

# Container Gardening With Native Plants

by Erin Johnson, Program Development Manager



Photo by Patty Redenbaugh

Patty Redenbaugh, founder and President of City Plants, LLC ([www.cityplantsllc.com](http://www.cityplantsllc.com)) recently lead a workshop on Container Gardening with Native Plants. On the day of the workshop the weather was perfect, and Patty's enthusiasm and artful expertise made the workshop fun, engaging, and informative. Utilizing plants that were grown by Center staff from seeds on our grounds, participants created beautiful, natural arrays of **Ferns, Tiarella, Marshalla, Iris, Obedient, and Aster.**

Container gardening is a fun way to create small garden arrangements in beautiful containers to adorn stoops, windows, porches, balconies, and patios. For those of us who have little to no outdoor yard space, container gardening with native plants is a wonderful way to enjoy the beauty and comfort of nature in areas more often dominated by concrete.

As an added benefit, creating container gardens and yard spaces with plants native to the Delaware Valley, gardeners can support the expansion of the resources-base for the plants and animals that have called this region their home for thousands of years. When we utilize plants which have evolutionary relationships with other plant and animal life in the region, we are helping to continue to strengthen the foundations for local biological life. Since pollinators are especially important to the ecosystem and to our local food economy, creating small container gardens with native plants that support pollinator populations is beneficial to all of us.

Learn more about how you can support the local ecosystem by attending container gardening and backyard ecology workshops at The Center or by organizing an outreach presentation at your organization or in your neighborhood.

For more information about our many programs for children and adults, please contact Erin Johnson at 215-482-7300 x116 or [erjohnson@schuylkillcenter.org](mailto:erjohnson@schuylkillcenter.org).