



Denton County Master
Gardener Association

THE ROOT

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Us



35 YEARS AND STILL GROWING



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Buds From The Board

BY CHERYL HUCKABEE, PRESIDENT

May was a whirlwind of excitement for Denton County Master Gardeners! Our annual Plant Sale and Garden Tour were smashing successes, and we're incredibly grateful to everyone who joined us for the fun. Now, as June rolls in, it's time for gardeners to shift focus. With the heat picking up, it's essential to prioritize watering, fertilizing, and keeping pesky pests and diseases at bay. Remember to plan your gardening tasks for the cooler mornings and stay hydrated!

But fear not, we've got plenty of indoor activities to beat the heat this month! Join us for our [Permanent Gardening Class](#) on June 1, where Master Gardener Daniel Arenas will spill the secrets to creating enduring landscapes with perennial plants and more. Then, mark your calendars for June 12, when Dallas County Master Gardener Gina Woods will unveil the mysteries of succulents at our [Monthly Meeting and Program](#). From watering hacks to soil essentials, you'll learn everything you need to know to keep your succulent garden thriving.

And calling all green-thumbed dads! Celebrate Father's Day with us at our [Fruit, Vegetable, Herb, and Flower Show](#) on June 15. Bring your best produce and floral arrangements to compete for ribbons in a county fair-style competition. Plus, don't miss out on a keynote presentation at 10 am by Steven Chamblee, Former Executive Director of Longview Arboretum and Nature Center.

With so many exciting learning opportunities lined up, June is sure to be a month packed with growth and inspiration. Check out our [Event Calendar](#) for more details, and let's cultivate our love for gardening together!

Happy Gardening!



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>

Earth-Kind® Design Course in July 2024

BY LEE ANN YATES

In January, twenty-three members of the public and Denton County Master Gardeners attended the Earth-Kind® Design (EKD) course in Denton. This series of classes combines Earth-Kind sustainability practices developed by Texas A&M University and landscape design principles. The point of the class is to give the participants the tools and knowledge to create beautiful, sustainable landscapes at home.

The class is taught by Carol Arment (Class of 2010), Kathy Rainey, (Class of 2017), and Lee Ann Yates (Class of 2016). EKD, formerly known as DYY (Design Your Yard) is the latest incarnation of a long-standing Continuing Education opportunity originally developed by retired Denton County Master Gardener Shirlee Singer.

Topics range from environmentally sound Earth-Kind practices concerning soil and water quality, pesticide and fertilizer use, and resource conservation, to design principles including color combinations, texture, proportion, and repetition. We end the lecture part of the classes with the ever-popular Plant Selection review.

Experienced Master Gardener Design Guides work with the participants to create working sketches using the knowledge gained over two evenings plus a full day of lectures and Q&A. Participants use the sketches to begin their journey of creating a sustainable home landscape.

Want to know what previous attendees have to say about the course? “I learned what I was doing wrong in my beds!” “The classes made this information so easy to understand!” “The instructors were awesome! So knowledgeable!” “I never realized there were so many plants I could be successful with!” “I totally understand why compost and mulch are SO important now!”

We hold a course during January in Denton and a July course in Lewisville each year to make them more accessible to all parts of the county. [The next EKD course will take place in Lewisville from July 18th through 20th.](#) The course builds over Thursday evening, Friday evening, and a full day on Saturday, so plan to attend all three classes.

Keep an eye out for announcements with details on social media and email. Registration for the public will open very soon. Since DCMGA’s mission is primarily to educate the public, Master Gardeners will be placed on a waiting list until half of the twenty registration spots are filled by the public. MGs will fill the remaining spots in the course according to order of sign up – first come, first served!

Please join us to learn how to create a beautiful, sustainable landscape in your world!



Meet A Member - Gerry Peacock

BY LEE ANN YATES

It is my pleasure to introduce you to a new member, Mr. Gerry Peacock. Gerry has recently transferred his Master Gardener membership to Denton County from Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches County. He is originally from Indiana and ended up in Texas by way of Louisiana, Ohio, and California due to his dad's work and then his own. Originally a physics professor, he decided on a career change, attending Texas A&M to earn a mechanical engineering degree. He landed in Denton County after retirement and, when his wife passed away, he moved in with his son and family. His daughter invited him to her home in Colorado, but he declined – “not ready for those winters,” Gerry told her.

Gerry became a Nacogdoches Master Gardener in 2002-2003, volunteering on several projects, eventually serving as association president for two and a half years before his move to Denton. The largest project NCMGs worked on under Gerry's tenure was turning a derelict chicken processing plant near downtown Nacogdoches into a seven and a half acre park and demonstration garden. The plant owners sold the land to the city who had plans to tear it down, when a NCMG member proposed the park and gardens to the city. The city agreed that would be a wonderful use of the land.

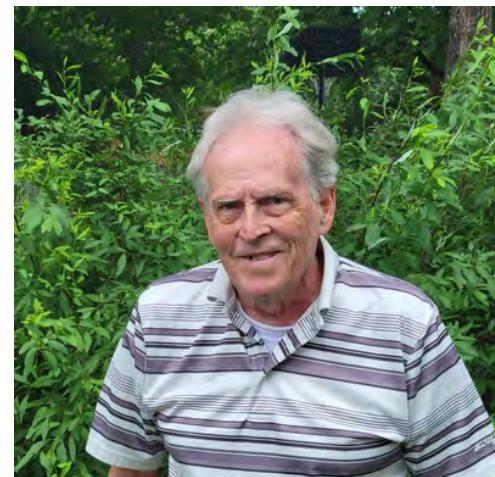


Photo Courtesy DCMGA Member Gerry Peacock

Gerry Peacock

Demonstration gardens for lawn turf grasses, vegetable gardens, and flowerbeds were built. A buried challenge arose when the soil was being prepared and it was discovered that a large portion of the land was covered in asphalt! It had been a parking lot previously and after removing all that asphalt and testing the soil, the Master Gardeners discovered that the soil was so contaminated no edibles could be grown – the city would not allow it – and all the vegetable beds had to be moved. Lanana Walking Trail was built along a creek that flows through the park near Main Street, which makes for a pleasant walk of over a mile.

Gerry's strong volunteer spirit led him to give his time at Stephen F. Austin University's Mast Arboretum before he became a Master Gardener. He also volunteered at the Lamplight Theater as a stage manager and set constructor, as well as acting in a few small parts. Gerry continues his love of community theater, not behind the scenes, but in the Denton Community Theater's audience. He has enjoyed several plays since moving to Denton and is really impressed with the set designs – “much more than we ever attempted in Nacogdoches.”

