

Backyard Fruit Tree Workshop

Tues., May 13, 2008: 6:00-8:30 PM, at the NW Mich. Horticultural Research Station w/Steve Fouch, MSUE-Benzie County Extension Director

Topics to be addressed in the workshop include: variety selection; selection of rootstocks; planting tips; tree nutrition; proper training of young trees and early care; insect and disease control (*conventional and organic*); pruning; and protection from wildlife. The cost of the workshop includes handouts as well as one semi-dwarf honey crisp apple tree. The registration deadline is May 7th. **Cost: \$30 per person. Advanced registration required. Register by 5/09/08.**

Garden Maintenance and Tools

Wed., May 21, 2008: 6:30-8:00 PM, at the NW Mich. Horticultural Research Station w/ Deb Burge & Gabby Thompson, Advanced Master Gardeners

Even if you love to weed we will teach you methods for minimizing weeds without using chemical controls. Learn simple pruning techniques and how to deadhead flowers for repeat bloom. Discussion will include a few simple tools to purchase and some to avoid, record keeping and simple recycled materials to use for making a cold frame, seed starting trays and compost bins. **Cost: \$5 per person. Advanced registration required. Register by 5/19/08.**

"No-Til" Gardening



Tues., May 27, 2008: 6:00-7:30 PM, near Leland w/ Richard Allen, Experienced Gardener

Visit the garden of Richard Allen, who has been working for years to refine his approach to backyard food production – all with minimal disturbance to the soil. "No-Til" gardening means gardening without using traditional methods (e.g rotor-tilling) of turning the soil prior to planting. Learn about a tool called a broadfork that aerates the soil with minimal disturbance to soil structure, resulting in productive, weed-free vegetable gardens. Also covered will be the use of compost, mulch, landscape fabric, and cover crops in developing productive gardens that need minimal weeding and irrigation. Dress to be outdoors. Directions provided upon registration. **Cost: \$5 per person. Advanced registration required. Register by 5/23/08.**

Green Garden 2008 Registration Information

Please register in advance by mailing a completed registration form (included with this brochure, or available online at: www.msue.msu.edu/leelanau).

Please note the separate registration deadlines for each event. In case of low registrations, programs may be cancelled. In case of cancellation, pre-registered individuals will be notified and refunded in full.

Questions?

Contact Pam Schmidt, Home Horticulturalist & Master Gardener Program Coordinator
MSU Extension-Leelanau
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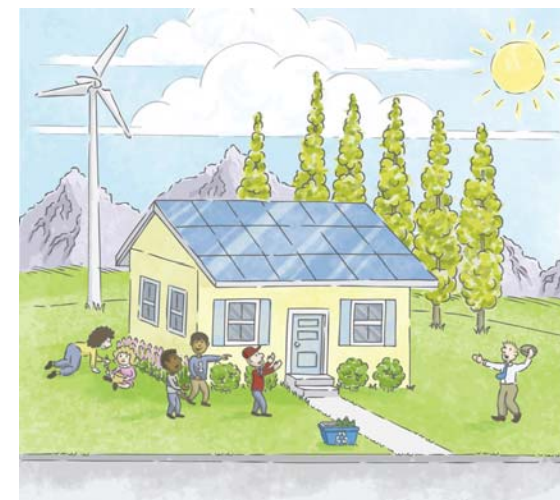
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Website: www.msue.msu.edu/leelanau



Michigan State University Extension programs and materials are open to all without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital status, or family status.

Green Garden 2008 Programs

Register Today!



Choose from among 10 different programs being taught this spring!

All programs emphasize environmentally- friendly, sustainable gardening practices, and are intended for backyard gardeners.

Registration form included with this brochure, or available online at:

www.msue.msu.edu/leelanau



Green Garden 2008 Schedule

Please let us know what other topics you'd like to see offered in the future!

Questions? Call 231/256-9888!

Shoreline Landscaping to Protect Water Quality



Wed., April 9, 2008: 6:30-8:00 PM at the NW Mich. Horticultural Research Station w/Valerie Bartell, Michigan Groundwater Stewardship Program

Participants will learn ways to protect local water resources through proper shoreline landscaping and management. The presentation will focus on establishing and preserving native plant buffers and include information on plant selection, implementation, design, and benefits. Other important issues for shoreline property, such as the use of fertilizers and pesticides, and removing invasive species will also be covered. The class is targeted toward people with waterfront property, but will be useful for all properties, including urban areas where run-off goes directly into storm drains and to the nearest river or lake. Establishing or preserving native plant buffers helps stabilize shorelines, filter run-off, helping to protect our water quality. This type of gardening is also low maintenance. **Cost: \$5 per person. Advanced registration required. Register by 4/7/08.**

Getting Started!

