



Ozark Adventure

Master Gardener State Conference



DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE
RESEARCH & EXTENSION
University of Arkansas System

May 19–21
Springdale, AR



About Your Registration

The 2022 Arkansas Master Gardener State Conference is limited to the first 400 applicants. All tours, workshops, and educational sessions will be filled on a first come, first serve basis.

Note that the garden tours are offered only on Friday—the tours are repeated morning and afternoon. We will try to give everyone their first choice, but when tours fill up, we may switch which time slot you get your tour. We always try to give everyone his or her first choice, as long as space is available. Note that there is an additional \$18 charge per ½ day garden tour to cover the cost of the buses.

You will be notified prior to the meeting which sessions or tours to which you have been assigned. You will receive a confirmation of your registration via email. If a topic is repeated, it is the same session presented twice. We have the same program morning and afternoon.

The registration process is segmented in two ways by registration time and by attendee category.

EARLY REGISTRATION		REGULAR REGISTRATION
Feb. 3 - March 17: Early Registration \$135.00 Postmarked by March 17		Mar. 18 – Apr. 18, Regular Registration \$155.00; Postmarked by April 18.
Feb. 3 – Feb. 14 Priority: Active MGs, Lifetime and County Agents ONLY	Feb. 15 – Mar. 17 Sustainer MGs, MGs on leave of absence, spouses, and guests	Mar. 18 – Apr. 18: Active & Sustainer MGs, MGs on leave of absence, spouses, and guests if space is available
Notes:		
Each MG may bring ONE guest – guests may register starting Feb.15 –April 18 or until full.		

As you register online, you will be asked your status—active MG, sustainer, leave of absence, spouse/guest, or county agent. **Only** active MGs, Lifetime and County Agents should register for the period of February 3 - February 14. All others will be entered in the order they are received, beginning Feb. 15. Sustainer, leave of absence, spouse or guest can register beginning February 15. Active Master Gardeners and County Agents get preference on tours and seminars for the early registration period of February 3 –February 14.

The registration deadline for all participants is April 18. Registration forms postmarked after April 18 will not be accepted. All cancellations are subject to a \$15 handling fee. No refunds after April 18. After that, meal counts are set, and we must pay for you regardless of whether you are there or not.

Lodging Information

Our conference site is the Holiday Inn/Convention Center, 1500 South 48th Street, Springdale, AR 72762. The block of rooms reserved at the hotel has been filled. Additional hotel is:

(Remember to mention that you are with the 2022 Master Gardener Conference)

Hampton Inn (across the parking lot from the Holiday Inn Convention Center)

1700 48th Street

Springdale, AR 72762

479-756-3500

Conference Rate: \$119.00

Inn at the Mill

3906 Johnson Mill Blvd.

Springdale, AR

479-443-1800

Call to make reservation and ask for the "state rate"

Rate: \$96.00 per night, King Rooms only

Good for May 17, 18, 19 and 20

Includes breakfast

Located 2.5 miles south of the Holiday Inn Convention Center on 48th Street

This conference is only for active Master Gardeners, County Agents, Sustainers, Master Gardeners on leave of absence, and their spouses and/or one guest per Master Gardener. We consider this conference a privilege of being a Master Gardener. This conference it is not open to the general public.

Optional Merchandise for Purchase

Short Sleeve Unisex T-Shirt – royal blue with conference logo – Sizes S-XL: \$15.00; Size 2XL: \$17.00

Water Bottle, cobalt blue, with U of A MG logo - \$15.00

Half Bistro Apron, Natural, with U of A MG logo - \$9.00



Royal blue conference t-shirt

Water bottle with UA MG logo

Half bistro apron with UA MG logo

About the Pre-Conference Tour, Special Event, Garden Tours and Seminars

Wednesday, May 18 – “An Ozark Adventure in Time Travel: Gardens and Their Inhabitants, Old and New”

Pre-Conference Tour (Optional: \$60.00)

- Travel by bus to the **Arkansas Archeological Survey**. Start your “Ozark Adventure” at the very beginning by learning about the earliest master gardeners in Arkansas: the indigenous Native Americans! You will learn about the first foragers, the horticulturists of the Woodland period and the intensive maize agriculturists of the Mississippi period. You will get to see actual plant remains from the past! For more information about the

