

# Erie County's 2026 Spring Seminar



## DATE

March 28, 2026

## TIME

8:15a-3p

## LOCATION

Mesenburg's Plaza Place,  
545 Cleveland Road  
West, Huron, Oh 44839.



THE OHIO STATE  
UNIVERSITY

EXTENSION

[erie.osu.edu](http://erie.osu.edu)  
CFAES provides research and related educational  
programs to clientele on a nondiscriminatory basis.  
For more information, visit  
[cfaes.osu.edu/nondiscrimination](http://cfaes.osu.edu/nondiscrimination).  
For an accessible format of this publication, visit  
[cfaes.osu.edu/accessibility](http://cfaes.osu.edu/accessibility).

Erie County Master Gardener Volunteers Present:

## Let's Get Growing: Fresh Ideas for Spring

Join us to hear a lineup of wonderful speakers for an educational and inspiring day. Learn how to boost success in gardening while sharing the day with fellow gardeners and local vendors. Presentations include: **Conifers for Today's Gardens**–Bob Iames, Director of the Central Region of the American Conifer Society; **Companion Vegetable Gardening**- Nick Georgiafandis, Instructor Huron County MGV program; **Landscape Design for Anyone** -Laura Deeter, PhD: Professor of Practice-Horticulture and Crop Science, The Ohio State University; **Plant Pathogens That Have Impacted Humanity**- Jim Chatfield PhD, Faculty Emeritus with Ohio State Extension: Department of Plant Pathology and Department of Horticulture and Crop Science; **Exploring Pollinator- Friendly Natives**-Gale Martin, Owner of Natives in Harmony Nursery

See details on topics and speakers on the reverse of this form.

Check-in begins at 8:15am.

Welcome and Presentations begin at 8:55am.

Five CEUs can be earned for the day.

The \$50 Registration Fee includes:

Coffee breaks, Lunch, Handouts, a Gift & Door Prize Drawings.

Save \$5 if you are a Master Gardener & pay only \$45.

Your county name must be included.

**Detach and return the section below by March 23, 2026**

**OR register and pay online by scanning the QR code**



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip code \_\_\_\_\_

MG Volunteer? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ If 'Yes', what County \_\_\_\_\_

Include checks payable to Erie County Master Gardener Volunteers in the amount of \$50 (or \$45)  
and mail to: OSU Extension Office: Master Gardeners, 2900 Columbus Ave., Sandusky OH 44870.

**REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT MUST BE RECEIVED BY MARCH 23, 2026**

## **CONIFERS FOR TODAY'S GARDENS**

Conifers that change color? Conifers that require no pruning? Conifers for shady areas and difficult locations? Get ready to explore the versatile world of conifers. Join Bob Iames for an informative session where he'll reveal the surprising variety of conifers that not only thrive in challenging spaces but also offer striking seasonal color changes and require minimal maintenance. You'll discover exciting options for every corner of your landscape. Bob will share classic favorites and unusual new varieties, how to integrate them into your own gardens and where to purchase them.

Bob Iames, Director of the Central Region of the American Conifer Society

## **COMPANION VEGETABLE GARDENING**

Basic seed starting and proper placement when planting for selected vegetables will be discussed. Also companion planting between vegetables and how certain flowers enhance growth. In addition, the importance of soil testing and protecting the vegetable garden from wildlife will be covered.

Nick Georgiandis, Instructor, Huron County MGV program

## **LANDSCAPE DESIGN FOR ANYONE**

The sheer number of plants available is often overwhelming. Texts and articles talk about design principles and elements but often fail to mention practical advice for homeowners. Learn how to apply design principles to make your home garden (of any size) look amazing.

Laura Deeter, PhD: Professor of Practice-Horticulture and Crop Science, The Ohio State University

## **PLANT PATHOGENS THAT HAVE IMPACTED HUMANITY**

Infectious plant diseases, ranging from late blight of potato to Dutch elm disease, have played an important role in agricultural economics and our understanding of the germ theory of disease. We will discuss important diseases historically and contemporaneously.

Jim Chatfield PhD, Faculty Emeritus with Ohio State Extension: Department of Plant Pathology and Department of Horticulture and Crop Science

## **EXPLORING POLLINATOR-FRIENDLY NATIVES**

The presentation is essentially a practical guide to choosing Ohio-native perennial plants that provide year-round garden interest while supporting a wide range of pollinators. It blends gardening advice with ecological benefits, offering plant-by-plant details on how natives provide critical habitat and food for native pollinators, butterflies, moths, birds, and beneficial insects.

Gale Martin, Owner of Natives in Harmony Nursery