



Thomas Jefferson Foundation/Skip Johns

Winter Symposium and CVNLA Short Course
Everything Old is New Again

**Presented by Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden,
Central Virginia Nursery and Landscape Association, and
Virginia Cooperative Extension**

February 3 – 5, 2010
Massey Conference Center
Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden

In many ways the old adage is true that “the more things change, the more they remain the same.” Think of the horticultural practices today that resemble those of our grandparents. There’s a reason the “old ways” are back in vogue—rain barrels, home vegetable gardens, and edible landscaping are tried and true examples of man’s resourceful and respectful use of nature’s bounty. This symposium looks at innovations in horticulture and landscape design that are deeply rooted in the past and creatively adapted for the present and future emphasis on sustainability.

The event offers green business owners and their staffs, landscape architects and designers, master gardeners, and seasoned home gardeners opportunities to earn continuing education hours, update pesticide certification (Friday) for categories 3A, 3B, 8, 10, 60 and 91, visit industry exhibits, and network with colleagues.

Agenda
Wednesday, February 3

8:00 am Registration

8:45 Welcome and Introductions

9:00 ***Great Gaud! Lessons from Grandmother's Garden***
Carol Reese, Ornamental Horticulture Specialist
University of Tennessee Extension Service

Carol Reese is passionate about expanding our understanding of how wildly diverse a plant palette can be and the great impact plants achieve when used innovatively in the landscape. She's especially exuberant about the brazen beauties of days gone by—the cannas, the coleus, polygonums and amaranthus, for instance—which are currently in vogue and actually harken back to the Victorian era. Her presentation introduces us to plants from days gone by, their sometimes strange and amazing stories and origins, and how they have been revived today in bold and exotic contemporary varieties.

10:00 Break

10:15 ***The Legacy of Thomas Jefferson's Revolutionary Garden***
Peter J. Hatch, Director of Gardens and Grounds
Monticello

Thomas Jefferson's Monticello garden was a Revolutionary American garden. One wonders if anyone else had ever before assembled such a collection of vegetable novelties, culled from virtually every western culture known at the time, then disseminated by Jefferson with the persistence of a religious reformer, a seedy evangelist. Jefferson himself set an unprecedented example in the way he supported local market gardens, believed in the regenerative powers of soil amendments, and promoted a gourmet vegetable cuisine at both Monticello and the President's House in Washington. The Jefferson legacy in gardening and food is not a mere historical curiosity, but a compelling force in the movement toward a more sustainable agricultural future.

11:15-12:30 Lunch, Exhibits, Book Signing

12:30 pm ***Landscapes Give Back***
Ray Mims, Conservation and Sustainability Manager
U. S. Botanic Garden

Conventional built landscapes too often damage the environment's ability to provide the essential benefits that support the planet's health and human well-being. But the regenerative potential of landscapes lead to the founding of the **Sustainable Sites Initiative**, a national set of performance benchmarks for the sustainable design, construction, and maintenance of landscapes. Using these guidelines a subdivision, a shopping mall, or even one home garden have the potential to clean air and water, reduce flooding, cool urban air temperature, and combat climate change.

As these *Guidelines and Performance Benchmarks*, released on November 5, 2009, become more widely accepted practices, they will transform the way built landscapes are designed and constructed creating landscapes that nourish and give back. Ray Mims of the USBG has worked on the initiative for four years as the USBG Staff representative and a member of the Steering and Vegetation Committees.

The Sustainable Sites Initiative (www.sustainablesites.org) is an interdisciplinary partnership of the American Society of Landscape Architects, the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, and the United States Botanic Garden in conjunction with a diverse group of stakeholder organizations, including the U. S. Green Building Council.

1:30 ***From the Ground Up: Timeless Sustainable Beauty***
Lisa E. Delplace, ASLA, Principal/CEO
Oehme, van Sweden and Associates, Inc.

It is difficult to open a newspaper or magazine and not see a reference to sustainability or the green movement. Yet, as we examine the current recommended sustainable practices it is easy to see their genesis in our early agrarian society. Ms. Delplace will explore her firm's practice of working from the ground up to create gardens that conserve natural resources while maximizing human connection to the environment.

