

# **Redefining Winter**

# **MNLA Great Lakes Trade Expo**

Tuesday, January 23<sup>rd</sup> 8:30 – 9:30 AM

Matthew Ross, matthew@thebotanicgarden.org

**Executive Director of The Botanic Garden at Historic Barns Park** 

### **PROGRAM OVERVIEW**

There's nothing more rewarding than expanding your clients' use of their landscape. Whether it's exterior lighting, adding in a fire pit, or installing a new container garden. As an industry we focus heavily on the bonus time that hardscape elements add to the enjoyment and entertainment value of the landscape. What if those same concepts were applied to winter? From the white bark of birch trees to the golden hue of certain evergreens, there is a plethora of underused and underutilized plants and design techniques that you can use to redefine wintertime for you and your clients and create unique moments for them. Expand your winter interest palette with a dozen of Matthew's favorite winter gems and see how best to integrate them into seasonal and permanent plantings.

INTRODUCTION: WHAT IS WINTERSCAPING?

#### TRENDS IN THE WINTER GARDEN

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

**DRAWING INSPIRATION FROM OTHERS** 

**CREATING AN INVITATION WITH HARDSCAPE** 

The Element of Fire
Making a Statement with STRUCTURE!
Elevating the Experience
Light Up the Night
PLANTS THAT IGNITE THE WINTER LANDSCAPE
Bookend with Blooms
Brilliant Bark
Fantastic Foliage
Contain your Excitement

**WINTER GEMS** 

Hellebore
Epimedium
Arborvitaes
Red Twig Dogwood
Bergenia
Virginia Sweetspire
Sonowdrops

### **DESIGNING A CAPTIVATING WINTERSCAPE**

**Start with the Small Things** 

**Blend the Interior and Exterior World** 

Don't Stop with "The Holidays"

**RECAP: A PARADIGRM SHIFT**