

## 2020 Classes, Special Events, and Garden Tours

UT Gardens, Crossville:  
Plateau Discovery Gardens

Location/Contact: Plateau Research and Education Center  
(P.R.E.C.)  
320 Experiment Station Road, Crossville, TN 38571  
Phone: 931-484-0034 E-mail Jennifer: [jburns35@utk.edu](mailto:jburns35@utk.edu)

**CANCELLATIONS/WAITING LIST:** Waiting lists will be taken for classes after the limit has been reached. When a cancellation is received, people on the waiting list will be given the opportunity to attend.

**CLASS LOCATION:** Presenters will determine if class will be in the indoor or outdoor classroom. Dress appropriately for the day.

**GARDEN TOURS:** Join our Garden Coordinator and Master Gardeners on a garden stroll as we share our history and identify seasonal changes. It's a great opportunity to have questions answered, but most importantly, it's a time to relax and enjoy the beauty before us. Garden Tours are scheduled once each in Spring, Summer, and Fall.

**FEES:** Some classes require a small fee to cover the cost of supplies you will be receiving. Unless otherwise stated, payment is due on the day of class (cash or check).

**REGISTRATION:** Registration is important for all classes to ensure instructors are fully prepared. Unless stated otherwise, contact Jennifer as listed above to register. Provide name, telephone # and email. *It is important that you call to cancel if your plans change so people on the waiting list have an opportunity to attend*

Classes and other opportunities are added throughout the year. To receive pertinent updates, request to be placed on the UT Gardens, Crossville, Plateau Discovery Gardens list-serve by emailing [ccmgnews@gmail.com](mailto:ccmgnews@gmail.com). Visit both [ccmga.org](http://ccmga.org), and [ag.tennessee.edu/plateaugardens](http://ag.tennessee.edu/plateaugardens) or stay connected with us on Facebook @utgardens:crossville!

### NEW CLASS SERIES FOR 2020\*:

#### \* Family Edition Series:

Enjoy family activities inspired by nature. These classes have been developed for ages 5-14. All materials are provided. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Adults will enjoy participating with the children in the hands-on portion of the classes and will receive handouts to enable everyone to recreate and enjoy the projects at home. When registering for Family Edition classes, please provide contact information for attending adult(s) and the name and age of each child.

Sat., Feb 1  
2-4pm

PINECONE EXTRAVAGANZA (Vicki May, Master Gardener)  
Class Fee: None Class limit: 25 children

*Just in time for National Bird Feeding Month!* Learn how to make a pinecone bird feeder frosted and packed with nutritious seeds. Weather permitting, we'll go out to the gardens and decorate our Redbud trees with your creation. You'll make 2 pinecone feeders...one for the gardens and one to take home.

Sat., Feb 15  
10-11:30 am

FAMILY BLUEBIRD CLASS FOR CHILDREN (Don Hazel/Bluebird Society)  
Class Fee: \$2 per child Class Limit: 25 children

An opportunity for kids to learn about Bluebirds and how we can help them. Local members of the Bluebird Society will share photos and discussion about this beautiful native bird. Each child will receive a suet log feeder to be filled in class, as well as the recipe to take home.

Sat., April 4  
10-noon

ROCK PAINTING (Rhoda Hiller, Master Gardener)  
Class Fee \$5 Class Limit: 25 children

Learn how to paint nature inspired art on a rock. Paint a rock to take home. Great to decorate your garden or for gift giving. Wear something you don't mind getting paint on. We will be painting with acrylic.

Sat., June 13  
10-noon

ROCK PAINTING (Rhoda Hiller, Master Gardener) Just in time for Father's Day gift giving!  
Class Fee: \$5 Class Limit: 25 children

Learn how to paint nature 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.

Sat., June 20  
10-noon

SCAVENGER HUNT (Vicki May and Master Gardeners)  
Class Fee: None Class Limit: 40 Children

Enjoy the gardens as you search for items on the Critters and Plants Scavenger Hunt List. All participants receive a certificate of participation.

Sat., Aug 29  
1-3 pm

CATERPILLARS AND BUTTERFLIES OF THE TENNESSEE GARDEN (Ernie Wood, Master Gardener)  
Class Fee: None Class Limit: 25 Children

Learn about Tennessee butterflies and moths and their life cycles. Then head out with Ernie to our butterfly garden to look for the caterpillars and to see the plants that provide the nectar butterflies love. Kids will take home a special plant for the Butterflies at home!

