

## GARDENING AND LANDSCAPE CLASSES AND PRESENTATIONS

From Janet Macunovich and Steven Nikkila (updated November 11, 2013)  
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Through our work as Perennial Favorites landscape design and garden care, we've learned that the more people know about their landscape, plants, design and care, the better their yards will look, *regardless whether they tend the yard themselves or hire it done!*

We began teaching because our clients asked us to help them learn and we continually train new gardeners in our firm. Over the past 26 years what was at first one-on-one help has evolved into workshops for small groups, college classes, regional conferences, national workshops, and presentations at a variety of venues such as Chicago Botanic Gardens symposia, Perennial Plant Association meetings, Extension Service Master Gardener classes,



professional gardening and landscaping organization continuation training, community groups' property enhancement projects, home and garden shows, etc. We offer the "how-to" directions we developed for our clients and gardeners, in a full range of classes. We bring them to you to help you and yours design, tend and enjoy gardens and landscapes.

The classes we've created and instruct are on this list. Janet Macunovich is an Advanced Master Gardener with 26 years of experience designing, planting

and maintaining perennial gardens and landscapes. She is a knowledgeable and enthusiastic instructor rated "enjoyable as well as informative" by her audiences. Steven Nikkila is a horticulturist and a professional photographer of ornamental plants and gardens. He's been described by his students as a "charming guy who knows his stuff and how to tell me how to." Steven's library of nearly 200,000 images (film plus digital media) helps us as we illustrate our talks to find just the right way to educate each of the thousands of people we've helped with plant identification, garden maintenance and home landscaping. As professional gardeners we bring to every class a wealth of practical information and a sincere desire to help others learn.

Our talks and classes are held at various educational facilities, and many are specially scheduled by garden clubs, homeowner groups and professional associations. Go to [www.GardenAtoZ.com](http://www.GardenAtoZ.com) in About Us>Where We're Appearing for a calendar of already-scheduled classes you might attend. Or call 248-681-7850 to set up your own class.

Our speaking fee, and a participant's registration fee for attending one of our talks sponsored by a community group or educational facility, vary with topic, location and hosting group. Please select a topic or topics and ask us about our fee, or refer to the host group's on-line list or catalog for the price of individual enrollment. If you chose to be a host, you may select a topic from this list or contact us about hybrid topics to fit your needs. Factors that affect speaking fee are time involved in development and delivery and travel expenses.

We hope to help you as we all keep on growing!

## WHO ARE JANET & STEVEN?

Janet Macunovich is an author, educator and garden designer known for plans that are simple, enduring, creative and individually pleasing. In addition to designing and tending gardens for clients, she also teaches "how to." That's resulted in nine books and hundreds of articles, placed her at the head of radio and internet forums dealing with questions on all aspects of landscaping, and an audience of thousands of gardeners both amateur and professional throughout the U.S., Canada and England. Her students have said, "When Janet explained, I finally got it... and I had fun, too!"

Among her tutors, Janet counts professors of horticulture, elder neighbors who gave her plants as a child and the brothers Cameron of Shenley Church End, Buckinghamshire who took her on as apprentice in 1973 in their 300-year-old garden. She says "I'll never stop learning" and it's just as likely that you'll meet her as a fellow student as your instructor in gardening programs all over North America.

Steven Nikkila is a horticultural photographer who has also planted and maintained gardens and landscapes as a profession since 1983. His experiences with trowel and clippers have combined with questions from his students and clients to give his photography a special how-to clarity. That's why his work is so often featured in books, magazines and catalogues, and why author Janet Macunovich says, "I write about design but Steven's photos are why people can see what I say!" He teaches courses on horticultural photography and many other topics. His articles appear in Michigan Gardener magazine and the weekly newsletter *What's Coming Up*. He was a senior instructor for the Michigan School of Gardening from 1996 to 2008 and holds a Landscape Technology degree from Oakland Community College.

Steven and Janet together are Perennial Favorites, providing garden and landscape design and maintenance for 26 years. They also have two children, whose nurturing they felt should be as hands-on as their gardening. So in 1981 Steven put his career on hold to be the full-time homemaker while Janet took up their financial slack by moonlighting as a gardener. Soon the two were gardening together professionally. The children became comfortable in backpacks on their parents' backs as they gardened and grew along with the gardening business.

## THEIR TALK- AND WORKSHOP TOPICS

The catalog follows in the rest of this document. Topics are in alphabetical order by title so you can Search by key words such as prun (for prune or pruning), weed, pest, design, etc.

Sometimes we are asked, "What do you have that's new?" We develop new topics and hybrids when we see a need or have a request. Beyond that, it's tough to call our work new or old. We are continually updating, we don't work from a script and we customize each talk to suit the host group. Some classes have been in our repertoire for over 20 years yet they don't feel "old." Gardeners who've followed us for decades say the same; they've told us, "You have never given the same talk twice!"



### **8 Months of Color:** Charting a practical course to continuous bloom

A calendar that shows week by week peak bloom of perennials, shrubs, vines and trees may seem to be all a designer needs to assemble a winning group of plants. Yet even the finest assembly can be refined to jewel quality through smart plant placement, planting and care. Use practical tips from this presentation and you'll learn to let each month's signature flower cue you to do what's best for that time toward maximum color. You'll garden at peak performance all year, from evaluating the size of beds and plant groups in March to routinely taking some plants "off exhibit" each October. (1 meeting, 3 hours; overview 1 meeting, 1 hour)

### **8 Months of Color, Even in Small Spaces!**

Many gardeners collect plants with an eye to keeping their garden color going from earliest spring to hard frost. Yet even the finest assembly can be refined to jewel quality through smart plant placement, planting and care. This is especially true in small spaces such as courtyards, balconies and deck gardens. Use practical tips from this presentation to learn what's best each month for maximum color. You'll garden at peak performance all year, from evaluating the size of planting and plant groups in March to routinely taking some plants "off exhibit" each October. (1 meeting, 2 hours)

### **50 Before-Afters: Learn and Smile** (See "Landscape Ideas... Before-After")

### **52 Weeks of Color**

Take a beautiful visual trip through the year, meeting the plants that shine in each week. Great ideas for what to add to your garden or landscape now during the year's best planting season. With tips on how to design with the featured plants. (1 meeting, 2.5 hours)

### **Admitting you're hooked: Wintering-over those tender perennials**

For the gardener who can't let go and must keep growing all year, or the gardener who has no outdoors, only indoors to grow foliage plants, flowers, herbs, and artistic plants from bonsai to topiary. Recommendations for plants, pots, soils, lights, arrangements and care of indoor plants. Includes an overview of handling tender outdoor plants (those which can't survive Michigan winters) as they come in for the off-season to be saved as houseplants or dormant roots. (1 meeting, 3 hours)

### **Allergies, Gardening with Allergies** (See "Gardening and Allergies")

### **An Enchanting Winter Garden**

Plan now to make your garden make you smile right through winter. Garden designer Janet Macunovich has tips for you that will make the most of every color, texture and form you have in your landscape now and help you add and rearrange to make it sparkle. Use these ideas to make any existing or new landscape interesting, colorful and enchanting to the eye from November to April. (1 meeting, 1 hour)

### **Annuals and Perennials for All Seasons**

It's time to look at which flowers to grow this year! Here's a close-up of 40 you might try, annuals and perennials for a variety of situations. See and hear how to grow them. Get ideas for combinations. Also included, lists of additional plants by seasonal appeal. An advanced class for those familiar with fundamentals of gardening. (2 meeting, 4 hours)

### **The Armchair Gardener: The good garden gets better before the season even starts!**

All the best gardeners know that a perennial garden is never "done." Improvements and adjustments are continual, for all the best reasons: to meet the gardener's changing taste; add color; decrease work; attract more wildlife; etc. When it comes to making those changes, winter and very early spring are two of the very best times -- find out why and how in this entertaining presentation. (1 meeting, 1 hour)

### **The Art of Fall Garden Clean-up**

You and your perennial garden can benefit from a good fall clean-up. Every hour you spend in the garden in fall can save you two or more spring hours, give you months of pleasure in the winter, and give your plants the very best start into the new season. This workshop gives you tips on what to do, when and how to make your garden a thing of beauty even through the winter. Classroom instruction with illustrations: 1 session, 1-1/2 hours; with outdoor workshop, 1 session, 3 hours)

### **Basic Organic Gardening**

The three most important aspects of gardening from an organic basis: Why organic gardeners view the soil as a living part of the garden and how they treat it. How to match plants to a site so that the natural environmental systems work for you. Working with nature to control pests and diseases in a way that keeps everything in balance. (1 meeting, 2 hours)

### **Basic Indoor Gardening** (See "Admitting You're Hooked")

### **Basic Perennial Gardening**

Endearing, enduring perennials - planted once, enjoyed for years. Learn tricks to grow them: preparing the bed; choosing perennials for particular sites; what to buy, where; displaying them beautifully; adapting standard maintenance to perennials; special maintenance - dividing, winterizing. For someone who already knows the fundamentals of gardening and wants to learn techniques that apply especially to perennials. (4 meetings, 12 hours)

### **Basic Pest Management** (See "Common Problems and Critter Control")

### **Beginner Gardens** (See "Starter Gardens")

### **Beginning Green**

When we love to garden we grow to love the whole natural world. Spring is a good time to get together to exchange ideas with other gardeners such as writer Janet Macunovich. This talk is all about environmentally friendly practices and materials for both the beginning gardener and for every spring when it's time to take stock of a garden to begin again. There are ideas here for eco-conscious approach to preparing the ground, deciding what to grow, planting and tending. (1 meeting, 3 hours)

### **Before-After** (See "Landscape Ideas... Before-After")

### **Benefits of Gardening** (See "More than a Garden: Balm for the Soul, Glue for the Family" or "Horticultural Therapy")

### **Best Foot Forward: Ideas for Entrance Gardens**

Put that best foot forward by making your entry gardens truly grand. Garden designer and writer Janet Macunovich tours the audience through many beautiful dooryards, courtyards, side passages, and main entryways, explains what makes them great and tells how the best features from each can be transplanted to a place of honor outside your front door, gate, arbor, patio steps or other entry. (1 meeting, various-length versions available)

### **Beyond Bloom: More color and texture for your garden** (Also known as "On Beyond Bloom")

Flowers are wonderful but the best gardens employ color from other quarters, too, and gain depth from a base in plant form and texture. Designer/Author Janet Macunovich shares ideas to help you look at your garden, evaluate its building blocks, then improve it by way of both quick fixes and fundamental change. (1 meeting, 90 minutes)

An extended-workshop version of this presentation (3 hours) includes unique, hands-on practice in using texture and making the most of color from elements other than flowers.

### **Biological Controls for Garden Pests and Diseases**

For the experienced gardener looking for greener ways to manage a garden, this workshop zeroes in on pest management. In it, you'll learn about some of the current non-chemical approaches in agriculture and horticulture and then work in guided groups to adapt these tactics to a specific problems in your garden. (1 meeting, 3 hours)

### **Bringing the Garden Indoors for Winter** (See "Admitting You're Hooked")

### **Bulbs: Choosing, Planting, and Growing Bulbs**

There are so many bulbs to choose from in fall, it can be overwhelming. This is especially vexing when all you want to do is get some of these ready-to-go flowers into the ground! A quick lesson in major and minor bulbs, how to plant them, where to place them, and what to expect of them over the years once you've put them in the ground. (1 meeting, 1 hour)

### **Bulbs: Using Bulbs in the Perennial Garden**

Integrating bulbs into a perennial garden can create fantastic early season displays and summer accents. It can also be a headache, if you don't consider compatibility between specific bulbs and the plants that will be their nearest neighbors. This in-depth session looks at species and varieties of bulbs that perennialize well, where to get them, perennials that are good companions for bulbs, planting techniques, and tips for doing ongoing maintenance in the garden without disrupting the bulb show. Taught by garden designer Janet Macunovich, who's never met a bulb she didn't like! (1 meeting, 3 hours)

### **Busy Gardener, The**

Tips for the gardener who wants to make the best use of precious time and money. Garden designer and writer Janet Macunovich presents ideas and answers questions to help you get your garden, shrub and lawn work done this spring in ways that will make summer more relaxing and beautiful. (1 meeting, 3 hours or 1 overview, 45 minutes)

### **Butterfly and Hummingbird Gardening**

Plants and techniques for attracting these beautiful creatures into your yard. (1 meeting, 3 hours)

### **Canned Goods: Gardens in Containers**

It's not just an annual show, anymore! Shrubs, tree, vegetables, perennials, even water gardens can be grown in a container. The containers themselves have evolved into an array of forms and materials, breathtaking and mind-boggling to consider. Here are practical, novel ideas for how to choose a container and the plants to fill it, plus how to plant and maintain a stunning, out-of-ground display. (1 session, 1 hour.)