Arkansas Archeological Survey, visit <https://archeology.uark.edu/>

- Move on to the **University of Arkansas Herbarium (UARK)**. Founded in 1875, it is the oldest and largest collection of preserved plant specimens in the state. Visitors can look forward to seeing historic plant specimens dating back to 1869 and photographs of botanists who worked at UARK in the 20th century and hear stories about some of the important plant discoveries they made. We will also discuss and demonstrate some of the modern technologies being employed to preserve and promote herbarium collections. For more information about the UA Herbarium, visit

https://fulbright.uark.edu/departments/biology/herbarium/index.php?fbclid=IwAR0kIXsgr8rIo9aTvCigzQYAltNE_fkT69Q3cDkqB8MoNYZw23xkZQHfB34

- Next you will visit the **University of Arkansas Arthropod Museum**. It houses the largest collection in the state of shelled, winged and multi-legged specimens. Visitors will see a wealth of beetles, butterflies, scorpions,

roaches and other creatures. The collection is often used in outreach events in elementary schools in NWA. For more information about the UA Arthropod Museum, visit <https://arthropod.uark.edu/>

- Move on to **Habitat Exhibit at Historic Cane Hill**. Located in western Washington County, the community of Cane Hill was founded in 1829. A three-mile system of trails and walking paths connect many of the historic structures, amid beautiful creeks, fresh-water springs, forested hills and limestone bluffs. This setting, teeming with a wide variety of flora and fauna, makes Cane Hill an ideal venue for the Smithsonian Institution’s *Habitat* exhibition, a series of thirteen outdoor exhibits located along Historic Cane Hill’s trail system. *Habitat* explores one big idea: “Protecting habitats protects life.”

Box lunches from Briar Rose Bakery will be served in the outdoor pavilion next door to the 1891 Cane Hill Presbyterian Church.

Please Note: This is an outdoor exhibit along a three-mile system of walking paths and trails. Wear comfortable walking shoes and dress appropriately for the weather. Some trail sections are steep and at times slippery.

Exhibits located in these sections may be inaccessible to visitors with physical disabilities. A virtual *Habitat* exhibit will be available in the Visitor Center, allowing a glimpse of the entire exhibition to visitors unable to access all areas. Restrooms will be available.

For more about Historic Cane Hill, visit <https://historiccanehillar.org/>

For more about the *Habitat* exhibit, visit <https://gardens.si.edu/exhibitions/habitat/>

- Move on to **Riverside Specialty Farm**. Larry Galligan's Riverside Specialty Farm uses sustainable, organic practices to produce a variety of vegetable such as heirloom tomatoes, peppers and squash. Located on the West Fork of the White River, the 17-acre farm includes hoop houses, a 3,000-square foot high tunnel to extend growing seasons and tall fencing to keep deer out. Larry sells produce from the farm at the West Fork Farmer's Market and to several local restaurants.

For more information about Riverside Specialty Farm, visit <https://www.facebook.com/riversidespecialtyfarm/>

- Shop at **Westwood Gardens**, founded in 1982 in Fayetteville by Brenda and Russell Black. Westwood Gardens originated from a few greenhouses called Blackland Farms. The Blacks decided that growing their own plants was the key and it is what made the business work. While visiting Westwood Gardens, you'll have plenty of time to shop 'til you drop!

For more information about Westwood Gardens, visit <https://www.westwoodgardens.com/>

Thursday, May 19 – Special Event – Registration will open at 12:30 pm. After you register and collect your goody bags, you are welcome to enjoy the **Gardeners' Market** with outstanding vendors (12 noon to 5:30 pm), the **Silent Auction**, or head to **Downtown Springdale for shopping, eating, special demonstrations and tours**. The story of the revitalization of downtown Springdale began nearly 30 years ago with an eye toward what's possible. Come see how nature has played an important role in our development! There is no charge for the Downtown Springdale Event and maps will be provided.

