

# Virtual Program Offerings Fall 2020

## Cornell Cooperative Extension Monroe County

The educators of CCE-Monroe have developed the following Zoom workshops to support residents while we are unable to present in-person programs. Each presentation is designed to be 45 minutes in length with an additional 15 minutes for questions and answers. Programs are \$50 each.

*Cornell Cooperative Extension is an employer and educator recognized for valuing AA/EEO, Protected Veterans, and Individuals with Disabilities and provides equal program and employment opportunities.*

### GARDENING

**Target audience:** Gardeners

**Maximum # of participants:** 100

**To schedule, contact:**

Sue Magee, scm268@cornell.edu

#### Attracting Pollinators to Your Garden

Pollinators play an important role in native ecosystems, home gardens, and global food production. This presentation will discuss the wide range of pollinators active in our gardens and what gardeners can do to make their yard more attractive to pollinators. The talk includes discussion of a variety of native plants and the handouts include a plant list.

#### Basics of Organic Composting

A great garden starts with great soil! One way to maintain good health and high nutrient content of your soil is by adding garden compost. Composting is more than recycling garden waste or kitchen scraps – it's a way of creating a healthy environment for all organisms. Participants will learn good composting practices to help drive sustainability and production in their garden.

#### Companion Planting

When planting in beds, there are benefits to combining varieties of plants. This approach mimics the way plants grow in the natural world. When certain plants are grown together, they can grow better, yield more fruit, and even taste better. These are called 'companion plants'. Participants will learn how to maximize their vegetable harvest using companion planting strategies.

#### Fall Planting of Garlic

This workshop will feature the ins and outs of all things growing garlic. From soil to seed to harvest to preservation, you'll be excited to get started on your garlic crop this fall.

#### Gardening with Native Plants

Gardening with native plants helps pollinators and other native species. The speaker will describe some of the other benefits of gardening with native plants. Native plants suggestions for sun, shade, wet and dry locations will be provided.

#### Herb Gardening

Herbs can transform ordinary meals into something special. Incorporating herbs into your garden design adds color, fragrances, and interest to your landscape. Participants will learn the benefits of herb growing from their beauty and use in cooking, to their medicinal uses and healing properties.

#### Invasive Plants in New York Gardens

What is an invasive plant? What are NYS's regulations for invasives? What invasives am I likely to find as weeds in my garden and how can I control them? What common garden and landscape plants are now considered invasive? This presentation will answer all of these questions and provide suggestions for native plants to replace common invasives.

#### Monarch Butterflies

The population of Monarch butterflies has plummeted and there are concerns that they could become extinct. This presentation will discuss the fascinating life cycle of these insects, the multiple threats to their survival, and what upstate New York gardeners can do to help their survival.



## **Poisonous Plants in the Ornamental Garden**

You may be surprised to learn that many of our favorite ornamental garden plants are poisonous and some have fascinating histories. There is a common shrub whose pollen produces toxic honey and another called the “Tree of Death”. There is a popular perennial used for chemical warfare by the ancient Greeks, the native plant that killed Abraham Lincoln’s mother, a plant called the “Queen of Poisons”, and a plant whose seeds were used for a Cold War assassination. The speaker will provide common sense precautions to safely grow these plants in your garden.

## **Raised Bed Gardening**

This lecture will focus on the key steps to ensure a successful vegetable garden. We will also cover planting and harvesting techniques, the advantages of raised bed gardening and the top 10 vegetables for home gardening.

## **Rochester’s Olmstead Parks**

This talk will present an introduction to the life and accomplishments of Frederick Law Olmsted, the pioneer of the modern urban park. We will first explore the history of urban parks. Then we will move to the early life of FL Olmsted, leading to the creation of Central Park. We will briefly talk about the major projects of Olmsted and the Olmsted firm after Central Park. And finally, we will talk about the Rochester (now Monroe County) Park System, partially designed by Olmsted.

## **Small Space Gardening**

Gardening requires planning and preparation, especially if your garden is as big as a match box! This workshop will cover small space gardening techniques and tips to help maximize your garden’s productivity. We will cover site selection, vegetable varieties, soil preparation and crop rotation to assure fresh and nutritious food for you.

