

GARDENS UNDER CONSTRUCTION: PREPARING FOR SPRINGFEST

While winter-weary gardeners thumb through seed catalogs and homebound homeowners plan for their next outdoor project, the area's finest landscape companies are busy constructing creative garden displays at the Springfest Garden Show. Flowering bulbs, perennials and trees are being forced from their winter dormancy and carefully timed to be in full bloom for the award-winning Show on March 15 – 18 in the sun-drenched Conservatory at the Sussex County Fairgrounds, Augusta, NJ. Craftsmen are building beautiful stone walls, laying patio stones, staining arbors and gazebos and creating magnificent waterfalls and ponds filled with colorful koi. The landscape displays are overflowing with ideas for your home's curb appeal, outdoor living areas and for your passionate gardening hobby. They are already looking more creative than ever, as each designer competes for the coveted 'People's Choice Award'.

Springfest features some of the best garden shopping this spring - all under one roof! The Marketplace exhibitors are signing up to sell their vast range of garden wares. Plant societies, public gardens and master gardeners are preparing their Educational displays and demonstrations. The Garden Café's gourmet menu is being planned by the acclaimed Krave Café and Caterers and The Kids Zone is preparing for the popular Treasure Hunt and plant prize.

Inspiring and educating gardeners and outdoor living enthusiasts for 16 years, Springfest is planning and a comprehensive Lecture Series featuring nationally renowned speakers such as Ken Druse and John Story. 'Produce Pete' from WNBC is scheduled to make a book-signing appearance. Local garden experts are planning lectures on popular topics such as landscaping with dwarf conifers, butterfly gardens, flowering trees and foraging plants for food.

Special events in the planning include *Springfeast! at Springfest: Cooking from your Garden*, where Community Garden specialists will display ideas for 'grow your own' fresh, healthy and safe produce. Celebrity Chefs are testing recipes to conduct cooking demos featuring the bounty of the garden. All special events and lectures are free with paid admission to the Show. See website for schedule.

Soon the dust of construction will settle, the transformation to Spring will be complete and the doors will open for Springfest, the "Garden-Lover's Flower Show" on March 15– 18 from 10am to 5pm daily, Friday until 8pm at Sussex County Fairgrounds, Augusta, NJ. . Admission: Adults - \$11, Seniors (65+) - \$9, Kids 12 & under – free, Senior Day (15th) - \$7. All proceeds benefit horticultural promotion, environmental awareness and education. For more information visit www.springfestgardenshow.org or call 973-948-9448.

Editor Please Note: Springfest is a fundraiser for a division of the non-profit Sussex County Farm & Horse Show, a 501(c)(3) corporation. For more information and detailed press releases see website or contact Springfest President: David H. Wright, L.L.A., PO Box 100, Branchville, NJ 07826

