

THE GRAPEVINE



Volume XV, Issue 4

**Fort Bend County
Master Gardeners, Inc.**

July—August 2005

In a Nutshell...

By Jeff McMullan, President, FBMG S2001

.08"....that's about the diameter of the lead in a wooden pencil. It's also how much rain they recorded at IAH in June. The weather station at the Fort Bend County Fairgrounds (across the fence from our vineyard, see <http://cwp.tamu.edu>) recorded 0.41" on June 1 and then nothing until 0.01" on June 28. That is dusty dry by any measure and I certainly hope that we quickly return to our normal rainfall amounts. Though I dread the summer downpours we get from tropical storms...

Here are some tips to help cope with hot, dry weather:

1. Water only when your lawn needs it and, when you water, do it thoroughly. Lots of weather factors (besides rainfall) determine when a lawn will need water (temperature, humidity, cloudiness, wind, etc.) Automatic programmable irrigation is handy, but a lawn should be watered only when it needs it (grass needing water will look dull and show tracks when you walk across it). By observing the lawn you can schedule watering that will optimize the effectiveness of your watering.

How many of your neighbors don't even know that they are automatically watering every morning while they are still asleep?) Light, frequent irrigation results in weak, shallow-rooted turf that is more susceptible to heat and drought stress. You should water enough to wet the soil to a depth of 4-6 inches (one inch of water will wet most soil types to the desired depth).

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2. Apply water to your lawn as evenly as possible. A well-designed automatic irrigation system can improve water distribution and efficiency over individual sprinklers but a little effort is required to effectively operate the system. Individual sprinklers (and the different zones in an automatic system) deliver water differently. To optimize watering, set out empty tuna cans in a straight line going away from the sprinkler. Run the sprinkler for a set time and then check the amount of water in each can. Sprinkler heads should be adjusted so that each tuna can catches approximately the same amount of water. If you measure the average amount of water in the cans, it is then relatively easy to determine the appropriate watering time to give one inch of irrigation for your sprinkler or automatic system zone (and it's a good idea to write down the answer somewhere for next time).

3. Don't over water. Too much watering is wasteful and can even cause lawn problems, especially if the soil is saturated and depriving the roots of air. If runoff occurs before reaching one inch of water, you will have to irrigate in stages to allow time for the water to soak into the soil. After a half hour or so, start the sprinkler again. To reduce runoff from slopes, place sprinklers near the top of the slope and apply water slowly. Water movement into heavy soil can be improved by the use of a core aerifier, a mechanical device that removes a plug of soil several inches long. Water moves down into these holes and deeper into the soil.

4. Water early in the morning. Calm winds and lower temperature early in the day results in less water lost to evaporation. The worst time to water is late in the evening because the lawn tends to dry slowly at night, making it more susceptible to fungal diseases.

5. Adjust mowing height and frequency. Avoid fertilizers high in soluble nitrogen. During prolonged periods of drought, you should raise the mowing height and reduce the frequency of mowing to help the lawn cope with stress. Fertilizers with nitrogen in a soluble fast-release form (such as ammonium nitrate or ammonium sulfate or many of the high nitrogen balanced lawn fertilizers) promote fast growth which means more mowing and higher water use. Slow release nitrogen is more

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Extension programs serve people of all ages regardless of socio-economic level, race, color, sex, religion, disability, or national origin. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture and the County Commissioner's Courts of Texas Cooperating



JULY MONTHLY PROGRAM:

"Gingers" Linda Gay, Director of Mercer Arboretum, will showcase gingers, wonderful garden plants for the warm, humid climate of southeast Texas.

THURSDAY, JULY 28
SOCIAL TIME—6:45 PM PROGRAM—7:15 PM
MEMBER MEETING FOLLOWS THE PROGRAM

Community Affairs

By Peg d'Hemecourt, Community Affairs Director,
FBMG F2003

Upcoming Monthly Programs

Thursday, August 25 – "Flower Arranging" Marsha Gould, owner of Terra Flora, will demonstrate practical flower arranging techniques.

