Stacey Hirvela
Stacey of Spring Meadow Nursery is an author and professional horticulturist committed to sharing her love and knowledge of gardening. She teaches, not preaches, to inspire and empower audiences of all sizes and skill levels. Hirvela can precisely identify the moment she became a gardener - at three years old, grocery shopping with her mother, she picked up a dried bean off the floor and asked what it was. When told it was a seed and would grow if she planted it, she was hooked. After years of hobby gardening and working as a landscaper through college, Hirvela finally realized she belonged in the garden. She moved to attend the New York Botanical Garden School of Professional Horticulture and interned as a rooftop gardener in Manhattan. After graduation, she served as horticulturist at Tavern on the Green Restaurant in Central Park (the second woman to hold the position). In 2005, she became a garden editor at Martha Stewart Living, where she developed, wrote, and edited content for the magazine and co-hosted a call-in show on Sirius satellite radio. In 2011, she returned to Michigan to work for Spring Meadow Nursery, the company behind Proven Winners ColorChoice Shrubs. Her first book, *Edible Spots & Pots*, was published by Rodale in March 2014.

Tom Conklin and Joyce Latta
Conklin was educated at Yale University and the University of Chicago Law School. In 1997, he moved to Michigan to begin a nursery on 310 acres of farmland near Bangor. Since then, he has worked with his partner and spouse, Joyce Latta, to plant and maintain more than 1,500 roses in the ground, and about the same number in pots above-ground all year, in various stages of production, for sale in retail and wholesale markets. Conklin is an American Rose Society consulting rosarian and lifetime national rose judge. At every home where he has lived, he has created rose gardens that celebrate all types of roses, including old fashioned, modern hybrid teas and floribundas, and the new rage, shrub roses. Latta is a licensed landscape architect, specializing in residential design since 1984, when she began her own firm, Camouflage Ltd. Latta was attracted to gardening at an early age as she maintained the formal rose garden of several hundred bushes on the estate of a landscape architect. She earned a bachelor’s degree in fine arts from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, with study at Cooper Union in New York City.
Saturday, March 28, 2015
K of C Hall, 1038 S. Van Dyke
Bad Axe, MI

THE DAY’S SCHEDULE

8:00-8:30 AM REGISTRATION, exhibit visitation, free goodie bag to conference attendees, shopping, & refreshments.

8:30-8:45 AM WELCOME and instructions from Huron County Master Gardener Association

9:00 AM EXPO opens to public

9:00-10:10 AM Elly Maxwell
Class: A BALANCED BACKYARD
Insects are the most abundant, diverse, and fascinating group of critters on the planet! In our backyard, an entire ecosystem exists and insects are the backbone. Learn to maximize the benefit from predator and parasitoid insects. Learn to recognize favorite beneficial insects along with management tactics to preserve their populations.

10:10-10:30 AM BREAK, door prizes, exhibit visitation, & shopping.

10:30-11:40 AM Stacey Hirvela
Class: PRUNE LIKE A PRO
This class will cover the concepts and ideas behind pruning you can apply them in any scenario for most any plant. More about the ideas than the techniques and tools.

11:15-11:35 AM BREAK, shopping, refreshments, exhibit visitation, & door prize drawings.

11:35AM-12:20 PM Elly Maxwell
Class: POLLINATOR GARDENS
From birds to bees to butterflies, flowers draw an array of pollinators to garden space. Learn to attract, identify, and appreciate the pollinators common to Michigan gardens.

12:20-1:10 PM LUNCH, shopping, exhibit visitation, & door prize drawings.

1:20-2:30 PM Stacey Hirvela
Class: HYDRANGEAS DEMYSTIFIED
Stacey will discuss the six main types of hydrangeas we grow in our gardens, how they differ, and how to care for them.

2:30-2:50 PM BREAK, shopping, refreshments, exhibit visitation, & final door prize drawings.

2:50-4:00 PM Tom Conklin and Joyce Latta
Class: HARDY ROSE GARDENING with HERBS
Find out why some roses thrive without winter protection and others succumb to Michigan winters, even though all the supposedly “correct” growing techniques have been followed.

4:00 PM WRAP-UP, final shopping & exhibit visitation as Expo closes.

Elly Maxwell
Entomologist at Dow Gardens (working on her 9th year), educated at Michigan State University and Auburn University, with a Master’s degree in entomology. Studied integrated pest management in vegetables for her master’s work. Native to the area, grew up in Freeland. Favorite insect has always been a praying mantis. Married to Josh Grosteffon, resides in Midland with their two African Grey Parrots, Weezer and Bart Jr. Her hobbies include beekeeping, zumba, cooking/baking/canning. Always looking for a good adventure, enjoys traveling. In fact, made a trip to Peru where she hiked the Inca Trail to Machu Picchu last fall. And recently returned from an adventure in Guatemala.

Check Door Prize List often and before going home!