



2015 Cascade Gardener Presenter Bios



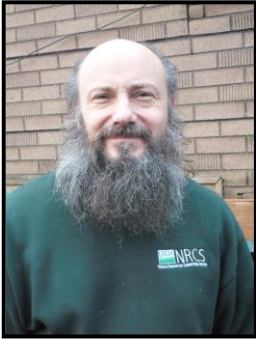
Marianne Binetti – Marianne is a Northwest horticultural expert with a degree in horticulture from Washington State University and writes a syndicated gardening column. She lectures and gives seminars on a variety of topics and leads garden tours around the world. Marianne also appears weekly on a TV show called "Dig in Seattle", a cooking and gardening show.



Emily Bishton – Emily is a landscape designer and educator who has designed sustainable landscapes throughout the Seattle area since 1997. She specializes in wildlife-friendly, edible landscapes, storm water solutions, and in teaching clients how to use organic practices to install and maintain their gardens. Emily is also the Director and Lead Instructor for Magnuson Nature Programs, which provides hands-on outdoor education.



Jessica Bloom – Jessi is an award-winning ecological designer and a best-selling author, as well as a Certified Professional Horticulturalist and ISA Certified Arborist. Her business, NW Bloom EcoLogical Landscapes, has been designing and building sustainable gardens and maintaining them organically in the Pacific Northwest for 15 years. Jessi specializes in edibles, ecology, animals, permaculture and making gardens highly functional and beautiful.



Dan Borba – Dan has been making rain barrels since 1999 and when he began to realize the unbelievable amount of water coming off a roof (one inch of rain falling on a 1,200 square foot roof is equal to over 600 gallons of water) he wanted to tell people about it. Since then he's sold over 4,000 rain barrels, mostly in western Washington, and teaches classes on how to assemble, install, and use a rain barrel. It's time to liberate your downspout and harvest the rain!



Peggy Campbell –Peggy provides fun, practical tips and environmentally-friendly solutions to Northwest gardeners. She shares experience from her own garden which is easy-care, in bloom every week of the year, and combines native and non-native beauties. Peggy has a degree in horticulture from Washington State University.



Jacqueline Cramer – Jacqueline Cramer is a landscape professional, a permaculture designer and educator, who employs ecological, holistic methods to create places for people in harmony with nature. She has worked the land for over 20 years as farmer, planner, landscape gardener, and community organizer. She works with individuals in their own gardens as well as groups on public projects to regenerate the land and increase our connection to the earth.



Susie Egan – Susie is the owner of Cottage Lake Gardens, a private, botanical garden and nursery specializing in native and woodland plants, particularly trillium, an endangered wildflower. The gardens are open to the public during the spring trillium blooming season by appointment. Susie is an active Washington State University Master Gardener who advocates sustainable gardening principles that utilize the most environmental friendly gardening practices.



Kimberly Leeper – Kimberly is a permaculture-inspired designer, educator, gardener, and community organizer/collaborator. Over the past decade she has worked to regenerate urban landscapes for wildlife and people through specializing in native, edible, and pollinator-friendly design-build projects, consulting/coaching, and education efforts. She is a *Native Plant Steward*, an Organizer for *Seattle Permaculture Guild Meetup*, and an active volunteer at *Beacon Food Forest*. Kimberly earned her *Permaculture Design Certificate* in 2009 and is passionate about being part of creating healthy & productive food forests in Seattle.



Laura Matter – Laura has been a practicing horticulturist for the past 30 years, studied Landscape Horticulture at South Seattle Community College and has a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Botany from the University of Washington. Laura ran her own landscape maintenance business for 14 years and currently provides landscape consultations and garden tutoring. Laura has specialized in watershed education through Seattle Tilth's Issaquah programs and the Water Smart program.



Greg Rabourn – As a native Washingtonian, Greg grew up enjoying the plants and animals of western Washington. He works for King County restoring habitat and worked for over a decade on the Native Plant Salvage Program. He is co-host of KCTV's Yard Talk and answers random gardening questions weekly on KUOW 94.9 FM Greendays Gardening program.



Ladd Smith – Out of his life-long passion for protecting the environment, Ladd Smith co-founded In Harmony Sustainable Landscapes, a provider of organic based landscape services. In Harmony is a King County 5-Star EnviroStar business.



Carey Thornton – Carey is a garden educator for Seattle Tilth. She teaches courses and workshops on a variety of subjects throughout the year including organic vegetable gardening, composting, food preservation and permaculture.