



Created for Great Gardening Enthusiasts.

This series is designed to provide a short, information-packed session on some aspect of gardening.

Topics: Sessions will focus on a variety of topics addressing current gardening issues. We hope to bring some new ideas to make your gardening life easier and more productive. With the agricultural expertise of Purdue University, we can bring to you information that's tested and factual.

Snack: Bring your own Brown Bag Lunch, or a snack for evening sessions, and take a little time out of your busy day to learn something new. We will not provide food or drink.

Charge: The reasonable charge of \$5.00 per session helps to cover expenses, and you will receive a one sheet handout on the topic of the day, or you may sign on for the whole series of four sessions by paying \$15 at the first session.

Who are Master Gardeners?

The Purdue Master Gardener Program is sponsored by Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service through the local county Extension Office.

It is a volunteer training program designed to meet the information needs of the local gardening community. Its specific aim is to provide information and technical assistance about gardening and home horticulture through the use of qualified volunteers.

What Else Do Master Gardeners Do?

Members of the Master Gardener Association are active all over the county, in almost anything involving gardening, from planting a Pioneer Garden at the LaPorte County Fairgrounds, to teaching school children about green growing things through many sessions in the parks and schools. During the summer growing season, they maintain a telephone Hot Line, answering gardening questions for anyone who calls in. Habitat for Humanity homes have landscaped yards, thanks to these willing helpers.

How do I become a Master Gardener?

To become a Master Gardener, you must be selected from a pool of applicants, complete the training program, pass an examination administered by the local Extension Educator and volunteer at least 35 hours of public service through the LaPorte County Extension Office.

What is the connection with Purdue University?

Each state has a university designated as its land grant college. In Indiana, this is Purdue University. As the land grant college, Purdue is charged with the responsibility to do research and teaching on agricultural and horticultural issues in Indiana. Much of the informal teaching is performed by the Purdue College of Agriculture, through the Extension Service, which has an office in each county in Indiana. Each county has a person designated as the Extension Educator, Agriculture & Natural Resources, who works with the people in that community to answer the agriculture and horticulture questions. If there is interest, the Extension Educator can organize a Master Gardener program. Not all counties offer a Master Gardener program. Currently, there are Master Gardener Programs in 86 Indiana counties.

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2019 Brown Bag Gardening Series

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Extension
LA PORTE COUNTY



2019 Brown Bag Gardening Series

INDIANA EXTENSION
**Master
Gardener**
PROGRAM

2019 Brown Bag Gardening Series

An educational series sponsored by
**Master Gardener Association
of La Porte County**

Dedicated to
“Helping Others Grow”

Session #1 Local Food

Have you ever wondered what the buzz is about local food? Why is it important to our communities? How can you find out who is knowledgeable about it and why it might be good for people?

This panel will bring folks to you who are in the know and working on local food issues. Come hear from a local farmer growing food for local families, managers of a local farmer’s market, representatives from the Northwest Indiana Food Council and the Pax Center of LaPorte all dedicated to putting local, nutritional food in the hands of the people.

January 16, noon to 1:00 p.m. CST, LaPorte County Extension Office, 2857 W. State Road 2, LaPorte, Indiana.



Session #2 Attracting Wildlife

Two experienced speakers will share this event. Donna Pouzar will talk about the Wildlife Habitat Certification Program to make your home welcome to our wild friends. A program that defines the needs of wildlife and how you can earn certification for your own yard. Laura Henderson will speak on the benefits of planting native varieties to better welcome wildlife to your yard and make it easier to grow beautiful, enjoyable yards. Native varietal plantings benefit people and animals.

February 13, 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. CST Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. 4th St., Michigan City, Indiana.

Session #3 Gardening Through Handicaps

Whether you have arthritis, or other limitations on your abilities, or just lack the space to garden, Dennis Brittain and Karren Copen will share ways to grow delicious edibles that anyone can do. There are as many ways to garden as there are gardeners, whether you have acreage, or just a bucket on the porch, you can satisfy that urge to grow something to enrich your life. We’ll show you how.

March 6, Noon to 1:00 p.m. CST, Michigan City Senior Center, Washington Park, Michigan City, Indiana.

Session #4 Gardening with Kids

Bring the kids along for this discussion of the joys of introducing children to gardening. So many children today think potatoes only come from the supermarket, and Karen is dedicated to changing that. This will be a fun, hands on experience led by Karen Sarver, that should lead to many years of satisfaction and healthier lives.

April 10, 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. CDT, LaPorte Public Library Meeting Room, 904 Indiana Avenue, LaPorte, Indiana.



Bring your lunch or a snack to the sessions and join us for a short learning experience on some aspect of gardening.

The cost is just \$5 for each fun, relaxing session, taught by an experienced gardener.

To find out more about this series, go to:
www.lpmastergardener.com
click on Brown Bag Series