



## Etobicoke Master Gardeners

Etobicoke Master Gardener Presentation Topics & Descriptions

Visit our website at [etobickemastergardenders.ca](http://etobickemastergardenders.ca) for information on our group

To arrange a speaker email [etobickemastergardeners@rogers.com](mailto:etobickemastergardeners@rogers.com) , or submit a request via our website 'Contact Us' page

### ***Bird Friendly Gardening***

You'll learn about the ecology in your backyard, threats to birds & pollinators, how to create a bird friendly garden, plants to encourage birds and pollinators to your garden, how to identify some common birds in Canadian gardens, and some fun projects.

### **Dream - Design - Dig: Planning a Successful Garden**

Learn how to plan for a successful garden. You have heard about the 3 D's to pruning – Dead, Diseased, and Damage, we have 3 D's of planning – Dream, Design, Dig! We discuss key components and steps for planning your garden. Now is the time for all 'arm chair gardeners' to start planning, see the 'bones' of the garden while you plan.

### **Garden Heroes & Villains**

Learn about the Garden Heroes "Native Plants", what are they and their benefits. And what you can do about the Villains or "Invasive" plants and who they are. You will also learn about what to grow instead of those challenging invasive plants. Also, some interesting information on Good Bugs & Bad Bugs.

### **Growing Your Own Food**

Get Growing, enjoy an introduction to growing food. You will learn about locations where you can grow your food, and what to grow including; Plants for sun, shade, and flowers for food. Learn about how to increase your soil health, preparing the garden, planting, maintenance, and extending your growing season. And let's not forget about the Good Bugs and Bad Bugs that visit your garden.

### **How to Garden Smart – Not Hard.**

Trial and error, learning from your mistakes, improving a process! Learn about choices for low maintenance gardening and tips on how to garden smart, not hard. Gain tips on how to select plants, watering techniques, working the soil, composting, and other valuable tips and techniques for low maintenance gardening.

### ***Moveable Landscapes: Container Gardens***

Not only can containers be moved from one home to another, they can also be moved within one's home to change décor and atmosphere, they can be moved to safety during a storm, or to allow for changing sun and moisture needs. Almost anything can be grown in a container, if they are given the care you would a regular garden. Learn about *moveable landscapes*, what grows in containers, container garden design concepts, and the fundamentals of success.

### **Pollinator and Bird Friendly Gardens**

Learn about pollinators and their importance in our backyard ecology, which plants and other features can turn your garden into a haven for the birds and the bees (and other pollinators). Learn how to attract and support native wildlife in your own yard, and identify some common birds in Ontario

### **Preparing Your Garden for Spring:**

As the weather warms up, our thoughts turn to 'Spring Cleaning', and what better than in your garden. Learn what you should clean in your garden in the spring, how to care for your soil, an overview of pruning techniques, and how to care for your favourite tools. For those who can't wait for plants to grow in the garden, learn how to start your garden from seeds, cuttings, and bulbs, and how to select your plants. And don't forget to prepare your lawn, and other tips for the spring.



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### **Putting Your Garden to Sleep**

As the weather cools down start preparing to put your garden to sleep. Learn what you should do to prepare your garden for winter including planting, pruning, general cleanup and maintenance of all your garden and plants, shrubs, trees, pots, and tools. Then sit back and start reading those garden books and catalogues you have been collecting to plan for next year's garden.

### ***Pruning.***

You'll learn about the importance of pruning, proper pruning techniques, get tips on what to prune when, talk about some of the common tools used for pruning, and find out how to care for them.

### ***Soil Health – The Natural Approach.***

You'll learn what soil is made of, what good soil provides to plants, and how to test for basic soil types. Also, learn about the benefits of composting, composting basics, along with what is mycorrhizae, it's benefits, and how we use it. You will learn how to feed your soil, so your soil will feed your plants!"

### **Urban Gardening**

We all enjoy Gardening in the City, learn about the Urban Micro-Climate, and how to create a healthy Eco-system. You will learn how to protect your land & water, techniques for Urban Gardening, Plant Selection, tips for Growing Your Own Food, and a bit about the Wildlife in the Garden