



Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City/Zip Code: _____

County of Residence _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

_____ # of participants x \$59.00 = _____

Check enclosed for total amount \$ _____

Mail this registration form and your check made payable to MSU to:



Kent/MSU Extension
Horticulture Department
775 Ball Avenue NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49503

**Your registration includes a ticket to the 2014 West Michigan Home and Garden Show*

Enrollment Deadline is Friday, February 28, 2014 or until full

⇒Registration at the door is not available.

⇒Allow one week for processing.

⇒Confirmations will be sent in the mail along with your ticket for the Home and Garden Show until February 28.

Applause Applause!!



Thanks to **My Favorite Garden Shops** for providing the 2014 Smart Gardening Conference “goodie bag”.



Thanks to the **Michigan Native Plant Producers Association** for sponsoring Doug Tallamy's presentation. Learn more about native plants at the MNPPA's display.

***Special Needs:** Accommodations for persons with disabilities may be requested by contacting the local sponsor by February 14, 2014.

***Recertification:** MSU Extension Master Gardeners qualify for 6 education credits.

***Cancellation Policy:** Sorry, no refunds, but attendance substitutions are acceptable. This event will not be canceled unless the facility closes.



For more information, contact Ginny Wanty at: (616) 336-3108 or wanty@anr.msu.edu

Visit our web-site: www.stuckongardening.com

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2014 CONFERENCE

Featuring:

Melinda Meyers

Nationally Known Garden Expert, Author,
TV Personality



Saturday, March 8, 2014
Ballroom C/D
DeVos Place
Grand Rapids, Michigan
8:30 am – 4:00 pm

8:15 – 9:00 a.m. Registration and Vendor Marketplace open

9 a.m. Welcome to Smart Gardening!

“Create a Smart Garden with Year Round Interest”

Melinda Myers

*Nationally known gardening expert,
TV/radio host, author & columnist*



Proper soil preparation and plant selection result in healthy, beautiful, care-free landscapes. Artfully selecting plant combinations that provide color, form and texture will insure year round beauty in your smart landscape!

Smart Soils and Good Practices: Keys to Building a High Quality-Sustainable Garden”

Dr. George Bird

*Michigan State University
Department of Entomology*

Garden soil and plant health depend on dynamic relationships between microorganisms

(a.k.a. the gardeners’ friend) on a cosmic scale! Creating the optimum, robust soil ecosystem depends greatly upon employing “**smart**” gardening practices. Join Dr. George Bird in a look at soil microbial properties that are strictly regulated by our own management decisions. This lively and enlightening exploration of soil will lead us to becoming a much more sustainable gardener.



Experienced gardeners know that gardening tasks and responsibilities cannot be determined by the calendar. Plants and insects speak the same language when it comes to growing—temperature is the key ingredient! As we get better at being “smart gardeners,” learning the clues that the garden provides will help us predict biological events such as a pest outbreak. Phenology is as simple as noticing when these events coincide. Join horticulturist Chuck Martin in a lively session to learn more about how you can put the “fun” in phenology!



“Smart Gardening For Life”

Douglas Tallamy

*Department of Entomology Wildlife Ecology at
the University of Delaware
Author of Bringing Nature Home*



On an average day, gardeners don’t spend much time sitting around reflecting on how their backyard gardens sustain life. The garden practices we learned

from previous generations that we once though were based upon solid science are now being re-thought. Noted entomologist and author Douglas Tallamy will reveal the important ecological fabric that our gardens provide in managing the balance of living creatures, our food supply and a healthy environment.

4:00 pm – Adjourn

The West Michigan Master Gardener Association

will be selling Melinda Myers’ *Midwest Gardener’s Handbook* and Dr. Douglas Tallamy’s *Bringing Nature Home*. There will be time during breaks to get your books signed by the authors.

LUNCH BREAK 11:40-1:10 pm

Visit vendors or the West Michigan Home and Garden Show!



“Practicing Phenology is Phun!”

Chuck Martin

Horticulturist, Dow Gardens, Midland, MI



Have you noticed that gardening addicts also have an obsession to the weather channel?

