

Virtual Program Offerings Winter 2020-2021

**Cornell Cooperative Extension
Monroe County**



GARDENING & THE ENVIRONMENT

Target audience: People interested in gardening, sustainability, and the environment

Maximum # of participants: 100

To schedule, contact: Sue Magee, scm268@cornell.edu

CCE-Monroe is offering the following educational presentations!

Each program is \$50 each and 45 minutes long with an additional 15 minutes for questions and answers. Partnering organizations are asked to register participants and email program reminders out to participants 24 hours prior to the start of the program.

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.

PROGRAMS:

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. We will discuss a variety of native plants and provide a plant list handout.

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.

Growing Sprouts and Micro-Greens at Home

Sprouts and microgreens are among the smallest edible plants on Earth that are rich in vitamins and minerals. Easy to grow at home, they can garnish a healthy meal and provide a boost to your immune system to help your body deal with the stress of winter. In this class we will learn what plants to grow as sprouts and microgreens and ideas and equipment required in order to grow these little power plants in your kitchen.

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. 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 Olmsted 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 move to the early life of FL Olmsted, leading to the creation of Central Park. Also covered is the major projects of Olmsted and the Olmsted firm after Central Park, and 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.