

Horticulture Certificate Program Spring 2023
Berkshire Botanical Garden

Dates to Note. Some changes have been made based on instructor availability

Winter Break: Dec 27 - Jan 7

February Break: Feb 23 - March 13

Spring Break: April 25 - May 7

Graduation: May 7

Core Curriculum

Science of Plant Propagation. IN-PERSON at BBG. Saturday, Jan. 7 to Sunday, Jan. 8, 9 to 4 p.m. (two days)

Learn the art and science of plant propagation with **Adam Wheeler**, container production and horticulture manager at Broken Arrow Nursery. Adam will focus on the basic botany needed to understand and successfully propagate plants. Sexual and asexual propagation methods — including sowing seeds, cuttings, grafting, layering, and division — will be covered. Students will discover the fascinating science behind propagation along with the various techniques used to create new plants. *Please pack a lunch.* **Adam Wheeler** started working with plants at Broken Arrow Nursery in 2004 after earning his bachelor's degree in urban forestry and landscape horticulture at the University of Vermont. His favorite role at Broken Arrow is plant propagation and the acquisition and development of new plants. Adam is a past recipient of the Young Nursery Professional Award from the New England Nursery Association and is the current vice president of the North American Maple Society. He loves to share his passion for plants through photography and educational outreach. As a result, he lectures widely on a variety of subjects and is also an adjunct lecturer at Naugatuck Valley Community College and the Berkshire Botanical Garden. With his spare time he enjoys cultivating his eclectic collection of rare and unusual plants, rock climbing and competitive giant pumpkin growing.

Sustainable Garden Care & Maintenance ONLINE Class. Thursdays, Jan. 19 to Feb. 23, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. ALL CLASSES WILL BE RECORDED AND UPLOADED INTO DRIVE. Learn about the maintenance considerations that should be integrated into the garden design

process. Students' horticultural knowledge will expand to factor sustainable maintenance concerns and cost-effectiveness into plant selection. Learn procedures for perennials, woody plants and lawns, including transplanting, staking, fertilizing, winterizing, mulching, plant pathology, and pest control with an emphasis on deer control. Taught by **Daryl Beyers**. **Daryl Beyers** is the author of *The New Gardener's Handbook: Everything You Need to Know to Grow a Beautiful and Bountiful Garden* (Timber Press). As gardening certificate program coordinator at the New York Botanical Garden, he helps guide the program's curriculum, teaches the popular "Fundamentals of Gardening" course and courses on container gardening and garden design. He has more than 25 years of professional landscaping experience, specializing in residential garden design and development. As a staff writer, photographer and editor for *Fine Gardening* magazine, he authored two special issues on garden design, and he served as a contributing garden editor for *Martha Stewart Living*.

Landscape Design I IN-PERSON at BBG Tuesdays, March 14 to April 18, 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. This course, presented by Tyler Horsley, will introduce students to the design process — the systematic way designers approach a site and client. The course will include a series of simple projects that will end with a garden designed by the students. Learn design principles such as form, balance, repetition, line, texture, color, and spatial relationships. Additionally, students will be introduced to landscape history and how it helps the designer resolve and inspire garden design. A native of Utah, **Tyler Horsley** has gardened all his life. Living in New York City for 30 years, he was a member of the Green Guerillas and 6th Street and Avenue B Community Garden in the East Village, where he served as the garden's vice president and member of its board of directors. Tyler earned a master's degree in architecture from the University of Virginia, a Certificate in Horticulture from the Brooklyn Botanic Garden and is a registered architect in New York. In 2005, he decided to focus on his first love and specialize in garden design, founding Tyler Horsley Garden Design. Tyler now lives in Hudson, N.Y., and works on expansive and earthbound projects.

Adult Ed Program Practicum Offerings

Houseplant Healthcare Clinic. IN-PERSON at BBG Saturday, Feb. 11, 1 to 3 p.m. (2hrs)

As the days begin to lengthen and our thoughts turn toward spring, our beloved and sometimes bedraggled houseplants also yearn for more light and warmth. The pressures of being inside can take a toll on even the most robust plants. In this workshop, led by **Jenna O'Brien**, you'll learn the basics of good house plant health care, from identifying pests and problems to the preventive steps you can take to ensure your prized plants make it through the winter healthy and happy! Students are invited to bring along a house plant they have questions about or one to which they'd like to give some extra TLC. Consider this a spa day for your houseplants! **Jenna O'Brien**, owner and founder of Viridissima Horticulture & Design since 2003, has been working in Berkshire gardens for over 20 years. She specializes in container gardening, perennial

