

Denton County Master Gardener Association

# THE ROOT

Grow With Us



## Buds From The Board

BY KATHRYN WELLS, PRESIDENT

Happy June, friends!

We have some wonderful news to share: Denton County MGA won second place for 2020 Association of the Year in the Extra Large (XL) category! The award winners were announced during the May 18th Search for Excellence awards program at our virtual Texas Master Gardener Association state conference.

The XL category comprises County Master Gardener Associations with 200 or more dues-paying members. The Outstanding Association category recognizes a Master Gardener Association that has completed at least one or more programs and/or projects of importance to the community.

Thanks to our award-writing team for writing, packaging, and submitting our accomplishments—that's a tough job and a great feat! Special thanks to Barbara Brown, Sharon Clark, and Immediate Past President Pat Moyer, who especially contributed to this particular award category.

CONNECT WITH US ON THE WEB  
<https://dcmga.com>

## WHAT'S GROWING ON

- .....
- 01 Buds From The Board
  - 03 Janet's Corner
  - 04 Spotlight:  
Gardenscapers -  
Greater Lewisville  
Community Theatre
  - 07 Meet Beverly Duncan
  - 10 Plant of the Month:  
Feverfew
  - 12 Feature Article:  
Water Conservation
  - 15 June General Meeting
  - 16 Doubletree Ranch Park
  - 17 Awards / Association of  
the Year 2nd Place
  - 19 Volunteer Service  
Opportunity
  - 21 Online Education  
Opportunities
  - 23 Help Desk Q&A:  
Sunscald or Sunburn on  
Trees

## Buds From The Board (Cont.)

Congratulations to each and every member and intern for a job well done last year, this year...and every year! And, thank you to our community – you're the reason we do what we do, and it's our pleasure and privilege to serve you at every opportunity.

Speaking of opportunity, please join us in cyberspace on June 9th for our General Meeting and Program. We're delighted to welcome Denton County Master Gardener Lori Barr, who will present "Arranging with Nature in Mind" at 10 am. As always, our General Meetings and Programs are free and open to the public. Advance registration is required.

And, don't forget our annual Fruit, Vegetable, Herb, and Flower Show on June 19th! Ribbons and cash prizes will be awarded to the top entries in both the Adult and Youth divisions. It's not too late to enter your best backyard bounty!

Denton County Master Gardeners/Interns and Denton County residents—you're the bloomin' best! May your June be filled to overflowing with all of your very favorites

*Kathryn*

### TOP GARDENING TIPS

## June

Continue planting warm season annuals & perennials.  
Mulch bare soil to suppress weeds & retain moisture.

Mow more frequently & at a higher height.

Leave grass clippings to recycle lawn nutrients.

Remove aphids & spider mites with water blasts.

**#DCMGA #GROWWITHUS**

DENTON COUNTY MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION

## Janet's Corner

BY JANET LAMINACK, AGRILIFE EXTENSION HORTICULTURE AGENT, DENTON COUNTY

It's always something...

As I write, it's been raining for 40 days and 40 nights, or at least it feels like it. I know that we will covet these rainy days soon enough, but that is not today.

Too much rain is a problem, especially with the heavy clay soils we have here. These soils do not drain well, which stifles air exchange for the roots. A suffocating plant sometimes looks like a thirsty plant and that just seems like a bad design to me. What's a well-meaning person likely to do when they see a wilting plant?



What can we do when we are getting too much rain? Not much.

Container plants and raised beds won't be impacted as much as in ground plants. If only lumber wasn't so expensive, everyone might finally put in a raised bed this season! If you have a garden

with framework for shade cloth or frost cloth, I would put plastic up to deflect some of the rain.



Other things that might be helpful for your plants' health, especially vegetables, would be to improve air circulation. This may not be possible, but you may want to thin out your plants if they are crowded. I expect we will see a lot of disease, and fungus especially likes to bounce around on leaves. That's right, you may want to socially distance

your plants from each other. Related to that, adding a mulch layer around your vegetables so that leaves and fruits are not in contact with soil might prevent some disease spread. Lastly, with this much rain, we may see some nutrient deficiencies once it clears up. Other than that, don't pray for rain?



**Denton County Master Gardener  
YouTube Channel**

**Click on "Videos" and check out our new presentations!**

**And don't forget to subscribe!**

**<http://www.youtube.com/c/DentonCountyMasterGardener>**



## Gardenscapers *Greater Lewisville Community Theatre*

BY KATHY RAINEY

It was October 2020 when Master Gardeners Anne Haynie, Donnette Alexander, and I first met with Board members from Greater Lewisville Community Theatre (GLCT). Our goal was to determine if DCMGA Gardenscapers could assist GLCT with a garden beautification project while ensuring the project aligned with our mission to educate and engage the public with research-based horticultural and environmental practices.

The entrance garden is the first thing patrons see when entering the Theatre. The garden is also very visible to the general public, especially with the growth of new retail and residential development occurring in the historic Old Town Lewisville area. GLCT's old garden was in extremely poor condition: the plants were overgrown and not maintained and the rock wall planter had deteriorated. GLCT Board members knew they needed to start from scratch to beautify the garden. They also recognized they did not have the knowledge or expertise to design the new garden and select the right plants, nor how to maintain the new garden once it was complete.



