

Denton County Master Gardener Association



THE ROOT

Grow With Us 



Untitled tomato basket from ReadySteadyPix from pixabay. Courtesy of



STILL GROWING



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<https://dcmga.com>

Buds From The Board

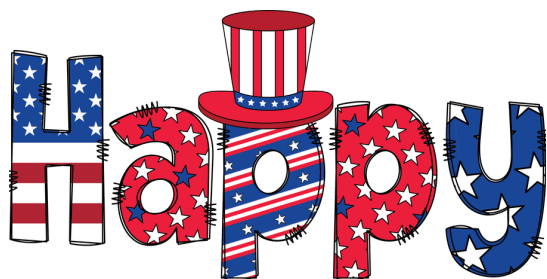
BY DONNA HULL, DCMGA DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS



Hello readers! Welcome to the July issue of *The Root* - the 100th issue of our e-magazine! It's been a very wet early summer this year. The abundance in my vegetable garden is high, matched only by the abundance of insects and fungi waiting to make a meal of it! While the heat and drought of summer are definitely on their way, we are looking at the development of another "El Niño" event in the oceans and atmosphere. I'm always fascinated by how this impacts our weather here in North Texas. If you're interested, follow along at NOAA's Climate Prediction Center (<https://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/>).

The Denton County Master Gardener Association has a couple of events this month for the public, and we would love for you to join us. Our monthly meetings are open to the public. This month's meeting is on July 8th at the Global Spheres Center (Solomon's Porch) in Corinth. Our speaker is Braeden Duffee, Nature Preserve Manager from The Heard Natural Science Museum and Wildlife Sanctuary. She will be telling us about the Heard Prairie Restoration Project: what's going on now and their plans for the future. Our speaker will present from 10:30 am to 11:30 am, after our business meeting from 9:30 am - 10:30 am. If you are interested in learning more about water conservation in North Texas, our Greener Horizons Speaker Series has its next event on Saturday, July 11, from 9 am to 12 pm. Blake Allredge of the Upper Trinity Water District will present "Water Under Pressure: Conservation in a Rapidly Growing North Texas". He is followed by Dean Minchillo, Texas Water Resources Institute, "Water-Friendly - the Texas Way: Best Practices for North Texas Landscapes." There will be a rain barrel demonstration by one of our own DCMGA members at 9:00 am. There will also be a rain barrel door prize - so don't miss this opportunity!

Keep working the gardens, even if it's just for a short time in the early mornings. Avoid the afternoon heat, stay hydrated, and remember, the heat is only for a season! A long one, yes, but even summer has its beauty. And happy 250th birthday to our nation! We hope you enjoy this month's issue of *The Root*.



Denton County Master Gardeners Present
Greener Horizons
MASTER CLASS SERIES

WATER CONSERVATION IN NORTH TEXAS

Water Under Pressure: Conservation in a Rapidly Growing North Texas

by Blake Alldredge, Upper Trinity Regional Water District

9:30 AM- 10:30 AM

North Texas is growing rapidly – but drinking water supplies are not. Irrigation of outdoor landscapes accounts for up to 70% of water used during the summer months, which can greatly strain water supplies and treatment equipment. Water conservation may only seem like just a good idea, but it is critical for allowing our communities to continue to have safe, reliable drinking water with growth and frequent droughts occurring. Blake Alldredge will discuss how water is treated from the source and delivered to each tap and how water conservation plays a crucial role in protecting our communities.



Water-Friendly – the Texas Way: Best Practices for North Texas Landscapes

by Dean Minchillo, Texas Water Resources Institute

10:45 AM – 11:45 PM

Drought tolerance, rooting depth, and seasonal growth significantly affect your turf's health and how much water it needs. We'll break down sprinkler precipitation rates in plain terms—what they are, why they matter, and how you can measure them yourself using simple methods like catch-can tests or meter readings. We'll discuss practical irrigation scheduling tips you can use right away, including cycle-and-soak techniques, understanding your soil's infiltration rate, and setting up system programs that save water without sacrificing results.

INCLUDES
RAIN BARREL
DEMONSTRATION
AT 9:00 AM &
DOORPRIZE!