26th Annual Winter Lecture: Discovering Tokachi. ONLINE. Saturday, Feb. 18, 5 to 6

p.m. (1hr) Join us online for our 26th annual Winter Lecture as we proudly present **Midori Shintani**, head gardener of Tokachi Millennium Forest, who will introduce Tokachi, which has inspired a unique modern garden movement in Japan. Midori will share how she and her team have nurtured the native forests and cultivated garden areas through the seasons. She will also explain how her gardening methods are rooted in the accumulated wisdom of the ancient Japanese belief of mother culture, and how she has built a solid partnership with garden designer Dan Pearson and her garden team. The Tokachi Millennium Forest is located at the foot of the Hidaka Mountains in Hokkaido, the northernmost island of Japan. The project was originally started in 1990 by a local newspaper company that acquired about 990 acres there to create a carbon-offsetting forest. Eventually this became a project to restore the natural forest ecosystems, to share with the public and be sustainable for the next 1,000 years. The garden project of the Tokachi Millennium Forest began in 1996. In 2008, the forest officially was opened to the public, and has continued to evolve. **Midori Shintani** was born and raised in the Fukui Prefecture in central Japan, in the countryside surrounded by sea and mountains. Spending time with plants in this area rich with nature was an early influence. Midori trained in horticulture and landscape architecture at Minami Kyushu University, Japan. In 2002 she moved to Sweden and trained to become a gardener at Millesgården and Rosendals Trädgård. In 2004 she moved back to Japan and worked at a garden design and landscaping company and perennial nursery, gaining experience in both traditional and modern techniques to create her own gardening style. Since 2008 she has been the head

gardener of Tokachi Millennium Forest, merging “new Japanese horticulture” into wild nature. She writes and lectures widely.

An Introduction to Greenhouse Management . IN-PERSON at Monument Mountain Regional High School Greenhouse. March 4, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. (3hr) This compact course, led by landscape designer **Bill Florek**, will focus on the fine points of controlling the greenhouse environment. Whether maintaining a conservatory collection of ornamental plants or producing greenhouse crops, participants will learn how to grow, care for and maintain plants in a greenhouse setting. The relationship between temperature, water, light, fertilization, plant health and diseases will be covered, with a strong emphasis on integrated pest management. This program is appropriate for homeowners with conservatories, glassed-in porches and greenhouses. **Bill Florek** has been a landscape designer for over 35 years and teaches horticulture at Monument Mountain Regional High School. He also concentrates his time on greenhouse management, growing plants for school programs and the highly successful plant sales held at the school. He earned a bachelor’s degree in landscape design from the University of Massachusetts and a master of arts in teaching in biology from Elms College.

Bark and Bud Tree ID. Saturday, March 18, 10 to 1 p.m. (3hr) Discover the many plants that lend bark, buds, fruit and structural interest to the garden in fall and winter. Under the expert guidance of **Tom Ingersoll**, students will develop the ability to identify winter trees by twig and bud anatomy, bark features and plant architecture, while practicing their skills with winter tree dichotomous keys. This program will be held primarily indoors, and students will work with collected specimens. Bring a lunch and dress for occasional outdoor fieldwork. **Tom Ingersoll** is a Massachusetts Certified Arborist and also certified by the International Society of Arboriculture. He owns and operates Ingersoll Land Care in Sheffield, Mass., and has worked in the landscape industry for the past 28 years. His passion is tree care and he serves both public and private clients in the tri-state region. Additionally, he serves on the boards of the Berkshire Botanical Garden and The Sheffield Tree Project.

Ready, Set, Grow: Starting Seeds for Plants That Will Hit the Ground Growing!
IN-PERSON at BBG. Saturday, March 18, 10 to 1 p.m. (3hr) Learn vegetable and flower seed-starting and plant-growing techniques that result in vigorous plants from organic grower **Maureen Sullivan** of Left Field Farm in Middlefield, Mass. This workshop will focus

on indoor sowing and growing-on practices, including preparation of an effective seed-sowing schedule, techniques for successful germination of challenging seeds and management of plants at various stages of growth. Workshop participants will practice seed sowing and transplanting a variety of plants to take home for the spring and summer growing season. *All supplies included in cost.* **Maureen Sullivan** and her partner, Mitch Feldmesser, of Left Field Farm in Middlefield, Mass., employ certified organic production methods and materials to grow hundreds of carefully selected varieties of heirloom and hybrid annual ornamental, herb and vegetable plants in their greenhouses.

