

William (Bill) T. Ruppert

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Bio

William (Bill) Ruppert received his B.S. in ornamental horticulture and landscape design from the **University of Missouri-Columbia** in 1980. Upon graduation, he began his horticulture career working at the University coordinating the landscape redevelopment and enhancement of the **University of Missouri – Columbia** campus which was a large part of (then) Chancellor Barbara S. Uehling's campus beautification initiative. In 1990, Bill assumed the management and ownership of the St. Louis office of **National Nursery Products (NNP)**, a horticultural sales, marketing and consulting company representing regional and national wholesale growers of ornamental and environmental landscape plants.

Bill is past president and current treasurer of the **Landscape and Nursery Association of Greater St. Louis** and currently serves as the executive director of the **Horticulture Co-op of Metro St. Louis**, a professional trade organization that provides educational programming for its four-member green industry organizations. Bill also serves on a variety of non-profit boards and advisory committees including **Gateway Greening, Missouri Botanical Garden Plants of Merit, Missouri Botanical Garden Horticulture Strategic Planning, Grow Native!, Mizzou Botanic Garden, St. Louis Community College – Meramec Horticulture Program, and Kirkwood in BLOOM.**

Bill actively participates as a volunteer “seasonal color choreographer” for high impact urban seasonal color displays located in downtown St. Louis and the community of Kirkwood, his hometown.