farm and will include a short presentation about Howell Farm. Following the presentation, participants are encouraged to stay and enjoy the spring activities at the Farm.*



Saturday, May 6, 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM  
MEG

## **Plant Expo and Garden Market**

Home-grown perennials, trees, and shrubs; Master Gardener grown tomatoes; a wonderful garden market of selected top-notch nurseries; and a secondhand sale of used “stuff” – are all featured at the Expo. Master Gardeners will be on hand to help select the best

plants for your garden and Barbara J. Bromley will be on hand to answer questions. Sale details, including a list of vendors, will be available at [mgofmc.org](http://mgofmc.org).



Saturday, June 3, 1:00 - 3:00 PM  
MEG

## **Hands-on in the Garden**

*Featuring a presentation by Bruce Crawford, Rutgers Gardens*

You have questions? We have answers! More than answers, we have hands-on live-action demonstrations on a variety of gardening topics. There is always something to learn! Bruce Crawford of Rutgers Gardens will open the afternoon with an enthusiastic talk about vegetable gardening. Then Master Gardeners will provide information and demonstrations on composting, deer management, deciphering plant labels, identifying insect and plant samples, and answering gardening questions for the novice and more experienced gardeners. Soil test kit mailers will be available.



Wednesday, July 12, 6:00 - 8:00 PM  
MEG

## **Evening in the Garden**

With the Mercer Educational Gardens as a backdrop, Master Gardeners will be on hand to offer ways to draw you out into your garden as the sun goes down. Learn about how to design your landscape and choose plants to make evenings more enjoyable. Discover what plants offer evening scents, bloom only in the evening or long into the evening, and which ones attract evening pollinators such as bats and moths. You might just find that your favorite summer getaway is right in your own backyard!



Tuesday, August 22, 7:00 – 8:30 PM  
Extension

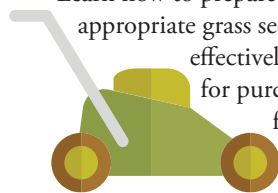
## **Lawn Renovation & Establishment**

*Presentation by Barbara J. Bromley, Mercer County Horticulturist*

Early September is the best time to seed your lawn. Barbara J. Bromley will present information on repairing lawn damage.

Learn how to prepare lawns for seeding, how to select the appropriate grass seed, and how to restore your lawn effectively. Soil test kit mailers will be available for purchase to determine how much (if any) fertilizer or lime is needed for the lawn.

*\*Pre-registration is recommended.*



**Soil Test Kit Mailers** Available at all events for \$20.00

**Saturday, September 9, 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM**  
**MEG**  
**New Time! 15th Annual Insect Festival**  
**"Please Bug Me"**

This year's always popular Insect Festival will feature a return of the Big Bug Band in addition to educational opportunities for visitors of all ages. Bees, Butterflies, Bugs Galore, Bugs in Water, Games in the Garden, and an Insect Hunt in the Meadow are just a few of the many activities planned. Learn about the importance of insects in our lives through hands-on, fun activities.



**Wednesday, October 25, 7:00 - 8:30 PM**

**Hamilton Public Library**

1 Justice Samuel A. Alito Way, Hamilton

## Natives Gone Wild

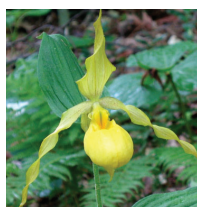
*Presentation by P. Steven Kristoph, Horticulturist*



Steven Kristoph is passionate about plants and loves to share his passion with others. He is a New Jersey horticulturist and owner of a wholesale nursery and landscape design service and has been a popular adjunct professor in horticulture at



Rutgers for over 25 years. In what promises to be an entertaining and educational evening, Steven will focus on native plants, reflecting the recent trend toward natives, including legislation



that requires native plants to be used in certain circumstances. The presentation will include mainstay natives as well as those demanding a second look for consideration, highlighting their ornamental value and relationship with other species that will lead to a bio-diverse and sustainable



landscape. Seating is limited. *\*Pre-registration is recommended.*

**Wednesday, November 15, 7:00 - 8:30 PM**

**Extension**

## Whimsical Containers for Seasonal Greens

Spend a fun evening learning to "think outside the box - or pot, or vase." Everyday items and even items headed to the trash pile can be transformed into whimsical containers. Master Gardeners with lots of experience and creative talent will demonstrate how to turn unexpected or commonplace items into beautiful containers for seasonal greens. Learn a wonderful way to create a personalized statement for your home or gifts for special people on your holiday list.

*\*Pre-registration is recommended.*



**Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Mercer County**

**930 Spruce Street, Lawrence**

*Adjacent to the Trenton Farmers Market*

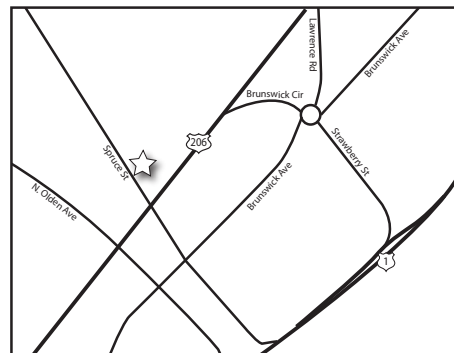
You are invited to bring your gardening and insect questions to our trained Master Gardeners at the Extension Office Monday through Friday.

**March through October**

**9:00 AM - 3:00 PM**

**November through February**

**10:00 AM - 2:00 PM**



**Mercer Educational Gardens (MEG)**

**431 A Federal City Road, Pennington**

*Mercer County Equestrian Center Entrance*

Please visit our Educational Gardens year round for inspiration and plant identification.

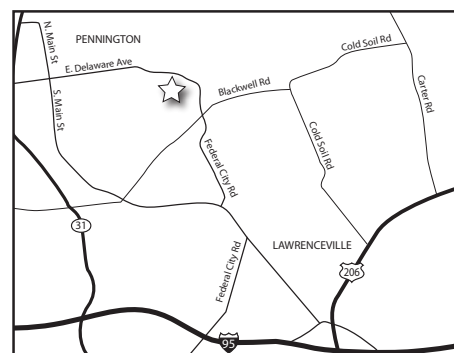
**Monday - Friday**

**7:00 AM - 8:00 PM**

**Saturday & Sunday**

**7:00 AM - 5:00 PM**

There is limited accessibility for the disabled.



## Learn More and Stay Connected

Visit our newly designed website [mgofmc.org](http://mgofmc.org) often for seasonal inspiration and information. Or call the Rutgers Master Gardener Helpline at 609-989-6853 or the Cooperative Extension office at 609-989-6830. To be added to our mailing list, send your information to [rmgofmcconnect@gmail.com](mailto:rmgofmcconnect@gmail.com).



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