Community Gardening Program
The Community Gardening Program offers a variety of gardening opportunities and classes. For more information, call 349-3700, e-mail communitygardens@bloomington.in.gov, or visit bloomington.in.gov/communitygardens. Garden plot rental information is available in our Winter–Spring 2013 program guide or online after December 6.

Fall Gardening
Join Mother Hubbard’s Cupboard’s Garden Program at Butler Park Community Gardens to learn how to extend your gardening year into the fall and winter. Learn how to plan a cold season garden and to mitigate cold temperatures with weather barriers that allow for fresh vegetables when most gardens have been put to bed for the season. Co-sponsored by Bloomingfoods and Mother Hubbard’s Cupboard.

Instructor: Stephanie Solomon, Grow Organic Educator, Garden Coordinator, Mother Hubbard’s Cupboard
Th 8/30 • 6–7:30 p.m. • Register by 8/27 (Code 36501-A)
S$8/in-city, $9/non-city • For all ages.
Rev. Ernest D. Butler Park—Butler Park Community Gardens, 812 W. Ninth St.

Bloomington Community Orchard Classes
Co-sponsored by Bloomingfoods and the Bloomington Community Orchard. Participants are notified if use of rain date is necessary.

Fall Planting of Fruit Trees
Fall is an ideal time to plant many fruit trees. Learn which trees are suitable for fall planting and how to plant for success. Participants get hands-on experience in tree planting, so dress appropriately. Rain date is 10/13. Instructors: A team of orchard educators, all certified in the organic management of orchards
9/15 • Register by 9/12 (Code 36502-A)

Preparing Fruit-Producing Plants for Winter
Learn how to prepare fruit-producing plants to survive the winter in good shape in order to get off to a good start in spring. The class covers strategies for protecting cold-sensitive plants, protecting trees from voles and other gnawing animals, and pruning dead or diseased wood from trees. Rain date is 11/17. Instructors: A team of orchard educators, all certified in the organic management of orchards
10/6 • Register by 10/3 (Code 36504-A)

Selecting Fruit Cultivars for Spring Planting
Those catalogs with pictures of delicious fruit will soon be arriving. The class helps participants decide on the best cultivars to order for spring planting. Learn about selecting for size, taste, productivity, disease resistance, pollination requirements, and overall performance in our region. Rain date is 12/8. Instructors: A team of orchard educators, all certified in the organic management of orchards
12/1 • Register by 11/28 (Code 36508-A)

Compost: How to Make It Well and Use It Correctly
All compost is not created equal. Learn the secrets of making and using nutrient-rich compost. If you want to garden sustainably, composting is an essential process to learn and practice. The class will help you compost easily and efficiently and teach you how to use superior finished compost to provide your garden and houseplants with a bountiful supply of recycled nutrients. Co-sponsored by Bloomingfoods
Instructor: H. Michael Simmons, Advanced Master Gardener
Sa 10/6 • 2–4 p.m. • Register by 10/3 (Code 36503-A)
$15/in-city, $15/non-city • For all ages.
Hilltop Garden and Nature Center, 2367 E. 10th St.

Tree Guilds
A tree guild is a grouping of plants growing together around a tree in a mutually beneficial system. The class provides an understanding of this important permaculture concept and shows how it benefits gardeners. Participants visit three locations where tree guilds are being built, beginning with the Bloomington Community Orchard. Please bring transportation, or plan to carpool. Rain date is 9/8.
Instructors: A team of orchard educators, all certified in the organic management of orchards
9/1 • Register by 8/29 (Code 27609-A)

Selecting Fruit Cultivars
Those catalogs with pictures of delicious fruit will soon be arriving. The class helps participants decide on the best cultivars to order for spring planting. Learn about selecting for size, taste, productivity, disease resistance, pollination requirements, and overall performance in our region. Rain date is 12/8. Instructors: A team of orchard educators, all certified in the organic management of orchards
12/1 • Register by 11/28 (Code 36508-A)

Grow Organic Educator Series
Co-sponsored by: Bloomington Community Orchard
Learn organic gardening from the experts and share your knowledge with the community in this organic outreach horticultural certification program, which covers soil science to seed saving and everything in between. Complete the course and volunteer hours in a number of community projects to be certified as a Grow Organic Educator or just take the course for your own enrichment. Textbook and comprehensive reference notebook included in fee. There are a number of optional Saturday workshops and field trips scheduled.

Thanks to the generosity of a GOES graduate, scholarship assistance is available through the Cassell Memorial Scholarship fund. Scholarship applications must be submitted at least two weeks prior to the start of the program and are available at the Parks and Recreation office. For more information about applying for a scholarship, call 349-3710.
W 9/5–12/5 • 6–9 p.m. • Register by 9/31 (Code 27610-A)
S$125/in-city, $145/non-city
Hilltop Garden and Nature Center, 2367 E. 10th St.
Class does not meet 11/21.

To learn more about becoming a certified Citizen Scientist, contact Elizabeth Tompkins at 349-3759 or tompkinse@bloomington.in.gov.