**FAMILY EDITION (Con't)**

Sat., Oct 17 PUMPKIN PAINTING (Rhoda Hiller, Master Gardener) Class Fee: \$5 Class Limit: 25 Children  
10-noon

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 to take home.

Sat., Dec 5 BIRD FEEDING – WINTER TREATS AND NUTRITION (Vicki May, Master Gardener) Class Fee: \$5 Class Limit: 25 Children  
2-4 pm

Learn about some of the most common, easy to identify, birds that spend the winter with us: what color are they, why is that beak special, what do birds need, can I make a bird feeder, will they stay if we feed them, how do they stay warm, how can they take a birrrrd bath in the cold, what food is good for them? Lots of questions to answer. Hands-on treat making!! Make fun treats to take home for your bird feeding adventure. Take home recipes and instructions so you can make treats at home for the birds outside your window or for gifts for your bird feeding friends, families, teachers, etc.

**\*Tennessee Fruit Series\*:**

Presented by Greg Upchurch, UT Extension Agricultural Agent and Fred Mullen, Master Gardener  
Class Time: 9-11:30 am Fee: None Class Limit: 60

Growing fruit in the home garden can be an interesting, fun, and rewarding hobby. Many novices dream of plucking perfect fruit off trees in their yards. However, this does not happen without a great deal of work. Fruit/cultivar and site selection, cultural practices (pruning and plant nutrition), and control of pests (insects and diseases) are all an integral part of achieving success. This series will address all considerations for growing fruit in home landscapes and small acreage.

Sat., January 25 GROWING FRUIT IN THE HOME GARDEN

Join Gregg for an overview of considerations for growing home fruit. Learn about site selection, soils, successful production, and more.

Sat., Feb 29 FRUIT TREE PRUNING

To get a new fruit tree off to the right start, virtually nothing is as important as pruning. Join Gregg and Fred as they share the basics of when and how to prune fruit trees. Now is the time!

Sat., Mar 21 STRAWBERRIES, BLUEBERRIES, CANE BERRIES, AND GRAPES

Join Gregg and Fred to learn about strawberries, blueberries, blackberries, raspberries, or grapes...which grow best on the Plateau? And, what steps are important for a successful harvest?

Sat., April 18 INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT FOR FRUIT TREES IN THE HOME ORCHARD

Join Gregg for information on pesticide, fungicide, and insecticide use, as well as specific examples for common home-grown fruits.

**Garden Tours and Events:**

GARDEN TOURS (Shalena Durkot, Garden Coordinator, and Master Gardeners)  
9:30- 11 am Class Fee: None Limit: None

Fri., May 15 SPRING TOUR Join us as we enjoy a relaxing stroll through the Garden in springtime! A special time to enjoy the blossoms, ask questions, and share stories with other garden enthusiasts.

Fri., July 17 SUMMER TOUR Join us as we enjoy a relaxing stroll through the Gardens in summertime! A special time to enjoy the changes from spring to summer. Enjoy summer blossoms, ask more questions, and share more stories with others!

Fri., Sept 18 FALL TOUR Join us as we enjoy a relaxing stroll through the Gardens in fall! A time to compare the seasonal changes. Simply relax before it's time to put our Gardens to bed for winter.

**\*EVENTS\***

“PLANT A SMILE” is the theme of the 2020 FLOWER, LAWN AND GARDEN SHOW  
Friday & Saturday April 24 & 25, Open 9-5 each day, Admission fee \$3 per day

This annual show is held at the Cumberland County Fairgrounds. It is a Cumberland County Master Gardeners’ fundraiser to provide financial support for the Master Gardener outreach in Cumberland County, including the monies to support our Plateau Discovery Garden and college internships.

NEW THIS YEAR: Lawn equipment and demonstrations..... maybe even a race! Please support us with your attendance!

UT Gardens-Crossville PLANT SALE at The Plateau Research & Education Center  
One day only, Saturday, May 2, 2020, Open 9am-5pm

NEW THIS YEAR...’Friends of the Gardens’ members\* will have early access to the plant list and can pre-order! This is a huge opportunity to get new and unusual plants before they sell out, or to place bulk orders. Your 10% Member discount will be honored as well. A link will be provided to place your order. The on-site sale on Saturday is open to the public. \*To renew or to become a Member call Erin at 305-951-2783 or email her at [Fletch3539@yahoo.com](mailto:Fletch3539@yahoo.com) or visit [Ag.tennessee.edu/utg/Pages/members.aspx](http://Ag.tennessee.edu/utg/Pages/members.aspx) and select Cumberland County for your membership county.

