

## **2024 Newfields Fall Horticulture Forum Speaker**

## **Jeff Epping**

## **Epping Design & Consulting**

Jeff Epping of *Epping Design & Consulting* just recently retired from Olbrich Botanical Gardens in Madison, Wisconsin, after serving as Director of Horticulture for almost 30 years. His garden designs put plants at the forefront to create gardens that are not only beautiful, but also ecologically sound. His designs celebrate the region while supporting nature, enhance the senses, and satisfy one's innate desire to connect with the natural world.

A native of southern Wisconsin and graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Epping holds bachelor's and master's degrees in Ornamental Horticulture and regularly lectures and teaches throughout the country. His garden designs have been featured most recently in the *New York Times, Washington Post, Martha* 



DESIGN & CONSULTING, LLC



Stewart, and Fine Gardening, among others.

He has received the Award of Merit from the American Public Gardens Association for his contributions to public horticulture over his career and his home garden was recently featured in the award-winning book, *American Roots*. He is currently working on a book on eco-friendly gravel gardening with Timber Press.

## Presenting Gravel Gardens: Gardens for our Changing Climate

In these challenging times of climate change and global warming, environmentally conscious gardeners are looking for better ways to garden. Water guzzling, chemically dependent, pollution causing lawns are not sustainable and can be replaced with so many better alternatives. One such alternative is earth-friendly gravel gardens that require little water, no fertilizer or other chemicals, no organic mulches and require less time and money to maintain. Don't be fooled by the name, these gardens are as beautiful as they are resilient and support a myriad of native fauna.