- **1:00pm- 4:00pm-Session Information and Starting Point for Tours - Shiloh Square - 105 E. Emma Ave**

- **1:45pm or 3:15pm-Downtown Springdale Gardens - Shiloh Square - 105 E. Emma Ave**

The flower beds in downtown Springdale used to be planted in red begonias in the summer and pansies in the fall. City Horticulturist, Heather Schneider, knew there were more possibilities that would please the human eye and feed nature, and in just two short years, she has brought beautiful landscapes to downtown Springdale. Join Heather, as she describes the challenges and opportunities in creating spaces where nature can thrive. **(1/2 hour session, repeated)**

- **2:00pm or 3:00pm-Mural Tour/Walking Tour in Downtown Springdale**

In 2021, four local artists received grants to beautify downtown with murals and more artist have joined in to create even more attractions. Each mural carries with it a story from the artist and displays nature, people and places. **Please note that this tour requires walking on a level surface surface without resting for approximately one hour. (1 hour tour, repeated)**

- **2:15pm-R. McClintock Fine Woodworking - 105 Spring Street**

Master Gardener's will appreciate, owner and craftsman, Rachel McClintock's love for the use and preservation of wood and its sources. Rachel will share her knowledge about wood and its importance for our planet. **(1/2 hour session with 20 participants)**

- **2:30pm or 3:30 pm-Pollinator Demonstration Garden @ Shiloh Museum, 118 W. Johnson Ave**

Marty Powers, Master Gardener and grounds guru at Shiloh Museum of Ozark History has long been a butterfly enthusiast, giving away thousands of milkweed seeds and plants over the last few years. Marty will show visitors to the Museum how they can create pollinator-friendly spaces in their own yards. Marty will talk about his ideas to get more people to make gardening choices that will benefit nature. **(1/2 hour session, repeated, with 20 participants each session)**

- **2:30pm or 3:15pm-Craft Ciders from Local Fruit Growers @ Black Apple Hard Cider - 321 E. Emma**

Come hear Leo Orpin, one of the founders, walk you through the process of developing new flavors, sourcing the juices used in making their ciders and working with Food Loops on sustainable practices. **(1/2 hour session, repeated, with 10 participants each session)**

- **2:30pm or 3:15pm-Natural Soap Making Demo @ Milk & Sugar Bath Company - 122 E. Emma**

Owner and artisan, Leigh Waycaster Pronia, specializes in handmade bath, beauty and home goods. Each batch is handcrafted in Arkansas with pure love, skin-loving ingredients. Leigh will demonstrate soap making in her shop! **(1/2 hour session, repeated, with 15 participants each session)**

Dinner and opening speaker Charity Cox will be held in the Holiday Inn Convention Center.

Silent Auction

The Silent Auction is run by County 76, with proceeds defraying the Master Gardener PNG Leadership Conference and supporting the Janet B. Carson Scholarship Fund. All counties are encouraged to donate as many items as possible. The auction will be open on Thursday from 1 to 5:30 pm and again on Friday from 8 am to 4:00 pm. Auction items should be picked up after dinner on Friday night, until 9:30 pm or Saturday morning from 7:00 to 8:00 am.

Friday, May 20: Registration will be on-going at the Holiday Inn/Convention Center beginning at 8 am. The Gardeners' Market will be open from 8 am to 5:30 pm. Garden Tours and Breakout Sessions will run concurrently, morning and afternoon.

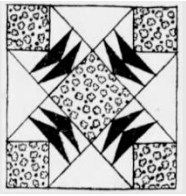
Garden Tours – Quilts are a beloved part of Ozark history. With a nod to our ancestors, we've named our three "Ozark Adventure" garden tours after historic quilt patterns that were among those published in the Kansas City *Star* newspaper from 1928 until 1961. Many Ozark folks read the *Star* and our grandmothers and great-grandmothers especially looked forward to clipping the quilt patterns that were a regular feature in the paper. The quilt blocks pictured here are as they looked in the *Star*.