### **Can't Judge that Plant by its Cover**

Here's fun and great ideas based on information that's not usually featured in the plant catalog. Professional gardener Janet Macunovich gives you the inside scoop on some garden plants from the favorite to the obscure, with insights into their history, care, uses and other aspects not generally featured in catalogs and plant encyclopedias. (1 session, 1 hour)

### **Caring For Perennials**

Picture-perfect perennial gardens are not the exclusive realm of professionals or independently wealthy hobbyists. You'll be able to keep your garden better, after this revelation of some perennial realities and a run-down of what to do, when from April through October. (1 meeting, 3 hours)

### **Caring For & Using Your Perennial Garden**

Get a bit more mileage out of your garden by learning more about your perennials. As professional gardeners and writers, Janet Macunovich and Steven Nikkila bring you over 25 years of insight on how to keep your garden looking neater and more colorful, which plants make the best cut flowers, can be dried for lasting interior decorations, bring in the most butterflies, even be added to a dinner menu or used as a conversation starter. (1 meeting, 1 hour, or 1 workshop 3 hours)

### **The Challenging Garden**

Some places in the yard can cause a gardening migraine: they demand attention but refuse to cooperate when it comes to planting: under trees, in dry soil, in overly wet soil, in long narrow spaces, against walls. Here's your chance to gather ideas for what to plant, how to make it grow, and how to care for plants in such challenging places. (2 meetings, 6 hours)

### **Expert Perspective: From Challenging Site to Great Garden (As for professionals at Landscape Ontario)**

Given a great site, most anyone can create an attractive garden or landscape. What makes the most lasting impression and brings in the most new work for a professional is being able to make a great garden rise from a challenging site. This talk covers some of the most common and frustrating site difficulties, with suggestions for plant selections, design innovations and planting techniques to overcome them. Using her trademark Expert Perspective method, garden and landscape designer Janet Macunovich will take you not only on a visual tour of some actual challenging sites and solutions but on a virtual tour through the show itself. You'll see through her eyes what you shouldn't miss taking home to use in meeting your next challenge. (1 meeting, 1.5 hours; for more on this method of presentation see "Expert Perspective")

**Cheating** (See "when Cheating is A-OK: Quick and Magical Makeovers for Big Events in Your Garden")



## **Children's Gardens**

Gardens are great places for children to learn about life, or to while away their summer. If you would like your children to enjoy your gardens more, come to this class for some tips to get them involved. (1 meeting, 3 hours)

## **Choosing and Placing Plants in the Landscape**

A basic plan to get you off and running in spring: How to select plants that will fulfill your dream, and ideas for placing them in the yard. There are tips and recommended plants in all plant categories: trees, shrubs, vines, groundcovers, perennials and annual flowers. (1 meeting, 1 hour)

## **Choosing and Placing Trees** (See also Design Basics: Choosing and planting trees)

How to choose and place a new tree to best advantage, plant it and give it all it needs to "take off" and grow. This is your chance to figure out what a particular tree is worth or can do for you, as you consider removing or replacing an existing tree or adding new. Learn about best choices and placement to help preserve-- even enhance -- the environment, aesthetic and property value you want. (1 meeting 1-3 hour formats available)

## **Choosing Perennial Plants**

A thorough primer in sorting through the thousands of perennial choices available: matching the plant to your site and design concept; deciding whether to buy locally or by mail, and where; what to expect for your money; how to identify a "good" plant from the stock at a garden center. (1 meeting, 2 hours)

## **Classes FOR Children**

### **Adventures in the Garden:**

**Fantastic Flowers** - Most people see flowers only as pretty faces. Here's where you can learn about their tricks, schemes, and almost magical methods of getting what they want. (1 meeting, 1 1/2 hours)

**Insect Heroes and Villains** - Learn about some good-guy and bad guy bugs that live their dangerous and exciting lives right in our own back yards. Many are more powerful than any super-hero and nastier than the worst imaginable villain. (1 meeting, 1 1/2 hours)

**Plant Neighborhood** - Certain plants like to grow together in colorful bunches. Others are loners. Still others grow into huge gangs crowding out all every other plant. Here's a fun class about plants that grow well together and why. (1 meeting, 1 1/2 hours)

**Super Seeds** - Locked in every seed is an exciting world, complete with life support systems for the fantastic creature that will come out of it. Learn about everything in a seed and the secrets to unlocking it. (1 meeting, 1 1/2 hours)

**Myths and Legends from the Garden** - Did you know that the "yarrow" we grow in our gardens was once called woundwort, and was one of the Greek hero Achilles main medicines? Or that every forget-me-not recalls a brave knight in shining armor? Many of our garden plants have such roots in ancient times. The stories you'll hear will make you look twice, laugh, or even bow to the flowers, shrubs and trees in your own yard. Especially for children. (1 session, 30-45 minutes.)

## **Clay Soil** (See "Gardening on Clay Soil")

### **Clipping Conifers**

Most landscapes are full of needled evergreen shrubs and trees, such as pines and spruces on the lawn, yews and junipers at the foundation, arborvitae in the hedges and dwarf conifers in the garden. When pruning time comes, these plants can stump a gardener since they don't respond to cuts the same way as herbaceous plants and broad leaf evergreens. Learn how to prune anything, any time, any way with conifers as examples. (Workshop, 1 meeting, 3 hours; 1 hour overview available)

### **The Collector -- Engaging Harmony from Intriguing Diversity**

Many gardens become collections -- of rock garden plants, conifers, unusual herbs, flowers of a particular color, leaves of a certain hue, or plants connected only by the gardener's interest in them. There is an art to displaying such singularities in ways that keep each on a pedestal while giving all a flattering background. When the displaying is done harmoniously, such a garden intrigues not only those on the "inside track" but draws and holds even casual viewers. Here are tips for establishing and maintaining order within a collector's paradise. (1 meeting, 1 hour or 1 meeting, two hours)

### **Color Cures for the August Blahs**

Especially for the perennial gardener: how to cure the "August Blahs." Many perennial gardens lack color in August. This class offers you some practical solutions. (1 meeting, 3 hours)

### **Color Schemes in the Garden**

A look at colors and color combinations: primary colors, their secondary spin-offs and the dynamics of pairing closely related analogous hues and distant, complementary values. Most important, it's a look at how color theory based on pure tones translates to the dominantly green, excitingly impure spectrum of the garden. (1 meeting, 1 hour)

### **Columbo on Conifers** (See "Don't Know a Plant 'til You've Killed it")

### **Common Problems and Critter Control**

Every gardener has to face the problem of diseases and insect pests in the garden and landscape. This course covers the basic steps in identifying and evaluating problems, and making decisions about what to do. Applies to flower gardens, vegetables, lawns, shrubs and trees. Most useful if those in attendance have some experience in gardening and plant identification. (2 meetings, 6 hours; overview available -- 1 meeting, 1 hour)

### **Companion Plants** (Also titled "Plants Managing Without Us")

How plants protect themselves and each other from pests and other problems, and how gardeners can take advantage of these abilities through companion planting. (2 meetings, 6 hours; overview available -- 1 meeting, 1 hour)

### **Composting** (Also called "A Toast to Compost")

Most people agree that our society needs some new answers to the problem of disposing of solid waste. You can make black gold from your yard clippings and leafy debris. There are numerous ways to transform the raw materials into compost, and this overview will help you pick the best method for your needs. Also included: suggestions for how to use the finished product, and a look at Michigan gardens whose caretakers have made use of compost. Come to this class if you're thinking about starting a compost or would like to learn something more about managing the one you have. (1 meeting, 1 hour and 3 hour versions)



**Conditioning Cut Flowers/Foliage** (See "Cut Flowers from Your Garden")

**Construction Damage, preventing loss of trees and landscape** (See "Preventing Construction Damage...")

**Continuous Color**

It's not just the combination of plant species and varieties that make for April through October bloom in a garden. What counts are the gardener's tricks for extending, stalling, and coaxing repeat shows from flowering plants. This class covers both plant combinations and practical techniques that add up to a really long show. (1 meeting, 2-1/2 hours)

**Continuous Color in the Landscape**

Your landscape shouldn't look like a moonscape during the off-season! Great designs have color and interest all year. What you plant is only part of the answer -- how you place and maintain plants and other garden features is more important. Here are design techniques and maintenance tips for four seasons of color, from landscape designer and author Janet Macunovich. (1 meeting, 1 hour)

**Controlling Diseases and Insects** (See "Common Problems and Critter Control")

**Crystal Ball/Visualizing Changes** (See presentation "Gardener's Crystal Ball" and workshop "Try It and See")

**Cut Flowers from Your Garden**

Flowers are beautiful in gardens, but they should also be used to beautify the inside of your home. Garden flowers last a week or more in fresh arrangements, and dried flowers will please you all winter! In this class you'll learn the best ways to cut, dry and arrange your garden flowers. Bring a small bowl (a soup bowl is fine) or a small, wide-mouth vase to class; flowers will be supplied by instructor. (1 meeting, 3 hours; 45 minute overview on either cut flowers or dried flowers is available -- no hands-on arranging in overview session.)

**Cutting back overgrown plants** (See "In over your head")

**Design** (See: "Armchair Gardener," "Best Foot Forward," "Design Tips", "Do It - Easy, beautiful landscapes," "Garden Design Workshop," Landscaping Basics and Beyond," "Landscape Design Workshop," Mid-season Garden Design Review," "Perennial Garden Design," Renovating Gardens and Landscapes," "Simple, Successful Garden Design," "What Makes it English," "Year Round Landscape Design")

**Design Tips: Tweaking good to make it great**

Janet Macunovich and Steven Nikkila share their 25 years' experience to help you develop the final touches for a garden that's "almost there." Take a look through expert eyes to review how design elements come together in a garden so you recognize and preserve what's good in your garden as you nudge it toward greatness. Then employ simple steps to visualize the change before you put it in place. (1 meeting, 1 hour)

**Design Tips: Using Garden Art** (also called "Using Garden Accent Pieces")

Sculpture, mobiles, bird baths, plaques and other non-plant items add spice to a garden. Whether it's a monumental work or an intimate detail, garden art is best when it's integrated within the overall design. Garden designer Janet Macunovich helps you make the most of your own accent pieces with these tips for choosing, placing and caring for them. (1 meeting, 1 hour)

### **Designing Your Perennial Bed**

For those who want to plant or renovate a perennial garden, a step-by-step approach. Plant choices, placement of the bed and plants within the bed, and how to make plant combinations flow smoothly together in any bed. (1 meeting, 2 hours)

### **Designing and Planting Your Perennial Bed**

Professional gardener and garden writer Janet Macunovich can help you get more enjoyment from your flower bed. In this class, learn the fundamentals of designing a perennial garden. Discuss choices of plants and placement. Learn techniques for planting that will insure a long, beautiful life for the garden. (1 meeting, 3 hours)

### **Designing for All Five Senses**

People enjoy not only the look of a garden but what's there to be heard, felt, smelled and tasted. Yet these aspects of the garden are sometimes overlooked during the design process. Don't miss the opportunity to make the most of all the senses when you design. Garden designer and writer Janet Macunovich helps you with a step by step process for moving beyond what's seen to engage every sense for all it's worth. (1 meeting, 1 hour; 1/2 day workshop available)  
(See also related topics under *Sensational Workshop*)

### **Designing With Perennials: Series**

**Made in the Shade-** All about shade gardening, for the gardener blessed with shady places. It offers solutions to the questions: How can I make a garden in the shade? What can I plant? How can I make it grow? (1 meeting, 3 hours)

**Small Areas/No Time-** This class is for the gardener with small areas or little time to work in his/her garden. There are some techniques and combinations that will make that small area shine and how a little time spent in your garden doing the right thing at the right time can make all the difference. (1 meeting, 3 hours)

**Doubling-Up in the Perennial Garden** - Every perennial gardener grows a few species that are beautiful one month, but ragged or gone the next. What to do with those bare spaces? Plant another species that "comes on" during the first plant's "down time!" (1 meeting, 3 hours)

### **Designing With Perennials** (Also called "Garden in a Box")

Hands-on way to learn perennial garden design. Using models, learn how to use form, texture, and foliage color to design for all-season interest. (1 meeting, 2 hours)

### **Diseases and Insects** (See "Common Problems and Critter Control")

### **Display Gardens: Lower Care, Higher Sales**

Perennial display gardens can do far more for your business than sell plants. A well-maintained display that says, "We know what we're doing -- ask us!" can also sell services, books, tools, non-plant materials and more. Professional gardener Janet Macunovich, author of "Caring for Perennials: What to Do and When To Do It", knows the demands of tending a display garden can tax even the best of us. She shares her least-work schedule for keeping it looking its best. (1 meeting, 1-1/4 hours)

## **Dividing Perennials**

One of the best features of a perennial garden is the potential to make the plants multiply through division. Indeed, some plants need regular division or they deteriorate! Here's a lesson on which plants need division and which can go without, complete with when and how to do the actual dividing. Also included - precautions to avoid multiplying diseases and insects along with the plants. (1 meeting, 2 hours)

## **Do It! Easy, Beautiful Landscapes** (Easy Landscape Design)

This year, have the best-looking landscape in the neighborhood. Make it the landscape of your dreams, one that has four seasons of interest, increases your home's value, and decreases your yardwork. Landscape designer and author Janet Macunovich gets you started with simple steps to update an existing landscape or design complete plans for that new home. You'll learn what to keep, what to buy, where to plant so it all looks great now and ten years from now. (4 meetings, 12 hours; 45-60 minute overview available)

## **Don't Know a Plant 'til You've Killed it or, Why'd it Die?**

All gardeners lose plants. Great gardeners learn from a loss. Here's a fun and very practical way to improve your planting success rate by investigating losses and determining causes. These diagnostic techniques and detective work apply to all plant categories, but we can incorporate examples from particular plant groups on request. For instance, *Columbo on Conifers: Why'd it Die*, or *Holmes in the Herb Garden: Why'd it Die* (1 meeting, 1 hour; workshop available -- 1 meeting, 3 hours)

## **Doubling Up in the Perennial Garden**

Every perennial gardener grows a few species that are beautiful one month, but ragged or gone the next. This is the season to decide what to do with those bare spaces. One great strategy is to "double up" -- pair it with a species that "comes on" during the first plant's slow or slouch period! Garden designer and writer Janet Macunovich explains what features make a plant good for doubling-up, and shows you a line-up of her favorite combinations. (1 meeting, 2 hours)

## **Ear to the Ground: Sound in the garden**

(See also "Senses: All the Best Sense in a Garden")

