

Texas Master Gardener Advanced Training: Herbs
Hosted by Collin County Master Gardener Association
The Landing at Myers Park, McKinney, Texas
Wednesday, September 13 – Friday, September 15, 2023



Wednesday, September 13, 2023

Learning objective for the day: Define what an herb is and how they speak to us, learn how to grow herbs, discover how herbs can keep us clean and calm, and create a soothing dream pillow, and introduce you to herbs you may not be aware of and may wish to explore further. Get to know your fellow “herbies” at a meet and greet reception hosted by Collin County Master Gardeners.

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| 12:00 – 1:00 | Registration and fellowship |
| 1:00 – 1:15 | Welcome, announcements, course expectations, disclaimer |
| 1:15 – 1:45 | What is an Herb? The Mystery of Herbs
Speaker: Beth DiGioia |
| 1:45 – 2:45 | How Herbs Keep Us Clean and Calm
Dream pillows, household cleaning products, smudge sticks
Speaker: Mary Nell Jackson
Hands On: Make Your Own Dream Pillow |
| 2:45 – 3:45 | How to Grow Herbs: Location, Light, Water, Soil, Fertilizer
Speaker: Brad Voss |

- 3:45 – 5:00 Unusual and Underused Herbs
Speaker: Malathy Chandrasekhar
- 5:15 Meet and Greet Reception with Herbal Beverages and Hors d'oeuvres
Dinner on own

Thursday, September 14, 2023

Learning Objective for the Day: Meet the herbs native to Texas, introduce you to the herb garden in the National Arboretum and a national herb organization that will expand your herbal horizons. Hear from a popular local chef how her inventive use of herbs keeps the restaurant packed with happy diners. Experience a demonstration of how to make a soothing salve and create your own herbal oil. Learn about the history of tea and herbal tisanes and experience a tea tasting. Understand the importance of properly identifying herbs before using them. Discover how to multiply herbs and propagate an herb to take home to your garden. At the conclusion of the day take a field trip to a lavender farm for a tour and program and enjoy an herb-centric dinner.

- 8:00 – 9:00 Light Breakfast and Fellowship
- 9:00 – 10:00 Native Herbs
Speaker: Carol Clark
- 10:00 – 10:30 National Herb Garden at the U.S. National Arboretum, Washington, DC:
a Short History
Speaker: Chrissy Moore
- 10:30 – 11:30 Culinary Herbs
Speaker: Andrea Shackelford
- 11:30 – 12:00 The Herb Society of America: Who We Are and How Membership can
Benefit You
Speaker: Mary Rimmel Wohlleb
- 12:00-1:00 Potluck Lunch Hosted by CCMGA Home Chefs
- 1:00 - 2:30 How Herbs Beautify Us
Speaker: Beth DiGioia
Hands on: Making Calendula Oil
Demonstration-Making Calendula Skin Serum: Roseann Hartley
- 2:30 – 3:45 Herbal Tisanes and *Camelia sinensis*
Speaker: Kyle Stewart
Hands on: Tea Tasting

- 3:45 – 4:45 Plants for Free: Propagating Herbs
 Speaker: Michelle Connally
 Hands on: Asexual Propagation of Herbs
- 4:45 – 5:30 What’s in a Name: The Importance of Botanical Nomenclature
 Speaker: Edie Fife
- 5:30 - ???? Tour, Presentation and Barbeque Dinner at Fidelis Lavender Farm

Friday, September 15, 2023

Learning Objective for the Day: Visit a thriving company that specializes in growing and selling herbs and visit the herb garden at Myers Park. Meet another national organization in the forefront of herbal knowledge and discover how journaling can improve your gardening experience. Enjoy some fun herbal lore and learn about apothecary gardens. Learn about herbariums and their importance from noted speakers from the Botanical Research Institute of Texas.

- 8:00 – 8:30 Buses arrive for pick up
- 9:00 – 12:00 Tour of Blue Label Farms, Wylie, and Profound Microfarms, Lucas, or the Herb Garden at Myers Park
- 12:00 – 1:00 Potluck Lunch Hosted by CCMGA Home Chefs
- 1:00 – 1:30 The American Botanical Council: Who We Are and How we can Help You
 Speaker: Gayle Engles
- 1:30 – 2:30 Herbal Lore and History
 Speaker: Maryann Readal
- 2:30 – 3:00 Journaling: A Personal Approach to Clarity and Awareness in the Garden
 Speaker: Mary Nell Jackson
- 3:00 – 4:00 Herbariums: History and Why they are Important
 Speakers: Barney Lipscomb and Tiana Rehman
- 4:00 – 5:00 Herbal Helpers Table Display