2:30-2:45 Afternoon Break

2:45 ***Making the Old New Again***
Carol Reese

In the same way that we occasionally renovate and update our homes, our gardens, too, deserve to be refreshed, redecorated, and re-invented. By moving the "furniture" around (relocating some snazzy specimen plants) and adding some decorative flourishes with artistic, found objects that have been inventively "repurposed," garden rooms can look quite new again. Carol Reese closes the first day of the symposium with inspiring examples of fabulous garden details made from older treasures, with fun, affordable, and often very elegant results. Learn how to "plant" found objects in the landscape for dramatic, stunning effect and how to help clients creatively and economically rework or renovate their landscapes without breaking the bank.

4:00 Adjourn

Agenda

Thursday, February 4

8:00 am Registration

8:45 Welcome and Introductions

9:00 ***How an Old Nursery Grew a New Community***
Michael Van Ness, Executive Director, Lynchburg Grows

Here's the story of the restoration of a 6.5-acre urban farm with approximately two acres of historic glass greenhouses situated in the heart of the city of Lynchburg, Virginia. Lynchburg Grows was formed in 2003 as a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation to help mentally and physically disabled persons and youth enjoy the healthy benefits of gardening, encourage entrepreneurial self reliance, and promote environmental stewardship. As a highly visible agricultural parcel in a dense urban environment, the urban farm plays a unique role in the community, providing its neighbors with food, educational and cultural events, open space and a connection to the land. Through growing vegetables on the farm and purchasing produce from local farmers, Lynchburg Grows is creating a community food center which will provide fresh, locally grown vegetables to the citizens of Region 2000 and beyond.

10:00 ***History of Some of the Best Edible Landscaping Plants***
Michael McConkey, Edible Landscaping

Be prepared to be entertained with edible plant samples and song. McConkey shares his insights about the attributes of edible plants and their role in providing beauty, form and nutrition in our landscapes. Most plants at Edible Landscaping have a long, storied history and are once again enjoying recognition as plants that “earn their keep.”

11:00 Break

11:15 ***Heirloom Seeds – Sow, Savor, Save***
Ira Wallace, Southern Exposure Seed Exchange

The popularity of heirlooms has increased enormously over the last decade as people have gotten used to these oddly shaped and colored tomatoes and other vegetables. Learn why more and more farmers and gardeners are planting heirlooms every year. See the beauty and diversity in color, shape, and size available in heirloom varieties. Discover unique varieties that preserve history, and learn how to save their seeds and help to preserve biodiversity in our gardens. The presentation provides an overview of home garden seed saving and includes a handout on wet and dry seed saving as well as information about Southern Exposure Seed Exchange, the Seed Savers Exchange, and the movement to preserve the genetic diversity represented in heirlooms. Whether it's the vivid flavor, unusual names or the storied history that entices you, these tasty vegetables might just become a favorite family heirloom at your dinner table.

12:15 pm Lunch and Exhibits

1:00 ***A Queenly Craft with Ecological Significance***
Keith Tignor, Apiarist, Commonwealth of Virginia

Not all settlers who helped establish the Jamestown colony in the early 1600s contributed the same kind of effort. In 1622, a group arrived whose contributions were sweet, golden honey and significant assistance for the colony's struggling farmers. When Europeans brought honey bees to Jamestown, the insects helped streamline the pollination process, thus improving the quality and quantity of the crops. Four hundred years later, the bees are still hard at work, providing the same service for at least 80 insect-dependent crops in Virginia. This session reviews the history and importance of honey bees in Virginia and provides an update on the state's progress on four major mandates: developing an integrated pest management program for Virginia's honey bees; supporting a multi-regional queen production program; assessing the risk and monitoring the occurrence of Africanized honey bees, as well as educating the public about the importance of honey bees; and promoting crop pollination.