There can be so much satisfaction in filling your ears as well as your eyes with pleasant and stimulating sounds. Here's a presentation to help you tune up that aspect of your garden, with more nice sounds, less unwanted noise. (1 session, 1 hour; 2 hour workshop available)



### **Earthwise Gardening**

This session will discuss how to prepare your garden and maintain soil condition so the garden grows well for many years. A variety of methods for soil preparation will be discussed, including double digging “virgin soils,” working under trees, and enlisting Mother Nature's help in correcting problem soils. (1 meeting, 3 hours)

### **Earthwise Gardening: Preparing the Bed for Perennial Plants**

This session will discuss how to prepare your perennial garden and maintain soil condition so the garden grows well for many years. A variety of methods for soil preparation will be discussed, including double digging “virgin soils,” working under trees, and enlisting Mother Nature's help in correcting problem soils. (1 meeting, 2 hours)

### **Easiest Best Perennials**

Take a look at four dozen perennials that have made Janet & Steven's list as the best perennials for those who want plants that contribute in a big way to the landscape but require only simple care in small measure. You'll see the plants and receive a straightforward review of the best use for each, plus tips for placing them and managing them. (1 meeting, 2 hours or a 1 hour overview)

### **Easy Garden Design** (See "Simple, Successful Garden Design")

### **Easy Landscape Design** (See "Do It! Easy, Beautiful Landscapes")

### **Ecological Gardener: A look at the impact of gardening on the environment**

What are you doing, intentionally or unwittingly, to the air, water and soil quality of your area, and to the wildlife mix? Take a look at see if you're making a positive contribution or can improve your record. (1 meeting, 2 hours)

### **Edible Landscapes: Just grazing through**

There's nothing better than picking and eating right from your own garden. The plants you enjoy this way don't have to be confined to your vegetable plot, however. Here's a look at helping traditional vegetables make their way in ornamental beds, and discovering ornamental plants whose qualifications as fruits and vegetables you may have overlooked. Garden designer and writer Janet Macunovich will have you grazing through your whole landscape this year. (1 meeting, 1 hour)

### **Effective Photogardening** (See Photography in the Garden)

### **English Garden Design** (See: “What Makes it English?”)

### **Entry Gardens -- The Great Impression** (See "Best Foot Forward")

### **Expert Perspective: The Gardener's Eye:**

Janet and Steven's unique way of making the always-personalized presentations they bring to you one step closer to your group's heart and hand, by using the host's own gardening territory to illustrate their messages. For instance, when a garden club invited Janet to speak to a community in conjunction with the club's annual garden tour fund raiser, Janet and Steven photographed the tour gardens and showed the audience where to see examples of the techniques and issues covered in Janet's presentation "Color in the Garden." When Steven was engaged to explain why and how wildlife might be designed into and encouraged in a garden, he explored areas close to the conference facility to include illustrations of wildlife-friendly places, plants and potential. And when asked to help gardeners recognize and manage problems in the landscape Janet and Steven took their large audience on a virtual tour of the symposium facility's own grounds, showing what, why and how in close-up detail usually possible only in one-on-one coaching. Almost any of Janet and Steven's presentations can be customized to The Gardener's Eye. Advance notice is always necessary. Special access arrangements may be required, involving host intercession. Additional fees may apply. See "Challenging Garden" and "Gardening for Wildlife" for more examples.

### **Eye to Hand-y Image: Garden Photography Workshop**

This workshop is for those who want to do a better job of preserving their garden's beauty in photos and who learn best by doing. Photographer-horticulturist Steven Nikkila works with you in three sessions: First, he explains how to capture great garden images (or workshop participants have recently attended his presentation titled "Photography in the Garden"). Second, Steven takes you out in the gardens to shoot, and third, brings you back in to see what worked best and why. This workshop is for any gardener and all types of camera: manual, automatic, film and digital. Those with digital equipment have the option of selecting some of their own shots from the workshop for review in the wrap-up session.  
2-3 sessions over several days or 1 day with breaks; total 5 hours.

### **Fabulous Foliage**

Spring is all about renewal, surprise and a confirmation of life. It's also a great time to look into the enormous contribution that foliage color makes in the landscape. While we're delighting in dew-fresh, jewel-tone flowers we should also note how pale they would be without all the rich foliage in blue, maroon, gold, white and every imaginable green. Here are ways to predict and capitalize on foliage in your landscape combinations for all four seasons. Once you hear all that foliage can do for you and your garden or landscape, you may never again fall for a flower's pretty face!(1 meeting, 1 hour)

### **Fall Bed Preparation**

New perennial gardens will do much better and will be easier to plant in the spring with proper fall bed preparation. Learn how and why to place, prepare, and improve your perennial bed now. (1 meeting, 3 hours)

### **Fall Color Trees and Shrubs**

Fall color can be an eight week finale to the growing season and the highlight of a four-season landscape. Every Great Lakes landscape can have great color in fall and be the envy of people from other regions and continents. Here are plants to consider adding or featuring in your landscape, with tips on combining them in designs and managing them through the year for more and better color.

### **Fall Planting to Save Time and Money**

Learn why plants and gardens started in fall out-perform spring plantings. Save time and money with these tips on soil preparation, plant selection and planting. (1 meeting, 45-60 minutes)

### **Fall Planting for Wildlife**

If you are a gardener who wants to attract the birds, butterflies or small animals to your garden don't miss this talk, and don't miss this season! Fall is an excellent time to plant trees, shrubs, vines, perennials, and bulbs to get a head start on next year's wildlife garden. Detroit News garden writer Janet Macunovich has tips on what to plant, where to buy it, and how to make it thrive. (1 meeting, 3 hours; 45 minute overview available)

### **Favorite Plants (also "Janet's Favorite..." or "Horticultural All-Stars")**

Here are the trees, shrubs, perennials and annuals that professional landscape designer Janet Macunovich picks when she must whittle the choices 'way down, yet still be sure to design a beautiful, classic, enduring landscape. Have fun picking one from her list that you already have, then seeing how she builds a winning combination from that starting point. (1 meeting, 1 hour)

### **Fertilizers** (See "Making the Most of Soils and Fertilizers")

### **A Fine Edge: Fencing, walls, hedges and other great garden edges** (See also "Hedges" and "Design Basics: Setting boundaries")

Ideas for structures and plantings that define a garden area, with special emphasis on fencing of all types, from hand made wattle to home store stockade. This presentation helps you learn how to select a fence style for aesthetics and good growing conditions, what to consider as you decide when and where to install it, and guides you through practical issues such as finishes and winterizing. (1 hour, 1 session; 3 hour hands-on workshop available)

### **Fine-pruning the Landscape** (See "Pruning Trees and Shrubs")

### **Focal Points: True Gems in Landscape or Garden**

Here's a chance to step back and look at your yard with fresh eyes. You may be surprised to learn that all you need there is focus, whether you already have a great collections or a clean slate. Janet Macunovich or Steven Nikkila show you where to draw attention in a yard or garden, why, and how. (1 meeting, 3 hours)

### **Foliage** (See Fabulous Foliage)

### **Folklore, Gardening** (See "Holiday Magic," "Thanks Great Grand-folks," "Gardening FOR Children," and "What the Groundhog Won't Tell " )

### **Four-season Interest in the Garden and Landscape**

(See also "Persuading Perennials," "Landscaping to Delight the Eye for all Four Seasons," and "Year-Round Landscape")

### **Four-season landscapes start in Fall!**

Gardens and landscapes don't have to look like moonscapes during the off-season. Perennials have a lot to offer even from October to April, and the character of a tree or shrub is often better out of its bloom season than while it's in flower. To reap four seasons of interest from your landscape, start right now to choose plants that will fill seasonal gaps but keep in mind that's only part of the answer. How you place and maintain those plants and other garden



features is even more important. Here are design techniques, plant suggestions and maintenance tips from garden designer and author Janet Macunovich. (1 meeting, 1 hour; 3 hour workshop available)

**Fragrant garden** (See "Senses: All the Best Sense in a Garden" and "Nosing Around")

### **Fundamentals of Gardening**

An introduction to garden design and planting: plant selection, placement, acquiring plants and materials, planting, and soil preparation. (Overview: 1 meeting, 1-1/2 hour. Workshop: a chance to try your hand at the basics, 6 meetings, 12 hours)

### **Garden and Landscape Renovation**

Most gardeners inherit at least one previously-planted area. This class teaches how to make changes within a garden or a yard to express yourself while maintaining unity between new and old. What to keep, how to visualize changes, designing around existing features, transplanting and soil improvement techniques, tips toward phasing in the changes, and suggested plants are all covered. (5 meetings, 20 hours)

### **Garden by Mail**

Bring your garden plans and a pencil - it's time to find those special plants you need and get your order into the mail! Janet Macunovich makes a career of designing with unusual perennial plants and finding the growers who sell them. She will help you find the plants and decide where to buy them to get the most for your dollar. (1 meeting, 3 hours)

### **Garden Design Workshop**

Here's a chance to practice designing perennial gardens. Landscape designer Janet Macunovich gives you the help you need: to put your ideas on paper, find plants and materials, and plan soil preparation and planting of that garden. Ideal for those already acquainted with perennial gardening, but not yet proficient in design and planting. (3 meetings, 3 hours)

### **Garden Fitness: Make your garden or landscape fit *you*!**

Simple steps to designing a garden or landscape that fits you, your budget and your site. You'll learn how to:

- Plan or renovate a garden or landscape to suit yours or others' needs;
- Anticipate and modify the costs to fit your budget, and
- Insure the plan will work on your specific site.

This simple approach works for first time gardeners as well as professionals, do-it-yourselfers as well as those working from another's plan, and annual flower beds as well as perennial beds and whole landscapes.

**Garden in a Box** (see "Designing with Perennials")

**Garden Maintenance - July** (For general garden maintenance. See also "Perennial Garden Maintenance")

Short course on maintaining the garden, specific to July. Includes outdoor hands-on workshop. (1 meeting, 2 hours)

Also available in April, May, June, August and October versions.

### **Garden Medicine Chest**

Looking into your own medicine chest can help you understand what preventive and curative products you will probably need for your plants and how best to use them. You may even find some products that serve both human and plant ailments! (1 meeting, 1 to 2 hours)

### **Garden Photography Workshop** (See "Eye to Hand-y Image")

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### **"Gardener, Hedge Your Bets!"** (Springtime presentation)

A look at what you can do this spring to end your headaches matching USDA hardiness zones to your particular local area Mother Nature's winter capriciousness. What makes plants hardy and hardier, how to learn which plants might be "pushed" beyond or not even trusted to their catalog-proclaimed zones, and how what you do right now in spring affects winter survival of even the hardiest plants. Presenter Janet Macunovich

### **"Gardener, Hedge Your Bets!"** (Summer/fall presentation)

Sometimes gardeners invest great hopes in a new perennial or shrub only to be disappointed the next spring when all that's left of it is an empty spot in the garden. Hardiness -- winter survival -- isn't only an issue of zone numbers but of what we do when we plant and tend the garden all through the growing season. Sometimes fall is an especially pivotal time for plants "on the edge" of hardiness. In this talk professional gardener and author Janet Macunovich will introduce you to a stellar line-up of plants, help you see what makes some hardy, others hardier, and some even willing to be "pushed" to a colder zone.

### **Gardeners, the 21st Century Shamans**

Many gardeners are more attuned to the natural world than the average person. As a result, many non-gardeners view gardeners as special people, the shamans and wisewomen of the modern world. Here's a look at how and why that happens, and the opportunity it affords the gardener to increase his or her contribution to the community's well-being. (1 meeting, 1 hour)

### **A Gardener's Crystal Ball: Visualizing Changes to a Garden or Landscape**

Professional gardener and author Janet Macunovich has learned that it isn't lack of ideas that cause gardeners to put needed landscape and garden plans "on hold." Rather, it's a reluctance to commit when we are unsure how the change will play out on that stage we see out our windows. In this talk, Janet will show you her process for visualizing changes and give you a chance to try your hand at this simple, step by step way to see into the future of your garden or landscape. Says Janet, "People do amazing things, once they have a way to project what's in their minds onto paper or the site itself!" (1 session, 1-1/4 hr.) (workshop, see "Try It and See")

### **Gardener's Health**

Gardening is a great way to stay healthy but it isn't without risks. Garden wisely, with an awareness of how your techniques, tools and materials can affect your muscles, bones, skin and respiratory system. Learn how to avoid or alleviate these problems. (2 meetings, 6 hours or overview 1 meeting 1 hour)

### **Gardening and Allergies**

Gardening is a great way to stay healthy but it isn't without risk to individuals with allergies. Professional gardener, author and educator Janet Macunovich helps you plan or change a beautiful garden, one you can live in without rash or respiratory distress. She'll help you increase your awareness of when and how gardening can bring you into contact with plants and other materials that may cause allergic reaction, and what you can do to minimize contact but still enjoy your garden. (1 meeting, 2 hours)

### **Gardening for Wildlife**

If you are a gardener who wants to attract the birds, butterflies or small animals that share our land, this is your seminar. Learn what benefits and problems to expect, what to plant and how to plant it to provide food and shelter for your wild friends. (1 meeting, 3 hours)

#### **The Gardener's Eye: Wildlife in Your Garden**

Gardener and non-gardener see different things in the same scene. Encouraging beneficial wildlife is simpler for those whose eyes have learned to recognize the important patterns related to birds, butterflies and small animals that can improve a landscape as well as heighten a gardener's enjoyment of the garden. Take this look through an expert's eye to learn what benefits and problems to expect when you open the door to wildlife, what to plant and how to plant it and tend it to provide food and shelter for your wild friends. (1 meeting, 3 hours)

**(See "Expert Perspective: The Gardener's Eye" for more on this type of presentation)**



### **Gardening From the Ground Up**

A yearly teaching conference offered to the general public through Perennial Favorites a garden design and maintenance firm owned and operated by Janet Macunovich. This conference offers diverse topics, wonderful speakers, and ambiance that the gardening fanatic will truly enjoy after a long winter. (1 meeting, 6 hours)

### **Gardening in Small Spaces** (See Small Spaces)

### **Gardening in Wet Areas**

Many gardeners have a soggy, undeveloped corner or pond edge that could be transformed by colorful plantings. The best ways to prepare and plant these areas, and a line-up of beautiful wetland plants are discussed. (1 meeting, 3 hours)

### **Gardening on Clay Soil**

Although gardening on clay offers unique opportunities, it also takes special knowledge and techniques to realize the potential. This presentation shows what clay has to offer, how to work it to reap the rewards without breaking your back, and what to plant in it so your garden will be the envy of all your sandy, loamy gardening friends. (1 meeting, various-length versions available)

### **Gardens of the Future**

Where is gardening going in the next few years? Have fun considering the trends, peeking at where others are heading, and picturing the garden of ten years from now, in this presentation by professional gardener, author and educator Janet Macunovich. (1 meeting; lecture or workshop format and various-length versions available.)



