Adult Education Classes

To book a presentation, please contact Kylie Johnson at the Civic Garden Center: kjohnson@civicgardencenter.org or call (513) 221-0981. All presentations are $100 each.

Intro to Sustainability
Instructor: Kylie Johnson, Green Learning Station Coordinator
The term “sustainability” is thrown around a lot these days. Used in a broad context, the concept sounds abstract and daunting to tackle. However, living a sustainable lifestyle doesn’t have to be complicated. In this session, we will explore how one person or business can make choices that are good for the health of the planet and people. Sustainable living is unique to each individual and can be simple, money-saving, and possible for everyone.

Composting 101: Reduce Waste, Save Money, and Create “Black Gold”
Instructor: Kylie Johnson, Green Learning Station Coordinator
In the U.S., 40% of food is wasted. Billions of dollars are lost each year and greenhouse gas emissions are significantly increased by growing, processing, transporting, and disposing of wasted food. Composting is one way to help combat this issue by keeping food waste out of landfills. This class is an excellent introduction to why we compost, different styles of composting, and how to get started at your home or office.

Harness the Power of Rainwater
Instructor: Kylie Johnson, Green Learning Station Coordinator
Our region has a problem with rain. In this presentation you’ll learn how you can reduce polluted runoff from entering our waterways while harnessing the power of rainwater for your benefit. We will explore green roofs, pervious pavement, and rainwater harvesting systems as green strategies for “keeping rain where it falls.” On-site presentations have the option to include a tour of the Green Learning Station’s stormwater management demonstrations.

Rain Gardens
Instructors: Kylie Johnson, Green Learning Station Coordinator and Greg Torres, CGC Horticulturist
Rain gardens are aesthetically pleasing and practical landscape features for managing rainfall runoff in urban and suburban areas. By capturing water runoff, rain gardens play a significant role in keeping pollutants out of our watersheds, recharging our soils, and providing habitat for native plant and pollinator species. Learn how these systems work and how you can create a cost-effective rain garden to manage water on your property.
The Fascinating Life of Bees
Instructor: Kylie Johnson, Green Learning Station Coordinator
The amazing honey bee is an agriculturally-important pollinator threatened by many human activities. Beekeeping, the art and science of managing honey bees, is a fascinating hobby, fun backyard business and extensive agro-industry. This course will broadly discuss the importance of pollinators, the history of bees & beekeeping, the lifecycle of bees, and honey production.

Perennials for Pollinator Diversity
Instructor: Greg Torres, CGC Horticulturist
(Only available January-February & November-December)
Have you ever wondered who the “pollinators” everyone is talking about are? While the European Honeybee or certain butterflies are the well-known pollinators, there are a number of insects and animals that fulfill this important role. This presentation takes a close look at the pollinating animals that are native to this region and some of the flowers that they have evolved with and attract them. Some of the topics covered will include: What exactly is pollination and what is involved?, Pollination Syndromes, Host plant vs Food plant, Perennial Flower Forms and Diversities for enhancing pollinator habitat, and of course a nice introduction to of some of our local pollinators and native flora.

Treeforestation: Invasive Plants & Native Replacements
Instructor: Greg Torres, CGC Horticulturist
(2-part series, $100 each: Only available January-February & November-December)
Many of Cincinnati’s green spaces are overrun with invasive plants. As more and more ash trees come down, thinning our tree canopy, there is increasingly more room for invasive species (Japanese honeysuckle, Japanese knotweed, Garlic Mustard) to expand and exclude our native plants and animals. That’s why CGC has joined the movement to help save and protect Cincinnati’s green spaces. Want to learn more about this project, and the importance of preserving our native ecosystems? Join CGC horticulturist, Greg Torres, for this class all about invasive removal and native replacements.