

## **Bruce Crawford**

After graduating from Bucknell University with a major in biology, Bruce studied Landscape Architecture and Horticulture at Cook College, Rutgers University. In 1983, he launched his career by starting Garden Architecture, a landscape design business. Noticing that most landscaping consisted of evergreens and spring blooming shrubs, his business began integrating interesting and lesser-known plants that provided year-round interest and created a pallet of plant material that was distinctly fresh and low maintenance. Bruce began consulting on more public garden venues. His talent caught the eye of local garden clubs in New Jersey and he began receiving requests to be a guest speaker at their meetings. His work was ultimately noticed by the Landscape Architecture Department of the Environmental and Biological Sciences at Rutgers University, where he became a guest lecturer teaching courses in Herbaceous Plants and Public Gardens Management.

In 2005, Bruce became Director of Rutgers Gardens. It was here that he was able to develop an “outdoor classroom” where Rutgers students, gardeners, school children, and the public could learn about plants, gardening, and the environment. In 2020, Rutgers University created for Bruce, the new position of State of New Jersey Program Leader for Home and Public Horticulture.

By combining his innovative gardening ideas, knowledge of horticulture and advocacy for sustainability with his desire to share and educate, Bruce Crawford will make all who encounter him better gardeners who are aware of the impacts of their gardening decisions and their ability to create a more environmentally friendly world.