Thursday, September 22—"The Ecological City: Just How Green Is It?" by Dr. John Jacob.

Container Gardening Projects for Senior Citizens



Master Gardeners will be helping Home Instead conduct container gardening workshops for senior citizens. Home Instead provides non-medical assistance to senior citizens in their homes, and partners with healthcare and residential senior facilities for the delivery of non-medical services. One of its future initiatives in Ft. Bend County will be to help senior citizens plant container gardens that they can maintain and enjoy. Peggy Clinganpeel of Home Instead says that many of her clients were active gardeners who can no longer enjoy their gardening hobby because of physical limitations. She was delighted when Master Gardeners Elisabeth Jones, Huma Qureshy, Deborah Birge and Evelyn Coe volunteered to work with her to conduct container gardening workshops.

Notes from Mac

by Margo "Mac" McDowell,
Fort Bend County Master Gardener Coordinator

Now that the Associates from the Spring 2005 class have finished their class lecture series, they have been steadily working on their volunteer hours. One of the new ideas we had for this class was a class project. Originally we were going to work the Front Yard landscape and make improvements to the front office area with the class's fresh ideas. However, that didn't work out well because we discovered shortly after class began that the drainage issues for that area are so great that they would have to be fixed first.

Moving on to another idea, it was decided that the new class project could be conducted as a search in the class member's own area on native trees/ big trees. They are just starting this project – so it should be fun! If you are interested in learning more about big tree registry, and would like to start this for Fort Bend, just let me know. Here are a couple of websites. The first is the registry itself. It is quite interesting, and you'll notice that nothing is mentioned about Fort Bend.

<http://texasforests.tamu.edu/pdf/urban/urban/BTR-NativeNaturalized.pdf> The second website is how to measure a tree. Now if you are familiar with the Junior Master Gardener program, they also have a way to measure a tree that is much more fun!
<http://www.americanforests.org/resources/bigtrees/measure.php>

As we wind down from the Spring classes, we are gearing up again for the Fall classes. Don't forget that the Fall class takes place in the morning and it begins on August 10th.

A lot of Fort Bend Master Gardeners are doing a terrific job keeping up with their hours! Since we implemented use of the Excel spread sheet, I have received more hours than in the past years. I ask that you continue sending me your hours on a regular basis—you're doing great. For all of you who haven't turned in time yet for 2005 – please do! It really helps me with reporting, and it helps you remember to record all of your time.

Our *Hotline and Research Team* is doing a tremendous job at answering a ton of calls for the month of June. We have had some very interesting calls, and samples coming into the office! This is surely the place to learn more about horticulture. One of my favorite responses to people is "I haven't a clue as to what this is, let me take your name and number, and we'll call you back!" Even though I have been here for several years, I either can't remember what that caterpillar is called, or I just plain don't know! But I sure know where to find an answer, and you can do the

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Message from Mac

(Continued from page 2)

same thing. *Judy Davis* cokenaur, a transfer Master Gardener from Georgia, is helping out on Wednesday mornings with *Jay Meier*. Judy is making sure our publications are up to date and filed! That is a big job, and Judy and Jay make a great team.

Boy the Speakers Bureau sure is busy and *Peg d'Hemecourt* is doing an unbelievable job as Director. We have had many calls, and Master Gardeners are filling requests for a variety of speaking engagements. We have had four different engagements at the George Library and Missouri City Library; and a number of requests to speak to Garden Clubs. One of the newest groups asking for speakers is Assisted Living Facilities. *Peg, Wendy Talkington, Ginny Grant*, our new JMG Specialist, *Terri Schwab, Huma Qureshy*, and *Marion Kazlovsky* all been busy helping out with recent requests.

