

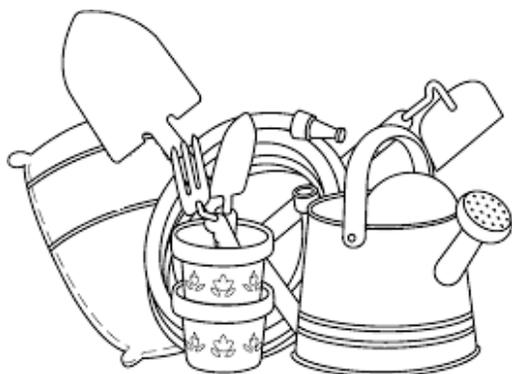
# Gardening in Changing Times

The Western Massachusetts Master Gardener  
Association's

## SPRING GARDENING SYMPOSIUM

### March 21, 2020

8:45 am to 2:15 pm • Frontier Regional High School  
South Deerfield, MA



Featuring **Connor Stedman**, *Designer & Ecologist, Applesed Permaculture, High Falls, NY*

Speaking on **Repairing the Web of Life: Lessons from Land, Place, and History for Gardening in the Climate Change Era**

As we confront the accelerating damage of climate change, gardeners are in a unique position to create places of refuge for many forms of life. But doing so responsibly and successfully asks that we deeply study the stories and histories of the lands where we garden. We will explore these connections between ecological and social communities across time and place in western MA, and how these stories point to new possibilities for gardening and land care in a century of crisis.

**In addition, choose from 16 concurrent topics in two sessions, offering ideas for adapting and enjoying your garden.**

8:00 am Registration  
8:45-10:00 am **Session 1** – Eight topics to choose from!  
10:30 - noon **Keynote: Connor Stedman**  
Noon – 1:00 pm Lunch break  
*(reserve a lunch below, or bring your own)*  
1:00 - 2:15pm **Session 2** – Eight more topics to choose from!



For more information, go to [wmmga.org](http://wmmga.org)  
or contact Lucy Alman at  
[gardensymposium123@gmail.com](mailto:gardensymposium123@gmail.com) or  
(413) 665-2181.

- \* **Marketplace** - Vendors with locally produced offerings.
- \* **Book Table** – Assorted titles for gardeners from Storey Publishing and Timber Press for sale.
- \* **Refreshments** – Complimentary morning coffee and goodies, plus an optional lunch from River Valley Co-op (see registration form to order).
- \* **Snow Date** – In case of impending bad weather, call 413-665-2181 the night before for a recorded message regarding possible rescheduling.
- \* **Parking** – Please car pool if at all possible; parking is tight!



The Western Massachusetts Master Gardener Association's  
Spring Gardening Symposium – Gardening in Changing Times  
March 21, 2020 - Frontier Regional High School, South Deerfield

**WORKSHOP TOPICS OVERVIEW**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>A. Beecology – Transform Your Garden Landscape</b>   | <b>I. Ecological Design to Promote Insect Populations</b>    |
| <b>B. Space Saving Gardening</b>                        | <b>J. The Pleasures of a Cutting Garden</b>                  |
| <b>C. Carefree Shrubs for Your Landscape</b>            | <b>K. Gardening Well into the Future</b>                     |
| <b>D. Asian Jumping Worms</b>                           | <b>L. Regenerating the Soil to Grow Nutrient Packed Food</b> |
| <b>E. Container Gardening with New England Natives</b>  | <b>M. Summer Flowering Bulbs</b>                             |
| <b>F. Five Ways to Cover Ground – Lawn Alternatives</b> | <b>N. Managing Invasive Species</b>                          |
| <b>G. Starting Your Own Organic Garden</b>              | <b>O. Herbs in a Jar</b>                                     |
| <b>H. Cooking with Herbs for Lifelong Vitality</b>      | <b>P. Common Uses of Culinary Herbs</b>                      |

See workshop descriptions on the next page.

