



School Gardens: Beyond Education

Mass Hort's Third Annual School Gardens Conference

February 23, 2017 • 9 am - 4 pm • The Gardens at Elm Bank
900 Washington Street, Wellesley, MA 02482

[Register Online Today!](#)

- 8:30-9:00 Registration, networking and morning refreshments provided by Starbucks
- 9:00-9:15 Introductory Comments: Mass Hort President, Katherine Macdonald and Director of Education, John Forti
- 9:15-10:00 Keynote Address: Garden-Based Learning: What Difference Does It Make?
Jane Hirschi, Founder and Executive Director of CitySprouts
& Author, *Ripe for Change: Garden-Based Learning in Schools*

10:10-11:00 Breakout Sessions:



- Creating Outdoor Learning Spaces for Diverse Learners
Victoria Hackett, Founder of OutdoorClassrooms.com
- Reaching Out to Form a School Garden Community
Melissa Pace, Garden Educator and Mentor
- Writing in the Garden: Using the School Garden as a Springboard for Non-fiction Writing
Judith Sumner, Botanist, Author and School Garden Mentor

11:10-12:00 Breakout Sessions:

- Art, Math, Science & Native Pollinators!
Shay Chess and Jack Leng, CitySprouts Garden Coordinators
- Cultivating Relationships for Successful Gardens
Val Snowden, Education Program Manager at Mill City Grows
- Perennial Herbs and Vegetables for Four Seasons & Five Senses
John Forti, Director of Horticulture and Education at Mass Hort
- Tricks of the Trade: Garden Education 2.0
Hope Guardenier, Executive Director of School Sprouts Educational Gardens



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12:00-1:00 Lunch provided by Chipotle Mexican Grill

1:00-1:30 Garden Ecology Deep Dive: Pollinators, Nectar Plants, Honey Production & Bee Preservation
Noah Wilson-Rich, Chief Scientific Officer of Best Bees Company
& Author, *The Bee: A Natural History*

1:40-2:30 Breakout Sessions:

Building the Classroom Garden
Sonja Johanson and Gretel Anspach, Massachusetts Master Gardener Association

Creating Therapeutic Teaching Gardens for Contemplation and Peaceful Retreat
Hannah Traggis, Seed to Table Educator at Mass Hort

Tapping the Potential of Place-Based Education: Maple Sugaring on Your Site and in the Community
Christine Schell, Coordinator of School Programs at Natick Community Organic Farm

Teaching Seeing: Decoding Ecological Questioning Through Visual Literacy
Kate Egnaczak, Interdisciplinary Artist and Educator

2:40-3:30 Breakout Sessions:

Composting 101
Jim Tiberii, Member of The Green Team

Teaching Sustainability and Social Justice in a School Garden
Jon Belber, Education Director, and Janice McPhillips, Outreach Coordinator at Holly Hill Farm

Therapy in the Garden
Lorraine Lee, Counselor and Mass Federation of Garden Clubs' Horticultural Therapy Committee

3:40-4:00 Closing Remarks: Mass Hort Education Staff



[Register at www.MassHort.org](http://www.MassHort.org)

Member Registration: \$45
(Mass Hort & Co-sponsoring Groups)
Non-Member Registration: \$60
Students: \$25 (call 617-933-4973)
Cost of registration includes lunch

Space is limited, please register early!

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900 Washington Street, Wellesley
Blizzard Date: February 24

Thanks to Our
Conference
Sponsors:

