

Denton County Master Gardener Association

THE ROOT

Grow With Us



Camellia Canva Stock Photo

Buds From The Board

BY KATHRYN WELLS, PRESIDENT

Happy December, All,

As we near the end of 2020, conditions remain challenging due to necessary pandemic protocols. Thankfully, we continue our mission of educating and engaging our community through virtual opportunities like our Help Desk and our monthly newsletter, *The Root*. Our upcoming Greater Aubrey Area Gardening Series will be held virtually, too; registration information is in this newsletter edition (page 18) and will be available soon on our [website](#). In the meantime, many of our Speakers Bureau presentations and educational programs are available for viewing on our [DCMGA YouTube channel](#). Please let us know if there is a particular topic you'd like to see in the future.

Reflecting upon our many 2020 accomplishments, the efforts of our Community Garden project managers and teams were especially appreciated this year. Volunteers worked smartly and safely to contribute almost 50,000 pounds of fresh produce to area food pantries, all while helping teach others how to grow their own backyard bounties – a gift that keeps on giving!

Many thanks to each of our members, interns, committee chairs, project managers, directors, and officers for adapting and excelling through an unprecedented (at least in our lifetime!) year.

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<https://dcmga.com>

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Buds From The Board (Cont.)

I am grateful for your sunny spirits and indefatigable efforts! Much gratitude is also due to our 2020 Board of Directors, who kept calm and Zoomed on as we daily navigated the smartest, safest ways to navigate uncharted territory. And, congratulations to the newly elected 2021 Board of Directors, approved at our November general meeting. It looks as if we'll be continuing the good work necessitated this year; I know your contributions will be beneficial and valuable to our Association.

Most of all, thank you to the community that we serve. It is a privilege to share our knowledge of research-based horticultural and environmental practices with you, and it is a pleasure to see the exponential impact of sustainable gardens and landscapes in our community. We look forward to continuing our communal efforts in the new year.

Denton County Master Gardeners and Denton County residents—each of you is a gift! May you continue to be safe and sound with every provision and protection, and, regardless of the circumstances, may your holiday season abound with joy and peace.

Kathryn



Plant of the Month - Lenten Rose

Common names

Lenten Rose, Christmas Rose

Botanical name

Hellebore

Characteristics - Perennial

Hellebores, in the *Ranunculaceae* – Buttercup family, are the stars of the late winter/early spring garden. In the south, they remain evergreen and prefer shade. Eastern European in origin, they are loved for their floral variety of spots and subtle coloring. A rugged and easy-to-grow plant, hellebore is lovely grouped under trees and shrubs or in a woodland garden.



Lenten Rose

Size - 18 to 24 inches tall and 24 to 30 inches wide.

Flowers - Nodding flower clusters appear on thick stems above the foliage: flower color may be white, pink or light rose-purple, frequently with interior spotting.

Bloom time - Winter through early spring.

Leaves - Palmate, serrate, thick, 8-16" wide, glossy, basal, dark green leaves (7-9 leaflets).

Pests and Disease Problems - No serious insect or disease problems. Leaf spot and crown rot are occasional problems.

Growing in North Texas - Best grown in organically rich, well-drained soil in part shade to full shade. Propagate by division of the clumps (best in spring) and from seedlings which grow up around the plants. Very hardy and drought tolerant once established.

Resources

The Gardener's Guide to Growing Hellebores, by Graham Rice and Elizabeth Strangman

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, Plants Database

<https://plants.usda.gov/core/profile?symbol=HEOR3>

Missouri Botanical Garden,

<http://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/plantfinder/plantfindersearch.aspx>

Originally published on the DCMGA website at

<https://dcmga.com/north-texas-gardening/perennials/shade-plants/lenten-rose/>

A Gardener's Wish List

BY KAREN GIBSON

Do you have a gardener on your holiday gift list? Or maybe loved ones are asking you, the gardener of the family, what you would like for Christmas? An informal survey conducted among Denton County Master Gardeners and a few gardening friends surfaced a variety of garden gift ideas. Some are "Useful and Affordable" while others fall into the "Would Love to Have No Matter the Cost" category. I've included the Top 5 most listed gift ideas in each category.

