

Western Massachusetts
Master Gardener Association

20TH ANNUAL Spring Gardening Symposium

Celebrating
20 Years
of Breaking
New Ground



Saturday, April 2, 2016

~ 8:00 am to 2:00 pm ~

Featuring 23 Gardening Workshops
Gardeners' Favorites Book Sale
20% Discount! (Cash or Checks Only)
Q&A • Marketplace • Raffle

HOLYOKE HIGH SCHOOL - 500 BEECH ST., HOLYOKE, MA

Classes fill up fast! SEND IN YOUR REGISTRATION EARLY!



LOOK FOR THE
"ASK ME" BADGES
Master Gardeners
will be available to
answer gardening
questions and help
you find your way.

SYMPOSIUM SCHEDULE

8:00 - 8:30 - Registration

Coffee & Tea available

8:40 - 9:55 - Session A

9:55 - 10:15 - Break

Book Sale & Raffle Tickets

10:15 - 11:30 - Session B

11:30 - 12:30 - Lunch*

Market Place, Q&A, Raffle

12:45 - 2:00 - Session C

***Turkey Sandwich Box Lunches \$6.00**

Must be pre-ordered with registration

Or Bring your own bag lunch

DIRECTIONS TO Holyoke High School, 500 Beech St., Holyoke, MA 01040
Holyoke High School has easy access from Interstate Route 91, the Mass Turnpike and Route 202.

From I-91 North or South: Take Exit 16 (Route 202/Soldier's Home exit). At the bottom of the ramp turn toward Holyoke (from the North, turn left, from the South turn right). Stay on 202. You will pass Yankee Pedlar on your left, Holyoke Hospital on your left, Holyoke High School will be on your right. There is a small parking lot in front of school, additional parking is behind school: continue up Beech St., take first right onto Resnic Blvd., first right will bring you to parking lot. If back door is closed, please walk down stairs to front entrance.

From I-90 (Mass Pike - Toll) Westbound or Eastbound: Take Exit 4 to I-91 North toward Holyoke. Follow directions from I-91 North

***For severe weather cancellation, tune to Channel 40 or Fox 6.
DO NOT CALL THE SCHOOL FOR INFORMATION!***

Session A: 8:40 - 9:55

A-1 Refresh My Garden

Does your garden need a “facelift”? Would you like to simplify your plantings so they require less work? How about making your gardens look great in all four seasons? This workshop will teach you how to give your garden a new look that fits your vision, budget, and lifestyle.

Debbie Windoloski, *Gardenscapes*, Hadley, MA

A-2 Shady Characters: Gardening in the Shade

Growing plants in shade is a challenge to many gardeners, which may be why many settle for the monotony of monochromatic groundcovers such as pachysandra for their shade gardens. This presentation will explore ways to turn shade into a healthy habitat for many types of plants.

Ron Kujawski, *Horticulture Consultant, Writer, Lecturer*

A-3 Perennials for Spring, Summer and Fall

Learn how to choose perennials for interest in the spring, summer, and fall seasons. Includes: What plants to deadhead for re-bloom, and those that can be cut back. When to plant, transplant and divide. Mulching. Also a little mention on annuals and how to use them to compliment perennial plantings.

Jacqueline Clark, *Master Gardener/Landscape Designer*

A-4 Advanced Hypertufa

With a mixture of cement, peat moss, perlite and water the possibilities are endless. We will demo how to create a traditional hypertufa planter as well as an alternative method, ‘Draping.’ Discussion will include the origin of hypertufa, safety, different recipes along with creative ways to use the mix. Handouts will be given.

Deb Hamm, *Master Gardener*

A-5 Rain Gardens: Soak up the Rain

Come learn the basics about storm water management practices that will help soak up localized flooding, reduce runoff of pollutants to rivers and streams, and beautify your property.

Patty Gambarini, *Senior Environmental Planner, Pioneer Valley Planning Commission*

A-6 Native Pollinators

Learn which plants attract native pollinators, how to plant according to soil preference, height and habit and flowers, nesting possibilities and design strategies to help protect the 400 species of native bees in New England.

Tom Sullivan, *Master of Arts in Landscape Design*

A-7 Growing Tomatoes

Tips and techniques for growing a great crop of tomatoes, including how to avoid common problems including diseases.

Margaret Lawson, *Master Gardener*

A-8 The World of Peonies

A lecture that covers botany and cultivation history of peonies in China, Japan, and the US. Learn how to create a successful peony garden, including growing requirements for New England.

Tom Furman, *Cricket Hill Gardens*

Session B: 10:15 - 11:30

B-1 Caring for your Perennial Garden

A well thought out design effects all aspects of how much or how little maintenance your garden will require. Learn what to do and when to do it. We will cover preparation of planting beds, as well as planting, dividing, deadheading, dead-leafing, cutback, pruning, pinching, thinning, etc.

Jacqueline Clark, *Master Gardener/Landscape Designer*

B-2 Tree Care Basics

Jim will demonstrate arboricultural basics based on two decades of working with trees. Separating the fluff from the facts, he will cover site evaluation, plant selection, planting techniques, watering, mulching, pruning, natural pest control and more. All participants will receive a copy of the guide “Tree Owner’s Manual” by the USDA.

Jim McSweeney M.C.A, M.C.H, *Hilltown Tree & Garden*

B-3 ABCs of Garden Design

Calling all beginning gardeners! This workshop will teach you the ABC’s of garden design including plant selection, placement, and care. Debbie will teach you how to combine a wide variety of plant materials to give you a beautiful, easy-care garden that looks inviting year round.

