



WHYY's Mike McGrath will host a free presentation on fall planting in Bear, DE



On Sunday, August 25, 2013, from 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM, Mike McGrath, host of WHYY-FM's *You Bet Your Garden* radio show will give a free presentation at *Willow Oak Farms* in Bear, Delaware. Entitled "*Fall Planting: Gardening's Second Season*," the presentation will focus on how to extend your garden's growing season well into November.



"Gardening gets hot when the weather cools down. Too many people focus on summer favorites like tomatoes, peppers and sweet corn, and neglect one of the most productive gardening times – after those crops have run their course," said Mr. McGrath. For this event, he will walk spectators through the late season planting of numerous edibles like garlic, lettuce, spinach, broccoli, and pansies (yes they're edible – and they contain the natural nutrient that can cure varicose and spider veins). Refreshments will be served and a Q & A session will follow the presentation.

Other topics relating to the fall season will include: planting of new trees and shrubs, spring bulbs (such as tulips and

daffodils), and over-wintering perennials like rosemary and peppers. According to McGrath, "... you'll never have to start new hot or sweet peppers once you learn the trick of keeping the same plants alive for decades."

Former Editor-in-Chief of Organic Gardening magazine and contributing editor and columnist for *Greenprints* magazine, Mr. McGrath is a longtime proponent of organic gardening. His nationally syndicated Public Radio show *You Bet Your Garden* has been a Saturday morning highlight on WHYY-FM (90.9) since 1998. He is also Garden Editor for WTOP News Radio in Washington, DC.

This special free presentation is part of a series of events celebrating Benchmark Builders 25th Anniversary of building homes in Delaware.

Located in the Bear/Red Lion area of New Castle County, Delaware, *Willow Oak Farms* is a community of 125 single-family two-story and ranch-style homes with nearly 35 acres of open space. "Not only do we want the public to experience these thoughtfully designed community, we want to showcase Benchmark craftsmanship and our 25-year commitment to building homes exactly as our customers want. We look forward to Mike McGrath's presentation and hope that everyone walks away as a better gardener," said Steve Bomberger, president of Benchmark Builders. Homes in the community start at \$239,900.

For more information about Willow Oak Farms and directions, call (302) 834-2480 or visit the company's website at BenchmarkBuilders.com.