STEAK AND POTATOES DAY (UT P.R.E.C. FIELD DAY)  
Tuesday, August 4 8 am-1:00 pm Admission Fee: None

## EVENTS (Con't)

### 12<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL FALL GARDENERS' FESTIVAL

Tuesday, August 25 9 am- 3 pm Admission Fee: None

12 topics chosen for the home gardener will be presented under tents throughout the gardens, along with wagon tours of the facility, educational exhibits, opportunities to shop from garden vendors, and so much more. Bring a friend or two and join us for a day in the gardens!

Visit [ccmga.org](http://ccmga.org) or [plateau.tennessee.edu](http://plateau.tennessee.edu) after August 1<sup>st</sup> to plan your visit!

## Regular Class Schedule:

Wed., January 22 FAMILIAR MAMMALS OF THE CUMBERLAND PLATEAU (Don Hazel, Nature Columnist)  
10-11:30 am Class Fee: None Class Limit: 60

We will look at photos and discuss the habits, and behavior of many of the mammals found on the Cumberland Plateau. Animals will range from large mammals like black bears, mountain lions, and elk, to gray and red fox, bobcats, fishers, otters, flying squirrels and even mice. At the end of this class you will be able to appreciate how the mammals of the area all have their place in nature whether you like living next to them or not.

Wed., Feb. 19 ATTRACTING AND RAISING BLUEBIRDS FROM A TO Z (Don Hazel, Nature Columnist)  
10-11:30 Class Fee: None Limit: 60

Just ahead of bluebird nesting season in our area, we will discuss how to attract bluebirds to your yard, winter or summer, and how to successfully go from nest box to eggs, to babies, to fledglings while minimizing problems along the way. It is not just a matter of nailing a nest box on a tree and hoping for the best. A properly installed and regularly monitored nest box will greatly improve your chances to help one of our most beautiful native birds. You will learn why North American bluebird numbers declined by up to 90% in the first half of the 20th century and how humans helped restore the bluebird population. And, if you think you might like to become a regular monitor for some of our over 200 local nest boxes, this is the place to start.

Fri., Feb 28 LANDSCAPE DESIGN (Shalena Durkot, Garden Coordinator)  
10-noon Class Fee: None Limit: 60

A well-designed garden is much more than just pretty plants. Learn the fundamentals of landscape design to design like a pro. Some tips and tricks of the trade will be shared as well. Sign up in plenty of time, this is one of our most requested topics.

Sat., Mar 14 SUMMER VEGETABLE GARDENS AND RAISED BEDS (Fred Mullen, Sid Morgan, Master Gardeners)  
9-11:30am Class Fee: None Limit: 60

Advice on how to plant, grow and harvest those summer vegetables. And because we live on the Plateau where soil depth is limited, an overview of raised bed gardening will also be provided. Fred and Sid will remain until all questions have been answered.

Mon., April 6 SCREEN PLANTINGS (Carol Reese, Horticultural Specialist)  
9-11 am Class Fee: none Limit: 60

Are you looking to create a "privacy fence" or "barrier" using plants? Carol Reese, UT Extension Horticultural Specialist, will go beyond the traditional row of evergreen trees discussing what plants to use, and how to arrange plantings to create attractive "plant screens".

Sat., April 11 TOMATOES (Fred Mullen, Master Gardener)  
9-11am Class Fee: None Limit: 60

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!

Mon., April 13 USING NATIVE PLANTS IN THE HOME LANDSCAPE (Bill Morgan, Master Gardener)  
9-11am Class Fee: None Limit 60

Bill Morgan of the Obed Watershed Community Association 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!

Mon, April 13 WIDE WORLD OF CONIFERS (Jeff Harvey, American Conifer Society)  
5-6:30 pm Class Fee: None Limit: 60

An introduction to the wide world of conifers by Jeff Harvey, SE Regional President of the American Conifer Society. Learn about different forms, colors, and sizes, as he demonstrates multiple gardens using conifers in their collections.

Fri., May 22 CONTAINER GARDENING (Shalena Durkot, Garden Coordinator)  
9:30-11:30 am Class Fee: will vary based on plant selection Limit 20

Bring your container (up to 12" diameter), learn some tips, choose your plants from our on-site selection, and let's get planting!  
This hands-on class will be a blast!