The project Gerry is most proud of is his involvement in the development of the Lions Club vision screening program. Working with elementary school nurses across twenty elementary schools

Meet A Member - Gerry Peacock (Cont.)

and fifteen daycares in their district, Gerry led the Lions Club in screening up to 2500 children for vision and eye problems every year. Gerry, along with other Lions Club members, trained for and received Texas State Board of Health certification in order to carry out the screenings. Gerry would like to work with some of the Denton County Lions Clubs to grow a similar program here.

When I asked Gerry about his gardening life, he responded that he didn't do much real gardening before becoming a Master Gardener. He "just kind of picked it up as an adult." He says, "I like to pick things up as I go. I like to learn." He planted some flowers and shrubs in yards at his various houses, because "I like that!" We've all been there, right? His favorite plants are flowering shrubs, but he likes so many of them, he can't pick a favorite. "I don't restrict myself to just natives or non-natives. If I like it and it will grow here, I'll have it!" Gerry's also interested in bulbs, especially crinums. "You plant them once, the sun beats down on them, they get watered when it rains – or not, and they bloom beautifully year after year. Why wouldn't I love them!" Gerry explained. He also has an affinity for irises – I'd bet there are a few of us who could talk about irises for a while with Gerry!

For right now, Gerry gardens in pots since he's living in a rental house, but he looks forward to being able to do more permanent gardening in the future. He has recently joined Dale Powell's team at Fairoaks. During the Plant Sale, Gerry volunteered in the Plant Holding Area, which is where he met Dale. You know how one thing leads to another and another and another... I think Gerry's hooked! While Gerry is still in contact with his Nacogdoches friends, he's very happy to be in Denton with his son and grandchildren. He likes to get involved and is looking forward to being involved in the community and Denton County Master Gardeners. Look for Gerry at the general meetings and at Fairoaks and give him a big welcome! We are glad you joined us, Gerry!



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

You're Invited

June 2024 Monthly Meeting & Program
"Succulent Success: Mastering the Art of Cactus Care!"



Discover succulent success! Join Dallas County Master Gardener Gina Woods to unlock thriving tips for cacti and succulents. Learn 5 essential growing conditions, from watering secrets to soil basics. Cultivate your green thumb now!

June 12, 2024, 10 am
Global Spheres Center
7801 S Interstate 35E, Corinth, TX 76210

Plant of the Month - The Versatile Zinnia

BY KAREN GIBSON

Characteristics

- Annual
- Pollinator Friendly
- Full Sun
- Heat Tolerance: High
- Water: Drought tolerant, allow soil to dry before adding supplemental water
- Space: Varies
- Size: Varies
- Blooms: Spring to first frost
- Color: Nearly all colors, solid and striped varieties

General Information

What is your favorite flower? Iris? The rose? Maybe the ever-popular sunflower? If I had to name one, it would be the Zinnia. The zinnia is an excellent annual flowering plant for Texas gardens. The Profusion and Zahara series are Texas Superstars.



Green zinnia flower



Photos Courtesy DCMGA Member Karen Gibson

Zinnias come in multiple bloom types and colors

The zinnia attracts pollinators and I plant it amongst my vegetables. The zinnia also makes a long-lasting cut flower for bouquets. The more blooms you cut (or deadhead), the more the plants will fill out and produce even more blooms.

There is a zinnia for every area of your garden – dwarf varieties for containers and the front of your sidewalk bed (up to 6 inches tall), medium-high plants to fill in gaps (12-18 inches), and tall plants for the back of your garden (up to 3 feet tall).

Zinnia blossoms come in a single petal layer, multiple layers, or even some that resemble dahlias. Petal colors include yellow, white, orange, red, pink, magenta, striped, and even green!

The Versatile Zinnia (Cont.)

Zinnias are native to Mexico, southwestern U.S., Central and South America, and belong to the Aster family.

Of the seventeen known species, *Zinnia elegans* and *Z. angustifolia* are the two best appreciated for their ornamental characteristics.

Z. elegans is the most extensively cultivated for annual garden use. Plants typically grow 1 foot to 3 feet tall on upright, hairy, branching stems with coarse leaves and large flowers.

Z. angustifolia is a low-growing type used in hanging baskets, borders, and containers, as well as mass plantings. Their leaves are small and narrow and size ranges from dwarf (6 inches) to tall (3 feet). The Profusion and Zahara series are popular hybrids of these two species.

- Penn State Extension, Zinnias for the Home Garden

Pests and Disease Problems

Zinnias tolerate dry soil better than overly wet soil. They are very susceptible to powdery mildew, so be sure to keep water off the leaves when providing supplemental water. Powdery mildew can be treated by spraying with a fungicide, but your best bet is to try to prevent it by leaving some space between plants for more air circulation and being careful when watering.

Zinnias have relatively few insect pests. Aphids, spider mites, and whiteflies can appear during prolonged hot, dry weather. The first two pests can be hosed off with a stream of water. For more information on pests and prevention, check out the FactSheet from Clemson College of Agriculture in the Resources below. Look for disease-resistant varieties when purchasing seeds or plants.

Plant Care

Plant seeds when the soil temperature reaches 70 degrees. Planting nursery transplants can be done after the last frost. Zinnias love hot weather but will need supplemental water during dry spells.



The Versatile Zinnia (Cont.)

With continual harvesting of blooms and/or deadheading (removing) old blooms, your zinnias will produce blooms up until the first frost. The Profusion series does not require deadheading; new flowers grow above the old flowers.

Fertilize your plants at least twice during the growing season with a granular or water-soluble 20-20-20 fertilizer, or use a slow-release fertilizer when first planting.

Propagation

Collect seed heads after they have dried and save for next year. Or let the seeds drop to the ground and you will have many zinnias next spring. How cool is that?

Resources

Texas Superstars, “Fall Zinnias”

<https://texassuperstar.com/fall-zinnias/>

University of Minnesota Extension, Zinnia (2022)

<https://extension.umn.edu/flowers/zinnia>

Penn State Extension, “Zinnias for the Home Garden” (2023)

<https://extension.psu.edu/zinnias-for-the-home-garden>



NC State Extension, North Carolina Extension Gardener Plant Toolbox

Profile Videos and list of Cultivars/Varieties

“Zinnia”

<https://plants.ces.ncsu.edu/plants/zinnia/>

“Zinnia elegans”

<https://plants.ces.ncsu.edu/plants/zinnia-elegans/>

University of Florida, Gardening Solutions, “Zinnia”

<https://gardeningolutions.ifas.ufl.edu/plants/ornamentals/zinnia.html>

Clemson College of Agriculture, Forestry and Life Sciences, “Zinnia Insect Pests & Diseases,”

Downloadable PDF Factsheet | HGIC 2110 | Reviewed: Feb 14, 2022

<https://hgic.clemson.edu/factsheet/zinnia-insect-pests-diseases/>



In The Veggie Patch: Okra

BY CHERYL HUCKABEE

Growing Okra in North Texas: a Guide to Cultivating this Southern Favorite

Okra (*Abelmoschus esculentus*) is a warm-season vegetable with a rich history and a bounty of nutritional benefits. Originating from West Africa, okra has been a staple in Southern cuisine for centuries, prized for its unique flavor, versatility, and health benefits. For gardeners in North Texas, growing okra can be a rewarding endeavor, provided the proper care and attention are given.

