

Master Gardener/PDG Community Class Descriptions

(All Classes are held at the UT Plateau Research and Education Center except as noted in the description)

Vegetable Gardening on the Cumberland Plateau

Saturday, March 12 9:00- 12:00

Join Master Gardeners Fred Mullen and Sid Morgan to get advice on how to plant, grow and harvest vegetables. An overview of raised bed gardening will also be provided to help folks dealing with shallow soils.

Bluebirds

Tuesday, March 15 10:00 – 11:00

Don Hazel, President of the Tennessee Bluebird Society, will share the bluebird story from eggs to one of our most beautiful songbirds. Learn how one simple idea has helped them thrive again, and how you can be a part of this truly American success story.

Landscape Design

Saturday, April 9 1:00 – 3:00

Elements of design and the landscaping process will be discussed. A number of different landscape designs will be presented and critiqued. Come ready to be inspired! Taught by Master Gardener Alan Baker. **This class will be held at the Country Store in the Community Complex.**

Snakes

Tuesday, April 12 10:00-11:00

We will talk about the snakes that live in our state and how to identify them. Where they live, what they eat, and which ones are dangerous. There will be lots of beautiful colorful photos, but no live animals in this presentation. Taught by Don Hazel, Nature Columnist

Native Plants & Biodiversity

Monday, April 18 9:00 – 11:00

Bill Morgan of the Obed Watershed Community Association, and Master Gardener, will discuss gardening with plants native to our region and how this protects biodiversity and creates an authentic sense of place. See photos and hear about the benefits of utilizing native plants that thrive here on the Cumberland Plateau.

Companion Planting

Monday, April 25 10:00 – 12:00

Do tomatoes really love being planted with celery? Can marigolds deter rabbits and protect other plants? Will some plants really improve or protect plants? Learn about the myths and science of companion planting and garden practices to improve your garden. Taught by Master Gardener Dick Kaleba.

Tomatoes

Saturday, April 30 9:00 – 11:00

Heirloom versus hybrid, seeds and seedlings, planting and fertilizing, watering and mulching, pinching suckers, common problems and solutions...everything you need to know about growing tomatoes! Taught by Master Gardener Fred Mullen.

Creatures of the Night

Tuesday, May 10 10:00 – 11:00

Many wild animals only come out at night. We will explore who they are, what they do, and what goes on out there in the dark while you are sleeping. You will see in photos what you don't see in the dark. Taught by Don Hazel, Nature Columnist.

Water Gardens

Thursday, May 12 10:00 – 12:00

We will review the benefits of water in your landscape as well as various ways to use such as water fountains, ponds, raingardens, bogs, and miniature water gardens for the patio. Taught by Master Gardener Alan Baker. **This class will be held at the Country Store in the Community Complex .**

Guided Garden Tour

Friday, May 13 9:30 – 11:00

Join us for a seasonal tour of the Gardens. Learn about the history of its creation, how it has evolved, and of course , all about the beautiful plants within it.

Strawbale Gardening and Composting

Saturday, May 14 9:00 – 12:00

Straw bales make a great growing medium when properly prepared. Create an instant raised bed to grow herbs and vegetables, and ornamental plants. You'll have control over where you grow your garden...sun, shade, hillside, or on top of hard surfaces. Also, learn the basics of composting to repurpose materials to create awesome soil. Taught by Master Gardener, Vicki May.

Plant Propagation

Thursday, May 19 1:00 – 3:00

Learn the fundamentals of propagation-growing plants from those you already have-hands on practice and information on perennials and annuals. Taught by Master Gardener Jewell Wilhoite.

Rock Painting for Kids (must be accompanied by an adult)

Saturday June 11 10:00 – 12:00

Learn how to paint inspired art on a rock. Paint a rock to give as a gift or to decorate your garden. Wear something you don't mind getting paint on. We will be painting with acrylic. Taught by Master Gardener Rhoda Hiller.

Let's Talk Moss

Thursday, June 16 9:30 - 10:30

Mosses have appeared as fossils more than 400 million years old. They vary in color, texture, and form and can be used in both full sun and heavily shaded areas. Learn about how mosses grow and how they can be used in your landscape. Taught by Dr. Tom Samples (UT Professor).

Perennials for the Plateau

Friday, June 24 9:30 - 11:00

What better way to learn about perennials for the plateau, than a tour of the ones growing in the Gardens?! These tried-and-true perennials have survived and thrived through the test of time. Taught by Shalena Durkot, Garden Coordinator.