**Mon., June 15**      **PREVENT EROSION ALONG DRAINAGE AREAS AND THE WATERS EDGE (Bill Morgan, Master Gardener)**  
9-11 am                      Class Fee: None                      Limit 60

Discussion by Bill Morgan of the Obed Watershed Community Association on the use of attractive plants to create appropriate landscaping for homeowners who have property at water edges, lakes, ponds, streams, rivers or wetlands.

**Wed., July 8**                      **HYPERTUFA (Shalena Durkot, Garden Coordinator)**  
9:30-11 am                      Class Fee: TBD                      Limit: 12

Join the fun in making your own hypertufa container. They are lightweight, easy to make, inexpensive, and blend naturally with the landscape. Materials and molds provided.

**Sat., July 11**                      **FALL VEGETABLE GARDENING (Fred Mullen, Master Gardener)**  
9-11:30 am                      Class Fee: None                      Limit: 60

Now is the time to prepare for a cool season vegetable garden with discussion on the best varieties and tips for successful growing.

**Tues., July 28**                      **SAVING SEEDS (Jewell Wilhoite, Master Gardener)**  
10-Noon                      Class Fee: None                      Limit: 20

Reasons to get started harvesting and saving your own seeds. Learn best practices for harvesting, packaging, and storing your seeds. It's fun – it's economical – it's rewarding!

**Sat., Aug., 29**                      **CATERPILLARS AND BUTTERFLIES OF THE TENNESSEE GARDEN (Ernie Wood, Master Gardener)**  
9-11 am                      Class Fee: None                      Limit: 60

Planting host and nectar plant varieties will bring both caterpillars and butterflies to your garden. Join Ernie as he identifies the caterpillars and butterflies commonly found in a Tennessee Butterfly Garden. He will also share his tips to ensure these graceful creatures thrive within our environment. Then, head out to the Butterfly Garden to look for caterpillars and butterflies.

**Sat, Sept 12**                      **WILDFLOWER WALK (Janet Dowlen, Soil Conservationist)**  
10-noon                      Class Fee: None                      Limit: 24

Are you interested in wildflower identification? Join local Soil Conservationist and plant enthusiast for a walk through the garden and farm to learn about fall-blooming native plants. Be sure to dress for the weather and the hike.

**Mon., Sept. 14**                      **INVASIVE PLANTS ON THE PLATEAU (Bill Morgan, Master Gardener)**  
9-11 am                      Class Fee: None                      Limit: 60

This presentation by Bill Morgan of the Obed Watershed Community Association 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, particularly the orient. Some are okay, but many are very invasive and spread rapidly. In addition to crowding out our native plant species they are sometimes the source of very destructive diseases. Many are unwittingly offered at local nurseries. As a result, without realizing it, gardeners are unwittingly buying and introducing some very invasive plants into their landscapes.

**Thur., Sept 24**      **ALL THINGS TURF (Gregg Upchurch, Cumberland County Agricultural Agent)**  
9-11:30 am                      Class Fee: None                      Limit: 60

Join Gregg for discussion on selection, planting, and maintenance of your lawn.

**Sept TBD**                      **TREE IDENTIFICATION (Sid Morgan, Master Gardener)**  
9-11:30 am                      Class Fee: None                      Limit: 24

Guided walk through the woody area near the Gardens to identify and discuss native trees common in this area. The date is dependent upon Mother Nature. Call Jennifer at the number above for the date as plans develop. Dress appropriately for weather and hiking.

**Oct. TBD**                      **TREE IDENTIFICATION (Sid Morgan, Master Gardener)** Repeat of September's class  
9-11:30 am                      Class Fee: None                      Limit: 24

Guided walk through the woody area near the Gardens to identify and discuss native trees common in this area. The date is dependent upon Mother Nature. Call Jennifer at the number above for the date as plans develop. Dress appropriately for weather and hiking.

**Sat., Dec 5**                      **BIRD FEEDING – WINTER TREATS AND NUTRITION (Vicki May, Master Gardener)**  
9-11 am                      Class Fee: \$10                      Limit: 25

Learn about attracting birds by providing nutritious seed and food choices and eliminate paying for those fillers added into many seed blends. Get nutritious birdy treat recipes. Make treats to take home in our hands-on portion of the class. Then, bring joy to your birding friends and family with a gift of a lovely treat from your kitchen decorated for the season for their backyard birds.

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