Mon., April 14, 2008: 6:30-8:00 PM At the NW Mich. Horticultural Research Station w/Deb Burge & Gabby Thompson, Advanced Master Gardeners

Learn the basics for starting any type of garden. Before you put any plants in the ground learn how to evaluate and prepare the site, choose the right plants, control pests and critters, compost, read plant labels and keep yourself safe. Plenty of question and answer time provided. **Cost: \$5 per person. Advanced registration required. Register by 4/10/08.**

Home Fruit Production: The Basics of Pruning Fruit Trees and Berries

Wed., April 16, 2008: 6:00-7:30 PM, in Leland w/ Richard Allen, Experienced Gardener

This session will provide an introduction to pruning all types of fruit - including apple, plum, pear, peach, and apricot trees - as well as grapes, and (red, black, and ever-bearing) raspberries. Growing fruit in your backyard is not only rewarding because of the taste of fruit picked at its peak - but is also healthier for the environment. Richard Allen of Leland has been dedicated to growing fruit on a home scale for many years. He will also provide a tour of his "in town" backyard food production area. Dress to be outdoors. Directions provided upon registration. **Cost: \$5 per person. Advanced registration required. Register by 4/14/08.**

Organic & Alternative Vegetable Farming and Gardening Workshop



Fri., April 18, 2008: 8:30 AM-5:00 PM at the NW Mich. Horticultural Research Station w/ Michigan State University faculty members, and Local Organic Farmer Panel

This session will be of use to organic producers, backyard vegetable growers, those considering organic certification, and anyone else interested in growing vegetables. The program will cover: soil management (Dr. Sielinda Snapp); how organic soils work (Dr. George Bird); cover crops for vegetable production (Dr. Vicki Morrone); composting (Dr. Stuart Grandy); organic pest management (Dr. Matt Grieshop); emerging crops for organic production (Dr. Mathieu Nguouajio); the pros and cons of organic certification (Dr. Susan Smalley); and the use of hoop-houses for season extension (Corie Pierce, MSU Student Organic Farm Mgr.). Experienced farmers from four local farms (Sweeter Song, Meadowlark, Maple Grove Organic, and the Ware Farm) will explain their operations and answer first-hand any questions participants may have. Includes lunch. **Cost: \$25 per person. Advanced registration required. Register by 4/10/08.**

Ask a Master Gardener

Mon., April 28, 2008: 6:30-8:00 PM, at the Leelanau Governmental Center, Suttons Bay Township w/Lillian Mahaney, Advanced Master Gardener



This is an opportunity for beginning gardeners to bring in their questions. Lillian Mahaney, an Advanced Master Gardener, will share some of her gardening experiences, including strategies for keeping wildlife out of your garden, and hints for growing roses in our area. Lillian is also a Certified Wildlife Rehabilitator and Junior Master Gardener instructor, and has held seminars at the annual Habitat-for-Humanity Flower & Garden show. **Cost: \$5 per person. Advanced registration required. Register by 4/24/08.**

Container Gardens

Wed., May 7, 2008: 6:30-8:00 PM, at the NW Mich. Horticultural Research Station w/ Deb Burge & Gabby Thompson, Advanced Master Gardeners

Containers make unique gardens for both annual and perennial flowers, vegetables, trees and shrubs. Learn the simple steps for creating a container garden and discuss the particulars for various types of plantings. Water gardening in a container will be covered briefly. Plenty of question and answer time provided. **Cost: \$5 per person. Advanced registration required. Register by 5/02/08.**

Season Extension Methods for Vegetables and Fruit

Sat., May 10, 2008: 9:00-11:00 AM, at Black Star Farms, Suttons Bay with Nic Welty, Farm Manager

Learn several different techniques to both earlier harvest and wintertime gardening. Nic will demonstrate basic use of the passive solar hoop house; low tunnel season extension; using mulch to warm the soil; and discuss the keys to specific crop needs and temperature tolerances. Different colors of plastic mulch will be demonstrated, focusing on their ability to warm the soil and produce earlier crops — as well as some mulches that aid in keeping the soil cool to grow cold season crops later into the summertime. **Cost: \$5 per person. Advanced registration required. Register by 5/08/08.**