

**Tuesday, January 29th**

7:00 - 8:00 pm Extension\*

### ***Jump Start Your Garden Indoors***

Starting seeds this winter will produce annual and vegetable plants ready for transplant in the spring. Proper seed selection, sowing methods, and care of seedlings will allow both a larger selection of varieties and heartier plants at a lower cost.

**Wednesdays, February 6th, 13th, 20th and 27th**

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;
- 3) Troubleshooting; Pest Control; Weeds and Insects;
- 4) 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.**

**Saturday, March 16th**

### ***Gardening For The Future***

*An All Day Garden Symposium*

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

Dr. Michael Dirr, noted authority on woody plants, Heidi Hesselein, co-owner of Pleasant Run Nursery and **Barbara J. Bromley**, Mercer County Horticulturist, will be featured at a day-long program of exciting and inspiring lectures.

This event is **SOLD OUT**.

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

**Sunday, April 7th**

1:00 - 2:30 pm Mercer Educational Gardens

### ***Composting- Creating Your Own Black Gold***

Learn how to turn your kitchen scraps, fallen leaves, plant clippings and other materials into "Black Gold" organic compost that enriches soil and improves its structure. Master Gardeners will explain and demonstrate strategies for successful composting. Adding horse manure speeds the composting process, so participants can visit the Mercer County Equestrian Center barn and pick up manure to take home. Bring a lidded container.

**Saturday, May 4th**

9:00 am – 2:00 pm Mercer Educational Gardens

### ***Plant Expo & Garden Market***

Great varieties of perennials, herbs, tomatoes and native plants for local gardens will be offered 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.

**Saturday, May 18th**

9:00 - 10:30 am Mercer Educational Gardens

### ***Spring Bird Migration At MEG***

May brings a spectacular variety of birds to New Jersey. Some are passing through on their way further north, while many are returning here to stay for the summer months. Learn where they spent the winter, their nest site preferences, courting behavior, food habits and more.

**Thursday, June 20th**

7:00 - 8:00 pm Mercer Educational Gardens

### ***Herbs In The Home And Garden***

Herbs have been used for centuries in cooking. Join us to learn more about planning an herb garden of your own, when and how to prune the plants, pinch them back, and how to harvest and store them. Find out which herbs have to be replanted each year, and which of them return and spread pretty much on their own. View the five herb gardens; culinary, tea, ornamental, medicinal and sundial/thyme.

**Wednesday, July 17th**

7:00 – 8:30 pm Mercer Educational Gardens

### ***A Midsummer Night In The Garden***

Join us for an evening stroll through the Mercer Educational Gardens. Visit a variety of gardens where Master Gardeners will share tips and techniques used to keep the gardens beautiful all summer long.

**Tuesday, August 13th**

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 and/or lime is needed for your lawn.

**Saturday, September 7th**

1:00 – 4:00 pm Mercer Educational Gardens

### ***11th Annual Insect Festival***

For children of all ages! Local naturalists and Master Gardeners will offer insect displays, games, crafts, bee dancing, a puppet show, mural painting and more. Hunt for insects in the meadow, watch worms produce compost, touch and hold beneficial insects, see butterfly metamorphosis, go on a hayride.

**Barbara J. Bromley**, Mercer County Horticulturist, will be on hand to answer your garden questions. Free on-site parking.

**Saturday, October 5th**

1:00– 3:00 pm Mercer Educational Gardens

### ***Putting The Garden To Bed***

Fall activities to prepare your garden for winter can enrich the soil and make your spring startup much easier. Master Gardeners will demonstrate ways to clean out your garden beds; protect trees, shrubs and tender plants; eliminate sources of disease and insect infestation; and prepare tools for winter storage.

**Tuesday, November 12th**

7:00 – 8:00 pm Extension\*

### ***Winter Containers***

Create beautiful decorations both for outdoors and inside your home. Learn which plants work best in arrangements and how they can be combined for an attractive effect.

**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 otherwise 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**

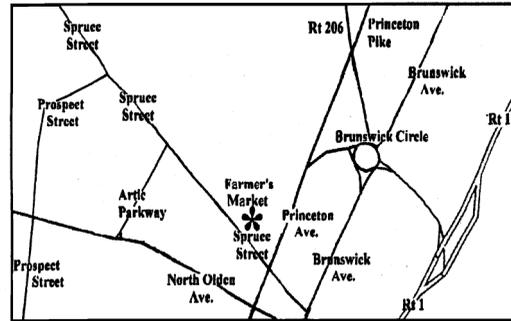
Or the Master Gardener Helpline at

**(609) 989-6853**

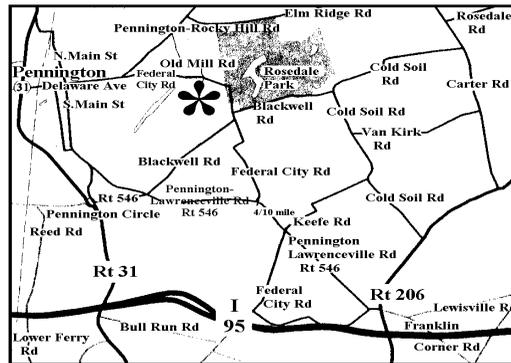
To be added to our mailing list send your information to:

[mgofmcmailist@gmail.com](mailto: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



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



[www.facebook.com/MGofMC](http://www.facebook.com/MGofMC)

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Permit No. 1404

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

**RUTGERS**  
New Jersey Agricultural  
Experiment Station



Cooperating Agencies: Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and County Boards of Agriculture, and County Boards of Chosen Freeholders. Rutgers Cooperative Extension is a unit of the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station, is 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.



**2013**

## 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  
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