JULY 11, 2026
9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

THE GREATER DENTON ARTS COUNCIL BUILDING
400 E. HICKORY STREET DENTON, TEXAS 76201

Tomato Summer Slowdown Resolution: Plant Fall Tomatoes

BY MELANIE HOUSTON

It's that time of year when daytime temperatures hit 90°F and nighttime temperatures reach 75°F+ degrees. When these days are upon us, tomato plants silently show their stress, as fruit sits in a state of green suspension, and the flowers turn brown and fall off. At this time, the plants generally look ragged due to weather and pest pressure. The tomatoes have taken a toll, and the dreaded tomato summer slowdown ensues.

Save Existing Plants

But not all hope is lost! There is an opportunity to start anew. If you need those old plants to stick around for summer and start producing again in fall, help them out by pruning leaves below the lowest set of tomato clusters or set of flowers on each main stem for each plant, as well as any dead leaves. Be sure all tools are clean before pruning.

Provide shade from the west sun if possible. A chair, old sheer curtains, an old umbrella, sheets, or shade cloth do the trick. If tomato plants are in a pot, move them next to a taller plant, trellis, fence, post, or wall that will shield them from the western sun. If a clay pot is sitting on concrete and near a stone or brick wall, radiant heat from the wall may warm the plant and the soil, making it need more water than usual. Sometimes it's difficult to know if a plant needs water. Placing a finger inside the soil 2 inches down can help. If the soil is dry, it warrants a drink. If you prefer not to get your hands dirty, purchase a moisture meter at any local nursery or online. They are inexpensive and easy to use.

Once old plants have acquired a bit of shade, give them a few handfuls of compost, worm castings, and top off with mulch. Good mulch options include chopped garden straw or wood chips. Finally, give it a boost of organic vegetable liquid fertilizer, following the directions on the bottle.



Fall plantings offer a variety of flavors and colors.



Photos are courtesy of DCMGA Member Melanie Houston



Planting Fall Tomatoes (cont.)



Fall tomatoes are great fresh from the vine or try them in homemade salsa.



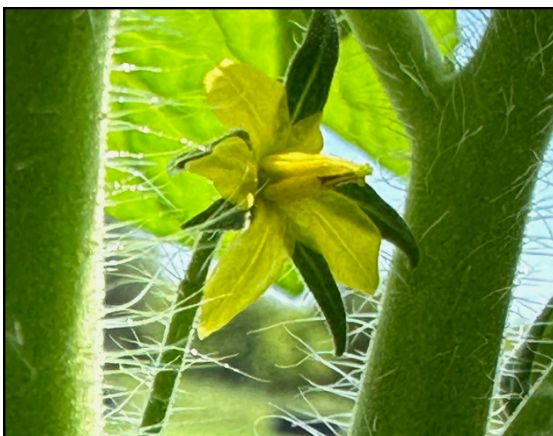
Photos courtesy of DCMGA Member Melanie Houston

Out With the Old and In With the New

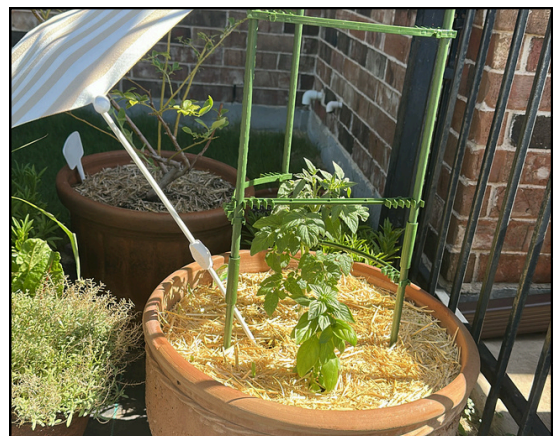
If saving existing plants is not an option, or if you are just plain tired of looking at them, pull old plants out and refresh the soil with worm castings, organic granular fertilizer, fresh soil, and compost. If using a pot, a good potting soil will do. Be sure the pot has drainage holes. If planting in a raised bed, mix raised bed soil, compost, and perlite. Sifting the raised bed recipe through half-inch framed hardware cloth makes it even better. If planting in the ground, use fresh compost.

