



11th Annual Growing Great Gardens

8:00 - 9:00 a.m. Registration, Networking & Shopping (Coffee, tea, pastries from Tim Horton)

9:15-10:30 a.m. Jessica Walliser, Author, Speaker, Gardener and Bug-Lover

Attracting Beneficial Bugs to Your Garden: A Natural Approach to Pest Control Concern about the loss of our pollinators (and insects in general) is at an all-time high. Jessica will shine some light on the methods needed to attract beneficial insects to the garden – and keep them there to bring your garden into a more natural balance. She'll present ground-breaking research regarding the intricate connection between plants and insects. You'll never look at bugs the same way again! *Jessica is a graduate of Penn State University, co-host of "The Organic Gardeners" on KDKA-Radio in Pittsburg, writes a column for the Pittsburg Tribune-Review and is a regular contributor to Fine Gardening, and other horticultural magazines. She has authored five gardening books, and lectures nationwide.*

10:30-10:45 a.m. Break and Shopping

10:45-11:45 a.m. Craig LeHoullier, Author of "Epic Tomatoes" and "Straw-Bale Gardening"

Growing Epic Tomatoes for Our Midwest Gardens Have you ever wanted to grow that perfect tomato with the taste you remember from your childhood? Well, now you can. Tomato expert and author of *Epic Tomatoes: How to Select & Grow the Best Varieties of All Time*, Craig LeHoullier shares his top growing recommendations and tips for varieties that thrive in our Midwestern climate. *Craig is an award-winning, fun-loving, research based, certified plant geek with a particular passion for tomatoes. A former scientist, Craig treats his yard as his laboratory. He loves to share his knowledge about all things "T", earning him the title of NC Tomatoman, and is a go-to advisor for many in the plant industry. He is also co-founder of the Dwarf Tomato project. Craig can be seen and heard on his popular You Tube channel, as well shows like Growing a Greener World, The Splendid Table, and A Way to Garden.*

11:45 -1:00 p.m. Lunch (provided by Frank n Dean's Catering) & Shopping

11:45-12:45*p.m. Carol Michel, Author, Horticulturist (Bonus Class, additional \$10)

Garden Tools Beyond the Hoe As the owner of arguably the world's largest hoe collection, Carol still has many tools in her gardening 'toolbox' that she uses to create her garden paradise. She will show us many time saving tips and tricks to make garden chores less taxing, more efficient and more fun!

**Note: This presentation is available for an additional \$10 and is open only to participants who have pre-paid in advance. Space is limited and first come, first served. The presentation is in the Ray Mix Room, where you'll pick up your box lunch as well.*

1:00 - 2:00 p.m. Carol Michel, Author, Horticulturist

12 Secrets to Happiness in Your Garden Are you getting the most out of your garden? Do you leave your garden feeling refreshed or do you leave it feeling frustrated and ready to quit? Does your garden make you happy? Carol shares the secrets to happiness in your garden with her own tips and tricks to remind you how to have fun while gardening. *Carol is a graduate of the Purdue University School of Agriculture with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Horticulture Production, and a degree in computer technology. She is the author of several award-winning gardening books, Potted and Pruned: Living a Gardening Life, Homegrown and Handpicked: A Year in a Gardening Life, and her latest work, The Christmas Cottontail: A Story for Gardeners of All Ages.*

2:00 - 2:30 p.m. Break and Shopping

2:30 - 3:45 p.m. Jessica Walliser, Author, Speaker, Gardener and Bug-Lover

Neglected Annuals in the Garden Looking for an easy way to add pizzazz to your garden? Old-fashioned and often self-sowing annuals should be some of the shining stars of our gardens – but instead, they're often found only in the pages of specialty catalogs. Learn about some of the loveliest, easiest plants around and how to bring them into your garden. From snow-on-the-mountain to the corn marigold, slides will illustrate their proper and well-deserved place in the garden.

3:45 - 4:00 p.m. Shopping, Door Prizes and Wrap Up