

Optimizing Vegetable Gardens with Soil and Water Management

In-Person Continuing Education Opportunity offered by Virginia Master Gardeners Association, Education Committee.

When: Saturday September 20, 2025 9:30am-3pm

Where: Wilder Bldg. 20901 Carter Woodson Ave. Virginia State University

Registration Fee (*Lunch included*): VMGA Members: \$20.; Non-VMGA Member \$25. Registration at

<https://www.vmga.net/events/optimizing-vegetable-gardens>

(Please note: Virginia Extension Master Gardeners are *not* automatically members of VMGA. Go to <https://vmga.net> for information on the advantages of becoming members of VMGA and <https://vmga.net/#> to join VMGA)



Speakers:

Dr. Leonard Githinji Topic: Soil and Water Management in Vegetable Gardens. He leads the Sustainable and Urban Agriculture program at VSU, and was appointed as a state program leader for agriculture with Virginia Cooperative Extension.

Dr. John Hoben Topic: Soil Fertility and Water Quality. John is a Research Scientist with the Stewart Lab of the Environmental Soil Science Research Groups. He trains the groups in soil fertility, water quality, and protein biochemistry. John's research interests include bioremediation of soil and water and focusing on how microbial communities transform nutrients.



Field Trip Options:

1. Randolph Farm (just 1.7miles from Wilder Bldg.) Learn about overhead watering and drip irrigation techniques with hands on demonstration.
2. Tour of Gardens on Wilder Building.



Hotels - The hotels with the best recommendations are:

Hilton Garden Inn 800 South Park Blvd. Colonial heights, VA. 5 minutes from VSU

**Hotel Petersburg Tapestry Collection by Hilton -804-280-0998
20 West Tab Street, Petersburg, VA (parking fee 20.00 per day)**

Holiday Inn Express 11979 S. Crater Rd Petersburg, VA