Useful and Affordable

5. Pruning Shears – An indispensable tool for the any gardener. One Master Gardener wrote about her Fiskars Micro Tip Pruning Snips, "I have oodles of them stashed everywhere . . . and use them daily to snip herbs, flowers, leaf edges, and the occasional pest."

4. Garden Cart – A four-wheel garden cart lets you move bags of compost, newly potted plants, trays of seedlings ready to plant, and weeds destined for the compost heap. It saves you steps and, more importantly, saves your back from strain. There are many brands and styles – mine has a dump cart feature – and you can find garden carts at most gardening stores.



Ganya Stock Photo



Photos Courtesy DCMGA Member Karen Gibson

This Garden Cart Gets A Workout

while saving its owner steps and (most of the time!) a sore back.

3. Padded Garden Kneeler/Bench – This bench will make working in your garden a lot easier. There are many variations, but you want to look for one that has a thick cushioned kneeling pad to cushion your knees while planting and weeding, a steel frame to assist you in getting down and back up, and it should have the option to convert into a bench for sitting.

A Gardener's Wish List (Cont.)

2. Garden Bucket Caddy – This handy organizer, usually made of durable canvas, will keep all your essential tools in one place, ready to use when needed. Around the outside is a variety of loops, holsters, and pockets designed to carry your gardening tools. Slip it over a 5-gallon bucket and use the center to carry weeds or other supplies.



A Bucket Caddy

keeps all your essential tools in one place and is easy to carry to your garden.

*Photos Courtesy DCMGA
Member Pam Spooner*



1. Hori-Hori Gardening knife – The most often mentioned indispensable gardener's tool was the hori-hori. This heavy duty knife with its stainless steel blades (one serrated, one beveled) is perfect for digging into our tough Texas soil, cutting roots, chopping weeds, digging out rocks, and many other gardening chores. It is easy to clean and will not rust. Hori-hori knives are made by several manufacturers and available in stores and online.

Would Love to Have No Matter the Cost

5. Potting bench – A potting bench provides a work surface and storage area for pots, planting soil, and other gardening tools. It can be both useful and decorative. Potting benches are available at many retailers and online stores, but if you have a carpenter in the family, lucky you! A Denton County Master Gardener built this potting bench, which includes a sink for setting pots in while potting them up. This gets the pots low enough to give your neck and back a break. When the sink is not in use, it has a cover. I especially like the hangars on each end – you can hang your basket while you fill it!



Photo Courtesy DCMGA Member Liz Moyer

A Gardener's Wish List (Cont.)

4. Pond / water fountain / water feature – Water features of all sizes were a popular desire of surveyed gardeners. While a pond might not be possible in your yard, most gardens can accommodate a water fountain. Many nurseries and garden stores have an assortment of fountains that are ready to set up, plug in, and enjoy. If your gardener has the space for an ornamental pond, Texas A&M AgriLife's "Ornamental Ponds and Water Gardens in Texas" publication offers all you need to know to build your own.

3. Garden Shed – Every gardener would love a garden shed like this one custom designed by a Denton County Master Gardener. The workbench counter includes a circle opening to sweep soil into with a vintage galvanized trash can underneath. How handy is that? She has everything a gardener needs right at her finger tips.

2. Full-time gardener – While some gardens would benefit from a full-time gardener, many gardeners indicated that they would most welcome some amount of daily assistance with gardening chores, specifically with weeding. If money is no object, then hire your gardener some help. Another option, though, would be to gift them with some mulch, which helps prevent weeds. As an added bonus, you could help them spread the mulch on their gardens.



Photos Courtesy DCMGA Member Carol Arment

This Garden Shed
has everything a gardener could desire.