No matter the container type, provide at least 5 gallons of soil. However, a preferred 10 to 15 gallons of soil per tomato plant is recommended. Dwarf varieties such as indeterminate Husky Cherry can grow in 5-7 gallons of well-draining soil if kept to 2 main stems. Micro-dwarf varieties such as Tiny Tim can be kept in a 12'' pot.

For fall tomatoes, provide a southeast-facing location that is shaded from western afternoon sun. Proper nutrition, water, and their preferred 8 to 10 hours of sunlight will fulfill their needs. When watering, keep the soil moist, much like a wrung-out sponge. Letting soil get too wet or too dry can cause nutrient uptake issues, leaving tomatoes susceptible to blossom end rot and increased pest pressure. Plant tomatoes the week of July 4th for a fall harvest.



Growing fall tomatoes can be very rewarding! left: a flower begins to dry and fall off. right: even 'full sun' tomatoes need a little west shade.



All photos this page courtesy of DCMGA member Melanie Houston



Planting Fall Tomatoes (cont.)

What to Look for in a New Tomato Plant

Support your local nursery and look for healthy green robust tomato transplants 6 to 8 inches tall without flowers and about the size of a pencil. If all the plants have flowers, pick a strong one and, before planting in the soil, snip off the flowers. This sends a message to plants to grow and allows a better opportunity for success when transplanting. Choose tomatoes that grow well in [Denton County](#) (Click the link and scroll down to page 4).

Friends, Pests, and Companions

Fall in Denton County has its own suite of pests. These include leaf-footed bugs, spider mites, and caterpillars such as the tomato hornworm, tomato fruit worm, tomato pinworm, and beet armyworm. Turn lights off at night in or near the garden to help reduce moths from choosing your garden to build a home for their young. This in turn helps keep some caterpillars from snacking on leaves and fruit.

One way to deter pests is to plant tomatoes with basil, sweet alyssum, French marigolds, and borage, all of which help mask the tomato scent. Companion planting may also attract friends of the garden, which will keep pests at bay. Sweet alyssum attracts several types of parasitic wasps that target pests, keeping the micro ecosystem in check.

Fertilizing with organic liquid fertilizer during the growing season, in addition to following these guidelines, will provide the right conditions for fall tomatoes to grow successfully until the first frost. For Denton County, the first frost is expected to be the second to third week of November 2026, with the northern part of the county often freezing before the southern part.

May your garden be filled with tomatoes this coming fall!

For questions regarding fall tomatoes, contact Denton County Master Gardener Association (DCMGA) help desk: [Garden Help Desk](#), email master.gardener@dentoncounty.gov, or call (940) 349-2892.



Photo courtesy of DCMGA member Melanie Houston

Army worms are a common problem for tomato growers in North Texas.



Planting Fall Tomatoes (cont.)

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Plant of the Month Crinums and Spider Lily

BY SHARRIE ELY

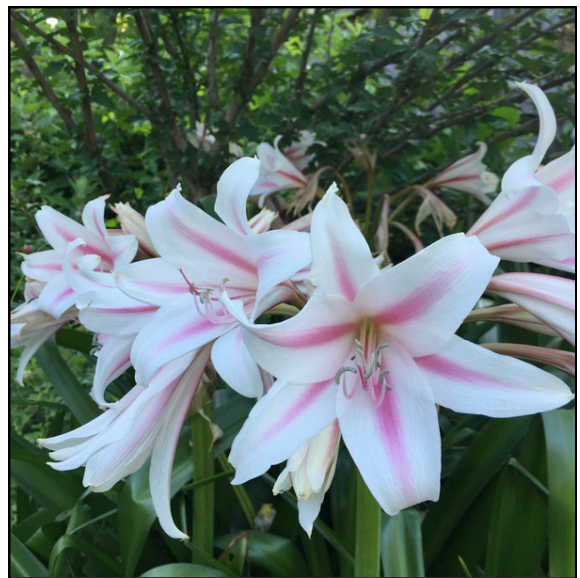
Crinums

Crinums are diamonds that shine in the summer garden. Their glossy green foliage frames large stalks that carry umbels of glorious color and fragrant blooms at the top. The late Dr. William Welch, Texas A&M horticulturist, reported in his publications that 'you can't kill a crinum'. As proof of that statement, two different plants survived in Peggy Martin's Louisiana garden after Hurricane Katrina, both covered by twenty feet of salt water for two weeks. Many people have heard about the "Peggy Martin" rose; the other plant to survive was a crinum.

