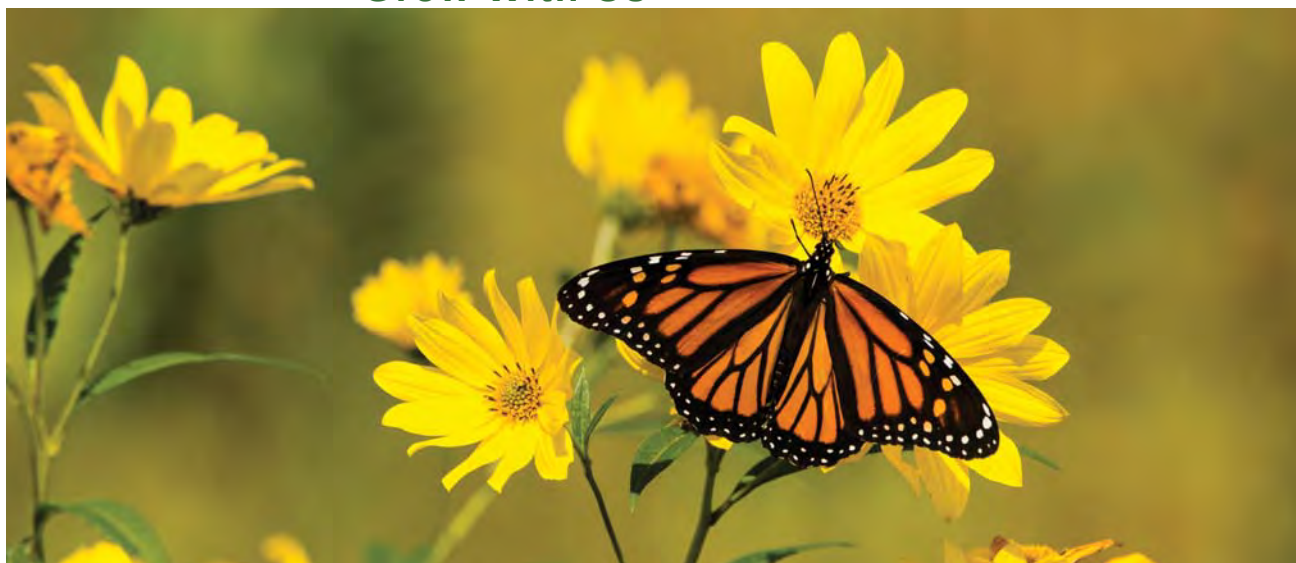


Denton County Master Gardener Association

THE ROOT

Grow With Us



Buds From The Board

BY PAT MOYER, PRESIDENT

Howdy Fellow MGers and Interns,

Happy September! Just one more month until we can work in the yard all day long (if we're lucky). We had quite an August with our 30th Anniversary Celebration where Judge Eads in his address shared his vision for DCMGA. These events, although seemingly unrelated, are representative of an organization that has a strong past and the ability to handle the challenges of the future.

I was amazed at the level of participation at the 30th Anniversary, which quite rightly, recognized the history of DCMGA and the many former MGers who made us what we are today. We owe a debt of gratitude to Shirley Manfredi and Liz Moyer for their leadership in coordinating this event and all the other associated activities leading up to it. I also want to recognize Dee Payne and her band of decorators

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

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Post Oak is Dying

Buds from the Board (Cont.)

who did their usual magic of transforming the Global Spheres dining room into an amazing venue.

We heard from our "Founding Father" John Cooper (on video, no less), our favorite Ag agent, Janet Laminack, and our County Judge, Andy Eads. While all the speakers made great points about DCMGA, I was particularly impressed with Judge Eads vision for potential DCMGA projects within the county.

The DCMGA Board will be taking these projects under consideration to determine how best we can support Judge Eads vision and the DCMGA mission. The nature of these challenges:

- Install rooftop garden area at new courthouse on Loop 288
- Create monarch corridors within Denton County along 35, 35E, and 35W
- Potential community garden or exhibit garden at Loop 288 complex near the Health Dept or the Sally building
- Create native tree farm for trees to be used for public projects
- Create seasonal exhibits/displays for beautification/public art and education at new courthouse outdoor rooms

will form the basis for our next thirty years.



Denton County Judge
Andy Eads



Decorating Team Lead Dee
Payne & Janet Laminack,
Hort-CEA



DCMGA 30th Anniversary Celebration Coordinators
Shirley Manfredi and Liz Moyer



DCMGA President Pat
Moyer



Decorations by Dee Payne
& Team

Photo Courtesy DCMGA Photography Team

Hope to see you all at the 60 Year Anniversary Celebration in 2049. Happy Gardening, Pat Moyer

TOP GARDENING TIPS

September

Tidy perennial beds: remove spent flowers, seed heads, and past-prime foliage; avoid severe pruning.
 Begin sowing wildflower seeds (late September). Press into the soil to facilitate germination; do not mulch.
 Sow fall vegetable & herb seeds and place transplants.

#DCMGA #GROWWITHUS

DENTON COUNTY MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION

Junior Master Gardener Program

BY KATHY RAINEY

For many of my fellow Master Gardeners, we learned the love of gardening in our youth helping in the family garden. But in recent years another option for engaging children in gardening is available through the Junior Master Gardener (JMG) Program. JMG is an international youth gardening program of the University Cooperative Extension network. JMG is a hands-on learning experience for children in grades 3 through 8 that inspires the love of gardening and develops an appreciation for the environment and much more. JMG offers a core curriculum, which covers a broad range of horticultural topics such as plant growth, soil and water, insects and plant diseases, ecology, environmental and landscape horticulture, growing food, and its relationship with health and nutrition. Science process skills, observation, taking measurements, and problem solving are naturally integrated into the curriculum. The training integrates math, science, language arts, and social studies with group gardening activities.



Junior Master Gardener Campers

engage in hands-on and classroom gardening activities throughout the week.

The goal of the Denton County Master Gardener Association is to train teachers in our County about all the great things that SWAT (Science with Attitude) volunteers can help them with in their classrooms. We train and explain the 4H, JMG Curriculum, and Learn, Grow, Eat, Go (LGE) for them to use in their classrooms. The teacher training also includes an element of grant writing so they can get additional materials for their classrooms.



JMG Campers investigate soils.

JR Master Gardener Program (Cont.)

After the teachers attended training, they can contact us to reserve a "kit" to be brought to their campus. These "kits" are based on Texas Essential Knowledge & Skills (TEKS) and include materials for various lessons/experiments which we can provide in three ways:

- Deliver the kit for teacher's use in the classroom
- Co-teach the lesson/experiment with the teacher
- Teach the kit ourselves

JMG Campers harvested vegetables

throughout
the week,
which were
donated
to a
Denton
community
soup
kitchen.



Beth hopes other Master Gardeners and Interns will be inspired to get involved in SWAt and JMG. Anyone who is interested in sharing their love of gardening with kids is encouraged to get involved. The kids are really fun to work with and they soak up the knowledge!

Using the JMG curriculum, SWAt also leads a JMG summer camp where veteran SWAt volunteers and Interns work to engage children in a gardening experience. In its fourth year, this SWAt program uses a blend of the Junior Master Gardener Leader Guide; Learn, Grow, Eat, Grow; and Wildlife Gardener curriculums during this week of camp.

Master Gardener Beth Sharum leads the JMG summer camp program and has been involved with SWAt since 2016. She was previously a PTA volunteer in charge of the school garden at Old Settlers Elementary School and volunteering with SWAt went hand in hand with what she needed to accomplish in the "school garden lady" role. She completed JMG Specialist training and hours in 2017. Since 2017, she has been very involved in Denton County as a "go-to" for JMG curriculum knowledge. Her leadership in JMG was recognized by the Texas Master Gardener Association with the Marva Beck Award for her leadership in JMG in 2018.