1. Greenhouse – By far the most desired garden gift was a greenhouse. Comments included "a custom greenhouse with vintage windows," "a greenhouse with part hot house," "a greenhouse with automatic ventilation," and even "I'd Kill for a greenhouse." Someone seriously wants a greenhouse! If your gardener's heart's desire is a greenhouse, be sure to read up on greenhouses and include your gardener in the process of selection. Instead of a full-size greenhouse, you might start with a small, portable, easy-to-install and relatively cheap greenhouse.

For more gift ideas, check out "Gift Ideas for the Gardener in Your Life" in The Root, November 2019 issue.

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

It's time to renew your annual DCMGA membership!

- Annual dues paid by January 31, 2021 are \$15.
- Annual dues paid after January 31, 2021 will be \$25.
- All service hours and AT hours must be entered in VMS no later than January 31, 2021.
- Any member not in good standing as of March 31, 2021 will be inactivated, unless granted an exception by the CEA-Hort.

To remain a member in good standing, the following conditions must be met:

- Required annual service hours and AT hours have been earned and entered into VMS.
- The annual renewal form AND annual volunteer service agreement have been completed.
- Annual dues have been paid.

For a review of the annual membership renewal requirements, please visit the Member's Info section of our website or this direct link:

<https://dcmga.com/members-info/annual-dcmga-membership-renewal/>

Please contact President Kathryn Wells or Member-at-Large Tammie Gurley with any questions or concerns.

DCMGA Members & Interns: join us in cyberspace for our virtual Holiday Party!

We're pleased to feature
nine mini presentations featuring
garden-inspired holiday decor ... and
more! (Prizes, too!)

Presenters include Lori Barr, Lynda
Harvey, Bonnie Ambrose, Sharon
Clark, Debby Ishee, Lisa Lebsack, Ann
Hillmann, Cece Kenney, and Sherry
Massey.

**Look for the link in your
weekly email.**

Social only.



Mama's Bourbon Balls

BY RHONDA LOVE

Mix together:

- 1 pound vanilla wafers, finely ground
- 1 cup packed brown sugar
- 1/2 cup bourbon
- 2 tablespoons white syrup
- 1 1/2 teaspoons cinnamon
- 1 1/2 teaspoons cocoa
- 1 cup finely chopped or ground pecans

Shape into balls and roll in powdered sugar.

Store in a tin. Enjoy!



Photo Courtesy DCMGA Member Rhonda Love

We many not be able to participate in large family gatherings this year, but we can continue old traditions and/or begin new ones. Bake some delicious holiday treats and ship them to friends and family. Better yet, have a video chat baking fest. Each participant can get the necessary ingredients ahead of time and then everyone can prepare their Bourbon Balls at the same time. Add some love and laughs and it will be a memory to cherish.



Happy Holidays!



Denton County Master Gardener Association



This year has brought a resurgence of interest in gardening and with it, an increase in Help Desk activity. With this in mind, the Help Desk page has been updated and streamlined. If you have a gardening/plant question, make the Help Desk page your first-stop resource. It's very likely you will quickly and easily find the answers you need.

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

Leaf Mold

Got too many leaves for traditional composting? Here's a quick solution.

BY KAREN GIBSON AND BARBARA BROWN

"The Art of Composting" in the November issue of *The Root* provided detailed instruction on how to successfully compost yard waste and household organic matter into soil enrichment material. Even for seasoned gardeners it was inspirational and instructive. I learned that I need to stir my compost bin at least once a week, adding oxygen into the mix to speed up the composting process. I also need to counter the excess of Green material (Nitrogen) in my compost bin with a lot more Brown material (Carbon), such as shredded leaves and paper products. So moving forward, I will make sure I set a few bags of leaves aside to shred and add to my compost bin as needed to maintain the correct green/brown balance.

What will I do with the all the remaining bags of leaves from my yard? Instead of shredding, I will slow-compost them in bags relying on the action of fungi to create leaf mold, which can then be added to my garden.

What is leaf mold?

