

Gardens that function efficiently and esthetically for human use while supporting our wildlife

WINTER

- Enjoy the beauty of your garden!
- Deal with winter storm damage
 - [Assessing and Dealing with Snowstorm Damage on Trees](#) (info on broken branches)
- Deal with potential salt damage
 - [Beyond Road Salt: Winter De-Icing Options](#)
 - [Trees and Shrubs That Tolerate Saline Soils, Salt Spray, and De-Icing Salts](#), VCE
 - [Best Bets: Salt-Tolerant Plants](#) (New resource)
- Do winter pruning of trees and shrubs
 - [Evergreen Tree Pruning Calendar](#), VCE
 - [Deciduous Tree Pruning Calendar](#), VCE
 - [Video: Winter Pruning](#)
 - See [TreesAreGood](#) to find certified arborist
 - [Video: Pruning Trees and Shrubs](#)
 - [Native Shrubs To Prune in Winter](#) (New resource)
- Control winter weeds
 - [Video: Winter Weeds](#)
 - [Weed Resource Page](#) (Identification and Control)
 - [Video: Tips, Tricks, and Tools: Advice from Master Gardeners](#) (Hori Hori 1:01:58)
- **Plan for the new growing season:**
 - Reduce lawn & consider turf grass alternatives
 - [Rethinking Your Lawn](#)
 - [Video: Climate-Conscious Gardening: Rethinking Your Lawn](#) (0:59:51)
 - [Carex for the Mid-Atlantic Region](#), Mt. Cuba Center (possible lawn substitutes)
 - [Lawn Alternatives](#), University of Maryland Extension.
 - [Lawn Alternatives](#), Maryland Department of Natural Resources

- [“No Mow” Lawn Factsheet](#) (fine fescue mix)
- *Upcoming class: Case Studies in Lawn Replacement (2023-04-14)*
- Replace invasive plants with native alternatives
 - [Invasive Plants and Better Alternatives](#) (Fact Sheets)
 - [Making Wise Plant Choices: Natives vs Invasives](#)
 - [Video: Invasive Plants & Native Alternatives](#)
 - [Video: Overused Foundation Plants & Native Alternatives](#)
 - [Video: Invasives in Your Garden](#)
- Add new garden beds
 - [Video: Sustainable Landscaping Basics](#)
 - [Video: Creating a Well-Layered Landscape](#)
 - [Sustainable Gardening & Landscaping](#)
 - *Upcoming classes: Sustainable Landscape Design Basics (2023-01-27 & 2023-02-03)*
- Do a soil test
 - [Video: Gardening Basics: Doing a Soil Test](#)
 - [Locations of Kits & Interpreting Your Soil Test](#)
 - [Native Plants for Wildlife Habitat and Conservation Landscaping](#) (lists preferred pH)

SPRING

- Care for sedges & grasses
 - [Native Grasses, Sedges & Rushes for the Home Garden](#)
- Provide habitat for native bees
 - [Video: Cutting Back Native Plants in Spring](#)
 - [How to Create Habitat for Stem-Nesting Bees](#), Heather Holm
 - [Nesting & Overwintering Habitat for Pollinators & Other Beneficial Insects](#), Xerces Society
- Dividing summer- and fall-blooming perennials
 - [Dividing Native Perennials](#) (New resource)

- Care of perennials (Habitat for stem-nesting bees)
 - [Video: Cutting Back Native Plants in Spring](#)
 - [How to Create Habitat for Stem-Nesting Bees](#), Heather Holm
 - [Nesting & Overwintering Habitat for Pollinators & Other Beneficial Insects](#), Xerces Society
- Select appropriate new plants
 - [Tried & True Native Plant Selections for the Mid-Atlantic](#) (Fact sheets)
 - [Master Gardener Virtual Classroom](#) (Many recorded classes on native plants)
 - [Plant NoVA Natives Guide](#), 4th Edition
 - [Plant Virginia Natives Regional Guides](#)
 - [North Carolina Extension Gardener Plant Toolbox](#) (Southeastern species)
- “Right Plant, Right Place”
 - [Best Bets for Particular Uses](#) (Suggestion Lists)
 - [Video: Native Plants for Dry Conditions](#)
 - [Video: Native Plants for Wet Conditions](#)
 - *Upcoming class: Native Plants for Shade (2023-04-21)*
- Consider deer predation
 - [Best Bets: Native Plants Rarely Damaged by Deer](#)
 - *Upcoming class: Strategies for Dealing with Deer (2023-04-28)*
- Considerations for dioecious species
 - [“Dioecious Native Shrubs for Wildlife”](#), Karen Bussolini
 - [Winterberry Pollination Chart](#)
- Assure better fruiting for Viburnums
 - [“Viburnum: A Shrub for Many Settings,”](#) Piedmont Master Gardeners
- Straight species vs cultivars
 - [“Making Wise Plants Choices, Parts 3: Cultivars”](#) (Tallamy, Annie White)
 - [Mt. Cuba Center Plant Trials](#) (for Mid-Atlantic Region; includes *Carex*)