Insects In The Garden Day

JMG Camp Photos Courtesy DCMGA Member Lea Sage Watson

JMG Camp Recap

BY BETH SHARUM

JMG summer camp, a SWAt program, was held the mornings of July 22 - 26 at Newton Rayzor Elementary School. This was SWAt's fourth summer to partner with Denton Parks and Rec for this program and the first year to partner with Denton ISD.

The JMG camp team's goal was simple: for the twenty-one campers to have a ton a fun. And, along the way, to learn a few things about plants and gardening.

This summer, camp focused on the ins and outs of running a community garden. This included discovering what makes a garden successful by learning about healthy soils, pollinators, and planning and planting a fall garden. At the end of the week, campers and volunteers enjoyed cooking and tasting some of our harvest from the Newton Rayzor community garden!



Camp days were filled with lessons, hands-on activities, and amazing guest speakers from around the Metroplex. Some highlights of the week included a garden vs. grocery daily challenge, learning about square foot gardening, examining different types of soils, hunting for insects, and getting hands dirty in the garden. The favorite thing about camp this year? The cool mornings and beautiful, May-like temperatures.

A Huge Thank You to the JMG Summer Camp Crew:



Patti Barry
Lisa McAllen
Cindy Helm
Linda Javor
Mary Lehrer
Dawn Tallman
Leah Knack
Barbie Dane
Claudia Duckworth
Cindy Kraus

Cindy Landry
Cathie Rod
Judy Chenault
Laura Thompson
Keila Ferris
Lee Ann Yates
John Williams
Karen Reidy
Lea Watson
Bree Gray-Eskue

And Thank You to our Special Guests:

David Huffman
Carol Noble

Erin Tran
Marisa Williams

JMG Camp Recap (Cont.)

New to camp this year was the addition of a week-long service project. Taking a page from the wonderfully successful Flower Mound First Baptist (FMFB) Community Garden Master Gardener project, JMG camp partnered with the Denton community soup kitchen, Our Daily Bread, to donate fresh produce to the organization. Campers harvested vegetables from the Newton Rayzor garden throughout the week while they worked in the gardens. Our campers harvested and donated a grand total thirty-three pounds of produce by the end of the week.

This camp is not possible without the group of dedicated, talented, and wonderfully fun Master Gardener and Master Naturalist volunteers. It takes a village of volunteers to make this program such a success. We thank you for your hard work and dedication to the program. Mark your calendars! We hope to see you again in 2020!



Design Your Yard With Earth-Kind Landscaping

BY SHIRLEE SINGER

The upcoming Design Your Yard class has a new format. Here are just a few of our exciting changes:

- Friday night will be devoted to Earth-Kind lecture / Saturday will be group format.
- Students will receive a thumb drive instead of a printed book plus the Water University plant card packet.
- The thumb drive will include plant graphics to match the Water University card packet.
- This next class will be a combination of computer-aided design and drawing over a photograph.
- Students with computers or tablets will be asked to bring their devices to use in class.
- PowerPoint will be the software used on devices plus the plant graphics supplied.
- There will be fewer lectures and more hands-on discussion with the teaching team in small groups.
- Students will be asked to email photographs of the yard or the part of the yard they wish to design before the class starts to allow the teachers to become familiar with the yards.
- The teaching team will review Google Earth Pro images for student yards prior to class.
- 8 1/2 x 11 prints will be made for students drawing over a photograph.
- Groups will be formed on the basis:
 - yard size or design requirements
 - student experience
 - ways of working (computer or drawing over a photograph)
- Teachers will be assigned a group before the class. Members of the teaching team will be contacting his/her small group before the class to develop a working setup for their group.
- Each teacher will have a laptop computer with a thumb drive containing the material from the book, previous PowerPoints, plant graphics and any other support material needed.
- The teachers are excited about a more personal and direct way of teaching.

Registration is now open. For class times, dates, fees, etc., please refer to the Flyer on page 33.

Plant Exchange

*Dig, divide, or seed your plants now for September's
DCMGA Members' Plant Exchange.*

On Wednesday, September 11, DCMGA members will meet before that evening's general meeting (there are two evening meetings during the year) and exchange plants. The Exchange will take place from 5:30 - 6:30 PM, ending in time for you to have a break before the DCMGA General Meeting.

Bring up to 10 plants to exchange. We often have extra plants, so come visit and see what is growing in DCMGA member gardens. It's a great learning experience as well as a social time to learn and share plants. We will share any extra plants after the exchange so that they can go to a good home. We hope to see you and your plants there!



Save the Date!

 Denton County Master Gardener Association
presents

 TEXAS A&M
AGRI LIFE
EXTENSION

FALL GARDEN FEST

OCTOBER 12
SATURDAY 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Featuring Speakers -

Jay White - Editor and Owner,
Texas Gardener Magazine

Dee Nash - Garden Writer, Speaker,
Podcast - "The Gardenangelsists."
Red Dirt Rambling.com



Meet Don & Pat Edwards

BY GAY CAMPBELL

It was certainly not love at first sight. In fact, one could make a case for exactly the opposite.

Don, who has a Ph.D. in mathematics from TCU, was the Director of Academic Computing at Texas Woman's University in the 1980s. He was responsible for implementing technology for academic components, including the library. Pat, whose Ph.D. is in Library and Information Studies from TWU, was responsible for expanding library user outreach through technology-based resources. Their initial interactions were not favorable or as Pat laughingly words it, "We didn't like each other much." After finding themselves on several of the same committees, Don and Pat eventually learned that they could "work well together." When they married, Don had two sons. The couple now shares six grandchildren.



Photo courtesy DCMGA Photography Team

Don & Pat Edwards
at the DCMGA 30th Anniversary
Party this past August.

Through the years, they have been active in the community. Don served as President of The Greater Denton Arts Council and was on the City of Denton Parks Foundation, where he helped secure funding for Eureka Park. They are very involved in the Trinity Forks Chapter of the Native Plant Society of Texas, where Don currently holds the title of President. They are also members of the Denton Garden Culture Club, where Pat serves as First Vice President for Programs.

Before his years in academia, Don worked for Sun Oil, Texas Instruments, and General Dynamics. Now, he is only weeks away from retiring as Chair of TWU's Mathematics and Computer Science Department, a position he held for twenty-one years. While at the university, he also worked in the Dean's Office and the Office of the Provost. Although retirement is imminent, Don's legacy will live on through TWU's tutoring center, which was recently named after him. Pat has already beaten Don to retirement. Prior to coming to TWU, she worked at SMU and Texas A&M Commerce. In 2011, she retired from her TWU position as Associate Vice President for Instructional Support Services, but continues her involvement with the university. She currently serves on the TWU Foundation Board.

Don grew up on a 125-acre dairy farm just east of Denton. He and his three siblings loved the outdoors. He professes to have always been interested in gardening and especially roses. Pat had a vastly different childhood. Her Texas native father was in the army when he met and fell in love with her mother, who was Japanese. Pat and her sister spent much of their childhood moving from one army base to another. As a child, she was not exposed to gardening and her greatest wish as an adult was to "put down roots and live in one place."

Don & Pat Edwards (Cont.)