The latest Plants in the Classroom was a great success! We had 19 teachers who learned all about propagation, soils, composting, leaves, roots and stems, flowers, fruits & seeds, worm composting, butterfly gardening, and school gardens. The teachers were surprised and delighted at all the hands-on activities and the information we provided. Naturally, they loved all the plants they received as well! Thanks to *Yolanda Thomas* for helping out with the food, *Andrea Needham* for helping out with anything we asked, *Kenny Fletcher* and *Sherron Frost* from the new class for chipping in and helping out with just about everything! Master Gardener teachers were *Aleta Patrick, Ginny Grant, Catherine Pennington, Jan Girndt, Lynn McKillop, Wendy Talkington, Juanita and Joanne Ayres, Don Johnson, Gary Geer, and Amy Ping*. *Holly Dern* played a huge part in helping out with the TEKS portion, and *Aleta's* sister, *Gretchen* also played a big part in helping out with the Lunch Box Geography/History for lunch. We had a lot of donations from various garden companies, and a number of plant donations from Master Gardeners.

In comparing last year's participating teacher evaluations to this year's evaluations - our overall rating was excellent, with a majority of teacher participants wanting "Part 2"! As a result, the committee is planning on what we can do for Part 2! Stay tuned—exciting events will be unfolding with Plants in the Classroom.

Fort Bend Specialists! You've heard me mention the Master Gardener specialist programs that Texas A&M University offers – Entomology, Propagation, Junior Master Gardeners, Oak Wilt, etc. We have two special people who are now our very own specialists! *Don Johnson* and *Ginny Grant* were honored at the

State Master Gardener conference, but were given their certificates and pins at the Plants in the Classroom Orientation on June 9th. They are in the process of fulfilling their volunteer hours in order to be specialists for our area.



**Ginny Grant and Don Johnson
New Specialists!**

Don started the Entomology Committee that you have heard about, and Ginny is starting to gather speed with Junior Master Gardening efforts. Don invites you to attend any of the Entomology gatherings to learn about insects. Right now they are in the process of making their own photos, and researching information on beneficial insects. In the near future, they are hoping to put together flash cards of Fort Bend Insects for everyone! Ginny would welcome any help you would like to give if you are interested in working with her on Junior Master Gardener programs. Coming up on July 28th, the 4-H Day Camp will be having their annual fun with kids, and Ginny is going to do a project as well. Congratulations Ginny & Don for a great job!

Other Master Gardener specialists include *Lynn McKillop* and *Jeff McMullan*. Jeff and Lynn took the Propagation Class last year in Montgomery County, and they are in the process of completing their hours and requirements to become propagation specialists!

I hope you don't get tired of hearing me talk about how great the gardens look. We are earning a reputation as the showcase of gardens in Fort Bend!

In a Nutshell

(Continued from page 1)

desirable since it slows leaf growth while still providing a dark green color.

6. Plan and plant new lawns and landscaping for water efficiency. Turf grass and landscape plantings should be selected based on their proven performance in our area, including the inevitable drought stress. Turf grass sod requires much less water to establish a lawn than does seeding or sprigging bare ground. Newly seeded or sprigged lawns must be watered lightly at frequent intervals until roots are established.

As Master Gardeners, we should be wise outdoor water users and these pointers can help our neighbors as well.

Editor's Note—For more information on YardWise practices, visit http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/comm_exec/forms_pubs/pubs/gi/gi-028.html or contact Margo McDowell for a copy of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality's Green Guide to Yard Care.



LANDSCAPE UPDATES

Japanese Garden Update

By Cheryl Huber, Japanese Garden Committee Chair, FBMG S2004

The Committee is currently researching Japanese Garden characteristics at other Japanese Gardens in the state. If you're interested in this work (that might include visiting other gardens), get involved in the Japanese Garden Committee!

With the hot dry weather, it has been difficult to keep things watered. As a result, our team is preparing to install a new drip system for the Japanese Gardens. We will also be ridding the garden of intrusive Cat Tails. We can use help moving mulch to cover and protect our beautiful trees and shrubs from the oppressive heat, so if you have the time, we could really use you, even if it's just for an hour or two. We're having fun. Are you? "If your hours are none, ya ain't havin fun."

