

Master Gardeners of Bergen County September 2019 – mid-month update

MG meeting Tuesday, Sept. 24

1 Bergen County Plaza, Hackensack, 1st-floor meeting room. Refreshments at 7 pm; announcements at 7:20 pm; program to follow.

Our speaker this month is Bruce Crawford, director of Rutgers Gardens, whose topic is “The Wonder of Plants.” Bruce will provide some interesting and fun insights into the world of plants that will make you marvel all the more at these wonderful and colorful parts of our lives.

In addition to managing, designing, and developing the 180 acres of the Rutgers Gardens, Bruce teaches and shares his love of fun and unusual plants with students, garden clubs, MGs, community groups, and garden visitors. Bruce says that he’s rarely met a plant he doesn’t like. Bruce will be selling something — whether plants or bulbs — to support Rutgers Gardens.



Bruce Crawford

Tell your friends, family, neighbors ... new MG class begins Oct. 4

Rutgers Cooperative Extension (RCE) of Bergen County is accepting applications for the MG Class of 2020. The first class will be Friday, Oct. 4. Classes are held from 10:30 am-12:30 pm at 1 Bergen County Plaza, Hackensack. The fee is \$250 for the program. For more information, contact [Karen Riede](#) or call her at 201-336-6788.

Register for the 2019 Rutgers MG Association Conference Oct. 5

The deadline to register for the 2019 Rutgers Master Gardener Association of New Jersey Annual State Conference is Oct. 1. *Walk-ins aren't permitted.*

Details: The conference is Saturday, Oct. 5 from 8 am-3:30 pm, Cook Student Center, 59 Biel Road, New Brunswick. Theme: “How Did Climate Change My Garden?”

Cost: \$45 per person; includes continental breakfast and boxed lunch. Click [here](#) to register.

Gardening Study School Oct. 1-2 (and the optional exam is Oct. 4)

The Garden Club of New Jersey will sponsor its Gardening Study School (Course II, Series IX) Oct. 1 and 2 at Holly House at Rutgers University, New Brunswick. See the brochure sent with this *Mid-Month Update* for the schedule, list of instructors, fees, and registration information. If registration is received after Sept. 23, you'll pay an additional fee.

Coming up

A selection of meetings, events, and volunteer activities.

- Sept. 17** **Backyard Garden Club**, 7:30 pm; sponsored by the Friends of the River Vale Free Public Library, River Vale Library, 412 Rivervale Road, River Vale. Speaker: Jeffrey Van Pelt, former horticulture supervisor, Somerset County Parks Commission. Topic: Spring or fall – what's the best time to clean and divide?
- Sept. 20-22** **Bergen County Fall Harvest Festival**, 10 am-5 pm. Annual festival in Van Saun Park, 216 Forest Ave., Paramus, featuring the Master Gardener tent with exhibits and hands-on activities; 4-H exhibits; food trucks; craft fair; entertainment; pumpkin picking. Midway and rides noon-10 pm.
- Sept. 21** **Hackensack River Greenway through Teaneck**. Clean-up at Indian Pond, 10 am-noon. Meet in the parking area of the cul-de-sac of Grenville Avenue off the west side of River Road, Teaneck. Bring gloves, rakes, and loppers, if you have them. Check the home page of the Greenway [website](#) for schedule changes or cancellations due to weather conditions.
- Sept. 22** **Hackensack River Greenway through Teaneck**. Guided nature walk and talk with Nancy Slowik, native plant consultant, 10-11:30 am at Indian Pond. Meet in the parking area of the cul-de-sac of Grenville Avenue off the west side of River Road, Teaneck.
- Sept 26** **Cross Estate Gardens NJ Historical Garden Foundation talk and tea**, 1-3 pm in the library of the Cross Estate, 61 Jockey Hollow Road, Bernardsville. Chatham gardener Marta McDowell will share tales from her latest book, *Emily Dickinson's Gardening Life*. Tickets: \$30 members/\$35 non-members; available at the door or by mailing a check payable to NJHGF to: NJHGF, PO Box 712, Bernardsville, NJ 07924. Copies of the book will be available for purchase. The [Cross Estate Gardens](#) is a project of the NJ Historical Garden Foundation in cooperation with the National Park Service.
- Sept. 30** **Ho-Ho-Kus Garden Club**, 7:30 pm, Ho-Ho-Kus Community Church, 400 Warren Ave. (entrance on Sycamore Avenue), Ho-Ho-Kus. Topic: Delights and disasters. Members will tell stories, show pictures, or bring plants to set the stage for a story.