Pat remembers the first time she visited Don's home – he was in the midst of using a garden hose to lay out and design his garden. "Don's garden is naturally orderly. He's visually oriented, meticulous, and uses mathematical balance in his planning," says Pat. After Don introduced her to gardening, Pat realized that her approach to horticulture is much more carefree. She enjoys gardening in pots and is

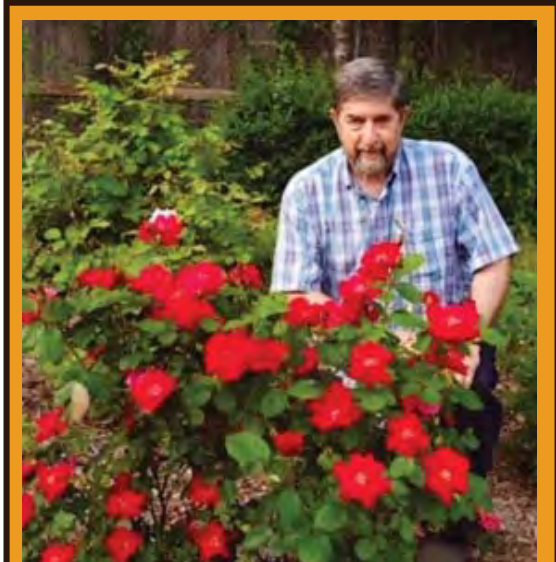


Photo Courtesy DCMGA Member Pat Edwards

Don Loves Roses

and has 150 roses in three ever-expanding beds.

drawn to colorful flowers. Pat has found that she is equally drawn to brightly colored fabrics when quilting, a hobby that she has taken up in recent years.

The Edwards own two connected lots in Denton and have about two acres to maintain. Don has amassed 150 roses, which he has organized into three beds. As new roses are added, the boundaries of each bed are enlarged. He has 38 Kordes roses in one bed, and has designated another for old roses as well as Griffith Buck roses. Unfortunately, Don has realized that the much-touted Dr. Buck roses are better suited to colder weather. He has also planted some climbing roses, and he and Pat keep an ever vigilant watch for rose rosette. They believe it is helpful that there are not many other roses in the neighborhood. If necessary, Don says that he will adopt the state of mind that roses are annuals, but he will never stop growing them.

Don also loves and collects begonias, cacti, and succulents. He especially enjoys propagating begonias, and Pat says the greenhouse they have had for nine years is "just beautiful in the winter with all of Don's begonias." Before the greenhouse was built, they designed a potting shed based on one they admired at the Biltmore in Asheville, North Carolina. They were also inspired by the HGTV series, "Paul James, Gardening By the Yard." Their greenhouse is home to many delights, including an impressive pencil plant and "Stanley," an acquired Euphorbia from master gardener Joan Stanley, that is now so tall that the top of him "bumps the inside roof of the greenhouse."

Pat receives "tremendous satisfaction" from pruning their many plants but "it hurts Don to prune. He just can't do it," states Pat. Pat is especially proud of their



Photo Courtesy DCMGA Member Pat Edwards

An Serene Resting Spot

is one of the many delights you'll find in the Edwards' gardens.

Don & Pat Edwards (Cont.)

loquat tree because of its family connection. Their granddaughter saved the loquat seeds she obtained when touring Sharrie Ely's garden and one of them sprouted. Pat grew up eating loquats from her Japanese grandmother's tree. Don also cherishes their Japanese persimmon tree as there is a connection to Pat's mother.

After graduating from the class of 2012, the Edwards assumed active roles within DCMGA. In 2015, their yard was featured on the Spring Garden Tour. They also teach vermiculture classes to interns and Master Gardeners, as well as to the public. Their interest in the subject began when Pat presented Don with a worm condo for his birthday several years ago. One condo eventually became a community of three in their utility room because "worms don't like extreme temperatures." The Edwards have successfully chaired the annual DCMGA Plant Sale since 2014, but they are quick to give credit to the many dedicated volunteers who make it possible each year. They also appreciate the support from the DCMGA Board of Directors and especially acknowledge Suzie Cook and Dale Powell who guided them so well as they first stepped into this endeavor. When asked if leading the Plant Sale is a daunting task, Pat hastily replies that she "wouldn't want to be responsible for the Fall Garden Fest. Now that's a daunting task," she laughs. "We love DCMGA and Don is an optimist. Every year, he says we can do it and we do."



Fall 2019 Area Plant Sales

Plant sales are a good way to find plants that are often not available on the general market. Organization members contribute pass-alongs from their gardens, and volunteers are on-site to answer questions.

Following is a list of plant sales in the area.
Check the organization's website or Facebook pages for more detail.

September 14	Fair Park, Gate 6, 3601 MLK Blvd., Dallas	Texas Discovery Gardens	www.txdg.org/plant-sale/
September 21	Randol Mill Park Greenhouse, 1901 W. Randol Mill Rd., Arlington	Molly Hollar Wildscape	http://thewildscape.org/plant-sale.php
October 5	River Legacy Park, Elm Grove Pavillion, 701 NE Green Oaks Blvd., Arlington	Native Plant Society of Texas, North Central Chapter	www.txnativeplants.org/
October 12	Myers Park, McKinney	Collin County Master Gardener Association	www.ccmgatx.org
October 19	Austin	LadyBird Johnson Wildflower Center	www.wildflower.org/plant-sales

DCMGA Projects Branch Out

BY KATHRYN WELLS, DCMGA VICE PRESIDENT

Wonderful new DCMGA programs just keep growing! Our most recently approved project is Josey Ranch Pocket Prairie led by Class of 2019 member Lela Khan under the mentorship of veteran member Sue Hudiburgh.

In collaboration with the City of Carrollton and Texas Master Naturalists - Elm Fork Chapter (TMN-EFC), the project's goals include:

- Support the restoration and preservation of the one-acre property's native wildflower prairie
- Provide public education on native plants and animals
- Increase community awareness of pollinator plants and their use in an urban garden
- Engage the public for the annual autumn Monarch migration

For a little history of the project's origination, check out this video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1BzSkWQ--sg&feature=youtu.be>



Thanks so much, Lela and Sue, for your leadership; we bee-lieve in you!



Meet Your AgriLife Staff Michael Cook

Viticulture Program Specialist

Michael Cook is the Viticulture Program Specialist for North Texas with the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service. Michael's primary function is to provide research-based educational support for the nearly 100 commercial vineyards in the region by providing workshops, programs, hands-on demonstrations, educational materials, and one-on-one site visits with growers. Conducting and collaborating on applied research trials, including Earth-Kind vineyard trials is also a focus. His secondary function includes providing training for county agents and master gardeners across the fifty-five counties of North Texas.

Michael is a Dallas native and studied Horticulture at Texas A&M. While there he was an active Aggie Master Gardener. He was then awarded a fellowship to California State University - Fresno where he earned a Masters of Science in Viticulture & Enology. He conducted research in collaboration with Bronco Wine Company, the vintners of Two Buck Chuck, to improve the phenolic profile of red cultivars grown under hot climate.



Photo Courtesy Michael Cook

Michael Cook

Plant of the Month – Viticulture in Your Backyard

Continuing the Legacy of T.V. Munson

BY LEE ANN YATES

Thinking about a new gardening adventure? Getting outside your comfort zone? Maxed out in the flower or veggie garden? Want to learn something new and different? Who doesn't love the sweet pop of a juicy grape in their mouth or that staple of American lunches – the PB and J sandwich? Or perhaps you are interested in a little gardening chemistry and developing your own wine. Try viticulture in your backyard ... or your front yard, if you can get away with it. Consider growing your own grapes – it can be done in Denton County!



Photo Courtesy AgriLife Viticulture Specialist Michael Cook

Southern Home Muscadine

is a good eating or wine grape, in addition to being drought tolerant once established.

For backyard viticulture, or grape growing, gardeners look mostly for low input, low maintenance grapes that give high quality fruit without constant

attention. By selecting grapes that are self-fertile, you need only plant one vine and not be concerned whether or not you have a male pollinator vine. The addition of interesting, aesthetically pleasing vines to our gardens will beautify them as well. For the information in this month's article, I had a delightful phone interview with our very own North Texas Viticulture Program Specialist, Michael Cook, as he was traveling to a vineyard. He works with vineyards and grape growers across North Texas through the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension office in Denton County.

Earth-Kind® Trials of Cultivars

Cook relayed that at present, there are Earth-Kind® trials ongoing in eight counties across Texas where nine grape cultivars are being trialed. These include our neighbors, Collin, Dallas, and Johnson counties. The cultivars being evaluated are hybrid grapes which include some degree of American parentage in their genetics. This increases their adaptation to the harsh Texas environment. Many also have interesting historical backgrounds.

