

Rutgers Cooperative Extension Educational Booth at the New Jersey State Fair, August 2-11, 2019

Daily Lectures, Demonstrations and Educational Slideshows

Stop by *The Conservatory* at the Sussex County Fairgrounds and visit Rutgers Cooperative Extension's 'big red barn'! Speak with Rutgers Certified Master Gardeners to learn about the services offered by the Cooperative Extension, enjoy educational slideshows, and find out how to identify and report New Jersey's biggest invasive insect threats, Emerald Ash Borer and Spotted Lanternfly.

Live lectures at 2 p.m. will feature a variety of topics on gardening and the natural world, followed by 4 p.m. "Veggie of the Day" presentations, loaded with information and advice on growing your favorite fresh produce. If you have questions, Rutgers Cooperative Extension has the resources - visit every day to learn something new!

2:00pm Lectures:

Saturday, Aug. 3 - Fundamentals of Organic Gardening, Erin Collins, SCCC,

Erin will speak about the importance of garden site selection, soil fertility and taking care of your soil food web which all leads to increased plant health and in turn, less pests overall.

Sunday, Aug. 4 - Invasive Species and Their Destructive Effect on the Environment,

Maggie Southwell, NJ Invasive Species Strike Team

Learn about invasive species and their destructive effect on the environment, how can an area be remediated, view before and after restoration photos.

Monday, Aug. 5 - Planting With a Purpose, Cynthia Rauth, NJ Native Plant Society,

Black-eyed Susan, purple coneflower, bee balm...all these beloved perennials are native plants. They perform so well in our gardens because nature "designed" them to do so. In this program, explore some lesser known natives and be inspired to add them to your landscape. Native Plant Society Sussex Chapter co-founder, Cynthia Rauth, will bring examples of woody shrubs, grasses and late blooming perennials that are not only visually beautiful, but serve a beautiful purpose: providing nectar, pollen, seeds, berries, nesting material, and cover for wildlife.

Tuesday, Aug. 6 - Container Gardens Design and Care, Maureen Verbeek, SC Fairgrounds Horticulturalist,

Learn about the design and care of container gardens with the SC Fairgrounds Horticulturalist, Maureen Verbeek. Maureen will cover how to prepare container pots for good drainage, the choosing of soil types to match plant material, plant selection based on location, and maintenance of containers throughout the summer.

Wednesday, Aug. 7 - Landscape Design Tips, Lisa Chiariello, Rutgers Cooperative Extension Program Associate

Top 5 tips for Do-it-Yourself landscaping and garden design considerations for homeowners. Learn some basic rules of thumb when assessing your home grounds and choosing plant materials for a more successful ornamental planting.

Thursday, Aug. 8 - Laying the Groundwork; Soil Health for the Garden and the Planet

Mandy Coriston, Rutgers Master Gardener

Learn the basics of soil science, get tips for improving the soil quality in your home garden, and find out why soil health is crucial for the well-being of the environment and the future of agriculture.

Friday, Aug. 9 - Composting 101, Stephen Komar, Rutgers Cooperative Extension Agricultural Agent

Understand the science behind composting, what is happening in the compost process, and how to put this knowledge to use in your home garden.

Saturday, Aug. 10 - Gardening in the Shade With Some Very COOL Plants April Fisher, Rutgers Master Gardener

Are you challenged trying to find the right plants for your shade garden? Rutgers Master Gardener and Native Plant Society member, April Fisher, will present some tough yet lovely plants for your consideration. She will also discuss how to define shade and other essentials for a healthy and beautiful shady oasis

4:00pm Vegetable of The Day Presentations - Daily, Aug 3 – 10th