LET'S GET GREEN AND GROWING 2022

Brought to you by the Columbia County Master Gardener Volunteers

March 26 | 9:00AM - 1:45pm

Free Online Conference Registration Required

9:00 Zoom Opens

9:20 Welcome

9:30 Keynote: "Healing Our Land - The Westport Marsh Success

Story" by Tony Abate

10:30 Keynote Q&A

10:40 Break

10:45 Session 1: "Farm to Vase – Peonies and the Slow Flower

Movement" by Michelle Ovans

11:30 Lunch Break

12:00 Session 2: "Vegetables - What's Old is New" by Rob Gehm

12:45 Break

12:50 Session 3: "Plant This, Not That" by Ann Marie Fuerst

1:35 Conclusion

MEET OUR PRESENTERS

Keynote: Healing the Land - The Westport Marsh Success Story



With the help of conservation partners, landowners, and volunteers, Groundswell Conservancy conserves and expands the wildlife habitat of the 22-acre Westport Marsh.

Groundswell's Community Conservationist Anthony (Tony)

Abate was born and raised in Coloma. He has a degree in

environmental studies from UW-Madison and worked at the Audubon Goose Pond Sanctuary before coming to Groundswel

Session 1: Farm to Vase - Peonies and the Slow Flower Movement

Join Michelle Ovans to learn how peonies are grown for the Floral Industry and how the Slow Flower Movement promotes a sustainable approach to fresh flowers. Michelle owns Ovans Peony Farm, is a member of the American Peony Society, Wisconsin Peony Society, the Association of Specialty Cut Flower Growers and is a Graduate of the Floret Cut Flower Grower School and Cut Flower Grower School.

Session 2: Vegetables - What's Old is New

Remember celeriac and salsify in your granny's garden? These and new varieties are coming back! Join lifelong gardener Rob Gehm of Link's Greenhouse and Farm to learn more. Rob attended UW Madison, earning a degree



in plant pathology. His family business, Link's Greenhouse and Farms, is widely supportive of 4-H youth and the Columbia County Master Gardener Volunteers with their projects.

Session 3: Plant This, Not That

Many invasive plants were sold in garden centers in the past and now proliferate wildly. Ann Marie Fuerst, Columbia County Master Gardener Volunteer, will share the history of this development and show us how to avoid what is considered invasive. Ann Marie became a Master Gardener Volunteer five years ago. She contributes to several community projects, such as the rose garden at the Museum at the Portage and the vintage garden at The Indian Agency House.