The MOGARDENS Seminar Series, presented by the Master Gardeners of Greene County, provides participants with a comprehensive overview of several gardening topics. Sessions began February 27 and will continue on Monday nights from 6-9 PM through April 9. Cost is $70/per person. To register, call (417) 881-8909 or click here for more details. Here’s a look at the topics for each remaining session:

**March 5 | Mercy (St Johns) Hammonds Heart Center, 1325 E. Cherokee**
6 PM: A Beautiful Lawn - Randy Underwood
Find out how you can bring new life to your lawn with common sense maintenance techniques.
7:30 PM: Vegetable Gardening - Will Cooper
The what, when, where, how and why of putting fresh vegetables on your table.

**March 12 | Mercy (St Johns) Cancer Center, 2055 S Fremont Ave**
6 PM: Missouri Fruit Crops - Patrick Byers
An overview of fruit crops that grow locally and learn how you can maximize your yields.
7:30 PM: Common Garden Pest & Controls - Patrick Byers
When do insects in your garden become pests? What can you do about them?

**March 19 | Mercy (St Johns) Cancer Center, 2055 S Fremont Ave**
6 PM: Plant Propagation - Jan Hutcherson
Learn how you can start your own plants from cuttings, division, and seeds.

7:30 PM: Principles of Pruning - Barbara St Clair
Learn the basic principles of pruning to give you confidence as you make those cuts.

**March 26 | Mercy (St Johns) Cancer Center, 2055 S Fremont Ave**
6 PM: Herbs - Barb Emgee & Jana Belk
Add a new dimension to your garden and find out how to incorporate herbs.
7:30 PM: Annuals and Perennials - Cathy Staats
Learn how to choose the right plant for the right spot & how to keep those plants healthy.

**April 2 | Mercy (St Johns) Cancer Center, 2055 S Fremont Ave**
6 PM Landscape Principles - Tom Lakowske
Learn concepts to improve the look, plan and flow of your yard.
7:30 PM: The Perfect Tree - Mark Bernskoetter
Shade tree, flowering tree, big tree, small tree. We’ll help you find the perfect one for your yard and explain how to care for it.

**April 9 | Mercy (St Johns) Cancer Center, 2055 S Fremont Ave**
6 PM: Canning & Preserving - Susan Hansen
Put your harvest away to enjoy all year round.
7:30 PM Container Gardening - Mark & Renae Bernskoetter
Plan and grow a landscape on a small scale, and even grow vegetables on your deck or patio.
Here’s a wonderful way to get ready for spring, learn gardening tips and techniques to get the most out of your garden! The Master Gardeners of Greene County are offering a series of 12 free, short courses this spring. These courses will be held each Monday evening at 6 PM from March 5 - May 21. Sessions last for 30 minutes and are followed by a question-and-answer period where Master Gardeners will stay as long as needed.

All classes are free no registration is required. They will be held at the Workshop Studio, Springfield-Greene County Botanical Center, 2400 S. Scenic Ave, Springfield, MO 65807. A list of class topics is printed below and the full descriptions are available [here](#).

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tr>
<td>March 5</td>
<td>Shape Up for Spring! Pruning for Better Form And Health</td>
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<td>March 12</td>
<td>Safe Use of Chemicals in the Garden</td>
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<td>March 19</td>
<td>Gardening With Your Chickens</td>
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<td>March 26</td>
<td>Low Water Plants: Beat the Heat!</td>
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<td>April 2</td>
<td>Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About Composting</td>
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<td>April 9</td>
<td>Vegetable Planting Calendar Q &amp; A</td>
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<td>April 16</td>
<td>Weed Identification &amp; Management</td>
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<td>April 23</td>
<td>“Bloomin’ Containers”</td>
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<td>April 30</td>
<td>&quot;Keep ‘Em Bloomin’: Prunin’ for Bloomin’</td>
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<td>May 7</td>
<td>Caring for Your Annuals</td>
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<td>May 14</td>
<td>Guided Tour of the Master Gardener Demonstration Gardens at the Botanical Center</td>
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<td>May 21</td>
<td>Earth-Kind Roses</td>
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The following classes are scheduled this spring as part of the Growing Knowledge at the Farm series. More classes are scheduled for May, June, and July. Click [here](#) for all the details.

**Square Foot Gardening**
Thursday, March 15 | 6 - 7 p.m.
Presenter: Tori Lucero, Master Gardeners of Greene County, Class of 2009
Cost: $7.00

**Apple Grafting**
Saturday, March 17 | 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Presenters: Patrick Byers, Southwest Missouri Regional Horticulture Specialist, University of Missouri Extension
John Avery, Horticulture Advisor, Missouri State University Dept. of Agriculture
Cost $15.00
* Pre-payment is required. Fee includes all needed materials.