While there is currently no Earth-Kind trial in Denton County, AgriLife Extension and DCMGA have installed a teaching vineyard in The Grove at the Sandy Jacobs Government Center in Carrollton. In spring 2020, vines will be added in the remaining open spaces of the trellis. The public is welcome to attend. Look for more on this in the future along with other learning and volunteer opportunities.

Grape Growing in Denton County

For grape growing enthusiasts in Denton County there are three types of grapes available for backyard use according to Cook. The first option for Denton County is to plant grapes from solely European

Viticulture in Your Backyard (Cont.)

solely European parentage. Thompson Seedless and Flame Seedless may well be the best known of this type for eating, while Cabernet Sauvignon is known for wine. These grapes have very high fruit quality, however, since they are not native, they are not adapted to our soils, heat, humidity, wet springs and autumns, or our mild winters and, therefore, need a great deal of care. Cook says the Achilles heel of all European grapes is their high susceptibility to Pierce's Disease, a bacterial infection for which there is no cure currently. Once infected, the disease usually will kill vines within their first four years. These grapes need almost constant attention and frequent pesticide spraying. Cook does not normally recommend growing European style grapes in the backyard unless growers are prepared to spend many hours out in the vineyard.

Muscadines

The second option would be the Muscadines native to East Texas. They love acidic soils – less than 7.0 or 6.5, with 5.5 to 6.0 being ideal. They are considered to be the toughest and hardiest of all the grapes. They have excellent pest and disease tolerance and a very unique flavor. Cook reported that at the trials of muscadines being done at Myers Park in McKinney, where the soil's pH is about 8.2, the vines suffer heavily from iron chlorosis. There are improved varieties, however that show great promise for Denton County's viticulturists. 'Southern Home' was released by the University of Florida and is tolerant of Pierce's Disease – it will get the disease, but seems to not succumb to it. It is also pest and disease hardy – Cook says you never have to spray it. Additionally, it does not mind clay soil

.....



Photo Courtesy AgriLife Viticulture Specialist
Michael Cook

as long as it is not extremely alkaline. 'Southern Home' also has the advantage of being drought tolerant once it is established. It is a good eating or wine grape. It has the best ornamental value of any grape due to its leaves which resemble a Japanese maple. It is one of the only successful crosses between bunch type grapes and muscadine. Cook says, "It's a true gem."

Hybridized From American Parentage

Grapes hybridized from American parentage are the third choice for Denton County growers. According to Cook, these cultivars are proving to be some of the best choices for backyard viticulturists. If you've ever tried to eat a wild Mustang grape you know their pucker power – they are bitter and quite acidic. T.V. Munson, famed North Texas viticulturist from the late 1880s, crossbred wild grapes with other native grapes as well as French grapes to achieve a table grape that would grow in North Texas. He created more than sixty hybrids, keeping the toughness and durability of the native grapes while improving the flavor. He was not able to get rid of those pesky seeds though, as losing the seeds also led to a loss of disease tolerance.

Champanel

the most highly recommended hybrid, is easy to find at local nurseries.

Viticulture in Your Backyard (Cont.)

Munson is also celebrated for saving the French wine industry from complete annihilation in the late 19th century. The French government awarded Munson the French Legion of Honor Chevalier du Mérite Agricole in 1888. If you attend one of Michael Cook's grape workshops you will learn more about this fascinating Texan. Cook's upcoming home winemaking workshop will be October 4 at Carmella Winery in Celina.

Fortunately, the most highly recommended of these hybrids, 'Champanel,' is easy to find at local nurseries. 'Champanel' is a seeded purple grape bred by Munson that is tolerant of Pierce's Disease, many pests, and the heat of North Texas summers. It tastes similar to Concord grapes, which were used in the hybridization process – think Welch's grape jelly. 'Champanel' makes a good table grape, is a good grape for sweet wine production, and makes excellent jelly or jam. It has very low input requirements – low fertilizer, pesticide spray, disease spray – relative to other grapes. After it is established, each vine yields between fifteen and thirty pounds of grapes a year, coming on in late July to August. Cook says 'Champanel' is one of the best choices for our area. It is a large vine that thrives in heavy clay soil and often one vine will suffice. Interestingly, it has lots of white hairs on the undersides of the leaves which makes adds texture and contrast in the landscape.

Texas A&M Research Vineyard

In the last few weeks, Dr. Justin Scheiner from Texas A&M University has received a quantity of selections from breeding programs across the United States for trialing at the research vineyard on the A&M campus. Cook relays that this is exciting news as all of these selections are seedless table varieties having the potential to be adapted to our environment. The hope is to develop Pierce's disease-tolerant, low-input seedless table grapes for backyard growers' use over the next few years. Stay tuned!

If you have decided that you need grapes in your landscape, Cook says the best time to plant bare root vines is late March to early April. If you buy vines that are already potted, the same time frame works but can be extended to the end of April. The grapes discussed here will give a light crop in their second year, a moderate crop in year three, and a full crop in their fourth year.

If you have further questions, please feel free to contact the DCMGA Help Desk any time for scientifically-based and well-researched solutions:

Phone: 940.349.2892

Email: master.gardener@dentoncounty.com

Michael Cook can be contacted at michael.cook@ag.tamu.edu or 940.349.2896

Meanwhile, make a peanut butter and jelly and pour a glass of vino. Salut and Santé!

This article has been abbreviated due to space considerations. To read the complete article, including information on wine-making grapes, a Texas Superstar grape, and a variety of green (or white) grape, please read the complete article on our website under North Texas Gardening - Fruits, Vegetable & Herbs - Fruits.

2019 Fall Garden Fest

BY SHARRIE ELY

Denton County Master Gardener Association presents the 2019 Fall Garden Fest on October 12, 2019

Have you ever been to a Home and Garden Show where you walk around and wonder, "Where EXACTLY is the 'Garden' part of this show?" If you love to talk plants (and more plants), soil, water conservation, insects, and more, then we have your event and your garden info!

The Denton County Master Gardener Association, Fall Garden Fest will be on October 12, at 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church of Denton, 201 S. Locust St., Denton, Texas. DCMGA presents the 2019 Fall Garden Fest, a free event, showcasing North Texas gardening information, great garden speakers, vendors, information booths, kids' activities, and North Texas non-profit booths. Bring your gardening questions and enthusiasm to the event that "gives back" to the community by sharing sustainable, horticulture information that benefits our homes and communities.

Smart Plants for Smart Gardens is the theme of our 2019 Fall Garden Fest.

We are excited to welcome speakers, Jay White, Editor/Owner and writer for *Texas Gardener Magazine* and Dee Nash, well-known garden writer, garden traveler, author, and podcaster of *Red Dirt Ramblings*.

Jay White will talk on "Bluebonnets, The Gateway to Native Plants" and "Average Gardeners, Mean Vegetables, and Distributed Benefits."

Dee Nash will present "Dream Gardens on Balconies, Decks, and Patios" and "Good Companions: Plants to Take Your Garden Through the Seasons."



DCMGA is giving away a free packet of Wildflower seeds to the first 200 visitors. This Texas/Oklahoma Wildflower seed mix, generously donated by Justin Seeds, Co. of Justin Texas, will be available at our Welcome Booth.

2019 Fall Garden Fest (Cont.)

DCMGA Fall Garden Fest will host vendors that will appeal to the garden shopper with merchandise such as plants, décor for the garden, and items for the home. The vendors include: D&L Farm and Home, Angee & Teresa's Gardening Stones, SB Designs, Lea's Kitchen, Texas Gardener Magazine, It's for Africa, Inc., Usborne Books & More, Harvey Goods, Wild n Woolly Creations, Susie's Snack Shop, The Melodious Garden, Garden Charms, Painted Flower Farm, Larry Duncan – Wood Works, Candler Wreaths & more, Expressive Creations, City of Denton – Dynodirt, Brigid Brammer Bags, Clay Art by Carolyn Tinner and Ann Rollins, Catching the Sun, and Living Earth.

