

## Upcoming Garden Programs and Workshops

By Larry Caplan, Extension Horticulture Educator, Vanderburgh County, IN

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I'm going to be a busy camper over the next several weeks, as I will be presenting gardening programs on a variety of topics all over the Evansville area. If you want to learn more about the nitty-gritty of gardening, this is your opportunity!

I will be teaching two Master Gardener volunteer training classes this fall, starting September 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>. Classes will be held Thursday evenings and Friday mornings at Ivy Tech Community College, on Evansville's First Avenue. Over the fifteen weeks that the class will run, you will learn about basic plant and soil science, pest diagnosis and control, and plant nutrition. We will also cover how to grow and maintain vegetable and flower gardens, fruit plantings, lawns, and woody plants. Cost of the Master Gardener volunteer class is \$125 per person. A limited number of scholarships are available for people who live in or work with low-income neighborhoods.

Master Gardener classes will also be held through the Gibson County office on Tuesday afternoons, 1 to 4 pm, starting September 13; contact Hans Schmitz at (812) 385-3491 for more information. Warrick County will be holding their Master Gardener training on Monday mornings, 9 am to noon, starting September 12; contact Amanda Mosiman at 812-897-6101.

The following programs will be led by me, in conjunction with the Evansville-Vanderburgh Public Libraries. All of these are open to the public, and there is no charge to attend!

- Effect of Dry Weather on Garden Plants: Saturday, August 20, 10 am; at Central Library, 200 SE Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Evansville.
- Starting a Fall Vegetable Garden: Thursday, August 25, 6 pm; Red Bank Library, 120 S. Red Bank Road, Evansville. We'll cover some basic gardening tips, and concentrate on how to bring in a crop before winter.
- Starting a Fall Vegetable Garden: Saturday, August 27, 10 am; McCollough Library, 5115 Washington Avenue, Evansville. Same as above.
- Pest Proofing Your Home for Fall: Saturday, September 10, 10 am; Red Bank Library. Learn how to keep mice, crickets, ladybugs and other creepy-crawlies out of your home.
- Fall Lawn Care: Saturday, September 17, 10 am; Oaklyn Library, 3001 Oaklyn Drive, Evansville. The most important jobs of the year for cool-season grasses

should be completed in the fall. Learn how to spruce up your yard after this summer's wacky weather.

One last program is being sponsored by the Southwestern Indian Master Gardener Association: the Ohio Valley Garden Conference. This full-day program will be held on Saturday, October 15, at the Tropicana Conference Center, 421 NW Riverside Drive, Evansville. Registration, breakfast, and vendor rooms open at 7 am, with the first programs starting at 8:30 and running through 4:30. Our keynote speaker will be Peter J. Hatch, Director of Gardens and Grounds at the Thomas Jefferson Foundation. Cost of the program is \$49 per person. For the full conference brochure and registration information, go to our website at [www.swimga.org](http://www.swimga.org).

For information on any of these programs, including the Master Gardener classes, contact me at the Purdue Extension Service at 812-867-4935.