

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.

WOW - I Wish I Knew That! Commonly Made Garden Mistakes that Cost Money and Time. I've had the pleasure of interacting with thousands of gardeners over my 30 years as a garden designer and educator. This eye-opening presentation features frequent misunderstandings or errors made by well-intentioned gardeners. Topics include plant care, pruning flowering shrubs, smart plant selection -including avoiding enticing plants that will become nightmares, garden myths, and more.

Time-Saving, Mighty-Mite Shrubs that Outshine Perennials. In this lecture, I share how my outlook on flower gardening has evolved over the decades. In addition to FOLLOWING 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 session features remarkable shrubs for front to mid-border gardens, as well as their pruning requirements. These stunning beauties also are ideal for overwintering 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.

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 Striking Sustainable Flower Gardens. This presentation covers design tips that will delight your customers and generate more business for you. 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, plant combinations, vertical elements and more. Tips and shortcuts to maximize color and reduce maintenance will also be covered.

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'.