

Behnke Nurseries: Beltsville

Winter/Spring 2008 Lecture Series

Saturdays at 1:00pm in Beltsville, Call 301-937-1100 to register
Seminars are FREE, unless otherwise noted

SPECIAL SUNDAY SEMINAR
March 30, 1pm
The Best Plants and Tips for a Colorful Garden Year Round with Andre Viette
Legendary Plantsman & Radio Personality
A free-form presentation which will include topics such as: new garden products; low-maintenance plants; soil preparation; and new cultivars. Plants discussed will be primarily perennials.

January 12

#S01 Houseplants: Back to Basics

Sean Henderson, Manager Houseplants, Behnke Nurseries, Beltsville

There is no such thing as a houseplant, just a foliage plant longing to be outside. With good light and proper watering, you can transform a "green decoration" into a long-term accessory.

January 19

#S02 Evergreens for Screening

Alex Dencker, Manager, Behnke Nurseries, Beltsville

Everyone has something to hide. Screen the air conditioning unit or the swimming pool. Define the property line or reduce winter winds. Get recommendations for the best evergreens to screen and protect.

January 26

#S03 Terrarium Demonstration: Houseplants in Glass

Gary Ingram, Manager, Behnke Nurseries, Potomac

A container garden in glass? Gary will construct a "world in a bottle", showing the proper materials plants and techniques to produce a terrarium with drama. A drawing will be held for the demo terrarium.

February 02

#S04 Right Plant, Right Place: Landscape Solutions

Bill Mann, Manager, Behnke Nurseries Landscape

From pre-plant planning to the critical after-planting care this will be a lively and enlightening presentation. Lecture will be followed by a question and answer period to help you with any specific project or plant questions.

February 09

#S05 Hosting the National Capital Daylily Society: Managing Deer in the Home Garden

Rob Gibbs, National Resources Manager M-NCPPC Montgomery County

Not in my backyard! Deer love daylilies and most other plants. Learn the most effective ways of encouraging deer to browse in someone else's garden. Repellents, fencing and deer resistant plants will be covered.

February 16

#S06 Getting Ready for Spring: Everything you Need to Grow

John Peter Thompson, Behnke Nurseries

The tools and techniques to get your garden ready in the "off season." A good garden begins with good soil, and the right tools make gardening a pleasure, not a chore. If you don't know a tree spade from a pitchfork, then this is the talk for you.

February 23

#W01 Orchid Repotting Workshop - \$20 fee; advance registration only

Carol Allen, Orchid Expert

Morning session at 10AM, repeats at 1:00PM

Learn the ins and outs of potting orchids: the proper pots, all about potting bark, and fertilizing to help your orchids rebloom. Bring one orchid from home to repot. Repotting materials included in fee.

You must pre-register; limit of 15 per session.

March 01

#S07 DOO: the Right Thing. Organic Products and How They Work

Bob Peterson, Cockadoodle DOO Organic Lawn and Garden Products

Everyone wants to go Organic. Learn about organic products for lawn and garden care and how they work to build healthy soil and improve your plant's tolerance of insect and disease problems. There is an alternative to harsh chemical fertilizers and herbicides! Make your garden a safer place for your kids and pets.

March 08

#S08 Healthier Gardening through Audubon At Home

Britt Slattery, Audubon, Maryland-DC

Beautiful your yard while benefiting the environment, using earth-friendly landscaping to attract birds and other wildlife. Audubon At Home provides tips for "Greening" your garden with native plants: principles that may also be applied to larger, non-residential settings.

March 15

#S09 Extreme Gardening: Too Much or Too Little Water

Brenda Skarphol, Green Spring Gardens, Alexandria, VA

Coping with drought and deluge is a challenge to every gardener. Learn how drought-tolerant plants, moisture-loving plants, rain gardens, and proper siting will reduce watering chores and increase your enjoyment of your garden, while benefiting the Bay.

March 22

#S10 Building a Butterfly Garden

Carol Allen, Horticulturist

Butterflies are the angels of the insect world. Attract butterflies to your garden with the proper selection of plants for adults and larvae alike.

March 29

#S11 Maintaining the Perennial Garden

Martha Pindale, Horticulturist

Get the most from your perennials: keep them shorter and fuller, stagger the blooming period, and encourage rebloom by selective pruning. Learn about watering and fertilizing. Get answers to all your perennial questions!

April 05

#S12 Book signing! Conifers for the Home Landscape

Dr Richard Bitner, Author

The author of *Conifers for Gardens: An Illustrated Encyclopedia* will help you make wise choices when adding conifers to your home landscape. Learn the historical use of conifers, their use and misuse today, and the best of the commercially available conifers for our area.

April 12

#S13 Herbs to Delight the Taste Buds

Cindy Brown, Assistant Director, and Horticulturist in charge of the

Epicurean Collection Green Spring Gardens, Alexandria, VA

Grow herbs but seldom use them? Cindy Brown will demonstrate how varying herb combinations evoke different regional flavors when used to season a simple hummus dip. Learn both to grow and use herbs in this popular demonstration and lecture.

April 19

#S14 Book/DVD signing! Pruning Matters: The Formula for Pruning Mastery

Fran West, Master Pruner

Pruning a tree or shrub can rejuvenate it and make it much more attractive. Simplifying a complex subject, Fran makes pruning easy for the homeowner. She will show her favorite pruning tools, and teach a few easy-to-apply rules for pruning decisions. Rain or shine; dress for the weather!

Pre-registration essential; Class limited to 45

April 26

#S15 Designing with Native Plants

David Culp, Sunny Border Nurseries

World-class gardener David Culp will feature his favorite native plants, and show you how to combine them with exotic plants and other native plants for stunning combinations. Presentation will deal primarily with perennials.

May 03

#S16 Easy Care Roses

David Kinderdine, Velvet Touch Rose Service

Roses are one of our most popular plants. Find out the best varieties for your landscape.

May 10

#S17 Reliable Summer-Blooming Perennials

Larry Hurley, Behnke Nurseries Perennial Buyer

Buy now, bloom later! Most folks buy plants in bloom, which means their gardens tend to be showiest in late spring. Extend your garden display with summer bloomers—available now but not yet in color.

May 17

#S18 Hostas: Bold Foliage for the Shade Garden

Randy Best, Mister Hosta, Behnke Nurseries Staff

Hosta breeders have been busy! Big leaves, small leaves, leaves with hints of orange and stems of red. Randy will present his favorites of the new hostas, the old reliables, and tell you his secrets for growing spectacular plants.

May 24

#S19 Hosting the Potomac Bonsai Society: Potomac Bonsai Society Auction

Local Bonsai collectors offer plants at this society fund-raising auction. Meeting and auction open to the public.

May 31

#S20 Field Trip through Behnke Nurseries, Beltsville

Behnke Nurseries Staff

Spend an hour walking through Behnke Nurseries with our staff. We will split into groups of about a dozen each. Each group will be led by one of our perennial or woody plant experts. We will walk through the sales area, pointing out our favorites, explaining their features and needs, and answering questions. Rain or shine; dress for the weather.

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