Debbie Windoloski, *Gardenscapes*, Hadley, MA

B-4 Container Gardening

Priscilla will introduce you to the joys of container gardening. Topics include choosing the right container, seasonal plants for containers, and design strategies for lovely container gardens. Workshop will include a live demonstration.

Priscilla Touhey, *owner of Petals & Clay*

B-5 Clematis: Queen of the Vines

Did you know there are clematis that will bloom continuously in your New England garden for more than 16 weeks? Learn the secrets to growing these beautiful and versatile plants, and how this truly easy to grow vine can make your garden the envy of all. Learn proper planting, cultivation, and design tricks that you can use in any garden, from an English manor house to condominium patio.

Cheryl Monroe, *Garden in the Burrow*

B-6 What is Hydroponics?

Hydroponics allows plants to grow in water that is supplemented with the correct nutrients for the plant. There are many ways to accomplish this. We will go over the most common types of hydroponic systems, growing mediums, nutrients and plants that grow best in hydroponic applications.

Nick Bianchine, *New England Hydroponics*

B-7 Gifts from Her Backyard: The Herbal Spa

What else can one do with all those herbs in the garden besides cooking? Shari Petrucci will demonstrate how to make a variety of herbal spa gifts from bath teas to shower scrubs.

Shari Petrucci, *Master Gardener*

Session C: 12:45 - 2:00

C-1 Gardening For The Soul or How to be less of a control freak and love your garden more

In this workshop we will talk about some of the delights you find in your garden and a different way of looking at what we usually term a nuisance, a pest, a weed, a problem. Come and enjoy!

Renate Oliver, *Master Gardener*

C-2 Bonsai

Bonsai is a Japanese art form using miniature trees grown in containers. The trees change over time as well as through the seasons. In this intro to the art of Bonsai we will learn how to get started, choose the right plant, shape and care for your tree.

Todd Hansen, *Sanctuary Bonsai Club*

C-3 Seed Starting

Learn where to get seeds; the best setups for growing them (containers, growing medium, temperature, lights, etc.); the timing for starting different types of seeds; transplanting after germination; and planting in the garden.

Margaret Larson, *Master Gardener*

C-4 Native Trees and Shrubs for Your Garden

Many native trees and shrubs are overlooked when planning a garden. Shrubs can provide flowers, berries, color, winter interest, and habitat for many of our New England songbirds. Learn about some unknown species that are great for growing in New England.

Leslie Duthie, *Norcross Wildlife Sanctuary*

C-5 Hydrangeas for the Northeast

Getting reliable mophead and lacecap hydrangea blooms can be tricky in the Northeast. Questions about pruning, changing the color of the flowers, and correct garden siting. Come learn how to plant, grow, and prune hydrangeas as well as answer the age old question “Why won’t my hydrangea bloom?”.

Cheryl Monroe, *Garden in the Burrow*

C-6 Debunking Gardening Myths

Bill will separate fact from fiction offering smart, research-based advice to such questions as: do eggshells around tomato plants actually prevent blossom end rot? Will “bloom buster” increase the number of flowers? Will adding “hydrogels” help conserve and slowly release moisture to the plant? Find out what works and what doesn’t, and learn a better way to handle particular situations.

Bill Brunelle, *Master Gardener*

C-7 How To Put In Backyard Water Gardens or Mini Ponds

A water feature adds aesthetic value to any garden. Learn how any home gardener can build a water feature or backyard pond.

Ed Sourdif, *Master Gardener*

C-8 Living Walls

Shari will demonstrate how to create a living wall frame filled with a variety of succulent plants. Living walls may be hung or laid flat and are fun to incorporate into your outdoor garden displays.

Shari Petrucci, *Master Gardener*

Don't forget to bring a notebook if you plan to take notes!

DO NOT SEND REGISTRATION TO HOLYOKE HIGH SCHOOL OR CALL THE SCHOOL FOR INFO. FORMS MUST BE MAILED TO TOI GRAHAM AT 39 BURLEIGH RD., HAMPDEN, MA 01036

If needed, additional registration forms can be printed from our website: www.WMMGA.org

PLEASE CHOOSE THREE CLASSES FROM EACH SESSION!

Your first choices may not be available and we'd like to ensure that you get workshops of interest to you.

Session A (1st Choice) # _____ (2nd) # _____ (3rd) # _____

Session B (1st Choice) # _____ (2nd) # _____ (3rd) # _____

Session C (1st Choice) # _____ (2nd) # _____ (3rd) # _____

Please note: tickets are transferable, but not refundable. If for some reason you cannot use yours, why not share it with a gardening friend!

Please Register Me for the 20th Annual Spring Gardening Symposium:

Save us a stamp. Provide your email address for confirmation of workshop choices.

FILL OUT WORKSHOP CHOICES AND MAIL TO: Toi Graham, 39 Burleigh Rd., Hampden, MA 01036

GENERAL ADMISSION THROUGH MARCH 15: \$30. Turkey Sandwich Box Lunch Additional \$6.
Late Registration March 16-22: \$35 (subject to class availability) Walk-ins Day of Symposium: \$40

Enclosed is My Check for _____ \$30 (Workshops Only) _____ \$36 (Workshops & Box Lunch)
_____ \$35 (Late Registration workshops only) _____ \$41 (Late Registration & Box Lunch)

(Make checks payable to WMMGA. Mail to Toi Graham, 39 Burleigh Rd., Hampden, MA 01036)

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NAME _____

ADDRESS _____ City _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

TELEPHONE _____ EMAIL (Please print clearly!!!) _____