Photos Courtesy DCMGA Member Kathy Rainey

**Entry Garden Before**



**Entry Garden After**

They reached out to DCMGA, the Youth Ministry from the Episcopal Church of the Annunciation in Lewisville, and Keep Lewisville Beautiful (KLB) for expertise and volunteerism to create a beautiful, low maintenance, and sustainable new garden. The project qualified for a grant from KLB, which required an educational element to the project, and the Youth Group volunteered to prepare and plant the garden beds. Master Gardeners designed the garden layout and selected appropriate plants for the sunlight conditions and for low maintenance.

## Gardenscapers *Greater Lewisville Community Theatre (Cont.)*

Master Gardeners also conducted a Zoom educational session for the GLCT Board and youth volunteers to educate them on the basis for the garden design, plant selection, and appropriate maintenance. Onsite training during soil preparation, planting, and mulching was also conducted by Master Gardeners to reinforce what had been covered in the Zoom educational session.

You can see from the "before" photos that basic infrastructure improvements were vital to achieving the sustainability aspect of this project. Not only were the planter walls failing, but the drainage system comprised of a downspout that emptied directly into the raised bed, causing flooding and erosion of the soil. We also learned that the planter bed was originally constructed over asphalt, so the soil depth was fairly shallow at an estimated depth of 8 to 10 inches. The soil analysis indicated a need for soil amendments to correct nitrogen and potassium deficiencies.

The GLCT Board members coordinated the infrastructure improvements, which included replacing the planter wall and increasing the height of the wall to achieve greater soil depth. Drain pipes were attached to the downspout to carry rainwater to the drains and eliminate the flooding and erosion. Drip irrigation was installed with individual emitters for each plant to minimize water usage. Trellises were installed by a Board member and youth volunteers. With the help of Master Gardener Steve Spurgin, who was experienced in the installation of dry creek beds, Master Gardeners and youth volunteers installed a dry creek bed to provide an area for rainwater to flow to the drains.



**Before**



**After**



## Gardenscapers *Greater Lewisville Community Theatre (Cont.)*

Anne, Donnette, and I applied our learning from the DCMGA Design Your Yard (DYY) Zoom class to design the garden.

### *The rule of thirds – Hardscape 1/3, Turf 1/3, Plants 1/3*

- Hardscape includes the dry creek bed, rocks, trellises, and pots
- Turf is represented by ground cover (blue fescue and ajuga)
- Plants selected were Abelia, coral honeysuckle, meadow sage, pincushion flower, sedum, Blackfoot daisy, yucca, Mexican mint marigold, and bay laurel trees in terra cotta pots, most of which are native and adapted plants

We incorporated the existing lion statuary and large rocks, as requested, and coordinated the implementation planning for the project. The youth volunteers "literally" did the heavy lifting, incorporating 100 cubic feet of planting mix into the existing soil, shoveling the rock for the dry creek bed, and applying 78 cubic feet of mulch after planting.

It was a rewarding project for all involved, and, best of all, the GLCT Board members were very pleased with the outcome. They surprised both DCMGA and the Annunciation Youth Ministry with donations towards our scholarship programs as an expression of their gratitude. As Master Gardeners, we each received an educational benefit from this project, too! We learned about the design process in the DYY class held in December through February, the importance of collaboration in the design process by incorporating input from our "customer" (the GLCT Board members), the importance of collaborating among ourselves as the Gardenscapers design team, how to construct a dry creek bed, and ways to engage others in horticulture.



**Theatre Workday**

## Meet Beverly Duncan

BY CHERYL HUCKABEE

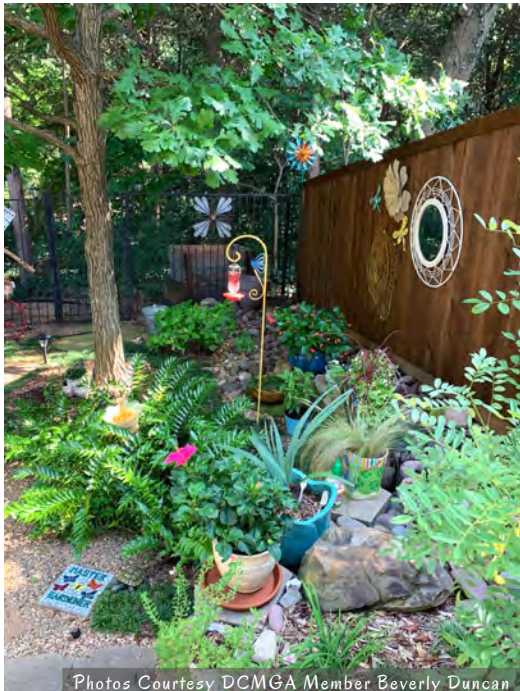
Beverly Duncan describes herself as "an intentional gardener." An intentional gardener gardens with a specific purpose in mind, such as providing food or improving the environment. For Beverly, that means everything she plants "is for the critters."

Beverly grew up in Muenster, a primarily German-Texan city in western Cooke County, Texas. Muenster is known for its German architecture, authentic German meat market and bakery, and of course the Oktoberfest celebration in October. Dad was the school superintendent and Mom worked in the tax assessors' office.



**Beverly Duncan,  
DCMGA Class of 2018**

Beverly learned the concept of "integrated pest management" in childhood. Her father, a disciple of Howard Garrett's organic gardening techniques, had a huge vegetable garden. Mom was a member of the local garden club and a follower of Neil Sperry, a former horticulture specialist for Texas A&M Cooperative Extension and current radio show host and author. Beverly attributes her love of flowering perennials to her mother's garden at their childhood home. She fondly remembers St. John's Wort (*Hypericum perforatum*), a perennial with showy, star-shaped, yellow flowers, blooming in their front flower bed. After a long search, Beverly finally found a 3-gallon St. John's Wort and planted it in her garden this year on Mother's Day. Pulls at your heart strings, huh?!



