



Confessions of a Seed Snatcher

And other Fascinating Garden Topics

Programs, Workshops, Demos and Fieldtrips

with **MariePatrice Masse, M.Ed.**



Seeds. Seeds, Seeds

Confessions of a Seed Snatcher: beautiful photos, passionate story-telling, and so much learning: seed biology, seed politics, seed quirkiness, seed adaptability. How to grow for seed harvesting; how to harvest and store them for next year.

"The best \$300 we've ever spent!" – Easton Garden Club member

Indoor Seed-Collecting Field Trip: Gather seeds from a large collection of flower heads, stalks, pods... for your own planting or to start a local seed library.

*"I have never seen our club members so interactive! This was just what we needed to energize us!"
– Houghs Neck Garden Club*

Seed-Snatching Field Trip- Want a hands-on, in the field, experience of seed snatching? MariePatrice will guide your group in collecting seeds in field and garden.

If you loved Confessions of a Seed Snatcher check out Part II:

Seed Starting Tips and Tricks: Got seeds? Now let's take your seed starting to the next level. Indoors, outdoors, spring, fall. Tips and tricks to get you started, get you going, and get through some of the challenges like keeping seeds moist, damp off and fungus gnats.

NEW: You can eat that? You probably knew that you can add violets and nasturtiums to your salad. But have you ever eaten sunflower leaves, radish seed pods, or basil flowers? Get ready to discover more ways to enjoy what you may already be growing.

Bugs and Bugaboos

What's Bugging You? Deer, poison ivy, ticks, voles, woodchucks, bean beetles, squash bugs, damp off, invasives... Learn to recognize the signs and link them to the culprit. Some tried-and-true solutions and some creative things to try to resolve your garden problems.

Good Bugs / Bad Bugs: Find out which bugs are helpful and which are harmful, which eat your plants, which eat other bugs, which spread diseases, which spread pollen... how to attract the helpers and deter the bad guys.

"If I have a question about something at the garden, I ask MariePatrice, she is such a fountain of wisdom."

–R.D., gardener at Stow Community Garden



Worms and Vermicomposting

No native Massachusetts worms? Where did “our” worms come from? Are the worms we have invasive or beneficial? Find out the good, the bad, the history, and intriguing facts about our local worms.

The Ins and Outs of Worms: Different kinds of worms, what they each do, how to benefit from them. A bit of biology, a bit of ecology, lots of fun learning about worms.



VermiComposting: The art and science of turning your kitchen scraps into “black gold” probiotic slow-release fertilizer using composting worms.

How to Build A Worm Bin Demo: Learn about red wiggler composting worms, various vermicomposting systems, and watch a step-by-step demo of worm bin construction. Take home instructions so you can build one yourself.

Build Your Own Worm Bin Workshop: Participants build their own worm bins for home vermicomposting. All materials, step-by-step instructions, and worms supplied. Take it home and add kitchen scraps to start making your own “black gold” slow-release natural fertilizer.

“This was the best workshop we’ve had in my three years in Garden Club.”

– North Reading Garden Club member

Kids and Family Programs

A former pre-school and elementary teacher, “famous” for her science units on plants, seeds and insects... MariePatrice, creates an optimal learning experience for “kids” of all ages and abilities. She offers children’s programs at the NOFA (Northeast Organic Farmers Association) conferences.

Where do seeds come from? Looking beyond buying a package of seeds at the store, learn where seeds come from, life cycle of a plant, some seed saving basics, and get a hands-on experience of “gathering” seeds to take home to plant.

Let’s grow seeds for next year’s garden: Curious about growing seeds for seed-saving? Can I grow for food or flowers and still save seeds? Where do radish seeds grow? Can I plant the seeds from my pumpkin?

Indoor Seed Collecting field trip: Dried seed pods, seed stalks, spent flower heads... Let’s gather seeds. See how they grow, how to gather them. Package them and take some home for planting.

Bugs in the Garden: What’s that bug? What does it eat? Where does it live? Let’s get to know some of the bugs in our yards and gardens.



The Ins and Outs of Worms: Different kinds of worms and what they do. A bit of biology, a bit of ecology, lots of fun and hands-on observation learning about worms.

Let’s Build a Worm Bin: Build a worm bin for composting our food waste. Learn about red wiggler composting worms, their life cycle and habitat and make a home for them.

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[The Seed Snatcher on FaceBook](#)