Crinums are sometimes called "Crinum Lilies," but they are actually in the amaryllis family. Most crinums originated in the tropics and South Africa. In the past, the only way to obtain a crinum bulb was by knowing a friendly gardener who would share a large bulb of this hardy plant. Today, you can find them online and, on occasion, at a Master Gardener or garden club plant sale (for example, the DCMGA spring plant sale and the annual Smith County Master Gardener Bulb sale in October!).

Once planted, whether in sandy or clay soil, crinums will become established and multiply. The foliage can grow from two to four feet tall, with the bloom stem stretching beyond the foliage. Crinums prefer moist soil but can survive in drier conditions. Once established, they may take a year to begin blooming. Many varieties are fragrant, some with a stronger scent than others. They can resent being disturbed, so don't move it unless necessary. Digging out the bulbs can be a project – several sharpshooter shovels have met their end after being engaged in crinum excavation.

Several varieties of pink, white, and striped crinums do well in the South, including 'Milk and Wine' with burgundy striped white flowers, 'Ellen Bosanquet' with solid deep pink flowers, 'Pink Trumpet' with light pink flowers, and 'Mrs. James Hendry' with white flowers edged in light pink.



Photos courtesy of DCMGA member Sharrrie Ely.

Crinum (above) and Spider lily (below) are both show stoppers in the garden!



Plant of the Month: Crinum, Spider Lily (cont.)

Spider Lily - *Hymenocallis occidentalis*

Another summer-blooming bulb for your Texas garden is *Hymenocallis occidentalis*, which is commonly known as a spider lily. There are several varieties of this bulb native to the southeastern and coastal parts of the United States. Often, the variety 'Tropical Giant' is sold commercially as it grows larger and more vigorously than others. Be aware that the American Spider Lily (also commonly called the swamp lily) is actually in the genus *Crinum* - *Crinum americanum*. And just to make it more interesting, the commonly known Red Spider Lily is classified under the genus *Lycoris*! Common names can sure get you into trouble, scientifically speaking!!!

The leaf base of a spider lily, *Hymenocallis*, features a group of long, pointed, glossy green leaves. Unlike members of the *Crinum* genus, the leaves of *Hymenocallis* point upwards and do not trail on the ground. Its bloom looks like a spidery daffodil with extra-long perianth sections. It is fragrant, especially prevalent in the evening. It may take two to three years to establish before it will bloom freely after planting. *H. occidentalis* is native to the southeastern United States and prefers wet areas but can grow in drier conditions. Try a *Crinum* or *Hymenocallis* bulb for a fragrant focal point in your garden!

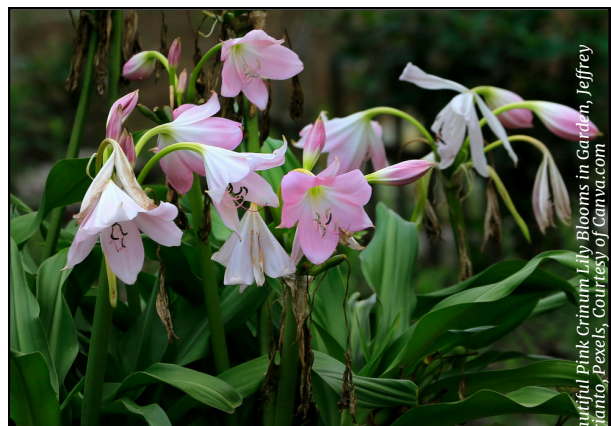
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Crinums thrill in the garden - whether white, pink, or even deep red.



In The Veggie Patch

Eggplant: From Garden to Grill

BY KELLI BIXLER

Introduction and Benefits

Eggplants originated in South and East Asia, specifically the regions covering modern-day India, Myanmar, and China, as far back as 59 BCE. Aubergines (as they are known in Europe) are members of the nightshade family (*Solanum melongena*), which includes tomatoes, peppers, and potatoes. They can be purple, green, or white and can be wide, thin, round, or long.

