



**The Growing Place**  
nursery & flower farm, inc.

Naperville...630.355.4000  
25W471 Plank Road, IL 60563  
Aurora... 630.820.8088  
2000 Montgomery Road, IL 60504  
thegrowingplace.com

## Presentations & Workshops Available to Your Garden Club or Group

### Annuals

**Adding Annuals for Color Punch**— Learn how to incorporate annuals in front yards, back yards and transitional spaces for season-long splashes of color.

### Bulbs

**Spring Bulbs**— Learn about the different type of bulbs, the best planting techniques, animal resistance, how to determine the right bulbs for your site, and companion plants. *Available in September & October.*

### Container Gardening

**Design Principles for Container Gardening**—A colorful presentation of design principles for containers along with plant suggestions for success.

**Container Gardening Demonstration**—Watch as one of our container designers takes you through the steps to create a lush container for sun and shade.

**Vegetables & Herbs in Containers**—Learn how you can grow vegetables and herbs in containers to maximize your sunny spots.

**Holiday Container, Wreath, Swag or Centerpiece Demonstration**—Watch as one of our container designers creates a beautiful arrangement using cut greens and embellishments inspired by the holidays. *Please specify which option your group prefers. Available in mid-November through mid-December.*

**Succulents** – Unique plants that have a beautiful array of colors, forms and textures that can be used in your garden or container designs.

### Landscape Design

**All About Color!**—How do we see color in the garden? We'll talk about how to use color to design a garden with big impact.

**Art in the Garden**—What is garden art? How do you place it in your garden? From simple containers to more elaborate pieces, take a virtual walk through fabulous garden photos for your garden inspiration.

**Design Basics**—From the beginning. We'll review basic design principles of views, site analysis, style and color choices to arrive at the best garden plan.

**Design Basics Toolbox**—Same as above, plus learn how to measure and create a base map that can become a completed landscape plan. *Additional fee.*

**Designing for Curb Appeal**—How do you make your front yard show your personal style? We will show you design principles to create a welcoming entry area.

**Designing for Curb Appeal – Customized**—Same as above, but attendees will have the opportunity to submit photos for a presentation with a personal touch. *Additional fee.*

**Garden Rooms**— Backyards can be very personal spaces with a large variety of needs from entertaining to serene respite. Expand your deck, patio, and entertaining areas by adding screening, fragrance and ambiance! We'll discuss design strategies to incorporate these varied requirements.

**Gardening within a Mature Landscape**— How do you work with a mature landscape? Gather tips on how to decide what to keep, what to remove, what to trim and how to replace. Find out how to integrate your new plants into your existing landscape.

**Paths & Walkways in the Garden**—It's not just the destination, enjoy the journey! We'll discuss how to direct your path, evaluate material choices, how to use plants, add focal points and garden art.

**Screening / Vertical Gardening**—Whether you want to screen a view or need something for a narrow upright space, we'll show you what to do. We'll talk about the different types of vines and structures needed as well as plants that will be narrow and vertical.

**Small Space Gardening** – Whether you are downsizing or just have a small corner to work with, we can show you how to get the most out of small spaces.

**What's Your Style?**—Through a library of photos from gardens all around the U.S., we'll look at various garden styles and how to make your own welcoming space.



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## *Natives & Eco-Friendly*

**Adding Natives to Your Landscape**—We'll talk about the why and how to design with native plants. From adding them to your existing garden to creating a new flower bed.

**Native Perennials**—Why do we use native plants? An in-depth look at all the various species for our Illinois gardens.

**Native Perennials, Trees & Shrubs**—We'll discuss the beautiful palette of native perennials, trees, shrubs and their cultivars, as well as their merits and benefits to the environment.

## *Gardening for Pollinators*

**Designing a Butterfly and Pollinator Garden**—We'll walk through the steps to design your butterfly and pollinator garden. Discussion covers what plant varieties and colors are best for pollen or nectar and how to group and design for maximum attraction.

**Gardening is for the Birds**—Create a habitat for birds in your backyard. We'll talk about the best plants, seasonal habitat needs and which birds like what.

**Butterfly Gardens**—How to design and create a butterfly garden. Includes how to pick the best plants to bring butterflies as well as plants needed for our most popular caterpillars.

**Our Little Winged Garden Friends**—Good bugs, pollinators, bees, hummingbirds and butterflies. Pollen vs. Nectar – what is it and who wants what? Includes a discussion on the definitions of native, natives, hybrids and GMO plants with the best perennials and shrubs to encourage visitors.

## *Gardening Advice*

**Right Plant + Right Place = Low Maintenance**—Reduce your maintenance and increase your successes by learning how to evaluate your site and choose the right plants. We'll introduce you to our 'Growing Place Choice' plants—a list of plants we've compiled over the years that are hardy, relatively low maintenance and look good.

**Tips & Tricks for a Successful Garden**—A 'How-To' for a successful garden. Learn how to create a brand new bed, water smartly, lower your maintenance chores, add soil amendments plus tips on simple design and tricks to spruce up a blah bed.

**Tough Sites**— We each have an area where plants seem to struggle. Learn how to garden in difficult soil and sun conditions. This includes a discussion on how to achieve lower maintenance in your garden.

**Rain Gardens**—From a little 3x3 bed to coping with larger areas, learn how to turn that problem wet section in your yard in an ecosystem filled with flowers. Rain gardens promote water conservation, provide flood and pollution control, and bring birds and pollinators to your home.

**Waterwise Gardening**—From mature trees to hot sun to sharply drained areas, discover hardy plants and design tips to create a beautiful garden in these challenging conditions.

