

Successful Organic Gardening: Growing Nutrient Dense Vegetables in a Changing Climate A Comprehensive In-Depth Discussion



Join a consort of skilled, insightful, experienced Michigan growers—Amy Newday and John Edgerton of Harvest of Joy Farm, Emily Nicholls of Giving Tree Farm and Dane Terrill of Crop Services International—for a full day dedicated to broadening even the most experienced grower’s skill-set and stimulating those who aspire for more knowledge. Presentations on soil biology and fertility management, crop planning, scheduling and cultivar selection, strategies for attracting pollinators and beneficial insects, season extension and crop protection methods, water wise irrigation, and working with/teaching others, culminating with a round table open-ended conversation on our passion for gardens and

farms. Intensive handouts from the presentations of the day and a complete gardening/grower book from five choices included with registration.

Time	Topics	Time	Topics
9:00	Soil Health: Soil and plant testing; balancing minerals and microbes to allow the plants to express their potential. How compost and vermicompost support both.	1:55	Season Extension: Crops & rotations for season extension. Tools for season extension and garden protection.
10:20	Break	2:40	Gardening to Build Knowledge & Skill: Learning from your garden, diagnosing problems and finding solutions. Identifying pests & beneficials.
10:30	Planning Your Garden: Site selection and design; selecting cultivars, sourcing and saving seeds. Planting plans and schedules.	3:25	Break
11:20	Planting From Seed: Transplants vs. direct seed. Starting your own transplants: lighting and temperature, containers and system options, growing media and fertility. Hardening off and transplanting tips.	3:35	Gardening to Educate and Build Community: Preparing people to work & learn in the garden; connecting school and community gardens; curricular and pedagogical resources; working with volunteers.
12:10	Lunch – Brody Cafeteria Upstairs	4:35	Roundtable Q&A
1:15	Bailey Hoophouse Tours: Demonstration of season extension and greenhouse tools.	4:55	Evaluation & Wrap Up