

Container and Balcony Gardening**Tuesday, May 2, 7–8:30pm****Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford Street, Arlington 22206**

Free. Advance registration requested, at mgnv.org. Questions, 703-228-6414 or mgarlalex@gmail.com.

If you have a balcony or a sunny porch, you can have a garden! Learn easy steps to add color with flowers and foliage, create a little privacy, and grow edibles. Transform your balcony or concrete jungle into a garden oasis.

Sustainable Landscaping 4: Maintaining the Sustainable Yard**Saturday, May 6, 9am–noon****Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford Street, Arlington 22206**

Free. Advance registration required as space is limited, at mgnv.org. Questions 703-228-6414 or mgarlalex@gmail.com.

Learn plant health and disease identification and troubleshooting, good bugs vs. bad bugs in integrated pest management, and how and when to prune woody plants and other seasonal maintenance tasks. We will also explore wildlife issues and things you can do now to maintain your sustainable yard.

May Day Music Festival**Saturday, May 6, 12–5pm****Potomac Overlook Park, 2845 Marcey Road, Arlington 22207**

Free. No registration necessary.

Come meet the VCE Master Gardeners who maintain the Organic Vegetable Demonstration Garden who will be on hand during the festival to answer your questions about organic gardening, including controlling pests and diseases without the use of chemicals. The garden is located beyond the Nature Center.

Simpson Gardens Stroll**Tuesday, May 9, 11am–noon****Simpson Park Demonstration Gardens, 420 E. Monroe Street, Alexandria (by the YMCA)**

Free. No registration necessary.

Stop by and chat with the VCE Master Gardeners who maintain the Simpson Park Demonstration Gardens and see what is springing to life. Have all your gardening questions answered too!

Lawn Substitute: Easy Alternatives for Beauty and Nature**Monday, May 22, 7–8:30pm****Mt. Vernon Recreation Center, 2701 Commonwealth Avenue, Alexandria 22305**

Free. No registration necessary. In partnership with the Alexandria Beautification Commission.

Are you tired of the time and costs to mow, water, fertilize, and maintain your lawn? Come learn about the many alternatives for reclaiming all or part of your lawn back to nature while creating a better and more colorful outdoor space for you and the environment.

Mosquitoes and Ticks: Identification and Control**Thursday, May 25, 7–8:30pm****Burke Library, 4701 Seminary Road, Alexandria 22304**

Free. Advance registration requested at mgnv.org. Questions 703-228-6414 or mgarlalex@gmail.com

In this fascinating presentation, you will learn the science of how to best control mosquitos and ticks and keep them away from you and your family. This includes how to identify the ticks and mosquitos prevalent in this area, their life cycle, how they reproduce, and where they go in the winter. We will focus on more sustainable options for you and your yard.

...and don't miss the FREE Wednesday Night Garden Talks, 7pm at the Arlington Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St, Arlington 22201.

May 3 Foraging for Wild Edibles / **May 10** Gardening with Your Children / **May 17** Weeds 101—Keeping Those Weeds at Bay / **May 24** Garden Structure: Supports, Going Vertical Rabbit & Deer Controls / **May 31** Top 10 Vegetable Diseases. Check www.plotagainsthunger.afac.org or <http://arlingtonva.libcal.com/>.

Plant Sales!!! Buy native plants, and get help picking plants for your yard.

Sunday, May 7, 10am–3pm

Glencarlyn Library Community Garden
300 S. Kensington Street, Arlington

Saturday, May 20, 9am–3pm

Green Spring Gardens
4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria

Check out our Plant Clinics!

Arlington Central Library Plant Clinic
Wednesdays 6:45–8:45pm to Oct 25

Arlington Farmers' Market Plant Clinic
Saturdays 8–11am through Sept

Del Ray Farmers Market Plant Clinic
Saturdays 8:30–11am, May through Sept

Alexandria Farmers Market Plant Clinic
Saturdays 7–9:30am, May through Sept

Garden-related questions? Call, email, or visit the Help Desk weekdays 9am–noon: 703-228-6414; mgarlalex@gmail.com; VCE office, 3308 S. Stafford St., Arlington 22206.

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