



Brisbane City Council - Library Seminars - September – November 2010

Gardening author, ABC presenter and horticulture teacher, Annette McFarlane, will conduct a series of gardening-related sustainability workshops in and around BCC libraries from September to November 2010. All workshops are engaging, hands-on and free. All you need to do is ring your local library and book in. See www.annettemcfarlane.com/Events.htm for library contact details.

1. Children's Gardening Workshop (Duration 1.5hrs)

Bring your children along to this hands-on workshop to learn about growing plants and the world of worms. Each child will be involved in practical tasks and take away plants they have potted and seeds to grow at home. Accompanying parents/grandparents may even take away a few hints.

2. Growing Your Own (Duration 2.5 hours with a tea break)

During the last workshop series Annette McFarlane taught Brisbane gardeners how to successfully grow plants from seeds and cuttings. This workshop looks at propagating plants using unusual techniques including leaf and root cuttings and aerial layering.

3. Botany for Gardeners (Duration 2.5 hours with a tea break)

Understanding how plants work is fundamental to successful gardening.

Learn about pollination and fertilisation of fruiting trees and vegetables, root growth and development and how plants use light in photosynthesis. This workshop will lead you on a path of understanding and down the road to better gardening.

4. Exotic herbs and spices to grow at home (Duration 2.5 hours with a tea break)

Enjoy watching television cooking programs and keen to grow some of the exotic ingredients they use at home? Our subtropical climate is perfect for growing everything from galangal to turmeric. Learn how to grow, harvest and use a whole host of herbs and spices fresh from your own garden.

5. Exotic and unusual vegetables to grow at home (Duration 2.5 hours with a tea break)

Forget boring broccoli and limp lettuce, there are plenty of exotic and usual vegetables that can be grown in a subtropical garden. They taste great and look good too. If you are keen to learn how to propagate, grow and use edible crops that are just a little bit different, this workshop is for you.

6. Taming the Jungle (Duration 2.5 hours with a tea break)

Is your home endanger of being engulfed by trifiid-like plants or are you simply keen to learn the finer points of pruning and espalier. This workshop will teach you the principles of pruning so that you can venture confidently out into the garden with secateurs and pruning saw in hand to tame that garden jungle. (Requires some opportunity to work outdoors)

7. Healthy Homes (Duration 2 hours or 2.5 hours with a tea break).

Do you realise that the air inside most homes is more toxic than inner city pollution? New research shows conclusively what houseplants can do to absorb toxic compounds and clean up the air inside our homes and offices. Learn which plants are best, how many you need and how to care for them in this practical workshop.