Photos Courtesy DCMGA Member Beverly Duncan

**Beverly's Shade Garden  
Entrance**

With a 36-year career as a reading specialist, Beverly brings her passion for education and knowledge of Texas gardening to her home and Denton County Master Gardener Association. Her neighbors in her south-central Denton County neighborhood say they always learn something about gardening when they stop by to talk with her.

Her volunteer service with DCMGA includes presentations on hummingbirds, butterflies, and native plants for the Speakers Bureau, chair of the Program Committee, and lots and lots of work for the annual Garden Tour. The programs Beverly schedules for DCMGA are wonderful!



## Beverly Duncan (Cont.)

This year, Beverly is a mentor to five intern Master Gardeners, helping them learn how to get the most out of their experiences with DCMGA. They're so lucky to have Beverly as a mentor!

Beverly and her husband, who is a Texas Master Naturalist, moved in 1999 from their home in Fort Worth to their current home in south-central Denton County. Compared to their sunny landscape in Fort Worth, their current landscape is mostly shaded and backs onto a heavily wooded greenbelt. They adapted quickly to learn about shade gardening, restoring their backyard to a pollinator garden and a stop for visiting "critters" from the greenbelt. Their beautiful gardens include

- John Fanick Phlox (*Phlox paniculata* 'John Fanick')
- Salvia 'Indigo Spires' (*Salvia longispicata* x. *farinacea*)
- Gaura 'Rosy Jane' (*Gaura lindheimeri* 'Rosy Jane')
- Double Peony 'Paul M. Wild' (*Paeonia lactiflora*)
- Oakleaf Hydrangea (*Hydrangea quercifolia*)
- Leopard plant (*Farfugium japonica*)
- Japanese aralia (*Aralia japonica*)
- Datura trumpet flower/Jimsonweed (*Datura wrightii*)
- Texas Redbud (*Cercis canadensis* var. *texensis*)

### Beverly's Garden Restoration



**Before**

**Sparse turfgrass and no color**



**After**

**Lots of perennial color, with Datura trumpet flower and John Fanick Phlox in the foreground**

Beverly has enhanced her knowledge of native plants by completing the first two levels of the Native Landscape Certification Program from the Native Plant Society of Texas.



## Beverly Duncan (Cont.)

She relies on these favorite field guides during her hikes and gardening activities:

- *Native Texas Gardens: Maximum Beauty Minimum Upkeep* (2003), Sally and Andy Wasowski.
- *Texas Wildscapes: Gardening for Wildlife* (1999), by Noreen Damude and Kelly Conrad Bender
- *Native Host Plants for Texas Butterflies: A Field Guide* (2018), by Jim Weber, Lynne M. Weber, et al.

Beverly has certainly achieved her gardening purpose. On any given day during the spring and summer, she welcomes swallowtail and monarch butterflies, beneficial insects, squirrels, Texas horned lizards, snakes, and the occasional deer and to her garden. She has embraced her role as conservationist and steward of the earth in her little corner of the world. We at DCMGA, the flora and fauna, and the "critters" in her garden are all grateful!



Gaura 'Rosy Jane' (Gaura lindheimeri 'Rosy Jane')  
Salvia 'Indigo Spires' (Salvia longispicata x. farinacea)



DENTON COUNTY MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION

# FRUIT, VEGETABLE, HERB & FLOWER SHOW

Denton County Historical Park &  
Community Market  
317 W. Mulberry St., Denton

- FREE Event
- Fruit, Vegetable, Herb and Flower Categories
- Denton County Residents: Adults and Youth
- Limited to 5 entries per registrant
- Ribbons and Cash Awards awarded to top entries for both Adults and Youth

## June 19, 2021

- Registration open until 9:59 AM, judging begins at 10:00
- To register, please take a picture of the QR code or go to the link  
<https://form.jotform.com/dcmga/2021-veg-fruit-herb-and-flower-show>
- Visit [dcmga.com](https://dcmga.com) for details






Texas A&M AgriLife Extension is an equal opportunity employer and program provider. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating.

## Plant of the Month - Feverfew *A Double Duty Plant*

BY CHERYL HUCKABEE

*"Feverfew (Tanacetum parthenium), when my headache is unbearable...I know relief is just minutes and four leaves away," Janet G.*

Master Gardener and 2021 Garden Tour Homeowner (*Four Season Wildscape*) Janet says her garden has literally healed her by the sanctuary it provides and the healing characteristics of many of the plants growing there. Feverfew (*Tanacetum parthenium*) is a plant Janet finds particularly useful for its beauty and healing qualities.



**Feverfew (*Tanacetum parthenium*)**

Feverfew is an herbaceous perennial, with a bushy mounding habit, growing 1 to 3 feet tall and 1 to 2 feet wide. It is covered in long-lasting  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch daisy-like blooms from June to September. Its leaves are slightly hairy and fern-like and have a strong, bitter scent. It does best in full sun to part shade in well-drained, moist soil, however, it can tolerate some drought.

Originally native to the Balkans and Caucasus, Feverfew has naturalized broadly over North America. It can be found on roadsides and meadows and can be considered invasive due to its self-seeding habit.

