

# JOYS OF GARDENING

Saturday, February 15, 2020

Highland Community College Campus  
2998 West Pearl City Road  
Freeport, Illinois

23rd  
Annual

# JOYS OF GARDENING

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SESSION 1 ■ 9:45-11 a.m.

**February 15, 2020**

8:25 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Highland Community College  
Student Conference Center Room 201  
(use Parking Lot A)

## **Keynote Address:**

**10 Mistakes I Made in  
My Vegetable Garden so**

**You Don't Have To**

**Megan Cain**

**Speaker, Author  
Educator**

If you're not getting real results from your garden then gardening isn't as rewarding of a pastime as it could be. Although trial and error is often a part of the gardening experience, you can skip over some of the beginner mistakes and move straight to the more advanced ones! Megan Cain will share the top 10 mistakes she's made in her (and others') gardens so you can avoid them in your own and have lots more fun and success each season.

**Plus Four Break-Out Sessions!!**

### **The Cook's Garden**

Broccoli rabe, amaranth, 'Cheddar' cauliflower, Okinawan sweet potato, and spelt are just some of the "newer" vegetables and grains showing up as food trends in the last couple of years. This class will look at what you can grow (and can't grow) in your summer garden with a focus on produce that will be eaten fresh, made into sauces, and/or is center stage in your cooking. Grains, unique vegetable varieties, microgreens, herbs, and flavor focused produce will be covered in this session in helping you identify what to grow this upcoming season.

*Grant McCarty, Extension Educator, Small Farms & Local Foods*

### **Lawn Health and Why it is Important**

Learn from a local lawn care expert about the importance of soil conditions in overall lawn health. Dave will discuss proper mowing and watering that will boost the health of your lawn as well as organic and synthetic fertilizer and weed control products.

*Dave DeMeester, Owner, Dave DeMeester Landscaping and Lawn Service*

### **Succulents: Not Your Mothers Houseplants**

Succulents continue to be a popular plant for sale in garden centers, and for good reason! Their amazing colors and textures, combined with their minimal need for care, make them a great plant to grow indoors as a houseplant or outdoors on the patio for the summer. Learn the most common species of succulents available on the market and offer some tips on successfully growing these interesting plants.

*John Miller, U of I Extension Master Gardener*

### **The Kept Jewel Garden of Dubuque**

Travel with Master Gardener Volunteers around the gardens of the Dubuque Arboretum and hear how they share their time and talents with the Arboretum to keep this "Jewel" of a garden shining bright.

*Jean Bledsoe and Jeanne Ambrosy, Dubuque County Master Gardener Volunteers*

### **Bonsai Basics: How to get Started in Bonsai**

This presentation will take you through a brief history of bonsai, explaining where the art originated, styles of bonsai, and esthetic considerations. Discussion will include basic care and feeding along with the mechanical aspects that work to create the illusion of a tree in nature, only in miniature. Myths about bonsai will be dispelled as practical ideas about the art form are explored. Participants will gain knowledge on how they too can become involved in the art of bonsai.

*Bill Horschke, Past President, Rock River Bonsai Society*

### **Bees & Pollinators: Insects that benefit our Landscape**

Join Bee Keeper Dick Van Raden as he talks about the benefits of having honey bees, native bees and other pollinating insects in our yards. Learn about the habitats of these insects.

*Dick VanRaden, U of I Extension Master Gardener*

# SESSIONS

## SESSION 2 ■ 11:15 a.m.—12:30 p.m.

### Cooking with Culinary Herbs

Just about every dish tastes better with herbs! Diane will talk about selecting, drying and storing herbs, as well as when the ideal time is to add herbs to food to get the most flavor. Come learn how you can prepare and enjoy your edible bounty year round and receive recipes to take home.

*Diane Reinhold, Extension Educator, Nutrition and Wellness*

### Auditioning Trees and Shrubs for Your Space

Ever wonder what that little sapling at the nursery will look like when it is all grown up? Would that tree fit your needs? Your space? Your artistic yearnings? The Arbor Advocates introduce a living resource right in your own "backyard" where you can tryout hundreds of trees and shrubs before you purchase – Highland Community College's Don Opel Regional Arboretum. Save money! Save time! Enjoy!

*Arbor Advocates, a Committee of Master Gardener Volunteers*

### Propagating Woodies via Prunings

Ever wonder what to do with your prunings remains other than composting them? Join Horticulture Educator Bruce J. Black, to discuss how to take healthy cuttings and propagate them for your use. This topic can be especially helpful if you have a family plant, you would like to pass on to others. This workshop will discuss general steps to take cuttings but if you have a specific plant you are curious about, let Bruce know before the workshop and he'll make the propagation manual available.

*Bruce Black, Extension Educator, Horticulture*

### If You Plant It, They Will Come: A Plan to Attract Birds

Not just a program with a plant list but a thoughtful way to incorporate birds, and all their joy, into your garden. We will consider not only the bird's needs but also the needs of you, your family, children or grandchildren, pets, and of course the current plants in your garden.

*Peggy Doty, Extension Educator, Energy and Environment*

### Composting at Home

Great soil is necessary for growing anything in your garden. Compost can improve your soil and replace the need to use fertilizers. We'll learn how to make your own compost at home, discuss the issues you may face and how to use your compost to get the best results for your garden.