**New and Noteworthy Plants**—Every year, new plants are introduced into the market. We'll show you what they are, how you can add them to your garden, as well as some other unusual and underused plants available.

## *Gardening Through the Seasons*

**The Spring Garden** – We are all craving color by the time spring comes around. We'll talk about the best of the best for foliage, flower and textures for spring color. This includes trees, shrubs and perennials.

**The Waking Garden** – What should you do in the spring garden? We'll talk about how and when to cut back different plant groups, what and when to add fertilizers or amendments, what and when to prune, as well as a few design tips for expanding or creating a new garden bed.

**Designing for Four Season Color/Interest**—Evergreens that are blue or gold; shrubs with red, burgundy or lime stems; tawny grasses, bark, berries, and leaves! Learn about plants that extend the beauty of your garden.



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**Falling for Fall Color** - Enjoy the fiery colors of fall with selections in perennials, shrubs and trees that light up the landscape.

**Putting Your Garden to Bed** – Know which plants should be pruned or cut back in fall and what should be left until spring. We include methods to deter winter animal damage, how to winterize pottery and even some design tips for adding some color to the winter landscape.

### *Specialty Gardens*

**Cutting Gardens** – We'll talk about the best flowers to grow for cutting, put into arrangements and provide a level of interest beyond flowers.

**Wow in the Shade** – Gardening in the shade can be difficult. We'll talk about how to cope with tree roots and other plant competition as well as plant combinations that bring color to the shade garden through both foliage and flowers.

### *Perennials & Roses*

**Groundcovers**—From ordinary to extraordinary. Groundcovers that become living mulch and reduce weeding and watering maintenance.

**Perennials for Sun**—How much sun do you really have? How much maintenance do you really want to do? Deadheading? Watering? We'll sort out what plants grow best together and explore how to create combinations that will thrive in your conditions and lead to lower maintenance.

**Ornamental Grasses**—Embrace the exuberance of ornamental grasses and learn how to design with and care for these graceful perennials.

**Perennials for Success**—Our top Growing Choice plants are tried and true. Learn about the perennials that are attractive, long-lived and low maintenance. This includes a discussion of soil types, sun and water needs.

**Perennial Plant Combinations**—Creating plant groups that both grow well together and are designed to please.

**Roses, Grand and Glorious**—The only shrub to bloom all season in your garden - really! Class will cover care, maintenance, and our favorite selections.

### *Trees & Shrubs*

**Conifers & Evergreens**—Pruning, varieties and how to use them.

**Pruning Woody Shrubs**—We'll make sense of a confusing garden chore including timing, controlling size, shaping and tools of the trade.

**Small and Dwarf Flowering Trees and Shrubs** – One of the newest trends in breeding shrubs and trees is towards smaller and dwarf habits. We'll discuss the various varieties and how to use them in your landscape.

**Hydrangeas**—Everything you ever wanted to know about all types of hydrangeas and how to grow them successfully to enjoy their beautiful flowers.

### *Vegetables & Edibles*

**Growing & Using Herbs**—How to plant and maintain herbs for use in the kitchen and to beautify your garden. We'll also look at weaving them into existing garden beds to add flowers and fragrance.

**No Fuss Vegetable Gardening** –Appreciate the best flavor and freshness at your dinner table by growing your own vegetables. We will show you how to plant and maintain your veggies for the most abundant yields.

**Organic Vegetable Gardening** - We'll discuss the basics of organic vegetable gardening. From bed preparation, fertilizing, and plant choices to dealing with diseases and insects.



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## Workshops

Take a finished product home for a fee. The following workshops meet at The Growing Place, minimum of 10 people required. All materials provided.

**Build A Fairy or Gnome House**— A workshop for parent and child or adults. Create your own fairy or gnome house with logs, twigs, stones and a variety of other materials. Once you build the house, design a landscape around it!

**Make a Concrete Leaf Birdbath** - Use these concrete leaves as a birdbath or a simple garden accent.  
*Available June, July, and August.*

**Make a Miniature Garden**— Make a miniature garden vignette with a variety of miniature plants and accessories like arbors, fences, and other tiny treasures.

**Make a Stepping Stone**—Make a concrete stepping stone impressed with seasonal plants.

**Make a Trough**—Make a rustic, stone-like, lightweight container made of hypertufa concrete.

**Plant a Container for Spring, Summer or Fall**—Your group may select one of the above options. A designer will help you in the design and creation process.

**Plant a Container of Bulbs for Forcing**—Work with a designer to create a container of bulbs to force for early spring blossoms.

**Plant a Terrarium or Dish Garden** - Plant a terrarium or dish garden as we show you which plants are best for each situation and how to keep them growing.

**Vegetable & Herb Container**— Plant up a delicious container of vegetables and/or herbs that you and your family can enjoy.

**Seed Starting Workshop**—Learn how to start your seeds as well as some tips for vegetable gardening success. You will be able to choose from a selection of the seeds we grow. *Available February and March.*

**Holiday Wreath, Swag, Centerpiece or Container**— Your group may select one of the above options. A designer will help in the design and creation process.  
*Available mid-November through mid-December*

**Children's Groups**— Provide a wonderful learning experience for your children. Enjoy a garden tour, a little talk about the parts of a plant, and a hands-on nature activity. Fees apply. Seasonal activities include painting a flower pot or pumpkin.

## Group Tours

Our staff is available to guide you through our greenhouses in April and our Learning Gardens throughout the growing season. Gather inspiration to bring home to your garden! We welcome group tours throughout the growing season, except the month of May. Attendees will receive a \$5.00 coupon useable the day of the tour. Box lunches available on request.

## Fees

Please call Michelle at 630-355-4000 for rates and availability.