

Urban Dirt

Irrigation Tips and Planting Options

Gardening Events and Information for Texans

Following Angela's Lead

Glossary:

Drip line - circle surrounding the plant where water runs off from the plant canopy into the ground

Root zone - section of oxygen and soil around the plant's roots

If anyone could be considered a plant guru, it would be Angela Chandler. Many of us know her because she is a retired Master



Angela Chandler

Photo courtesy thegardenacademy.com

Gardener. She is not a horticulturist, but she is passionate about gardening. Angela grew up gardening and seems to have retained that knowledge and acquired more along the way. She has written numerous gardening articles and currently lectures and writes a blog for the Arbor Gate Nursery in Tomball and also lectures and instructs for Urban

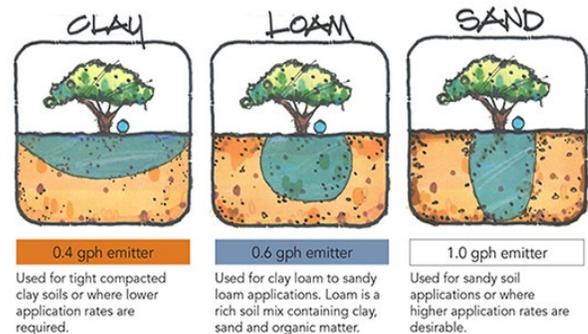
Harvest in Houston. In her "spare time" she has a website at thegardenacademy.com.

Recently I attended her Urban Harvest lecture on low volume irrigation (LVI) at the Houston Museum of Natural Science. I have heard Angela lecture previously and I knew it would be worthwhile. It was probably the best \$30 I have ever spent. Since then, I have done more research on LVI and I am convinced it should and will be the most popular method of plant watering. Water conservation in regards to our landscapes and home gardens may be required in the future as our water sources become scarcer.

Article and photos by Terri Simon, Master Gardener

Between Angela's lecture and the articles I have accessed online, I've learned that I am watering my plants wrong. Among the factors you should consider when watering is the soil in your area. Soil types can range from sandy to clay and other types in between. If the soil is too sandy, it will not hold the water adequately for your plants. If the soil is clay, it will have the opposite effect. It will hold onto the water only at the top layers to the extent that water will not penetrate deep enough for the roots to benefit. If it dries out, it may become so hard that water may not penetrate and instead run off. Another factor is the type of water available in your area. Have your water tested if you are in doubt that it is suitable for your plants.

How water moves through soil



Graphic courtesy ewingirrigation.com.

Watering technique is critical for your plants to reach their growth potential. The most common problem is over watering or
cont'd on pg. 6

Upcoming Events

July 2018

Master Gardener Lecture Series

July 12, GFG Second Thursday 10:00 - 11:30 a.m. Speaker: Tony Collins, retired University of Houston professor - *Begonias*. Genoa Friendship Garden Education Center building, 1202 Genoa Red Bluff Rd. *Plants for sale in the Greenhouse.*

July 19, Native Plant Society of Texas 6:45 p.m. Speaker: Dale Kruse – *Unlocking Hidden Treasures: Finding New Uses for Old Plants*. Houston Arboretum and Nature Center, 501 Woodway Dr, Houston, TX 77024

Green Thumb Gardening Series - Raised Beds, Drip Irrigation & Rain Barrels

July 12, Barbara Bush Library, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

July 17, Spring Branch Memorial Library, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

July 19, Freeman Branch Library, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

July 21, Maude Smith Marks Library, 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Open Garden Day

July 16, 8:30 - 11:00 a.m., Genoa Friendship Garden, 1202 Genoa Red Bluff Rd. *Plants for sale in the Greenhouse*

July 24, 10:00 - 11:15 a.m., Open Garden Day Children's Activities. **Registration required by Sunday, July 22 to:** ogd.harrishort@gmail.com Weekley Community Center, 8440 Greenhouse Rd., Cypress, TX

Workshop

July 27, Houston Urban Food Production Conference, 9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., University of Houston Downtown, 201 Girard, Houston, 77002 Register via: <https://HUFPC2018.EVENTBRITE.COM>

August 2018

Master Gardener Lecture Series

Aug. 9, GFG Second Thursday 10:00 - 11:30 a.m., Speakers: Paul Winski, Extension Agent & Brandi Keller, Master Gardener Coordinator - *Master Gardener Program in the Community*. Genoa Friendship Garden Education Center building, 1202 Genoa Red Bluff Rd. *Plants for sale in the Greenhouse.*

Green Thumb Gardening Series - Fall Vegetable Gardening

Aug. 9, Barbara Bush Library, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Aug. 18, Maude Smith Marks Library, 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Aug. 16, Freeman Branch Library, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Aug. 21, Spring Branch Memorial Library, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Open Garden Day

July 16, 8:30 - 11:00 a.m., Genoa Friendship Garden, 1202 Genoa Red Bluff Rd. *Plants for sale in the Greenhouse*

Aug. 20, 8:30-11:00 a.m., Genoa Friendship Garden, 1202 Genoa Red Bluff Rd. *Plants for sale in the Greenhouse.*

Aug. 28, 10:00 - 11:15 a.m., Open Garden Day Children's Activities. **Registration required by Sunday, July 22 to:** ogd.harrishort@gmail.com Weekley Community Center, 8440 Greenhouse Rd., Cypress, TX

Have Garden Questions?

