

ST. LOUIS URBAN GARDENING SYMPOSIUM

SATURDAY, JUNE 2ND, 2018, 9 AM-12 PM



WELCOME SPEAKER:

Practical Gardening with Native Plants: *Scott Woodbury, Shaw Nature Reserve* – Join us for a special presentation by Scott Woodbury, who will provide gardeners with an understanding of basic gardening maintenance tasks and improve knowledge of native plant horticulture. Topics include techniques for planting, transplanting, insect and plant identification, weeding, mulching, watering, pruning, deadheading and eco-friendly turf maintenance. The perfect introduction to kick-off this year's symposium!

WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS:

The Key to Good Soil & Composting 101: *Nathan Brandt, University of Missouri Extension* – Creating a healthy garden or lawn requires healthy soil. Different plants prefer different soil conditions and knowing the nutrient content, physical properties, pH and contaminants present in your soil are important for the health of your plants. Sounds daunting, but Nathan makes it easier to understand. Take it step further and create a compost system for your garden. Compost provides benefits such as valuable soil nutrients, moisture retention, weed suppression, prevents soil erosion, and loosens clay or compacted soils for better drainage. Learn about different methods of composting that you can use in your own garden. (Note: A walking tour of Demonstration Garden may be involved.)

Designing a Garden for Small Spaces with Natives: *Scott Woodbury, Shaw Nature Reserve* – Learn how and why native plants are more beneficial to your landscape than exotic species. Also, learn how to enrich diversity in your garden, select plants for four seasons of color and interest, plus offer food and shelter for wildlife even if you have a small space to work with. Discover which flowers will keep your garden blooming from spring through fall. Scott will cover tips and tricks to create your desired garden design. (Note: A walking tour of Demonstration Garden may be involved.)

Plant Healthcare Philosophy: *Danny Moncheski, Missouri Department of Conservation* – Weeds, pests and disease can wreak havoc on a garden. Discover the best management practices for keeping your plants healthy and your garden looking its best. Learn to identify common problems and culprits and how to minimize damage to your plants.

Gardening for Butterflies: *Bob Siemer & Ann Early, Wild Ones & Missouri Master Naturalists* – Did you know most butterfly species co-evolved with one specific plant that they rely on for food? Find out which native trees, shrubs and perennials play host to various butterfly species and how you can incorporate them into your garden.

Gardening for Birds: *Mitch Leachmann, St. Louis Audubon Society* – Birds are beautiful and fun to watch. Find out which trees, shrubs, perennials and grasses our winged friends prefer for food and shelter and see what these plants look like growing in our Demonstration Garden.

Native Shrubs & Small Trees: *Kyle Cheeseborough, Bellefontaine Cemetery & Arboretum* – This workshop will look at the best shrubs and small native trees for our local environment, both in terms of beauty and the positive impact they have on our ecosystem. Learn how to choose the right tree or shrub for your planting location as well as their overall size, fall color, spring blooms and wildlife value. (Note: A walking tour of Demonstration Garden may be involved.)

Proper Planting: *June Hutson, 40-Year Gardener Missouri Botanical Garden* – Successful plantings start at the very beginning. Learn how site preparation and planting make a significant difference to the success of your garden and add value for many years to come.

Pruning Woody Plants: *Becky Blue, Missouri Department of Conservation* – Discover pruning tools and techniques to help your trees and shrubs grow strong and healthy. Learn the best time to prune, how your plants benefit from regular pruning, and how to avoid damaging your plants by using proper pruning practices. (Note: A walking tour of Demonstration Garden may be involved.)

Neighbors Naturescaping Program Review: *Mary Lou Green, Brightside St. Louis* – New applicants of Brightside's Neighbors Naturescaping will learn strategies to implement their projects, from planning to volunteer recruitment and gaining community support. Neighbors Naturescaping enables groups to apply for up to \$1,500 in native plant material and tools to establish or enhance a community garden in St. Louis city public or nonprofit spaces. For more information about Neighbors Naturescaping, visit <http://www.brightsidestl.org/what-we-do/neighbors-naturescaping/>.