Origin and Benefits

Okra's origins trace back to Africa, where it has been cultivated for centuries for its edible pods and seeds. This vegetable is prized for its high fiber content, vitamins A and C, and various minerals such as potassium and calcium. Additionally, okra is low in calories and contains antioxidants that contribute to overall health and well-being.

Plant Requirements

Soil: well-drained, fertile soil with a pH level between 6.5 and 7.0

Light: Full sun, 6-8 hours/day

Temperature: sensitive to cold temperatures and should be planted after the last frost date when the soil has warmed to at least 65°F.

How to Plant

Plant okra seeds directly into the garden bed or start them indoors 3-4 weeks before the last expected frost date. Sow seeds 1 inch deep and 12-18 inches apart in rows spaced 3 feet apart. Keep the soil consistently moist but not waterlogged until the seeds germinate, typically within 7-14 days. Thin seedlings to 18-24 inches apart once they have developed true leaves.

Maintenance and Care

Once established, okra plants require minimal maintenance. Keep the soil evenly moist throughout the growing season, especially during dry periods. Apply a balanced fertilizer every 4-6 weeks to promote healthy growth and development. Monitor for pests such as aphids and spider mites, and treat infestations promptly with insecticidal soap or neem oil.



Photo Courtesy okra-burgundy-kristine-paulus-cc-by-2.0

In The Veggie Patch: Okra (Cont.)

Varieties to Grow in North Texas

Several okra varieties are well-suited for cultivation in North Texas, including 'Clemson Spineless,' 'Annie Oakley II,' and 'Burgundy.' These varieties are known for their vigorous growth, disease resistance, and high yields, making them ideal choices for home gardeners in the region.

Photo Courtesy okra-clemson-spineless-canva-stock



How to Harvest and Store

Okra pods are ready for harvest 50-60 days after planting, typically when they are 3-4 inches long long and still tender. Harvest pods every 2-3 days to encourage continued production. Use a sharp knife or pruning shears to cut the pods from the plant, taking care not to damage the stems. Store harvested okra in the refrigerator for up to one week or blanch and freeze for long-term storage.

Growing okra in North Texas can be a rewarding experience for gardeners seeking to add a versatile and nutritious vegetable to their garden. By providing the proper growing conditions, selecting suitable varieties, and following proper planting and care techniques, gardeners can enjoy a bountiful harvest of fresh okra throughout the summer months.

Resources

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, Aggie Horticulture, "Okra production guide," Easy Gardening (2013).

<https://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/vegetable/wp-content/uploads/sites/10/2013/09/EHT-058.pdf>

University of Florida IFAS Extension, (n.d.), "Okra," Gardening Solutions
<https://gardensolutions.ifas.ufl.edu/plants/edibles/vegetables/okra.html>

North Carolina State University Extension, "Growing Okra in the Home Garden," (2023, May), Union County Center, <https://union.ces.ncsu.edu/2023/05/growing-okra-in-the-home-garden/#:~:text=If%20soil%20temperatures%20are%20less,the%20soil%20be%20well%20drained>



The Benefits of a Shade Tree Wait! Don't Cut That Tree Down!

BY MELISSA WEAVER

We have all driven by, walked under or, if we are lucky, swung from those graceful old trees, the kind you can't even wrap your arms around. Majestic and graceful in appearance, one tries to imagine all the historical moments and memories these trees have witnessed. They provide food and habitat for our wildlife, energy efficiency for our homes, filtration of our air and water, and even prevent soil erosion and flooding control.

But what don't they do? They don't allow for the growth of a lush green lawn. Most grasses thrive best in full sun and they struggle to survive in the shade cast from these large trees. This creates a conundrum for the turf-loving homeowner. Turf or Tree?

There are a few methods one can attempt to keep both. A gardener can select a more shade-loving turf type. The lower branches of the tree can be trimmed up to 6 feet allowing more sun to reach the grass. Nitrogen fertilizers should be avoided throughout the year except in fall as the leaves drop or in early spring before the tree leafs out when it can be used sparingly. The mower blade should be kept high leaving grass at around 3 inches to expose it to more light.

Ultimately though, shade trees live up to their name. They grow large and create shade. "But the grass used to grow there," is a comment frequently heard from gardeners. While grass may have grown there years ago, the tree is also growing; its deepening shade causes bare spots to begin to appear and expand. This can lead to the most sickening sight and sound to tree-loving gardeners – the cutting down of one of the most significant parts of a healthy ecosystem, the once graceful, majestic mature tree.



Photos Courtesy DCMGA Member Melissa Weaver
**Melissa's shade garden and seating area
beneath her Century Oak.**

But wait! Don't cut that tree down! When the grass finally surrenders to the expanding shade of the tree, embrace it! You have been offered an exciting opportunity to plant a beautiful landscape much more diverse and interesting than green sod.

The Benefits of a Shade Tree (Cont.)

There are hundreds of shade-loving plants, both native and adaptive, that love to grow in partial, full, or dense shade. The options are both endless and exciting! Choose from groundcovers, ornamental trees and grasses, shrubs, ferns, or even mulch pathways leading to a tucked-away shaded seating area. Not only will this create an aesthetically pleasing addition to the landscape but the mature tree and its understory garden will become an amazing focal point. An added seating area can become a much-needed and secluded respite from the summer heat, adding a new “room” and added purpose to the garden.



Growing under the Century Oak are Daylilies, Texas sedge, horseherb, salvia, Englemann daisy, and coralberry

One cautionary note, be careful when planting under trees. Special care needs to be taken to not harm the roots, especially the surface roots that run well past the drip line of the tree. Dig small holes and buy smaller plants – those plants will get big in a hurry! This will be much less disruptive and stressful to the tree.

With so many shade plant choices, where does one begin? Our own Denton County Master Gardener Association website is a great place to start.

<https://www.dcmga.com/plan-and-prepare/plan/#shade>

There are so many resources here – articles, plant lists, fact sheets on particular plants. It's a bit like Pinterest for gardeners. Be careful...you may lose track of the time as you follow all the links.