Eating eggplants has been linked to a lower risk of heart disease. They contain potassium and fiber, which help regulate blood pressure and promote healthy cholesterol levels. They are low in calories (20 per cup), and the high fiber content keeps you feeling full longer, making them a great, guilt-free, low-carb substitute for higher-calorie ingredients in recipes.

Plant requirements

Soil: Plant eggplants in loamy soil that drains well and has been amended with compost.

Light: Eggplants require at least 8 hours of sun each day.

Temperature: Although many eggplant varieties can live and produce during the heat of a Texas summer, they grow and set fruit best in mild temperatures around 85 degrees.

Planting

Plant eggplants from transplants in spring after all chance of frost has passed. They cannot tolerate frost or freeze. Space eggplants 24 inches apart and water thoroughly with a water-soluble fertilizer. Transplants can be planted again in July for a fall harvest.

Maintenance & Care

Fertilize with a high nitrogen fertilizer (21-0-0, for example). Repeat every three weeks to keep the plants vigorous. If eggplants are damaged from flea beetles, leaf miners, or spider mites, use neem oil, insecticidal soap, or a synthetic insecticide labeled for use on vegetables for pest control. Cut off misshapen fruit when you first notice any damage from pests.



An eggplant growing on a plant in the garden, Pixabay via [Pixabay.com](https://www.pixabay.com), PDM 1.0

Ripe eggplant on the vine



Eggplant (cont.)

Varieties for North Texas

Recommended varieties for North Texas include Black Beauty, Ichiban, Long Green, Midnight, Imperial, and Tycoon.

Containers

Many varieties of eggplants can be grown in containers and pots. Varieties such as Little Prince, Patio Baby, and Fairy Tale are easy to grow on patios.



There are hundreds of varieties of eggplant, in many colors.

Harvesting & Storage

You can harvest eggplants at any size, but mature fruit will be ready to harvest 70-90 days from transplanting. Harvest when you press on the fruit with your thumb and it springs back. You can store eggplants for seven days in the refrigerator.

Recipe

Grilled Eggplant

Course: Side Dish

Serves: 6

Ingredients :

- 2 medium-sized eggplants
- 2 Tbsp olive oil
- 1/2 tsp dried or fresh oregano



Sliced eggplant before grilling

Instructions: Heat grill. Cut eggplant vertically into 1/4-inch slices. Brush both sides with olive oil. Grill 3 to 4 min. on each side or until grill marks are present. Transfer to serving plate and sprinkle with dried or fresh oregano.



Eggplant (cont.)

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Creature Corner: Introducing Nematodes

BY JANICE YODER SMITH

Nematodes are unsegmented roundworms. The hundreds of thousands of nematode species include 8- to 12-inch-long worms as well as microscopic roundworms measuring less than 0.04 inch. They are the most numerous animals on Earth.

In North Central Texas, soil nematode life cycles last 25-30 days once soil temperature reaches 64°F. Adult females lay eggs on roots or in the soil. First-stage juveniles emerge from their eggs and feed on the plant. Second-stage juveniles seek new root tips. Once inside, they undergo two more molts before adulthood. New eggs may be produced about 20 days after a nematode enters a root. Reproduction occurs most rapidly when soil temperatures range from 81°F to 86°F, allowing four to seven generations per year.

Nematodes that infect plants and live inside their hosts (phytopathogenic, endoparasitic) damage garden plants by stunting growth, increasing the rate of wilting, and causing chlorosis. Early symptoms are often mistaken for drought stress or nutrient deficiencies. Endoparasitic nematodes (*Meloidogyne* spp.) invade root cells and block the transport of nutrients, water, and oxygen within beans, cucurbits, and brassicas. The abnormal growth of infested plant cells produces easily observable root nodules on affected plants pulled from the ground. Other endoparasitic nematodes introduce viruses into plant cells or cause other forms of damage, making plants more susceptible to fungal or bacterial diseases. Some harmful nematodes (e.g., *Belonolaimus* spp.) are ectoparasites that damage roots externally and inhibit root growth.

Some parasitic nematodes can infect humans. Hookworms (*Ancylostoma duodenale* and *Necator americanus*) can enter through the skin, while whipworms (*Trichuris vulpis* and *Trichuris trichiura*) are acquired through ingestion of contaminated soil or materials. Gardeners can limit the spread of harmful nematodes by following good sanitation practices.



Southern root-knot nematode (*Meloidogyne incognita*) Meloidogyne by Edward Barret33

Southern root-knot nematode



Nematodes (cont.)

Wear shoes and gloves when gardening to protect against whipworms and hookworms. Clean garden equipment before using it to avoid moving infested soil to a new location. Check the roots of plants before giving them to someone else. Destroy infested plants; do not compost them. Do not add animal feces to compost piles. Rotate crops and avoid replanting susceptible crops in heavily infested areas.

A useful management strategy is to plant a winter cover crop of cereal rye, such as Elbon rye. (Do not use annual rye.) Allow the rye to grow through winter, then shred it and incorporate it into the soil 4 to 6 weeks before spring planting. Harmful nematodes enter the rye roots but cannot complete their life cycle and eventually die. As more biological controls (e.g., bacteria, fungi) become available to limit nematodes, it will be important to review the scientific literature on their effectiveness. However, in the meantime, wise gardeners will follow good garden sanitation practices to limit harmful nematode populations.

Gardening practices that maintain nature's balance enhance the number and variety of beneficial entomopathogenic nematodes - those that can help us by infesting and killing some garden pests. Army worms, imported red fire ants, and other insects can be ambushed by *Steinernema carpocapsae* juveniles. Other insect-destroying nematodes, including *Heterorhabditis bacteriophora*, cruise through soil and target less mobile prey, including beetle larvae and weevils.

Knowing which nematodes reside in your garden - harmful and beneficial - is a job that requires some help. Gardeners desiring identification of nematodes affecting their plants may submit samples following the directions on the Texas Plant Disease Diagnostic Lab form D827. (See resources section of this article.)



Army worms scurry on sidewalk, Meccaliko9, Getty Images, Canva.com



Red imported fire ants, pressdigital, Getty Images, courtesy of Canva.com

Beneficial insect-destroying nematodes can feed on army worms (left) and imported red fire ants (right).



Nematodes (cont.)

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QUESTION: *What tomato varieties do you suggest for newbies to gardening? What varieties are best for our area?*



Question: For the first time, we have a small vegetable garden at our house. We are newbies to gardening. We want to have six tomato plants because my family likes them on sandwiches and in salads. However, when we went to the store to get a couple of plants, we were overwhelmed. There must have been 50 different kinds of tomatoes. So, we thought we should ask for some help picking good ones. Please share suggestions for tomato varieties in the Denton, Texas area.

Answer: Tomato plants may be categorized as determinate, semi-determinate, or indeterminate. Determinate tomato plants grow to a certain size, set fruit, and then decline in a short period of time. Indeterminate tomato plants grow over a longer period of time than determinate varieties, but will cease production when temperatures consistently reach above 90°F. It is important to plant a variety that has time to produce fruit before summer heat sets in. Denton County Master Gardeners provide a detailed list of vegetable plants on their website recommended for Denton, Texas. The list includes over 50 varieties and their days to harvest. Tomatoes on that list are heat-tolerant, disease-resistant varieties, including Celebrity, Carnival, and Roma, plus Texas Superstar tomatoes include 'Dwarf Cherry Surprise, and smaller varieties like Sweet 100. (See Sources and Resources).



Other Helpful Tomato Growing Advice

Tomatoes need full sun and deep, well-drained soil. They require phosphorus, nitrogen, potash, magnesium, sulfur, and zinc. TAMU provides soil testing for a fee. The test results will explain which nutrients you should add, if any. Be sure to indicate on the test form that you are growing tomatoes, so that the lab will make the appropriate recommendations.

Tomatoes require consistent, deep watering of about 2 inches per week, provided by rain or supplemental water. Watering at ground level with drip or soaker hoses is preferred to overhead sprinklers. Fertilization should begin with high-nitrogen products to establish foliage, and then transition to higher phosphorus mixes to encourage fruit production.

Sources and Resources

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You're Invited

July 2026, Monthly General Meeting & Program

Heard Prairie Restoration

Presented by Braeden Duffee

Nature Preserve Manager,

Heard Natural Science Museum and Wildlife Sanctuary



Photos Courtesy of Braeden Duffee

Join us as Braeden Duffee of the Heard Natural Science Museum and Wildlife Sanctuary showcases the Heard Prairie and Wildlife Sanctuary restoration efforts in McKinney, along with a discussion of the Prairie's history and future plans.

