

FREE Public Education Programs September 2017**Fall Lawn Care****Saturday, Sept. 9,**
10:30–noon**Fairlington Community Center,**
3308 S. Stafford St., Arlington 22206**Free.** Advance registration at mgnv.org. Questions, 703-228-6414 or mgarlalex@gmail.com.

Fall is the ideal time to restore cool-season grass, the most common turfgrass grown on lawns in our area. This program will describe how to improve lawns and the underlying soil and outline steps for ensuring a beautiful weed-free lawn. Alternatives to turf will also be explored.

Organic Vegetable Garden Annual Taste and Tour**Sunday, Sept. 10,**
1–4pm**Potomac Overlook Regional Park,**
2845 N. Marcey Road, Arlington VA 22207**Free.** No registration necessary.

Enjoy samples from the garden and talk with Master Gardeners about growing vegetables in Northern Virginia, with a special emphasis on planting fall crops and overwintering vegetables.

Plant Natives at Home**Monday, Sept. 11,**
7–8:30pm**Mt Vernon Recreation Center, 2701**
Commonwealth Avenue, Alexandria 22305**Free.** No registration necessary. In partnership with the Alexandria Beautification Commission.

Learn about planting natives right before the fall plants sales and planting season ensues. Find out which plants are easiest to grow, because they already call this area home. Want to attract birds, butterflies and pollinators to your yard? We will tell you the tips and techniques for creating a wildlife oasis.

Simpson Gardens Stroll**Tuesday, Sept. 12,**
11am–Noon**Simpson Park Demonstration Gardens,**
420 E. Monroe St., Alexandria (by the YMCA)**Free.** No registration necessary.

Join the MG volunteers as they show off their herb, pollinator, water-wise, tufa, and gravel gardens in late-summer bloom. This is the season when the butterflies and bees are everywhere, gathering nectar and pollen. Seasonal flowers are a riot of color, others are making seeds and pods and fruits. Tour the garden, ask questions, seek information!

Autumnfest!**Sunday, Sept. 17,**
10am–3pm**Glencarlyn Library Garden,**
300 S. Kensington St, Arlington 22204**Free.** For more information, call Alyssa, 703-907-9318 or Elaine, 703-979-6216 or email glencarlynlibrarygarden@gmail.com

Bring the family and celebrate with free tastes of herbal treats and drinks, a Naturalist with critters, a balloon artist and face painters! Attend mini-workshops on native plants, caring for your tools and dealing with invasive plants. 100's of locally grown sun- and shade-loving perennials, ferns, shrubs, and trees for sale, just in time for fall planting. As always, plenty of Master Gardeners to help you with selections and answer your plant questions.

WEEDS – Getting to Know Your “Closest Neighbors”**Thursday, Sept. 21,**
7–8:30pm**Fairlington Community Center,**
3308 S. Stafford St., Arlington 22206**Free.** Advance registration at mgnv.org. Questions, 703-228-6414 or mgarlalex@gmail.com.

Learn why they like your lawn/garden and what you can do to encourage or discourage their presence. Remember a weed is just a wildflower in the wrong place!

Fall Open House**Sunday, Sept. 24,**
1–3pm**Simpson Park Demonstration Gardens,**
420 E. Monroe St., Alexandria (by the YMCA)**Free.** No registration necessary.

Come get free refreshments and garden tours while you learn first-hand how to make your garden more hospitable to birds, bees, butterflies, and other interesting wildlife. We can provide information on how to get your home gardens certified as Audubon Wildlife habitats.

Tree Selection for Small Urban Landscapes**Monday, Sept. 25,**
10:30am–Noon**Fairlington Community Center,**
3308 S. Stafford Street, Arlington 22206**Free.** Advance registration at mgnv.org. Questions, 703-228-6414 or mgarlalex@gmail.com.

Did you know that trees can save you money in heating and cooling bills, as well as add to your home's value and curb appeal? Learn to consider ideas like summer shade, winter sun, screening and seasonal interest. We will include a DIY segment and a discussion about when to hire a professional arborist.

Composting and Vermiculture**Monday, Sept. 25,**
7–8:30pm**Beatley Library, 5005 Duke Street,**
Alexandria 22304**Free.** Advance registration at mgnv.org. Questions, 703-228-6414 or mgarlalex@gmail.com.

You will learn the many natural things you can do to improve your soil, such as turning yard clippings and kitchen waste into black gold, as well as using worms that will nourish your plants. We will explore the many types of composts, and how to grow and maintain your own worms and the use of vermiculture to enrich and improve garden soil.

Don't miss the FREE Wednesday Night Garden Talks, 7pm at the Arlington Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St, Arlington 22201.**September 6** Cover Crops for Healthy Soil**September 13** Extend the Growing Season**September 20** Fruit Trees**September 27** International Flavors in the GardenCheck www.plotagainsthunger.afac.org or <http://arlingtonva.libcal.com/>.**All events are FREE.** Advance registration where noted at mgnv.org. Questions: 703-228-6414 or mgarlalex@gmail.com.