- Start plants from seed
 - [Planting from seeds](#), Plant NoVA Natives
 - [Video: Winter Seed Sowing](#), Audubon Society of Northern Virginia
 - [Native Plant Seed Propagation](#), New Jersey Cooperative Extension
- Purchase native plants
 - [Plant NoVA Natives, Native-Only Sellers](#)
 - [Plant NoVA Natives, Native Plant Sales](#)
 - [Virginia Native Plant Society, Native Plant Nurseries](#)
 - [Maryland Native Plant Society, Native Plant Vendors](#)
 - [Native Plant Society of New Jersey, Nurseries with Natives](#)
 - [North Carolina Native Plant Society, Native Plant Nurseries](#)

SUMMER

- Create container plantings
 - [Video: Small Space Gardening for Pollinators](#) (Container section at 1:09:50)
 - [Captivating Containers with Native Plants](#), Audubon at Home
 - [Container Gardening for Earth Renewal](#), Plant NoVA Natives
 - [Container Gardening Keystone Plants List](#), Homegrown National Park
- Control height of perennials
 - [Cutting Back and Deadheading Native Perennials](#) (New resource)
 - [Video: Cutting Back Perennials As They Grow](#)
 - [Video: Doing the Chelsea Chop: Summer Pruning of Woody & Herbaceous Plants](#)
 - *Well-Tended Perennial Garden: The Essential Guide to Planting and Pruning Techniques*, Tracy DiSabato-Aust, Third Addition, Timber Press, 2017.
- Deadheading
 - [Cutting Back and Deadheading Native Perennials](#) (New resource)
- Do summer pruning
 - [Deciduous Tree Pruning Calendar, VCE](#)
 - [Video: Summer Pruning of Perennials and Shrubs](#)

- [Video: The What, When and How of Pruning Native Shrubs and Small Trees](#), VNPS
- [Native Shrubs To Prune in Summer](#) (New resource)
- Deal with extreme weather
 - [Managing Water: Flood & Drought](#)
 - [Video: Build Healthy Soil & Manage Water in Your Yard](#)
 - [Video: Rain Gardens for Homeowners](#), Northern Virginia Regional Commission
- Be alert for foliar diseases
 - [Video: Tree Care: Managing Pests and Diseases](#)
 - [Dogwood Anthracnose](#) (vs Spot Anthracnose), Illinois Extension
- Be aware of potential pests
 - [Pest Management Guide](#), VCE (See cultural controls)
- Miscellaneous summertime tips
 - [Keep Mosquitoes & Ticks at Bay](#)
 - [Garden Practices and Products to Minimize Your Carbon Footprint](#)

FALL

- Plant spring ephemerals
 - [Video: Native Spring Ephemerals](#)
 - [Spring Ephemerals for the Garden](#), Plant NoVA Natives
- Plant trees and shrubs
 - [Video: Gardening Basics: Planting Shrubs and Trees](#)
 - [How To Plant a Shrub or Tree](#) (Fact sheet)
 - [Video: Native Trees: How to Select, Plant and Transplant](#)
- Maintain perennials
 - [Video: Creating a Well-Layered Landscape](#) (Cues to Care at 54:00)
- Leave the leaves
 - [Video: My Year Playing with Litter: Exploring the Effects of Leaf Litter Removal on Insect Communities](#), VNPS
 - [Video: Leave the Leaves: And Other Beneficial Practices](#)