

LGC Programs for 2024-2025

Friday, May 17, 2024

Amy Greenamy

Garden Tool Maintenance 101: Getting down and dirty with cleaning your tools

As the gardening season gets underway for the year: now is a good time to take stock of your tools. Are they sharp? Are they clean? Are they ready to work for you? If not bring a shovel, your favorite pair of pruners or another gardening tool and come and listen to Horticulturist Amy Greenamy as she explains the ins and outs of tool maintenance and sharpening. Feel free to use her items to clean, sharpen and practice your technique; so that your tools will work their best for you this gardening season. It's time to get down and dirty while learning to clean and sharpen your gardening equipment.

Program Chair: Sharon Rakowski

Monday, June 24, 2024 – 6:30 pm

Evening Program and Meeting

Sharon Yiesla

Growing Degree Days: Using Heat to Defeat Pests

Accumulation of heat influences the development of both plants and insects. We can use this information to better manage insect pests and limit their damage to our plants.

Program Chair: Sharon Rakowski

Thursday July, 18, 2024

Field Trip – A visit to two Botanical Gardens

Anderson Japanese Gardens & Klehm Arboretum/Botanic Garden

Rockford, IL 9:00am to 4:30pm

Anderson Japanese Gardens is a beautiful, outdoor setting that inspires the mind and energizes the soul. The twelve-acre landscape of streams, waterfalls, winding pathways, and koi-filled ponds has been rated one of North America's highest quality Japanese gardens for more than a decade.

Klehm Arboretum & Botanic Garden is a living museum where Nature comes alive. The 155-acre property includes water features, seven specialty gardens, and several miles of both paved and unpaved wooded trails. The trails go through different forested areas of mature native and ornamental trees that were originally planted when the property began as a nursery.

Transportation will be provided by the Lombard Garden Club. Lunch will be available at Fresco at the Garden within Anderson Japanese Gardens or you may bring your own lunch.

Event Chair: Steve Preins

Friday, August 23, 2024

Pam Karlson

Birds in the Garden: Creating & Enjoying a Bird Oasis

Inviting birds into our gardens by creating a habitat is a joyful way to connect with nature and help support birds and pollinators. This presentation features Pam Karlson's photos from her Chicago bird habitat she created, illustrating how it is possible to attract over 100 bird species. Tips include landscape enhancements, practices, and plant selection, with an emphasis on native plants. Chicagoland's location along the migratory route, bird species diversity, habitat, diet/foraging, nesting, supplemental support and community science will also be discussed. Doug Tallamy's "Nature's Best Hope: A New Approach to Conservation That Starts in Your Yard" and Emily Murphy's "Grow Now: How We Can Save Our Health, Communities and Planet – One Garden at a Time," includes Pam's Garden Habitat, exemplifying the power of urban lots.

Program Chair, Rick Hennessy

Saturday, September 14, 2024

Field Trip - Walking Tour of Graue Mill Area at Fullersburg Woods – Oak Brook

For this tour, Forest Preserve District of DuPage County staff will lead the group from Graue Mill to the nature Education Center at Fullersburg Woods Forest Preserve. During the hike attendees will learn about the projects that are happening with Salt Creek including the dam removal and the Salt Creek Restoration. Attendees will have some time to visit the Nature Center and Graue Mill Museum.

Fullersburg Woods/Graue Mill, 3800 York Road, Oak Brook, IL 10 am – 11:30 am

Program Chair: Sharon Rakowski

Friday, September 27, 2024

Bill Karges

Putting Your Garden to Bed

In "Putting Your Garden to Bed," you will learn how to prepare your garden for winter. Whether you have a perennial flower garden, native plant area, or a vegetable patch, Bill will cover everything you will need to do to prevent this year's problems from showing up again next year. Members are welcome to bring in plant samples for discussion of insect and disease problems, as time permits.

Program Chair, Rick Hennessy

Friday, October 25, 2024

Heather Prince

Rain Gardens 101

Discover the benefits to rain gardens! As more municipalities start encouraging residents to manage stormwater on their own properties, rain gardens are becoming an easy way to manage water and add a

lively garden feature. Heather will walk us through the basics of engineering the different types of rain gardens, and explore an extensive plant list.

Program Chair, May Anstee

Friday, November 8, 2024

Marcy Lautanen-Raleigh

The Curative Properties of Tea

Marcy will discuss the difference between black tea and herb tea as well as what herbs make good tea. Learn how to formulate your own teas and the various medicinal properties discovered throughout time of various plants. Various teas, cooking blends and dry soup mixes will be available for sale.

Program Chair, Joey Preins

Friday, December 13, 2024

Winter Luncheon

Location: TBA

Tamara Block

“Christmas at the White House”

Just as there are 12 Days of Christmas (as in the song), this presentation showcases 12 Traditions of Christmas that have endured at the White House over its history. From the very public National Christmas Tree to the very humble Cranberry Tree, these holiday decorations and events are presented in all their splendor along with the history behind them. A look at our First Ladies and their individual contributions to White House Christmases through the years offers a fun additional perspective.

Program Chair, Jeannine Warkow

Friday January 24, 2025

Lisa Hilgenberg

Regenstein Fruit and Vegetable Garden Horticulturist at the Chicago Botanical Garden

Spring into Vegetable Gardening

Spring is approaching and seasoned gardeners know that it will soon be time to get out into the vegetable garden. Growing your own food can be an empowering experience allowing you to control what goes into the soil and onto the plants. If you are new to gardening, or planning your first veggie garden, knowing how to start can be daunting. This is a presentation to “get growing.”

Program Chair, Rick Hennessy

Friday, February 28, 2025

E-Ling Lou

E-Ling is a master teacher of the Ohara School of Ikebana.

Ohara Ikebana Arrangements

Ikebana is the art of Japanese arranging. Ikebana artist E-Ling Lou will give an overview of Ikebana history and create a couple of Ikebana arrangements. E-Ling volunteers at the Morton Arboretum. You can find her Ikebana classes and Ikebana inspired botanical arrangements at the Morton Arboretum

Program Chair, Barb Madigan

Friday, March 28, 2025

Dolly Foster

The Long Blooming Perennial Garden

Whether you have a new garden or a mature, established one, it can always use a little “fine tuning.” Learn about extending your garden show by adding plants to the beginning and end of the season. Tips on planning so that a garden has something blooming or is attractive all season long. (March to October). Review the best long blooming plants and new fabulous plants for the year.

Program Chair, Jeannine Warkow

Friday, April 25, 2025

Spring Luncheon

Location: TBA

Denise Walden

Denise Walden Floral Design – Downers Grove

“Spring Themed Floral Arrangements”

Program Chair, Jeannine Warkow