



## Classes and Presentations

*Each topic is a one-time session lasting 1- 2 hours, based on your needs.*

### **Fun with Winter Seed Sowing: Grow Hardy Seedlings Outdoors!**



You've heard of starting seeds indoors to get a jump on spring, but it's also possible to start seeds outdoors in winter! Find out how to mimic Mother Nature to sow outside—you don't need a greenhouse or grow lights, you're not limited by indoor space restrictions, and your seedlings will be hardened-off and ready to plant. Learn what plants to sow, what containers to use, how to care for the seeds, and how and when to transplant the seedlings. (*January-March, October-December, Year-Round*)

### **Gardening for Our Feline Friends**

Cats are a popular pet, but little information is available on which plants are particularly attractive to them. Until now that is! Find out how easy it is to create a garden for your feline friends. Learn which plants (indoors and outdoors) cats are drawn to and the growing conditions they prefer. Also discover what non-plant items to place in a garden for cats. (*Year-Round*)



### **Heirloom Flowers: Everything Old is New Again**



Old-fashioned flowers are colorful, fragrant, and hardy—and just as perfect for today's gardens as those of yesteryear. Get to know 24 flowers grown in southeastern Michigan in the mid- to late-1800s. You'll discover some forgotten plants as well as rediscover some old favorites. You'll learn what condition each plant prefers, its Victorian flower meaning, and a little of its history. Popular gardening gadgets and planting styles of the time are also briefly covered. (*Year-Round*)

### **Composting: Black Gold for Your Garden**

Great soil is the key to successful plants, and compost makes soil great! It enriches the soil, and is made mostly from kitchen scraps and yard waste that would otherwise go in the trash. You'll discover how to make and care for a compost pile, what materials to include, and how to use finished compost. (*Year-Round*)





## Classes and Presentations, *Continued*

### Fall Gardening: Putting Your Garden to Bed



It's time to get your garden beds settled in for a long winter's nap. Learn how to plant bulbs, overwinter tender and potted plants, and what to do with all those leaves. By understanding how plants overwinter, you'll know what to do to get your garden ready for the cold. You'll also get a few ideas for using nature's bounty in crafts and decorations. And finally, learn how to clean and store your tools for next year. *(September-early October)*

### Making an Evergreen Centerpiece

In this hands-on session, you'll learn how to make a festive holiday centerpiece using natural evergreens, a basket, floral foam, decorations, and a candle. This is a fun, creative activity and the centerpieces make great gifts – for family, friends, or even yourself! The decorative, festive arrangements last from late November through the end of the year. Students should bring gardening gloves and pruners to class. There is a materials fee. *(November-December)*



### Creative Container Gardening

This slide-illustrated class covers everything you need to know to create beautiful container plantings at home! Container gardens are great for small spaces and also brighten up decks, patios, and balconies. Containers are great for flowers, but can also be used to grow vegetables and herbs. You'll learn how to choose containers and soil, how to select and arrange plants based on color and texture, and how to care for the containers throughout the season. *(April-June, Year-Round)*

### Bats in the Garden, Not in the Belfry

Bats are invaluable natural resources, but are often misunderstood. As primary predators of night-flying insects, bats play a vital role in keeping nature in balance. Unfortunately, 40% of bats worldwide are endangered. This class dispels common myths about bats. Get an overview of the different species of bats, worldwide and in Michigan: what they eat, where they live, and how they find their food. Learn a lot about Michigan's most common bats, the little and big brown bats. Learn to attract bats by correctly placing bat houses and get a list of bat-friendly plants. *(Near Halloween, Year-Round)*

