

**Monday, January 23rd**

7:00 – 8:00 pm Extension\*

### ***Color, Shape and Texture***

A beautiful garden begins with a good design. January is the perfect time to plan. This MG event will present the elements of foliage and flower that bring true artistry to garden design.

**Wednesdays, February 8th , 15th, 22nd and 29th**

7:00 – 8:30 pm Extension\*

### ***Basics of Successful Lawn Care***

Barbara J. Bromley, Mercer County Horticulturist, will teach four lawn-care classes for both lawn professionals and homeowners. The 90-minute sessions are:

- 1) Management Strategies and Selection of Grasses;
- 2) Basic Maintenance Strategies: IPM Practices;
- 3) Pest Control and Troubleshooting; and
- 4) Lawn Renovation and Establishment.

It is recommended, but not required, that participants plan to attend all four sessions: each session is equally important to a basic understanding of how to establish and maintain a healthy lawn. Call (609) 989-6830 to pre-register; a fee is required for these classes. Pesticide recertification credits are offered for these classes.

**PRE-REGISTRATION is required.**

**Thursday, April 19th**

7:00 – 8:00 pm Extension\*

### ***Vegetable Gardening***

Few activities are as rewarding to a gardener as enjoying home grown vegetables - lettuce, tomatoes, squash, and so many more. This program will walk you through all the considerations of vegetable gardening: choosing the best site, preparing the soil, selecting seeds or transplants, and taking good care of them until it's time to put them on the table. Soil test mailers will be available for purchase.

**Saturday, March 17th**

### ***Garden Scents and Sensibility***

*An All Day Garden Symposium*

**8:00 am-4:00 pm** Stuart Country Day School

Mercer County Horticulturist, **Barbara J. Bromley** will be joined by author, photographer, and naturalist **Ken Druse**; **Bill Cullina**, author and native plant expert; author and gardener, **Tovah Martin**; and **Barry Glick**, award winning plantsman and garden blogger for a day-long program of exciting and inspiring slideshows and lectures. Details about our speakers and their programs, as well as registration information and fee, can be found at:

[www.mgofmc.org/symposium](http://www.mgofmc.org/symposium)

**PRE-REGISTRATION is required.**



[www.mgofmc.org](http://www.mgofmc.org)

**Saturday, May 5th**

10:00 am – 2:00 pm Mercer Educational Gardens

### ***Spring Plant Expo***

Many great varieties of perennials, herbs, tomatoes and native plants for local gardens will be available to the public. Master Gardeners will assist you in selecting the right plants for your garden conditions. Mercer County Horticulturist, Barbara J. Bromley, will be on hand to answer your gardening questions. The ever popular Second Hand Sale will offer “gently used” items for purchase.

**Sunday, June 6th**

10:00– 11:00 am Mercer Educational Gardens

### ***Composting***

Don't throw those veggie scraps away; pile them up somewhere and make compost, that rich, nutritious organic matter that will improve soil structure and fertility. MG of MC Composting Mentors will demonstrate how much of the basic composting ingredients to use; how much moisture to incorporate; how to aerate the mixture; and the pros and cons of various structures for composting bins. This program will be held in conjunction with the Equestrian Center where attendees can obtain information about how to incorporate manure in compost.

**Wednesday, July 11th**

7:00 – 8:30 pm Mercer Educational Gardens

### ***A Midsummer Night in the Garden***

Come visit the Mercer Educational Gardens (MEG) and stroll through a wide variety of gardens focusing on: Perennials, Annuals, Herbs, Native Plants and Butterfly Plants. There is also a Meadow, a Cottage Garden, and Weed Identification Bed. Master Gardeners will be on hand to guide you through the gardens and to demonstrate gardening techniques to keep your garden beautiful all summer long.

**Thursday, August 9th**

7:00 – 8:30 pm Extension\*

### ***Lawn Renovation & Establishment***

Early September is the right time to repair your lawn. Mercer County Horticulturist, Barbara J. Bromley, will give you the information you need to get ready for this important step in helping your lawn be healthy and look great. The proper methods and proper timing to reseed, renovate, or re-sod lawns damaged by summer problems will be covered. Soil test mailers will be available for purchase so you can determine how much (if any) fertilizer or lime is needed for your lawn.

**Saturday, September 8th**

1:00 – 4:00 pm Mercer Educational Gardens

### ***10<sup>th</sup> Annual Insect Festival***

Fun and fascination for all! Local naturalists and Master Gardeners will be on hand with insect-related displays and games in seven beautiful gardens. Examine bugs living in water, learn all about bees (native and honey), watch worms produce compost, touch beneficial insects, see butterfly metamorphosis, and hunt for insects in our meadow. Enjoy an insect puppet show, crafts, mural painting, bee dancing, hayrides and more. Barbara J. Bromley, Mercer County Horticulturist, will answer your garden questions. Free on-site parking.