Resources

Texas A&M AgriLife Research & Extension, “Shade gardening” (2020)

https://twri.tamu.edu/media/5428/shade-gardening-jan-14-2020_reorg2.pdf

“Shade alternatives” (page 12, Texas Lawn Companion, Spring 2019 Edition)

https://aggieturf.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/24/TLC_Spring2019.pdf

“Tree Shade Can Cause Problems with Lawn Growth” (2020), M Johnson, W. & Galveston County

<https://galveston.agrilife.org/files/2020/04/04-22-20-Tree-Shade-Can-Cause-Problems-with-Lawn-Growth-by-Dr.-William-M.-Johnson.pdf>

University of New Hampshire Extension, Question of the Week

<https://extension.unh.edu/blog/2018/04/we-cant-seem-get-grass-grow-under-oak-tree-our-yard-any-suggestions>



Landscaping to Reduce Fire Risk

DCMGA GARDENING BASICS

create defensible space:
3 zones of protection



Immediate Zone (0-5 feet from your home)

- Most critical area
- Remove all plant debris from gutters, roofs, around walls
- Remove overhanging branches & firewood, use non-flammable mulch (rock, gravel)
- Provide additional sources of water

Intermediate Zone (5-30 feet from your home)

- Clear vegetation under trees
- Prune tree limbs 6-10 feet from the ground
- Mow no higher than 4 inches

Extended Zone (30-100 feet from your home)

- Remove vegetation next to out buildings
- Remove small conifers between trees

choose fire-resistant plants



- Moist, supple leaves
- Water-like sap or resin, or low sap or resin
- Deciduous trees and shrubs
- Fire-resistant plants for North Texas [Firewise Landscaping in Texas](#)

add fire breaks



- Sidewalks, gravel paths, stepping stones
- Decorative rocks, boulders
- Small irregular clusters of plants
- No or few trees in the Immediate Zone; space trees further apart in other zones

Click to learn more:

[Preparing Homes for Wildfire](#)

[Create a Fire-Safe Yard](#)

[Fire Resistant Plants for Home and Landscapes](#)



Drip Watering Systems

BY RUTH TWETO

Plants need 1 – 1-1/2 inches of water per week. If the rain does not come, then supplemental water is needed. This can be put on through a variety of ways. Hand watering would be the most time-consuming and least costly. Bacteria can be spread from heavy rain causing splashing from the soil to the plants. The same is true if water from a hose or watering can cause soil to splash up onto plant leaves.

A drip watering system waters the soil around the drip line and/or underneath the foliage, where the water is most needed. Watering during the early morning hours is best since if the foliage gets wet, there is time for the sun to dry the leaves.

Newly set-out plants need more water to get them established. Daily watering is needed for small seedlings especially if the weather is sunny, very hot, or windy. These young plants should not be allowed to wilt.

For established plants, deep watering is needed rather than small amounts daily. Roots need to grow deep and shallow watering does not allow the roots to go deep. Shallow watering encourages roots to grow close to the ground surface.

A drip watering system using automated timers allows for consistent watering. This system can be a bit costly to set up but ensures that the amounts of water needed for good plant growth can be regulated. If an inch of rain falls within a week, the system should be shut off for one of the weekly waterings or until the soil is dry again. Overwatering can fill in the spaces in the soil, thus squeezing out the places for oxygen and oxygen is just as important as water to plant growth.

Drip irrigation systems are approximately 95% efficient. The 5% loss is from evaporation. Other sprinkler systems have a loss of approximately 25% due to drift and evaporation. Other systems also allow water to land on the leaves thus allowing for possibly more fungal infection. Another fun fact about drip irrigation is that less surface area is watered thus there are fewer chances of weeds germinating.



Photos Courtesy DCMGA Member
Ruth Tweto

**Ruth's drip system
waters the soil at the
base of her plants**

Drip Watering Systems (Cont.)

There are many parts to drip irrigation systems. I will list them here and the references below show how to put them together and how they function.

1. Control valves. These are used with timers that can be set for how many minutes and what time of day to turn on. These timers should be adjusted at least monthly depending on the weather temperature and plant needs.
2. Backflow preventer or anti-siphon devices.
3. Pressure regulators.
4. Filter system. This part of the system is essential and needs to be cleaned periodically.
5. Air- and vacuum-release valves.
6. Mainline, submains, and lateral lines.
7. Emitters.
8. Flush mechanism or port.

Water coming out of the drip system penetrates the soil in an inverted cone shape. The surface may look dry, but underneath the water is being dissipated. For clay soils, it may go 2 1/2 to 4' away. In loam and silty soil, the cone of water is spread out about 1 1/2 to 3'. While in sandy soil the cone-shaped distribution of water is only 1-2' horizontally. The type of soil would determine the amount of emitters to use.

There are several types of automated drip watering systems and researching what would be best for your situation is a must. I am including a few photos of the various drip systems that I have in place. These are turned off when there is ample rain. The ones directed towards young trees are set for one time per week and allow for five gallons of water to be given to each tree. The system set up for the vegetable garden allows water to be dripped on each morning for an hour. This slow drip allows for sufficient water on the quickly growing annuals.



Drip Watering Systems (Cont.)

Each year the garden is prepared and the soil is raised. Then the drip hose is placed on with 6" staples. This year I placed black marks on the opposite side of each drip hole so that when planting, I could align the plants fairly close in line with the drip hole. With plenty of mulch, the ground surface is mostly covered which also helps to deter weeds.

Each row has its own valve to open or close depending on the needs of the plants in that row. Shown here are two examples of dividing the water flow.



“Benefits to gardeners using drip irrigation include money saved from using less water, simplified irrigation management, more control over where water is applied in a garden or landscape, improved plant health and growth, and improved environmental stewardship through better management of a limited resource (water).” WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION FACT SHEET • FS030E

Resources

Purdue University Extension, “How To Water a Garden” (2020)

<https://extension.purdue.edu/news/county/white/2020/07/How-to-Water-a-Garden.html>

Utah State University Extension, Yard and Garden, “Designing a Basic PVC Home Garden Drop Irrigation System” (2012)

<https://extension.usu.edu/yardandgarden/research/designing-a-basic-pvc-home-garden-drip-irrigation-system>

Washington State University Extension, “Drip Irrigation for the Yard and Garden” (A free download pdf)

<https://pubs.extension.wsu.edu/drip-irrigation-for-the-yard-and-garden>



Gardening Grandma Says...