July 8, 2026, 9:00-9:30 am Social Networking

9:30 am General Meeting

10:30 am Presentation

Global Spheres Center, Solomon's Porch

7801 S. Interstate 35, Corinth, TX 76208

Denton County Master Gardener Association

Upcoming Events

Community Strong Farm Work Days

Growing Vegetables for 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.

1350 Milam Road E., Sanger Meet Mondays 8AM-10AM

LLELA Nature Preserve Workday

Lake Lewisville Environmental Learning Area

201 E Jones St. Lewisville Meet Wednesdays 9AM-12PM

The Grove and Gazebo Work Days

The Grove at Sandy Jacobs Government Center

1029 W. Rosemeade Pkwy. Carrollton Meet every 2nd and 4th Friday 9AM-11:30AM

Monthly General Meeting & Program-Heard Prairie Restoration

July 8 9:30am-11:30am.

[Click for More info:](#)

Greener Horizons-Master Class Series-Water Conservation

Advanced Speaker Series

Upper Trinity Regional Water District, "Water Under Pressure: Conservation in a Rapidly Growing North Texas", Dean Minchillo, Urban Water Program Specialist, Agrilife Greater Denton. Arts Council 400 E. Hickory St. July 11 9AM-12PM

[Click for More Info](#)

Josey Ranch Pocket Prairie Work Day

Volunteer at Josey Ranch Pocket Prairie and learn from Master Gardeners and Master Naturalists.

1700 Keller Springs Rd Carrollton July 11 9AM-11AM

[Click for more info:](#)

Gardening Techniques-Plant Propagation

Join Denton County Master Gardeners for a fun and informative session on propagating by stem division

Carrollton Public Library at Josey Ranch Lake

1700 Keller Springs Road, Carrollton July 18th 10:30AM-11:30AM

[Click for More Info](#)

Indoor Gardening Plant Propagation

Join Denton County Master Gardener to learn how to grow a beautiful indoor garden!

Sanger Public Library 501 Bolivar St. Sanger, July 18th 10:30-11:30

[Click for More Info](#)





Earth-Kind®

Landscape Design Course



July 17 -18, 2026

in Denton, 8:30-4:30 both days

PLUS

a Personal Design Consultation

Saturday, July 25

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

Pre-Registration required and available @ DCMGA.com Register Today!



Follow us on social media at DentonCountyMGA for more information



Summer Food Preservation Series

TEXAS A&M
AGRILIFE
EXTENSION

Join us for this fun and educational four-part food preservation series where we will learn the basics of home food preservation, including safety while canning low and high acid foods. A limited number of participants will also get some hands-on experience in the kitchen, making their own jar of pickles, jam, and more!



June 24 | FREE

Basics of Home Food Preservation

*Attending this session is required in order to attend any of the following hands-on sessions.



July 8 | \$10

Water Bath Canning - Seasonal Fruit Jam



July 15 | \$10

Water Bath Canning - Pickles



July 22 | \$10

Pressure Canning Vegetables

Register and pay
at least one prior to
each workshop



Eventbrite has additional fee of \$3.54. To avoid the processing fee, register and pay in cash/check for hands-on workshops at the June 24 class.

**Location: All classes held at
- MLK Rec Center**

1300 Wilson Street, Denton 76205

Time: 5:30 to 7:30 PM

Contact

chandani.kothari@ag.tamu.edu | 940-349-2882



HOW TO SURVIVE THE AUGUST HEAT WHEN YOU'RE A PLANT

Denton County Master Gardener Speaker Event

The Dog Days of summer approach, and water bills and water restrictions rise. Are you searching for plants that can withstand the heat? DCMGA's Succulent Team invites you to come to the Flower Mound Library on August 24 to hear Laura Miller, Tarrant County's long-time Commercial Horticulture AgriLife Extension Agent, who will speak about drought-tolerant plants that are especially well adapted to high heat and reduced water.

Laura will emphasize the importance of trans-Texas trialing, in which academics and nursery professionals are involved in the Texas Superstars® program. The species and varieties chosen for the Texas Superstars® program have withstood temperature extremes with minimal soil preparation, low irrigation demands, and no pesticides.

