

## Lecture Topics Continued:



## Gardening for Water Management

### **Rain Gardens and other Storm Water Management Strategies for Homeowners:**

This class will address the need to mitigate storm water, and will provide an introduction to rain garden design, installation and appropriate plant selection. Homeowners will also learn several other strategies for capturing storm water, and encouraging infiltration and water conservation in the residential landscape.

## Environmental Toll of Plastics

### **Plastics: We loved 'em, now it's time to leave 'em:**

This presentation focuses on the harm that plastics cause; types of plastics; and the meaning of the recycling symbols. It also discusses what local, state and federal governments are doing about plastic and gives practical tips on what citizens can do (recycling, substitutes, etc.).

## Workshops & Demos:

**Bee Hotel:** Workshop. Help increase populations of native bees in your yard and garden with a handmade bee hotel!

**Growing Microgreens :** Workshop. Learn about the health benefits of microgreens and start your very own tray.

**Home Composting Made Easy:** Combined Demonstration. Discussing the science of composting, what items to compost, methods of building or purchasing compost bins, and how to use your compost once it is finished.

**Indoor Plant Propagation :** Workshop. Discuss propagation methods including air layering and cuttings. Learn what methods work best for different kinds of plants and take home a cutting to grow.

### **Shiitake Mushroom Growing :**

Seasonal workshop. Learn about the tools and supplies needed, how to inoculate a log, and how to care for and harvest Shiitake mushrooms.

**Worms at Work:** Demonstration. Learn about turning food scraps into fertilizer for growing new plants, called *vermicomposting*, with the help of worms. Master Gardener Volunteers, will demonstrate how simple it is to do and how to create a worm composting bin.

### **Don't see the topic you're looking for?**

Let us know. We are happy to speak on other garden-based topics.

## Cornell Cooperative Extension Putnam County

### **Have a Master Gardener Volunteer visit your organization:**

Our Master Gardener Volunteers bring local experience and research-based information to every presentation.

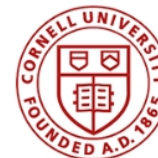
To request a speaker, please download our Speaker Request Form at [cceputnamcounty.org/resources/speakers-bureau-request-form](http://cceputnamcounty.org/resources/speakers-bureau-request-form)

A fee of \$125 per presentation helps us to continue our mission of community education in Putnam County. (For non-profit organizations, please contact us for pricing options.)

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Master Gardener Volunteer

# Let's Talk Plants



## Cornell Cooperative Extension Putnam County

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**[cceputnamcounty.org](http://cceputnamcounty.org)**



## Lecture Topics

### Seed Saving

**Seed Saving Basics:** Have you wondered whether you can replant seeds from your garden? Learn all about properly saving seeds for better germination.

### General Gardening

**Container Gardening:** Learn how to plant and care for a container garden whether it's on your patio, terrace, or deck. This course teaches you the basics of choosing and using materials like potting soil and plants, as well as easy maintenance skills needed to make your container planting a thriving success.

**Vegetable Gardening:** This overview of how to start and maintain a vegetable garden covers testing soil, creating raised beds, starting from seed and transplants, managing pests and disease, and knowing when to harvest.

**Vegetable Container Gardening:** Lack of garden space can be overcome by planting favorite vegetables, flowers, and herbs in containers. Learn everything you need to know for container vegetable gardening success.

**21st Century Gardening:** What are plant communities? The New Perennial Movement, Matrix planting and the NYC Highline are just a few modern plant communities. Discuss new thinking about plant survival strategies and review specific plants.

**Gardening for Climate Change:** Discuss climate change and what to expect in the coming years including how to be prepared for drought and deluge, invasive species, bloom times, and insect needs.

**Ready for Fall: The Labor-saving Magic of Not Tidying Up:** Learn how to put your garden to bed for the winter while keeping in mind the needs of the critters who depend on it to survive.

### History

**History of Horticulture in the Hudson Valley:** Discover the history of land-use in the area. This program can focus on Native American land-use or Andrew Jackson Downing: A Bucolic View of Invasive species.

**Putnam County Hidden Landscape:** This program takes participants on an imaginary hike through some of the back areas of Putnam County and learn about the history of the area. No boots needed!

### Invasive Plants

**Forbidden Fruit:** Learn about and review regulations, characteristics, and control of over 40 invasive species. Discuss planting alternatives and the use of native plants to replace invasives.

### Native Plants

**Northeast Native Plants:** Learn about the importance of native plants with a focus on the invasives they can replace in the garden.

**Shade Gardening with Native Plants:** This presentation will introduce the concept of native plant communities and creating successful and interesting gardens in shaded areas. It will include an overview of assessing site conditions; prioritizing garden goals; incorporating strategies for providing year round interest; creating habitat; and using ecologically sound gardening practices.



### Gardening for Wildlife and Beneficials

**Backyard Habitat:** Healthy ecosystems start at home! Learn how to improve your backyard habitat by supporting biodiversity in whatever space you have and creating a welcoming backyard for critters in all seasons, especially insects and birds.

**Critters in Winter:** What can we do to help insects, birds and other critters survive the winter? Learn about providing shelter, food, and water to critters in winter and the best choices for feeding birds.



**Beneficial Insects:** Learn about five specific beneficial insects (bumblebee, orchard bee, brachonid wasp, syrphid fly, spider); native vs. honey bees; stings and bites.

**Planting for Pollinators:** Explore what pollination is and how plants attract pollinators with different flower colors, patterns, and shapes along with discussing plant selections that will attract and support pollinators in your garden.

