



a division of the  MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN

Green-To-Go Public Talks – 2019 Topics

NEW!* – Recycle Responsibly – *in your single-stream bin and beyond!

Recycling is going through major changes, at global to local levels. To keep recycling working, we need to change some habits that have been “contaminating” these material streams. Sprucing up our recycling awareness and practice also offers simple, effective personal options to reduce the Plastic Pollution that’s been making news.

***NEW!* – Earth’s Climate: Facts, Myths, Opportunities**

This basic overview of climate change includes key concepts of weather and climate, greenhouse gases, carbon footprint, policy options, and positive examples of personal, business and societal climate protection actions. Discussion is welcome!

Native Plants are WILD-ly Wonderful!

Introducing options to landscape your yard (or community or commercial property) that will conserve water, recharge your site as a lively habitat, tackle invasive species, and (ultimately) reduce maintenance needs. Content can be customized to for an audience new to ideas about native plants or already engaged and looking to learn more. This topic will grow on you!

Native Plant Popularity: *Growing Like Weeds!*

Geared for plant and green industry professional audiences

Ecological use of native plants offers a business opportunity for garden centers, designers and maintenance services. More than a trend, native landscaping draws on public desire to protect and enjoy butterflies, pollinators and nature in general. Native planted “green infrastructure” helps meet cost-driven and regulatory demands for storm water management and other sustainable site needs. This talk spotlights St. Louis area projects and trainings to help your business grow, with natives.

Sustainability 101: *Your Efforts Matter!*

This overview of the what-and-why of green living covers energy efficiency, reducing-reusing-recycling and composting, water conservation, indoor air quality and avoiding “greenwashing.” Participants will leave this lively talk feeling good about positive impacts of sustainable habits they already have - with practical ideas to grow greener!

Green Means Business!

With a problem-solving emphasis, this presentation addresses options for businesses of any size for building energy efficiency, recycling and waste reduction, green cleaning, environmentally preferable purchasing, and effectively marketing green practices. Featuring examples from companies participating in the St. Louis Green Business Challenge.

Sustainability 101: *The Power of Plants!*

From compost to RainScaping, from native plants that foster habitat to the flourishing Local Food movement, this colorful talk surveys a practical range of plant-based “green infrastructure” options for home, business and community.

Detox Your Domicile

What’s lurking under the sink, in the basement, garage and the potting shed? Many products we use every day are health hazards for people and the environment. This interactive talk provides tools to evaluate product safety, and offers low-cost, healthier, DIY alternatives to commercial home cleaning products. ***New! Focus on healthy personal-care products too!***

Sustainability 101: *Focus on Energy*

It’s a powerful combination when you couple energy efficiency strategies with use of renewable energy sources. This talk is a high-energy *what-why-how* survey of options to save money and protect the planet!

Where is “Away?”

Where does stuff go when you throw it away? This fascinating behind-the-scenes tour of waste handling processes covers recycling, community-scale composting and landfilling of the stuff that leaves our homes, schools and businesses everyday – to encourage sustainable choices!

Biodiversity: *Rethinking Urban Life*

What is “biodiversity” and why should we care about it? This talk vividly illustrates one of the most pressing issues of our time, showcasing attractive, practical and economically beneficial options for home, business and community property. Discover ways to create or restore habitat needed for the health of ALL inhabitants of our region. *Presented by BiodiverseCity St. Louis, a regional initiative since 2013, coordinated by the Missouri Botanical Garden, promoting the programs and services of over 100 partners.*

Being a Green-Savvy Consumer

As “Green” grows more popular, marketing campaigns exploit this consumer preference – but how can you tell what’s “greenwashing” and what’s worthwhile? This resource-packed talk spotlights product certifications, labeling – even mobile phone apps – you can use to choose products wisely, without feeling overwhelmed. *Available with a Holiday focus.*

Environmental Media Literacy

Posing key questions and perspective to help media consumers decode environmental messaging, this talk draws on presenter Jean Ponzi’s experience as a local environmental radio talk show host and producer, and sustainability issues spokesperson for the Garden.

Green-To-Go Talks – *General Information*

- Topics are geared for adult audiences.
- Please inquire about additional resources for school and youth groups.
- Scheduling is subject to staff availability; minimum two weeks’ notice is advised.
- An honorarium is requested, though not required.

To schedule or with questions contact:

Jean Ponzi, Green Resources Manager for the EarthWays Center
greenresources@mobot.org 314-577-0246