



AGENDA- MARCH 24, 2023

- 8:00 – 8:30 Registration- coffee and light refreshments provided
- 8:30 – 8:45 Welcome & Announcements: Dwayne Jones- Director of Waynesboro Parks & Recreation
- 8:45 – 9:50 ***New Naturalism: Designing and Planting a Resilient, Ecologically Vibrant Home Garden*** Kelly D. Norris- Author/Plantsman

In this era of purposeful and thoughtful gardening, planting is a powerful verb. Planting gardens inspired by nature promotes authentic connections with the land, the environment, and humanity. Why not make a garden that works and looks good doing it? Landscapes at home and in the public realm can be beautiful and ecologically functional if we deepen our understanding of plants and place. Tailored to garden enthusiasts Kelly draws on examples from around the world and challenges audiences to plant the world into a more beautiful, functional place.

- 9:50 – 10:10 **BREAK-** light refreshments provided

- 10:10 – 11:20 ***The Buzz: Creating and Managing Landscapes for Native Bees*** Heather Holm- biologist/pollinator conservationist/author

When creating and managing thriving habitats for native bees, many factors such as seasonal phenology, nesting strategies, and flower preferences must be considered—and with approximately 3,600 species in North America (north of Mexico), there are many unique aspects to keep in mind when managing successful landscapes for bees. Heather will highlight the pollination of native plants and the mutualism between native plants and native bees. Learn about pollen specialists, the presentation of floral resources, and how the physical characteristics of bees can influence their effectiveness as pollinators. Heather will also discuss ways to manage landscapes to enhance bee diversity, plant selection considerations, and ultimately how to think like a bee!

- 11:30 – 12:40 ***Slow Gardening: All Senses, All Seasons*** Felder Rushing- Gestalt Gardener (NPR), Author, Speaker

Slow gardening is a philosophy of garden-variety gardening simply for the love of it. Time in the garden doesn't just have to be all about results.

Felder will touch on good gardening practices, natives, and pass-along plants. This introduction to a slow-gardening approach will help us enjoy our gardens year in and year out and possibly connect us to our neighbors a little bit more.

12:40 – 1:40

Boxed Lunch from Panera Bread

1:40 – 2:50

Maverick Gardeners: Keepers of the Flame Felder Rushing
Get inspired by some of the most passionate of gardeners, DiGr's. These Determined Independent Gardeners, can be found in nearly every neighborhood worldwide. Often color-outside-the-lines types, these folks garden for the love of it and are happy to tell you about it and share a plant or two to boot. Bound by plants and attitude, they are modern-day "keepers of the flame." You'll want to free your inner maverick.

2:50 – 3:00

BREAK- coffee service

3:00 – 4:10

Let's Work With Mother Nature Yolima Carr- Elizabeth River Project at Paradise Creek Nature Park, Virginia
It's shocking that more people do not work *with* mother nature. It seems like we work against our own resources when we should be learning from them. We cannot change the patterns of the natural world and should strive to mimic nature in our restoration and conservation efforts. In Virginia, we are very lucky to have plenty of rain, acres of tree canopy, rivers, mountains, the Chesapeake Bay, and the ocean. Sounds to me like a perfect place, right? Well, it can be if we can work with it- if we respect the rivers that provide us fish and recreation and the land that sustains our habitat.

4:10 – 4:15

Closing Remarks- Springing forward from here

VENUE:

The Wayne Theatre, 512 W. Main Street, Waynesboro, Virginia

HOST:

