

# Gardening by Design

## Spring Gardening Symposium

**March 3, 2018**  
**9:00 am – 3:30 pm**

Check-in: 8:30 am

**Marais des Cygnes**  
**Extension Office**

104 S. Brayman  
Paola, KS 66071

### Registration:

This event is open to anyone, but **pre-registration is required** by February 26. The \$30 registration fee includes a gourmet boxed lunch and all printed reference materials. Registrations must be made in advance.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Make your check payable to the MdC Extension Master Gardeners and mail with this form (or you may access a *printable form at [www.maraisdescyignes.ksu.edu](http://www.maraisdescyignes.ksu.edu)*) with your check for \$30 to: K-State Research and Extension Marais des Cygnes District—Paola Office 104 S. Brayman, Paola, KS 66071

For more information call 913-294-4306

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Master Gardener  
Marais des Cygnes District

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**MERLE SHARPE,**  
**KEYNOTE SPEAKER**

### The Gardening Design Process

Whether landscaping a tiny courtyard or several acres, an understanding of the design process will save you time, effort and money. The presentation will cover how to get started, the steps to take before you ever hit the nursery, and what makes for a good design. Tips on measuring, getting your ideas on paper and deciding on the right plants will help you make your garden dreams a reality.

### Garden Rooms and Spaces

Creating rooms or spaces within the landscape allows you to indulge in many different garden styles, color schemes and outdoor hobbies and whimsies while avoiding a jumbled look. Examples of beautiful kitchen gardens, hobby gardens, Zen gardens and everything in between will inspire you to indulge as many of your garden dreams as your space will allow.

Merle Sharpe has been a Master Gardener for 20 years, split between 14 years at Chicago Botanic Garden and the last six in Johnson County. She is retired from a midlife career as a landscape designer. Much of her design work focused on small space gardening. Her own Chicago area garden was featured in the *Chicago Tribune* and in *Better Homes and Gardens Small Space Gardens* magazine.



**CYNTHIA GILLIS**

### Constant Color: Succession Planting in the Flower Garden

Succession planting can mean many things. For vegetables we're after full productivity by planting and replanting in the same place. But for a flower garden, we're after continuous and changing beauty. Change is the essence of a garden, and carefully planned...or sometimes serendipitous... flower gardens can give you continuous change. Bulbs... perennials...biennials...annuals ...all join to give a succession of colors and shapes. Some may be long-flowering, to give a background for the succession of changes. Some plants may flower briefly, or like the spring woodland ephemerals, they die back. But they don't have to leave a blank space. Instead something new comes up. The result is that in one area you can have continuous color, continuous change...continuous beauty...all season long.

Cynthia Gillis was born in Winnipeg Canada. A full-blown love of landscaping began after Cynthia and her architect husband John moved into a Brooklyn, NY, townhouse with a small garden space. By 1986 Cynthia had decided that gardening would be her life's work. She took courses at the New York Botanical Garden and studied with John Brookes at the Clock House School of Garden Design in England. Now, with over 30 years of garden making under her belt (and fingernails), she is making the garden of her dreams here in Olathe, Kansas.



**BRYAN KOTTKE**

### The Aesthetics of Hardscaping

Attractive and functional hardscaping is essential to a pleasing garden. Because these structures such as paths, walls, pergolas, fences, edging, and art may be the most expensive and long-lasting garden elements, great care should be taken in deciding their placement. Aesthetic considerations include their impact on the flow and feel of a garden, materials to consider, and the environmental impacts of hardscaping.

Bryan Kottke has worked in the horticulture industry for nine years and is currently the Senior Gardener in the perennial gardens at Powell Gardens. As a former Great Gardens of the World Triad Fellow, he worked at some of the most prestigious gardens in the world, including Longwood Gardens in the US, Hidcote Manor Garden in the UK, and Kiseki no Hoshi Botanical Museum in Japan. He is a graduate of Longwood Gardens' two-year Professional Gardener Program.