2:00 Break

2:15 ***Farmscaping for Biological Insect Control***
Andy Hankins, Virginia Cooperative Extension

Farmscaping is the deliberate use of specific plants and landscaping techniques to attract and conserve beneficial insects. Beneficial insects like parasitic wasps, ladybugs, syrphid flies, big eyed bugs and lacewings can truly control populations of insects that feed on vegetable crops. To maintain a good population of beneficials, the gardener must provide a habitat which provides food and shelter for them. Andy Hankins will talk about the

plants and insect associations which can eliminate the need for pesticide sprays in vegetable gardens.

3:15 ***Tried & True & Now New: Innovative Ways to Use Classic Herbs***
Nicole Schermerhorn, A Thyme to Plant at Lavender Fields Herb Farm

Herbs have played a major role in the lives of people from Biblical times to the current day. This session looks at the role of popular herbs throughout history with an emphasis on how herbs were used in the American Revolutionary War and World War II. We then will examine how we use those same herbs today in medicine, in fragrance and cosmetics, in health and healing, in cooking, as companion plants and landscaping with herbs in the garden.

4:15 Adjourn

Agenda
Friday, February 5
Pesticide Applicator Recertification Day

Attend all sessions and qualify for a 2-year certification credit in these categories:

3A/Ornamentals

3B/Turf

8/Public Health

10/Research and Demonstration

60/Registered Technician

91/Private Ornamental Production

8:00 am Registration

8:45 Welcome and Introductions

9:00 ***Legal Aspects of Pesticide Use***
David Townsend, Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

This presentation deals with the legal issues involved in the use of pesticides. Topics to be discussed include types of certification and associated fees; how to keep certification current; purchase and use of restricted-use pesticides; record keeping; and the penalties for law violations. Recent changes in turf and ornamental product registrations and/or labeling will be included.

9:30 ***Ornamental Insect and Disease Update***
Mike Likins, Chesterfield County Extension Office

This session focuses on the currently prominent ornamental disease and insect topics and those that are projected to be of concern in the near future. Emphasis will be placed on latest incidences of Rose Rosette Disease in the metro Richmond area. Effective, integrated management options will be highlighted.

10:30 Break

- 10:45 ***Persistent Herbicides in Compost***
Dr. Greg Evanylo, Crop & Soil Environmental Sciences, Virginia Tech
- Amending turf and landscape soils with compost is generally considered a good practice, and grass clippings and animal manures are two items that are often composted. However, knowing something about the herbicides applied to the grass the clippings came from or the hay that the animals ate can impact your choice of using the compost. This presentation will discuss the issue of herbicide carryover and offer guidelines for the use of the pyridine carboxylic acid herbicides and precautions to take when using compost that may contain their residues.
- 11:30 ***Calibration for Landscape Applications***
Scott Reiter, Prince George Extension Office
- The importance of calibration will be discussed and specific emphasis will be given to equipment generally used for turf and ornamental applications. The factors that influence drift potential and techniques to minimize drift will be included as well.
- Noon Lunch
- 1:00 p.m. ***Managing Insect Vectors in the Green Industry***
Randy Buchanan, Henrico County Department of Public Works
- Henrico County has adopted a comprehensive Standing Water Initiative in an effort to decrease mosquito breeding sites within the county and minimize the risk of mosquito related diseases among its citizens. Mr. Buchanan will discuss this initiative and the basics of mosquito biology and management. He will also highlight other diseases of current concern that rely on insect vectors and the importance of community-wide approaches in managing their populations.
- 2:00 ***Safe Pesticide Storage***
Lisa Sanderson and Karen Carter, Henrico County Extension Office
- A model of a pesticide storage shed will be on display during the day and used to stimulate discussion of good and bad pesticide storage practices. The game "Pesticide Squares" (modeled after the game show "Hollywood Squares") will provide a summary of what participants should have observed with the model and emphasize critical, carry-home points.
- 2:30 Break
- 2:45 ***Turf and Ornamental Products Update***
Fred Thrasher, The Turf Store
- Discussion of the latest "line-up" of turf and ornamental pest management products, with an emphasis on those that present less risk to the applicator, the public, and the environment. Personal protective equipment required for specific products will be reviewed.
- 3:45 Paperwork
- 4:00 Adjourn