

Plant Perspectives- Exploring 50 years of Expertise at Midwest Groundcovers

Tuesday, April 23 from 8:00am - 12:00pm

Optional tours from 12:00pm - 1:00pm

Midwest Groundcovers and American Society of Landscape Architects, Illinois Chapter 2.5 LA CES available

Schedule

8:00 – 8:30 am	Registration
8:30 – 8:45 am	Welcome – Christa Orum-Keller
8:45 – 9:15 am	Midwest Groundcovers - Top Natives for the Landscape Nikki Melin, Sales Operations Manager, Midwest Groundcovers
9:15 – 9:30 am	Break and Raffle
9:30 – 10:30 am	More Than a Nursery: Garden Design at Midwest Groundcovers Austin Eischeid, Owner, Austin Eischeid Garden Design
10:30 – 10:45 am	Break and Raffle
10:45 – 11:55 am	Sustainable Gardens: Creating and Maintaining Gravel Gardens Jeff Epping, Director of Horticulture Olbrich Botanical Gardens
11:55 – 12:00 pm	Raffle & Closing
12:00 – 1:00 pm	Optional Production and Garden Tours

Program

Midwest Groundcovers - Top Natives for the Landscape

Nikki Melin, Sales Operations Manager, Midwest Groundcovers

An increasing number of consumers are realizing how important native plants are to our ecosystem and, in turn, are wanting them in their own yards. While sometimes thought to be a little too free spirited for a designed landscape, natives can easily be incorporated if you know which ones to choose! Nikki will highlight several varieties that play well with others and work on a smaller scale.

More Than a Nursery: Garden Design at Midwest Groundcovers

Austin Eischeid, Owner, Austin Eischeid Garden Design

As a student of Piet Oudolf and Roy Diblik, Austin will share his design process and talk about how to use strong perennials for seasonal interest. Austin, owner of Austin Eischeid Garden Design, is a Chicago-based consultant working with Midwest Groundcovers to renovate many of the display and demonstration gardens. He'll be giving you an inside look at existing gardens, gardens to come, and how to use them to benefit you.

Sustainable Gardens: Creating and Maintaining Gravel Gardens

Jeff Epping, Director of Horticulture Olbrich Botanical Gardens

Green or sustainable gardens make sense for many reasons – they're good for the environment and they're good for us. Many people want beautiful gardens, but don't have the time, nor want to see precious resources like water and energy go into growing them. Director of Horticulture, Jeff Epping and his staff have created a number of gravel gardens at Olbrich that can easily be incorporated into home landscapes. These gravel gardens, based on concepts developed by German horticulturist, Cassian Schmidt are as lush, green and colorful as any perennial border around. Jeff will show you how they have replaced lawns and traditional annual and perennial beds with these sustainable gardens at Olbrich, as well as others in the Madison area.