

# City of Bloomington Parks and Recreation Department



winter-spring  
2012

# home & garden

People's University  
of Bloomington

For ages 18 yrs.  
and up.

For more information, call 349-3737 or e-mail [PUB@bloomington.in.gov](mailto:PUB@bloomington.in.gov).  
Register online at [www.bloomington.in.gov/parks](http://www.bloomington.in.gov/parks) or in person at the  
Bloomington Parks and Recreation office in City Hall, 401 N. Morton St., Ste. 250.

## Citizen Scientist Certification

Bloomington Parks and Recreation offers a unique opportunity for community members ages 14 yrs. and up: Citizen Scientist certification. For each level of certification, participants must attend two scheduled programs indicating a Citizen Scientist opportunity. These programs can be found in the Great Outdoors and People's University offerings. Candidates must also volunteer at least 10 hours monitoring or maintaining the city's natural areas. For more information or to receive a list of upcoming workshops and Citizen Scientist opportunities, call 349-3759.

## Backyard Maple Syrup

Learn how real maple syrup is made. Enjoy some maple syrup refreshments as we touch briefly on the history of syrup production, discuss tree identification, and learn about tree tapping and the collecting and processing of sap into syrup. We will head outside to demonstrate the techniques discussed. Because the sap run is weather dependent, we'll contact participants to take part in the sap collection and boiling process when it's time. Class fee includes a tap and a bottle of real maple syrup. Rain/snow date is 2/4. We will contact participants if use of the alternate date is necessary. Co-sponsored by Bloomingfoods and the Hinkle-Garton Farmstead. Instructor: Michael Bell

Sa 1/28 • 2-3:30 p.m. • Register by 1/25 (Code 17620-A)  
\$16/in-city, \$18/non-city

Hinkle-Garton Farmstead, 2920 E. 10th St.



## Chiles: A Hot Topic

We'll start with the basics of growing chiles: germinating, transplanting, care, and harvesting. Then we'll cover some of the most often asked questions about chiles and other peppers. Get an early start on gardening with chiles! Co-sponsored by Bloomingfoods. Instructor: Susan Welsand, The Chile Woman

Sa 1/28 • 2-4 p.m. • Register by 1/25 (Code 17621-A)  
\$12/in-city, \$14/non-city

Allison-Jukebox Community Center, 351 S. Washington St.

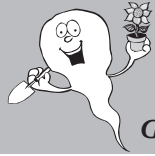


## Raspberry and Blackberry Production for the Home Grower

The course provides the home grower with the knowledge to manage raspberry and blackberry plants for home production. Topics include: cultivar selection, pruning for yield, trellising, planting methods, fertilization schedules, and disease prevention and control. Although brambles grow freely and usually produce a good crop, with a little extra care they grow neatly and consistently produce high yields of quality fruit. Co-sponsored by Bloomingfoods. Instructor: Keith Uridel, M.S. (Botany and Plant Ecology), owner of Hazelbrake Farm

Tu, Th 2/7-2/9 • 6-8 p.m. • Register by 2/2 (Code 17622-A)  
\$16/in-city, \$19/non-city

Hilltop Garden and Nature Center, 2367 E. 10th St.



# G.O.S.T.

Grow Organic Special Topics

Co-sponsored by:



Haunted by problems in your garden? Get some help from a friendly G.O.S.T. (Grow Organic Special Topic). Designed to help you improve your organic gardening skills in specific areas, these classes are open to everyone and require no previous gardening education or experience. Take one or take them all. The haunt is over—get gardening with G.O.S.T.

Instructor: H. Michael Simmons, Advanced Master Gardener

## Vegetable Gardening in Containers

If your soil or site makes gardening in the ground difficult or impossible, containers offer another way to grow vegetables and fruit. The class provides information on appropriate containers for different crops, recipes for growing mediums, and fertilizer recommendations. Container growing is also a great way to save your back, avoid soil-borne diseases, and create specialized growing conditions for challenging crops.

Tu 2/21 • 6:30-8:30 p.m. • Register by 2/16 (Code 17623-A)  
\$12/in-city, \$14/non-city

City Hall, 401 N. Morton St., Kelly Conference Room, #155

## Homemade Organic Remedies for Garden Problems

If you're tired of spending money on expensive organic formulations to rid your garden of insect pests, plant diseases, and nutrient deficiencies, this is the class for you. Learn how to make inexpensive organic formulations at home that enable you to safely and successfully correct problems in the garden. Recipes provided.

Sa 3/24 • 2-4 p.m. • Register by 3/21 (Code 17630-A)  
\$14/in-city, \$16/non-city

Hinkle-Garton Farmstead Historic Site, 2920 E. 10th St.

## Garden Planning 101

It's time to start planning your 2012 garden! We'll discuss soil preparation techniques, creating a planting calendar for successive harvests, and planning ideas for your best garden yet. For the new to semi-experienced gardener. Free childcare available for children ages 8-12 yrs. Instructor: Stephanie Solomon, Grow Organic Educator, Garden Coordinator, Mother Hubbard's Cupboard

Th 2/23 • 6-7:30 p.m. • Register by 2/20 (Code 17624-A)  
\$7/in-city, \$8/non-city

Banneker Community Center,  
930 W. Seventh St., Kitchen



## Polyculture Paradise: A Brief Introduction to Forest Gardens

Whether you currently live in a forest or just enjoy learning about new ways to garden, this class provides the information you need to construct one of the most productive landscapes ever known: a forest garden. The class covers the structure of a forest and how to replicate that structure in your landscape, including discussions of light, water, buildings, and harvesting. Co-sponsored by Bloomingfoods. Instructor: Rhonda Baird, Permaculture Designer and Teacher

Tu 2/28 • 6-7:30 p.m. • Register by 2/23 (Code 17626-A)  
\$10/in-city, \$12/non-city

Hilltop Garden and Nature Center, 2367 E. 10th St.



