



# Virginia Cooperative Extension

Virginia Tech • Virginia State University



## JULY 2018 FREE Public Education Programs ♦ Virginia Cooperative Extension

### Garden Talk: Good Gardens All Start with Good Soil

**Saturday, July 7, 11 am–12 noon, Glencarlyn Branch Library Community Garden, 300 S. Kensington St., Arlington 22204.** Join Extension Master Gardener volunteers in the Library's Community Garden the first Saturday of each month to learn about a different sustainable gardening topic.

### Simpson Gardens Stroll

**Tuesday, July 10, 11 am-12 noon, Simpson Park Gardens, 420 E. Monroe Ave., by the YMCA, Alexandria 22301.** Extension Master Gardener volunteers will be in the Simpson Park demonstration gardens to answer questions and provide information on sustainable gardening. Simpson includes beds that feature waterwise gardening, scented plants, plants that attract pollinators, plants that prefer shade, and beds that illustrate the use of structure and texture in the garden.

### Twilight Home Gardening Series

**Tuesday, July 10, 17, and 24, 6:30 –8 pm, North Arlington 22205.** This series of talks by Extension Master Gardeners will focus on a variety of home garden maintenance tasks including summer pruning, weed management, permeable paver maintenance, perennial plant division, and more. Focus will be on sustainable landscape maintenance techniques that will keep plants healthier, reduce work load, increase the landscape curb appeal, & provide wildlife habitat. There will be lots of opportunities for attendees to ask questions and to try their hand at routine garden tasks. Attend one, two, or all three evenings in the series. **Advance registration required at [mgnv.org](http://mgnv.org); event address will be provided upon registration.**

Don't miss the **Wednesday Night Garden Talks** at the **Arlington Central Library, 7 pm, 1015 N. Quincy St., Arlington 22201.** Free. **No registration necessary.** Presented with the Arlington Food Assistance Center (AFAC). Download entire schedule at: <https://afac.org/plot-against-hunger/pah-events/>.

Also check out the resources on our website, [MGNV.ORG](http://MGNV.ORG). You'll find a *Quick Guide for Gardeners in Northern Virginia*, with our hardiness zone and frost dates, a list of problem plants and better alternatives; and an extensive compilation of *Tried and True Native Plants for the Mid-Atlantic Area*, complete with great color pictures and descriptions. Our schedule of gardening programs is posted on this website, so be sure to check it often!

### Ticks and Mosquitos and Other Bloodsuckers

**Thursday, July 12, 7-8:30pm, Burke Branch Library, 4701 Seminary Rd., Alexandria 22304.** Learn the lifecycle and science of how best to control mosquitoes and ticks, keep them away from you and your family, and how to identify the mosquitoes and ticks that are common in our area. We will focus on sustainable options for you and your yard. **Advance registration requested at [mgnv.org](http://mgnv.org)**

### Saturday Morning in the Vegetable Garden

**Saturday, July 14, 10–11 a.m., Organic Vegetable Garden at Potomac Overlook Regional Park, 2845 Marcey Rd., Arlington 22207.** Have questions about growing vegetables in Northern Virginia? An Extension Master Gardener will answer questions and discuss such things as composting, soil preparation, seed selection, and protecting crops from insects and animals.

### Summer Garden Critter Controls

**Thursday, July 26, 7–8:30 p.m., Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford St., Arlington, 22206.** Learn how to manage and control garden critters affecting your vegetables, fruits, ornamentals, and lawn with the Agricultural Natural Resource Extension Agent. This will be an entertaining look at the *Pest Management Guide: Home Grounds and Animals, 2018* published by the Virginia Cooperative Extension (download for free at [http://pubs.ext.vt.edu/content/dam/pubs\\_ext\\_vt\\_edu/456/456-018/ENTO-238.pdf](http://pubs.ext.vt.edu/content/dam/pubs_ext_vt_edu/456/456-018/ENTO-238.pdf)). **Advance registration requested at [mgnv.org](http://mgnv.org)**

The **Extension Master Gardener Help Desk** is open year round. We welcome your gardening questions, including those related to plant and insect identification. We operate from 9am to noon weekdays at the VCE office, 3308 S. Stafford St., Arlington 22206. **Questions: Ph. 703-228-6414 or [mgaralex@gmail.com](mailto:mgaralex@gmail.com)**, or drop by to speak with our Help Desk volunteers. It's best to call before you come to make sure we are available.

**\*\*Check out our Plant Clinics!!** The **Arlington Central Library Plant Clinic** is open from 6:45pm -8:45pm, every Wednesday through October 24 & located in the East Lobby of the library, 1015 N. Quincy St. The **Arlington Farmers' Market Plant Clinic** is open every Saturday morning from 8am-11 am, operating through September 29, and is located at N. 14th St. and N. Courthouse Rd. The **Del Ray Farmers Market Plant Clinic**, located at 203 E. Oxford Ave, Alexandria, is open Saturdays from 8:30am-11am, through September 29. The **Alexandria Farmers Market Plant Clinic**, located at 301 King St., Alexandria, operates Saturdays 7-9:30 am, through September 29.

**All Classes are FREE.**  
Pre-registration requested at [MGNV.ORG](http://MGNV.ORG).

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