

Gardener's Toolbox 2009

The popularity of our Toolbox classes and workshops continues to increase and surveys call out for more programs on a variety of topics. We have expanded the range of topics and dramatically increased the number of sessions offered. You will find more interactive, hands-on workshops as well. We have also alternated between Tuesday and Thursday nights to try to avoid scheduling conflicts for folks. Sign up early as most workshops have limited slots.

Sign up for 6 or more sessions and we will deduct 20% off your registration!

PRE-REGISTRATION is required due to the purchase of supplies.

Tuesday, March 17- *Extending the Growing Season*-Learn methods for getting an earlier start on the gardening season. The same techniques will work at the end of season as well. We will discuss cold frames in detail, as well as other devices that can lengthen the productive season of your vegetable plot. Other methods will include high tunnel, cloches, floating row covers etc. Our discussion will also include crops best suited to these methods. Cost \$10.00 Fayette County Extension Office 6:30 pm



Tuesday, March 24- *Growing Backyard Blueberries*-Gardeners are increasingly interested in producing fruit with lower chemical inputs. Blueberries are ideally suited to this approach. We will cover the basics of blueberry production for the small garden. We will provide a list of varieties for our climate and each participant will take home two blueberry plants for their garden. There will be opportunity to purchase additional plants. Cost \$20.00 Fayette County Extension Office 6:30 pm **Limited to 50.**

Class is Full

Thursday, April 9- *Backyard Rain Gardens*-Onsite water management is very important in protecting our water quality. Many cities already assess fees based on water management practices. Rain gardens are simple, attractive gardens that retain and filter runoff. Learn the basics of construction and installation of these gardens as well as the native plants suited to these environments. Cost \$10.00 Fayette County Extension Office 6:30 pm

Tuesday, April 21- *Growing Heirloom Tomatoes*- Most people agree that heirloom tomatoes offer unique culinary features and flavors but they can be downright challenging to grow. We will discuss some of the challenges and ways to avoid some problems. Participants will take home heirloom and hybrid plants to use in their own trials. Decide for yourself if all the hype is substantiated. Cost \$10.00 Fayette County Extension Office 6:30 pm



Thursday, May 7- *The Basics of Vegetable Gardening*- There are many great reasons to grow some of your own food. We will teach the very basic concepts of growing vegetables with an emphasis on organic and sustainable methods. It is far easier than you might think. Participants will receive a reference to take home and seeds of easy starter vegetables for their own garden. Cost \$10.00

Held at the Arboretum Demonstration Vegetable Garden 6:30 pm

Tuesday, May 19 - Succulent Gardens- Plants that need little water and care are very popular at the moment and rightly so. Discover what a diverse group of plants succulents comprise and how ridiculously easy many are to grow. Participants will plant a grouping of succulents in a container they bring from home (10-14" diameter) for their own garden. These planters generate a tremendous amount of interest in the garden, be prepared for the oohs and aahs from visitors. Cost \$25.00 at the Fayette County Extension Office 6:30 pm **Limited to 40.**



Tuesday, May 26- Invasive Plants Tour and Workshop- Non-native, invasive plants pose one of the biggest challenges for our native ecosystem and can be a royal pain for gardeners and property owners. Tour the Arboretum Woods with the Master Gardener invasive plants group and learn to identify our biggest problems, learn about control measures and ornamental alternatives to common landscape species that pose threats. If you struggle with bush honeysuckle, winter creeper, ivy or other problem plants this is a must. Cost \$10.00

The Arboretum Woods (meet at visitor center) 6:30 pm

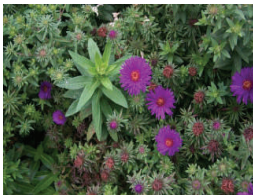
Thursday, June 11- Small Scale Water Gardens- You don't have to excavate the backyard to enjoy a bit of relaxing water gardening. We will demonstrate how to construct a patio water garden in a large container. You can enjoy smaller water plants and even fish on a smaller budget. One lucky participant will take home the garden we create in this class. Cost \$10.00 Fayette County Extension Office 6:30 pm

Tuesday, June 23- Herb Growing Basics- Tour the demonstration Herb Garden at the Arboretum and learn the basic principles of growing this fascinating and flavorful group of plants. We will discuss growing conditions, container gardens, harvesting and some limited culinary tips. We will provide information to take home and each person will receive a plant for their garden. Cost \$10.00 6:30 pm. Class will be held at the



Arboretum on Alumni Drive.