BY BARBARA BROWN

Humans transitioned from hunting and gathering to growing their food about 12,000 years ago. Over the millenniums they found some tricks to increase their harvest. What they learned they passed down to their children. Today, some of us are fortunate to have a grandmother, aunt, or neighbor who continues the tradition of sharing old-fashioned gardening wisdom. Much of that shared knowledge is helpful but sometimes it was just a superstition with a long history. The Gardening Grandma series of articles puts these tips and tricks to the test of modern science by answering the question, “Does it really work?” Or, is it a myth?

“Add Epsom salt when you plant your vegetable garden. You will have bushier plants. It helps seeds germinate and prevents blossom end rot in your tomatoes”

Truth or myth? Let's find out.

Epsom salt is the commercial name for magnesium sulfate, a mineral containing magnesium, sulfur, and oxygen. It is available at most pharmacies. The name comes from the town of Epsom, England, where it was discovered.



Artwork: aberry89 on DeviantArt

Conclusions:

If your garden soil is deficient in magnesium, adding Epsom salts should help a variety of vegetable plants. Seeds do not need extra magnesium as seeds contain the nutrients needed to get plants started. Blossom end rot in tomatoes is caused by a calcium deficiency or insufficient calcium uptake. Epsom salts do not contain calcium and adding it will not prevent the disease.

The rest of the story

A routine soil test will tell you the magnesium content in your garden soil usually on a scale from very low to excessive. The picture below shows the results of a soil test in my North Texas vegetable garden. You can get a soil test done through a private lab or the Soil Testing Service of Texas A&M University. <https://soiltesting.tamu.edu/>

According to *Clemson University Extension*, “Vegetable crops, such as beets, broccoli, cabbage, carrot, cauliflower, collards, eggplant, onions, pepper, pole beans, spinach or greens are very susceptible to magnesium deficiency” If your soil test reveals a low magnesium content score, adding Epsom salt will be beneficial. “However, be aware that too much magnesium in the soil can interfere with the uptake of other nutrients by plants.”

<https://nwdistrict.ifas.ufl.edu/hort/tag/magnesium-sulfate/>

Gardening Grandma Says... (Cont.)

Denton County

Laboratory Number: 649215

Customer Sample ID: Vegetable Garden

Crop Grown: GARDEN

Area Represented: not provided

Analysis	Results	CL*	Units	ExLow	VLow	Low	Mod	High	VHigh	Excess.	
pH	7.6	(6.5)	-		Slightly Alkaline						
Conductivity	84	(-)	umho/cm	None							
Nitrate-N	10	(-)	ppm**	██████							
Phosphorus	158	(50)	ppm	██							0 lbs P2O5/1000sqft
Potassium	110	(175)	ppm	██							1.4 lbs K2O/1000sqft
Calcium	5,769	(180)	ppm	██							0 lbs Ca/1000sqft
Magnesium	315	(50)	ppm	██							0 lbs Mg/1000sqft
Sulfur	48	(13)	ppm	██							0 lbs S/1000sqft
Sodium	196	(-)	ppm	██							
Iron	39.91	(4.25)	ppm	██							
Zinc	11.22	(0.27)	ppm	██							
Manganese	23.05	(1.00)	ppm	██							
Copper	1.58	(0.16)	ppm	██							
Boron											
Limestone Requirement											0.00 lbs/1000sqft

Photo Courtesy DCMGA Member Barbara Brown

Also, check your soil test report values for potassium. Research has shown that “Excessive levels of potassium contribute to a mineral imbalance that causes magnesium deficiency in a variety of species, even when soil levels of magnesium are adequate. High levels of soil potassium apparently interfere with root uptake of magnesium. The addition of nitrogen and/or reduction of available potassium (if possible) are both recommended to overcome this indirect magnesium deficiency. <https://s3.wp.wsu.edu/uploads/sites/403/2015/03/epsom-salts.pdf>

If your soil needs magnesium, you can distribute Epsom salts at the rate of 0.5 lbs. per 100 square feet or 5.0 lbs. per 1,000 square feet. “Magnesium may be applied as a foliar spray. A rate of 2 tablespoons of Epsom salts per gallon of water is generally recommended. Growers need to apply this multiple times to have an impact.” <https://www.aces.edu/blog/topics/crop-production/magnesium-important-to-vegetable-growth/>

The downside of adding magnesium sulfate when it is not needed in the soil is that it can inhibit a plant's uptake of calcium. A calcium deficiency in tomato plants is the cause of blossom end rot and not a magnesium deficiency. Adding unneeded magnesium will exacerbate the problem. (*University of Minnesota Extension*). <https://extension.umn.edu/manage-soil-nutrients/coffee-grounds-eggshells-epsom-salts>

So, if adding magnesium to the soil doesn't eliminate blossom end rot in tomato plants, should you add calcium to the soil instead? NO. Blossom end rot is rarely caused by a lack of calcium in the soil, but rather the inability of the plant to absorb the calcium present in the soil usually caused by moisture stress and uneven watering.

<https://www.extension.iastate.edu/mills/files/documents/1.%20January%20Plantwise%202020-3.pdf>

Gardening Grandma Says... (Cont.)

Here in North Texas, keeping an even soil moisture level presents a challenge as we often have wet springs followed by excessive heat and dry conditions. Your best defense to create a healthy growing environment for your edibles is using raised beds with good drainage. During dry spells add supplemental water through a drip system or soaker hose to keep water off of the plant leaves and reduce opportunistic fungal infections while keeping soil moisture levels optimal for growth.

“Miracle, myth...or marketing:Epsom salts”

<https://s3.wp.wsu.edu/uploads/sites/403/2015/03/epsom-salts.pdf>

Want another great use for Epsom salts? Make a butterfly puddler

The *Kentucky Plant and Wildlife* recommends, “Creating an artificial puddling area. In a dish or other container mix coarse sand (not play sand), a tablespoon of Epsom salt and table salt, and a couple of tablespoons of composted manure. Mix well to an even constituency (the major ingredient is the sand) and keep wet. The key to attracting butterflies this way is to ensure the mixture is kept wet and is located in the full sun.”

<https://kentuckynativeplantandwildlife.blogspot.com/2012/08/creating-butterfly-buffet-with->

[manure.html#:~:text=Creating%20an%20artificial%20puddling%20area,or%20distilled%20water%20works%20best](https://kentuckynativeplantandwildlife.blogspot.com/2012/08/creating-butterfly-buffet-with-)



What to Plant in June

- Bermuda, zoysia, and St. Augustine grasses can all be planted as sod
- Start indoor seeds for your fall garden
- Don’t overwater natives, as they don’t appreciate it
- Trim back any unsightly limbs or branches of perennials
- Remove spent blooms to encourage additional blooms
- Cut back blackberry canes that have bloomed and fruited

For more monthly tips:

<https://www.dcmga.com/maintain-and-solve-problems/maintain/monthly-gardening-tips/>

2024 Fruit, Vegetable, Herb, and Flower Show

BY BECKY CAMERON

Don't miss the FREE upcoming Fruit, Vegetable, Herb, and Flower Show on June 15, 2024. inside the air-conditioned North Texas Fairgrounds.

