

# Meet the Designer

Carrie Hennessy

Horticulturist | Landscape Designer



Nature's Best to You®



## About Carrie

I grew up in southern Wisconsin, just one mile from my grandparents' dairy farm. Being able to run freely around the rolling hills and farmland of Green County instilled a deep love of nature at an early age. But it wasn't until my parents gave me my own raised bed in our family vegetable garden and for flowers and herbs that I realized a whole world of horticultural potential! Every year I could change the design

and experiment with new culinary herbs and flowers.

A chance encounter with a Horticulture major when I was in high school inspired me to turn my love of gardening and design into a career. I received a bachelor's degree in horticulture and a minor in art at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls. My varied work experiences include time at several renowned botanical gardens (such as Olbrich Gardens, The Paine Art Center & Gardens, and the Better Homes & Gardens Test Garden) and four years as the designer and lead foreman for a small landscape company in Oshkosh, WI.

I was thrilled to join Johnson's Nursery in the spring of 2008. I knew first-hand how great their plant material was and that I'd be surrounded by incredibly knowledgeable people who enjoy plants as much as I do. As the Retail department's lead Horticulturist and Designer, it is my mission to approach each client's landscape needs with enthusiasm and to help make their landscape a unique reflection of their own aesthetics, whether they just need a single shade tree installed or a complete redesign.

As a professional horticulturist and designer, I enjoy speaking publicly on a variety of horticultural topics to local garden clubs, libraries, and educational institutions. In addition, I host the Johnson's Nursery online web-series "The Dirt" and "Carrie's Quick Tips" which show that gardening doesn't have to be overwhelming or complicated. It's easy to take control of your own yard, with a few professional tips.

In my spare time, I like working in my own garden, creating new & exciting container displays with each changing season, reading, hiking, trying new recipes, visiting new places, and going to Brewers baseball games with my husband.

*more about Carrie on the next page...*

## Media Experience

### Print

*Wisconsin Gardening Magazine*

March/April 2012 issue: "Unconventional to Inviting"

March/April 2013 issue; "Easy and Fun; Long-Lasting Summer Containers"

July/August 2013 issue; "A Tale of Two Shade Gardens"

### Presentation/Lectures

Kettle Moraine State Forest Northern Unit; March 14th, 2013; "An Evening with Nature: Native Trees and Shrubs for Your Yard"

Art in Bloom event at the Milwaukee Art Museum; March 31, 2012; "Native Plants in an Urban Setting"

Southeast Wisconsin Master Gardeners; February 25th, 2012; "The Best New and Old Plants for an Updated Landscape"

Summer Del Garden Club; February 16th, 2011; "Tree Trends"

Heritage Garden Club; February 7th, 2011; "Natives for Your Neighbors"

Clover Nook Garden Club; October 24th, 2011; "All About Trees (Well at Least Some Basics)"

Kettle Moraine Garden Club; April 21st, 2011; "The Milwaukee County Monarch Trail"

Pauline Haas Public Library; March 21st, 2011; "Rain Gardens"

Alverno College keynote speaker; March 24, 2010; "Tree Trends for 2010"

### Film

Host of "The Dirt with Carrie Hennessy"  
[www.johnsonsnursery.com/The\\_Dirt.aspx](http://www.johnsonsnursery.com/The_Dirt.aspx)  
WISN Channel 12 News; April 27th, 2013 news segment "Late Spring Means Delayed Plants";  
<http://www.wisn.com/news/south-east-wisconsin/milwaukee/Late-springs-means-delayed-spring-plants>

## **Education & Work Experience**

### **Education:**

Bachelor of Science in Horticulture- 2001  
Minor: Art  
University of Wisconsin-River Falls

### **Work Experience:**

Johnson's Nursery, Inc; Menomonee Falls, WI  
March 2008-Present  
Title: Lead Retail Horticulturist, Landscape Designer, Retail Supervisor

David J. Frank Landscape Contracting, Inc.; Germantown, WI  
October 2007-March 2008  
Title: Client Service Representative in Landscape Maintenance Department

Outdoor Solutions, Inc.; Oshkosh, WI  
April 2004-October 2007  
Title: Landscape Designer and Horticulturist; Lead Foreman

Ozaukee County Country Club; Mequon, WI  
June 2003-April 2004  
Title: Horticulturist

The Paine Art Center and Gardens; Oshkosh, WI  
June 2001-June 2003  
Title: Assistant Curator of Horticulture

Better Home and Gardens Test Garden; Des Moines, IA  
Summer 2000  
Title: Summer Test Garden Intern

Olbrich Botanical Gardens; Madison, WI  
Summer 1999  
Title: Summer Botanical Garden Intern

Taylor Creek Restoration Nursery; Broadhead, WI  
Summer 1998  
Title: Nursery Laborer

Claire Springs Farms; Monroe, WI  
Summer 1997  
Title: Organic Produce Crew Boss