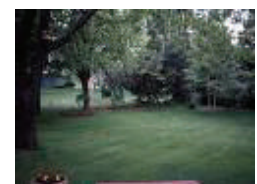
Thursday, July 9- Planting the Fall Vegetable Garden-Many people enthusiastically plant in the spring but miss the opportunity to maximize their harvest with succession planting. We will cover which crops are best suited to fall production and the pitfalls of summer planting. Many crops actually perform better as a fall crop than in spring. We will provide copies of Home Vegetable Gardening in Kentucky to take home and distribute seeds of appropriate crops to try. Cost \$10.00 6:30 pm. Held at the Demonstration Vegetable Garden at the Arboretum on Alumni Drive.



Tuesday, July 28- Dividing Perennials- This is a hands-on workshop and plant swap that has been a huge hit in the past. Each participant will be required to bring in a clump of perennials that needs dividing. You will learn how to properly divide and replant, then swap pieces of your plant with other class members. We will cover which tools are best for this procedure and teach different methods. **Class limited to 25.** Cost \$10.00 Fayette County Extension Office 6:30 pm.

Thursday, July 30- Preserving the Bounty- Most of us are a generation or two removed from growing our own food supply. Many of us know how to grow vegetables but fall short in our knowledge of preserving these items for winter consumption. We will offer a crash course in the basics of freezing, canning and drying foods. We will provide reference information and cover which method works best for which type of produce. Pick up some easy recipe tips for using that summer surplus. Attendees will receive a copy of the Ball Blue book (great preserving reference book) Cost \$10.00 Fayette County Extension Office 6:30 pm

Thursday, August 6- Lawn Care- We will cover the basics of caring for a lawn with an emphasis on lower input, sustainable methods. Learn why late summer is the best time to renovate and how common fertilization practices are often not the best approach. We will also discuss alternatives to grass monocultures. This is always hugely popular so sign up early. Cost \$10.00 Fayette County Extension Office 6:30 pm



Thursday, September 10- *Extending the Season in the Fall Vegetable Garden* - Learn techniques for keeping your garden productive late into the season. We will cover ways to protect vegetables from the cold, storage techniques, and which crops can actually still produce into early winter. Pick up other tips related to preparing the garden and soil for next season. Cost \$10.00 Fayette County Extension Office 6:30 pm



Tuesday, September 29- *Using Native Plants Effectively in the Landscape* - Not all native plantings need resemble a weed patch. We will cover the advantages of landscaping with natives and how to incorporate them into more traditional landscapes effectively. We will cover a short list of “must have” species and varieties. Participants will take home a plant for their own garden. Cost \$10.00 Fayette County Extension Office 6:30 pm

Tuesday, October 20- *Shitake Mushroom Log Workshop*-Growing your own mushrooms is both exciting and tasty. We will learn about these fascinating fungi and then drill and spawn logs for participants to take home and care for. With proper care these logs will begin to produce mushrooms in 8-12 months. We will provide everything you need to prepare two logs. This can get somewhat messy, please dress accordingly. Cost \$30.00 Fayette County Extension Office 6:30 pm



Tuesday, November 10- *Landscape Plants for Winter Interest*-Winter landscapes do not have to be bleak or boring. We will feature a variety of plants that have beautiful winter features, including bark, fruit, foliage, even flowers. If you would like a little more beauty outside your window in the bleak months this is a session for you. We will offer several specimens as door prizes. Cost \$10.00 Fayette County Extension Office 6:30 pm

Thursday, December 3- *Holiday Decorating from the Home Landscape*. You can create beautiful holiday wreaths, garlands, swags and centerpieces using materials from your own yard. We will demonstrate several items and everyone will prepare a door swag to take home with fresh greens from common plants. We will share many tips and tricks along the way. Cost \$20.00 Fayette County Extension Office 6:30 pm **Limited to 30.**

NOTE: Classes at the Arboretum will meet in front of the Visitor’s Center

Take advantage of our discount price **per person** by registering for **SIX** classes for **20% Discount**

PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED, NO REGISTRATIONS WILL BE TAKEN AT THE DOOR

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Extending Season-\$10 _____	Rain Garden-\$10 _____	Heirloom Tomatoes-\$10 _____
Vegetable Garden-\$10 _____	Succulent Garden-\$25 _____	Invasive Plants-\$10 _____
Water Garden-\$10 _____	Herb Growing-\$10 _____	Fall Veggie Garden-\$10 _____
Perennials-\$10 _____	Preserve Bounty-\$10 _____	Lawn Care-\$10 _____
Ext. Fall Garden-\$10 _____	Native Plants-\$10 _____	Mushrooms-\$30 _____
Winter Landscape-\$10 _____	Holiday Décor.-\$20 _____	

Total # _____ (Six Class or more: 20% discount) Total Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Please make check payable to Fayette County Master Gardener Association and mail:

**Gardeners Toolbox
Fayette County Extension Center
1140 Red Mile Place
Lexington, KY 40504-1172**