Leaf mold has a miraculous ability to hold moisture. To compare, subsoil holds a mere 20 percent of its weight in water and good topsoil will hold 60 percent. Leaf mold can retain 300 to 500 percent of its weight in water. [1]

Leaf mold is essentially "composted" shade tree leaves. However, unlike traditional compost that undergoes a heat-generating, bacterially-driven process, leaf mold is produced through a cooler and much slower fungal-driven process. The resulting decomposed material is an excellent additive to soil. It can be mixed in during tillage, or used as a surface mulch for no-till gardening.

(Mike Travis, UW-Extension Pepin County Agriculture Agent)



Photo Courtesy DCMGA Member Karen Gibson

Finished Leaf Mold

How to make leaf mold

To create an effective environment for leaf mold to occur, I shove as many leaves into black garbage bags as I can, tie them off, poke some holes for air, and then pile them in a back corner of our utility yard, out of sight and out of mind, until the next season I have to rake leaves. Since this yard receives little to no sunshine, and since I do not shred the leaves before bagging, the composting process is slow. It takes six months for my leaves to reach a partially composted state, and a full twelve months for the leaves to break down into beautiful leaf mold, or leaf gold, ready to use in my gardens.

1] Texas A&M AgriLife, "Compost Pile Valuable," <https://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/archives/parsons/earthkind/ekgarden11.html>

Leaf Mold (Cont.)

For faster decomposition in the bags of leaves, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension provides this guidance in their article series on Earth-Kind® Landscaping, [Don't Bag It – Leaf Management Plan](#). "To produce compost in a bag, simply collect the leaves and place them in heavy-duty, plastic trash bags. As with other methods or composting, shredded leaves work best. Into each bag full of leaves, put one to two shovel fulls of garden soil and either two shovel-fulls of manure or about one-half cup of a



Photo Courtesy DCMGA Member Karen Gibson

Partially Composted Bagged Leaves

high nitrogen fertilizer. Apply enough water to thoroughly moisten the leaves. Punch 10 to 15 holes in the plastic bag to allow for air circulation through the leaves. Turn the bag once or twice and add water, if needed, to keep the leaves moist. Store your bags of composting leaves in an out-of-sight place. After about 2 weeks open the bags to check on the composting process. Under most circumstances, the compost will be ready for use in about 6 to 8 weeks."

You will be shocked at how that huge jam-packed full bag of leaves shrinks down into just a gallon or two of usable compost and you might question if it was worth the wait. You can feel satisfaction for three reasons:

1. You've successfully reduced your landfill footprint by not sending your leaves down the road in a garbage truck,
2. You've completed an age-old natural cycle (soil nutrients to trees to leaves to soil),
3. You can now add organic matter and nutrients into your gardens, and at no extra cost!

Making leaf mold is a winning process, no matter how you look at it.

Now, let's go bag up some leaves!

Resources

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, "Don't Bag It – Leaf Management"

<https://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/earthkind/landscape/leaf-management-plan/>

Denton County Master Gardener Association (DCMGA)

"Compost your way to a successful garden:

<https://dcmga.com/north-texas-gardening/community-gardening/compost-your-way-to-a-successful-garden/>

"The Art of Composting"

<https://dcmga.com/north-texas-gardening/community-gardening/the-art-of-composting/>

I asked the leaf whether it was frightened because it was autumn and the other leaves were falling. The leaf told me, "No. During the whole spring and summer I was completely alive. I worked hard to help nourish the tree, and now much of me is in the tree. I am not limited by this form. I am also the whole tree, and when I go back to the soil, I will continue to nourish the tree. So I don't worry at all. As I leave this branch and float to the ground, I will wave to the tree and tell her, 'I will see you again very soon'."

That day there was a wind blowing and, after a while, I saw the leaf leave the branch and float down to the soil, dancing joyfully, because as it floated it saw itself already there in the tree. It was so happy. I bowed my head, knowing that I have a lot to learn from the leaf.

