

# PowerPoint Garden Lectures by Kerry Ann Mendez

## All presentations include detailed handouts

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**Gardening Simplified: Plants and Design Solutions for Time-Pressed and Maturing Gardeners.** Change happens. Job demands, kids, hectic schedules, aging bodies, and changing interests have led to gardens that are not in balance with our lifestyle. This inspiring lecture provides easy-to-follow right-sizing strategies, recommended no-fuss plant material, and design tips for stunning year-round gardens that will be as close to 'autopilot' as you can get. The lecture is based on my book *The Right-Size Flower Garden*.

**Power Up Garden Beauty; Power Down Garden Maintenance.** Get more bang for your buck, and less backbreaking maintenance, with these amazing perennials and flowering shrubs that provide much more color than commonly planted varieties. Plus, these underused beauties (many of which are natives or nativars) are pollinator friendly, and most require less water. Enjoy more time relaxing with family and friends as they admire your handiwork!

**Remarkable Natives for Beautiful, Planet-Friendly Gardens.** There seems to be a misconception that natives are not as showy as non-native plants in the flower garden. Not true! This lecture will open your eyes to dazzling specimens that attract accolades as well as pollinators. The presentation includes mail-order sources for natives (in addition to your local garden center!)

**Clever Design Tips for Everblooming, Low-Maintenance Gardens.** This inspiring lecture will surprise you with creative, easy-to-implement strategies for extending the blooms of popular plants for weeks! Also showcased are time-saving design tips including distinctive plant combinations that provide unstoppable color spring through fall, as well as groundcover tapestries that smother weeds and delight pollinators. You will also learn valuable lessons from before and after design projects to avoid costly landscape mistakes.

**Time-Saving, Mighty-Mite Shrubs that Outshine Perennials.** My outlook on flower gardening has evolved over the decades. In addition to practicing the latest earth-friendly practices and incorporating more natives, I have also shifted my focus from perennials to shrubs that provide months of radiant color but are far less maintenance. This eye-opening lecture focuses on remarkable shrubs for front to mid-border gardens, as well as their pruning requirements. These stunning beauties also are ideal for over-wintering in containers.

**Dazzling Plants and Design Tips for Seeing Your Way Out of the Shade!** This illuminating, updated lecture will put the spotlight on gorgeous, rugged plants (shrubs & trees, evergreens, perennials, vines, annuals, and bulbs) that shine in lower light. Many of these stars also work great in containers. Topics include assessing shade; modifying shade to allow more light; key design tips for maximizing color; solutions for dry shade; and gardening under trees.

**Small Landscapes with BIG Attitudes!** Do you have a small area to garden but want BIG results? Maybe it's the main entrance to your home or an entertainment area that needs jazzing up? This eye-opening presentation provides clever design and accessorizing tips for maximizing and extending color in smaller spaces. The lecture features remarkable, no-fuss perennials, flowering shrubs, evergreens and annuals that provide three seasons (or more) of beauty plus neat habits. Pollinator-friendly plants and sustainable practices are emphasized.

**Inspired Garden Design Lessons from Magnificent Gardens and Gardeners.** Stunning gardens will be our classroom for emphasizing striking design essentials that elevate gardens from ordinary to sublime, regardless of the hardiness zone or sunlight conditions. We will consider texture, movement, color, repetition, focal points, vertical elements and more.

**Hydrangeas Demystified – Great Hydrangeas and Tips for Exceptional Flowering.** Unravel the mystery for having honkin' Hydrangeas that will be the envy of the neighborhood. This vast genus of shrubs is divided into five groups. Knowing the differences and how to maximize the show from each will be discussed as well as top-performing cultivars. The talk includes how to care and prune these beauties.

**Design Tips for Traffic-Stopping Curb Appeal!** This eye-opening presentation will cover easy-to-implement design steps for enhancing your home's curb appeal. Included will be top-performing perennials, flowering shrubs, evergreens & ornamental trees for head-turning foundation beds.

**Heavenly Plants for Tough Spots and Hellstrips.** Landscaping in challenging sites can be an exasperating exercise. Even experienced gardeners can have spots in their landscape where plants just don't flourish. This presentation features superhero plants that thrive in dry shade; hot, sandy locations; wet areas, on slopes; and in hellstrips between sidewalk and street curb. No matter where you plant them, in challenging locations OR great soil, they make landscapes beautiful both for gardeners and pollinators.

**Double Your Pleasure with Perennials Boasting Flashy Foliage AND Flowers.** Discover how foliage can add incredible color to a garden without depending on flowers for a dramatic effect. And the bonus, if not the main attraction, is that foliage centered landscapes require little maintenance! This presentation features standout perennials for their wide array of foliage textures, forms, and colors. Gorgeous flowers are icing on the cake!

**The Perennial Plant Collector's Treasure Chest.** This talk is for plantaholics seeking unusual, fun, outrageous, or underused perennials that will have heads turning and onlookers mumbling "What is that?" As an avid collector, I've walked many miles in my muck boots to find some unique plants that transform ho-hum gardens into eye-popping, extraordinary ones.

**Reblooming Perennials and Flowering Shrubs.** Gardeners dream of magnificent flower gardens that provide nonstop color, attract pollinators, and require MUCH less maintenance. One simple way to make this a reality is by incorporating reblooming perennials and flowering shrubs. These could be plants that bloom six or more weeks with no deadheading OR those that serve up a second round of flowers later in the season – and I'm not talking a measly display. Many of these dynamos are natives. Featured plants will be for sun to shade.

**Three Seasons of Outrageous Color from Perennials.** Discover spectacular perennials for sun and shade that brighten your landscape spring through fall. Many newer varieties will be featured. As one perennial stops blooming, it 'passes the baton' to the next 'winner'. Helpful garden care tips and shortcuts to maximize color and reduce maintenance will also be covered.

**Jaw-Dropping Flowering Shrubs – the New No-Fuss Glamour Plants!** Do you want to add drama, winter interest and colorful flowers to your gardens while reducing maintenance time? Then include some spectacular flowering shrubs, many which also contribute dazzling foliage and are pollinator friendly. Lots of NEW cultivars will be featured.