Our Master Gardener educational booths will cover topics for North Texas Gardeners.

Bring your gardening questions and curiosity to learn more about:

Wildscape

Demonstration Garden

Propagation Team

Wildflowers

Worm Composting

Herbs

Vegetable Gardening

Tree Musketeers

Bugs in the Garden

Arranging Fall's Bounty

Exploring Succulents

Fairy Gardens

Harry Potter Plants

Monarch Butterflies

Native Bees

Turfs' Not Tuff

Rose Rosette Disease (RRD) Education

Design Your Yard with Earth-Kind Landscaping

Water Conservation -- How to

Move From a Lawn to a Wise-Scape

Earth-Kind Landscape Management Practices

Our wonderful group of Master Gardeners is ready to talk gardening with you!

Visit our DCMGA information booths to *Ask a Master Gardener* if you have a particular gardening question, and check out our recruitment table to learn how to become a Denton County Master Gardener.

Several non-profits groups will have booths at the DCMGA Fall Garden Fest. DCMGA welcomes the Texas Master Naturalist, Elm Fork Chapter; the UNT Natural Dye Garden (a DCMGA Project); Friends of Shiloh Garden; the Native Plant Society of Texas, Trinity Forks Chapter; and the Denton County Beekeepers Association.

This event is for the whole family, so be sure to visit the Kids Area. Activities are for children (accompanied by their parent or guardian) to learn more about gardening and the great outdoors. Presented by our award-winning SWAt (Science With Attitude) team, it will be loads of fun!

Visit [DCMGA.com](https://dcmga.com/) for more information about our speakers, booths, and vendors.

Advanced Training (AT) Opportunities at Fall Garden Fest

Denton County MGA members that are looking for Advanced Training this fall can find it at the 2019 Fall Garden Fest on October 12. These talks will count towards your Advanced Training (AT) hours.

The Fall Garden Fest speakers are:

- Jay White – editor and owner of *Texas Gardener Magazine*, at texasgardener.com
- Dee Nash – garden writer, photographer, garden traveler, author, & podcaster, at reddirtramlings.com

9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. "Bluebonnets, The Gateway to Native Plants," Jay White, texasgardener.com

10:45 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. "Good Companions. Plants to Take Your Garden Through the Seasons," Dee Nash, reddirtramlings.com

12:15 p.m. – 1:15 p.m. "Dream Gardens on Balconies, Decks, and Patios," Dee Nash, reddirtramlings.com

1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. "Average Gardeners, Mean Vegetables, and Distributed Benefits," Jay White, texasgardener.com

Stop by Jay White's booth for *Texas Gardener Magazine* and subscribe to this informative (and the only print copy) gardening magazine for Texas Gardeners.



Photo Courtesy DCMGA Member Lea Sage Watson

Native Perennial Turk's Cap
attracts a variety of pollinators.

Dee Nash will have her book for sale during the day. The informative title says it all — *The 20-30 Something Garden Guide: A No-Fuss, down and Dirty, Gardening 101 for Anyone Who Wants to Grow Stuff.*

Landscape Maintenance is for the Birds

Thoughtful Seasonal Garden Care for Bees, Birds, Butterflies, & Beyond

BY KATHRYN WELLS

A familiar seasonal rhythm accompanies gardening, and, as summer gives way to autumn, a gardener shifts into maintenance mode, tidying up spent remains and tending to triple-digit temperature survivors while delighting in a milder season that refreshes both the garden and the gardener.

For a gardener who tends the landscape with a holistic and sustainable perspective, however, plants are just part of the picture, for an entire ecosystem exists right in one's own back—and front—yard. With flora and fauna interconnected and interdependent, thoughtful garden maintenance is key to creating and protecting habitat for bees, birds, butterflies, and all other species of native wildlife.

To satisfy both conventional aesthetic appeal and beneficial wildlife welfare, consider these practices:

Avoid "ides"

Chemical pesticides, herbicides, fungicides mostly treat "problems" in isolation with native plants and wildlife suffering collateral damage. A landscape filled with endemic plants will attract and support endemic organisms, which, in turn, develop a healthy ecosystem and functioning food chain of indigenous predators and prey, establishing a natural integrated pest management system. Allowed to grow and prosper, native plants also help crowd out weedy invasives.

Be a stalker

Several native species of bees in the Megachilidae family including Leafcutters and Masons nest in tunnels—dwelling and overwintering in the hollow or pithy stalks of herbaceous plants and grasses. As the plants decline, it's beneficial to leave some stalks standing while clipping a few ends for species that don't excavate their own holes. Supporting native plant species include Bee Balm/Wild Bergamot (*Monarda fistulosa*) and Joe Pye Weed (*Eutrochium fistulosum*). Fittingly, the Latin fistula means "long, narrow pipe; tubular; hollow; porous; ulcerous," so if you see a form of that word in a plant's botanical name, chances are it's a safe bet for tunnel nesters. Birds will also appreciate noshing on seed heads, and, as a bonus, bare stalks are a preferred perch for dragonflies, voracious mosquito eaters who can consume about 300 of the blood-



Photo Courtesy DCMGA Member Kathryn Wells

Underplanted with *Datura wrightii*

and backed by Cherry Laurels (*Prunus caroliniana*), Yaupon Hollies (*Ilex vomitoria*), Live Oaks (*Quercus virginiana*), and Shumard Oaks (*Quercus shumardii*), Lemon Bee Balm (*Monarda citriodora*) offers architectural interest to the garden even after its blooms have serviced the pollinators.

Landscape Maintenance is for the Birds (Cont.)

sucking pests per day. Wait until late spring before removing old stalks, and, even then, protect any remaining bee larvae by breaking stems into small pieces and scattering them under existing shrubs in the landscape.

Branch out

Snags (dead trees) and stumps harbor a lot of life in their dead and dying states. Native cavity-nesting birds including (but not limited to) Carolina Chickadee (*Parus carolinensis*), Carolina Wren (*Thryothorus ludovicianus*), Eastern Bluebird (*Sialia sialis*), Northern Flicker (*Colaptes auratus*), Eastern Screech Owl (*Megascops asio*), and Tufted Titmouse (*Baeolophus bicolor*), make their homes in safety and shelter of dead wood. Many native bees such as Carpenters (*Xylocopa*)—excellent pollinators for many flowers and vegetables—nest alone in wood tunnels. Suitable habitat may save them from choosing to live in your fence post. Even small landscapes can support a fallen limb or artfully arranged branch pile to provide habitat for dead-wood nesters and shelter for other little creatures. Of course, human safety and governing regulations prevail, so use caution and wisdom in determining what stays and what goes on residential and commercial property, especially with regards to large canopy trees.

Grin and bare it

Ground-nesting bees represent 70% of Texas native bees; they seek sunny, well-drained patches of bare ground to establish entries to their underground homes, so it's important to leave some small areas of our landscape unmulched and unplanted for their use. Solitary and placid, ground-nesting bees include Mining bees (*Andrenidae* family), which are first responders of spring, making them important pollinators for early blooming fruit trees and other flowering trees and shrubs. Native American Bumblebees (*Bombus pensylvanicus*) are opportunistic below-ground nesters, often utilizing abandoned rodent burrows, wood pile bottoms, or clumps of herbaceous vegetation for their small colonies. These large, non-aggressive bees are premier pollinators of edible crops such as tomatoes, potatoes, and blueberries. They particularly love to nectar on Texas native Mealy Blue Sage (*Salvia farinacea*), so consider adding that to your landscape, if you don't already have it.

Leave the leaves

Leaves provide shelter for numerous small species including bumblebees, lizards, toads, and overwintering butterfly pupae. Banded Hairstreaks (*Satyrus calanus*) and Red-Banded Hairstreaks



Photo Courtesy DCMGA Member Kathryn Wells

Dragonflies

like this Blue Dasher (*Pachydiplax longipennis*) are voracious consumers of pests such as mosquitoes and prefer to perch for their prey on spent stalks, stems, and twigs.

