

March 2018 WGC Community Liaison

Native Plant Rain Gardens

Tues, Mar 6, 6-8pm; at Burr Oak Woods Conservation Nature Center, 1401 NW Park Rd, Blue Springs, MO. Walk-in (adults) Come and learn a great way to deal with that water logged spot in your yard and do your part for storm water management, or just create a special spot in your yard for more water tolerant plants. Rain gardens are great for the environment and a new way to garden. Learn everything from arrangement to plant selection. For more information email discoverycenter@mdc.mo.gov.

Spring Gardening Seminar

Sat, Mar 10, at Rockhurst University, Kansas City, MO. An all day event offering a variety of presentations from edible flowers to everything you wanted to know about no sow gardening. \$54 including lunch. Visit www.mggkc.org/spring-seminar for detailed information on each of the 13 presentations plus enrollment instructions.

Home Tweet Home

Tues, Mar 13, 1pm; at Overland Park Arboretum & Botanical Gardens, 8909 W 179th St. Build a birdhouse and take it home. Fee: \$15 per project plus admission. Contact: opabg.org or 913-685-3604

Beekeeping I

Wed, Mar 14 & 21, 6:30-8:30pm; at Johnson County Community College, 12345 College Blvd, Overland Park, KS. This is an introductory course into beekeeping. We will review the importance of honey bees in our everyday life. Participants will learn about the life cycle of the honey bee, their history, and become familiar with today's beekeeping techniques. Fee: \$59. To enroll go to <https://ce.jccc.edu> or call 913-469-2323.

Speaker: Maria Fadiman, a National Geographic Emerging Explorer, "The Intimate Relationship of Plants and People: Gardening and Beyond." Thursday, March 15, 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m., Kansas City Public Library, Plaza Branch, 4801 Main Street. She is an ethnobotanist who has studied rainforests of Central and South America, the savannahs in Africa, and plants of Tibet, China, the Philippines and elsewhere.

<https://gardenersconnect.org/>

Pine Needles, Dandelions & Early Greens Oh My!

Tues, Mar 20, 1-3pm; at Burr Oak Woods Conservation Nature Center, 1401 NW Park Rd, Blue Springs, MO. Registration required (adults). Plants have been used as medicinals since ancient times. What did our ancestors know that we have almost forgotten today? Let's get back to our roots as we discover the lore and the medicinal value of these common native or naturalized plants. For more information email burr.oak@mdc.mo.gov

Growing Bulbs: Expertise from the Industry

Sat, Mar 24, 2-3pm; at Powell Gardens. Join Philipp Laagland for an illustrated talk as he discusses the business behind the Dutch bulb industry. Laagland's family business began four generations ago in 1910 in the fields of De Zilk in The Netherlands and is today one of the largest flower bulb growers and exporters in the world. Philipp will review the yearly cycles of flower production from planting to selling and will also explain all about using flower bulbs in your landscape designs. Reservations are required as space is limited. Visit powellgardens.org or call 816.697.2600 ext. 306.

Spring Rose Demonstration

Sat, Mar 24, 10am-noon; at Loose Park Garden Center, 51st and Wornall, Kansas City, MO. The Kansas City Rose Society is kicking off the new growing season with its annual Spring Rose Demonstration. Judy Penner, Loose Garden Director and Rosarian, will present a FREE program titled "The 3 P's of Spring Care—Purchasing, Planting and Pruning". The class will begin in the Loose Park Garden Center building and progress outside to the rose garden. So, dress for the weather.

Spectacular Shrubs

Mon, Mar 26, 7pm; at Johnson County Extension Office, Room 1060, 11811 S Sunset Dr, Olathe, KS 66061. Tired of the same old lilac, forsythia and juniper? Desiring something new, out of the box that stands out in the neighborhood or garden? Then make plans to attend this session. Newer varieties and introductions for the landscape will be covered. Shrubs are more versatile than ever with smaller plants, more colorful foliage and longer flowering periods. After this session you will be ready to give those tired, old over-pruned shrubs the heave-ho and give the garden a facelift. Limited to 45. \$10, enroll at www.johnson.k-state.edu.

Nature Trail Tour

Wed, Mar 28, 1pm; at the Overland Park Arboretum, a mile west of US Highway 69 on 179th St, Overland Park, KS. Jim Earnest and Ken O'Dell will give a one-hour tour of one of the Beautiful Natural Trails at the Overland Park Arboretum. The arboretum has 140 acres of naturally planted woodlands with rocky bluffs, creeks, bottomlands, and hillsides. We will see most of the 50 species of trees that grow naturally at the arboretum. These woodlands have several trees that are not frequently seen in this area including, basswood, coffeetrees, hop hornbeam, yellow buckeye as well as the hickories, giant oaks, thousands of pawpaws, bladdernut, native hazelnut, prickly ash and rough-leaf dogwood. We will tour one of the seven woodland trails and will tour the other trails at other times. Come join us.

Beekeeping II

Wed, Mar 28 & Apr 4, 6:30-8:30pm; at Johnson County Community College, 12345 College Blvd, Overland Park, KS. This course offers an in depth review of current beekeeping practices. You will study beekeeping in the classroom and explore a beehive in the field. The course will give you hands on experience working a beehive. Fee: \$59. To enroll go to <https://ce.jccc.edu> or call 913-469-2323.

Spring Fashion and Flower Reveal

Thurs, Mar 29, 6-9pm; at Powell Gardens. Join Rightfully Sewn and the Western Nursery and Landscape Association for an evening of new designs in Kansas City fashion, regionally grown cultivars, and floral arrangements. Meet the newly selected class of five Kansas City-based fashion designers plus learn about the hottest trends in 2018 plants on the market from Bailey Nursery. Enjoy beautiful displays incorporating fashion designs, live specimen, and creative expressions by area florists and Powell Gardens horticulture staff. This event features a short presentation at 6:30pm about design both fashion and floral; music, a signature cocktail and hors d'oeuvres. A cash bar is available as is round trip bus transportation from Kansas City by special reservation. Visit powellgardens.org or call 816.697.2600 ext. 306.

Family Frolic: Think Spring Fling

Sat, Mar 31, 10am-4pm; at Powell Gardens. Join us for a celebration of all things "spring" including, eggs, the Easter bunny, flowers, soil, seeds, spring breakfast brunch, and much more! This drop-in day features storytelling by actors of the Coterie Theatre inspired by their upcoming theatre production Jack and the Bean Magico. Be sure to take part in an egg hunt on the lawn (for children ages six and under) at 10:30am and a scavenger hunt in the garden for kids seven and up (available all day)! Collected eggs and completed scavenger hunts will be turned in at the visitor center for age appropriate prizes and sweet treats. Professional color photos with the Easter Bunny (\$5-7) and free hands-on activities—including creating an Easter Hat and bunny ears will also be available. Visit powellgardens.org or call 816.697.2600 ext. 306.

Keeping Backyard Chickens

Tues, Apr 3, 6-9pm; at Johnson County Community College, 12345 College Blvd, Overland Park, KS. An animal lover's guide to sustainable agriculture on a small scale. Chickens provide natural bug control, as well as breakfast. Learn the how and why and what in order to avoid the perils of raising chickens on a domestic scale. Fee: \$39. To enroll go to <https://ce.jccc.edu> or call 913-469-2323.

Make a Gourd Birdhouse Class

Sat, Apr 7, 10-11am; at Overland Park Arboretum & Botanical Gardens, 8909 W 179th St. Come and make a birdhouse to take home. Fee: \$15 per project plus admission. Contact: opabg.org or 913-685-3604

Add a Splash of Color with Summer Bulbs

Mon, Apr 9, 7pm; at Johnson County Extension Office, Room 1060, 11811 S Sunset Dr, Olathe, KS 66061. Bulbs are not just for spring. Summer or tender bulbs are a great way to add more color and interest to the landscape. This session will look at those selections that either will not survive the winter or bloom during the summer. They come in a wide variety of plant types, forms, shapes and colors. This session will introduce you to these lesser-known bulbs for the garden. Proper care will be covered to help you get the most out of these garden gems. Limited to 45. \$10, enroll at www.johnson.k-state.edu.