### **Getting the Garden Ready for Spring**

Even if your garden makes you happy just as it is, there are things you can do in early spring to make the whole season easier and the garden more lush. Shrubs, trees and groundcover beds benefit from your attention in the spring, and repay you with reduced needs in summer. It's also a wonderful time to rearrange or expand a perennial garden. This class is a chance to start off on that right foot toward a great season. (1 meeting, 3 hours)

### **Grasses in the Perennial Garden**

Beautiful grasses are being showcased in garden magazines, and some catalogues offer many different types for sale. Which are good for your garden and your needs? Get to know two dozen grasses for ornamental use, cutting, drying, feeding the birds, or replacing your lawn. (1 meeting, 2 hours)

### **Great Garden Give-away** (See "What Your Garden Says About You ")

### **Great Plants and Plant Combinations: The best of the best perennials, trees and shrubs**

Most designers aim for year-round interest, but sometimes the design process gets bogged down in looking for color alone. Here are suggestions for trees, shrubs and perennials that not only look great together for their seasonal colors but also for their combined forms, textures and foliage characteristics. Best yet, each of these groups is compatible in terms of their site requirements -- each member in a group grows well in the same amount of light, moisture, and type of soil. You'll see not only suggestions for sunny garden spots but shaded, dry, wet, even windy sites. (1 meeting, 1-1/2 hours)

### **Green Revival: The Perennial Garden as Spring Tonic**

Spring is the season of renewal, surprise and a confirmation of life. In the perennial garden we delight in dew-fresh, jewel-tone flowers but far more important is all the rich foliage in blue, maroon, gold, white and every imaginable green. Here are ideas for predicting and capitalizing on foliage in spring perennial combinations as well as how to conduct spring maintenance to make the rest of the year flow smoothly and beautifully from that start. (1 meeting, 1 hour)

### **Groundhog Tradition** (See "What the Groundhog Won't Tell ")

### **Gurus, 21st Century** (See "Gardeners: 21st Century Shamans")

### **Hardiness Zones, pushing the limits** (See "Gardener, Hedge Your Bets.")

### **Hardy Hydrangeas**

Why is it so hard to grow a blue or pink hydrangea in Michigan? How do I prune my climbing hydrangea? What do I do when my peegee hydrangea flops over like a mophead? These questions and more answered in this thorough look at growing hydrangeas in Michigan gardens. (1 meeting, 2 hours)

### **Hedge Your Bets** (See "Gardener, Hedge Your Bets.")

### **Hedges: Living Walls for Outdoor Rooms**

The hedge is an ancient device that's also one of the newest trends, coming back in vogue as people recognize the benefits and fun they can have from dividing their property into distinct living areas. This talk begins with a look at where to plan a hedge and why, for maximum contribution to the landscape. It covers plants that work well as hedges, including a look at some traditional woody species, how various hot new introductions work in a hedge and even some herbaceous ideas. And it includes directions for planting and maintaining a healthy hedge. (1 meeting, 2-3 hours)

### **Herbs: Breaking Out into the Landscape**

Herbs are hardly the dowdy, green lumps some people imagine them to be. Here's a look at the role they already are playing and can play in all parts of the landscape, around homes and businesses of all types. (1 meeting, 1 hour)

### **History of Gardens in the U.S.** (See "Thank You Great-Grandfolks ")

### **Holiday Magic -- Plants of Christmas Lore**

The holidays are steeped in plant lore, from the decorations to our traditional foods, gifts, games and greetings. Take some time out to explore the connections between the garden and the Christmas season. (1 meeting, 1 hour; children's version 30 minutes)

### **Holiday Decorations from Your Garden**

How to make decorations for your door, table or hearth from evergreens, persistent stems and pods collected in your own garden. You'll learn not only how to make a simple, beautiful decoration but also add more fun to all your holiday decorating by learning the folklore that underlies these traditions. (Lecture-demo or hands-on workshop versions available. 1 meeting, 1 to 3 hours depending on format; children's version 30 minutes; additional fee may apply to workshop format)

### **Horticultural Therapy**

Good for mind, body and soul, that's gardening. A thoughtful look at the non-plant benefits of gardening. (1 meeting, 1 hour)

### **Hot Weather Gardening Tips**

A beautiful, healthy garden can be a cool, refreshing sight during the dog days of summer. This session will help you understand how to plan and maintain your garden so that it will not only survive but thrive in the heat and humidity of July and August. (1 meeting, 2 hours)

### **Houseplants and indoor gardens** (See "Admitting you're hooked")

### **How to Select Plants**

A guide to picking healthy plants that are right for the place you have in mind. Indispensable information to know before you get to the nursery or garden center. (1 meeting, 1 hour)

### **Hydrangeas** (See Hardy Hydrangeas)

### **Improving the Older Garden**

Established gardens and landscapes share certain challenges: shade, worn out soil, overgrown trees and shrubs, and barren but high-visibility spots. Here are tips on where to start, how to overcome the worst obstacles, and which plants to choose. (1 meeting, 1-1/2 hours)

### **Indoor gardens** (See "Admitting you're hooked")

### **Insects and Diseases** (See "Common Problems and Critter Control")

### **In Over Your Head: Cutting back the rambunctious garden**

For new gardeners who find that their garden is growing bigger than they expected and for confirmed gardeners who must have it all whether there's enough room or not! Basics of pruning hedges, shrubs and trees to shape them, keep them small or cut them back to start over. Fundamentals of cutting back herbaceous plants too, including perennials, herbs, even vegetables that need shaping, improved density, delayed flowering, reduction in size, renewal of appearance, or clean-up at season's end. Instructor Janet Macunovich has over twenty years experience in taming over-enthusiastic, unruly and unexpectedly large plants in her own, clients' and students' landscapes. (1 meeting, 3 hours)

### **Invasive Plants: The Situation, the Plants and You**

What is an invasive plant? Why are they a problem worthy of attention by the U.S. government, plant growers and grassroots movements all over the country? Which invasive plants should you be aware of in your region, and what can you do about individual problem species and the overall situation? Here is a presentation of the situation, the plants you should know about and what you can do about them in your garden and locality. (1 meeting, 1 hour)

### **Keeping Your Garden Fresh and Colorful all Season** (See "Maintenance: Keeping Your Garden Looking Good"; See also "Priming Perennials" and "Continuous Color")

### **Know Them to Grow Them: Tree I.D. as key to a great landscape** (See Tree I.D.)



## **Landscaping Basics and Beyond: A modular series**

Enjoy the whole series, a one-day workshop, or 90-minute individual topics aimed at the beginning- or reluctant gardener.

**Design Basics:** A one-day workshop in 3 parts. Even the best design and toughest plants need attention to look their best and fulfill their purpose in a yard. These segments help you with the basics of tree, shrub and lawn care, how to maintain flowering plant areas to keep them easy and beautiful, and how to handle the problems that most often arise in the home landscape.

**Coloring Your Landscape:** A one-day workshop in 3 parts. One of the things most people want and many people find hard to achieve, is a landscape that's colorful year-round. Success and steady color come from what you use to plant and construct your landscape plus how you arrange and tend those components. Here's the secrets and the way to use them, in three separate segments. Attend the one that suits you best, or come learn from all three.

**Tending the Landscape:** A one-day workshop in 3 parts. Even the best design and toughest plants need attention to look their best and fulfill their purpose in a yard. These segments help you with the basics of tree, shrub and lawn care, how to maintain flowering plant areas to keep them easy and beautiful, and how to handle the problems that most often arise in the home landscape.

*(Design, Coloring, and Tending each contain three topics, which can be mixed and matched. The three sessions and their individual 90-minute segments are as follows)*

## **Landscaping Basics and Beyond Series (Cont'd.)**

### **Part 1 detail, its three separable sessions**

**Design Basics: Deciding What to Do With Your Yard** - Guidance and hands-on chances for taking a critical, time-saving, money-saving look at what landscaping can do for you and what it can't do. You'll have help deciding where plants will do the most for you, where you need hard structures such as fencing or paving, and how to describe exactly what you need to suppliers so you can start off on the best foot. Also covered: Guides to help you determine how many of a given plant or how much of a material you need; checklists for making sound decisions about keeping or replacing existing parts of a landscape; and how to use scale drawings to speed the work and shave your costs.

**Design Basics: Choosing and Planting Trees** - Your chance to figure out what a tree is worth, and which are the best types to plant to give you the shade, beauty, property value improvement or other benefit you're seeking. Your hands-on portion of the session and take-away materials help you know how to place a new tree to best advantage, plant a tree and give it all it needs to "take off" and grow.

**Design Basics: Setting Boundaries with Shrubs, Walls, Hedges, Fences and More** - Did you know that the best way to make a small yard suit its occupants better may be to divide it into "rooms?" Or have you recognized any truth in the saying "Good fences make good neighbors?" If you answered "Is that right?!" to the first question or "Oh, yes!" to the second, then this session is for you. It's all about sectioning your yard -- away from others, and into comfortable spaces. You'll see and hear about and even be able to "try out," great ideas, materials and plants to divide space quickly and effectively.

## **Landscaping Basics and Beyond Series (Cont'd.)**

### **Part 2 detail, its three separable sessions**

#### **Coloring Your Landscape: Flowering Trees, Shrubs and Groundcovers -**

Catalogs and plant tags are great marketing devices, which do create sales. Yet many of those dollars are wasted, along with the time we put into waiting for plants to mature. It happens when a tree's true nature or shrub's potential size becomes evident over time -- and is *wrong* for our purposes. This is the session to attend if you want to know which bushes, trees and groundcovers you should plant for most reliability, easiest care and most beauty. These are the expert's choices, each plant description accompanied by specific recommendations for use on a small or average sized lot. You'll also learn how to ask the right questions and make smart decisions about other plants you may see in books or offered at your local supplier.

**Coloring Your Landscape: Annual and Perennial Flowers -** When it comes to flowers, most of us are a pushover for a pretty face. But it's not the best way to spend your money or time, to buy one of everything and find out later that only some are suited for your yard and needs. Here's a session for you to meet the best of the best flowers among annuals (planted each year) and perennials (remains alive and grows back each spring). Hands-on activities during the session will help you to take away a customized list for your next trip to the garden center. Tips lists will give you help arrange and plant them for greatest success.

#### **Coloring Your Landscape: Designing Flowering Plant Combinations -**

Sometimes people load their yard with plants and still feel they don't have enough color. Often, the answer to that problem is not to add still more plants, each for their color, but to work on how those you have or buy work together in combinations. Attend this session and you will walk away with ideas and practice that you can put to use right away this spring, moving, replacing or adding just the right things.

## **Landscaping Basics and Beyond Series (Concluded.)**

### **Part 3 detail, its three separable sessions**

#### **Tending the Landscape: Simple, Effective Tree, Shrub and Lawn Care -**

We all want a nicer-looking yard, but no one wants to be a slave to yardwork! If you feel that you're spending too much time or money taking care of your trees, bushes or lawn, or like you're not getting what you want from your efforts, you should come learn the basics and tips from an expert. The goal in this session: To help every person who attends, make a list of specifically what they can do and how much time and money can be saved at each step.

**Tending the Landscape: Handling Problems -** Problems occur even in the best landscapes. If diagnosing problems and treating plant ailments is taking up more time and creating more brain strain than you like, come here for this crash course on plant-doctoring. Complete with lists of common symptoms, what they mean, and cures that are so much simpler and probably much less expensive than what you're doing now or think you must do. Also included: Some of the most common "hardscape" problems, how to know they may be occurring in your yard, and how to solve them.

**Tending the Landscape: Tending Flower Beds -** Flower beds add beauty but they take more time to maintain than lawn and groundcover or shrub areas. Look during this session at the essential care flowers need, how to schedule it so it's not dragging you down and how to get it done most efficiently without sacrificing -- and probably increasing! -- the garden's beauty.

