

OCTOBER 2021 EVENT CALENDAR

CLASSES/WORKSHOPS

Tuesday, October 5, 12 pm

Mat-Su Experimental Farm & Extension Center: Let's Talk Potatoes: Are they really good for you? Join Jodie to find out all about potatoes and if they really are as amazing as everyone says!! Bring your potato nutrition questions and we will all find out together if you should eat the skins or not!! Via Zoom. [Register here.](#)

Wednesday, October 6, 12-12:30 pm

CES Anchorage Outreach Center: In the Virtual Pantry: Pickles, fermented foods and flavored vinegars. 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.](#)

Thursday, October 7, 12 pm

Mat-Su Experimental Farm & Extension Center: Thermal Controlled Food Storage - Making the Harvest Last. How can you construct a storage area to keep fresh vegetables and fruits from freezing in fall/winter as well as from spoiling during the hot summer? This class will look at building materials for thermal moisture control, ventilation as well as pest control on helping your harvest to last. [Register here.](#)

Tuesday, October 12, 5:30-7 pm

CES Juneau's 'An Extension Kitchen Series: Winter is Coming: Canning Fruit & Berries. Learn to easily preserve high acid fruit and berries in jars, using the boiling water-bath method of canning. Whether it's a bumper crop of apples from your tree, wild berries from the forest, or in-season specials from the grocery store, prepare beautiful jars filled with healthy fruits to keep you happy through the winter. Classes are taught via Zoom by UAF Cooperative Extension Agent Sarah Lewis, from her home kitchen in Juneau to your home kitchen. [Register here.](#)

Tuesday, October 7, 12 pm

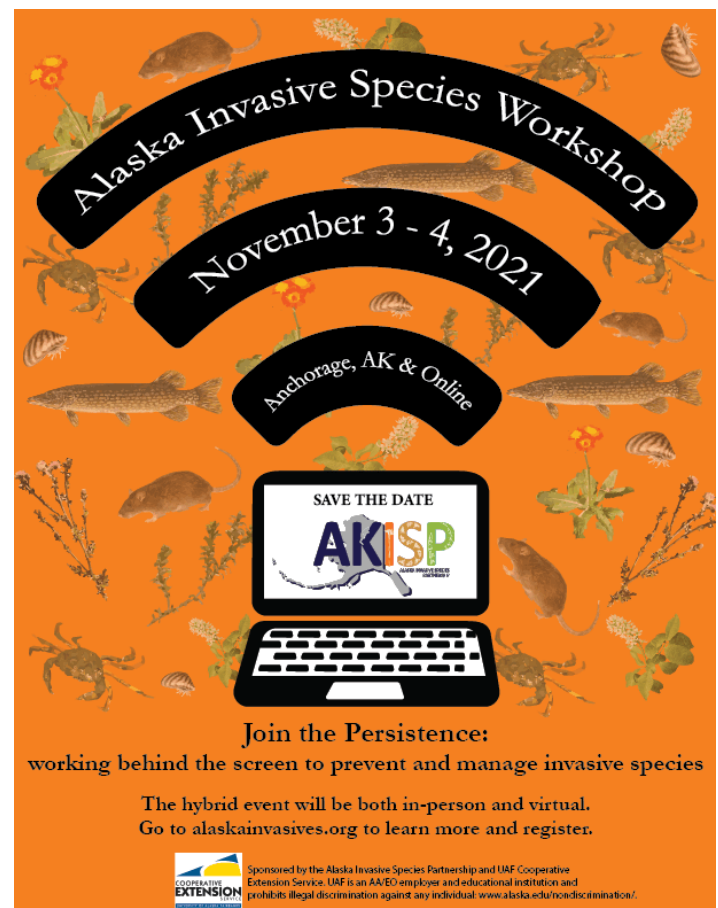
Mat-Su Experimental Farm & Extension Center: Spruce Beetle - Fall Tree Check-ins and Preparing for next season. With the arrival of fall, now is a good time

to check your trees for any signs of spruce beetle to help plan your spruce beetle management for this year and next. Join us October 19th for a webinar about how to check your trees for signs of spruce beetle activity and what to do with your infested trees if you find spruce beetle. Options for protecting your trees for next season and replacing removed trees will also be discussed. Visit [Facebook event page.](#)

