

Educational Programs and Plant Sale Coming Up

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

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Coming up this next weekend, Purdue Extension, Master Gardeners, and other experts will be teaming up with Colonial Classics Landscape and Nursery to offer three days of free gardening workshops and demonstrations on a wide range of topics. Colonial Classics is located at 3633 Epworth Road in Newburgh, IN.

Each program runs approximately 45 minutes. The schedule for talks is:

Friday, April 28

- 11:00 am: "Container Gardening with Succulents" (Colonial Staff)
- 1:00 pm: "Perennial Color Throughout the Year" (Matt Heiss, Monrovia)
- 2:00 pm: "Hydrangeas" (Matt Heiss, Monrovia)

Saturday, April 29

- 10:00 am: "Container Gardening with Succulents" (Colonial Staff)
- 12:00 pm: "Natural Habitats" (John Scott Foster, Wesselman Nature Society)
- 2:00 pm: "Birds In The Yard" (Sharon Sorenson, Author)
- 3:00 pm: "The Hive and the Honey Bee" (Carla Lemar, Master Gardener and Master Naturalist)

Sunday, April 30

- 1:00 pm: "Right Tree, Right Place" Larry Caplan, Purdue Extension Educator
- 2:00 pm: "Outdoor Entertaining Enhancements" (JT McCarty, President, Colonial Classics)

Also coming up in the near future are some more great Master Gardener events!

Master Gardener Plant Sale

Nearly 15,000 plants will be for sale at the Vanderburgh 4-H Center on Saturday, May 6 during the "Dig...Plant...Grow!" Plant Sale sponsored by the Southwestern Indiana Master Gardener Association, Inc. (SWIMGA) and Tucker Publishing Group.

Perennial and annual flowers for sun and shade gardens as well as succulents, water plants, vegetables, herbs, house plants, and beautiful Mother's Day gifts will be

available from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Central time. Master Gardeners will be on hand throughout the day to answer gardening questions, including Ernie Hicks, who will be answering questions about backyard gardening, growing tomatoes, and the use of raised garden beds. The Vanderburgh 4-H Center is located at 201 E. Boonville-New Harmony Road north of Evansville.

This plant sale provides the financial resources needed by SWIMGA to maintain nearly 20 public gardens in Vanderburgh, Warrick and Posey counties including the 1.2-acre Master Gardener Display Garden in Evansville. In addition to managing the exquisite floral gardens, 10,000 pounds of vegetables are harvested by the Master Gardeners and donated to the Tri-State Food Bank each year.

Master Gardener Display Garden Open House

The Master Gardener Display Garden in Evansville is the place to be Saturday, May 13, for free demonstrations by Master Gardeners. The 1.2 acre Display Garden is located south of Lloyd Expressway between Stockwell Road and Vann Avenue, next to the Eykamp Scout Center on the northern edge of the Old State Hospital grounds.

Master Gardener Jane Rexing will present the Art of Making Hypertufa Plant Pots at 9:00 am Central time. At 10:00 a.m., Master Gardener Debbie Goedde will discuss Growing and Decorating Gourds. Throughout the morning, other Master Gardeners will be working in the Display Garden and answering questions about growing flowers and vegetables.

Master Gardener “Tour de Fleur” Garden Walk:

The 2017 “Tour de Fleur” Garden Walk will be held on Saturday, June 24 and Sunday, June 25. Fourteen private gardens in Vanderburgh and Warrick counties, as well as the always interesting Master Gardener Display Garden, will be adorned in their summer finery and ready for appreciative visitors. More information, including where to purchase tickets, will be provided in this column shortly, or visit the Master Gardener website at www.swimga.org .