**Landscape Design Workshop** (Also called "Step by Step Landscape Design Workshop")  
Learn how to design a landscape from the ground up, or how to re-do an existing landscape. During this class you'll focus on your own yard as you learn to set realistic objectives for a landscape, pass judgment on existing plants, decide where to place plants and visualize the changes, select plants that will thrive, and capture your ideas on paper. During the workshop portion of the class, you will have the help of an experienced landscape designer, as you work on your own personalized design. Pre-class assignment: assessing your site, including submitting a soil test for analysis, and beginning a scale drawing of the site. (4 meetings, 12 hours)

**Landscape Design Workshop II**  
**(Or) Landscape Design - Right There in Your Back Yard**

Focus on your own back yard to learn and apply the basic steps of landscape design: how to design spaces for all the activities that take place in your outdoor living areas; what to remove, keep, move and add; where to place new plants; how to visualize changes; how to estimate costs and phase in the changes. Information in this class is applicable to new homes as well as those in need of landscape renovation. Participants complete an assignment before the class begins; during class they use that information about their own yards to begin a custom design which employs the principles and tips presented by the instructor. (4 meetings, 2.5 hours each; or 2 meetings, 5 hours each)

**Landscape Design: Adapting the Best from What You See Around Town**

(Also called "Landscape Critique through the Windshield")

We all see hundreds of landscapes, in all seasons ... while we're driving around town! Every one of them - no matter how like or unlike your own yard - has something to teach us about style, placement of basic elements, balance of seasonal interest, planting techniques and even about maintenance. All that's required is a process for analyzing what you see at 25 m.p.h. - that's what this presentation will help you do. (1 meeting, 1 hour)



### **Landscape Ideas from 50 Favorite Gardens, Before-After:**

Steven Nikkila and Janet Macunovich walk you through time as well as beautiful spaces to give you ideas, laughs, hopes and consolation in your own gardening efforts. This creative and entertaining team has worked together for over 20 years to design, plant, renovate and capture gardens, on camera and in "how to" books and articles. In this talk they cover some of their favorite projects and subjects and share the lessons learned from each.

### **Landscape Renovation** (See "New Life for Older Landscapes")

### **Landscaping to Delight the Eye for All Four Seasons**

Gardens and the landscapes they occupy don't have to look like moonscapes during the off-season. Perennials have a lot to offer even from October to April, and the character of a tree or shrub is often better out of its bloom season than while it's in flower! To reap four seasons of interest from your landscape, it's wise to choose species and varieties carefully, but that's only part of the answer. How you place and maintain plants and other garden features is even more important. Here are design techniques and maintenance tips from garden and landscape designer and author Janet Macunovich. (1 hour)

### **Limitless Gardening in a Limited World**

Renowned landscape architect Thomas Church once said "The only limits to your garden are at the edges of your imagination." Janet proposes to expand our limits with new perspectives and ideas, shaking off the bonds of ho-hum convention, cost, space, energy and even time. (1 meeting, 1 hour)

### **Local Color**

We all deserve more and better color from our perennial gardens. Yet improving what's already colorful isn't a simple matter of addition or a prescription that works across the gardening world. After all, a plant that blooms to say 'spring's over' in the Great Lakes, heralds 'high summer' to a Scot and 'fall' to an Icelander. Selections made for fantastic hue in one part of the world may be duds elsewhere. And the tones and other influences of indigenous plants, light and even building materials can alter perennial color. Here's a chance to learn some color sequences and tricks for your own lovely locality. (1 session, 1 hour)

### **Local Color** (Fall)

We all deserve more and better color from our perennial gardens. Yet improving what's already colorful isn't a simple matter of addition or a prescription that works across the gardening world. After all, a plant that blooms to say 'spring's over' in the Midwest heralds 'high summer' to a Scot and 'fall' to an Icelander. Selections made for fantastic hue in one part of the world may be duds elsewhere. Designing for the sumptuous fall color of Great Lakes is entirely different than designing where autumn is more muted (most of the rest of the world!). To all of this add the fact that the tones and other influences of indigenous plants, light and even building materials can alter perennial color. Here's a chance to learn some color sequences and tricks for your own lovely locality.

### **Long Interest Perennials**

An in-depth look at perennials that provide interesting flower, form, and foliage throughout the growing season. Includes how to grow and care for each to be sure it achieves its potential in your garden. Species for sun and shade are included. (1 meeting, 1 hour)

### **Low Maintenance Gardens** (See "Saving Time in the Garden")

**Low Maintenance Landscapes** (See also related "Saving Time in the Garden")

If you are planning or renovating a landscape, now is the time to make sure you have the least possible ongoing care to do in that yard. Although there isn't any such thing as a *no* maintenance landscape, there are ways to predict the work and keep it to a minimum. This presentation is full of practical tips from a professional gardener and garden writer. (1 meeting, 1-1/2 hours)

**Mail Order Gardening** (See "Gardening by Mail")

**Maintenance: Keeping the Garden Looking Good: Summer Edition**

In summer, what really counts toward a good looking, colorful garden are great plant combinations and great gardening tricks. It's not just the plant species and varieties that you use for neat form and interesting foliage but how well you "tweak" it all to extend, delay and coax repeat bloom. Here are plant suggestions and practical techniques for your garden's good looks. (1 hour, 1 session)





**Maintaining Perennial Gardens** (See "Professional Series" for maintenance classes for professional gardeners) (See also "Real World Maintenance" for hands-on classes)

**Maintaining Perennial Beds** - A beautiful perennial bed takes more than good design. It's the result of regular, informed care. Designer-writer Janet Macunovich designs, plants and maintains perennial beds through her business, Perennial Favorites. In this class she gives us an in-depth look at the basic skills a perennial gardener must master, from weeding and edging to deadheading and winterizing. Janet provides a new perspective on perennial care, prioritizing the various tasks and placing them on a seasonal calendar of events. (1 meeting, 2 hours; also available in abbreviated 1 hour version)

**Maintaining Perennial Beds: Beyond the Basics** - Whenever we begin to get comfortable in maintaining the perennial garden, a new species presents itself or we find ourselves in a unique position not covered in our standard references. Here's help toward thinking on your feet the next time the going gets rough. This class assumes familiarity with basic perennial maintenance skills as covered in "Maintaining Perennial Beds." From there, it goes beyond, into how to care for specific plants, what to do when recommended timing or sequencing of chores can't be followed, and renovating older beds. (1 meeting, 2 hours)

**A Season in the Perennial Garden: April to November Care of Perennials** - A unique, step-by-step account of what's done to maintain a perennial bed, how, when and why. Illustrated with pictures and examples from an actual season of work in a botanical garden perennial bed. General maintenance procedures are covered, plus specific care of over 30 species.

This is a realistic class for real-life gardeners. It focuses on saving time, making wise decisions when actual developments don't match textbooks and other practical advice. Many people know what kind of work it takes to keep a perennial bed looking its best. This class goes beyond, to help you get it done according to a professional gardener's least-work schedule.

Janet Macunovich wrote the book on this aspect of maintenance, and brings it to you for your greater enjoyment of gardening. (1 meeting, 4.5 hours)

**A Season in the Perennial Garden: April to November Care of Perennials** - A unique, step-by-step account of what's done to maintain a perennial bed -- how, when and why -- all according to a professional gardener's least-work schedule. Illustrated with pictures and examples from an actual season of work in a botanical garden perennial bed. This realistic class focuses on saving time, making wise decisions when real life doesn't match the textbooks, and other practical advice.

Janet Macunovich wrote the book on this aspect of maintenance, and brings it to you for your greater enjoyment of gardening. (1 meeting, 1-1/2 hours)

AND: (another description option):

**A Season in the Perennial Garden: April to November Care of Perennials**

A unique, step-by-step account of what's done to maintain a perennial bed -- how, when and why -- all according to a professional gardener's least-work schedule. Illustrated with pictures and examples from an actual season of work in a botanical garden perennial bed. This realistic presentation focuses on saving time, making wise decisions when real life doesn't match the textbooks, and other practical advice.

Janet Macunovich wrote the book on this aspect of maintenance, "Caring for Perennials" (Storey Publishing, 1995). This presentation is a "best of" compilation from that book.

About the book: There is something there for everyone and every garden. The book's chapter titles say it all:



Introduction: The Year in a Garden  
New Year's Calm: Planning the Season  
Midwinter Restlessness: Finding Plants and Tools  
Earliest Stirrings: Pruning  
Opening Moves: Edging and Weeding  
Before the Green Rush: Dividing and Mulching  
Tending to the First Wave: Watering, Fertilizing, Planting and Staking  
Ushering in Summer: Controlling Pests, Watering, and More Planting  
Establishing Summer's Routine: Deadheading, Pinching and Managing Problems  
Enjoying the Harvest: Playing in the Garden  
Anticipating Fall: Transplanting and Preliminaries to Closing  
Using Fall Wisely: Weeding to Last a Winter  
Closing Up Before Winter: Putting the Garden to Bed  
Winter's Onset: Reducing Maintenance and Reflecting on the Season  
Maintenance Chart :Care of Particular Perennial Species

**Makeovers** (See "When Cheating is A-OK: Quick and Magical Makeovers for Big Events in Your Garden")

### **Making the Most of Soils and Fertilizers**

Beautiful gardens begin at ground level with good, fertile soil - something you can have by understanding basics of soils and fertilizers. Learn your soil type, its good qualities and challenges. Turn tough soils into great ones. Look at when to test the soil, how to use results and fertilizers wisely. (2 meeting, 4 hours)

### **Making More Plants: Dividing and multiplying in your garden:** (Also known as "Math for Gardeners: Divided and multiply your plants!")

Every gardener has a favorite plant. Often, it's a unique, hard-to-find or even heirloom variety, but we'd love to have more of it. Here's a hands-on run-down of ways to make more of almost any plant in your garden or home (perennial, houseplant, shrubs, even trees), presented by professional gardener and writer Janet Macunovich. (1 meeting, 1 hour; various focused workshops and multiple-session courses available)

### **Math for Gardeners - Multiplying and Dividing Perennials**

Every gardener has a favorite plant. Often, it's a unique, hard-to-find or even heirloom variety, but we'd love to have more of it. Here's a run-down of ways to make more of almost any plant, presented by professional gardener and writer Janet Macunovich. (Overview: 1 meeting, 1 hour; Class: 2 meetings, 2-1/2 hours per meeting)

### **Meadow Gardens**

America's pioneering spirit has been captured by the vision of sunny meadows blanketed with carefree, natural wildflowers. It is possible to create that meadow wildflower area. In this seminar, garden designer Janet Macunovich tells you how. Special note: If you have a shady area you would like to plant in wildflowers, this class will help you in preparing the soil, choosing and planting the seed, but plants specifically for the shade are addressed in the class "Shady Gardens". (1 meeting, 3 hours)

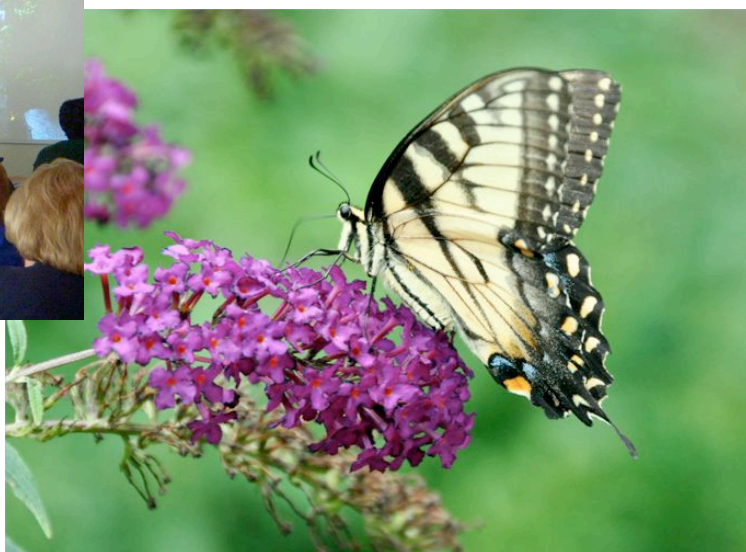
### **Medicine Chest** (See "Garden Medicine Chest")

### **Michigan Garden Kaleidoscope**

A State-wide look at gardens and gardeners, focusing on the many different reasons to gardens, and the innovative ways that gardeners get what they want from a diversity of sites and lifestyles. (1 meeting, 1-1/2 hours, or a grand look at how those gardens and gardeners evolve over a ten year span, 1 meeting 3 hours.)

### **Michigan Natives in the Landscape**

Many people are surprised to learn how many plants already in our gardens and yards are native to Michigan, and how many more there are that can add beauty and other endearing qualities. Garden writer Janet Macunovich gives you tips for making the most of native plants' best qualities: lower maintenance, less disease and pest problems and more wildlife..(1 meeting, 3 hours; overview available - 1 hour)



### **Michigan Wildflowers in the Perennial Garden**

Many native flowering species will adapt to garden conditions and fill niches that more commonly cultivated perennials cannot. Here's a look at what can be grown, how/where plants can be obtained without destroying natural areas, and how to maintain the wildflower garden. Shady woodland and sunny meadow species are included. (1 meeting, 1 hour; this material is covered within the three-hour version of "Michigan Natives in The Landscape.")

### **Michigan Wildflower Walk: Garden revelations**

Walk in one of southeast Michigan's richest woods to learn some native plants at their prettiest. Along the way take tips from Nature and your guide, Janet Macunovich or Steven Nikkila, about soil renewal, fertilization, plant placement and more. Meeting at \_\_\_\_\_(time) on \_\_\_\_\_(day, date) at \_\_\_\_\_(location such as "Goose Meadow picnic area parking lot, Highland Recreation Area. Off M-59 west of Bogie Lake Road in White Lake Township"). \$20 voluntary contribution. You are responsible to provide or purchase a State Park daily- or seasonal vehicle pass for your car. Dress for hiking in the weather. Sorry, wheelchair access not available at this location.

