

Gardeners' **BIG** Day

Saturday, April 13, 2024
9 AM - 3:30 PM

Keynote: Chris Enroth
Gardening for Pollinators
Spoon River College, Canton



Illinois Extension
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN



Keynote Speaker

Chris Enroth

U of I Extension Horticulture Educator
*Serving Henderson, Knox, McDonough &
Warren Counties*

Keynote Address

Gardening for Pollinators

Registration

online - go.illinois.edu/GBD24

call - 309-547-3711

Registration fee: \$35 Early Bird by Mar. 1
\$40 through deadline March 31

Location

Spoon River College
Conference Center in Engle Hall
Canton Campus Conf. A & B
23235 N County Highway 22, Canton IL

CONTACT

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309-547-3711
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Gardeners of all skill levels are invited to Gardeners' BIG Day. The day includes a keynote address, four educational sessions, lunch, door prizes, and vendors. Sessions filled on a first-come, first-served basis.

Speakers and Workshops

Starting Your Own Garden Plants from Seed

John Curtis, Giving Gardens For All

Kay's Kokedamas

Jodi Soler, Owner

Natives, Starting from Scratch

Gayle Blodgett, Master Naturalist & Master Gardener

Container Gardening 101: Tips and Tricks for Starting

Corinne Brown, Illinois Central College Professor

Memories of a Master Gardener

Carol Cihla, Master Gardener

Conservation@Home

Ellen Denler, Master Gardener & Tara Heath, Hort. Coord.

Nature Journaling for a Deeper Garden Connection

Rhonda Ferree, Retro Rhonda J

Managing Weeds

Nicole Flowers-Kimmerle, Horticulture Educator

Wearable Floral Art

Christine Wright, Hy-Vee Floral

Identifying Native Trees

Karen Weigelt, Horticulture Assistant

Shade Gardening

Ella Maxwell, Master Gardener

Seed Saving: Pick, Store, Sow

Louise Bassett, Master Gardener

Conservation@Home Panel Discussion

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KEYNOTE ADDRESS - 9:15 AM

Pollinators are integral to the health and well-being of a garden and are essential for much of our vegetable production needs. Chris Enroth will share the importance of bees, butterflies, and other pollinators and some basic methods for attracting them. As pollinator habitat dwindles, find out what you can do to support nature's most vital workers.

SESSION 1 - 10:30 AM

A. Starting Your Own Garden Plants from Seed

John Curtis from the Giving Gardens shows some simple methods for growing your own plants from seed and discusses how it can help you take your home garden to the next level.

B. Kay's Kokedama

Jodi Soler will demonstrate the Japanese art of Kokedama, growing plants in a moss-covered ball of soil.

C. Natives, Starting from Scratch

Gayle Blodgett teaches how to get started with native plants: preparing the site for plants, selecting plants, planning for plant placement, choosing a vendor, and planting and maintaining the site.

D. Container Gardening 101

Corine Brown shares a few tips to select containers and plants that will help keep them looking and producing their best all season long.

LUNCH AND VENDOR SHOPPING - 11:15 AM

SESSION 2 - 12:30 PM

A. Memories of a Master Gardener

Carol Cihla will share stories of developing a new garden. Learn from her and save yourself some frustration about improving soil conditions, plant placement, animal control, and more.

B. Kay's Kokedama (repeated from Session 1.)

C. Conservation@Home

Ellen Denler and Tara Heath are excited to share more about this new program offered by the Conservation Foundation and Illinois Extension. The program guides residents in planting native plants, reducing water usage, reducing chemical use, and creating beautiful yards that benefit the environment.

D. Nature Journaling for a Deeper Garden Connection

Rhonda Ferree, retired Extension horticulture educator, teaches how journaling connects us at a deeper level with nature in our gardens (and beyond). Discover how to record garden activities using creative outlets of self-expression that promote relaxation and calmness.

SESSION 3 - 1:30 PM

A. Managing Weeds

Nicole Flowers-Kimmerle shares her expertise about common weeds that every homeowner and gardener must contend with. Learn a variety of ways to manage some of the most common garden weeds in Illinois.

B. Wearable Floral Art (+\$12.50)

Christine Wright leads a hands on corsage, boutonniere, and nosegay class. Learn the history and tradition of wearing flowers and fun ways to host a floral art party. *Bring floral clipper/knife.*

C. Identifying Native Trees

Karen Weigelt teaches strategies and tips to identify local native trees. Explore tree characteristics and features to help you tell these beauties apart.

D. Shade Gardening

Ella Maxwell will share some of her top performers from her garden, including trees, shrubs, perennials, ground covers, and bulbs. There is sure to be a new plant you will want to add to your garden.

SESSION 4 - 2:30 PM

A. Seed Saving: Pick, Store, Sow

Louise Bassett will cover the basics of collection, storage, and sowing seeds. The session will focus on flower seeds and touch on herbs and vegetables.

B. Wearable Floral Art (+\$12.50) (repeated from Session 3.)

C. Conservation@Home Panel Discussion

Have you heard about the Conservation@Home program but are unsure if your property is the right fit? Hear some frequently asked questions and answers from our C@H evaluators and homeowners.

D. Shade Gardening (repeated from Session 3.)