

## **Current Presentation Offerings - 2023**

**Jump Start Your Garden Indoors** – Learn the benefits of Indoor Seed Starting. Find out what materials are needed, how to select seeds, when to plant, how to manage seedling growth and hardening off young plants before moving them outdoors.

**So, You want to have a vegetable garden** – Do you want to turn a sunny patch of your lawn into a place to grow vegetables? Did you ever wonder what makes a vegetable garden so successful? Well it all begins with garden preparation and knowing what a plant needs to thrive. Topics include choosing the right site for vegetables, improving the soil, creating a garden plan, and advice on choosing plants and selecting tools.

**Vegetable Gardening – From Planting to Harvest** – Properly cared for productive vegetable plants will thrive and shower you with delicious vegetables all season long. This program will pick up from the first vegetable gardening program, providing information about planting your crops, maintaining, inspecting and treating for problems, as well as harvesting for peak flavor.

**Container Gardening** - No space for an in-ground garden? Have clay or rocky soil in your yard? Don't like tilling and weeding, or you have limited mobility or trouble bending? Perhaps Container Gardening is for you! Container Gardening is a guide to homegrown vegetables or colorful flowers without expensive tools and back breaking labor. Make gardening fun again with the use of containers!

**Herb Garden Basics** - Herb Garden Basics will get you started on planning, locating and filling your herb garden, and successfully maintaining it for years of enjoyment. There are also plenty of tips on storing and using your herbal bounty, and a close up look at some of the most popular herbs.

**Going Native in Your Garden** - Native plants, those not brought with European settlers, have established complex relationships with other native plants, insects and animals, some of which are dependent on one another to thrive. Learn about New Jersey native plants, their care and the advantages to the environment of growing native plants in your garden.

**Composting** – Did you know that you can remove 90 % of the waste stream going to landfills by recycling and composting? Do your part for the environment learning how to perfect your home composting skills mixing the right proportions of the “browns and greens”.

**Plant It and They will come** – Butterflies and their caterpillars, like humans, have particular preferences for the food they will eat. If you plant what a critter likes, it will be delighted to find its favorite food in your garden. This beautiful presentation is a guide to attracting butterflies to your garden and keeping them there.

**Attracting Native Pollinating Insects to your Landscape** – Did you know that pollinating insects are responsible for 75% of our food? Yet the majority of our landscapes provide little if no habitat for these essential insects. In this program you can learn how to change your backyard into a living habitat and encourage these native pollinators to thrive.

**The Plight of the Monarch** – Have you noticed a decrease in Monarch butterflies? Well you're right! In this wonderfully presented program from experienced Monarch "propagators" you will learn the reason why this is happening. You will also learn about the life history and habitat of this truly beautiful, majestic insect and what you can do to help this cause!

**Garden Favorites that Deer (almost) Never Eat** Is your landscape a Deer Buffet? Are you tired of seeing stumps where you put in expensive plants? This program gives some strategies to make your yard less attractive to the herd and highlights some rarely nibbled specimens that will send them visiting next door instead.

**Know and Growing Chrysanthemums** A slide presentation illustrating the history of our premier fall flower, the chrysanthemum, and the many varieties thereof, and detailing its culture. See photos of the magnificent 1,000 bloom plants and other very special mums. Care and handling of garden mums and exhibition varieties, especially disbuds, will be explained and illustrated.

**Your First Orchid ... Now What??** Presented by a certified American Orchid Society judge. Interesting facts about orchids, pollination and the breadth of orchid varieties. Stunning photos of over 30 different orchids followed by practical information on how to take care of your new orchid, which includes, potting with proper soil, watering, fertilization, and the best place for it in your home.

**Lawn Care for the Homeowner** - Whether you are new to lawn care or have been doing it for years, this program will provide the information that can lead to a healthy and attractive lawn. The program will discuss the basics of lawn maintenance including mowing, watering, fertilizer, thatch management and aeration. Also discussed are weed management, diseases, grubs and more!

**All About Tea** - Hear about the history of tea and the tea trade. Learn how tea is grown, harvested and processed into the different types of tea. Explore the tea ceremonies and culture of tea from around the world. Learn the truths and tales of tea and answer the questions: What is High Tea? Is tea really picked by monkeys? Is drinking tea in America unpatriotic? What is the connection between tea and Hong Kong?

**The Relationship of Plants and People** - Plants are important to us for many things with our relationship evolving over thousands of years. The evolution of plant life on Earth is fundamental to the history of our planet. Topics include the importance of agriculture, how cotton built a global empire, the use of plants for medicine, the creation of biofuels and more. There were many surprises, interesting stories as well as tragic events explored including Tulip Mania and Plant Criminology.

**In development:** "Hydroponics", "Roses", "House Plants", "Shade Gardening"