### **Mid-season Garden Design Review**

Here it is, July. No denying it's summer, now. How has your spring planning and planting shaped up? What can you do if that new or changed garden is not what you imagined it would be? How do you know if new plants are thriving? What should you do if they aren't? If there are perennial plants, shrubs or trees involved, how can you know what they will look like in a month or a year? Is there anything you can do this late in the season to improve on what you started in spring? In this program, professional gardener and author Janet Macunovich answers these questions and more, to help you get the most out of your flower garden. (1 session, 30-45 minutes.)

### **Mixed Borders**

A garden doesn't have to be restricted to annual or perennial flowers. It can consist of perennials, annuals, bulbs and trees and shrubs. Here's a look at how to design a beautiful "mixed border" plus advice on how to tend a bed when it's filled with so many different kinds of plants. (1 session, 3 hours)

### **More than a Garden: Balm for the Soul, Glue for the Family** (also called "Benefits of Gardening")

An interesting look at the non-plant aspects of a garden -- why plants fascinate people, how contact with them can relieve stress, what can be included in a garden to build family unity, and how community gardening ideals have shaped the face of America. (1 session, 45-60 minutes)

### **Myths and Legends from the Garden** (See also "Classes FOR Children")

Did you know that the "yarrow" we grow in our gardens was once called woundwort, and was one of the Greek hero Achilles main medicines? Or that every forget-me-not recalls a brave knight in shining armor? Many of our garden plants have such roots in ancient times. The stories you'll hear will make you look twice, laugh, or even bow to the flowers, shrubs and trees in your own yard. (1 meeting, 1 hour; children's version available)

### **Myths and Realities of Perennial Gardening**

Perennial plants are in the public eye and, like all public figures, have been distorted by the media! This talk by professional perennial gardener and author Janet Macunovich will help you avoid committing yourself to perennials that can't live up to their hype, and advise you on ways to make the most of the winners you do bring home. (1 session, 1 hour)

### **Native Plants** (See "Michigan Natives in the Landscape" and "Michigan Wildflowers in the Perennial Garden")

### **Natural Landscapes**

What does it mean to "go natural" in an urban or suburban landscape? What does the gardener need to know before beginning to plant in such an unconventional fashion? How can he or she decide which plants to use and how can they be arranged to look natural? Landscape designer Janet Macunovich steps you through what to do for an existing or new landscape, what pitfalls to avoid, plants to consider using, sources of additional information, and how to gradually phase in a natural landscape design. (Differs from "Naturalized Gardening" in its focus on overall design for larger areas and entire yards, and includes woody plants as well as garden ornamentals.) (1 meeting, 3 hours; overview available - 1 hour)

### **Naturalized Gardening**

We enjoy nature in the wild, but can we really give our garden over to nature completely? Here's how to select what you like, introduce it to your yard, and help it establish in a naturalized fashion. (1 meeting, 3 hours; overview available - 1 hour)

### **Never Too Late: Planting in Summer**

Sometimes spring just flashes by, and it can seem the opportunity to plant has passed for the year. But just because you were busy in spring remodeling, moving, chauffeuring children or meeting big job deadlines, you don't have to live with a dull yard all summer. Don't wait until next spring to start that garden or improve that landscape. Here's why you can plant now, and how to make the most of the time you have to do it. (1 meeting, 1 hour)

### **Never Stop Growing: In pursuit of Low Maintenance, all the years of our lives**

(See also Simplify to Keep on Growing, and Saving Time...)

Here's a look at what you can do to reduce the work you do in your yard and how to keep it up even as your physical abilities change. Although there isn't any such thing as a *no* maintenance garden, there are low maintenance gardens and yards and different approaches that reduce work by making tasks simpler or physically easier. You may be surprised at how much difference you can make with design modifications, variations in tools and timing and more. These tips come to you from 30-year professional gardener and writer Janet Macunovich, with lots of input from those with even more seniority. (1 meeting, 1 hour)

### **New Life for Older Landscapes** (Also called "Landscape Renovation")

A class for the person who wants to improve an existing landscape. Whether you plan to do the work yourself or work with a contractor, here's how to plan ahead for success. In these three sessions you will learn how to make the tough decisions about existing plants and structures, find new plants to match your needs, and get them planted in a way to insure good growth. (3 meetings, 3 hours each - can be taken individually or as a series)

### **New Perennials: See "Seeking the Best"**

### **Nosing Around: Smelling your way to a better garden** (See also "Senses: All the Best Sense in a Garden")

Olfactory fun doesn't come just from fragrant flowers you plant but your choices, placement and combinations in scented foliage, twigs and berries... and what you do to entice others and remind yourself to enjoy it. This presentation provides plant recommendations as well as design and use ideas. (1 session, 1 hour; 2 hour workshop available)

### **Older Gardener, Easier Garden** (See "Never Stop Growing")

### **Organic Gardening**

The three most important aspects of gardening from an organic basis: Why organic gardeners view the soil as a living part of the garden and how they treat it. How to match plants to a site so that the natural environmental systems work for you. Working with nature to control pests and diseases in a way that keeps everything in balance. (1 meeting, 3 hours)

### **Overwintering tender perennials** (See "Admitting you're hooked")

### **Pathways: Improving the Garden Journey**

How to lay out, surface and furnish pathways in your landscape. Plenty of ideas, tips and construction details, with a chance to try your hand at a simple process for plotting a practical, graceful, beautiful path to take everyone and everything where it must go. (1 meeting, 2.5 hours)

### **Perennials: the Best Picks**

Which perennials should you grow, and why? Here's an expert's top-100 list, beautifully illustrated and full of great information (2 meetings, 6 hours; overview available -- 1 meeting, 1 hour)

### **Perennial Combinations** (Also called "Great Perennial Combinations")

Most perennial gardeners aim for continuous bloom in the garden - but is it enough to think about color? Don't overlook the power of flower form, and foliage selected to "pick up" flower colors. Also, disregard catalog claims for plants that 'bloom all summer' - design instead around the predictable peak bloom time for each species. This presentation is a look at some terrific perennial combinations, what makes them shine so bright, and how you can develop your own variations. Recommendations and thoughts by garden writer and designer Janet Macunovich, based on thirty years of observation in U.S., Canadian, and British gardens. (1 or 2 sessions, 1-1/2 hours per meeting)

### **Perennials for the Collector**

For many, perennial gardening is an addictive hobby that sets the gardener on a never ending path for new and unusual plants. Garden designer and writer Janet Macunovich is an admitted perennial addict who not only shuns the twelve step road to salvation but invites others to come along with her on the hunt for this year's "must-have" plants. This presentation is an entertaining look at how we decide what's worth having, how to go about finding those elusive varieties, and what's on her list for this season. (1 meeting, 1 hour)

**Perennial Garden Design** (Exists in several different versions, each with unique aspects. See also "Simple, Successful Garden Design" and "Designing Perennial Gardens.")

This class provides the opportunity to explore the concepts of designing, drafting, and planting a perennial garden. Learn to visualize the new or changed bed, put your ideas on paper, find plants and materials, and plan soil preparation. Ideal for those already acquainted with perennial gardening, but not yet proficient in design and planning. (3 meetings, total 9 hours)

### **Perennial Gardening**

You can have beautiful gardens this year and for years to come when you use perennial plants. An experienced instructor and gardener leads this comprehensive five week course in how to recognize and grow 30 excellent perennials. You'll learn how to design a garden that's pretty from spring to fall, without relying on all those annuals. You'll be able to prepare your flower beds so your flowers grow well, the weeds don't, and maintenance is minimal. You'll even know the best places to go to get the plants for your design. (5 meetings, 15 hours)

### **Perennial Gardening: Short Course**

For those who want to start a perennial garden this year, but don't have very much time to learn! This course covers the fundamentals of design, soil preparation, finding and selecting plants, planting and maintenance. In-class design time and the amount of class time devoted to discussing specific choices is less than in the full course. (1 meeting, 3 hours)

### **Perennial Gardening: Chores and Fun**

Learn more about your perennial garden! Hot topics for June, for those with a perennial garden: what maintenance chores should be on your list this month, and why; how to cut and arrange flowers, what is edible, dry-able, and more. (1 meeting, 3 hours)

### **Perennials for Growers: What Your Customers Want**

Writing for a major newspaper, hosting a weekly call-in radio gardening show, teaching classes to home gardeners, and working in clients' gardens are what puts Janet Macunovich in a unique position to gather information about what gardeners want when they go to shop for perennials. This presentation is help for the professional grower for deciding which plants to carry, which varieties, what size containers, and what "added value" items will keep the customers coming back steadily. Updated annually to reflect new cultivars and consumer trends. (1 meeting, 1 hour)

### **Perennials in the Landscape**

Here's a fast, fun, beautiful visual tour that will acquaint you with the wide range of uses perennial plants can have in the landscape. Both new gardeners and experienced gardeners will find this information interesting, as it includes both general and specific recommendations gathered from gardens and gardeners from many geographic areas and situations. Traditional perennial gardens, the "New American Garden," containers, edging, groundcovers, and plants that extend the blooming season are all covered, with specific plant recommendations for each area. Your guide, garden designer and writer Janet Macunovich or horticultural photographer Steven Nikkila, also introduces a starting line-up of sure-fire plants selected for their beauty, endurance, and adaptability in the landscape. This information can be a big help to those who want to make their surroundings more attractive, in unique ways. (1 meeting, 1 hour)

### **Perennial Introductions: See "Seeking the Best"**

### **Persuading Perennials... to Delight Us for All Four Seasons**

Perennial gardens and the landscapes they occupy don't have to look like moonscapes during the off-season! Perennials have a lot to offer even from October to April. To reap four seasons of interest from your garden, it's wise to choose species and varieties carefully, but that's only part of the answer. How you place and maintain plants and other garden features is more important. Here are design techniques and maintenance tips from garden designer and author Janet Macunovich. (1 hour and 3 hour versions)

### **Photography in the Garden** (also called Effective Photogardening)

This talk is a triple attraction: a professional horticultural photographer's simple steps for capturing your own garden on film. It's also an enchanting photo tour of beautiful gardens plus a critical look at what works in a garden from a design perspective. Framing your shot, setting up "before and after" shots, planning a dramatic sequence to show seasonal or year to year differences, using light and shadow to your advantage, and correcting for less-than-perfect light or subject matter are all discussed for both manual and automatic cameras.

Photographer-horticulturist Steven Nikkila also shares great ideas for displaying your work in an album, on a wall, or in your garden! (1 meeting, various-length versions available; see also as an optional follow-up, "Eye to Hand-y Image: Garden Photography Workshop")



## **Photography for the Horticultural Professions**

Many landscape managers, arborists, and horticulturists need photographs of their landscapes and gardens for resumes, publications, records of weather damage and vandalism, training, and more. Here is help from a professional horticultural photographer to make pictures that

show what must be shown, to the best advantage. (1 meeting, various-length versions available)

**Photography Workshop** (See "Eye to Hand-y Image: Garden Photography Workshop")

**Picture Perfect Garden...** (See "Transplanting the Picture Perfect Garden")

**Pinching and Shaping Perennials** (See "In Over Your Head")

**Planting a Perennial Garden**  
A very practical how-to: selecting, buying, arranging and planting a weekend garden project. (1 meeting, 2 hours)

**Planting in Summer** (See "Never Too Late: Planting in Summer")

**Planting to Perfection: How to choose and plant to get things growing**

A basic plan to get you off and running by spring:

- How to select plants that will meet your expectations
- Ideas for placing plants and features in your yard, and
- Planting directions

Includes suggestions for easy, pleasing permanent plants (trees, shrubs, vines), long-term residents (groundcovers and perennials) and annuals.

**Plants in the News and New in Your Garden**

This presentation looks at the "news" in a garden -- which plants are new and how to know if they are worth adding to *your* garden, along with garden related stories and items in the news that you should be aware of. Lots of novel ideas offered up and tailored for participants' gardens, plus many fun perspectives on old standards. (1 meeting, 1 hour and 1 meeting 3-hour workshop available)



### **PowerPoint and More - How to Develop and Illustrate a Master Gardener Talk**

Here's help from two professional public speakers for those who are new to public speaking, unsure where to start, but determined to give a first-class presentation to the club, community group or other audience that's requested a Master Gardener's expertise. This presentation describes the process from beginning to end - deciding on the information you want to convey to the audience, organizing the ideas for maximum effect, and choosing the most effective ways to illustrate points via images or a combination of images and other media. (1 meeting, 1 hour)

### **Practical Water Gardens**

The sight and sound of water can enhance almost any garden - but don't dive in until you've considered all the angles. This class is the straight scoop on designing, building and maintaining a water garden. (1 meeting, 2-1/2 hours)

### **Preventing Construction Damage to Landscape and Garden**

It's exciting to add a room, build a new garage, reconfigure a house, or change a driveway, walk or patio. You probably weren't counting on losing your trees and permanently disfiguring your landscape in the process, but that's often the result. Learn how to plan construction projects to identify what can be saved in a landscape, protect it and help it recover when the crews and equipment have gone. (overview 1 meeting, 1 hour; or 1 meeting 3 hours)

### **Priming the Perennial Garden**

It's not just the combination of plant species and varieties that make for April through October bloom in a perennial garden. What really counts in mid-summer are gardener's tricks for tweaking the garden -- staking, deadheading, cutting back and other techniques that fine tune the plants' overall appearance while extending, delaying or coaxing repeat bloom. This presentation covers those practical techniques that add up to a really long show. (1 hour, 3 hour, and workshop-length versions; workshop version has lecture and hands-on sessions.)

### **Professional Series**

**A Season in the Perennial Garden: April to November Care of Perennials** - A unique, step-by-step account of what's done to maintain a perennial bed, how, when and why. Illustrated with pictures and examples from an actual season of work in a botanical garden perennial bed. General maintenance procedures are covered, plus specific care of over 30 species.

