Master Gardener Volunteer Core Preparation  
Session 6: Fruit Gardening  
September 20, 2017, Russ Welser

Learning Objectives:

• Describe the critical components of a suitable site for growing fruit and planning for minimizing pests
• Identify keys to success in a garden setting for:
  o Trees (apples, pears, peaches, cherry, plum)
  o Woody vines (grapes & kiwi)
  o Bushes/shrubs (elderberries, currants, gooseberries, blueberries)
  o Herbaceous perennials (raspberries & blackberries)
  o Groundcover (strawberries)
• Recognize pruning strategies for fruit crops.

In Advance:
READ:
- Cornell Guide to Growing Fruit at Home (111 pages) - Read the ‘Before You Begin’ section plus the ‘Keys to Success’ sidebars for each crop. Review the crop section to become familiar with the content. You may choose to read thoroughly about some crop of particular interest though there is no need to memorize content that you can look up in this resource. https://ecommons.cornell.edu/handle/1813/67

During Session:
LISTEN: Fruit Gardening PowerPoint Presentation, Russ Welser
DISCUSS:
1. What are the soil requirements for growing the different small and tree fruits?
2. What are the common insect problems associated with home fruit production? What do they look like and what does the damage they cause look like and when would they be present?
3. What are the common diseases associated with home fruit production? What steps can be taken to reduce the incidence of disease?
4. When, how, and why to pruning tree and bush fruit?

After Session:
LEARN MORE:
- Read fruit sections in Cornell Pesticide Guidelines for Managing Pests Around the Home (available at your local Cooperative Extension Office)
- Read fruit sections in Part I, Pest Management Around the Home | https://blogs.cornell.edu/gblblog/files/2015/12/ENTIRE-publication_pm2-1yrebfn.pdf
- Read Apple IPM for Beginners | https://blogs.cornell.edu/treefruit/ipm/apple-ipm-for-beginners/
- Read Minor Fruits for NYS | http://www.hort.cornell.edu/fruit/mfruit/