



Plant Knowledge for Organic Gardeners GLHO2963

Organic gardeners focus on the creation of plant and landscape health. Plant health starts with the right growing conditions. Most of the plants used in our ornamental gardens did not evolve in our climate – are we able to provide them with the soil, water and climate conditions they need to flourish? What about companion plants?

Over the course of several months you will learn to identify approximately 300 plants. For each plant you will explore its ecosystem of origin, and under which conditions it thrives best, or just marginally survives. You will learn how it adapts to our environment, and how you can provide it with optimal care. Finally you will learn about its non-ornamental uses, such as food, medicine, fiber, etc. Over three seasons (March - September), plants are viewed in garden settings, focusing on ecologically sound and successful plant combinations.

This course is open to all who wish to learn more about plants. No prior knowledge or experience required.

Landscape professionals earn generous pre-approved [Continuing Education Credits](#) to maintain industry certifications (ISA, CNLA, BCSLA, SOUL). To receive a Certificate of Completion students must attend 90% of all classes and achieve an overall mark of 70% on all quizzes. This program partially satisfies the requirements of the [Diploma in Organic Land Care](#).

Facilitators: **Heide Hermary** or various Gaia instructors. Heide has a Diploma in Horticulture, and a Masters Degree in Sustainable Agriculture. Integrating her extensive experience and knowledge from many disciplines to present truly revolutionary educational programs in organic horticulture, Heide is President of Gaia College and co-founder of the Society for Organic Urban Land Care. In 2007 she published, *Working With Nature – Shifting Paradigms* and in recognition of her efforts that year she received the B.C. Landscape & Nursery Association's Educator of the Year award.

Length: 14 sessions

Date: Wed & Sat, Mar 6 - Sept 28, 2013

Time: Wed eve 6:30pm – 9:30pm, Sat 9am – 12pm

Cost: \$550 (tax exempt)

Best to Register by: Wed, Feb 20, 2013

To Register:

Register online at <http://cstudies.royalroads.ca/> using a major credit card; or by telephone, Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. at **250-391-2600, ext. 4801**; or **Toll Free at 1-866-890-0220**. Or, come by in person to the Continuing Studies office at Grant 117, 2005 Sooke Road, Victoria, BC, Canada V9B 5Y2.