“Building Blocks”

Tour 1 – “Building Blocks” (1/2 day): (Kansas City *Star* quilt pattern, 1933.) Homes in Fayetteville's historic district and Mount Sequoyah environs are the building blocks for gardens highlighting pollinator habitats, heirloom plants, and native grasses. The owners have planned their gardens with an eye toward adaptability to rocky hillsides, respect for the history and character of the neighborhood and sustainability of native flora and fauna. Easy walking for most, with a hillside to navigate at one garden.

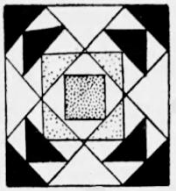
- Hillside Garden
- Porches with a View
- Serenity Shade
- Headquarters House



“Ozark Trail”

Tour 2 – “Ozark Trail” (1/2 day): (Kansas City *Star* quilt pattern, 1935.) Ozark hills and valleys are home to gardens that include water features, a labyrinth, and an apple orchard. The owners invite you to explore the agrarian roots of the Ozarks as well as the artistic and whimsical side of gardening. Easy walking for most, with a slight incline to navigate at one garden.

- Giardino di Fiori
- HollyWood Gardens
- Rutherford Farm



“Rambler”

Tour 3 – “Rambler” (1/2 day): (Kansas City *Star* quilt pattern, 1928.) It's a worldwide ramble through gardens with influences from the British Isles, Japan, and the shady forests of Asia. The owners use their life experiences before coming to the Ozark to guide their present-day garden and landscape. Easy walking.

- Dingley Dell
- Hosta La Vista
- Seven Oaks

Meet the Speakers

Keynote Speakers:

Tony Avent - “I Like It, I Love It, I Want Some More of It: 100 Amazing Perennials I Wouldn’t Garden Without” - Tony Avent, a graduate of North Carolina State University, is well known as a horticulturist and plantsman. With his wife, Anita, he is the owner of [Plant Delights](#) retail and online nursery, a source for native, rare, and unique perennials, and [Juniper Level Botanic Garden](#), both located in Raleigh, North Carolina. Tony is an international plant explorer and a hybridizer of hostas, rare bulbs, and hardy aroids. As a garden writer, he contributes to *Fine Gardening* magazine. He has been featured on HGTV and North Carolina Public TV and in several garden books.

Charity Cox - “Greetings from a Garden Center: Get the Dirt!” - Charity Cox is the purchasing manager and education coordinator for White River Nursery, a small independent nursery in Fayetteville. She started as a part-time waterer, weeder, and general mover of plants over 10 years ago and has worked in all areas of the nursery, with many hours spent in the propagation and perennial house. Charity enjoys sharing her love for all things plants-related through White River Nursery’s social media and is always happy to help someone find just the right plant. She does garden consulting and design work on the side, when she’s not busy finding more spots for new plants on her farmstead.

Still on the Hill - “Words on Birds” - Kelly and Donna Mulhollan of Fayetteville perform as Still on the Hill. They have received many awards for their work, including the Governor’s Arts Award for Folklife and the Washington County Historical Society’s Distinguished Citizen Award. With a dozen CDs under their belt, Still on the Hill has toured across the U.S., Canada, and Europe for 25 years and is widely recognized for their songwriting, musicianship, and infectious performance chemistry.

Seminar Speakers:

Laura Brewer - “Cut-Flower Production: Simple, Seasonal and Sustainably Grown” - Laura Brewer is site manager for the [Peel Museum and Botanical Garden](#) in Bentonville. We will cover best practices, pruning to get the most blooms from your plants, “know your plant, know your soil,” some top picks for seasonal flower varieties, and sustainable pest and disease control practices.

Steve Chyrchel - “Saving the Ozark Chinquapin” - Steve Chyrchel is an interpreter at [Hobbs State Park](#) (Arkansas’s largest state park, spanning a 12,054-acre tract of Ozark landscape along the southern shore of Beaver Lake) and board member of the [Ozark Chinquapin Foundation](#). Chinquapin trees once flourished in the southeastern United States, but a blight tracing back to the 1900s killed 3.7 billion American chestnut and Ozark chinquapin trees. Learn about the work being done to breed blight-resistant chinquapin trees and restore this wonderful native tree to our forests.