Feverfew has a centuries-old history in folk medicine by Greek and European herbalists. Reportedly, in the 5th century, Feverfew was used to treat a worker who fell from the Parthenon during construction. The species name *Parthenium* is derived from the Greek Parthenon. During Medieval times it was used to treat toothaches, arthritis, headaches, and fever. According to the Mayo Clinic, "Some evidence exists that the herbs feverfew and butterbur help prevent migraines or reduce their severity. A high dose of vitamin B-2 (riboflavin) also might reduce migraines."

When dried, the leaves of Feverfew are also used as an insect repellent. *Always consult a physician before taking any medications, over-the-counter drugs, supplements or herbs.*



## Feverfew (Cont.)

Feverfew is a beautiful addition to the landscape in naturalized areas, meadows, and cottage gardens. When planted as a border or in rock gardens, the spent flowers should be frequently deadheaded to prevent self-seeding. The fresh leaves of Feverfew can cause dermatitis or mouth ulcers, so may be problematic for pets. Feverfew is not susceptible to any serious diseases or pests. It attracts bees, butterflies, and hummingbirds and is deer resistant. The long-lasting blooms of Feverfew make wonderful cut flowers and can be dried for use in floral arrangements.

Janet recommends considering adding Feverfew to your pollinator garden this year!

Learn more about Feverfew at these websites:

**North Carolina State University Extension**

"Tanacetum parthenium"

<https://plants.ces.ncsu.edu/plants/tanacetum-parthenium/>

**Mayo Clinic**, "Chronic Daily Headaches, Alternative Medicine" (April 2019)

<https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/chronic-daily-headaches/diagnosis-treatment/drc-20370897>

**National Institutes of Health**, National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health  
"Feverfew" (December 2020)

<https://www.nccih.nih.gov/health/feverfew>



**Feverfew in bloom**



## What's Growing in Member's Gardens





## Water Conservation

BY JOLAYNE LACOUR

### *Rain, and Drought, and Summer, Oh My!*

Aren't we lucky to be living in a place where we receive almost four inches of rain in one hour and then spend the summer waiting for more rain? Such is living with our El Niño and La Niña weather cycles, so let's talk water conservation or rather the efficient use of water in our landscapes.

### **Water Conservation**

According to Merriam-Webster, conservation is defined as "a careful preservation and protection of something, especially: planned management of a natural resource to prevent exploitation, destruction, or neglect."

How can we challenge ourselves to be better stewards of the water that falls from the sky above us or flows out of our faucets?

Currently, we are receiving approximately the same amount of rainfall each year, yet less frequently, such that when we do receive precipitation, there is a greater quantity of water falling on our property in a shorter amount of time. These are referred to as "significant rain events." In these significant rain events, the water falls so rapidly onto our landscapes that most of the water runs off rather than percolating into the soil to benefit our plantings. Our soils and plants often do not retain enough moisture to be sustained until the next rain event. These significant rain events negatively impact our reservoirs and aquifers by creating flood conditions and causing less water to penetrate the soil, thereby lowering the water table and threatening wells to run dry.

What can we do? There are so many perspectives to consider.

### **Rain Water Collection**

We could catch the water which runs off our roofs. If we have gutters, we could add one or more rain barrels to contain some of this rain. If we have no gutters, it is possible that we utilize the valleys of our roofs to funnel the rain into a rain barrel or perhaps more than one rain barrel if we connect or daisy chain them together. Also, a rain chain is a decorative addition which can guide small water roof runoffs into a rain barrel or other catchment container.



Photos Courtesy DCMGA Member Jolayne LaCour

### **Passive Rainwater Collection**

## Water Conservation (Cont.)

A rain catchment container or rain barrel can be placed close to a garden where there is no roof runoff and elevated on cement blocks to provide enough pressure to use the water in the garden.

How can we use the wonderful rain water that we collect? Rainwater is zero hardness, sodium free, and nearly neutral pH on which plants and trees thrive whether they are inside or outside, in the ground, or in a container. Wildlife or livestock can be provided rain water, as well. Also, harvesting rainwater can reduce demand on traditional water sources.

Last, and certainly not least, USE your collected rainwater for plant and tree watering, washing plant pots, and tools.

### *Permaculture Adaptations*

One of the first things we learn as gardeners, which is so rewarding, is to watch and study our landscapes. Where does the water flow when it rains? What impedes the water as it travels across the landscape? What damage does the runoff do to our landscape design or our property? Using these observations, we can address erosion, loss of soil and nutrients, and retention of the runoff to the benefit of our plantings.

One-rock dams (ORDs), also referred to as one-rock check dams, can be used alone or in combination with other permaculture techniques to retard the

flow of water through an area. An ORD is one rain harvesting tool we could use for impeding the flow of water through a channel or ditch. ORDs are built with a single layer of rock or gravel on the surface of the channel. They reduce erosion by slowing the flow of water, capturing sediment, which allows vegetation to flourish, and can gradually raise the bed level over time. These passive water harvesting structures increase soil moisture, infiltration of water, and plant growth, and have been typically used in field preservation. These ORDs do not stop the rainwater flow; they slow down the flow long enough so that more rainwater is allowed to infiltrate the soil over a longer period of time and aide with the growth of the adjacent plantings. An added benefit is watching the vegetation, i.e., grasses and wildflowers, which grow in and around the rocks which make up the ORDs and help filter the runoff before the runoff reaches a nearby drinking water lake.



**One-Rock Dams**

## Water Conservation (Cont.)

Another permaculture concept which could be adapted is Hügelkultur. By taking the Hügelkultur use of logs and sticks, which retain moisture and nourish plantings, we can adapt this concept with an eye toward water retention. Strategic placement of broken tree limbs and twigs can provide a small structure beside a bed or single planting, which will retard the flow of water and retain the mulch, absorb this water to the benefit of the planting during drought, and provide a home for invertebrates which, in turn, help break down or compost the wooden material, returning those nutrients to the soil for the plants. This is a win-win for all parties concerned!