**Tomato Grafting**
Thursday, April 19 | 6 - 7 p.m.
Presenters: Patrick Byers, Southwest Missouri Regional Horticulture Specialist, University of Missouri Extension
Christine Chiu: Master Gardeners of Greene County, Kitchen Garden Coordinator, Class of 2003
Cost: $7.00

In January, the USDA updated the Plant Hardiness Zones and released a new map. Visit [this website](#) to see the new map, and enter your zip code to locate your zone.
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Details about March Events</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Spraying and Pruning Home Fruit Crops</strong></td>
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| Saturday, March 3, 2012  
Missouri State Fruit Experiment Station  
Faurot Hall Room 101/102  
8:30 am - 2:00 pm  
No charge (lunch on your own) |
| **Morning:**  
Topics will include which spray materials to use and when to spray, plus a safety equipment demonstration |
| **Afternoon:**  
Pruning demonstration and practice, plus guided small, hands-on training groups led by: John Avery (Horticulture Outreach), Dr. Martin Kaps (Research Pomologist), and Susanne Howard (Horticulturist), all of The State Fruit Experiment Station, part of the MSU William H. Darr School of Agriculture. |

| **Food Safety Workshop** |
| Thursday March 22, 2012  
Missouri State Fruit Experiment Station Faurot Hall Room 101/102  
1:00 pm - 4:00 pm  
No Charge |
| Topics to be covered:  
Importance of Food Safety  
State Regulations for Selling to the Public  
Food Safety Concerns in the Field: Field Prep & Planting, Manure Usage, and Crop Cultural Guidelines  
Field to Market  
Irrigation Methods & Assoc. Issues  
Harvest and Post Harvest Safety  
Food Safety - Field to Market  
GAP - Good Agriculture Practices |
| Participants who complete the workshop will receive a certificate of completion and a laminated sign for display at their market stand. Taught by Russell Lilly (Springfield, Department of Health and Senior Services), John Avery (State Fruit Experiment Station Fruit Grower Advisor) and Patrick Byers, (Regional University of Missouri Extension Specialist). |

| **Fruit Brandy Distillation Workshop** |
| Wednesday, March 7, 2012  
Mountain Grove Cellars Fruit Processing Lab  
$100.00 Preregistration is Required |
| Learn hands-on distillation of fermented fruit must into brandy using a batch column still with reflux. A short lecture and orientation will be followed by the group distilling fermented grape must into grappa.  
A one hour lecture in the morning will be followed by a hands on demonstration of a batch distillation of grappa using a 250 L still with a 3 plate column. Theory and practical aspects of distillation will be covered during the lecture and throughout the distillation process.  
A commercial producer of whiskies and rums using a copper pot still will present information on his artisan distillation operation in the Ozarks.  
You must be at least 21 years old to attend this workshop.  
Due to the hands-on nature of this workshop, attendance is limited to 12 participants. Instructors include: Dr. Karl Wilker (Associate Professor of Enology and MSU Winery/Distillery Manager), Jim Blansit (Owner/Distiller of Copper Run Distillery, Walnut Shade, MO), and C. J. Odneal Jr. (Cellar Technician). |

| **Spring Gardening Workshop** |
| Saturday, March 17, 2012  
Faith Lutheran Church, 221 Malone, Branson, MO |
| Registration & Breakfast at 9 AM  
Sessions 9:30 AM - 2:45 PM  
Registration: $16/person (includes lunch) |
| Presented by the Master Gardeners of the Ozarks. Advance registration is required. On-line Registration is encouraged and available at [http://mgozarks.com](http://mgozarks.com) |

| **Grafting Workshop** |
| Saturday, March 24, 2012  
Missouri State Fruit Experiment Station Faurot Hall 101/102  
8:00 am - 12:00 pm  
$5.00 per person |
| Participants are encouraged to bring scionwood of any apple cultivars they would like to graft on to rootstocks. We will use rootstocks M111 and M7.  
John Avery and faculty and staff from the School of Agriculture will teach and demonstrate grafting methods for fruit trees.  
To register, contact Pam Mayer at PMayer@MissouriState.edu or (417) 547-7533. |

| **Next Meeting** |
| Date: Tuesday, March 6  
Time: 6:30 PM  
Place: Newton Co. Extension Center at Crowder College  
Read February’s minutes [here](#)! |