

**Rutgers Master Gardener Training Program of Burlington County**  
**2016 Syllabus, page 1**

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Date, Loc., Time</b>	<b>Lecturer</b>	<b>Description</b>
Intro + Botany	Thursday, January 21 RCE Westampton 9:00 AM-12:00 noon	Merry Bogert MG Educator Burlington County	Introduction to Master Gardener Program in Burlington County. Botany basics as a foundation for the rest of the course.
Plant Taxonomy	Tuesday, January 26 RCE Westampton 9:00 AM-12:00 noon	Merry Bogert MG Educator Burlington County	Basic plant identification techniques based on plant morphology and ecology and taxonomic relationships will be discussed.
Soils	Thursday, January 28 RCE Westampton 9:00 AM-12:00 noon	Bill Bamka Agricultural Agent RCE Burlington County	Soil management practices that favor plant growth will be covered including physical remediation and fertilization.
Plant Nutrition	Tuesday, February 2 RCE Westampton 9:00 AM-12:00 noon	Bill Bamka Agricultural Agent RCE Burlington County	Key nutrients needed to facilitate plant functions and their role in plant processes will be discussed. Symptoms of imbalances will be shown and remediation of nutrient problems will be addressed.
Entomology	Thursday, February 4 RCE Westampton 9:00 AM-12:00 noon	Joe Mahar Vegetable IPM Coordinator Rutgers University	Common garden and household insects, biology, identification and control will be discussed.
Plant Pathology	Tuesday, February 9 RCE Westampton 9:00 AM-12:00 noon	Ann Gould Extension Specialist Rutgers Dept Plant Bio & Path	Ornamental tree and shrub pathology. Symptoms, signs and control will be discussed.
Native Plants	Thursday, February 11 RCE Westampton 9:00 AM-10:30 AM,	Toni Price MG Educator Burlington County	The benefits and challenges of incorporating native plants into home gardening systems will be discussed.
Compost	10:30-12:00 Noon	John Siemanowski MG Educator Burlington County	The basics of composting, how to, and troubleshooting will be discussed.
Houseplants	Tuesday, February 16 RCE Westampton 9:00 AM-12:00 noon	Michelle Casella Agricultural Agent RCE Gloucester County	An overview of different types of interior plants and their selection and care. Common pests and diseases and management strategies: cultural, biological, and chemical will be discussed.
Landscape IPM	Thursday, February 18	Steve Rettke IPM Program Associate Rutgers University	The definition of IPM and how it is practiced through implementation of monitoring regimes and various management strategies including cultural, biological and chemical control will be discussed
Earthwise Lawn Care	Tuesday, February 23 RCE Westampton 9:00 AM-12:00 noon	Bill Hlubik Agricultural Agent RCE Middlesex County	Basics of lawn care and pest control emphasizing cultural and biological controls when possible and pesticide use when necessary.
Animal Damage	Thursday, February 25 RCE Westampton 9:00 AM-12:00 noon	Brian McDonald Horticulturist RCE Burlington County	Common helpline wildlife issues will be discussed. Effective recognition of the cause and appropriate management strategies will be discussed.
Herbaceous Plants	Tuesday, March 1 RCE Westampton 9:00 AM-12:00 noon	Barbara Bromley Horticulture Consultant RCE Mercer County	Herbaceous plants will be categorized by their cultural specifications. Finding the right plant for the right place. Management and care methods will also be discussed.
Vegetable Crops	Thursday, March 3 RCE Westampton 9:00 AM-12 noon	Ray Samulis Agricultural Agent RCE Burlington County	The principles of successful vegetable gardening including specific information on vegetable types, recommended cultivars, cultural requirements and integrated pest management will be discussed.
Fertilizer/Pesticide Math	Tuesday, March 8 RCE Westampton 9:00 AM-12:00 noon	Bill Bamka Agricultural Agent RCE Burlington County	Common issues will be discussed regarding application rates of fertilizers and pesticides for the homeowner.

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**2016 Syllabus, page 2**

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Date, Loc., Time</b>	<b>Lecturer</b>	<b>Description</b>
Weed ID	Thursday, March 10 RCE Westampton 9:00 AM-12:00 noon	Bill Bamka Agricultural Agent RCE Burlington County	Life cycles, use of keys, overview of weeds common to our region and strategies of control will be discussed.
Small Fruits	Tuesday, March 15 RCE Westampton 9:00 AM-12 noon	Gary Pavlis Agricultural Agent RCE Atlantic County	Small fruits in the home garden, their maintenance, harvest, disease and pest management will be discussed.
Plant Propagation	Thursday, March 17 RCE Westampton 9:00 AM-12:00 noon	Larry Kuser Owner Fernbrook Farms	Propagation techniques and the best time to propagate particular plants will be discussed.
Evergreens	Tuesday, March 22	Brian McDonald Horticulturist RCE Burlington County	Selection and care of broadleaf evergreens and conifers in the urban/suburban landscape.
	Thursday, March 24		
Pruning	Tuesday, March 29 RCE Westampton 9:00 AM-12:00 noon	Brian McDonald Horticulturist RCE Burlington County	Proper pruning techniques will be discussed and demonstrated along with the reasons for pruning and proper timing of pruning.
Urban Forestry	Thursday, March 31 RCE Westampton 9:00 AM-12:00 noon	Brian McDonald Horticulturist RCE Burlington County	Selection, planting, care and maintenance of trees in our urban and suburban landscapes will be discussed. Commonly found diseases and pests will be reviewed.
Organic Farming	Tuesday, April 5 RCE Westampton 9:00 AM-10:30	Brian McDonald Horticulturist RCE Burlington County	An introduction to the basic principles of organic farming.
Pinelands WaterIssues	Thursday, April 7 RCE Westampton 9:00 AM-12:00 noon	Rich Bizzub Water Programs Director Pinelands Preservation Alliance	Water quality issues of the unique and sensitive ecosystem of the NJ Pinelands will be discussed.
RMGBC General Meeting	Tuesday, April 12 RCE Westampton 10:00 AM-12:00 noon	Brian McDonald Horticulturist RCE Burlington County	Please join us for our quarterly General Meeting of the Rutgers Master Gardeners of Burlington County. At this meeting you will learn about our active community projects within Burlington County.
Helpline/Office	Thursday, April 14 RCE Westampton 9:00 AM-12:00 noon	Brian McDonald Horticulturist RCE Burlington County	Tour of and introduction to the Master Gardener Helpline and procedures. How to successfully service the public and RCE will be discussed.
BCCAC	Tuesday, April 19 BCCAC Moorestown 9:30 AM-12 Noon	Brian McDonald Horticulturist RCE Burlington County	Tour the Burlington County Community Agricultural Center
FINAL EXAM DUE!	Thursday, April 21 RCE Westampton 12:00 noon		