Dr. Victor L. Ford - “Growing Mushrooms at Home” - Dr. Vic Ford is the Associate Vice President for Agriculture and Natural Resources with the University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture. A northeast Tennessee native, he earned B.S and M.S. degrees from the University of Tennessee and a PhD in forestry and forest products from Virginia Tech. He has studied forest soils, productivity, and weed control for 35 years. Dr. Ford and his wife, Cindy, live in Hope and share five children and six grandchildren. He loves music, sports, fly-fishing, hunting, computers, ham radio, and traveling. This presentation will explore the possibility of growing your own mushrooms year-round. Materials and methods will be described in detail. In the process, information on the natural history of fungi will be presented.

Dr. Rose Gergerich - “The Social Impact of Plant Diseases: Famine, Dead Trees and LSD” - Rose Gergerich is emeritus professor in the Department of Plant Pathology at the University of Arkansas, where her 30-year career was focused on the study of plant virology. She grew up on a dairy farm in northern Wisconsin where she learned to grow and appreciate plants from her parents and grandparents. She now lives out in the boondocks in south Washington County on her piece (peace) of land in the Arkansas Ozarks. Dr. Gergerich is

an active member of the Northwest Arkansas Master Naturalists, and she helped form the Native Plant Team and Book Club in that chapter. She enjoys working with fellow Master Naturalists in the greenhouse and nursery on her property where they propagate native plants for distribution in Northwest Arkansas. The social and cultural impact of several plant disease epidemics will be discussed, as well as programs that are in place to prevent or deal with future plant disease epidemics.

Cody and Lauren Gilstrap - “Choosing the Perfect Water Feature for Your Space” - Based in Northwest Arkansas, Cody and Lauren Gilstrap, owners of River Rock Water Gardens, design, build, and maintain water features across the U.S., including for animal conservationists and even zoos. Cody’s degree in horticulture from the University of Arkansas and his experience as the perennials manager for Greenleaf Nursery Company, one of America’s largest wholesale nurseries, have contributed to his gift of selecting plants to complement each of his water features. As Arkansas’ only certified aquascapes contactors, the Gilstraps know the value of using quality equipment to produce first-rate designs. Cody and Lauren’s passion for creating outdoor spaces with unique water features enables them to provide the perfect space for each of their amazing customers. Adding the soothing sound of a water feature enhances your gardens but can be overwhelming when you think about the possibilities. We will dive into the types of water features, the maintenance of each type, and the process to decide which one would fit your space the best.

Casey Johannsen - “The Night Shift in the Night Sky: How Nocturnal Pollinators Are Being Threatened by Our Desire to Light the Night” - Casey Johannsen is an interpretive park ranger at the Buffalo National River. She grew up on a small farm in rural Michigan and discovered her love of the national parks on a college service-learning trip to Acadia National Park. Casey was fortunate enough to get her foot in the door at Acadia and worked there, seasonally, for seven years. She then moved to sunny south Texas to secure a permanent job in the National Park Service at Amistad National Recreation Area. In 2011 she and her husband decided to leave the desert behind and headed for the beautiful waters of Buffalo National River. Casey is thoroughly enjoying her time in the Natural State and raising her son in the Ozarks. In this program we will explore the basics of light pollution and the effects artificial light at night has on the vital pollinators that operate under the cover of darkness.

Megan Lankford - “Eat, Drink and Be Rosemary” - Megan Lankford is the horticulture supervisor at the Botanical Garden of the Ozarks in Fayetteville. Her love of nature and all things green began with a childhood spent camping, hiking, canoeing, and playing in rural upstate New York and the Adirondacks. Yet it wasn’t until Megan was in her mid-twenties that she found her love of gardening. With the help of a lifelong gardener, Megan learned the art of horticulture. Shortly thereafter, she and her husband moved to Fayetteville where she learned the science of horticulture at the University of Arkansas. Megan graduated summa cum laude from the UA with a major in horticulture and a minor in sustainability. She resides in Fayetteville with her husband, Chris, their son, Vincent, two dogs, and a snake. Megan currently has a pollinator garden, Zen garden, vegetable garden, and various ornamental gardens throughout her yard. She is also adding natives to her gardens to increase food and habitat for native fauna. In this class you will learn some varieties of vegetables that do well in our climate, some of Megan's favorite varieties to grow, and some unique things you can grow in your garden for food, drinks, and beauty.

