



Presents our 6th Annual

“Spring Gardening Inspiration”

March 7, 2020 8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

“Chateau Orleans” at Chuck’s Southern Comforts Café

8025 S. Cass Avenue, Darien 60561 *-farm to table at its best-*

*(Chuck is an avid gardener growing vegetables and herbs
on the property year-round behind the restaurant)*

Presentations/Speaker Lineup:

“Wildflowers for the Home Garden” by Christopher Benda, “Illinois Botanizer”

MS. Biology, U of I. “a wonderful & energetic speaker” Chris is a botanist and past president of the Illinois Native Plant Society (2015-2016). Besides conducting botanical fieldwork around the world, he teaches *The Flora of Southern Illinois* at Southern Illinois University and a variety of classes at The Morton Arboretum. He has research appointments with the University of Illinois NRES Department and Argonne National Laboratory and is a photographer and author of several publications about natural areas. www.illinoisbotanizer.com/

“Chicago Region’s Woody Plants-The Wonderful & The Wicked” by Melissa Custic,

Coordinator of the Chicago Region Trees Initiative (CTRI), ISA certified arborist

MS. Plant Biology and Conservation, N.U., BS. Environmental Biology

Melissa Custic is the Chicago Region Trees Initiative Specialist, managing projects developed by inter-agency work groups and helping the Chicago Region become the greenest, most livable, most resilient region in North America. Melissa has a decade of experience in research, education, and outreach and was named a 'Millennial to Watch' in 2019 by the Illinois Landscape Contractors Association.

www.mortonarb.org/chicago-region-trees-initiative

“The Five Keys to Organic Gardening Success” by Jeanne Nolan:

Founder of the Organic Gardener, Ltd. and author of “From the Ground Up”

Jeanne Nolan has been growing food organically for over twenty-five years. She is a well-known educator and consultant. She designed, installed, and today maintains [The Edible Gardens](#), a 5,000 square-foot educational children’s garden at the Lincoln Park Zoo Farm-in-the-Zoo. Jeanne regularly teaches about growing food on [WTTW’s Chicago Tonight](#), and has been featured in *Chicago Tribune*, *Food & Wine*, *Woman’s Day*, and other national publications.

www.theorganicgardener.net/our-story/

....also enjoy exhibits, raffles, “farm to table” luncheon, etc.

REGISTRATION REQUIRED: Registration Fee = \$50.00

Early Bird registration by Feb. 1, 2020 (One Free Raffle Ticket Entry)

Registration Deadline: February 29, 2020

For registration & speaker information:

www.dariengardenclub.com 630-253-2125 dariengardenclub@gmail.com

Facebook: Darien Garden Club – IL