

FREE Public Education Programs

March 2017

Spring Lawn Care, You Can Do It!**Saturday, March 4, 10am–11:30am or Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford St., Arlington, 22206****Tuesday, March 7, 7pm–8:30pm Westover Library, 1644 N McKinley Rd #3, Arlington 22205**

Note: Class is offered twice.

Have the healthiest lawn in your neighborhood! Learn what you can do now to improve and maintain your lawn. We will discuss the best types of grasses for our area, specific springtime turf management practices, nutrient management and soil testing, and basic pest and disease management.

Sustainable Landscaping 2: Soil Health and Water Conservation**Saturday, March 11, 9am–noon Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford St., Arlington, 22206**Advance registration required as space is limited, at mgnv.org.

We will delve into soil structure, the geology of our area, how to create great compost, and preventing soil erosion and compaction. Learn about easy and natural water conservation techniques such as rain gardens, dry beds or bioswales, rain barrels, and the best plants for wet and dry areas.

Pruning: How and Why**Wednesday, March 15
10am–noon or 1pm–3pm****Class meets outside, in front of 3205 White Street, Falls Church 22041**

Due to limit of 15 attendees for each session, advance registration required at mgnv.org.
Note: Class is offered twice.

Come for some hands-on training on the proper way to prune hedges, evergreen and deciduous shrubs, and deadhead perennials. You will be shown how to remove large limbs from trees safely, how to care for your tools and use them safely, and how to thin and prune fruit and other trees to create healthier more attractive growth. Bring your own tools, and remember to dress for the weather! Entire class is held outdoors.

Edible Landscaping**Saturday, March 18, 10am–noon Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford St., Arlington, 22206**Advance registration required as space is limited, at mgnv.org.

Can't decide whether to plant "pretty" plants or things you can eat? Limited time and/or space constraints? Want to put more "fun" in your gardening fundamentals? Then come learn the art of edible landscaping that mixes ornamentals, herbs, greens and vegetables. Virginia Cooperative Extension Master Gardeners will present easy and straightforward techniques for turning your yard into a delightful and delicious oasis!

Herbs and Plants: From the Grocery Store to the Garden to the Kitchen!**Saturday, March 18, 11am–12:30pm or Burke Branch Library, 4701 Seminary Rd., Alexandria 22304****Monday, March 20, 7pm–8:30 pm Barrett Branch Library, 717 Queen St., Alexandria 22314**

This class is not taught by a Master Gardener but by our guest speaker, Sally Baker.
Note: Class is offered twice.

Do you have a taste for ginger and new potatoes? Do you use a lot of garlic and shallots? Now you can learn how to plant, grow and cook with the many vegetables and herbs you can buy at the grocery store. This class will teach you the tips you need to shop the produce aisles of your grocery store.

Vegetable Gardening Part 3: Manage, Maintain**Tuesday, March 21, 7pm–8:30pm or Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford St., Arlington, 22206****Saturday, March 25, 10:30am–noon Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford St., Arlington, 22206**Advance registration requested at mgnv.org.
Note: Class is offered twice.

New gardeners will learn to manage and maintain a healthy garden in an eco-friendly way. Learn to distinguish between those all-important beneficial insects vs. pests (hint: ladybug larvae look like tiny black and orange alligators). Other topics include crop rotation and intercropping to help control pests, how to identify diseases and weeds and how to maximize harvests with space-saving techniques.

All events are FREE. Advance registration requested at mgnv.org.
Questions: telephone 703-228-6414 or email mgarlalex@gmail.com.