Wednesday, October 20, 12-12:30 pm

CES Anchorage Outreach Center: In the Virtual Pantry. Dehydrating fruits, vegetables and herbs for long term 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.](#)

Continued on next page



The poster features a central graphic with three curved banners. The top banner reads "Alaska Invasive Species Workshop", the middle one "November 3 - 4, 2021", and the bottom one "Anchorage, AK & Online". Below these is a laptop displaying "SAVE THE DATE" and the "AKISP" logo. The background is orange and filled with illustrations of various invasive species like mice, crabs, and fish. At the bottom, it says "Join the Persistence: working behind the screen to prevent and manage invasive species". Below that, it states "The hybrid event will be both in-person and virtual. Go to alaskainvasives.org to learn more and register." The footer includes the Cooperative Extension logo and a sponsorship note: "Sponsored by the Alaska Invasive Species Partnership and UAF Cooperative Extension Service. UAF is an AA/EO employer and educational institution and prohibits illegal discrimination against any individual. www.alaska.edu/nondiscrimination/"

Tuesday, October 26, 5:30-7 pm

CES Juneau: An Extension Kitchen Series. Learn to dehydrate your garden and store harvested vegetables for winter soups and dishes. If you don't have a root cellar or room to store chilled vegetables, dehydrating is a great way to preserve your staple vegetables for cooking favorite meals. Classes are taught via Zoom by UAF Cooperative Extension Agent Sarah Lewis, from her home kitchen in Juneau to your home kitchen. [Register here.](#)

MEETINGS & EVENTS

Monday, October 4, 7-9 pm

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

Thursday, October 7, 7-9 pm

Anchorage Garden Club: Easy tips for hydroponics on a home gardener scale. Location: Pioneer Schoolhouse 437 E 3rd Avenue.

Thursday, October 14, 7-9 pm

Wildflower Garden Club: Regular Meeting and Program. Featuring a presentation, "Growing Dahlias the Alaskan Way" by Marya Morrow and Garnett Morrow Jr. Presented via Zoom. [Get details.](#)

Monday, October 18, 7-9 pm

AMGA Member Meeting: Member Slide Show: How Does Your Garden Grow? Via Zoom.

JOBS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, ETC.

RurAL CAP is looking for a Gardening Program Specialist to help support a year-long project to build the capacity of rural AK community gardens. [Read more about the position here.](#)

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.

Check out a wide range of volunteer opportunities with local garden projects at [Volunteers 4 Anchorage Gardens](#), a list compiled by AMGA and the Alaska School Garden Network.

Did you miss Brenda Adams' "Mastering Garden Design" class? AMGA will offer it again in the fall. [Sign up here](#) to make sure you get the first notice. Please note that this class will not be offered for an Advanced Certificate and will be open to all gardeners.

BIRD CHATTER

Garden book worms It's that time of year when we switch from gardening to reading about gardening ... right? Here are a few books recommended recently by AMGA members:

- *Pastoral Song: A Farmer's Journey*, James Rebanks
- *Gardening Under Lights*, Leslie Halleck
- *The Forager's Book of Flora*, Alan Bergo

Make way for mushrooms Terry Tarner shared that Matanuska Electric recently cleared a lot of brush in her neighborhood. The mushrooms were revealed and was amazing! Lots of shaggy manes this year; awesome to see the growth cycle!

From stem to pit Alan Bergo who wrote one of the books listed above has a blog called Forager Chef. He recently had [an interesting piece](#) about methods around the world for processing the pits and seed of cherries and other fruit rather than throwing them away.

Good news! The pot recycling event held in mid September by Anchor Gardens and Yarducopia at 2930 Cheechako Street will be continued "self-serve" for a few weeks into the fall. Drop off or pick up items you need for preparing your fall garden. Stop on by!

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

