

Denton County Master Gardener Association

THE ROOT

Grow With Us



Buds From The Board

BY KATHRYN WELLS, PRESIDENT

Happy December, Friends,

It seems that 2021 has been a bridge year, transitioning us from the challenges of 2020 into the promises of 2022. The new year glimmers with great hope, and we Denton County Master Gardeners look forward to continuing our mission of educating and engaging our community with more face-to-face and smile-to-smile activities in the days and months ahead.

You may notice that the December and January issues of *The Root* are briefer than usual; that's by strategic design, so that our editor and contributors may have some extra time to spend with friends and family during the holiday season. We hope you have plenty of joyful moments, too!

Denton County Master Gardeners and Denton County residents—each of you is a true treasure. May every good gift be yours this season ... and every season.

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

2022 Garden Tour Preview

BY KATHI FAST

Four Northern Denton County Gardens

May 7, 2022

Rockin' B's Creekside

Wilderness

Three beautiful acres with multiple beds featuring roses, native and adaptive perennials and wildflowers, as well as vegetable gardens. The garden focuses on native bees, with several native bee houses located on the property. A large water collection system located on the property is used only for watering the vegetables.



Urban Butterfly Haven

A virtually maintenance-free property filled with native and adapted plants. This garden requires no herbicides, pesticides, or supplemental watering. An 80 x 5 foot raised vegetable bed occupies much of the side yard and supplies the homeowners with a continuous supply of fresh produce. This "regular-sized" lot packs quite a punch and is sure to inspire gardeners working with spaces of all sizes: small, large, or just right.



2022 Garden Tour Preview (Cont.)

Big Sky Oasis

Enjoy a leisurely drive through Horse Country USA on your way to Big Sky Oasis. Although retired from breeding American Morgan horses, the owners continue to cherish the solitude and tranquility of their ranch. While still enjoying their Morgans, they now have time to embrace their love of roses as well as having the satisfaction of planting and harvesting their favorite vegetables. Discover the simplicity of raised beds and container gardening. Bring your rose questions.



The Bar B Legacy Farm and Gardens

This 22-acre property is the only "working" farm on the tour. It features a large barn with many farm animals, stock tank, hay fields, and includes landscaped and wooded areas. Look for themed flower beds, repurposed items, raised garden beds designed for ergonomic gardening for physically limited gardeners. The property also has guest cottage and she-shed.



Janet's Corner

BY JANET LAMINACK, AGRILIFE EXTENSION HORTICULTURE AGENT, DENTON COUNTY

Am I right or Amaryllis? A lily bit on bulbs

For a few years now I have given members of my family amaryllis bulbs as holiday gifts. Sometimes I buy a kit or order a unique variety online; sometimes I pick out a bulb at a garden center and dress it up myself with a container and glass beads. As gardeners, we know how fun it is to grow things and amaryllis bulbs are quick and fairly fool-proof. To take the stress off my recipients, I offer to take the bulbs back once they stop blooming or *GASP* encourage them to toss it after. Heartless, I know, but I really hate all the questions and fussing over the bulb that comes with them trying to rebloom it. Also, I love fresh flowers; part of their appeal and beauty to me is that they are mortal and finite. It makes it all the more luxurious and indulgent to enjoy the blooms for a short time.



Photo Courtesy Janet Laminack

Outdoor bulbs are fantastic as well. I don't always remember what I planted where ... I'm like a squirrel, so there are surprises! Not all good surprises, because apparently I have added mulch and cardboard over some of my bulbs – I'm hoping they will fight their way through all of that someday. I have a gazillion grape hyacinths (I'd be glad to share). They are reliable and multiply. I also have daffodils that are so cheery and bright and also reliable. My daffodils (or narcissus) haven't spread as quickly and look a little wimpy: swaths or groups of daffodils make a much better impact. Over the years, I have planted more rain lilies and they usually catch me off guard. And apparently I obtained some schoolhouse lilies (or oxblood lily) at some point. Their bright red blooms were unexpected flair to my fall garden.