Paige Mizell - “Tea, Books and Camellias” - Paige Mizell is vice president of Mizell’s Camellia Hill Nursery in Folsom, Louisiana, and the current president of the Southeast Louisiana Nursery Association. Throughout her childhood, she worked with her parents in various horticultural endeavors and began working full time at the nursery in 2014. Prior to that she was a junior high and high school teacher. Paige has a bachelor’s degree in psychology with a minor in criminal justice from Southeastern Louisiana University and a master’s degree in low incidence disabilities special education and applied clinical psychology from Valdosta State University. She is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in applied clinical sports psychology. This historical, literary, how-to class will explore the ways in which tea, books, and camellias are intertwined.

Lissa Morrison - “Backyard Habitat Adventures” - Lissa Morrison has worked in the field of horticulture for more than 35 years. She is the former owner of White River Nursery, a wholesale plant nursery and retail garden center in Fayetteville. She worked at the Botanical Garden of the Ozarks (BGO) for eight years, serving her last four years there as horticulture supervisor and designer. Currently Lissa dedicates her time and energy to educating and increasing the knowledge and use of native plants. She is volunteering with the Arkansas Native Plant Society Education Committee and is active in the Wild Ones Ozark Chapter that promotes landscaping with native plants. Lissa will show us how our landscaping choices will invite different species of wildlife, everything from butterflies and birds to box turtles and chipmunks, bringing the joys and fun adventures of nature right into our own backyards.

Joe Neal - “Simple Things Help Birds” - Joe Neal is a retired wildlife biologist with the U.S. Forest Service. He is known in the Ozarks as well as nationally for his expertise in and passion for birds. He is the author of many articles and books on birds, including *Birds of Northwest Arkansas: An Ecological Perspective* and *In the Province of Birds*. He is the co-author with Doug James of *Arkansas Birds: Their Distribution and Abundance*. Joe currently serves as field trip leader and secretary for the Northwest Arkansas Audubon Society. Learn some easy ways to create a bird-friendly yard.

Dr. Jason K. Norsworthy - “What is That Plant Growing in My Yard or Garden?” - Dr. Jason Norsworthy is Distinguished Professor and Elms Farming Chair of Weed Science at the University of Arkansas. He was born and raised in south Arkansas, where he was involved in agriculture at an early age on his parents’ truck patch farm focused mainly on sweet potatoes and purple hull (southern) peas. During these times, he developed a strong love for agriculture and a keen interest in the weeds that were an annual challenge to successful crop production. He received a B.S. in plant sciences/agronomy from Louisiana Tech University and an M.S. and Ph.D. in plant sciences/weed science from the University of Arkansas. He currently serves as the editor of *Weed Technology* journal. He will discuss available resources for weed identification along with where to send samples and how to properly prepare them. He will also highlight 4-H opportunities and encourage all attendees to engage the next generation in gardening and other aspects of agriculture, including weed identification and management.

Joanne Olszewski - “Composting with Worms, ie, Vermicomposting” - Joanne Olszewski is the co-author of the 35th anniversary edition of [*Worms Eat My Garbage*](#). A close friend of the original author, Mary Appelhof (1936-2005), Joanne taught middle school science and later made a career as a tax accountant. A retired CPA, Joanne is the owner of Worm Woman Inc. which manufactures and sells the Worm-A-Way worm bin. Patented by Mary Appelhof, the bin is ideal for use in the classroom. Today Joanne is known as “Worm Woman 2.0.” She lives in Northwest Arkansas and is a land steward in the Ozarks. Learn how to compost food waste successfully with worms. Topics will include a home for the worms, temperature and moisture needs, foods and bedding to use, and which worms will work best.

United States Department of Agriculture, University of Arkansas, and County Governments Cooperating

The University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture offers all its Extension and Research programs and services without regard to race, color, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, national origin, religion, age, disability, marital or veteran status, genetic information, or any other legally protected status, and is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer.