

Root Concerns

Notes from the underground

Join Us For Spring Garden Day, Saturday, March 15!

Spring Garden Day

Come
"Bee"
With
Us!

Bee Friendly Backyards: Supporting Pollinators with Beautiful Landscapes

Saturday,
March 15
2025
9:45 am to
3:30 pm
Tamarac/
Brunswick
High School
Troy, NY

Snow date: Sunday, March 16

Your landscape can be an attractive flowering oasis that offers habitat for insects and birds. Whether you manage a small garden or a whole landscape, learn how your plant choices and management methods can create a delightful, pollinator haven. Keynote Speaker Jen Lerner will also speak about the efforts Master Gardener Volunteers have made to advance a local Pollinator Pathway effort and engage community partners to create bee-friendly landscapes.



Jen Lerner is a Senior Resource Educator with Cornell Cooperative Extension in Putnam County. A Cornell graduate, Jen spent her early career designing and building landscapes in Westchester and Dutchess Counties in NY. She has been with Extension for 20 years as an educator. Her areas of focus include creating pollinator habitat in managed landscapes, log-grown Shiitake culture, and serving commercial and residential horticulture audiences.

CELEBRATE GARDENING!

- Choose classes from 10 different gardening subjects
- Delicious lunch provided by the Rensselaer County Master Gardeners
- Check out the merchandise at the Tool Sale and Plant Sale
- Pick-A-Prize Auction, with something for everyone
- Fabulous door prizes!

-For more information see our website at rennselaer.cce.cornell.edu or phone (518) 272-4210

Spring starts Saturday, March 15 with "Spring Garden Day," a program of gardening classes and fun for gardeners, held at Tamarac High School in Brunswick. Attendees can choose from ten classes covering shade gardening, tree care, gardening with deer, invasive species, growing herbs, raised beds, orchids, big trees, Asian-style gardens, native perennials and more. CCE Educator Jennifer Lerner will show us how to have an attractive flowering oasis for insects and birds in her keynote presentation, "Bee Friendly Backyards: Supporting Pollinators with Beautiful Landscapes." A plant sale, new tool sale, Pick-A-Prize Auction, and fabulous door prizes are other highlights. Participants also receive a delicious homemade lunch featuring soups, sandwiches and desserts.



Cornell University
Cooperative Extension
Rensselaer County



Welcome To Spring Garden Day 2025

Full Day Registration: The fee of \$40.00 entitles each participant to choose up to three classes for the day; to participate in the free lunch and door prize drawing; and to hear the keynote speaker. Register by examining the attached class schedule. Indicate your first, second, and third choice of classes on the form for each of the four class periods. Make sure to choose a lunch period, or another class if you do not want lunch. Your class assignments will be available at the registration table on March 15. **You will not receive registration confirmation by phone or mail, but you can call us at (518) 272-4210 to make sure we received your registration.** The enclosed schedule is final, but last minute changes may be necessary. Although we try to give people their first choice, class sizes are limited, and regretfully, we may have to place you in another class. Registration will be open until classes are full. Registrations are taken on a first come, first served basis. Refunds must be requested on or before March 7. After that date, no refunds will be made.

Time: Registration starts at 9:45 AM. The first sessions start at 10:30 AM. *Please do not arrive before 9:45 AM in order to allow us time to set up.* Your cooperation is appreciated!



Lunch: A delicious lunch consisting of home-made soups, sandwiches, desserts and beverages will be provided for all full day participants, courtesy of the Master Gardeners. Vegetarian items will also be available.

In case of snow or inclement weather: The program may be postponed to Sunday, March 16 in the event of significant snowfall or inclement weather. You will be contacted at the email address and/or phone numbers you provide on the registration form. You can also check our website at rennselaer.cce.cornell.edu for announcements. No refunds will be given if the

program is moved from March 15 to March 16.

Directions to Tamarac/Brunswick/Brittonkill High School:

From the west (Albany, Schenectady, Troy): Take Route 7 East over the Collar City Bridge. From the east end of the bridge, proceed east on Route 7 (Hoosick Street) approximately 9 miles to a traffic light at Route 278 (past the Harley-Davidson dealer on right). Turn right onto Route 278 east and proceed for approximately 3 miles until Route 278 ends at a traffic light at Route 2. Turn left onto Route 2; the school is immediately on your left.

From the south (West Sand Lake/Route 43 area): Take Route 351 north, through the village of Poestenkill, until you reach Route 2. Turn left (west) onto Route 2. The school will be very shortly on your right.

Pick-A-Prize Auction: We will hold a Pick-A-Prize Auction of garden-related items. Participants can buy tickets (10 for \$5.00) and "bid" on items by placing a ticket or tickets in a paper bag next to the item. Winners will be drawn at the end of the day after the last sessions. You must be present to win. Proceeds will support the Master Gardener Demonstration Garden.

Sales and Drawings: A Plant Sale, A Garden Tool Sale, and Drawings for fabulous prizes are featured. Our Fourth Annual "Tool of the Year" sale will feature the Spear Head Spade "Mini!" This small shovel is 30" tall and weighs only 2 lbs. It is better than a trowel and ideal for large containers and raised beds. We will also be selling medium-sized Spear Head Spades in a rainbow of colors as well as the Deluxe Soil Knives and Skidger Hoes.

Door Prizes: Each participant is given one free door prize ticket. Door prizes will be awarded at the end of the day in the auditorium. **YOU MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN!**

Questions: Call the Horticulture Program at (518) 272-4210. Individuals with questions or special needs requiring accommodation should contact Cornell Cooperative Extension of Rensselaer County at the phone number above. *Cornell Cooperative Extension is an employer and educator recognized for valuing AA/EEO, Protected Veterans, and Individuals with Disabilities and provides equal program and employment opportunities.*



TO REGISTER: Click on the link below to visit our website, where you can print out a registration form to mail to us with your check.

[Click here to go to the Registration Form](#)

If you can't print the registration form, call us at 518.272.4210 or email us at mmp74@cornell.edu (you can also use the link below).

[Click here to email us for a Registration Form](#)

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