Beginners Chainsaw Skills Workshop. IN-PERSON AT BBG. Saturday, April 8, 8:30 to 4:30 p.m. (8hr) SPACE IS LIMITED Learn to use a chainsaw safely! Taught by arborist **Melissa LeVangie Ingersoll**, this popular workshop is designed for the novice-to-beginner chainsaw operator who wishes to gain greater confidence with this powerful tool. The class will combine lecture and hands-on learning, covering topics such as personal protective equipment, the anatomy of a chainsaw, reactive forces, basic chainsaw maintenance, and additional tools for use with a chainsaw. Techniques will include holding and starting a saw, hazard ID, escape options, log analysis (binds), planning cuts, overall plan and bucking and limbing. Attendees will cut logs on the ground and/or elevated on sawhorses and will leave with a better understanding of the safety features of a chainsaw and be able to operate a chainsaw based on safety fundamentals. No experience necessary. *Note: Equipment will be provided; if you have your own chainsaw or personal protective equipment, please bring it with you. Dress and prepare for the weather, including long sleeves, pants and boots. Bring a lunch.* **Melissa LeVangie Ingersoll** is a passionate educator about trees, tree care and tree climbing. She is an International Society of Arboriculture certified arborist and tree climbing specialist. She holds a Tree Risk Assessment Qualification and is Tree Care Industry Association certified (Tree Safety Professional). With over

Spring Pruning of Woody Ornamental Plants. IN-PERSON at BBG

Saturday, April 8, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. (3hr) Spring is a great time to assess woody shrubs for shape, structure and winter damage. This workshop will focus on learning by doing. **Ron and Kieran Yapple**, owners of Race Mountain Tree Services in Sheffield, Mass., will demonstrate how to renovate, rejuvenate and shape shrubs and small ornamental trees for structure, health and optimal growth. Plants covered will include viburnums, lilacs, witch hazels, deciduous azaleas, sweetshrubs, crabapples, and ornamental cherries.

Participants should dress for the weather, bring pruners, work gloves, and a lunch. **Ron Yapple** has developed a regional reputation as a premier arborist and dedicated and knowledgeable teacher of arboriculture. **Kieran Yapple** is a Massachusetts certified arborist and an International Society of Arboriculture certified arborist. He is also a Certified Tree Safety Professional and is pesticide-licensed in Massachusetts. He recently joined the board of directors of the Massachusetts Arborists Association.

Cultivating Mushrooms Outside. IN-PERSON at BBG. Saturday, April 15, 11 to 1 p.m.

(2hr) Start spring early with a dive into the fungal kingdom! Learn how to inoculate logs, wood chips and stumps for mushroom cultivation in your backyard. We will cover the basic information everyone should know about fungi and get hands-on experience doing these easy to replicate growing methods. By the end of class you will be familiar with six different wild mushroom species, three cultivation techniques and have loads of new fungal lore to share with your friends. **Willie Crosby** is the owner of Fungi Ally. He has been growing mushrooms indoors and outdoors for over nine years and works to reveal the power of mushrooms by educating people how to incorporate mushrooms into their gardens and lives. Willie teaches online for Stockbridge School of Agriculture and Cornell as well as in person at his farm in Hadley, Mass., and for UMass-Amherst.

Spring Wildflowers HYBRID CLASS (online and in-person) Thursday, May 4, 5 to 6 p.m. and Saturday, May 6, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. (5hrs)

Led by botanist **Ted Elliman**, this class will focus on the wildflowers that grace Berkshire County's spring woods. The evening program will present an overview of native wildflowers found in several kinds of forest communities in the Berkshires, with a focus on their identification features and particular habitats. The Saturday walk will be in woodlands notable for the beauty, abundance and variety of their spring flora. **Ted Elliman** worked for many years for Native Plant Trust as a staff botanist, invasive species program manager and instructor of botany, ecology and conservation classes. His book, *The Wildflowers of New England*, an identification guide to much of the region's native flora, was published in 2016 by Timber Press. Ted founded and directed an environmental education and wilderness adventure center in the Berkshires, and he periodically leads natural history tours to southwest China, where he worked for two years as a teacher and forest ecologist.

BBG Staff Practicum Offerings: These practicums take place at BBG and are led by BBG horticulture staff. Dates announced in the New Year.

BBG Horticulture Team Led Practicums

Native Seed Starting	February 25, 10 am - 12 pm
Spring Work in the Rose Garden	April 12, 9 am - 11 am
Spring Pruning of Woody Ornamental Plants	March 15, 9 am - 11 am
Dividing and Potting Perennials	April 29, 10 am - 12 pm
Transplanting Shrubs & Planting Small Ornamental Trees	April 26, 9 am - 11 am
Preparing the Vegetable Garden	April 29, 11 am - 1 pm