From the Vineyard

By Pete Pavlovsky, Grape Committee Chair, FBMG S2000

We have a bountiful harvest in the vineyard. On June 19 we harvested the "Orlando" grapes (a special "thank you" to Vince Mannino for advising us about harvest time for this variety). There are five Orlando vines in our vineyard. There were 85—YES, Eighty Five—pounds, of grapes on 5 small vines!

This being an experimental area, we are learning a lot about grapes. We've been advised that we should prune the bottom 1/2 of the grape cluster when they are in their infancy. This will allow for larger grapes and the pruned area will regenerate, providing larger fruit. We will try that next year.

If you've not walked through the vineyard lately, you should drop by for a look. Several weeks back, I pruned a lot of the growth on the south side of the vines to allow for air flow through the grapes to assist in drying the morning dew from the plants. This should help prevent the need for fungicide. I intentionally did not trim any growth from the north or west side—so that the leaves shade the grapes from the afternoon sun.

Cottage Garden News

The Cottage Gardeners have been busy transforming the garden from a look of abandonment to one of urban beauty. Some plants, such as Ruellia, had multiplied themselves many times in all directions and sprouting new plants along the way. As we pulled the extras, there was a madness to the rhythm of dig, pull, and dig some more. The routine was interrupted only

to stand up, realign the spine, and dust the knees which were becoming permanently dimpled.

Once this step was complete, flower bed sections and granite walkways were formed. The beds were weeded, tilled, and planted by sections. Some of the plants in the landscape were purchased, i.e., the Mickey Mouse plant, while others were moved from within the garden. Currently there is only one section in the original garden remaining to be developed.

Last fall, the Cottage Gardeners were asked to add additional area to the garden, nearly doubling the size. Flower beds will be developed in the new area. Already the split rail fence, outlined with orange daylilies, has been extended to help define the area of the cottage garden. And, with a bit of help from the Vegetable Garden Committee, a wide granite walkway will be completed to allow wheelchair access to the cottage porch.

This transformation has occurred with the help of many dedicated Cottage Garden Committee volunteers and other Master Gardeners. We'd like to thank Cliff Bergman, who constructed the walkway arbor and Gene Weidemeyer (Betty's husband) who set it in concrete. The graduating class of Spring 2004 donated the large arbor and swing. Weldon Mayse and Nat Gruesen built the arbor together and Weldon crafted a wonderful swing! (See photo below). Vines have been planted on both of the arbors. Plans are to add a bridge over the dry creek bed and a gate for the north entrance.

Come and see the beautiful transformation and join in the fun. The Cottage Gardeners will save their best shovel, and maybe even a hoe, just for you!



Weldon and Michael Mayse with the completed swing in the Cottage Garden.

Pink Hibiscus Mealybug

By Margo "Mac" McDowell,
Master Gardener Coordinator

We were notified through Texas A & M University that there was going to be a nationwide conference on a pest that has potential to devastate the nursery industry. Thinking that this could potentially be a great opportunity to develop projects for us, we received permission to be in attendance. On June 1, the Entomology Committee and yours truly attended a special teleconference with numerous others throughout the nation. I'm proud to say that we were the only Master Gardener group to attend this teleconference!

Pink Hibiscus Mealybug (PHM) is an exotic pest which feeds on many plant species, including citrus, ornamentals and vegetables worldwide. And because cotton is part of the hibiscus family, cotton could potentially be affected, and that would be devastating to our county. Other plants attacked by PHM are: Golden apples, sugar apple, passion fruit, papaya, avocado, citrus, mango, guava, banana, grapes, lantana, ginger lily, heliconia, allamanda, bougainvillea, hibiscus, croton, oleander, ixora, shefflera, ficus, tomatoes, okra, lettuce, pumpkin, beans, cucumbers, peppers, cabbage, squash and more.