Many gardeners know what kind of work it takes to keep a perennial bed looking its best, but are you one of the few who can get it done on schedule? The real news in this session is how to schedule and sequence the work. With this information, a season's chores can be planned in advance, and labor and materials estimated. (1 meeting, 4.5 hours)

**Estimating Planting Costs** Here's an opportunity to take a detailed look at turning a perennial garden plan into a detailed estimate and proposal. Includes figuring costs, building in profit, anticipating roadblocks, capturing it all on paper and in a solid contract. (1 session, 1 hour or 1 session 3 hours)

**Maintaining Perennial Beds: Part 1 - a Professional Approach** - Every year, beautifully designed, well planted perennial beds are lost and revenue opportunities lost with them, because maintenance was not done or improperly done. Designer-writer Janet Macunovich designs, plants and maintains perennial beds through her business, Perennial Favorites. In this class she presents a no-nonsense look at what must be done, when, and how to keep perennials looking their best and selling themselves to our customers. (1 meeting, 1 hour)

**Maintaining Perennial Beds: Part 2 - Beyond the Basics** - Just when we begin to get comfortable in caring for perennial beds, a new species presents itself or we find ourselves in a unique position not covered in our standard references. Here's help toward thinking on your feet the next time the going gets rough. This portion of the class goes beyond the basics into how to care for specific plants, what to do when recommended timing or sequencing of chores can't be followed, and renovating older beds. (1 meeting, 2 hours)

**Perennials in the Landscape: Current Opportunities and Forecast** - This presentation is designed to acquaint professionals in garden centers and garden-related businesses with a wide array of uses for perennials in the landscape. Traditional perennial gardens, the "New American Garden," containers, edging, groundcovers, season-extenders are all covered, with specific plant recommendations for each area. Garden designer and writer Janet Macunovich also introduces the audience to a starting line-up of sure-sell perennials selected for their marketability and adaptability in the landscape. This information can be a big help to those who want to increase their stock of perennials or boost sales (1 meeting, 2 hours)

**Profitable Perennial Garden Maintenance** Although strong horticultural practice is essential in this business, what probably makes the difference between companies that come and go and those that make a go of it is solid business practice. Janet Macunovich, a 20-year professional gardener who specializes in perennial garden maintenance, offers advice on tracking costs, estimating, scheduling and billing for perennial garden care. (1 session, 1 hour or 1 session 3 hours)

**Garden maintenance: Staying ahead of perennial trouble** - For those who maintain perennial gardens, the best strategy for a dependable show in your plantings is to stay informed and keep at least one step ahead of problems. Here's a line-up of some of the best-selling and most useful perennial species along with what to expect now and down the road in terms of pests, diseases and other headaches. Janet Macunovich has maintained perennial gardens through her firm, Perennial Favorites, for over 20 years. She also writes and speaks about perennial care, both to share what she has learned for the general advance of the field, and to gather the information she needs to keep her own client's gardens ahead of the pack. She's contacted all of her sources, compiled all her notes, and packed all the most relevant tips into this presentation. (1 meeting, 1 hour)

**Design and planting perennials: What works, what's lasted, what pays off** - Make the best picks now in plants and planting arrangements by evaluating and selecting the longest lasting, most cost effective elements from 20 years of designing, planting and tending perennial landscapes. Garden designer and writer Janet Macunovich has taken this long look back and projected it forward for her own design, planting and maintenance firm. In this presentation she shares her findings and explains what she'll be including, recommending and doing to keep perennial gardens in the fore during the coming years. (1 meeting, 1 hour)

**Propagating Plants** (See "Making More Plants" and "Dividing Perennials")

### **Pruning Evergreen Shrubs and Trees Workshop**

Many landscapes include evergreen shrubs and trees which must be kept smaller than the plants' potential. It can be a challenge to keep them small, healthy and well shaped. August is a great time to prune to control the size and shape of these plants. Come learn how in a hands-on session. (1 meeting, 3 hours)

### **Pruning Conifers** (See "Clipping Conifers")

### **Pruning Overgrown Plants** (See "In Over Your Head")

### **Pruning Trees and Shrubs** (Also called "Fine-pruning the Landscape.")

If you have ever wondered how and when to prune your trees and shrubs to ensure beautiful bloom, good shape, manageable size, and healthy plants, this is the class for you. In it, garden designer and writer Janet Macunovich covers:

- How well and how long popular landscape plants hold up to pruning
- Simple, proven techniques for keeping plants within the bounds you set.

Macunovich encourages you to "Bring a branch!" Clip a limb from the plants you want to trim, to be sure they are included in the "how to!"

(1 meeting, 3 hours - includes sample plants and tools; OR 1 meeting, 2 hours without samples)

### **Raise Your Sights to Lower Maintenance**

What exactly is "low maintenance" and how can it be achieved in an average yard? Here's a review of the kinds of chores that must be, can be, and might be done in a garden and landscape to keep it looking its best. Even the busiest person or one with limited physical ability can reduce work and improve the look of the yard with these tips for setting priorities, making the most of good timing, and employing energy efficient techniques. (1 meeting, 2 hours)

### **Real-World Gardens**

**An Evolving Shady Garden** - Learn about shade gardening in an actual, shady yard. You will be visiting a delightful woodland garden. Learn and practice techniques that will be immediately useful in your shady garden. Come dressed for working in the garden, and bring your favorite shovel, spade or garden fork, plus a hand trowel. An additional summer visit to the same garden is included in the class, to learn about the changing face of a perennial garden. Location of the class is provided when you register. (1 meeting, 2 hours-1 meeting, 1 hour)

**Fall Bed Preparation** - Covers the same material as other Fall Bed Preparation course, but in a real garden. Hands on learning. Bring a shovel and fork, if you have them. Dress for the weather and work. (1 meeting, 3 hour)

**Garden Design** - Get acquainted or reacquainted with the elements of garden design, discuss techniques and tips, and then step outdoors to see it all in action in real gardens. Be prepared to critique and propose changes, and participate in an exercise to design a major new bed in a world class garden. (1 meeting, 3 hours)

**Garden in a Rock Wall** - This class is a chance to learn by doing. You'll turn a rock wall into a blooming perennial rock garden. Class meets in a real yard, the best place to learn about gardening. Come dressed for working with soil, plants and rocks: you will be preparing soil mixes and planting rock garden plants into a retaining wall. Bring your favorite shovel, spade or garden fork plus a hand trowel. You can't take this rock wall garden home with you when it's done but you will take home the ability to do the same thing in your own yard. The optional materials fee is for a handout that includes the garden plan used for building the garden and important notes to help you remember what you've learned. (1 meeting, 4 hours)

**Rock Garden on the Flat** - This hands-on gardening experience will take place in a real yard, the best place to learn about soil, plants, rocks and how to put them all together beautifully. Come dressed for gardening: you will build a rock garden during this class, complete with plants. Bring your favorite shovel, spade or garden fork plus a hand trowel. The rock garden has to remain where the class builds it but you'll be able to build your own rock garden when the class is over. The optional materials fee is for a handout that includes the garden plan used for building the garden and important notes to help you remember what you've learned. (1 meeting, 4 hours)

**Making a Garden in the Shade** - Learn about shade gardening in an actual, shady yard. The class will prepare a garden bed in the shade and plant it with perennial plants that will thrive there. You will learn and practice techniques in this class that will be immediately useful in your own shady garden. Come dressed for working in the garden, and bring your favorite shovel, spade or garden fork plus a hand trowel. The optional materials fee is for a handout that includes the garden plan used for building the garden and important notes to help you remember what you've learned. (1 meeting, 4 hours)

**Perennial Garden Maintenance** - Nothing beats learning with your hands. This class will teach you how to give your perennial garden all that it needs. In part one, discuss general perennial garden routines, see slide photographs, participate in classroom demonstrations, and focus on what the priorities are right now in a garden. During part two, work outdoors in a perennial garden to practice on real plants. Come dressed for gardening in part two, and bring your favorite shovel, spade or garden fork plus a hand trowel. (2 meetings, total 4 hours)

### **Renovating a Perennial Bed**

Perennials don't last forever -- beds that are six or seven years old benefit greatly from a total or partial remake. If your bed has become worn out, some plants have grown too large and others have melted away, or you're just plain tired of looking at the same old stuff, don't miss this class. It's a step-by-step approach to take apart what's there, give old plants and soil new life, and change a design to rekindle faded glory. (1 meeting, 2 hours)

### **Renovating Gardens and Landscapes**

Most gardeners have been faced with a previously-planted garden or landscape that's gotten a bit worn and "needs something". Whether you're the gardener, or the owner working with the help of a contractor, you'll have better results with your renovation if you adopt this plan for success. This presentation shows how to make changes within a garden or a yard to express yourself while maintaining unity between new and old. What to keep, how to visualize changes, designing around existing features, transplanting and soil improvement techniques, tips toward phasing in the changes, and suggested plants are all covered. (5 meetings, 15 hours; overviews available - 1 meeting, 1 or 2 hours)

**Restrained Garden: Gardening in Small Spaces** (See also Small Spaces and Trees and Shrubs for Small Spaces)

When your gardening goals seem too vast or too demanding for the space you actually have, there's no reason to give up on your dreams. What you need is this practical approach that revolves around restraint in planting and craftiness in maintaining small beds for maximum impact. With the ideas from this class, you can handle almost any space, no matter how confining, awkward in proportions, or restrictive in growing conditions. (3 meetings, 9 hours) See also "Trees and Shrubs for Small Spaces" for more "small space" information.

**Rock Gardens** (See also "Real World: Rock Gardens.")

Rock gardens have been popular for hundreds of years, for good reason! They're small enough to tuck into a corner of the patio or the cracks in a retaining wall, but able to hold more different types of plants per square foot than any other style of garden. (1 meeting, 3 hours)

**Saving Trees During Construction** (See "Preventing Construction Damage...")

**Saving Time and Money on Yardwork -- Low Maintenance Yards and Gardens** (See also Low Maintenance Landscape; see also Simplify to Keep on Growing)

Now is the time to plan what you will do, when and how, to reduce the work you do and money you spend on your yard. Although there isn't any such thing as a *no* maintenance garden or *no*-cost yard, there *are* low maintenance gardens and yards. This presentation is full of back-saving, budget-easing tips from a professional gardener and garden writer. Every one has proved its worth in real gardens. You may be surprised at how much difference you can make, looking at everything from design modifications to variations in tools, timing and even perspective. (1 meeting, 1-1/2 hours)

**Scent in the garden** (See "Senses: All the Best Sense in a Garden" and "Nosing Around")

**Secret to Beautiful Gardens: Not a Green Thumb but the Right Tools** (See *Tools*)

**Seeking the Best of New Perennial Introductions**

Writing a weekly e-newsletter based on readers' questions, discussing plants with gardeners all over the continent, teaching classes to home gardeners, working in clients' gardens through her business, Perennial Favorites and her keen eye for trends are what puts Janet Macunovich in a great position to gather information about what works for the average gardener. Look with her today at a crop of the best recent introductions. Along with her recommendations you'll also hear why certain plants and flower types make the hit list, why others keep trying, and how to choose from each year's menu of new cultivars. (1 meeting 1 hour)

**Sense-ational workshop: All the Best Sense in a Garden**

Have you ever closed your eyes to enjoy your garden for what you hear, feel, smell and taste? This is a fresh look at gardening and your chance to spend fun, productive time evaluating and enlarging the sensual dimension of your garden or landscape with the help of designer and writer Janet Macunovich. In this workshop you'll move beyond what you see to designing and managing for *all* your senses. You'll end the workshop with specific suggestions to improve your garden's feel, fragrance, sound and taste.

(1 meeting, 3-4 hours) See also these related 1-hour sessions:

**Designing for all Five Senses; Ear to the Ground: Sound in the garden; Nosing Around: Smelling your way to a better garden; Touch: Feeling good all around the garden**



### **Shade Gardening, a Practical Approach**

Plant selection is critical for success in the shade, but so too are design and maintenance strategies, planting among tree roots, and soil preparation techniques that serve not only the new plantings but established trees or shrubs on the site. Janet Macunovich lends 25 years' professional gardening and training experience to you to explore all of those topics.

(1 meeting, 3-6 hours; overview available - 1 meeting, 1 hour)

### **Shade Gardens**

This class is for the gardener blessed with shady places. Offering solutions to the questions: How can I make a garden in the shade? What differences are there in designing the shady garden and preparing the bed, compared to a sunny garden? What can I plant? How can I make it grow? (1 meeting, 3 hours; overview available - 1 meeting, 1 hour)

### **Shamans, 21st Century** (See "Gardeners: 21st Century Shamans")

### **Simple, Successful Garden Design** ("Easy Garden Design")

Simple steps to designing a garden, applicable to the first time gardener or professional. You'll learn: How to match the garden to those people's needs, determine a budget, select a site, arrange the plants, and even how to be sure the finished garden gets the care it will need to look great. This 12 step approach works for annual flower beds, perennial beds, bulbs, even woody plants. (2 meetings, 4 hours; overview 1 meeting, 1 hour)

### **Simplify to keep on growing** (Related, Never Stop Growing and Saving Time...)

Thomas Jefferson said, "I am an old man but yet a young gardener." If you have been gardening for many years, you feel this, too -- your situation and abilities change yet your desire to keep growing does not. Here are insights for keeping up what your younger self began by streamlining, saving energy, and altering methods, tools and perspectives. From a 30-year professional gardener with lots of input from others with even more seniority. (1 meeting, 1 hour)

### **Simplify the Garden: A workshop for professional gardeners**

Many gardeners look to the pros to help them simplify a garden or landscape when their circumstances or interests change. They ask the caretaker or the consultant, "Can we reduce the work without losing the beauty?" Here's a chance to consider tactics for simplifying and also predict the impact of the changes for everyone associated with the garden. Included are approaches that can make tasks simpler or physically easier, design modifications, variations in tools and timing and more. (1 meeting, 1.5 - 2 hours)

### **Small Spaces: Gardens for Small Spaces** (For related items, see also "Restrained Garden" and "Trees and Shrubs for Small Spaces")

Garden designer and writer Janet Macunovich has lots of ideas to share regarding the small lot, tight corner, and intimate courtyard. This presentation is all about how to have a lot in a small area and how to work out the design, planting and care of that space. You'll come away with actual design plans for tight places, lots of colorful examples and hands-on practice at doing it all yourself. (1 session, 3 hour workshop; overview available 45-60 minutes)

below: Janet's students work through a garden planning exercise.

