Please join us for:

GARDENING EDUCATION DAY, 2016

Saturday, March 19th at St. John’s University, Peter Engel Science Building, Collegeville

KEYNOTE SESSION: “WHY IS MY PLANT DYING?”

The most common question we are asked or ask is what is wrong with my plant? Unfortunately there is not always a simple answer to this question and to answer may require the knowledge of a soil scientist to a marriage counselor! This session will cover the basic CSI approach to diagnosing the real problem in the landscape.

*Our Keynote Session is presented by Dr. John Ball. Dr. Ball is a Professor of Forestry at South Dakota State University where he instructs courses in tree care.*

GENERAL SESSION: “WHEN THE GOING GETS TOUGH, THE TOUGH GET MORE PERENNIAL FLOWER POWER!”

We will take a whirlwind ride to the introduction of exciting new perennials and their use. We will cover useful information about what’s new, why it is better, and how to grow it. A look at the older varieties and what actually makes new varieties better, along with many tried and true classics that provide problem solving solutions for today’s modern gardener.

*Our General Session will be presented by Jayne Roberts. As a sales representative for a number of leading U.S. wholesale growers of cutting edge perennials, Jayne Roberts is on top of all the brand new cultivars being introduced in 2016. With over 30 years of experience with perennials, Jayne knows what works in Minnesota gardens and can recommend new varieties that will be top performers for you. Jayne’s fabulous photography will get your plant lust juices flowing, and her speaking style will both entertain and educate.*

**Gardening Education Day Schedule:**

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<td>8:35-9:35 a.m.</td>
<td>General Session</td>
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<td>10:00-11:00 a.m.</td>
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<td>12:15-1:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>1:30-2:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>2:45-3:45 p.m.</td>
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Pre-registration required - Must be received no later than **Wednesday, March 9th, 2016**

Fee: **$30.00 Per Registrant**

Late Registration Fee (after March 9): **$35**

(Includes morning coffee, tea & rolls, box lunch, afternoon refreshments, and session materials)

No refunds after March 14, 2016

Spaces will be filled as registrations are received.
SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

Session A: 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

A1: Wine, What Sweeter Bounty from a Minnesota Garden
by Matt Clark
Numerous grapes perform well in the short growing season and cold winters in central Minnesota. Selecting the right varietals will allow you to have grapes for multiple uses including fresh eating, jams and jellies, and even wine. Explore the specific growing conditions for successful home grape growing including site selection, trellising, pest control, and when to pick. [Matt Clark, PhD is the project leader for Grape Breeding and Enology at the University of Minnesota. His research focuses on developing cold-hardy, disease resistant, and superior quality grapes for wine and fresh eating. Having grown-up in the Midwest he is familiar with the desire to diversify the garden with fresh fruit, including apples, stone fruit, and grapes. Dr. Clark earned his BA from St. John’s University where he learned a lot about the native flora of Stearns County. He is excited to share his knowledge about the expanding wine industry.]

A2: Tantalizing Tomatoes and Their Tribulations
by Joan Andersen
Learn how to grow delicious tomatoes for fresh eating and preserving. Learn how to identify and manage problems if they arise. Get some ideas for good heirlooms and cultivars to try. [Joan Andersen has been an Extension Master Gardener since 2000. She has enjoyed vegetable gardening for a long time. She grows a wide variety of flowers, vegetables and berries at her home and enjoys sharing gardening stories with other gardeners.]

A3: Clematis: New & Unusual Varieties
by Diane Hansgen
Successful clematis gardening starts with choosing the correct variety for the location. Diane will pass along information on choosing not only the correct variety, but proper planting methods and pruning based on the specific variety, including clematis for shady locations. Diane will also introduce you to some unusual varieties that are ‘non-climbing’. [Diane Hansgen is an active Extension Master Gardener. She has extensive perennial gardens of her own & enjoys passing on her secrets to success to everyone. She is an active speaker for many organizations & garden clubs and has been a participant in several garden tours in the St. Cloud area; last summer Diane hosted groups from the Fergus Falls and Stillwater area.]

A4: What Makes a Plant a Good Pollinator
by Karl Foord
Plants evolved with insect pollinators, so they need each other. Over the millions of years many variations on the pollination theme have developed. We live in a world of great diversity but our activities as humans tend to restrict diversity, being focused on our perceptions and preferences. We need to embrace diversity and be a creator of the same. Pollinator plants provide an excellent case study for creating diversity. [Karl Foord holds degrees in Horticulture, Genetics, and Business Administration, and has worked in Extension for 20 years. His present research concerns the role of native bees as pollinators in the production of apples, blueberries, strawberries and raspberries.]

A5: Scrumptious Smoothies
by Bill Cook
One of the joys of home gardens is a steady supply of fresh fruit, and frozen fruit for the winter. In this class we will cover good species to grow, and some general information about care. Finally, we will talk about using that fruit in smoothies in the kitchen, and some recipes. [Bill Cook is an Associate Professor of Biological Sciences at St. Cloud State University who teaches a variety of courses on ecology, wildlife and conservation. He has tried his luck gardening in New Hampshire, Kansas, Arizona and Minnesota, and now works with the Extension Master Gardeners in Stearns County. He is interested in most areas of gardening, but currently has particular interests in cacti and succulents, perennial and wild food-bearing plants, and composting.]
A6: Tall and Giant Perennials
by Jodie and Julie of Jean’s – The Right Plant Place

Vertical elements are critical for any garden. While trees and shrubs are generally the first plants that pop to mind, many perennials can add vertical height to a garden as well. The perennials we will show you are at least three feet tall, and some grow to as tall as ten feet (seriously... from the ground... every year...). So sit back and enjoy these giants of the perennial world! Jodie Ramsay and Julie Schroer own Jean’s the Right Plant Place in Perham, MN. They are perennial junkies, and have been speaking on various perennial topics for 13 years. To support their plant habit, Jodie teaches Biology and Julie manages the greenhouse at NSU in Aberdeen, SD.

Session B: 11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

B1: Wine, What Sweeter Bounty From a Minnesota Garden (Repeat Session – see description A1)
by Matt Clark

B2: Shade Gardening: Making the Most of a Problem Situation
by Terry Engels

After a review of the basics for success, this talk emphasizes design considerations and cultivar choice. Whether mature trees have overtaken your yard or you choose to live in a wooded retreat, suggestions are offered to make your garden rich in mystery, vibrant with color, and defined by texture. Terry Engels worked for the St. Cloud Parks Department as a staff gardener and supervisor of Clemens Gardens, until June, 2008. She was a founder of the Munsinger Clemens Botanical Society and Friends of the Gardens; her favorite projects involved planning garden events, writing the newsletter, and education. She has been an Extension Master Gardener since 1998, served on the State Advisory Board and local leadership team, and a member of the Garden Writers Association. At present she speaks and writes on garden topics, and acts as a garden coach. Blog: www.co.stearns.mn.us/Community/CountyBlogs Growing Smarts

B3: Superfoods From Your Garden - The Magic of Minerals
by Brenna Thompson

Seventy-five percent of Americans are deficient in magnesium; 73 percent are deficient in zinc. Yes, your body needs vitamins, but minerals are just as important. Learn the benefits of five important minerals—zinc, calcium, potassium, magnesium and iron—along with the body signs that you may be deficient and the best food and supplement sources, including those you can grow in your garden. You'll also discover the mineral connections to sleep, cravings, crying easily, brittle nails, acne, muscle cramps, chewing ice, and more. Brenna Thompson, a registered and licensed dietitian with a master's degree in applied nutrition, received her B.S. in dietetics from Minnesota State University, Mankato, and worked as a clinical dietitian before joining Nutritional Weight & Wellness in 2012. Brenna enjoys exercising, blogging, camping and cooking.

B4: Thoughtful Pest Control – Wise Use and Alternatives
by Karl Foord

Can we approach our own garden management with an understanding of how this contributes to the combined impact of humans on the landscape? Our highly manicured landscapes often require significant resource inputs, many in the form of chemical pesticides. Chemical solutions are often dramatic and quick acting, but are they the best solution in the long run? Can we adjust our attitudes in terms of patience and perception in the pursuit of pest solutions? Karl's bio can be found under Session A4.

B5: Small Space Gardens
by Bill Cook

Do you have a small backyard, patio or porch and wonder if you can start your own vegetable garden? Learn the basics of plant choice, soil and potting needs and watering in a sustainable, easy to manage garden. We cover tricks to allow your existing space to be used efficiently, producing a reasonable variety of fresh produce in a small area without excessive inputs of time and money. Bill's bio can be found under Session A5.
B6: Flowers for Beauty and Cutting  
by Robin Trott

Imagine a never ending supply of beautiful flowers for your home, bouquets and arrangements to give to friends. Come learn the cultivars and techniques that guarantee a successful cutting garden. Discover the tricks to post harvest care that will keep your arrangements fresh for 7-10 days. Robin Trott is an experienced environmental educator, market gardener and flower farmer, and has worked in various positions in the floriculture/education industry for over 15 years. She is currently the University of Minnesota Extension Educator in Douglas County, answering questions ranging from insects and disease to landscape design. Robin has a passion for all aspects of horticulture, and especially loves the challenging questions that lead to research and revelation.

Session C: 2:45 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.

C1: Beyond Tomatoes - Growing those Other Solanaceae Crops  
by Joan Andersen

If you love fresh tomatoes, you will also love peppers, eggplant and potatoes from your own garden. Learn about selecting, growing and preserving/storing these garden favorites. Get some ideas for good heirlooms and cultivars to try. Joan’s bio can be found under Session A2.

by Terry Engels

A colorful look at the garden world as a whole, asking where have we been, where are we going, who’s going there and what will we find? Along with look at new plants, this talk also offers surprising responses to the question ‘what new under the sun?’ Terry’s bio can be found under Session B2.

C3: Saint John’s Maple Syrup Operation Tour  
(Max 21 people)  
by Steve Saupe

Visit the Saint John’s Maple Syrup Operation and learn how the monks and their friends have made maple syrup since 1943. Stephen G. Saupe is a professor of biology in the joint biology department of the College of St. Benedict and Saint John’s University. He’s a board member of the Minnesota Maple Syrup Producers Association and one of the chief syrup-makers at Saint John’s.

C4: Flowers for Beauty and Cutting (Repeat Session – See description B6)  
by Robin Trott

C5: Scrumptious Smoothies  
by Bill Cook (Repeat Session – See description B5)

C6: Landscaping Your Septic System  
by Adam Hjelm

Landscaping near and around septic systems is a concern of many homeowners. Whether you already have an existing septic system or will be installing a new one to your residence, there are many aesthetic options. Participants will learn some tips and techniques that not only will help the looks of the system; they will also help the functioning of the system. Participants will receive native plant books, and several gift certificates from area nurseries will be given as door prizes. Adam Hjelm is the education coordinator for Sauk River Watershed District (SRWD) and has been with the organization since April 2008. Most of Adam's time at the SRWD is spent educating adults and youth about the importance of water quality and our natural resources. In 2011, the SRWD is focusing much of its education efforts on storm water education and reducing the environmental impacts of the most common types of erosion and run-off through education as well as financial and technical assistance.

Online Registration Available:  
z.umn.edu/GardenEdDay
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(Includes morning coffee, tea & rolls, box lunch, afternoon refreshments, and session materials)

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Please indicate which sessions you would like to register for:

### Session A:
A1: _____ Wine, What Sweeter Bounty  
A2: _____ Tantalizing Tomatoes  
A3: _____ Clematis  
A4: _____ Pollinator Plants  
A5: _____ Scrumptious Smoothies  
A6: _____ Tall & Giant Perennials

### Session B:
B1: _____ Wine, What Sweeter Bounty  
B2: _____ Shade Gardening  
B3: _____ Superfoods From Your Garden  
B4: _____ Thoughtful Pest Control  
B5: _____ Small Space Gardens  
B6: _____ Flowers for Beauty & Cutting

### Session C:
C1: _____ Beyond Tomatoes  
C2: _____ New Trends in Gardening  
C3: _____ Maple Syrup Operation Tour  
C4: _____ Flowers for Beauty & Cutting  
C5: _____ Scrumptious Smoothies  
C6: _____ Landscaping Your Septic System

**Sandwich Choice: (select one)**  
[ ] Ham  [ ] Turkey  [ ] Vegetarian

Name: _______________________________________________________________________
Email: __________________________________________ Phone: _____________________
Street Address: ________________________________________________________________
City: ________________________________ State: ______  Zip: _________________________

**Payment Enclosed:** $______________  Check Number ________________

$30 per person — Checks payable to: Stearns County Master Gardeners

**Directions to Saint John’s University**
**Peter Engel Science Building**
St. John’s University is located about 10 miles west from downtown St. Cloud on I-94

**From the East**
—Take I-94 West to Saint John’s University exit #156, County Road 159
—Turn left on County Road 159
—Go approximately 1 1/2 miles to Saint John’s University

**From the West**
—Take I-94 East to Saint John’s University exit, County Road 159
—Turn right on County Road 159
—Go approximately 1 1/2 miles to Saint John’s University

**Online registration is quick and easy at:** z.umn.edu/GardenEdDay

Electronic payments are not available — once registration is completed, we ask that you send payment within 7 days

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