

Home Gardening Workshops

Slusser Senior Center
41 Houston Drive
(next to Hopkinton Town Library)
Contoocook, NH

Free workshops for the public presented by Merrimack County UNH Cooperative Extension and hosted by the Hopkinton Recreation Department

April 14, 6:30 – 8:00 pm: Planning your vegetable garden

Instructed by Amy Ouellette, Merrimack County Agriculture Educator, UNH Cooperative Extension

- Vegetable crops and varieties that grow well in central NH
- Timing and technique of starting seeds and transplants
- Season extension (row covers, mulches, cold frames, unheated high tunnels)

May 5, 6:30 – 8:00 pm: Garden soil preparation

Instructed by Amy Ouellette, Merrimack County Agriculture Educator, UNH Cooperative Extension

- Raised beds vs. traditional garden
- The very basics of plant nutrition
- Soil amendments
- To till or not to till? (rototilling, hand turning with garden fork, permaculture)
- How to grow the best tomatoes in the neighborhood Part I

June 16, 6:30 – 8:00 pm: Garden maintenance

Instructed by Amy Ouellette, Merrimack County Agriculture Educator, UNH Cooperative Extension

- Plant fertilization
- Weeding, mulching, staking, trellising, suckering
- How to grow the best tomatoes in the neighborhood Part II

July 14, 6:00 – 8:00 pm: Harvest time and food preservation

Instructed by Marilyn Sullivan, Family & Consumer Resources Educator and Amy Ouellette, Agriculture Educator, UNH Cooperative Extension, Merrimack County

- The basics of harvest and storage
- Canning and freezing your garden bounty

Sept 1, 6:30 – 8:00 pm: Putting your garden to bed for winter

Instructed by Amy Ouellette, Merrimack County Agriculture Educator, UNH Cooperative Extension

- Cleaning up the garden
- Soil testing and pH adjustment
- Planting cover crops

Please call 746-2915 to sign up for any of these workshops.