**Screening Bed with Hügelkultur Adaptation**

Perhaps there are other gardening concepts you may think of and adapt for your landscape, such as rain gardens, swales, sheet flow spreaders, etc.

### ***Plant Choices***

Now, to turn our attention to our planting choices! Native plants and trees require less water and are more likely to survive our periods of drought. The placement of our plantings can help reduce erosion, thereby adding to the moisture content of the soil on our property and helping our other plants. Again, observation is key! Perhaps you see an opportunity in your landscape to put your rainfall to use. Is there an area where you have considerable rain runoff? Could that be a screening bed, a butterfly garden, or an herb garden?

It is also possible to naturalize plants. After they are established, water deeply and infrequently to help develop deeper root structures, which help them survive periods of drought and help with erosion issues. Mulching our plants and trees helps them retain moisture during the dry months, which also assists with lowering our water usage. Select plants that need less water and place plants with similar water needs together.

Are there other landscape ideas which you could apply in your landscape to reduce water needs?



## Water Conservation (Cont.)

### Resources

*Rainfall History Denton*, TX Volunteer Rainfall Totals, "Denton Rainfall"

<https://dentonrainfall.com/rainfall-history.html>

*National Weather Service*, "What are La Niña and El Niño and why do they matter?"

<https://www.weather.gov/media/ajk/brochures/ENSOFactSheetWinter1617.pdf>

*NASA Earth Observatory*, "Drought"

<https://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/topic/drought>

Hargrove, Brantley. "Goodbye to an Aquifer." *Texas Monthly* 47, no. 4 (2019): 90 – 102.

*Texas A&M University*, Texas Water, "Texas Water Law"

<https://texaswater.tamu.edu/water-law>

*Texas Water Development Board*, "Rainwater Harvesting:

<https://www.twdb.texas.gov/publications/shells/RainwaterHarvesting.pdf>



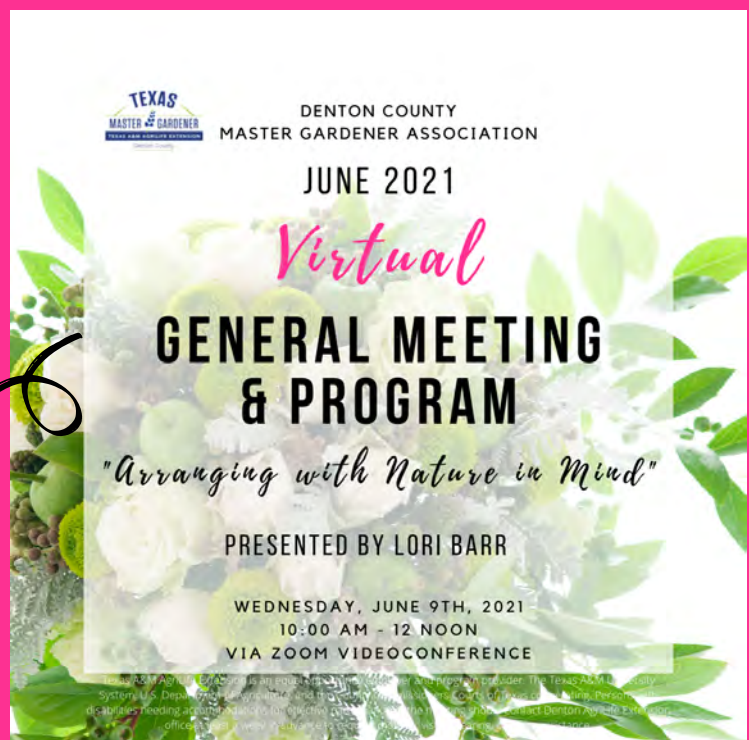
Join Denton County MGA in cyberspace for our June General Meeting & Program.

We're pleased to feature Denton County Master Gardener Lori Barr, who will present, "Arranging with Nature in Mind".

**Advance registration is required.**

As always, our General Meeting programs are open to the public and free of charge.

We look forward to seeing you in cyberspace!



## Doubletree Ranch Park

*310 Highland Village Road, Highland Village, TX*

Double Tree Ranch Park was originally the Duval family's dairy and cattle ranch and was later converted to a "party" ranch for corporate outings. In 2009, Highland Village purchased the ranch from the Trust for Public Land and honored the three criteria for the sale: create soccer fields, have a "wild" area, and an area for public gatherings. This 36-acre public park now offers something for the entire family – splash pad, playgrounds, walking trails, soccer field, a pond with a fishing deck, and a pavilion surrounded by gardens of native and adaptive plants.

As you enter the park, note the selection of plants in the medians. These plants were selected for sustainability and water conservation. Rainwater from the numerous parking lots is captured, stored in an underground cistern, and used for the soccer fields and garden beds.



The gardens surrounding the pavilion area feature swaths of colorful native plants that are offset by a variety of grasses. All are designed to attract pollinators and to delight the eye.



Denton Country Master Gardeners have provided support and plant selection advice for several years and are in the process of obtaining a Monarch Butterfly certification for part of the pavilion gardens.



## Awards Distributed to DCMGA Members

With the past year's Covid19 restrictions in place, DCMGA member awards have accumulated. The recent members-only Plants2Go Sale provided an opportunity to hand out these awards. And so, Awards Alley was created!