**Registration form** - Cost is **\$35** for the entire day; additional fee for optional lunch.

Register online (extra service fee applies) at [WMMGA.ORG](http://WMMGA.ORG) or by mail using the form below. Send mailed registrations to: Lucy Alman, 27 Park Rd., Sunderland, MA 01375. *Please make checks payable to WMMGA.*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Town \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Evening phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Preregistration necessary as seating is limited.**  
**Register early to get first pick of workshops!**

\_\_\_\_\_ **\$35** for entire day (**make choices below**). Indicate your choices with the letter of each talk for both sessions. Seating is limited for each talk, so register early to be sure to get your preferences!

**Session 1** (1<sup>st</sup> choice) \_\_\_\_\_ (2nd choice) \_\_\_\_\_ (3rd choice) \_\_\_\_\_ ● **Session 2** (1<sup>st</sup> choice) \_\_\_\_\_ (2nd choice) \_\_\_\_\_ (3rd choice) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ **\$15 Materials Fee** if registering for Herbs in a Jar (optional, no additional fee if listening only):  
\_\_\_*Yes, I want to make my own herbal preparation to take home (\$15).* \_\_\_*No, I will listen only.*

\_\_\_\_\_ **\$9.00** for optional lunch from River Valley Co-op (CIRCLE ONE) includes chips, apple, cookie and beverage. Choice of: The Herder (roast beef, horseradish mayo, provolone, red onion, tomato, lettuce on whole wheat) OR Chicken Salad (w/ red grapes, celery, poppy seeds, mustard, mayo, parsley, lettuce, and Swiss on 7-grain bread) OR Caprese Sandwich (mozzarella, tomatoes, & basil on ciabatta roll w/ choice that day of pesto, dried tomato aioli, or balsamic vinaigrette)

\_\_\_\_\_ **Total Enclosed**

## **SESSION 1** (concurrent workshops): 8:45-10:00 am

### **A. Beecology: Transforming Your Garden Landscape into a Living Laboratory**

*Robert Gegear, UMass Dartmouth*

Get the knowledge and skills needed to implement a scientific, ecologically based approach for conservation of native pollination systems. Learn how to: 1) select plants that maximize biodiversity; 2) identify pollinator species at risk of extinction; and 3) collect and use data for the Beecology Citizen Science Projects.

### **B. Getting More from Less: Space Saving Gardening**

*Ron Kujawski, horticultural consultant*

A lack of space is often a legitimate excuse for not having a vegetable garden or for growing only a limited number of vegetables. However, you can maximize your vegetable yield by using various strategies, ranging from plant selection to planting schemes. Topics covered will also include using vertical space and methods for extending the growing season.

### **C. Carefree Shrubs for Your Landscape**

*Dan Ziomek, Hadley Garden Center*

A high maintenance landscape is a gardener's nightmare. Dan will introduce a selection of shrubs that will enhance any landscape.

### **D. Jumping Worm Invasions – The Impacts, Dynamics and Solutions**

*Annise Dobson, Yale University post-doctoral researcher*

Jumping worms are an emerging conservation threat to a broad suite of native taxa, habitats, industries, hobbies, and vital ecosystem services. Dr. Dobson will teach you how to identify a jumping worm, discuss their impacts on native and cultivated plants, and discuss solutions under development for management.

### **E. Container Gardening with New England Natives**

*Priscilla Touhey, Master Gardener*

Want to include native plants in your container gardens but not sure how? Come learn how container gardens can add both beauty and habitat to our outdoor spaces. From patios to garden pathways, pots can help create habitat for pollinators.

### **F. Five Ways to Cover Ground (and Give the Lawn Mower a Rest) - Kathleen Connolly, landscape designer**

Learn how we can cover ground and reduce old-fashioned lawn areas. Topics include the roles of soil, water, and site selection in successful ground-covering strategies as well as land care and maintenance regimes. Extensive plant and resource lists included.

