

The McLean County Master Gardener Speakers Bureau provides engaging horticultural presentations to the public. All speakers are Master Gardener volunteers who have completed 60 hours or more of training from University of Illinois Extension, and have years of personal gardening experience.

Presentations are a minimum of 20 minutes, though most topics can be modified to fill longer time periods. There is no cost, except when noted for workshop cost of materials. Speakers may accept mileage reimbursement, and donations may be made to McLean County Extension.

The Master Gardeners are happy to present the topics listed to community groups in McLean County. If you have a need for a specific topic that is not listed, please let us know and we will try to accommodate your request.

To book a presentation:

Fill out the **Speaker Request Form**  
on the Master Gardener website at  
**go.illinois.edu/LMW\_MG**

For more information, please contact us at:  
(309) 663-8306 or uie-lmw@illinois.edu

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University of Illinois Extension provides equal opportunities in programs and employment.  
If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate in this program, please contact us.

## McLean County Master Gardeners Speakers Bureau



**I ILLINOIS**  
Extension  
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL, CONSUMER  
& ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES



*“Helping others  
learn to grow!”*

### Topics include

- Pollinators
- Herbs
- Vegetables
- Container Gardening
- Hydrangeas
- Succulents
- And more!

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McLean County  
1615 Commerce Parkway  
Bloomington, IL 61704  
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## Birds, Butterflies & Bees

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### *Pollinators*

When it comes to pollination, honey bees get a majority of the attention. However, many insects play a role in pollination. This presentation will discuss different native pollinators and how to make your landscape attractive to them.

### *Monarch Butterflies*

Help the threatened monarch butterflies flourish. Learn how to create a monarch Way Station with milkweed and other nectar-rich flowers to provide food for the caterpillars and butterflies. Monarchs need your support!

## Flowering Plants

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### *Tips for Growing Bearded and Siberian Irises*

Bearded and Siberian irises are sure to add interest to your spring garden. Learn how to plant, maintain and propagate these favorite spring perennials.



### *High on Hydrangeas*

There is a hydrangea (or 2!) for every garden. Explore the various types of hydrangeas and learn more growing information and pruning tips for this beloved plant. This presentation just may answer the often-asked question, "Why doesn't my hydrangea bloom?"

### *Bulbs, Basics, Myths & Bees*

Explore the world of bulbs: the myths & truths of planting bulbs. Proper planting techniques and depths, along with care and maintenance of them for years to come.

## Theme Gardens

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### *Health Benefits of Gardening*

Time in the garden clears thoughts and decompresses our mind. Tension is released as the weed bucket fills up. Basic principles of therapeutic horticulture, current research, and practicalities for everyday gardeners will be shared.

### *Container Garden Techniques*

Container gardens are perfect for the porch, patio, deck or entrance to your home. Master Gardeners will share designs, growing tips and lots of ideas for using flowers, tropicals, succulents, foliage, veggies and more in your next container garden.



### *Succulents: Striking, Simple & Successful*

Looking for gorgeous, low-maintenance selections for your container gardens? Find out about easy-care succulents that add color and texture, have sassy names and are easy to propagate.

### *Herb Gardening*

Herbs are versatile plants used for fragrances, cooking, or spicing up a landscape. Learn to grow, preserve and use a variety of culinary herbs. Make them accessible, useful and fun!



## Vegetables

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### *Companion Vegetable Gardening*

Find the perfect partners for your vegetables. Learn which plants bring good insect helpers (or repel evil ones!) and which plants will improve your soil or help your garden vegetables flourish.

### *Raised Bed Gardening*

Learn how to use above ground growing systems for producing your favorite backyard veggies. Methods to increase production and maximize your space, learn recommended growing media & fertilization, plus construction material options are reviewed.

### *Cool Seasons Veggies*

Don't miss out on the spring and fall harvest from you vegetable garden, learn how to get more through early and late season planting.

## Who We Are

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### *All About the McLean County Master Gardener Program*

Get the inside scoop on Master Gardeners and how they give back to their community. Learn about our local projects, community partners, and youth programs. See all the ways we strive to meet our mission, "Helping Others Learn to Grow" in McLean County.

## Other Topics Available:

- Seed Starting
- Roses
- Tree Pruning
- Ornamental Grasses
- Minimizing Garden Work
- Language of Flowers
- Fairy Gardens
- And many more!*