~ Thich Nhat Hanh, *The Heart of Understanding*



Canva Stock Photo

Master Gardener Plant Donations For LISD

BY NIKKI JOHNSON, ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST III - HORTICULTURE

Our Denton County Master Gardeners have always been generous, but when asked for a favor, I found out how quick they are to meet a need.

Lewisville ISD just finished work on their new Technology, Exploration, & Career Center West facility, complete with a greenhouse, raised beds, and hydroponics. Janet Laminack (Denton CEA-Hort), Colleen Carpenter (Denton County 4-H Program Coordinator), and I were fortunate enough to be given a tour of the state of the art facility by their horticulture and plant science teacher, Sydney Wallace. It was incredible!



Mrs. Wallace shared with us that because of initial start-up expenses, they were only currently working with plants that either she personally brought in or that students brought from home. Within hours of sending an email out to our group, I had multiple responses of people willing to donate! It was amazing to see how quickly our Master Gardeners were willing to help and the variety of plants that were donated.

Several "class sets" of a plant or cutting were donated so that each student got their own to use during a hands-on lesson. Donations included various plants from irises and day lilies, to Purple Heart, Mexican petunias and basil. They received red yucca, airplane plants, Mother of Thousands, and more! When picking donations up, it was great to hear Mrs. Wallace comment "I have one student who is really into begonias so he will be very excited about these cuttings." She also mentioned one student being very interested in propagation and another into succulents.



Since receiving donations, Mrs. Wallace has been able to fill multiple tables in her greenhouse with projects for the students. They have been able to focus on propagation based on the plant's structure. Our Master Gardeners provided the supplies for hands-on learning for these students, which has kept the students not only engaged but excited about horticulture.

Thank you for helping turn an uncertain school year into an exciting one for these students! I know that Mrs. Wallace and her students truly appreciate every donation and I am fortunate to work with a wonderful and giving group of volunteers!



AgriLife Online Courses

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension

(Most, but not all, are free.)

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

Earth-Kind® Online Master Gardener Training

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension

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

Introduction to Plant Identification

UDSA NRCS Science & Technology

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

Aggie Horticulture YouTube

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCbp4wkScRVoHlN3Hi1_KUQ/

DCMGA General Meeting CE Programs

"The Ease of Effective Hardscaping"

"Preserving the Harvest:

"Growing Green and Saving Blue,"

Daniel Cunningham, AgriLife

"Gardens Gone Wild"

"Getting Buggy"

Business meetings

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

Online Education Opportunities

For Master Gardeners and the Community We Serve

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

Gardening 101 + Virtual Learning Series

Aggie Horticulture

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension

Texas AgriLife posts great videos to the Aggie Horticulture Facebook. There are over 50 presentations here. View them at:

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

Citrus Varieties:

Gardening on the Gulf Coast

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension

Stephen Brueggerhoff, Extension Agent – Horticulture

<https://youtu.be/wSIRjQJnxhE>

Chat with Green Aggies

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension

All previous recordings:

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLxT5cUdFaycrUzUiWSA4.6JRPGBYSFiFzH>

DCMGA Members

Watch for a VMS email with current Online CE Opportunities.

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

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

Online Education Opportunities (Cont.)

DCMGA Fall Garden Fest Presentations

Dr. Hennen Cummings at 10:00 am Presenting "Your North Texas Turf Needs"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?=EpMG6dvYdEY>

Toni Moorehead at 1:30 pm Presenting

"Fall/Winter Tips & To-do's for North Central Texas Gardens"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sjCVnRQyX74>

Betsy Marsh at 3:00 p.m. Presenting

"Gardens that Give Back: Lovely, Low-Water, Life-Giving Landscapes"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G5a2HXvkmYs>

Colorado State University

Houseplants Course - Cost: \$60

Discount Code: Use 'PLANT10' for \$10 off registration through 12-31-20

This course is applicable to all locations and is not state specific. How does this class work? This class uses a self-paced, dynamic curriculum including videos, activities and knowledge checks – you can come and go as needed and have access for a full year from the time of registration. The course will take ~ 3 hours to complete in one sitting.