It's your opportunity as a Denton County resident to showcase what your special growing talent is regardless if you are a Youth, an Adult, or an Adult Master Gardener.

Come compete for Ribbons in all categories with your prized Exhibit.

Free Registration via the QR code link on the flyer to the right.
Or visit

<https://www.dcmga.com/connect/fruit-vegetable-herb-flower-show/>

Learn from our experienced Keynote Speaker.

Visit our Educational booths. All booths will feature demonstrations from Denton County Master Gardeners.

SAVE THE DATE
June 15, 2024 9 am - 1 pm

DENTON COUNTY MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION

FRUIT, VEGETABLE, HERB & FLOWER SHOW

North Texas Fair Grounds
2217 North Carroll Blvd.
Denton, Texas 76201

Keynote Speaker: Steven Chamblee
former Executive Director Longview Arboretum and Nature Center

• FREE Event
• Entries open to all Denton County residents
• Show off your successful harvest
◦ Vegetable, Fruit, Herb and Flower Categories
◦ Up to 10 entries per person
• Divisions for;
◦ Adults (19 years and older)
◦ Master Gardeners
◦ Youth (18 and under)
• See dcmga.com for details or register using QR Code

TEXAS
MASTER GARDENER
TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE EXTENSION
Denton County

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The Texas A&M University system, U.S. Department of Agriculture and the County Commissioners Courts Cooperating.
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contact the County Extension Office at least one week prior to the program or event to request mobility, hearing, visual or other assistance.



2024 Plant Sale Recap

BY RUSS ALLEN & MELISSA MIGIS

WOW! What a Successful 2024 Plant Sale!!!

Robert Burns wrote “*The best laid schemes (Plans) of mice and men often go awry.*” Obviously, Robert hadn’t met Pat and Don Edwards, our DCMGA Plant Sale Leaders. The planning and work for the 2024 Plant Sale was well underway in late 2023. Tasks such as securing the venue date and location as well as table rentals were just the beginning. In early 2024, DCMGA members began the process of setting up plant “digs” for the pass-a-long plants and plant care. Closely followed by the nursery vendors, promotions, and publicity work.

Plant digs started with dozens of DCMGA volunteers going to numerous members’ home gardens, digging in the soil, and transplanting and babysitting what ended up being 4100+ plants. Yes, I said 4100+ plants. THAT’S A LOT OF DONATED PLANTS! Then another team began searching commercial nurseries for other desirable plants and trees that all Master Gardeners and the public CRAVE. This year we purchased approximately 4,000 nursery plants. Ah, then there was the wonderful rose team who offered an amazing selection of gorgeous roses. I think the number of pre-orders blew even the rose team away. Next, the succulent team ramped up this year’s selection with 600+ plants in a fun selection of pots containing a wide array of succulents which the team raised, only purchasing 1 flat. On the day of the sale, the Make-an-Offer team set up a table that everyone wanted to visit. They strategically selected the plants that needed a little TLC or that couldn’t be identified. These plants were available to all for a minimal offer. What a treat for all gardeners.

Then PLANT SALE WEEK arrived. On Thursday, a group of dedicated volunteers met at the storage room to pick up supplies, literature, canopies, signs, pricing knives, cashier and safety equipment, etc. These supplies were loaded into volunteer vehicles and taken home to start the 7:00 a.m. set up on Friday. On Friday morning, as the sun was rising, the Master Gardener flock showed up to get the venue ready. This year’s setup day included 164+ worker bees setting up all the above-listed supplies just like clockwork with the help of our hospitality crew who helped keep us hydrated and fed (we couldn’t do it without this team’s work and all those who generously provided the food, drinks and paper products). It was simply amazing to see that almost everything was set up before 1:00 p.m.



2024 Plant Sale Recap (Cont.)

Saturday started off with the news that Don had fallen and neither Pat nor Don would be able to attend the plant sale. Ok, Robert Burns, we put your “Mice & Men” theory to the test. All we had to do was follow the Pat and Don PLAN. This village was up to the challenge, rain or shine.

Saturday morning another 140+ of our village of Master Gardeners showed up for the main event, the 2024 PLANT SALE. By 8:50 a.m. there were 165 customers waiting, with customers still crossing the street to line up. The weather was cool, and our volunteers were lined up clapping enthusiastically. We gave our lucky first customer a free plant and at 9:00 a.m. the ribbon was cut and customers of every age eagerly entered, looking for plants to purchase and to make their gardens beautiful. We experienced a little drizzly rain, but this did not deter us or our customers. Our Master Gardeners continued to help our customers with plant selection and information throughout the day. Indeed, a great day was had by all. By 2:00 p.m. most plants had been purchased and calculations of the day were being tallied. WOW! What a sale. We tallied our largest gross amount to date!

The money raised from this once-a-year Plant Sale funds DCMGA’s community outreach and educational programs for an entire year. Thank you to all the customers and all our DCMGA teams. Those who worked months, days, and weeks behind the scenes and on the front lines. And thank you to our gracious hosts at Trinity United Methodist Church.

On behalf of Pat & Don Edwards, Plant Sale Leaders,
Russ Allen & Melissa Migis, Plant Sale Coordinators



2023 Cumulative Service Awards

In April, we celebrated the dedication of 120 members at our Monthly Meeting, honoring their cumulative service hours ranging from 100 to an impressive 5,000. From the Class of 2023 to seasoned veterans, each volunteer enriches our community, showcasing that they are truly the heartbeat of DCMGA during National Volunteer Appreciation Month.