### **G. Where to Begin? Starting Your Own Organic Garden**

*Gaby Immerman, Smith College Botanic Garden*

Fresh vegetables at your fingertips sounds dreamy, but how do you get started? Gaby will walk you through all the basics and the questions to consider before you begin: in-ground or raised beds, seeds or starts, cool vs. warm season crops, plant nutrition and pest management. You can do it.

### **H. Cooking with Herbs for Lifelong Vitality**

*Brittany Nickerson, herbalist, author, & health educator*

Cooking with herbs can improve your digestion, increase energy and vitality, support immunity, reduce stress, and increase mindfulness in your life. And, it makes your food taste great!

Demonstration of easy techniques for incorporating herbs into your daily diet.

## **SESSION 2** (concurrent workshops): 1:00-2:15 pm

### **I. Responding to Insect Population Decline w/ Ecological Design - Connor Stedman, Appleseed Permaculture**

Between 40 and 70% of all insect populations are rapidly declining worldwide, further threatening the stability of agriculture & working ecosystems. Gardeners, farmers, and landscape managers can play an important role in reversing this trend. We will look in detail at what the science of rapid insect decline is saying & how specific ecological design & land care interventions can make a difference.

### **J. The Pleasures of a Cutting Garden**

*Maida Goodwin, Quonquont Farm, Whately, MA*

Tempted by the idea of your own cutting garden? Even small spaces can produce bucket loads of beautiful flowers. Come and learn the basics of soil, site, planting, plant selection, and maintenance for the cutting garden.

### **K. Gardening Well into the Future**

*Lilian Jackman, Wilder Hill Gardens, Conway, MA*

How will we care for our beloved gardens and landscapes during these busy times and as we grow older? Learn sound gardening techniques and a few innovative "tricks" in a colorful and detailed slide presentation that illustrate ways to keep our surroundings healthy and beautiful while dramatically reducing the amount of labor involved. Special attention will be given to native, pollinator, and habitat producing plants.

### **L. Regenerating Soils to Grow Nutrient Packed Food**

*Laura Davis, Long Life Farm, Hopkinton, MA*

Soil that is alive with biology can enable gardeners to grow plants that have more nutrition, flavor, and shelf life. Nutrient packed food gives people better immune systems to fight chronic disease.

### **M. Summer Flowering Bulbs, Bold and Beautiful!**

*Ron Kujawski, horticultural consultant*

Among the boldest and most colorful flowers in summer gardens are the so-called summer flowering bulbs. Often unknown to beginning gardeners and underappreciated by veteran gardeners, these "bulbs" are among the easiest plants to grow. What are they? How are they best used? How are they to be cared for? Answers to these and other questions about summer flowering bulbs.

### **N. Invasive Species: Dynamic Approaches to Keep Pace**

*Michael Bald, Got Weeds? South Royalton, VT*

In managing invasive plant species in landscapes or weeds in the garden, climate change is yet another variable in an already complex undertaking. Good stewardship, timely presence, and open-mindedness empower us to address invasive / exotic plants even as we build healthy soil, improve biodiversity, and grow good food.

### **O. Herbs in a Jar - Shari Petrucci, Master Gardener**

Extend the purpose of backyard herbs by using them in bottles or jars for flavored oils, vinegars, and beverages. Whether for personal use or gift giving, each attendee will sample, make (materials fee applies), and take a recipe of their choice. A hands-on workshop. **Note: There is an additional \$15 materials fee if you wish to make your own to take home.**

### **P. Common Uses of Culinary Herbs**

*Brittany Nickerson, herbalist, author, & health educator*

Did you know that common culinary herbs, the ones that are likely already on your spice shelf at home, have powerful medicinal benefits? Learn how to use culinary herbs to support resistance to common cold and flu symptoms, reduce stress anxiety and tension, and uplift the spirit and reduce brain fog (and more!).