Garden-Based Learning Library

The Cornell Garden-Based Learning program developed an online learning library for the Cornell Cooperative Extension Master Gardener Volunteer statewide network. This curriculum aims to prepare our volunteers to support our Extension mission, vision, and values through their peer education efforts in their local community programs.

The Garden-Based Learning Library is a website in the Moodle course management system. The Learning Library is robust with vetted materials and resources for Cornell Cooperative (CCE) Extension Master Gardener Volunteer county programs to use as they prepare their volunteers to be confident and effective peer educators in their communities. Volunteer program coordinators received training on the navigating the site and materials through in-service trainings and webinars, and on-going support is provided through similar means and one-on-one coaching. Section resources are listed below.

Introduction
Section 0.1 Adult Learning and Peer Learning Networks
Section 0.2 Community Engagement and Action Projects

Module 1: The Fundamentals
Section 1.1 Plant Biology for Gardeners
Section 1.2 Right Plant, Right Place
Section 1.3 Beneficial Insects
Section 1.4 Basic Plant Pathology

Module 2: Food Gardening
Section 2.1a Vegetable Gardening (Part 1 of 2)
Section 2.1b Vegetable Gardening (Part 2 of 2)
Section 2.2 Fruit Gardening
Section 2.3 Nutrition, Food Safety and Food Security (Post-Harvest)

Module 3: Ornamental Plants and Ecosystems Services
Section 3.1 Woody Plants
Section 3.2 Herbaceous Plants
Section 3.3 Lawn Care and Ecosystems Services

Module 4: Problem Solving
Section 4.1 Integrated Pest Management
Section 4.2 Pesticide Use and Reading Labels
Section 4.3a Pests of Food Crops and Ornamental Plants (Part 1 of 2)
Section 4.3b Pests in the Home and Garden (Part 2 of 2)

Module 5: Management Strategies
Section 5.1 Organic Waste Management (Composting)
Section 5.2 Soil Amendments and Fertilizers
Section 5.3 Invasive Species for Gardeners
Section 5.4 Gardening in a Warming World

Module 6: Starting and Sustaining Learning Gardens
Section 6.1 Group Gardens and NYS Seed to Supper Network
Section 6.2 Youth Development and School Gardens

Module 7: Action Project Presentations & Orientation to Local Program Areas
Section 7.1 Action Project Presentations
Section 7.2 Orientation to Local Program Areas

Advanced Training Sessions
Management and Technical Assistance

Resources & Materials
CGBL facilitates professional development for county Extension educators, develops and maintains resources and materials, implements statewide garden-based learning projects in community settings with diverse audiences, and collaborates with program leaders to evaluate effectiveness of curriculum, projects, and professional development.

Consistent formatting, accessible and easy to apply to in-person, blended learning or remote training.

Rigorous peer review, vetted by experts, updated on a planned basis as funding is available.

Our CGBL mission is to provide educators with inspiring, research-based gardening resources and professional development to support engaging, empowering, and relevant learning experiences for children, youth, adults, and communities.