We look forward to resuming our public Plant Sale next Spring 2022. And we are most excited to be able to hold our annual Garden Tour this year, with an autumn twist, on October 2, 2021.



Janet Laminack (CEA-Hort),  
DCMGA President Kathryn Wells,  
Communications Director (Systems)  
Cheryl Huckabee, and member Sue  
Hudiburgh.



**Judy Allen & Melissa Migis**  
2020 Intern Project Managers  
of the Year



### Awards Alley

Janet Laminack (CEA-Hort) and DCMGA Member CeCe Kenney ready to distribute 2020 & 2021 Member Awards.



**Barbara Ridge**  
2020 Special Merit Award



**Tom O'Brien**  
2020 Special Merit Award



## Awards Distributed to DCMGA Members (Cont.)



**Beth Sharum & Tammie Gurley**  
2020 AgriLife Superior Service Award.  
Janet Laminack (CEA-Hort) and Beth Sharum pictured.



**Tricia Rowen**  
5-year Membership Milestone Award.

*Photos Courtesy Lea Watson, Cheryl Huckabee, and Kathryn Wells.*



*Denton County Master Gardener Association was selected as second place Association of the Year (in the Extra Large category) for 2020!*

DCMGA was recognized for continuing to offer intern training, community education programs, intra-association member communications, and community Outreach Activities despite the pandemic lockdown. This conversion to accomplish these things was accomplished in one month.

## Volunteer Service Opportunity *General Meeting Program Chair*

Beverly-the-Great-Duncan is stepping down as our Program Chair after this year. (She's creating a little margin in her schedule to co-chair our 2022 Garden Tour with Lori Barr, as current Garden Tour Chair Karen Roberts has moved out of the area...sniff, sniff!)

So, we're looking for someone to step into the role of Program Chair. Responsibilities include researching and scheduling the presenters/speakers for our monthly General Meeting programs. Only nine months need to be booked (March through November), as there are no programs for December (Holiday Party), January (Graduation & Awards Banquet), and February (Volunteer Opportunity Fair).

A little something to sweeten the pot: Beverly and Gay Campbell are still willing to help identify and plan some fun field trips for us as opportunities arise, so new Programs Chair – whoever you are – you'll have some support!

Interested? Contact DCMGA President Kathryn Wells.



**E-Magazine & Newsletter**

*Birds & Blooms* (Trusted Media Brands Publisher). Covers a wide range of topics such as attracting hummingbirds, building birdhouses, gardening for butterflies, feeding birds for less, growing veggies, tales of readers' birding experiences.

<https://www.birdsandblooms.com/>

**Facebook Group**

"Plant Identification Group - People Helping Others ID Plants" - Facebook.

International group; EXPERTS, you see plants from all over the world, great learning opportunities. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/plant.identificaton/>

**Garden Tool**

Caddy organizer for 5 gallon buckets, many brands and styles now available. Shop for durability and style preference.

The information given herein is for educational purposes only. Reference to commercial products or trade names is made with the understanding that no discrimination is intended and no endorsement by the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service is implied.



## Denton County Master Gardener Association

If you have a gardening/plant question, make the Help Desk page your first-stop resource.

It's very likely you will quickly and easily find the answers you need.

<https://dcmga.com/north-texas-gardening/help-desk/>



Do you have **Canva** (or any "drag-and-drop" layout program) knowledge?  
Are you interested in helping with the newsletter?

Contact the  
Communications Director  
[dcmga.communications@gmail.com](mailto:dcmga.communications@gmail.com)

**Earn Volunteer hours  
from home!**







## Online Education Opportunities

### For Master Gardeners and the Community We Serve

Science-based knowledge on a variety of topics in an innovative and interactive virtual format.

#### DCMGA General Meeting Presentations

June 9, 2021. 10:00 AM – Noon.

Open To The Public

"Arranging with Nature in Mind" presented by DCMGA member Lori Barr.

To Register:

<https://uso2web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYlc-ggpzwjGNEoO6Zl6mRZYGr73PyRYM9x>

July 14, 2021. 10:00 am to Noon

Open To The Public

"Roses" presented by DCMGA member Sharrie Ely

#### Upper Trinity Regional Water District, City of Lewisville and Keep Lewisville Beautiful virtual classes

Information to help you save water year-round.

[Spring Into Action for Long-Term Success](#)

[Soil Preparation and How to Plant a Plant](#)

[Lawn Care Basics](#)

[Getting Started With Natives](#)

#### Metroplex Tamil Sangam Gardening – "Perennial Gardening in North Texas" By "Sharrie & Rick Ely"

Presentation by DCMGA Member Sharrie Ely

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pF-BMdaaoqM>

#### Growing a Greener World® (GGWTV)

is an Emmy Award-winning TV show appearing on national Public Television that features organic gardening, green living and sustainable land management. Each episode focuses on compelling and inspirational people making a positive impact on the planet through gardening and shares DIY information that we can all use at home.

Currently in its eleventh season, this gardening series covers everything from edible gardening to urban homesteading and hobby farming.

<https://www.growingagreenerworld.com/episode/s/>

(Approved for up to 3 CE hours – each episode is 30 minutes)

#### Tuesdays with Texas Master Naturalists

On the Second Tuesday of each month at the noon hour (12PM Central Standard Time), the TMN State Office will offer an hour-long virtual advanced training event (sometimes including some fantastic new and returning guest speakers). These will be recorded each month and shared to the website by the following day of each month. Here's a link to one YouTube video: A Presentation by Doug Tallamy – "Nature's Best Hope"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WY4aV5hqkxY>



FYI: Underlined Texts are active Internet Links throughout this publication.