Identification of the PHM isn't going to be easy. There are several mealybug species that could easily be mistaken for the PHM. Here are some characteristics that can help with identification: The PHM is slightly different from the more common citrus mealybug in that it is pink to reddish brown, with the female being darker in color and having a more whitish, waxy covering. However, when they are on the plant, they appear as white cottony masses, just like the other mealybugs. PHM does not have stripes on its back, as opposed to the citrus mealybug, and it does not have a waxy fringe around it either. If you squish a PHM – it produces reddish to brownish liquid. Another method of identification is the eggs. The female can lay 80-600 pink eggs, depending on the host plant and temperature. The eggs have a pinkish tinge to them, as opposed to other mealybugs which have a whitish to yellowish tinge. The PHM young are mobile when born.

Another way to identify if the PHM is present is to look at the plant itself. The top leaves become "bunched." Hence the name "bunchy top," which is a common symptom of PHM infestations. Bunchy-top refers to a reduction in the internode's length which causes leaves to appear 'bunched' (see picture). Flowers can be distorted and gnarled up as well. Very few PHM are needed to cause "bunchy top."

There is research in progress using natural enemies that have proven to be very successful.

As a homeowner, if you think you have the PHM, here are recommendations:

1. Don't move infested plants.
2. Don't apply any insecticides, oils or soaps until you have contacted someone or taken a sample.

3. Don't release any predators; these are not likely to control infestations.
4. Call or email the Master Gardener Hotline (281-341-7068/ fortbendmg@ag.tamu.edu). A member of the Entomology Committee will contact the proper authorities.

See: <http://mrec.ifas.ufl.edu/Iso/PinkMealybug.htm>



In the (Georgetown) Garden

By Wayne Rhoden, Past President and
Life Member, FBMG S1996

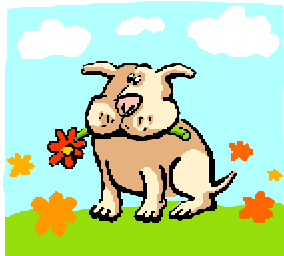
Greetings from faraway Georgetown, TX. I do not want you to think that I am just lazing around in this small city, where they still have farmer's markets and everyone you meet wants to tell you their history. No, I have been busy since April 1st putting together storage areas and building my new yard. The yard is much smaller than the one I had in Missouri City and I thought I would not be able to do very much gardening. I have now changed my mind and decided it is large enough to put in everything I want, as far as natives and drought tolerant plants go. Forget the shade garden with the gingers and ferns, now it is purple sage, Jerusalem sage, skullcap, cedar sage and those kinds of plants. I rescued a native verbena from one of the vacant lots and it is doing great. Of course the first bed I built was the herb bed and it is beautiful after one month. I have already used the sweet basil and rosemary to cook some of my meals. I have three kinds of basil, three kinds of rosemary, two kinds of oregano, lemon verbena, lemon balm, anise hyssop, Mexican oregano, Mexican mint marigold, bronze fennel and thyme. Herbs do extremely well here because most of the time the humidity is in the 30 to low 40 % range and we have only received 1/2 inch of rain in June.

The state Master Gardener Association has been busy with setting up the 501(C)3 umbrella tax exemptions and are finally about finished with the preliminaries. The letter has gone to the IRS and we are waiting for them to approve it. The Awards Committee has a meeting in July to take another look at the awards submission forms to see if we can simplify them again. Hopefully it will bring about easier ways for associations to submit their choices for the various awards. As you know Brazos County will host the 2006 annual convention and Kerr County has shown interest in hosting the 2007 convention.

I really miss all of you in Fort Bend and think of you often. Take care of the demo gardens and enjoy gardening!

Greet The Gardener

By Sheredith Heitzenrater, FBMG S2002



What do Homer, Poppy and Roxie all have in common? They are dogs and they love to dig in the flowerbeds of their owner, Ginny Grant. Ginny has lived in her Missouri City home for 8 years and swears she is just now getting around to redoing many of the flower-

beds. Apparently she has lots of little helpers.

Ginny's family was originally from Austin. The family moved to the Houston area and she and her brother and sister grew up near Missouri City. They all live within 10 miles of each other and Ginny dotes on her nieces, nephews and Godchildren.