Butterfly, 100 + Intern hours (2023)

Denise Babb	Daniel Conrad	Mary Loskorn	Robert Snyder
Janice Beck	Susan Cox	Kristin Lyon	Molly Stingley
Johanna Belwood	Vanessa Fitzgerald	Lisa Marlow	Pam Wells
Lisa Burt	Jeff Hardgrave	Brenda Martin	Ellen Westmoreland
Becky Cameron	Donna Hull	David Mason	Jill Wetmore-Brown
Martha Cantrell	Gina Kemna	Tiffany Mason	Dominique Wilson
Mario Casanova	Paige Kendrick	Alison McMahon	Janice Yoder Smith
Becky Collins	Leslie Koberna	Kathy Preston	



Trowel, 500-999 hours

Russ Allen	Claudia Duckworth	Jeff Hardgrave	Melissa Migis	Sherri Ursini
Carol Arment	Mary Harned	Lisa Lebsack	Bill Moen	
Kelli Bixler	Edsel Harrell	Pam Long	Chryl Prestemon	

2023 Cumulative Service Awards (Cont.)



Spade, 1000 - 1499 hours

Judy Allen
Lori Barr
Becky Cortines

Sheila Daniel
Linda Hay
David Huffman

Mike James
Bill Moen

Joan Stanley
Carolyn Stoy



Bouquet, 1500 - 1999 hours

Daniel Arenas
Mary Cissell
Don Edwards

Cheryl Huckabee
Liz Moyer
Kathy Rainey

Carol Rowley
Pam Spooner
Joanne Spurgin

Steve Spurgin
Joan Stanley



2023 Cumulative Service Awards (Cont.)



Watering Can, 2000 - 2499 hours

Marion Arndt

Beverly Duncan

Pat Edwards

Janet Gershenfeld

Ann Hillman

Cheryl Huckabee

Lela Khan

Liz Moyer

Joan Stanley



Cactus, 2500 - 2999 hours

Janet Gershenfeld

Lynda Harvey

Liz Moyer

Raeline Nobles

Beth Sharum



Daisy, 3000 - 3499 hours

Janet Gershenfeld

Jolayne LaCour

Debbie Smith

Kim Wootton



2023 Cumulative Service Awards (Cont.)



Sunflower, 3500 - 3999 hours

Janet Gershenfeld
Dale Powell
Debbie Smith



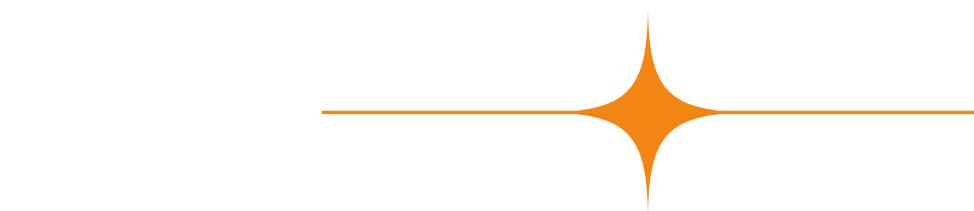
Ladybug, 4000 - 4999 hours

Janet Gershenfeld
Tammie Gurley
Pat Moyer
Kathryn Wells



Dragonfly, 5000 hours

Susan Cosio



2023 Cumulative Service Awards (Cont.)



Butterfly, 100 + intern hours (2001-2015)

Gloria Alexander-2015	Sherrie Ely-2014	Dale Powell-2011
Jerry Alexander-2015	Janet Gershenfeld-2002	Barbara Prins-2014
Jack Alldredge-2015	Janice Goetz-2014	Tricia Rowen-2015
Diane Almand-2009	Tammie Gurley-2014	Sandy Stickane-2013
Carol Brantley-2011	Sue Hudiburgh-2008	Karen Stubbs-2012
Charlotte Canion-2013	JoLayne LaCour-2014	JoAnn Szopinski-2015
Mary Cissell-2015	Shirley Manfredi-2008	Carolyn Tinner-2002
Sharon Coleman-2011	Mary Morrow-2001	John Williams-2014
Susie Cook-2003	Pat Moyer-2013	Katherine Woodward-2013
Susan Cosio-2010	Dee Payne-2009	Joyce Yarnall-Smith-2015
Ellen Diers-2014	Pat Peters-2015	
Tracy Durmick-2001	David Petty-2015	

*Truly Grateful for
Your Service!*



From The Archives - June & July 2005

BY JERRY AND GLORIA ALEXANDER

As we prepare to celebrate the 35th Anniversary of DCMGA, we thought it only fitting to bring you some highlights from *The Roto-Teller*, DCMGA's first newsletter. For members, *The Roto-Teller* is archived on the Member section of the DCMGA website under Member Resources. Take some time this year and go see what YOUR organization was doing way back when!

June & July 2005, Volume 10, Issue 6 & &
Solarization - No Sunscreen Needed

In this edition of the *Rototeller*, there is a great article on Solarization written by Celia in Plano. In a nutshell, it states how to eradicate weeds and unwanted vegetation without using chemicals and physical labor. This writer discovered this method while working at the Upper Trinity Water Treatment Project. They laid heavy black plastic on top of the area where there were unwanted weeds and vegetation. Cinderblocks were used to secure the plastic in place for about six months. Afterwards, the plastic was removed and the ground was almost bare. There were very few weeds to be removed. Celia tried this method in her own yard and went away for the summer. She could hardly wait to return and remove the plastic. When she finally removed the plastic, all the weeds and unwanted vegetation were gone, vanished. She called it a "miracle."

There is another interesting article written by Donna Wolfe, MG, about the use of systemic insecticides. While these insecticides may be beneficial in eliminating insects and aphids, etc., certain types may be harmful to your pets. The ingesting of these types of insecticides by your pets may cause neurological problems and possibly, death.

Updates

- Reminder to record service hours
- Volunteer hours were valued at \$17.55 per hour by the Texas Master Gardner Association
- There were several volunteer opportunities; Bayless Selby House (BSH), Children's Garden, Fruit, Veggie, Herb and Flower Show, and Speaker's Bureau, to name a few.

June General Meeting

The June General Meeting was held on June 8, 2005, at Trinity Turf, a Wholesale Sod Grower in Pilot Point, Texas. The DCMGA Scholarship Committee was scheduled to meet on June 10, 2005, at the Extension Office. This committee is responsible for promoting the Scholarship Award as well as selecting a recipient.

July General Meeting

The July General Meeting was held at 7:00 P.M. at the Extension Office. The topic of discussion was "Building Backyard Habitats."





Help Desk Team Contact Information
940-349-2892
master.gardener@dentoncounty.com

BY HELP DESK TEAM

Q: I'm interested in starting a butterfly garden. I think it would be lovely to watch them fluttering around as I enjoy my morning coffee. Do you have any advice?

A: Butterfly gardens can not only attract but can sustain butterflies, allowing them to complete their life cycle while also pollinating native Texas plants.

There are two types of plants required by butterflies:

- Host Plants – where females lay eggs & larvae feed, and
- Nectar Plants – flowers that provide a vital food supply for adult butterflies.

Female butterflies can travel miles in search of host plants, preferred by their species, on which to lay their eggs. These plants become part of the food web, as the caterpillars hatched from these eggs will feed on the plant, often denuding it, until they are ready to form a chrysalis.