Please join us at the Flower Mound Library, 3030 Broadmoor Lane, Flower Mound, 75022, on August 24 at 7:00 pm for Laura Miller's presentation on low water use plants for your landscape. There will be a drawing for Texas Superstars® catalogs during her presentation. You must register with the Flower Mound Library for a seat at <https://fmlibrary.libnet.info/event/15580002> or use the QR code below.



TEXAS

SUPERSTARS:

WATER-SAVING PLANTS

Monday, August 24 at 7 p.m.



DCMGA MEMBER NEWS




Our June General Meeting

Photos courtesy DCMGA



HOW TO VIEW YOUR CUMULATIVE HOURS FOR CURRENT AND PAST YEARS


1. Sign in to **VMS**
2. Scroll all the way to the **bottom, right** of the  **HOME** page
3. You'll find a chart listing accumulated Volunteer (**VOL**) and Continuing education (**CE**) hours, as well as the miles you have entered for each year.
4. Scroll to the bottom of the chart to view your cumulative information for each year since you certified.

YOUR PROGRESS

YEAR	VOL	CE	MILES
2026	93.00	4.25	0.00
2025	244.75	30.50	0.00
2024	424.25	11.25	0.00
2023	260.95	14.50	0.00
2022	223.25	12.25	0.00
2021	310.00	14.50	0.00
2020	265.50	13.00	0.00
2019	221.50	13.00	0.00
2018	265.00	14.00	0.00
2017	471.50	15.00	0.00
2016	457.75	16.25	0.00
2015	504.25	13.50	0.00
2014	375.00	15.00	0.00
2013	480.50	18.00	129.00
2014	375.00	15.00	0.00
2013	480.50	18.00	129.00
2012	457.00	18.25	782.00
2011	604.25	21.00	957.00
Grand Summary	5658.45	244.25	1868.00



DCMGA MEMBER NEWS




It's Time For...
The DCMGA Plant Swap!!

When?!
Wednesday,
September 9
Before the Monthly Meeting

Where?!
Greater Denton Arts Council
Grassy triangle in parking lot

FAQ
Bring plants 8:15-8:30am.
Swap 8:30-9:15 am.
Seeds are welcome.
Label all plants for easy
identification.




This is a DCMGA Social Event
No VS/No CE

What Do I bring????!
Bring a plant take a plant.
Bring 2 plants take 2 plants.
Bring 5 plants take 5 plants.

You get the idea!
Nothing to bring?
No worries, COME ANYWAY
to talk plants!!

POST-SWAP
Clean up, take plants to vehicles.
All plants must go to a good home!
Members enter GDAC for meeting.



Village Fest Planning Is On!! Join Us!!



Village Fest
July Planning Meeting
Thursday, July 16, 1-3 pm
Location: Solomon's Porch
Global Spheres Center

We would love for anyone interested in signing up for a team lead or committee member position to register via our Village Fest Sign-Up Genius. There are the original three tabs on the SUG: one for team volunteers, one for hospitality, and one for setup day. Two new tabs are being added: Educational/Demonstration Booths and Call for Focus Session Speakers.





As Master Gardeners, our mission is to educate and inspire Denton County residents through research-based horticulture, to promote eco-friendly gardens and enduring landscapes that enrich our communities.

Extension EEO Statement

Texas A&M Agrilife Extension Service 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.

2026 Board of Directors

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Adrienne Barnes	Tracy Southers Parker
Lisa Burt	Janice Yoder Smith
Denise Catalano	Jacy Williamson

Social Media

- Facebook:
<https://www.facebook.com/DentonCountyMGA>
- Instagram:
<https://www.instagram.com/DentonCountyMGA>
- YouTube:
<https://www.youtube.com/@DentonCountyMasterGardenerAsso>

Save the Date

- July 11 Greener Horizons Speaker Series: Water Conservation Greater Denton Arts Council
- July 17-18 Earth Kind Design Class
- Oct. 3 2026 Village Fest An Education & Garden Expo Highland Village, TX

Contact Information

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Content

The submission deadline for the August edition of The Root is July 5. Submissions may be revised at the discretion of the editor.

Ideas, photos, and articles are welcome and may be submitted to Communications Director Donna Hull at communications@dcmga.com

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