Backyard Birding for Beginners

Saturday, June 25 9:30 - 11:30

Learn the basics of how to attract birds as well as how to feed and identify some of our feathered friends. Many photos included to familiarize you with some of the more common species. Intended for beginners. Taught by Master Gardener Pam Barrett. **This class will be held at the Country Store in the Community Complex.**

Walking and Talking Daylilies

Tuesday, June 28 9:30 - 10:30

Learn about the basics and hybridization, and maybe even participate in some pollen-dabbing. Local soil conservationist and daylily enthusiast, Janet Dowlen will lead you in a guided tour of our impressive daylily plot.

Insect ID 101

Tuesday, July 12 10:00 - 11:00

With over 1 million insect species described, it can be quite overwhelming to identify those six-legged friends. This presentation will go over characteristics to help narrow down those insect orders and better understand the wonderful world of Entomology. Taught by Seth Whitehouse, Extension Agent Anderson County.

Guided Garden Tour

Friday, July 15 9:30 - 11:00

Join us for a seasonal tour of the Gardens. Learn about the history of its creation, how it has evolved, and of course , all about the beautiful plants within it.

Native Plants and Erosion Control

Monday, July 18 9:00 – 11:00

Discussion by Bill Morgan of the Obed Watershed Community Association, also Master Gardener, on the use of attractive plants to create appropriate landscaping for homeowners who have property at water edges, lakes, ponds, streams, rivers, or wetlands. **This class will be held at the Country Store in the Community Complex.**

Pollinator Walk and Talk

Tuesday, July 19 9:00 - 10:30

Discover which insects are pollinator species and look at the types of plants they like best and need to survive. This hands-on tour should be loads of fun, and as a bonus, seed packets will be provided. Taught by Janet Dowlen, Soil Conservationist.

Seed Saving

Friday, July 29 10:00 - 12:00

Reasons to get started harvesting and saving your own seeds. Learn the best practices for harvesting, packaging, and storing your seeds. It's fun-it's economical-it's rewarding! Taught by Master Gardener Jewell Wilhoite.

Fall Vegetable Gardening

Saturday, July 30 9:00 – 11:00

Now is the time to prepare for a cool season vegetable garden with discussion on the best varieties and tips for successful growing. Taught by Master Gardener Fred Mullen.

Invasive Plants on the Plateau

Monday, August 8 9:00 – 11:00

This presentation will introduce you to invasive plants and discuss why they should not be included in landscapes. Many plants have been and continue to be introduced onto the Plateau from other parts of the world, some of which are very invasive and spread rapidly. Learn about the negative effects this can have on your landscape as well as the environment. Taught by Bill Morgan of the Obed Watershed Community Association, and Master Gardener. **This class will be held at the Country Store in the Community Complex.**

Cool Season Turf: Planting and Maintenance

Saturday, August 13 9:00 – 11:00

Join Gregg Upchurch, Cumberland County Extension Agent, for a discussion on selection, planting and maintenance of your lawn.

Butterflies and Caterpillars of the Tennessee Garden

Saturday, August 27 9:00 – 11:00

Learn about butterflies and caterpillars commonly found in Tennessee. Tips on how to ensure these creatures thrive will also be shared. Take a stroll out to the Butterfly Garden to look for caterpillars and butterflies. Taught by Ernie Wood, Master Gardener.

Landscape Do's and Don'ts

Thursday, September 8 10:00 – 11:00

A discussion on top mistakes made in the landscape. These can be easily remedied, but many may not know how to fix the situation. Learn about proper planting, pruning, and selection of the correct plants for Tennessee landscapes. Taught by Lucas Holman, Extension Director Wilson County.

Cloth Pumpkins (a hands-on class)

Saturday, September 10 9:00 – 11:00

Master Gardener Rhoda Hiller will show us how to make adorable cloth pumpkins. Materials will be provided. Minimal hand sewing is required. Please bring a glue gun if you have one. You will bring 2-3 of these cuties home just in time for fall decorating. Class fee is \$12 to be paid the day of class. **This class will be held at the Country Store in the Community Complex.**

Guided Garden Tour

Friday, September 16 9:30 – 11:00

Join us for a seasonal tour of the Gardens. Learn about the history of its creation, how it has evolved, and of course , all about the beautiful plants within it.

Pumpkin Painting for Kids (must be accompanied by an adult)

Saturday, October 8 1:00 – 3:00

Learn about pumpkins and the art of painting them. Just in time for Fall Fun. Decorate your porch or deck with the pumpkin you paint and take home. Wear something you don't mind getting paint on. We will be painting with acrylic. Taught by Master Gardener Rhoda Hiller.

Tree Identification

October | November (TBD)

Join Master Gardener Sid Morgan for a guided walk through the woody area near the Gardens to identify and discuss the native trees common in this area. This class will be held once in **October** and again in **November**. Dates are dependent upon Mother Nature. Check websites or call this fall for updates. Dress appropriately for weather and hiking.