*Jeff White, U of I Extension Master Gardener*

### Introduction to Fruit Tree Pruning

Proper fruit tree pruning can ensure that you get the most out of your backyard fruit trees for years to come. However, pruning fruit trees that have been neglected or newly planted can require a plan of action. This course will provide an overview on getting started for old and new fruit trees, decisions to make when pruning, general structure of trees, managing diseases/insects, and pruning with future yields in mind. Apple, pear, cherry, peach, and other trees will be covered.

*Grant McCarty, Extension Educator, Small Farms & Local Foods*

## SESSION 3 ■ 1:15 —2:30 p.m.

### Big Flavors in Small Spaces: Container-Grown Fruits

Lacking a large landscape and love homegrown fruits? Look to container gardening: fruit edition! Join Horticulture Educator Bruce J. Black, to discuss how dwarf cultivars of blueberries, strawberries, brambles (raspberries and blackberries), and even apple trees can be planted on your patios or small outdoor areas to provide those big fresh fruit flavors in small spaces!

*Bruce Black, Extension Educator, Horticulture*

### Eastern Bluebirds: Little Blue Gem in your Garden

Eastern bluebird populations fell dramatically in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century thanks to the human introduction of invasive species. Today, with the help of human efforts, and the bluebird's tenacity, we can enjoy this garden visitor and take full advantage of the ecological service they provide.

*Peggy Doty, Extension Educator, Energy and Environment*

### Bright, Beautiful Birdhouses

In this hands-on session participants will learn creative ways to turn an ordinary birdhouse into a work of art. Cindy will lead participants step by step through creating a one of a kind design on their very own birdhouse. Birdhouses, paint, and supplies provided.

Additional Cost \$15. *This session is limited to 20 participants.*

*Cindy Bielefeldt, U of I Extension Master Gardener*

### Raised Beds and Permanent Crops

A lot of people use some type of raised beds to raise vegetables and flowers. Have you ever thought about using raised beds to raise permanent crops? From berries to Rhubarb, and Asparagus we'll look at your choices for crops you can raise. This presentation will also cover, building your soil, weeds, pests, and composting. Everything you need to get started and succeed with growing permanent crops.

*Jeff White, U of I Extension Master Gardener*

### Garden Plants: The Best and the Beautiful

Monica will be presenting an overview of new plants for 2020 and sharing her expertise about plants that look great and are easy to care for. Join Monica and kickstart your 2020 gardening plans and dreams!

*Monica Putnam, Owner, Timber Ridge Gardens*

## SESSION 4 ■ 2:45 p.m.—3:15 p.m.

### Armchair Tour of Klehm Arboretum

The Mission of Klehm Arboretum located in Rockford Illinois is to maintain a living museum for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of all people. This armchair tour will highlight trees and gardens located at this local arboretum.

*Klehm Arboretum Staff*

## Wrap Up ■ 3:15 p.m.—3:30 p.m.

Door prizes, Silent Auction, and Evaluations

# EVENT REGISTRATION

## Pre-Registration is Required!

Please select the workshops you wish to attend and ***return this form & payment by 2/7/2020***

OR register by phone (815) 235-4125 OR register on-line at **go.illinois.edu/jsw**

**8:00-8:25 a.m. Registration & Refreshments (coffee & tea)**

**8:25-9:30 a.m. Welcome & Keynote Address**

**12:30 to 1:15 p.m. Lunch (included with full day registration)**

**9:45-11:00 a.m. Session 1 Workshops**

- The Cooks Garden
- Lawn Health & Why it is Important
- Succulents: Not Your Mothers Houseplants
- The Kept Jewel Garden of Dubuque
- Bonsai Basics
- Bees & Pollinators

**Door Prizes & Silent Auction**

**1:15 - 2:30 p.m. Session 3 Workshops**

- Big Flavors in Small Spaces
- Eastern Bluebirds
- Bright, Beautiful Birdhouses (Additional \$15)\*\*
- Raised Beds and Permanent Crops
- Garden Plants: The Best and the Beautiful

**11:15 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Session 2 Workshops**

- Cooking With Culinary Herbs
- Auditioning Trees and Shrubs for Your Space
- Propagating Woodies via Pruning
- If You Plant It: They Will Come
- Composting at Home
- Introduction to Fruit Tree Pruning

**2:45-3:15 p.m. Session 4 Workshop**

*Armchair Tour of Klehm Arboretum*

**3:15-3:30 p.m. Wrap up**

*Door Prizes, Silent Auction, and Evaluation*

**\*\* Limited space – register early!!**

**Full Day: 4 Workshops, Materials, and Lunch - \$25.00 (\$30 after 4:30 pm on 2/7/2020)**

**Half Day: 2 Workshops and Materials - \$15.00 (no lunch)**

***Please add any additional class fees as noted in class description.***

**Amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_ (sorry no refunds)**

**Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_**

**Address \_\_\_\_\_**

**City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_**

**Email \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_**

**Mail to:** U of I Extension, 2998 W. Pearl City Road, Freeport, IL 61032 (check payable to "University of Illinois")

or **Register online** at **go.illinois.edu/jsw** For more information call (815) 235-4125

*If you need reasonable accommodations to participate in this program, please call (815) 235-4125.*

**\*\*\*Please note: Class space is limited and is offered on a first come first served basis. If you would like to check class availability please call the office at (815) 235-4125.**