

Week 4, 1/30/2025 Module 3: Woody Plants, Herbaceous Plants, Lawn Care and Plant Ecosystem Services

Recording https://vod.video.cornell.edu/media/Cornell+Garden-Based+Learning+Library+Short-Course/1_329xxuzg?st=1068

Facilitator: Donna Alese Cooke

Participants: Linden Pearson, Patricia Carvalho, Maria Pitaro, Marcie Foster, Fred Miller, Shawn Tubridy, Celia Oxley, Emere Nieves, Donna Alese Cooke, Ashley Helmholdt

Hands-on Activities for Woody Plants

<https://dlc.cce.cornell.edu/mod/page/view.php?id=15190>

Hands-on Activities for Ecosystem Services in Our Landscapes

<https://dlc.cce.cornell.edu/mod/page/view.php?id=15191>

The group discussed the challenges of managing the Master Gardener course, including the volume of information and the need for hands-on activities. Donna Alese Cooke emphasized the importance of ecosystem services in gardening and shared her experience integrating this concept into Master Gardener training, including the use of demonstration in a garden setting. The session concluded with a plan to use identification keys and site assessment activities to enhance participants' understanding of woody and herbaceous plants.

General context for module, overview of topics – 10 min

- Module goals:
 - Building capacity... to increase the number of residents **practicing management tactics in homes, lawns, gardens and landscapes that support environmental stewardship and a sustainable community.** (Connects especially closely to CGBL mission, and that of many CCE associations)
 - You will learn **best practices for designing and maintaining community and home landscapes** including lawns, herbaceous plants and woody plants.
- Subsections: Woody Plants, Herbaceous Plants, Lawn Care and Plant Ecosystem Services
- We're here as connectors, not knowledge holders, focus on training the trainer.

Thought question: popcorn brainstorm/discussion for one example – 10 min

- From Herbaceous Plants THINK:
 - With respect to gardening with herbaceous plants, how would you rate your current interest, experience and knowledge?

- How or from where you gathered your experience and knowledge in this area?
- What will you do with herbaceous plants in the future?

Show Hands-on activities – 20 min in break-out rooms, then share-out (30 min total)

- Break-out Room 1: Hands-on Activities for Woody Plants

<https://dlc.cce.cornell.edu/mod/page/view.php?id=15190>

- Notes from 2024:
- <https://nysarborists.com/for-everyone/find-an-arborist>
- <https://www.treesaregood.org/findanarborist/findanarborist>

- Breakout Room 2: Activity: Ecosystem Services in our Landscapes Facilitator Guide

https://dlc.cce.cornell.edu/pluginfile.php/39072/mod_page/content/8/Ecosystem%20Services%20in%20Our%20Landscapes%20Activity.pdf

- Share-out to whole group:
- One participant is going to share hands-on activities in a study group
- Others will be using hands-on activities in MGV meetings
- Add: Key to Tree ID Guide for New York-
http://www.hort.cornell.edu/uhi/outreach/pdfs/know_your_trees.pdf
- Garden Liaisons Program was mentioned as a good model for using site assessment: <https://cornell.box.com/s/8wqyg7x5g0z4pwn9a0fc9kzxyutmu320>