

# EECapacity for Public Garden Educators

Online Course Jan. 19<sup>th</sup> - Feb. 27<sup>th</sup>



**Course Overview.** This is a 6-week professional development course designed for public garden educators to guide them as they seek to develop outreach programs aimed at improving environmental awareness among their adult and youth constituents.

Topics covered in this course will include:

1. **Green Community Redevelopment:** In this module, we will present a stepwise approach for public gardens to take with community groups in fostering green redevelopment, successful examples from several public gardens across the country, and challenges to the establishment of effective programs.
2. **Promoting Environmental Justice:** This module focuses on why public gardens should care about environmental justice in their communities; factors to consider in developing a program and establishing partnerships; and examples of successful programs at public gardens of varying sizes.
3. **Laying the Groundwork: Introducing children to ecological concepts underlying climate change:** This module will cover developmentally appropriate content and methods for introducing children ages 5-8 to ecological concepts underlying climate change that can provide the basis for a future sophisticated understanding of the relationship between climate, climate change, and its environmental impacts.

**Duration:** 6 weeks

**Dates:** 1/19 through 2/27

**Webinar Dates:** 1/22, 2/05, and 2/19

**Limited to:** 24 Participants

**Course Fee:** Free

**Registration Dates:** 1/2/15 through 1/18/15.

**Register Here:** <http://tinyurl.com/pg-registration>

**Learning Platform:** Google Apps for Education and Facebook

**Course Requirements:** Computer with Internet Connection and Facebook Account.

**Course Facilitators:** Dr. Don Rakow, Associate Professor of Horticulture, Cornell University  
Dr. Jennifer Schwarz Ballard, Associate Dir. of Education, Chicago Botanic Garden

**Course Format:** EECapacity for Public Garden Educators consists of an introductory video plus three webinar modules. As part of each presentation, participants will have opportunities for live question and answer exchanges. At the conclusion of the three, participants will be asked to submit a project proposal based on what they have learned; these project proposals will be reviewed and returned.

**EECapacity:** *This course is offered through EECapacity, the EPA-funded national environmental education training program, and is sponsored by the American Public Gardens Association. Many thanks to Prof. Marianne Krasny, principal investigator for EECapacity, the American Zoological Association for facilitating funding support, Mr. Pat MacRae and Mr. Bryan Denig for their roles in developing Modules 1 and 2, and to Cornell University and the Chicago Botanic Garden.*