**Thursday, October 11th**

7:00– 8:00 pm Extension\*

### ***Forcing Bulbs***

If you can't wait for the first blossoms of the spring, forcing bulb plants by growing them indoors can bring them into bloom several weeks earlier. Come to learn the right way and right time to encourage your bulbs to bloom well before Spring.

**Thursday, November 15th**

7:00 – 8:00 pm Extension\*

### ***Terrarium Planting***

A terrarium brings a variety of plants together in a transparent container to create a miniature eco-system. This program will cover the techniques and supplies needed as well as the types of plants which live well together in various conditions.

**ALL EVENTS ARE RAIN OR SHINE**

\*For programs scheduled at Extension, please call (609) 989-6830 to pre-register.

Soil Test Mailers will be available at all events for \$20.00  
Donations benefit educational programs of the Master Gardeners of Mercer County.  
Donation of \$3.00 suggested for all programs unless noted.

## Master Gardeners of Mercer County

We invite the public to learn and appreciate the benefits of responsible gardening. We serve the residents of Mercer County by providing educational programs and activities in support of environmentally responsible home gardening. Trained Master Gardener volunteers operate a year-round telephone Helpline to advise the public about horticultural matters and diagnose and solve home gardening problems. Our Mercer Educational Gardens are located adjacent to the Mercer County Equestrian Center in Pennington, NJ.

### Our Goals:

To expand the public's knowledge of responsible gardening and pest management through horticultural and environmental programs and through community service activities.

To help Mercer County residents obtain up-to-date recommendations from Rutgers, other land grant institutions and the USDA.

To assist Rutgers Cooperative Extension and Mercer County in their horticultural and environmental outreach to the public.

Rutgers Cooperative Extension educational programs are offered to all without regard to race, religion, color, age, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, or disability.



Chad Ripberger, County Department Head

Visit our websites:

[www.mercer.njaes.rutgers.edu](http://www.mercer.njaes.rutgers.edu)

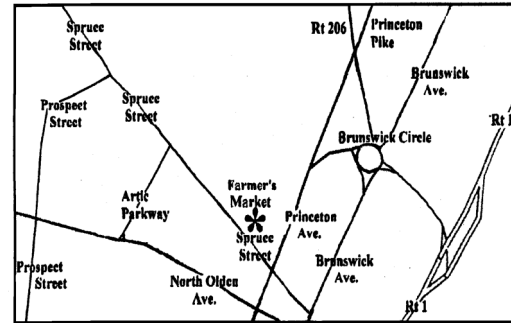
[www.mgofmc.org](http://www.mgofmc.org)

For more information call the Extension office at  
**(609) 989-6830**

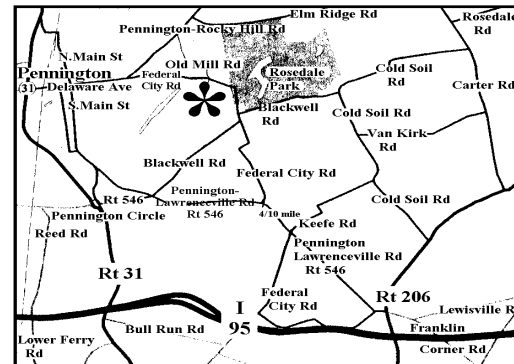
Or the Master Gardener Helpline at  
**(609) 989-6853**

To be added to our mailing list go to:  
[www.mgofmcmailist@gmail.com](mailto:www.mgofmcmailist@gmail.com)

**Rutgers Cooperative Extension**  
930 Spruce Street  
Lawrence, New Jersey  
*Adjacent to the Trenton Farmers Market*



**Mercer Educational Gardens (MEG)**  
431 A Federal City Road  
Pennington, New Jersey  
*Site entrance is opposite the end of Old Mill Road  
on Federal City Road*



The Mercer Educational Gardens  
has limited handicapped accessibility.  
Open all year, dawn to dusk.

To arrange for one of our programs  
at your site call our Speakers Bureau  
at **(609) 989-6830**

Nonprofit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Trenton, NJ  
Permit No. 1404

Cooperative Extension of Mercer County  
930 Spruce Street  
Trenton, New Jersey 08648-4584  
Official Business

**RUTGERS**  
New Jersey Agricultural  
Experiment Station



# 2012

## PROGRAMS & EVENTS

**Rutgers Cooperative Extension  
of Mercer County**  
930 Spruce Street  
Trenton, New Jersey 08648

**Mercer Educational Gardens**  
431A Federal City Road  
Pennington, New Jersey 08534

Brian M. Hughes, Mercer County Executive  
Mercer County Board of Freeholders  
Dr. Larry Katz, Dir. Coop. Ext.; Sr. Assoc. Dir. NJAES



Cooperating Agencies: Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and County Boards of Chosen Freeholders. Rutgers Cooperative Extension is a unit of the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station, an equal opportunity program provider and employer. Contact your local Extension Office for information regarding special needs or accommodations. Contact the State Extension Director's Office if you have concerns related to discrimination. 732-992-5000, ext. 584.