For more course info & registration:

<https://www.online.colostate.edu/courses/AGBB/AGBB2015.dot>

AgriLife Water University

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension

The educational presentations and handouts previously provided from Water University are no longer available to the public effective November 10, 2020. We are sorry for any inconvenience the loss of this valuable resources creates for subscribers of *The Root*.

In the absence of the resources of Water University, AgriLife offers these suggestions for sustainable gardening information: [Texas Master Gardener](#) program or the [Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service](#) online. For additional online classes, check out AgriLife's digital course offerings at [AgriLife Learn](#).

Denton County Master Gardener YouTube Channel

Our virtual General Meetings and other programs can be viewed on our YouTube Channel. Check it out! And don't forget to subscribe!

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



BY HELP DESK TEAM

Q: I have lots of fallen leaves from a hackberry tree in my yard. Can I use those as mulch in my vegetable garden? If I do, will they raise the phosphorus levels in the soil?

A: Absolutely! Fallen leaves that accumulate in our landscape are a terrific, free resource! Their benefits include conserving moisture, modifying the temperature of the soil, preventing soil erosion, reducing weed growth and, when composted, they supply a slow release of nutrients to plants.

Let's talk about the various ways you can manage your fallen leaves with information from Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Earth-Kind Landscaping.

- Mow a light covering of fallen leaves and leave them in place on your lawn. It's helpful to use a mulching blade to shred the leaves.
- Use the fallen leaves as mulch in your ornamental beds, vegetable gardens and around trees and shrubs. Mowing over them and capturing them in your mower's bag attachment will shred them and is an effective way to distribute them where you want. Apply 3" to 6" around trees and shrubs leaving a 4" to 6" gap around the plants' trunk or stem. In ornamental and vegetable gardens apply 2" to 4". Shredded leaves are also great to use in garden paths.

- Improve the soil by working 6" to 8" of shredded leaves into clay soil to improve aeration and drainage. Doing this in sandy soil will improve water and nutrient retention in the soil. A light broadcast of high nitrogen fertilizer over the area and keeping the area moist will help decompose the shredded leaves.
- Compost dry leaves along with other yard waste such as grass clippings, small shredded/chipped up plants, and weeds. Leaves can also be decomposed by themselves into leaf mold that can be used as a soil amendment.

Leaf mold is super easy for homeowners to make and has lots of beneficial uses in your garden. Did you know that leaf mold holds 300% to 500% of its weight in moisture? In addition, when worked into the soil, it improves the soil structure and provides a habitat for good soil organisms like earthworms and beneficial bacteria. Leaf mold can also be used as mulch.

Leaf mold is produced through fungal decomposition which is cooler and slower than heat-generating composting. Here are some simple ways to make leaf mold:

- Rake the leaves into a pile, moisten them a little, and let them sit.
- Put the leaves into black plastic bags, wet them down and shake the bags to distribute the



Photo Courtesy of DCMGA Member Cheryl Huckabee

moisture, and poke a few holes in the bags. Put the bags in a shady spot and check them every few months to add water if needed.

- Speed up the decomposition process by shredding the leaves and adding a little high nitrogen fertilizer to the pile or bags. Turning the pile with a garden fork and turning over the bags also helps them decompose more quickly.
- Leaf mold is ready to use when it is soft and crumbly, resembling chocolate cake.

Learn more about leaf mold online via these research-based sources:

- [University of Wisconsin Extension](#)
- [University of California Cooperative Extension](#)

Regarding your question about whether using leaves as mulch will add phosphorus to your soil, according to University of Massachusetts-Amherst "[Heavy continuous use of compost, manures or other materials as a source of organic matter can lead to imbalances or excess levels of some nutrients after a number of years. As with any soil amendment, it is advisable to periodically test your soil for nutrient levels, pH and organic matter and adjust your fertilizer and organic matter applications accordingly.](#)"

[Learn more about why and how to have your soil tested](#) on the Denton County Master Gardener Association website.