Landscape Maintenance is for the Birds (Cont.)

(*Calycopis cecrops*), for example, lay their eggs on fallen leaves under Sumacs (*Rhus* spp.), Wax Myrtles (*Morella cerifera*), and several Oaks (*Quercus* spp.); removing the leaves from the ground underneath them destroys the pupating life. Additionally, leaf litter protects plant roots and adds structure and nutrients to the soil as it decomposes, nurturing new plant growth and feeding organisms that thrive in its decay, including invertebrates—vital to the food web. Almost all terrestrial North American birds feed insects to their young, even if the adults themselves are mostly berry and seed eaters. A Carolina Chickadee, for example, weighs less than 1/2 ounce but requires up to 9000 caterpillars to raise one brood. And, in the "For What It's Worth" category, Oak trees support more than 500 species of lepidoptera (butterfly and moth) caterpillars—significantly more than any other native tree or plant.



Photo Courtesy DCMGA Member Kathryn Wells

The Red-Banded Hairstreak
(*Calycopis cecrops*) nectaring here on Shrubby Boneset (*Ageratina havanensis*) lays its eggs on the fallen leaves of native trees including Sumac, Wax Myrtle, and several Oak species.

Power down

Commonly used maintenance tools like lawn mowers, leaf blowers, and weed whackers may be convenient for humans, but they're terribly detrimental to the little critters living in our landscapes. A leaf blower in a little wildlife habitat could be likened to a tornado ripping through a residential neighborhood, wreaking destruction mere seconds. Not only can the force of those tools destroy dwelling and nesting sites, but the creatures themselves may be maimed or killed. So, don't blow their cover. Sweeping and raking does far less damage and (bonus!) saves the gardener a trip to the gym. For little creatures who have successfully evaded predation, death by weed whacker is a particularly sad end. And, even pulling weeds by the roots may disturb native ground-nesting bees and other small creatures existing in the vegetation. Cutting weeds by hand (with pruners or scissors, depending on the scope) prevents and removes weedy seed heads while

protecting the surrounding soil. Reel mowers are a more humane and earth-friendly option to gas-powered mowers, but if they aren't practical for the size of your space, give the wildlife a chance to temporarily evacuate the area by mowing from the inside out, so they can move to the outer edges instead of being trapped in the middle of the work area. For isolated islands of turf, walk the area before mowing, and let the mower run for a few minutes before beginning to cut; the sound and vibration may encourage small ones in hiding to seek temporary shelter elsewhere.

This autumn, don't fall for the conventional view that a perfectly manicured garden is the only good garden. Clean may look tidy, but it's pretty sterile. Healthy and productive life is a little messy sometimes! So be mindful of the little creatures seeking refuge under your stewardship, and welcome them to the wonderful world of your wildscaped garden.

Landscape Maintenance is for the Birds (Cont.)

Resources:

Tallamy, Douglas W. (2018). *Bringing Nature Home, How You Can Sustain Wildlife with Native Plants*. Portland Oregon: Timber Press

Breneman, Karen M. (2002). *Gardening with Nature in Texas*. Plano Texas: Republic of Texas Press

Damude, Noreen; Bender, Kelly Conrad (1999). *Texas Wildscapes, Gardening for Wildlife*. Texas Parks and Wildlife Press

Lawson, Nancy (2017). *The Human Gardener, Nurturing a Backyard Habitat for Wildlife*. Hudson, NY: Princeton Architectural Press



MGer Advanced Training and also DCMGA Public Presentations

Our members share their science-based knowledge and experience on a variety of topics.

DCMGA Speakers Bureau

September 18, 1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Preserving the Harvest

Location: Flower Mound Senior Center
2701 W Windsor Dr.
Flower Mound.



30th Anniversary Party Video

DCMGA celebrated a very happy 30th Anniversary on 8/14.

With many former members as guests, memories were shared, and new goals discussed. If you missed it, or if you'd like to see it again, we're pleased to share the video shown at the party. Check out the link below.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PFR90u7bwxU&t=4s>

Becoming A Master Gardener

BY KIM WOOTON, DCMGA CLASS ADMINISTRATOR

I was an Intern, DCMGA Class of 2017. I still remember how proud I was to receive my Master Gardener name tag and pose for the group photo along with my classmates. I also remember how intimidated I was by that title, Master Gardener. Sure, I'd learned a lot in the 84 hours of class time and in the many, many hours of volunteer service I had logged thus far, but was I really a Master at this? How would I know?

Turns out, I've learned that almost all the Denton County Master Gardeners I meet share the same feeling. As a matter of fact, those who seem to know the most are the ones I continue to see at Advanced Training opportunities and volunteer sites honing their knowledge and experience. It is apparent that the best of us understand that the Master in the title is actually an aspiration backed by perspiration!

That's what makes this organization worthwhile for members and important to the community: it provides the best-trained volunteers available offering meaningful horticultural education. DCMGA members are also respected by members of the Texas Master Gardener Association, and our friends and neighbors who come to us for advice, confident they are getting solid, scientifically-based information.

As Sonny Smith and I prepare for the Class of 2020, I look back to the Class of 2017 Graduation Dinner and our group photo. I have even more pride and commitment to DCMGA than I did that evening.

Sonny and I would like to extend an invitation to anyone who is interested to apply to become a part of the 2020 Intern Class, and then to join the over 200 members of DCMGA.



Photo Courtesy DCMGA Member Liz Moyer

The Class of 2019
celebrating becoming full-fledged Master Gardeners
at their graduation this past January.

Becoming A Master Gardener (Cont.)

As a DCMGA Applicant, here is what to expect:

Applications go online in mid-August at dcmga.com. Interested people can also pick up physical copies of the applications at the Extension Office located at 401 W. Hickory, Denton. The deadline to submit online applications is midnight on Friday, October 18. Physical copies must be returned to the Extension Office no later than 5:00 p.m. on October 18.

There will be an informational “Round Up” meeting from 10:00 a.m. – noon on October 15. All interested people are encouraged to attend in order to learn the requirements for membership and have their questions answered. Those who attend will also have first choice for interview time slots.

The interview process for applicants will begin October 23 and continue through November 15.

Final selection of up to 45 Interns for the Class of 2020 will occur by the last week of November and notification of applicants will occur in early December.

Each Intern is assigned an experienced Master Gardener as a mentor to help them learn the ropes throughout the year.

Interns will be expected to complete a minimum of 70 of the 84 hours of class time offered and an additional 70 hours of volunteer work within their first year. Interns work side-by-side with veteran Master Gardeners on several of our many long-standing service projects.

Classes are held on Tuesdays from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. from January 28 – April 28 at Global Spheres in Corinth. These classes are taught by some of the most prominent people in their fields, each week covering a different topic. All class materials are included in the tuition price, currently to be determined.

Sonny Smith, the entire Class Planning Team, the current members of DCMGA, and I look forward to meeting everyone. Please come out and see why we're all so enthusiastic about this wonderful program!



**Most of All,
Master Gardeners Have Fun!**

Bonton Farms Field Trip, 2019

Photo Courtesy
DCMGA Member Steve Simpson

Giving Made Easy on North Texas Giving Day

BY LIZ MOYER, DCMGA COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR

North Texas Giving Day is celebrating its tenth birthday this year, and I couldn't be prouder of how the North Texas area has stepped up to the plate to assist nonprofits on this one, very special day. While there are similar campaigns all over the country now, North Texas Giving Day (NTGD) is far and away the largest with over \$48 million dollars raised for over 2700 organizations in just 18 hours in 2018!