Canva Stock Photo

In the last few years I have tried to add alliums to my bulb repertoire. It started by receiving three *Allium schubertii* bulbs. Apparently a common name for it is tumbleweed onion, which makes sense. But, it could also be called "starburst" or "volleyball" or even "Reunion Tower" onion. Once they bloom, the seed head dries and makes for an interesting and long-lasting conversation piece. The other alliums that I have added have not been as successful because they come out after my trees have leafed out. I've been moving them around to find their happy spot. That is, if I can remember where I planted them to begin with

Master Gardener Help Desk

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



Newsletter Change Notice



The December and January issues of The Root will be announcements only. This will give the Newsletter Editor & Authors time to enjoy the holidays with their families. You can expect the February 2021 issue to be chock full of the gardening articles and information you have come to expect.

The Newsletter staff thanks you for your understanding.



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>

IT'S 2022 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME!

Dues paid by January 31, 2022, \$15; \$25 after

The Fine Print

- Enter VS & CE hours in VMS by January 31, 2022
- Veterans need 12 hours VS & 12 hours CE in 2021
- Interns need 70 hours VS & 50 hours training in 2021
- On March 31, 2022 members not in good standing will be inactivated unless granted an exception by the CEA-Hort.

Email Tammie Gurley with questions tmgurley@msn.com



Scan or go to Annual DCMGA
Membership Renewal on dcmga.com to
submit your renewal and payment



