

Hyacinths provide aroma, color, and style. Learn how to use them as companion plants in landscaping design.



These water lilles show why water gardening is growing in popularity among homeowners. Step by step instructions on planning, installing, stocking, and maintaining a water garden will be taught at the symposium.

## LOU ANN GOOD Lancaster Farming Staff

LANCASTER (Lancaster Co.) - Don't be fooled by the snow-covered ground, spring is almost here. Although it's too early to plant, it's definitely time to plan your flower garden.

If you are one of those hodgepodge gardeners who would like to bring some order and design into your landscaping efforts or if you are perplexed when it comes to choosing the most appropriate shrubs, trees, and plants for the soil and climate conditions, help is on the way.

The Penn State Garden Symposium, scheduled at the Farm and Home Center, Lancaster, on March 19, promises to instruct and inspire both novice and professional gardeners.

H. Bruce Hellerick, horticulture agent for the county, planned the program by inviting guest speakers who are experts in a variety of gardening techniques.

Dr. Irwin Richman, Penn State horticulture professor, will kick off the pace for the day-long program by showing slides of gardens with a special emphasis on paradise gardens, where the perfect landscape looks like eternal spring with masses of color.

Richman said that his theory is that western culture desire to attain perfection in gardening has roots going back to the Garden of Eden, known as perfection.

"Art and gardening is intertwined in design and the aesthetic pleasure provided in relation to form, texture, and color," Richman said.

"Even if a person does not have a natural eye for design, one can learn the basics of landscape design," he said.

Richman said that the best gardening books are written in England. "They show all these great examples, but most the plants don't thrive in this locality. A gardener should make certain that plants selected can grow and thrive in the climate and soil for which it is chosen."

Brent and Becky Heath, who raise more than 2,000 varieties of daffodils, tulips, alliums, anemones, crocus, dutch iris, and other bulbs, will share the "tricks of the trade" on growing bulbs and offer ideas on using bulbs as companion plants in landscaping. The Heaths are the fourth generation of bulb growers and owners of the Daffodil Mart in Gloucester, Va. Water gardening is one of the most exciting and popular directions attracting gardeners. Virginia Crum of the famous Lilypons Water Gardens in Buckeysville, Md., will offer step-by-step instructions on planning, installing, stocking, and maintaining a water garden. Special emphasis will be placed on planning and construction with manmade products such as flexible rubber pond liners and preformed fiberglass pools. The selection and use of shrubs in gardening will be taught by David Sanford, horticulture professor and an expert in ornamental tree and shrub identification.

## Garden Symposium For



These crabapple trees at Penn State University's Landisville trial gardens are used for research in order to find ways to improve flowering and resistance to disease.

Hellerich said that this is the first symposium planned for the area. "It's a program that novice and professional gardeners won't want to miss."

The cost of the symposium is \$35 and includes speaker's fees, handouts, lunch, and refreshments. Make checks payable to Agricultural Extension and mail check

with name, full address, and phone number to Penn State Garden Symposium, Penn State Cooperative Extension, 1383 Arcadia Rd. Room 1, Lancaster, PA 17601-3149.



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Losing trees to disease is a major setback to homeow-

ners not only financially but also aesthetically. Alan Michael, Penn State multicounty extension agent, has done major research on disease resistance and will speak on improving flowering crabapples and dogwoods.

Internationally recognized landscape architect James Anthony van Sweden, who has created exquisite gardens throughout the world, is another speaker who will share his expertise.

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