Using NTGD as an opportunity to finish up our charitable giving has really simplified things at our house. We look at our giving to date in early September, then decide which organizations need a little more boost and decide on a plan. We set up our gifts in one easy transaction on the NTGD website and get one tax receipt with each donation listed almost immediately. We also take the opportunity to check the box to cover credit card fees so we know our nonprofits are getting the full amount of the donation.



If everyone takes the opportunity to give a little, it will add up to a lot! Consider donating \$25.00 to DCMGA on this day of giving.

You can reap the benefits of being a NTGD donor so easily:

- Search the website by category or organization name to determine if your favorite organizations are participating. The website is www.northtexasgivingday.org
- The DCMGA page is <https://www.northtexasgivingday.org/denton-county-master-gardener-association>
- Schedule your gifts anytime between September 9 and 18, or
- Get Up and Give on September 19, 6:00am-midnight, or
- Write a check to DCMGA, noting it is for NTGD, and drop it or mail it to:
DCMGA
Texas A&M AgriLife Extension
401 W. Hickory, Suite 115
Denton, TX 76201

We will be using the money received to:

- Support the growing number of classes needed for youth programs in SWAT and Junior Master Gardeners;
- Increase our adult educational outreach to expand sustainable horticultural practices in Denton County for homes and communities.

Thank you for your generosity!

Family Heirlooms

BY CINDY HELM

My late grandmother Fannie Mae had a lake home in Breckenridge, Texas. We would go and visit when we could. Fannie Mae loved to fish, loved watching the Texas Rangers baseball team, and loved flowers and plants. I remember as a little girl wanting to water all of her plants in her screened-in porch. She would let me even when they probably didn't need it.

Fast forward twenty-five years and I found myself with my own young daughter exploring the gardens at my grandmother's lake house in Texas. On this beautiful summer day I discovered a beautiful grouping of plants that I had never seen before. They were everywhere and I just had to have some. This plant was the sedum 'Autumn Joy.' I knew this plant was for me since it seemed to grow with little care. Since I was a new mother, I knew time in my own garden would be limited, so I grabbed a bunch of these sedum to take home.

Fast forward another twenty-one years and I still have these sedum with me. I have lost a few, gained many more, and even moved them a time or two. They now rest in a container and each spring they come back to life to warm my soul. Although they are technically called sedum 'Autumn Joy,' I find that I have renamed them "Fannie Mae's" after my late grandmother. Each spring when they come up, and each fall when they produce their beautiful purple flowers, I think of my sweet grandmother, her love of fishing, baseball, and watering plants, and I smile.

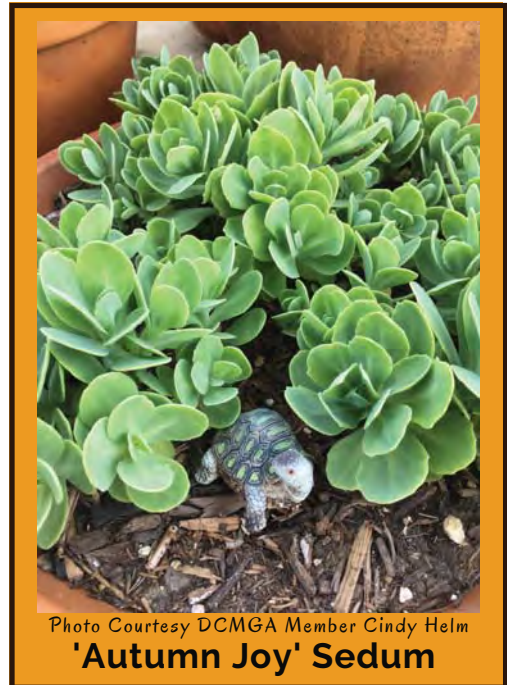


Photo Courtesy DCMGA Member Cindy Helm

'Autumn Joy' Sedum

There will be a Monarch butterfly release on Saturday, Sept. 28, with 800 Monarch butterflies to be released. Each one has been tagged for tracking purposes.

The butterfly release will be held at the Bob Jones Nature Center, 355 Bob Jones Road, Southlake.

The festivities begin at 9 AM and butterflies will be released beginning at 10 AM.

Monarch Butterfly Release

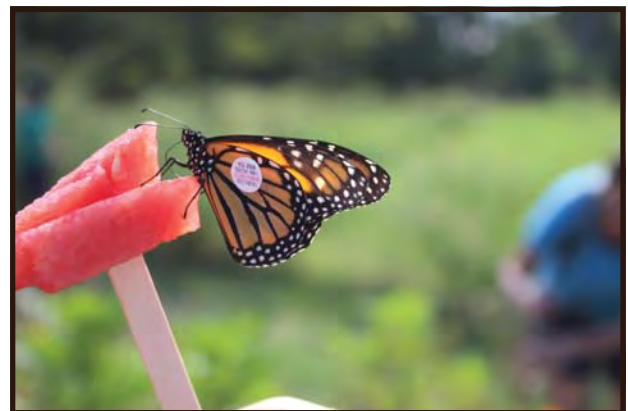


Photo Courtesy DCMGA Member Susie Barber

Tagged Monarch

Fall Garden Fest News for DCMGA Members

BY SHARRIE ELY

Calling all Denton County Master Gardener Association members

Fall Garden Fest is October 12, and we will need you to help with this fun and educational event. Signup Genius will be going out in September, so be sure and sign up for your spot.

Don't know where to work? Show up and we will find a place where you are needed.
Looking for a job that requires a lesser amount of exertion? We have those too.

This event is a great and fun way to get your volunteer hours.

Contact Sharrie Ely via VMS for more information on chances to volunteer:

- Setup – Friday, 6 p.m. (October 11)
- Setup – Saturday, 7 a.m. – 9 a.m. (October 12)
- Event – Saturday, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. (October 12)
- Takedown and cleanup – Saturday, 3 p.m. – 4 p.m. (October 12)



Share as you shop!

amazon smile

donates 0.5% of your eligible purchase price to the charity of your choice, including DCMGA.

Here's how it works:

- Visit <https://smile.amazon.com> and log into (or sign up for) your regular amazon account.
- Type Denton County Master Gardener Association in the search bar.
- Select Denton County Master Gardener Association.
- Congratulations! You're now signed up for amazon smile and 0.5% of your eligible purchases will benefit DCMGA.
- Bookmark smile.amazon.com as your new default shopping website.

Thank you

for supporting DCMGA through
amazon smile



Year-Round Giving Through Amazon Smile

North Texas Giving Day is September 19, and, in addition to that great giving opportunity, we can also support DCMGA year-round through Amazon Smile.

Amazon Smile, administered online through Amazon, costs nothing to the consumer, but donates 0.5% of the eligible purchase price to the charity of your choice, including DCMGA.

Visit our *Direct Link* for easy sign-up. Thanks for supporting DCMGA on North Texas Giving Day ... and on every day!

**BY BARBARA RIDGE**

Q: Over 5 of our post oak trees died suddenly. The leaves turned orange very quickly. Should we be concerned about our other post oak trees dying? Should we have the trees that died removed?

A: The DCMGA Help Desk has recently received a significant number of calls about post oak trees dying in what appears to be a short period of time. Ms. Sheila McBride (TPDDL diagnostician) and Dr. David Appel, Extension Plant Pathologist with the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, believe the "phenomenon of rapid decline of post oaks is a result of varying extremes of soil moisture (drought and/or drowning) leading to attack by root rots, cankers, and wood-boring insects." "Post oaks are a type of white oak, which are very susceptible to site disruption and rapid environmental changes." (Kathleen Phillips, AgriLife Today, September 20, 2016)

Root rot can develop as a result of saturated soils (poor internal soil drainage) resulting in inadequate oxygen diffusion to the tree's root system. All of these problems were made worse by the historic drought of 2011 when the health of these trees was crippled to such an extent that they are still suffering today. The heavy rainfall during the spring of 2016 and again during the spring of 2019 followed by a very hot dry period combined with poorly drained soils are contributing to their demise.