Adult butterflies are near-sighted and can see groupings of flowers more easily than individual plants. Different species prefer to feed on specific nectar plants, largely

dependent on their different proboscis lengths. A nearby border of dense shrubs can provide protection from predators as well as present an option for caterpillar metamorphosis.

To provide your butterflies with a "water" source use a shallow dish with a few flat stones, replicate a mud puddle or wet sandy area, or even offer a dish of over-ripened fruit.

Check out the following resources to plan which host and nectar plants you will need in your yard to attract specific butterfly species that are common to our area.

<https://txmn.org/elmfork/enticing-north-texas-butterflies/#:~:text=All%20plants%20produce%20nectar%20but,%2Fsalvia%2C%20alyssum%20and%20yarrow>

<https://savetarrantwater.com/butterflies-of-north-texas/>

<https://www.heardmuseum.org/native-texas-butterfly-house-garden/>

<http://www.dallasbutterflies.com/>





*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.*



***Resources & Education Opportunities
for Master Gardeners and the Community we serve
can be found on the Calendar at
Upcoming Events.***

For non-DCMGA events, Continuing Education Opportunities.

DCMGA Members & Interns

***Plan Your Week (PYW) has the most current VS/CE Opportunities
and is sent via VMS every Friday.***



Denton County Master Gardener Association

JUNE
1
1
3
6
12
14
15
25
27

Upcoming Events


Permanent Gardening Class

To achieve a Permanent Garden, you need to understand the elements around it and how they are connected and learn from nature by observing, engaging, and activating your "Garden Brain." Be the best gardener you can be.

Global Spheres Center 8-5

Vegetable Gardening

Nothing beats home-grown vegetables for taste and texture! Grow your own right in your yard. Mario Casanova, Denton County Master Gardener, will present his many tips for success learned over years of successful vegetable growing in this area.

Carrollton Public Library-10:30-11:30AM 1700 Keller Springs Rd. Carrollton

Community Strong Farm Work Days

Growing Vegetables for Linda Tutt High School Student Run Grocery & First Refuge Food Bank. All tasks from soil prep to harvesting as the season dictates. We will have a short education on the tasks of the day. Meet every Monday morning in June.

9AM-11AM 1350 Milam Road E., Sanger

Flower Mound First Baptist Community Garden

Learn and grow veggies to help the community. Wear comfortable shoes, hat, and sunscreen. Bring water. Meet Thursdays in June

9AM-11AM 1901 Timber Creek, Flower Mound

Monthly Meeting and Program

Unlock the secrets to thriving succulents! Join us for an enlightening session with Dallas County Master Gardener Gina Woods as she unveils the key to success with cacti and other succulents. Discover vital growing conditions for vibrant succulent gardens. Cultivate your green thumb! The one-hour program is followed by our general meeting.

10AM-12PM Global Spheres Center, Corinth

Soil 101-Building Better Soil

Gardening in our area is tough, in part because most of our topsoil has been lost. We have to repair the damage and build a good foundation. Good soil makes all the difference! Denton County Master Gardener Carol Rowley will walk you through steps to building better soil.

9AM-10AM. Denton Senior Center, 509 N. Bell Avenue, Denton

Fruit Vegetable, Herb and Flower Show

This is a county fair atmosphere where people of all ages from all over the county and surrounding areas can bring their home grown fruits, vegetables, herbs and flowers to compete for ribbons. Check our website for all information

<https://www.dcmga.com/connect/fruit-vegetable-herb-flower-show/>

9AM-1PM. North Texas Fairgrounds, Denton

Pest Management

Denton County Master Gardener Lynda Harvey and AgriLife Agent Dusty Fife will review the many diseases and pests that may impact your landscape and the best ways to deal with them. Sponsored by Texas AgriLife

6PM-8:30PM. Emily Fowler Central Library, Denton

Establishing Pollinator Habitat with Local Government

Tyler Leverenz, Town of Flower Mound, Environmental Programs Coordinator describes the process of working with local government to create opportunities to demonstrate and educate the public on the importance of conserving native habitats.

6:30PM-8:30PM. Ann Stuart Science Complex, TWU, Denton

Free, but registration for Zoom is required. Register at

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYodeCtzoiE9LnBQR0XcOYymsF2Li5-B4G>. Your confirmation email will contain the meeting link.

Check our calendar for updated events

<https://www.dcmga.com/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.



SAVE THE DATE
June 15, 2024 9 am - 1 pm

DENTON COUNTY MASTER GARDENER
ASSOCIATION

**FRUIT, VEGETABLE,
HERB & FLOWER
SHOW**

North Texas Fair Grounds
2217 North Carroll Blvd.
Denton, Texas 76201

Public Welcome!
WE WANT YOU to Enter!
Enter your prize Fruit,
Vegetable, Herb or Flower

**Keynote Speaker: Steven Chamblee
former Executive Director Longview
Arboretum and Nature Center**



- **FREE Event**
- **Entries open to all Denton County residents**
- **Show off your successful harvest**
 - **Vegetable, Fruit, Herb and Flower Categories**
 - **Up to 10 entries per person**
- **Divisions for;**
 - **Adults (19 years and older)**
 - **Master Gardeners**
 - **Youth (18 and under)**
- **See dcmga.com for details or register using QR Code**



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Landscape Design Class Registration Opens May 15, 2024!



Learn sustainable design & installation techniques for creating or renewing your home landscape!

**Thursday & Friday, July 18 & 19, 6pm to 9pm, & Saturday, July 20 9am to 4pm
Precinct 3 Government Center, 400 N. Valley Parkway, Lewisville, TX 75067**

*Limited class size • Individual or Companion registrations available • Reserve your spot now!
Classes build on each other. Register once for all 3 classes.*



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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.

2024 Board of Directors

President	Cheryl Huckabee
Vice-President	Kelli Bixler
Secretary	Lori Barr
Treasurer	Dale Powell
Communications	Judy Allen
Education	Ellen Gauntt
Outreach	Bonnie Ambrose
Member-at-Large	Raeline Nobles
Past President	Kathryn Wells

Social Media

Facebook:

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

Instagram:

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

X (formerly Twitter):

<https://twitter.com/DentonCountyMGA>

Pinterest:

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

YouTube:

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

Save the Date

June 12 DCMGA Monthly Meeting & Program, "Succulent Success," Dallas County MGA Gina Woods

June 15 DCMGA Fruit, Vegetable, Herb and Flower Show

August 14 DCMGA 35th Anniversary Celebration (Members Only)

Contact Information

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Communications:
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Website:
<https://dcmga.com>

Content
The Submission deadline for the July edition of *The Root* is Saturday, 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 Judy Allen at jupiterjudyjudy@gmail.com.

Unless otherwise attributed, all photos are courtesy of Denton County MGA.