## Online Education Opportunities (Cont.)

### AgriLife Online Courses

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension

(Most, but not all, are free.)

<https://agrilifelearn.tamu.edu/catalog?pagename=Plants-and-Garden>

### Earth-Kind® Online Master Gardener Training

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension

<https://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/earthkind/training/>

### Introduction to Plant Identification

UDSA NRCS Science & Technology

<http://www.conservationwebinars.net/webinars/introduction-to-plant-identification>

### Aggie Horticulture YouTube

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCbp4wkcScRV0HlN3Hi1\\_KUQ/](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCbp4wkcScRV0HlN3Hi1_KUQ/)

### DCMGA YouTube CE Programs

"The Ease of Effective Hardscaping"

"The Pleasures & Pitfalls of Perennial Plants"

"Gardens Gone Wild"

"Getting Buggy"

"Texas Trees: Caring for Your Legacy"

"Using Technology for Plant Identification"

Business meetings

<https://www.youtube.com/c/DentonCountyMasterGardener>

### Home Grown Lecture Series from Harris County Master Gardeners

Join us for our Free, 30-minute, bi-weekly ONLINE on Thursdays at 10:-- AM Central time.

Must register through Eventbrite to get the webinar link.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/home-grown-lecture-series-tickets-143797364789?aff=erelexpmlt>

June 3, 2021 - A "Legen-Dairy" Lecture - Shannon

Dietz, County Extension Agent-ANR

June 17, 2021 - Art From the Garden - Brandi Keller, Master Gardener Program Coordinator

### Gardening 101 + Virtual Learning Series

Aggie Horticulture

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension

Texas AgriLife posts great videos to the Aggie

Horticulture Facebook. There are over 50

presentations here. View them at:

<https://www.facebook.com/watch/Aggie-Horticulture-26803072143/1541129202716211/>

### Citrus Varieties: Gardening on the Gulf Coast

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension

Stephen Brueggerhoff, Extension Agent - Horticulture

<https://youtu.be/wSIRjQJnxhE>

### Chat with Green Aggies

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension

All previous recordings:

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLxT5cUdFaycrUzUiWSA46JRPGBYSFiFzH>

### DCMGA Members

Plan Your Week emailed each Friday has the most current Online CE Opportunities.

See our [Member Handbook](#) for approved CE sources and guidelines.

Note that members may claim up to 3 hours of annual discretionary education; veteran members with 10+ years of service may claim up to 6 hours.





**BY HELP DESK TEAM**

*Q: I live in Melissa (Collin County) and have two trees in the front yard that are alive, but look diseased. There are large cracks down the trunks of the trees. Do you have any recommendations? I would greatly appreciate any advice.*

**A:** What you see looks more like *sunscauld* or *sunburn* than freeze damage. The damage is not repairable but is preventable. Here's some information about what causes sunscauld or sunburn in trees and how to prevent it.

**What is sunscauld or sunburn in trees?**

Sunscauld or sunburn in trees is the death of the tree's cambium tissue (living cells just under the bark) on the trunk due to high or rapidly fluctuating temperatures. There are two times of the year this can happen - winter and summer. Although not a common occurrence in Texas, sunscauld in winter is caused by rapid fluctuations in temperature. The cambium tissue on the south or southwest side of the tree's trunk warms from the sun's heat then rapidly refreezes, likely during overnight freezing temperatures. Sunburn is more common in Texas. High summer temperatures can kill

the tree's cambium tissue from sun exposure on the south or southwest side of the tree's trunk.

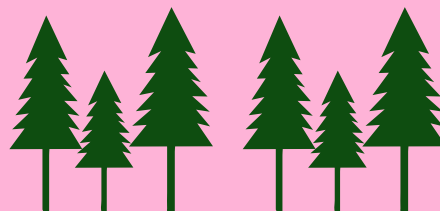
**What are the symptoms?**

In the early stages, sunscauld or sunburn can be difficult to detect. The bark on the south or southwest lower portion of the trunk may discolor and some cracking may be visible. Oozing or "bleeding" from the damaged area may appear in the spring. Eventually, the bark will begin to slough off.

In the late stages of damage, cracks or gaps in the bark down to the xylem tissue (interior wood) will appear. There may be evidence of wound healing on the margins of the crack. The loose bark can be carefully removed, but do not tear into or cut into the interior wood tissue. Insects may be visible in the cracked area. Pruning paint should not be applied to the wounded area. Extreme damage can lead to the tree's death or weakening of the trunk's strength resulting in breakage.

**What types of trees are susceptible?**

Young or thin-barked ornamental or fruit trees are susceptible to this type of damage. Examples of susceptible tree varieties include maples, fruit (peach, apple, plum), linden, ash, honey locust, Eastern white pine, Texas redbud. In addition, drought-stressed or newly transplanted young trees are more susceptible. Evergreen trees are less susceptible to winter sunscauld because the foliage shades the tree's trunk.



**Can sunscald or sunburn be prevented?**

In Texas, the most important method of prevention is to keep the tree healthy and vigorous with proper watering during the dry hot summer months. Trees should be deeply watered at a minimum of 1 inch of water per week if there is no rain during the growing season. A few deep waterings (1 time weekly) will encourage deep root growth. Frequent shallow watering (2+ times per week) encourages shallow rooting leading to damage during drought.

