



NATIONAL GARDEN CLUBS

# Gardening School

## Course 1

Series 21

Botany, Soils, Outdoor Flowers,  
and Plant Propagation

In-person

March 28 and 29, 2025

Friday 8:45 AM– 4:00 PM

Saturday 8:30 AM – 3:00 PM

Harbert Community Church

6444 Harbert Road Sawyer, Michigan





Gardening School Course 1  
is sponsored by:



River Valley Garden Club





# Location



**Sawyer, Michigan** is located in the southwest corner of the state. This charming small town is home to a local craft-brewery, several restaurants, the Sawyer Home & Garden Center (a destination garden center), antique stores, and Warren Dunes State Park.

The **Harbert Community Church** is on the corner of Harbert Road and Three Oaks Road, conveniently located just 1.5 miles from the Sawyer truck stop at I-94 exit #12.







# Suggested Overnight Accommodations

This area has many more hotels and Airbnb options.  
This is a listing of a few close by:

## **Inn at Union Pier**

9708 Berrien Street Union Pier, MI 49129  
269-469-4700  
5 miles to Harbert Community Church

## **Gordon Beach Inn**

16220 Lakeshore Road Union Pier, MI 49129  
269-469-0800  
6 miles to Harbert Community Church

## **Comfort Suites**

2633 W. Marquette Woods Road Stevensville, MI 49127  
844-617-6519  
13 miles to Harbert Community Church

## **Tru by Hilton**

2683 W. Marquette Woods Road Stevensville, MI 49127  
888-650-0113





# Curriculum

Friday, March 28

8:45 AM-9:30 AM

Registration and Continental Breakfast

9:30 AM – 12:00 Noon

## Basic Botany

Cheyenne Sloan, MSU Extension

12:00 PM -12:45 PM Lunch

12:45 PM - 2:45 PM

## Soils

Cheyenne Sloan, MSU Extension

2:45 PM – 3:00 PM Break

3:00 PM – 4:00 PM

## Composting

Supplemental Subject

Brenda Mitchell, Berrien County Conservation District

*Note to Master Gardeners: Master Gardeners may apply  
to their local MSU Agent for CE credit.*





# Curriculum

Saturday, March 29

8:30 AM - 9:00 AM Continental Breakfast

9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

## Growing Outdoor Flowers

Amanda Hyman, Western Michigan University

10:30 - 10:45 AM Break

10:45 AM - 12:15 PM

## Plant Propagation

Ben Phillips, MSU Extension

12:15 - 1:00 PM Lunch

1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

## Propagation Workshop

Ben Phillips, MSU Extension

2:30 PM - 3:00 PM Exam instructions and closing

*Note to Master Gardeners: Master Gardeners may apply  
to their local MSU Agent for CE credit.*





## Cost

Registration Fee: \$60

Non-Member Fee: \$75

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE: MARCH 15**

Cancellations prior to the registration deadline will incur a 10% fee.

No refunds after the registration deadline

Payment will be accepted on-line when you register.

If you are unable to pay on-line, you may request to pay by check

Please email Ronalee Polad: [rpolad@migardencclubs.org](mailto:rpolad@migardencclubs.org)





# Optional Exam

## For Consultants Certification

All Michigan Garden Clubs (MGC) members who successfully complete all four courses with exam results at 70% or higher will qualify for title of National Garden Clubs (NGC) "Gardening Consultant."

The exam will be conducted by remote computer submission. The exam will be emailed to participants on March 31 and completed submission is due no later than midnight on April 7 2025.

There will be 40 questions on material covered in classroom. This optional exam may be completed with open book/notes and submitted online.

Nonmembers may complete the courses and the exam, join an MGC garden club within a year from the last course, and become an NGC "Gardening Consultant."

All MGC Gardening Consultants also automatically become a member of the MGC Michigan Consultants Council at no cost.

There is also an option of continuing education to renew an NGC "Gardening Consultant" title every five years.





# Important NGC Forms for Consultant Certification

All attendees seeking credit for this program must have an NGC Form 6 or 7 on record with the MGC School State Chair.

If this is your first course, fill out a Form 6, or your first Refresher, fill out a Form 7. Follow the links below:

## NGC Form 6

[Click here for NGC Form 6](#)

## NGC Form 7

[Click here for NGC Form 7](#)

Submit your completed Form 6 or Form 7 via email to:

Michele Armstrong

[marmstrong@migardenclubs.org](mailto:marmstrong@migardenclubs.org)

If you are from out of state, please request an official record from your State School Chair.

*Note: All lectures and tours must be attended for credit to be given. If you have a disability and need accommodation, please contact the local chair before registration to facilitate accommodation.*





# Committee

Elizabeth Palulis, Local Chair

Peg Cullen

Kathryn Gotz

Lisa Johnson

Mary Wood

## Michigan Garden Clubs

MGC President: Nancy Ryan

MGC Third Vice-president: Denise Clegg

District Director: Peg Cullen

MGC Gardening School Chair: Michele Armstrong

Michigan Consultants Council District 3B Rep: Heather Catania

Registration: Ronalee Polad

Brochure: Deb Harvey





# Contact Us

All communication with registrants will be via email:

Elizabeth Palulis

[evpalulis@yahoo.com](mailto:evpalulis@yahoo.com)

Please add this email address to your contacts so that our communications with you does not go to your spam folder.

For further information on all NGC Schools

Please visit the websites below:

Michigan Garden Clubs (MGC)

[www.migardencclubs.org](http://www.migardencclubs.org)

National Garden Clubs (NGC)

[www.gardencclub.org](http://www.gardencclub.org)





# Join Us!

There are several MGC garden clubs  
in the Southwest Michigan area.

Please go to:

[Migardenclubs.org](http://Migardenclubs.org)

and click the "Join Us" tab  
on the ribbon near the top of the page.

*become a member*





# Register

If you wish to register, please click on the green box below.  
You will be re-directed to Michigan Garden Clubs website  
to complete your registration.

**Register for  
Gardening School  
Course 1  
by clicking here**

By clicking the registration box, you acknowledge  
that you understand the information presented  
in this brochure, and wish to register.

*Note: Any photos taken at this event may be used  
in upcoming informational and promotional materials.*

*If you do not want your photo used,  
please notify the School Registrar when you check in.*