

A vibrant garden scene featuring a variety of plants and flowers. In the foreground, there are green leafy plants and a cluster of purple flowers. A wooden fence with a white picket top runs across the middle ground, with several small, glowing garden lights. The background is filled with dense green foliage and trees, with sunlight filtering through the leaves, creating a bright and lively atmosphere.

Saturday, March 25, 2023

In Your Own Backyard

The Northern Neck Master Gardeners
and Virginia Cooperative Extension
welcome you to the 29th Annual
Gardening in the Northern Neck Seminar

In Your Own Backyard

8:15 **Doors Open for Seminar Registration
Coffee, Exhibitors Marketplace, and Book Sales**

8:45 **Seminar Welcome**
Henry Lane Hull, Master of Ceremonies

9:00 ***Barbara Pleasant*— Starting a New Vegetable Garden
– Avoid These Beginner Mistakes**

Vegetable gardeners are bursting with ideas and enthusiasm; however, they also have lots of questions. Barbara Pleasant will offer the best advice possible and be ready to address the most common vegetable gardener mistakes, from planting too much to taking on difficult crops. Award-winning author of *Starter Vegetable Gardens* and *Homegrown Pantry*, Barbara will share her strategies for successfully growing vegetables in your own backyard.



10:15 **Break—Exhibitors Marketplace, Master Gardener
Showcase, Book Sales, and Book Signings**

Visit the Northern Neck Master Gardeners' showcase tables to learn more about our programs and projects. Gardening books and gifts are for sale at great prices in the Church's Hospitality Room. Two of our speakers, Barbara Pleasant and Heather Holm, will be available to sign their books.

11:00 ***Heather Holm*—Conservation Gardening: Maximizing
Ecosystem Services in Your Fruit and Vegetable Garden**

Heather Holm, a biologist, pollinator conservationist, and award-winning author, will speak about the pollination of native plants as well

as the importance of attracting bees and beneficial insects to your fruit and vegetable garden. Heather's expertise includes the interactions between native pollinators and native plants, and the natural history and biology of native bees and predatory wasps. Heather is the author of four books, including *Pollinators of Native Plants* and *Common Native Bees of the Eastern United States*.



12:30 Lunch, Exhibitors Marketplace, Master Gardener Showcase, Book Sales, and Book Signings

1:30 Edward Olsen—Landscapes IPM, the Home Gardener, and Water Quality

Ed Olsen, Agricultural and Natural Resources Extension Agent with the Virginia Cooperative Extension office in Henrico County, will share the tools for safe pest and disease management. Ed will discuss how Integrated Pest Management (IPM) solves pest problems and focus on the long-term prevention of pests or their damage through a variety of practices. You will learn about the effects of pesticides and other chemicals on the waters of our rivers and the Chesapeake Bay.



**2:45 Adjourn
Exhibitors Marketplace, Book Sales**



Virginia Cooperative Extension Master Gardeners are volunteers who work within their communities to encourage and promote environmentally sound horticulture practices through sustainable landscape management, education, and training. Northern Neck Master Gardeners are part of the education outreach of Virginia Cooperative Extension that brings the resources of Virginia's land-grant universities, Virginia Tech and Virginia State University, to the people of Essex, Lancaster, Northumberland, Richmond, and Westmoreland Counties.

Founded in 1989, Northern Neck Master Gardeners provide numerous local programs. They conduct plant clinics; staff the Help Desks at Lancaster, Northumberland, and Westmoreland Cooperative Extension Offices; present programs for schoolchildren; maintain demonstration gardens; and provide horticultural therapy for senior citizens. Additionally, speakers are available for group presentations. For programs and events, check our website, www.nnmg.org, or call the Northumberland County Cooperative Extension Office at 804-580-5694.

The 2023 Gardening in the Northern Neck Seminar is approved for 4 hours of continuing education credit for Extension Master Gardeners.

**Thank you for joining us.
Please plan to attend the
2024 Gardening in the Northern Neck Seminar
on Saturday, March 16, 2024.**

Gardening in the Northern Neck is the Northern Neck Master Gardeners' main fundraiser. Proceeds fund the Northern Neck Master Gardeners' Scholarship and other outreach and educational activities.



Virginia Cooperative Extension is a partnership of Virginia Tech, Virginia State University, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and local governments. Its programs and employment are open to all, regardless of age, color, disability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, national origin, political affiliation, race, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, military status, or any other basis protected by law.

If you are a person with a disability and desire any assistive devices, services, or other accommodations to participate in an activity, please contact Trent Jones, Northumberland County Extension Office, at (804) 580-5694 during business hours (9 a.m. to 4 p.m.) 5 days prior to the event to discuss accommodations.