

Joan Butler



Joan Butler is an avid gardener and plant collector, who believes gardens should invite you to linger in the world outside your door. She has presented programs at botanic gardens, horticultural societies, flower shows, and numerous libraries and garden clubs in the northeast.

Joan has long been interested in the natural world. She holds a degree in Geology from UMass Amherst and a Certificate in Landscape Management from UMass Extension Green School. She is a Master Gardener, a retired Horticulturalist and a backyard birder. She is a former Chairman of the Massachusetts Landscape Design Council, a member of the Garden Consultants Council and is an Accredited Flower Show Judge. Joan is a past president of the Holliston Garden Club.

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Programs

Horticulture/Design/Native Plants



Birdscaping: Home Sweet Habitat

Create welcoming habitats for birds through thoughtful landscape choices that focus on including native plants vital for food and nesting sites. Learn about the joys and benefits of creating beautiful layered gardens designed to bring avian wildlife right into your own backyard!



Spring Ephemerals, Native Woodland Wildflowers

Early bulbs and native woodland wildflowers such as Bloodroot, Jeffersonia, and Hepatica are the stars of the early spring garden. Learn about their habitats, ideal growing conditions and unique adaptations.



Designing Shady Retreats

In this beautifully illustrated lecture, explore a variety of gardens that will inspire you to create your own shady retreats! Learn about design tricks and strategies to light up shady corners, highlight unusual plants that thrive in low-light conditions, and illustrate the creative use of art objects, seating and water features.



Stunning Spring Perennials

Whether you garden in sun or shade, there are many lovely spring perennials that will add colorful flowers and interesting foliage to the early season garden. Learn about some new favorites and how to combine them for best effect in the garden.



Outstanding Natives: Trees & Shrubs for Northeast Gardens

Native shrubs and trees add health to our environment, provide habitat and food sources for all creatures, and add beauty and interest to our gardens and public spaces. Learn about the interesting adaptations and ecological contributions of our native fauna!



Propagating Perennials

This combination demonstration and PowerPoint presentation illustrates a variety of different propagation techniques, including growing from seeds, cuttings, and divisions of a wide range of perennials.



The Garden in Winter

The exfoliating barks of trees like Stewartia and Paperbark Maple are beautiful in any season but especially shine as the garden goes quiet. Evergreen and deciduous shrubs, berries and seed pods, and early flowering perennials add form, color and texture to the winter landscape. Learn about plants that offer year-round appeal, and how to group them for best effect.



A Collector's Guide to Hosta

With more than 7,000 named varieties, there is a hosta to suit every taste and garden. With photos from award-winning gardens, learn how to design a beautiful garden based on the interplays of color, texture and placement of incredible hosta.