The U of H lured Ginny as a Home Economics major but she soon pursued interests in accounting. Her first job was for a florist and there she learned more than bookwork. She recently retired after working 24 years for the Houston Federal Credit Union. Now she does part-time auditing work.

While living in Austin, Ginny's mother had great gardens. Ginny fondly remembers that her mother loved perennials, especially the various Iris. They always had a vegetable garden. Her Dad was very innovative. He took a wooden rowboat and sat it on several sawhorses. He filled it with soil and planted strawberries. That way they didn't have to bend over to weed it and it was easy to harvest!

Several years ago, Ginny looked into the MG classes in Harris Co. However, they were daytime classes only. When she discovered the FBMG evening classes she enrolled with the class of Spring 2003. She says they were a diverse class – fun, a little wild, and very talkative! Her favorite subject was Landscaping, taught by Carol Brauer. She also enjoyed the Herb class taught by Michael Bettler. She says there was so much information she advises auditing classes to refresh the memory.

Ginny has helped with the Plants in the Classroom program for two years now. This year she taught the Soil Class. This is a 2 day course limited to about 25 teachers. She helped them with propagation projects. She says the classes are enjoyable and she gets to meet lots of people.

The Junior Master Gardener Specialist classes are held at TAMU. Ginny completed the course and now volunteers at the library in Damon. She shares her knowledge of butterflies with the children. One of her favorite resource books is *The Family Butterfly Book* by Rich Mikula.

In her spare time Ginny helps Margo with some of the more tedious bookwork for our Association and spends time in the cottage and herb gardens. She also helps the Bazaar Committee by making wreaths and garlands. If she really has any more spare time

she also volunteers for the SPCA. She has helped with their telethons. She volunteers to help train the big dogs to be more sociable.

Ginny's favorite flower is the Zinnia. She says she remembers her mother growing lots of zinnias and Ginny would cut them and sell them to the florist. She feels something has happened to change lots of plants. Now they don't make it through the summer. She says we live in a "Rip out-replace" generation.

Her biggest gardening surprise is that lots of plants do better if neglected rather than babied. She said she didn't realize how much other people look at your yard and garden. She has two pieces of advise. First, be realistic and don't over plant. Second, don't put corn husks down your disposal!!

Ginny may love zinnias but she is a whiz with African Violets too. Drop by her home and check out those flowerbeds the dogs love so much. She may invite you to sip some Raspberry Ice Tea and she'll tell you all about the corn husk story!

Report a Litterer!

By Mary Beth McCaughey,
Vice President, FBMG S2000



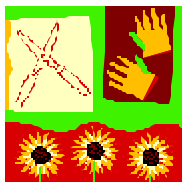
Does it bother you when you see people throwing trash out of the windows of their cars? As we take to the road on vacation trips this summer, consider the following from the folks at the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT).

"Did you see that? That man threw a cigarette out the car window! Hey! That kid just tossed a fast food bag out the window—and now a soda can!" Gross, isn't it? They're "messing with Texas." So what can YOU do about it? Report them through TxDOT's Report a Litterer program!

The Report a Litterer program allows Texans to turn in any people they observe tossing things out of their vehicle or accidentally littering from an uncovered load. It's simple. All you need to do is write down a few things about the incident. You will need the license plate number (Texas plates only), make of the vehicle, time of day, location, date, who (driver, passenger or an uncovered load) tossed the trash and a description of the item littered.

After you've rounded up information about a pesky litterer or two, you can submit the information online at www.dontmesswithtexas.org/report_a_litterer.php.

When TxDOT receives the information it is checked in the vehicle registration database and an exact match is located. A letter is mailed to the litterer along with a Don't Mess With Texas litterbag to remind them to put trash where it belongs! Once litterers know that other people care about Texas, they'll think twice about tossing trash out of a car window.