**Some other prevention methods:**

- Wrap the lower trunk of young, thin-skinned trees with light-colored materials such as kraft paper or breathable white fabric tree wrap. Be sure not to girdle the trunk when installing the wrap, e.g., do not use wire or zip ties to hold the wrap in place. Leave the wrap in place for several years until the bark is thick and textured enough to withstand extreme temperatures or the canopy of the tree is large enough to shade the trunk.
- Avoid transplanting trees during hot summer months. The ideal time to plant trees in North Texas is late fall to early spring.
- Apply a 1 to 2-inch layer of mulch in the root zone of the tree, keeping the mulch away from the tree trunk and root flare. The trunk and root flare should be exposed.

We recommend engaging a certified arborist to help assess the health of your trees. To find a certified arborist that works in your area go to this website from the International Society of Arboriculture:

<https://www.treesaregood.org/findanarborist>

If you determine you need to replace your trees, this site from Texas A&M Forest Service will help you find the best tree for your landscape:

<https://texastreeplanting.tamu.edu/>

Check out this website to learn more:

"Sunscald on Trees" (2021). University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service.

<https://www.uaex.edu/yard-garden/home-landscape/trees/sunscald-on-trees.aspx>



Joseph O'Brien, USDA Forest Service, Bugwood.org  
UGA5059018

**Sunscald/Sunburn Damage**

*If you have questions about any horticulture-related subjects,  
please contact our Master Gardener Help Desk at 940.349.2892*

*or [master.gardener@dentoncounty.gov](mailto:master.gardener@dentoncounty.gov).*

*It's free of charge, and it's our pleasure to assist you.*



## DENTON COUNTY MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION



## 2021 Garden Tour



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2

9:00 AM -4:00 PM

A favorite family-friendly event you don't want to miss!  
Inspiration abounds on self-guided tours of four unique Denton County private properties

Master Gardeners will be on-site in each garden to provide information about the garden, as well as featuring additional learning opportunities on a variety of gardening topics.

Our SWAT (Science With An Attitude) team will be on-site to provide hands-on learning opportunities for children.  
Our "Ask a Master Gardener" booth will also be on-site at one of our gardens to answer all your gardening questions.

Go to [www.dcmga.com/upcomingevents](http://www.dcmga.com/upcomingevents)  
for tickets and further information as the date draws near.



#GrowWithUs

@DentonCountyMGA

# Denton County Master Gardener Association

## 2021 Events

### DCMGA General Membership Meeting program:

June 9 at 10:00

Program: "Arranging with Nature in Mind" by Lori Barr

### Fruit, Vegetable, Herb, and Flower Show

June 19

### Keep Lewisville Beautiful

August 5: Getting Started with Natives by Liz Moyer

August 19: Growing a Sustainable Garden by Sue Newhouse

September 2: Caring for Christmas Cactus by JoAnn Spurgin

### Greater Aubrey Area Gardening Series:

August 19: Waterwise Gardening JoLayne LaCour

September 16: Texas Native Plants by Liz Moyer

October 21: Made for the Shade by Daniel Cunningham

Garden Tour: October 2

DCMGA New Member Round Up: Oct. 19



**DCMGA.COM**





### Mission Statement

Denton County Master Gardener Association educates and engages county residents in the implementation of research-based horticultural and environmental practices that create sustainable gardens, landscapes, and communities.

### Extension EO/EEO Statement

Texas A&M Agrilife Extension provides equal opportunities in its programs and employment to all persons, regardless of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, disability, age, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation, or gender identity. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating.

### 2021 Board of Directors

President	Kathryn Wells
Vice-President - Projects	Joanne Spurgin
Vice-President - Outreach	Kathy Rainey
Secretary	Katherine Woodward
Treasurer	Jolayne LaCour
Communications Dir. - Systems	Cheryl Huckabee
Communications Dir. - Promotions	Kathi Fast
Education Director	Barbara Brown
Member-at-Large	Tammie Gurley
Past President	Pat Moyer
Extension Agent - Horticulture	Janet Laminack

### Social Media

#### Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/DentonCountyMGA>

#### Instagram:

<https://www.instagram.com/DentonCountyMGA>

#### Twitter:

<https://twitter.com/@DentonCountyMGA>

#### Pinterest:

<https://www.pinterest.com/DentonCountyMGA>

#### YouTube:

<http://www.youtube.com/c/DentonCountyMasterGardener>

### Save the Date

- June 2 Board Meeting - (Virtual)
- June 9 General Meeting & Program - "Arranging with Nature in Mind" (Virtual)
- June 19 Fruit, Vegetable, Herb & Flower Show

### Contact Information

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension  
Joseph A. Carroll Building  
401 W. Hickory Street  
Suite 112  
Denton TX 76201-9026

Office: 940.349.2883

#### Help Desk:

940.349.2892

[master.gardener@dentoncounty.gov](mailto:master.gardener@dentoncounty.gov)

#### Webmaster:

[dcmga.webmaster@gmail.com](mailto:dcmga.webmaster@gmail.com)

#### Communications:

[dcmga.communications@gmail.com](mailto:dcmga.communications@gmail.com)

#### Website:

<https://dcmga.com>

### Content

**Submission deadline for the July edition of *The Root* is Tuesday, June 15.** Submissions may be revised at the discretion of the editor.

Ideas, photos, and articles are welcome and may be submitted to Editor Karen Gibson or Communications Director Cheryl Huckabee at [dcmga.communications@gmail.com](mailto:dcmga.communications@gmail.com).

All photos are courtesy of DCMGA's Creative Visual Arts (CVA) Team unless otherwise attributed.