

SATURDAY MARCH 31ST 10:00am – 4:00pm

Basketry Basics: **WEAVING WILLOW TRAYS & PLATTERS**

INSTRUCTOR MIKE WOLTER

This hands-on workshop is a wonderful introduction to the basics of basketry. Over the course of the day you will construct two different beautiful and functional pieces to take home and enjoy. Instructor Mike Wolter has been creating functional and whimsical baskets of all shapes and sizes for many years. We will have an array of different varieties of willow to work from, all sourced from Mike's impressive plantation and displaying the varied colours and textures that willow exhibits. We begin by exploring some of the characteristics of the different types of willows that we will use to create your rustic and attractive serving tray. Held together with the simple tension of warp and woof, you will each create a serving tray before we break for our delicious organic lunch. After lunch we will make a more complicated and structurally rugged woven willow platter with wrapped edges. Before we end for the day we will take some time to view a young willow plantation and a fedge or living willow fence. There will be bundles of young willow rods for sale so that you can take home the materials you need to create more projects with your newly learned skills.

A longstanding member of the Nova Scotia Basketry Guild, Mike Wolter has been an organic farmer for most of his adult life. Known throughout the South Shore and beyond for their wonderful specialty greens and full range of organic produce, Rumtopf Farm has also been home to a growing collection of common and rare willow species. The willow is carefully coppiced each year so that Mike can make the sturdy and beautiful baskets that he sells and uses on the farm. Mike's wife, Wanda is often seen at farmer's



markets across the South Shore using these attractive baskets to display their luscious produce. Along with baskets, Mike has also been making graceful and functional living willow fences for many years and uses them throughout his farm as windbreaks, trellises, support for other plants and as a visual treat.

Workshop price: \$95.00

includes materials for your two take-home projects, organic lunch and snacks. Register online at:

www.pollinationproject.org

For more information contact Camelia Frieberg at
902 685-3901 info@watershedfarm.org