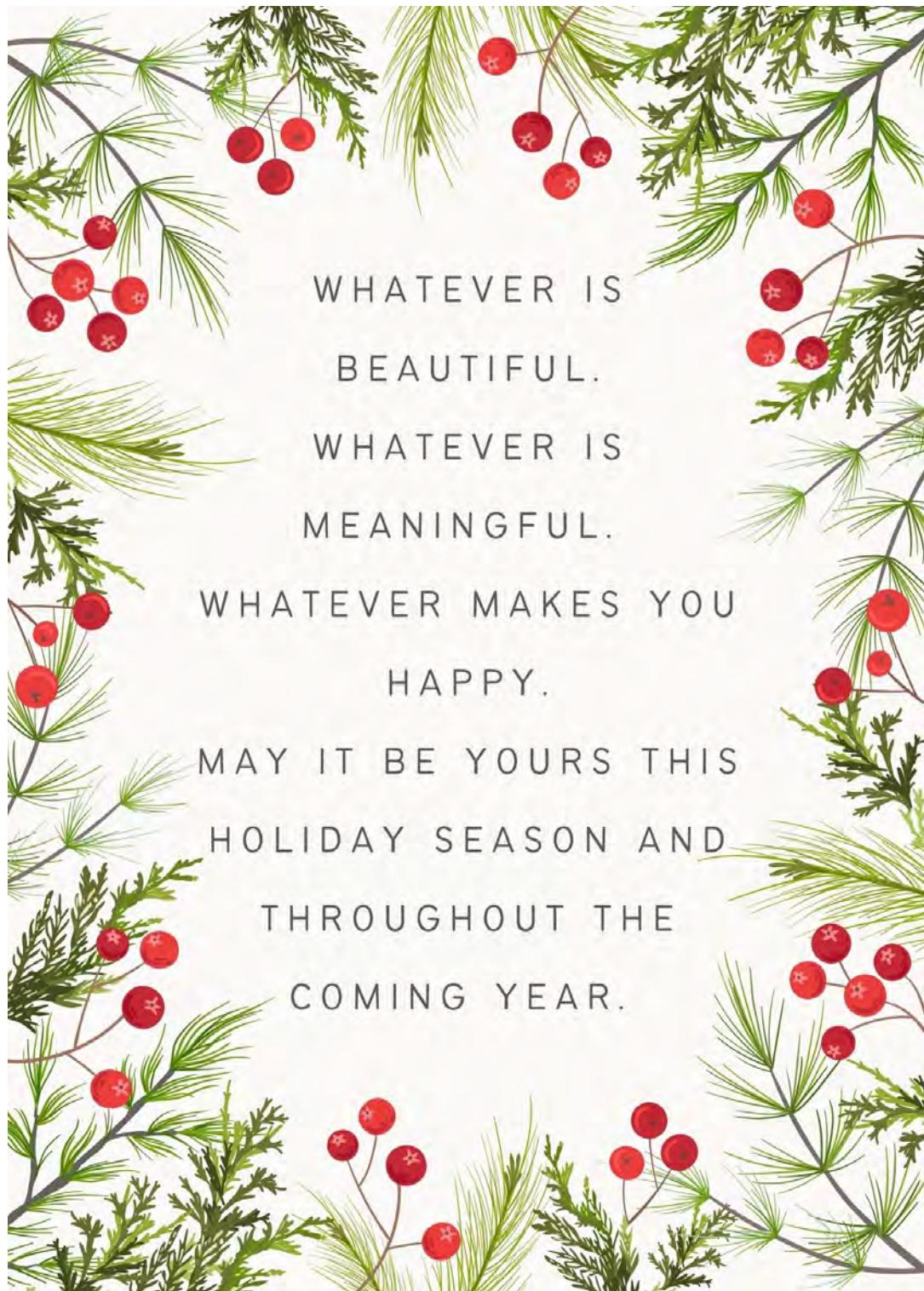
TOP GARDENING TIPS

December

Forage for fresh holiday decorations; leave seeds and berries for wildlife.
Clean, sharpen, repair, and store garden and lawn tools.
Leave the leaves! Mow in place, compost, or use as mulch.
Check trees for damaged limbs that may be compromised by ice.
Relocate established trees & shrubs during winter dormancy.

#DCMGA #GROWWITHUS

DENTON COUNTY MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION





2022 GREATER AUBREY AREA GARDENING SERIES

Jumpstart your gardening in 2022 with this free
virtual educational series



JANUARY 20

6 - 7:30 pm

Vegetable Gardening

Dana Bays, Mike Crawford



FEBRUARY 17

6 - 7:30 pm

Drought Tolerant Plants

Charlotte Canion



MARCH 17

6 - 7:30 pm

Pollinator Plants

Kim Wootton



Sponsored by



**Scan the QR code or go to
dcmga.com/upcomingevents to register**

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. We seek to provide reasonable accommodation for all persons with disabilities for this program and ask that you notify the Denton County AgriLife Extension Office of the auxiliary aid or service that will be required.



Earth-Kind® Landscape Design

Use Earth-Kind® landscaping principles and practices to create beautiful, easy-care landscapes while conserving and protecting natural resources and the environment.

Scan to learn more about Earth-Kind® landscape design

TEXAS
MASTER GARDENER
TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE EXTENSION
Denton County

Learning to be Kind to the Earth: An Introduction to Earth-Kind® Landscape Design

2022 Series 1 Classes

Tuesdays, Jan 11 - Mar 1
7:00 - 8:30p via Zoom

Register on dcmga.com
Nov 15 - Dec 28, 2021

- Planning & Preparation
- Water Conservation
- Pest Management
- Plant Selection
- Soil & Fertilization
- Design Basics

Cost: \$50 for 8 classes & materials

Series 1 is a prerequisite for the Series 2 Design Application classes

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.

What's Growing On

Denton County Master Gardener Association

Check Out the List of Events for 2022

Earth-Kind Landscape Design

**Jan
11**

Virtual: Learn to use Earth-Kind landscaping principles and practices to create beautiful, easy-care landscapes. Tuesdays, 7-8:30pm

Vegetable Gardening

**Jan
20**

Virtual: Greater Aubrey Area Gardening Series, presented by Dana Bays and Mike Crawford. 6-7:00pm

Drought Tolerant Plants

**Feb
17**

Virtual: Greater Aubrey Area Gardening Series, presented by Charlotte Canion. 6-7:00 pm

General Meeting & Program

**Mar
9**

In-person: Business meeting and program "Gardening Under Glass". 10 am -noon at Global Spheres Center

Pollinator Plants

**Mar
17**

Virtual: Greater Aubrey Area Gardening Series, presented by Kim Wootton, 6-7:00 pm

For detailed information:

dcmga.com/upcoming-events

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.





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

January 11

Earth-Kind
Landscape Design
(Registration by
12/28 Required)

January 20

Vegetable Gardening,
Aubrey Area Library
(Virtual)

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

Webmaster:

dcmga.webmaster@gmail.com

Communications:

dcmga.communications@gmail.com

Website:

<https://dcmga.com>

Content

Submission deadline for the January edition of
The Root is Wednesday, December 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.

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

<https://dcmga.com>