Thanks again for your terrific question and for being a good steward of our environment!



*If you have questions about any 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.*

*Last month's Help Desk Q&A on Pruning Perennials was so well
received that it now has it's own dedicated DCMGA webpage:*

"When and how to prune perennial flowering plants"

<https://dcmga.com/north-texas-gardening/perennials/when-and-how-to-prune-perennial-flowering-plants/>

DCMGA Salutes Community Gardens Feeding Those in Need Across Denton County!

**Here are the 2020 Totals
from a couple of our partners:**

Shiloh Field Community Garden

Harvest delivered to various food pantries

40480+ lbs.

Flower Mound First Baptist Community Garden

Harvest delivered to Christian Community Action

FMFB: 4017 lbs

DCMGA Members: 1079+ lbs

Total: 5096+ lbs

Canned goods delivered to Christian Community Action

FMFB: 1267 lbs

DCMGA Members: 255+ lbs

Total: 1522+ lbs

**Plant a Row for the Hungry
and Help Feed Those in Need!**

**If Everyone does a little,
Together we can do a Lot!**





2021 GREATER AUBREY AREA GARDENING SERIES

**Jump start your 2021
gardening with this
free educational series.**

Aubrey Area Library
226 Countryside Drive
Aubrey, TX 76227



JANUARY 21

Texas Trees

Pat Moyer



AUGUST 19

**Waterwise
Gardening**

Jolayne LaCour



FEBRUARY 18

**Gardens Gone Wild:
Putting Out the Welcome
Mat for Wildlife Habitat**

Kathryn Wells



SEPTEMBER 16

Texas Native Plants

Liz Moyer



MARCH 18

Roses

Pat & Don Edwards



OCTOBER 21

Made for the Shade

AgriLife TBD

**WE'RE GOING
VIRTUAL!**

Until we can meet in person, all
sessions will be presented virtually
through Zoom.

Register for each session at:
www.dcmga.com/upcomingevents

6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

**Third Thursday: Jan, Feb, & March
and August, September & October**

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**KEEP
AUBREY
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KEEP AMERICA BEAUTIFUL AFFILIATE

DENTON COUNTY MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION

2021 Events

Denton County Speaker Series:

Aubrey: Jan 21-Oct 21

Flower Mound: Coming Spring 2021

Lewisville: Watch for updates:

<https://keepLewisvillebeautiful.org/garden-secrets/>

Children's Garden: TBD

Plant Sale: TBD

Garden Tour: May 8

Junior Master Gardener Camp: TBD

**Fruit, Vegetable, Herb, and Flower Show:
June 19**

Design Your Yard Class: TBD

Fall Garden Fest: Oct. 2

DCMGA New Member Round Up: Oct. 19



DCMGA.COM



Mission Statement

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

Extension EO/EEO Statement

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

2020 Board of Directors

President	Kathryn Wells
Vice-President - Projects	Joanne Spurgin
Vice-President - Outreach	Kathy Rainey
Secretary	Katherine Woodward
Treasurer	Joe Beckett
Communications Dir. - Systems	Liz Moyer
Communications Dir. - Promotions	Treva McFadden
Education Director	Barbara Brown
Member-at-Large	Tammie Gurley
Past President	Pat Moyer
Extension Agent - Horticulture	Janet Laminack

Social Media

Facebook:

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

Instagram:

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

Twitter:

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

Pinterest:

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

YouTube:

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

Save the Date

- December 2 Virtual Board Meeting
- December 9 Holiday Celebration (Virtual) - DCMGA Members & Interns
- January 6 Virtual Board Meeting

Contact Information

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Website:

<https://dcmga.com>

Content

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

Ideas, photos, and articles are welcome and may be submitted to Editor Karen Gibson or Communications Director Liz Moyer at dcmga.communications@gmail.com.

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