Green Thumb Seminars Encore Performance

By Peg d'Hemecourt, Community Affairs
Director, FBMG F2003

Sarah Lineberger made many contributions to FBMG. The Green Thumb Seminars may be one of her greatest legacies to the organization. Started in 2004, the Green Thumb Seminars are an 11-month series of two-hour programs for the public on common gardening topics, offered free of charge. The 2004/2005 series concludes on July 14 with a seminar titled "Pests" which will be presented by Vince Mannino, County Extension Director – Fort Bend County.

With as many as 50 participants at a session, the 2004/2005 seminar series was so successful that there will be an encore performance in 2005/2006. In order to reach as broad an audience as possible, the Committee looked at scheduling the series in a new location—and considered meeting places in densely populated areas in Ft. Bend County on the north and east sides. We are happy to announce that we've made arrangements to start the Green Thumb Seminar series again on August 11 at the University of Houston Cinco Ranch, 4242 S. Mason Road, Room 118, Katy, TX. By taking this show on the road, the Committee hopes to better serve more of the constituents of the Ft. Bend County Extension Service.

2005 Green Thumb Seminars Schedule

August 11—Yard Care Basics
September 8—Plant Growth and Disease Control
October 13—Soil and Composting
November—Trees
December—No seminar

2006 Green Thumb Seminars Schedule

January 12—Fruits and Vegetables
February 9—Plant Propagation
March 9—Home Lawn Care
April 13—Plants that Thrive in Fort Bend
May 11—Gardening to Attract Butterflies and Birds
June 8—Landscape Planning and Renovation
July 13—Pests

A note from the Lazy Gardener (Brenda Beust Smith):

An extended Greater Houston Gardening Events Calendar now appears online at www.guidrynews.com. Click on: Brenda's Garden. It includes all events sent to Brenda for the Chronicle Calendar.



Dates to Remember

*Activities marked *ATC are eligible for Advanced Training Credit.*



Jul 14—Green Thumb Seminar, "Pests", 7-9 PM, Bud O'Sheiles Community Center

Jul 27—Bazaar For All Seasons workshop. 4 PM.

Jul 28—"Discover Your Future in 4-H" day camp. Assist with morning activities.

Jul 28—FBMG monthly program, "Gingers", by Linda Gay of Mercer Arboretum. 7:15 PM, Bud O'Sheiles Community Center. *ATC

Aug 6—Monthly workday in the gardens.

Aug 10—Start of FBMG F2005 class (daytime)

Aug 10—Bazaar workshop. 4-8 PM, Annex Conference Room.

Aug 11—Green Thumb Seminar, "Yard Care Basics", 7-9 PM, U of H Cinco Ranch, Room 118

Aug 24—Bazaar workshop. 4-8 PM, Annex Conference room.

Aug 25—FBMG monthly program, "Flower Arranging", by Marsha Gould, owner of Terra Flora. 7:15 PM, Bud O'Sheiles Community Center. *ATC

Sep 5—Labor Day, all County offices closed.

Sep 8—Green Thumb Seminar, "Plant Growth and Disease Control", 7-9 PM, U of H Cinco Ranch, Rm 118

Sep 10—Monthly workday in the gardens.

Sep 19-20—Landscape Design Study Course I, Series XX. College Station *ATC

Sep 20—Sugar Land Garden Club meeting. "Old Treasures and Dazzling New Discoveries for Your Garden" by Heidi Sheesley. Sugar Land Community Center *ATC

Sep 22—FBMG monthly program, "The Ecological City: Just How Green Is It?", by Dr. John Jacob with Texas Sea Grant Cooperative Extension. 7:15 PM, Bud O'Sheiles Community Center. *ATC

Sep 25—Sugar Land Garden Club Garden Art and Plant Sale. 930 Sugar Lakes Drive, Sugar Land. 8:30 AM to 1 PM

Reminders

**Take a minute and
submit your volunteer
and advanced training
hours to Margo
(a.k.a “Mac”)**

**The deadline to submit
articles for the Sept/Oct
edition of the Grapevine is
August 19. Send articles in
electronic format to the
Editor at
mccaugheymb@aol.com**

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