Ms. McBride and Dr. Appel report being confident the cause of the death of post oaks is NOT oak wilt. Oak wilt

targets primarily live oaks; this situation is impacting post oaks, which are very resistant to oak wilt.

Your best course of action is to contact a certified arborist as soon as possible to discuss diagnosis, treatment, dead tree removal, and ongoing care and maintenance of your post oaks.

In the meantime, maintaining even soil moisture availability in and around the remaining intact root system will assist in tree recovery. In the absence of rain, water deeply applying two inches once a month to encourage deeper rooting of your trees. Apply soluble high phosphorus and high potassium fertilizer into the root zone to supply developing roots. Do not prune or remove dead limbs from the trees while they're under stress, rather, wait until they're dormant.

Resources

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension

The Care and Feeding of Post Oaks

<https://agrilife.org/coastalbend/files/2015/02/The-Care-and-Feeding-of-Post-Oaks.pdf>

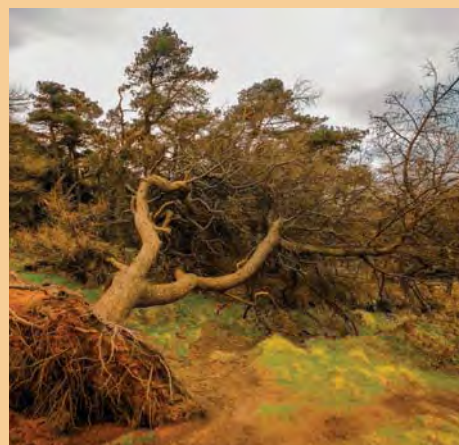
Rapid Decline of Oaks

<https://plantclinic.tamu.edu/2016/09/02/rapid-decline-of-oaks/>

International Society of Arboriculture

Find an Arborist

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



Stock Photo Courtesy of Canva

If you have questions about tree issues or any other horticulture-related subjects, please contact our Master Gardener Help Desk at 940.349.2892 or master.gardener@dentoncounty.com. It's free of charge, and it's our pleasure to assist you.

Keep Lewisville Beautiful Presents...

2019 Garden Secrets Classes

Join Keep Lewisville Beautiful and City of Lewisville for FREE community classes led by Denton County Master Gardeners and The Texas Agrilife Extension Office. **Classes are free but seats are limited to first 40 participants to RSVP.**

All classes will be held either in Classroom 1 or Recital Hall at the MCL Grand (100 N Charles St, 75057).

RSVP REQUIRED: 972-538-5949
info@keeplewisvillebeautiful.org

Jan 24th:
ULandscapeIT:
Water Efficient
Landscape Design
6-8 PM

February 7th:
How to Plant
Vegetables
6-7 PM

Feb 28th:
Composting
6-8 PM

**DCMG topic
to be announced**

May 2nd:
Pots in Small
Spots: Container
Gardening
6-7 PM

June 13th:
Sensational
Succulents
6-7 PM

July 18th:
Made for Shade:
Shade Gardening
6-8 PM

August 1st:
Water U Doing
Water Efficient
Sprinklers
6-8 PM

August 15th:
Let's Ketchup on
Tomatoes
6-8 PM

September 5th:
Grow your Own
Vegetables
6-8 PM

September 19th:
Texan Plants
6-7 PM

October 24th:
Birds, Bees, and
Butterflies: Gardening
for Wildlife
6-8 PM

November 21st:
Texas Trees
6-8 PM

The mission of Keep Lewisville Beautiful is to engage the citizens of Lewisville through service and education to enhance their community environment.

RSVP: 972-538-5949

keeplewisvillebeautiful.org

info@keeplewisvillebeautiful.org



TEXAS
MASTER GARDENER

**Want to Be a
Master
Gardener?**

DENTON COUNTY
MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION
Now Recruiting for Our
2020 Intern Class

Applications Accepted
August 15 - October 18, 2019

Informational Meeting
October 15, 2019 ~ 10 am to 12 pm
Joseph A. Carroll Building
401 W. Hickory Street, Room 115
Denton, TX 76201

Details available at
www.dcmga.com

 **#GrowWithUs**



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.



DCMGA Member

Plant EXCHANGE

September 11, 5:30 to 6:30 pm



*Bring 10 plants to Swap
Extra plants can be distributed after Swap
A fun event to see and talk about plants!
located at the Bayless Selby House Area
A Members only event*

DCMGA's September 11 Meeting is an Evening Event !

5:30-6:30pm - Members Only Plant Exchange
Bayless Selby House Parking Lot

6:30-7:00pm - Social Time
Joseph A. Carroll Building - Room 115

7:00-8:30pm - General Meeting & Program
Joseph A. Carroll Building - Room 115

Program: Perennials !
By Jackson Weston
of Weston Gardens



Denton County Master Gardener Association
presents



TEXAS A&M
AGRI LIFE
EXTENSION

FALL GARDEN FEST

Smart Plants for Smart Gardeners

OCTOBER 12
SATURDAY 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

DENTON FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
201 S. LOCUST ST., DENTON, TX

A NEW location on Locust St. south of Denton Courthouse. Free parking on Sycamore St. Enter on the south side of the church for speakers and kids area and indoor retail and education areas.



Featuring Speakers -

Jay White -Editor and Owner,
Texas Gardener Magazine

Dee Nash - Garden Writer, Speaker, Garden Traveler,
Writer of Red Dirt Rambling.com and podcaster, "The Gardenangelists"

Come join us for a day of fun kid activities, great speakers, wonderful vendors, and hands-on learning from Master Gardeners on topics such as butterflies, fall vegetable gardening, herbs, wildflowers, trees, and much, much more!

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 Court of Texas Cooperating



Denton County Master Gardener Association

Design Your Yard with Earth-Kind® Landscaping

*"Homeowner education focused on
Earth-Kind® practices conserving
time, money, and natural resources
to create beautiful, productive
yards or gardens."*

- ④ **Planning Preparation**
- ④ **Design Application**
- ④ **Hardscape Considerations**
- ④ **Plant Selection**

October 18 & 19, 2019
Friday 6:30 - 8:30 pm
Saturday 9:00 am - 4:30 pm

Flower Mound United Methodist Church
3950 Bruton Orand Blvd.
Flower Mound, Texas 75028

The cost is \$100 per person or \$125 for two people in the same household
(Registrant duos will share tools and design one property)

For more information and to register, visit www.dcmga.com

TEXAS A&M
AGRI LIFE
EXTENSION





*For All DCMGA Program Managers
(Rookies & Veterans)
And Those Who Would Like to Learn More
About Becoming One!*

• NOVEMBER 20, 2019 •

Program Manager Symposium

• 9 AM TO 12 NOON •

Room 115
Joseph A. Carroll Building
401 W. Hickory Street, Denton

Sessions Include:

Mission & Governance

Administrative Protocols

Leading & Motivating a Team

Board Member & Support Staff Panel Discussion



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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.

2019 Board of Directors

President	Pat Moyer
Vice President	Kathryn Wells
Director of Education	Kim Wootton
Secretary	Kimberlee Shaneyfelt
Treasurer	Katherine Woodward
Communications Director	Liz Moyer
Member-at-Large	Gay Campbell
Volunteer Coordinator	Kaye Gross
Past President	Tammie Gurley

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>

Save the Date

October 12	Fall Garden Festival
October 15	Becoming a Master Gardener Information Session
October 18-19	Design Your Yard with EarthKind
November 20	PM Summit

Contact Information

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Joseph A. Carroll Building
401 W. Hickory Street
Suite 112
Denton TX 76201-9026

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Help Desk:

940.349.2892

master.gardener@dentoncounty.com

Webmaster:

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Communications:

dcmga.communications@gmail.com

Website:

<https://dcmga.com>

Content

Submission deadline for the October edition of *The Root* is Sunday, September 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 at karenhoot19@gmail.com or Communications Director Liz Moyer at lizmoyer@live.com.