## Bloomington Community Orchard Classes



Instructors: A team of orchard educators, all certified in the organic management of orchards (COMO)

Co-sponsored by Bloomingfoods and the Bloomington Community Orchard.

**Saturdays • 2–4 p.m. • \$7/in-city, \$8/non-city—Price is per class.**  
**Bloomington Community Orchard, South Highland, opposite YMCA**

### Dormant Pruning Workshop

The workshop includes the discussion and demonstration of dormant pruning techniques and the opportunity to practice on trees in the Bloomington Community Orchard. Bring hand pruners, if you have them. Tools are provided for those who need them. Rain/snow date is 3/3; participants will be contacted if use of rain date is necessary.

**2/25 • Register by 2/22 (Code 17625-A)**

### Early Season Care of Fruit Trees

Early season care of fruit trees is essential for a productive growing season. Learn how to inspect for and remedy winter damage, how to apply dormant oil spray, how to apply organic fertilizers and compost, and how to mulch trees correctly. Rain date is 3/10; participants will be contacted if use of rain date is necessary.

**3/3 • Register by 2/29 (Code 17627-A)**

### Propagating the Orchard

Learn how to multiply your trees, shrubs, and other plants through a variety of propagation techniques, including taking cuttings, layering, and division. Propagation is a great way to increase the quantity of your favorite plants without spending a lot of money. Rain date is 4/21; participants will be contacted if use of rain date is necessary.

**4/14 • Register by 4/11 (Code 17632-A)**

### Enhancing Pollination with Solitary Bees

Solitary bees are great pollinators, which are becoming even more crucial to good fruit production given the decline in numbers of honeybees. The class includes tips on encouraging pollination by solitary bees and instruction in the building of shelters for these important insect friends. Rain date is 4/28; participants will be contacted if use of rain date is necessary.

**4/21 • Register by 4/18 (Code 17634-A)**

### Trellising Brambles

Learn how to get your blackberries and raspberries trellised and orderly so they'll get the light and air circulation they need while looking great in the garden. The class includes the construction of a T-bar trellis, an especially efficient system for trellising brambles. Rain date is 5/12; participants will be contacted if use of rain date is necessary.

**5/5 • Register by 5/2 (Code 17636-A)**



## Edible Landscaping to Suit Your Palate

Imagine fresh vegetables, juicy berries, and luscious tree fruits growing harmoniously in an aesthetically pleasing landscape around your home. This workshop will help you transform your home landscape into a beautiful oasis of abundant food-producing plants. Co-sponsored by Bloomingfoods.

Instructor: Rhonda Baird, Permaculture Designer and Teacher

**Tu 3/20–3/27 • 6–7:30 p.m. • Register by 3/15 (Code 17628-A)**

**\$13/in-city, \$15/non-city**

**Hilltop Garden and Nature Center, 2367 E. 10th St.**



### Master Composter Class



Learn how to be an expert composter and how to share your expertise with others. The class is based on the Cornell Waste Management Institute's Master Composter curriculum with additional content added. Students may take the class for their own enrichment or, with the completion of a final presentation and 20 hours of volunteer educational outreach, be certified as Master Composters.

A reference notebook is included in the registration fee. Optional field trips and hands-on activities will be scheduled on some Saturdays during the class. Co-sponsored by Bloomingfoods, Bloomington Food Policy Council, Center for Sustainable Living, and The District ... Where Green Living Begins. Instructors: H. Michael Simmons, Advanced Master Gardener and Master Composter, with a team of compost educators

**Th 3/22–4/26 • 6:30–8:30 p.m. • Register by 3/19 (Code 17629-A)**

**\$50/in-city, \$55/non-city**

**Hilltop Garden and Nature Center, 2367 E. 10th St.**



### Water: Harvesting and Storing It



The class examines the many ways we use water and how to harvest and store it safely and economically. It focuses on practical applications for the home and garden. Co-sponsored by Bloomingfoods. Instructor: Rhonda Baird, Permaculture Designer and Teacher

**Tu 4/3–4/10 • 6:30–8 p.m. • Register by 3/29 (Code 17631-A)**

**\$13/in-city, \$15/non-city**

**Hilltop Garden and Nature Center, 2367 E. 10th St.**



### Cats, Dogs, and Ducks, Oh MY!

Can we all live together happily? The class explores the role of companion animals in a sustainable lifestyle and the role of animals in a sustainable or regenerative landscape. Co-sponsored by Bloomingfoods. Instructor: Rhonda Baird, Permaculture Designer and Teacher

**Tu 4/17 • 6:30–7:30 p.m. • Register by 4/12 (Code 17633-A)**

**\$7/in-city, \$8/non-city**

**Hilltop Garden and Nature Center, 2367 E. 10th St.**



### Neighbors and Neighborhoods as Villages

How connected are you with your neighbors? The class explores how to build relationships with your neighbors by imagining your neighborhood as a village. It provides tips and tools for connecting with those who live around you through exchanges, city repair, celebrations, and design. Co-sponsored by Bloomingfoods. Instructor: Rhonda Baird, Permaculture Designer and Teacher

**Tu 4/24 • 6:30–8:30 p.m. • Register by 4/19 (Code 17635-A)**

**\$10/in-city, \$12/non-city**

**Hilltop Garden and Nature Center, 2367 E. 10th St.**

