

NOVEMBER 2021 EVENT CALENDAR

CLASSES/WORKSHOPS

Wednesday, November 3, 12-12:30 pm

CES Anchorage Outreach Center: Freezing food for extended storage. Grab your lunch and join this bi-weekly series designed for people interested in learning how to preserve their harvest, including canning, dehydrating, and freezing for extended storage. Via Zoom. [Register here.](#)

Wednesday-Thursday, November 3-4

The 2021 Alaska Invasive Species Workshop will be held via Zoom from 9am to 4:30pm both days. Registration is free this year. Topics include urban forest pest readiness, biocontrol opportunities and invasive species legislation. The agenda and registration information are available at alaskainvasives.org. For more information, contact workshop coordinator Gino Graziano at 907-786-6315 or gagraziano@alaska.edu.

Wednesday, November 10, 12 pm

CES Anchorage Outreach Center: Exploring Freeze Drying with Leif Albertson. In the last few years, home freeze dryers have been gaining popularity as a food preservation tool. We'll look at their safety, value, practical application and how this technology compares to other traditional food preservation methods. No registration details provided, contact gdionne@alaska.edu.

Tuesday, November 16, 12 pm

Mat-Su Experimental Farm & Extension Center: What's in your woodpile? Have you ever wondered what bugs live in your firewood pile? This talk will discuss the different species of firewood, and the pests which reside in them. It will cover some practical advice about storing firewood so that pest populations stay where they belong, outside. Via Zoom. [Register here.](#)

Thursday, November 18, 12 pm

Mat-Su Experimental Farm & Extension Center: Chainsaw Safety. Chainsaw accidents are the leading cause of severe injury to legs, arms and hands ... especially in Alaska. This slideshow and talk will introduce you to the fundamentals of chainsaw operation and safety and includes a special emphasis on necessary Protective Personal Equipment (PPE) and how

to use it. [Register here.](#)

MEETINGS & EVENTS

Monday, Nov. 1, 7-9 pm

Alaska Native Plant Society Meeting: 2021 Alaska Native Plant Photo Slide Show. Via Google Meet. [Get meeting link.](#)

Thursday, November 4, 7-9 pm

Anchorage Garden Club: History of Plants in Our Celebrations. Contact anchoragegc@gmail.com for details.

Thursday, November 11, 10 am-noon

Wildflower Garden Club: Annual Meeting: Member Photo Share. Via Zoom. [Get details.](#)

Friday-Sunday, November 12-14

Alaska Farm Bureau Convention and Trade Show: First-ever trade show will be held at the Egan Center. If you are a current farmer or looking to get into farming, this 3-day event is the perfect chance to learn. Includes roundtable discussions, workshops, leadership training, etc. [Get details.](#)

Saturday-Sunday, November 13-14

Garden Club's 60th Annual Holiday Flower Show "Holiday Traditions" at Central Lutheran Church. [Get details.](#)

JOBS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, ETC.

The Alaska Botanical Garden is looking to hire an outgoing, cheerful, and reliable individual to support its holiday lights event, with additional daytime support during kicksled days. Email a resume and cover letter to garden@alaskabg.org. Start date: November 22. View the [full job description.](#)

Alaska Seeds of Change has many volunteer opportunities this winter. Many of their summer interns and employees head back to school in the fall/winter, so it's a good time to step up to help this great organization. Sign up for a shift using [Seeds Sign Up Genius here](#), or if it's your first-time volunteering, email volunteer@akseedsofchange.com for an orientation.

JULIE RILEY WINS 2021 YWCA AWARD by Sharon Schlicht

Congratulations! UAF Professor of Horticulture, Emerita, and former long-time Anchorage CES horticulturist Julie Riley has been selected to receive the YWCA Alaska Women of Achievement Award for 2021. This award is given annually to ten Alaska women and five youth based on their demonstrated leadership and service to the community, as aligned with the YWCA mission to eliminate racism, empower women, and promote peace, justice, freedom, and dignity for all.

Among Julie's many achievements is her extensive work in founding Fresh International Gardens where she provided horticultural and marketing education. The program gave refugees from all over the globe a place to learn Alaskan agriculture and practice their English by selling produce to customers at weekly farmers' markets.

Julie also worked with Alaska Women's Aid in Crisis, Inc. (AWAIC), assisting with the planning

and development of its garden and greenhouse project.

Julie trained 1,500 Master Gardeners and Advanced Master Gardeners—most of them women, empowering them to become leaders in gardening clubs, teach gardening classes, start their own horticulture-based businesses, and volunteer with local projects.



Julie Riley discusses success in trialing Tlingit/Haida potatoes at ABG, 2016. Photo by Ginger Hudson

This year's YWCA award celebration will be held virtually. Julie will be honored on Friday, Nov. 5, during a [Facebook Live event](#) from 6-7pm. 🌱

SAVE THE DATE(S)!

Two AMGA Classes will begin in February, watch your email for registration details!

Garden Design with Brenda Adams will run six consecutive Wednesdays, 6-8 pm, starting on Feb. 9.

Intro to Botany and Plant Identification with Dr. Marilyn Barker will run 12 consecutive Tuesdays, 7-8 pm, starting Feb. 8.

BIRD CHATTER

Garden magazines without the clutter Janice Berry recently discovered all kinds of gardening magazines in the Alaska Digital Library, using the Overdrive app. All you need is a library card. She says there are too many magazines to mention, and they are current editions!

A garden of 1,000 bees Brenda Adams recommends that all gardeners watch PBS's Nature program, [My Garden of a Thousand Bees](#). She says it's the most amazing video she's ever seen on bees and thanks Martha Farris for sharing it with her.

What's new, interesting, confounding and delightful? Send your bits of interesting garden news to birdchatter@alaskamastergardeners.org.