**Sound in the garden** (See "Senses: All the Best Sense in a Garden" and "Ear to the Ground")



**Specialty Gardener**

This series is designed to meet the needs of your garden terrain. You will learn the importance of proper ground preparation and receive specialized information that will help you attain that special garden that you've always dreamed of having. Topics include gardening for meadows, wetlands, rocks, shade, and wildlife. (5 meeting, 4 hours)

**Spring Tonic** (spring design and maintenance in perennial beds) **See "Green Revival"**

**Spring Start-up: Working the garden now for a year of non-stop color**

Does your garden make you happy right now, In April? It should! And it should keep on glowing right through fall. Learn how in this talk and demonstration by garden designer and writer Janet Macunovich. Macunovich will show what to do in the garden right now to make the whole season easier, the garden more lush and the color continuous. (1 meeting, 1 hour)

**Starter Gardens**

For the first-time gardener, the aspiring gardener or the old hand who still wonders if s/he got the right start. Basic garden planning (realistic expectations, best sites, site assessment, plant selection), planting and a what-to-do-when look at maintenance through the year. Instructed by Janet Macunovich, garden writer and Oakland County Master Gardener who's helped hundreds of people start gardens and remade her own numerous times over 25 years. (1 meeting, 3 hours)

**Stop Losing Plants** (See "Don't Know a Plant 'til You've Killed it")

**Successful Perennial Gardening**

An overview of the most important aspects of perennial gardening, from what to expect of perennials, to soil preparation, selecting plants, planting, day-to-day care and a starting line-up of perennials for sun and shade. (1 meeting, 1 hour)

## **Thank You, Great Grand-folks**

A look at the history of gardening in the U.S. Midwest. Engaging insights into why we grow what we do, the way we do and how our ancestors' gardening ways are still affecting our lives. (1 meeting, 1 hour)

## **Tool Care** (also called "Clean and Sharpen Your Tools")

Wonder why some gardeners get things done so simply? Good tools that are sharp, tight, and well oiled can be a big part of it! Learn how to tune-up pruners, reclaim a worn spade or sharpen your weeding tool as well as what to look for in essential gardening tools. (1 meeting, 2-3 hours depends on number of participants. Materials fee applies in addition to speaker fee.)

## **Tool Care Party** (also called "Cleaning and Sharpening Party")

Wonder why some gardeners get things done so simply? Sharp, tight, well oiled tools can be a big part of it! Why not invite Janet Macunovich or Steven Nikkila to preside over a tool cleaning ~~workshop~~ party? You provide the basement or garage space, tables, chairs and interested people who bring their tools-in-need-of-care. Janet or Steven provide the how-to, demonstrations and materials needed. All who come can go home with tuned-up pruners, spade or weeding tool but, more importantly, everyone will take away the know-how to keep their tools in top form. (1 meeting, 2-3 hours depends on number of participants. Materials fee applies in addition to speaker fee.)

Your tool care party in Monroe, MI last Sunday made many of us very very thankful. I tried my shears Monday and WOW what an enormous difference it made when taking down my ornamental grasses. We knew tools needed to be sharpened but many of us were not sure how to do our various tools or were using the wrong sharpening equipment. It isn't rocket science but very important knowledge to learn. Thank you for giving me another lifetime skill. - Sandra O'Connell -

## **Tools** (Also called "Secret to Beautiful Gardens: Not the Green Thumb but the Right Tools")

Even the best gardener can save time, energy, muscle strain and reduce plant stress by using the right tool. Professional gardeners Janet Macunovich and Steven Nikkila open their own toolbox for your inspection and share tips for selecting, using and caring for garden tools. (1 meeting, 1 hour)

See also **Tool Care Party** for a hands-on workshop of good tools and their care.

## **Touch: Feeling good all around the garden** (See also "Senses: All the Best Sense in a Garden")

Janet helps you get more out of your garden by focusing on the tactile sense. This is your chance to spend some time going beyond the visual to discover why you and others might like and dislike certain plants, why some are well suited to welcoming entranceways, others are great for barriers, some are guaranteed conversation starters and others make an elegant finish to a bouquet. (Be prepared: some delightful touching of samples is involved!) It's a grand way to make the garden richer for those who love to or need to touch, and to get more enjoyable mileage from your surroundings. (1 session, 1 hour; 2 hour workshop available)

## **Traditions in gardening** (See Holiday Magic, Myths and Legends, Thank You Great Grand-folks, What the Groundhog Won't Tell)

### **Transplanting the Picture Perfect Garden**

At some time in their lives, most gardeners visit a garden or see a picture of garden or landscape that becomes a driving vision. Even though the dream garden itself encompasses acreage and the dreaming gardener has only a postage-stamp lot, or vice-versa, he or she wants to have it outside his or her own kitchen window. Landscape and garden designer Janet Macunovich shares some practical ideas on how to recreate or adapt features from that picture book garden or landscape to fit your own yard. (1 meeting, 1 hour)

### **Traveling Gardener**

Take a look at some of the beautiful public gardens in and around southeastern Michigan. Learn what parts of each garden you should be sure to see on your visit. (1 meeting, 2 hours)

### **Tree I.D.** (also called "Know Them to Grow Them: Tree I.D. as key to a great landscape")

Learn the basics of identifying trees in *any* season of the year. When you know the species you hold the keys to giving it the perfect growing conditions, predicting and preventing its problems, and using it to best advantage for ornament, shade or produce. Horticulturist Steven Nikkila or Janet Macunovich will give you hands on training and take you out into the landscape to apply what you've learned. (1 meeting, 3 hours; limited to 25 people or a team of instructors will be required)

### **Tree I.D. Workshop** (also called Choosing and Using Trees)

So many trees, so little time - so why plant any but the *right* tree for your site and use? Learn 15 to 30 great trees beginning with how to identify each one in *any* season of the year and continuing through giving each one the perfect growing conditions, predicting and preventing its problems, and using it to best advantage for ornament, shade or produce. Horticulturist Steven Nikkila or Janet Macunovich will give you hands on training and also take you out into the landscape to apply what you've learned and meet your great trees. (3 - 5 meetings, 7 - 11 hours; length varies with plant list chosen by the host group; limited to 25 people or a team of instructors will be necessary for one of the sessions)

### **Tree Planting**

A tree is a long-term investment. Spend a little while now to consider all the choices of tree you have, and make the wisest selection. You'll also learn how to select a particular tree at a nursery, how to plant and what care to give it to insure its quickest "Take" and fastest growth. (1 meeting, 1 hour or 1 meeting, 2 hours)

### **Tree Planting in the Wake of Lost Ashes**

Millions of ash trees have been lost from Great Lakes landscapes and forests, and millions more will still be lost to the devastating Asian invader, emerald ash borer. One out of 4 people will lose a major tree so it's likely you'll have to choose a replacement tree for your own or another property. Here are wise choices for replacing that ash in a way that will be insurance against future losses of this type. You'll also learn how to select a particular tree at a nursery, how to plant and what care to give it to insure its quickest "Take" and fastest growth. (1 meeting, 2-1/2 hours or overview 1 meeting 3/4 hour)

### **Trees, preventing damage during construction** (See "Preventing Construction Damage...")

### **Trees and Shrubs for Small Spaces**

There can never be too many plants but there is frequently too little garden. This talk is for the gardener with limited space who still wants a variety of trees and shrubs. Both deciduous and evergreen trees and shrubs are covered. (1 meeting, 1 hour)

### **Try it and See: Visualizing Changes to a Garden or Landscape**

Here's a chance to learn how to visualize changes to your garden or landscape, so that you can plan and plant with confidence. Author and educator Janet Macunovich has 25 years' experience helping others to see into their gardens' future. She brings that all to bear here to give you several methods plus hands-on practice for picturing that perfect end product before you commit money or manpower to materials and planting. Whether you're working on a design from scratch, incorporating ideas you picked up at a conference or trying to figure how to personalize a great plan you saw in a magazine or book, this workshop will help you get a great start. (1 session, 4 hrs.) (overview, see "Gardener's Crystal Ball:...")

### **Vegetables: Growing Top-Notch Backyard Vegetables** (See also "Edible Landscapes")

Help for both beginners and "old hands" in the basics of growing great veggies, and tips for harvesting lots of safe, nutritious, low-cost produce from your own yard. (1 meeting, 1 hour)

### **Versatile Viburnums**

Many people design and grow for years without knowing they're overlooking a whole genus of stellar shrubs. When they do finally discover the Viburnums, they are often overwhelmed by the number of species and diversity of characteristics in the genus. Make the most of this wonderful shrub group. Look through landscape designer/author Janet Macunovich's and horticulturist/photographer Steven Nikkila's eyes to review a line-up of beautiful, durable Viburnums for Midwest gardens, including enough species and varieties to supply almost any garden or landscape need. (1 meeting, 1-2 hours)

**Visualizing Changes** (See presentation "Gardener's Crystal Ball" and workshop "Try It and See")

**Water Gardens** (See "Practical Water Gardens")

### **We Don't Know the Plant 'Til We've Killed It**

A humorous look at some of the kooky things gardeners do and the even stranger ways that plants respond to our attentions. (1 meeting, 45-60 minutes)

### **Weeds: To Know Them is to Beat Them**

An in-depth look at some of the most common and worst weeds a gardener faces, how to get them out and keep them out of a garden. (1 meeting, 2-3 hours)

**What Goes Into a Garden Medicine Chest** (See Garden Medicine Chest)

### **What Makes it English?** (Also called "Designing English Gardens")

A tour of beautiful English gardens that explains for designers how to capture the basic characteristics of the English garden right in your back yard. (1 meeting, 1-1/2 hours)

### **What the Groundhog Won't Tell**

If you're one of the believers who hold an annual vigil at a groundhog den on February 2, nothing you'll hear in this presentation will seem strange. To everyone else, this revelation of gardeners' odd beliefs and wacky off-season rituals will be an eye-opener. A fun way to spend a winter hour, and bound to entertain you again whenever you observe an old tradition. (1 meeting, 1 hour)

### **What Your Garden Says About You** (Also called "The Great Garden Give-away")

The plants, design and condition of a garden are windows on the soul of the gardener. What does your garden say about you? What can you learn about your neighbors and friends from their gardens? Covers standard messages, such as which door a visitor should approach as well as more subtle hints to the owner's personality, lifestyle, even his or her philosophy. Laugh and learn!. (1 meeting, 45-60 minutes)

### **When Cheating is A-OK: Quick and Magical Makeovers for Big Events in Your Garden**

Garden parties can be both last-minute and grand. Here are tips for making an existing high-summer garden look fresh and special *right now*.. (1 meeting, 1 hour)

**Wildflowers** (See "Michigan Wildflowers in the Garden", "Meadow Gardens, "Naturalized Garden" or "Natural Landscapes")

### **Wildlife Gardening**

Why and how you can plan and maintain the yard so that birds and small mammals will share it with you. (1 meeting, 3 hours)

**Winter Care of Tender Perennial Plants and Roots** (See "Admitting You're Hooked")



**Winter Interest in the Garden - High Returns for Small Investments** (See also "An Enchanting Winter Garden")

Gardens attract our eye - we perch with our morning coffee in front of the window that offers a garden overlook, and the premium seat in the family room often faces the picture window to the garden. No wonder winter depression occurs, when out of comfortable habit we turn to look at gardens that in fall can suddenly become bleak, flat moonscapes! Garden designer Janet Macunovich has tips for you for fall clean-up and much more. As you do your garden clean up this fall and decide if and where to place new plants and bulbs, use these ideas to make any existing or new landscape interesting, colorful, even alive with birds and the motion of leaves from November to April. (1 meeting, 2 hours)

OR

**Winter Interest in the Garden - High Returns for Small Investments**

Gardens attract our eye - we perch with our morning coffee in front of the window that offers a garden overlook, and the premium seat in the family room often faces the picture window to the garden. No wonder winter depression occurs, when out of comfortable habit we turn to look at gardens that in winter are suddenly bleak, flat moonscapes! Garden designer Janet Macunovich has suggestions for how you can improve your garden's off-season appeal, tips you can use as you do your fall clean-up this year and tuck in new bulbs and plants. During this workshop she'll not only show you how but also give you some practice applying her tips to a specific garden. You'll have great ideas to make any existing or new landscape interesting, colorful, even alive with birds and the motion of leaves from November to April.



**Winterizing the Perennial Garden** (See "Art of Fall Garden Clean-up")

**Year-round Landscapes** (See also "Persuading Perennials")

Making a landscape that's interesting all year round is not simply a matter of what you plant but how you arrange the plantings and incorporate non-plant features. In this presentation you'll be introduced to a stellar line-up of trees, shrubs and perennials for all seasons with suggestions for plant combinations and landscape arrangements that make the most of what the plants have to offer. (1 session, 3 hours)