Email your questions and photos to: phone hcmga@gmail.com or
Call us Monday – Friday 9:00 am to Noon at 713-274-0950

Visit txmg.org or contact the Harris County Extension Office, 713-274-0950, coordinator.harrishort@gmail.com for information.

Aquaponics from A to Z

by Terri Simon, Master Gardener

Finally I had some spare time in my week to attend some continuing education courses for my Master Gardener certification.



Peter Woods Fisheries Program Specialist holding a floating raft

I was fortunate enough to hear Peter Woods lecture on aquaponics at the Trini Mendenhall Community Center on June 8th. Peter's talk was an in-depth six hour discussion on the pros and cons of aquaponics that was well attended.

Aquaponics and hydroponics are not the same. In hydroponics plants are grown in a liquid suspension without soil in a greenhouse. Nutrients and minerals must be added. Aquaponics is a combination of hydroponics and aquaculture. One thing aquaponics has in common with low

volume irrigation (LVI) is that a small portion of water is used in comparison to the volume of water used in land farming.

Aquaponics uses a bacteria mediated culture system that unites fish raising (aquaculture) and plant growing (horticulture). Three organisms are present: bacteria, plants and fish; all must be kept in equilibrium. The bacteria need a surface to grow on (floating raft) and they break down the ammonia byproduct produced by the fish, the excess ammonia present in fish food and the ammonia that results from the decomposition of other organic materials. They reduce the nitrites in the ammonia to nitrates. Plants are able to use the nitrates for growth and survival. The ammonia levels must be monitored closely since high levels of ammonia are toxic to both plants and fish.

Different varieties of fish are available for aquaponic tanks, but there are pros and cons with each variety. Requirements for suitable fish varieties are: the fish must be readily available, they must be able to thrive in the tank culture, they must eat food pellets and must taste good. Bass will not eat food pellets so they are not used. While many plant nutrients come from the fish waste, the fish food given to the fish does not provide iron, potassium or calcium that the plants need. These must be provided.

Tilapia is the most commonly used fish since it meets all of the above requirements. One drawback is that only the Mozambique strain is legal in the U.S. and since it is a tropical fish it is temperature sensitive. It stops eating at 65° and dies at 55°. Other suitable fish include Koi. They tolerate tank culture, eat food pellets, are somewhat tolerant of poor water quality, they don't die in cold water and are readily available. They are edible, but are not as popular for consumers since they have a lot of bones and are considered by some to be a "rough fish." They will also spawn in the tank so their fry must not be allowed in the plant troughs. Other possible fish candidates include a hybrid striped bass. They will eat food pellets, but they will only eat a high protein feed that is more expensive. They may not be readily available, they are more sensitive to water quality, grow more slowly and will stop feeding at a temperature of 65°; however, they are tasty. Different types of sunfish, a bluegill and a hybrid bluegill may also be used. They are native to Texas so they are readily available, they can tolerate tank culture, will eat food pellets and are tasty. One disadvantage is that they grow very slowly. One other candidate is a hybrid catfish that is a cross between a blue catfish and a channel catfish. It has spines that are not as sharp. Goldfish and other ornamentals may also be considered. One key factor to keep in mind is that regardless of the species, if any fish enter the plant growing area they will eat the roots of the plants. To limit fish size, feed them approximately 2% of the total fish bodyweight. Sick fish should be removed from the tank. They cannot be fed antibiotics because you do not want the plants absorbing the antibiotics. Everything must be as organic as possible. All components of the system in contact with the water, the fish and the plants must be food grade. Treated lumber and sewer PVC pipe cannot be used.



Deep-water-culture floating raft

Photo courtesy epicgardening.com

cont'd on pg. 7

Herb of the Month - Thai Basil

(Ocimum basilicum var. tenuiflorum)

by Karen McGowan, Master Gardener

This month, we are directing attention toward an herb that grows well in both raised beds and containers, flourishing in the south Texas heat and sun. July's herb of the month is a winner in the summer garden heat as well as in the kitchen: Thai basil.

Thai basil, (*Ocimum basilicum var. tenuiflorum*), also known as anise basil or licorice basil, is native to Southeast Asia and is believed to have originated in the country from which its name is taken, Thailand. Thai basil has become a kitchen staple in Southeast Asian countries, where it is used in pad gra prow, a stir-fry beef dish, as well as gai pad krapow, made with chicken, and numerous other stir-fry dishes due to its noted ability to withstand the high heat of the wok.

A perennial reaching up to about two feet in height, Thai basil has a slightly spicier flavor and carries leaves about one half the size of sweet basil. Thai basil also features distinctive purple stems, offering nice color for garnish (generally, any basil bearing purple stems is considered to be Thai basil). As Thai basil is a slightly smaller plant than sweet basil, it is an outstanding choice for smaller beds and containers. Thai basil is also much-beloved by bees, and will attract numbers of them.

Thai basil contains notably high levels of vitamins K and A, as well as significant amounts of vitamin C, beta-carotene,



magnesium, calcium, iron, and potassium. As with most basil, Thai basil is known for its beneficial essential oil containing eugenol, a natural compound that has antibacterial, anti-inflammatory, and antioxidant properties.

Thai basil, like sweet basil, is one of the easiest herbs to grow. It can be grown from either seeds or cuttings. Soils with

a neutral PH offer the best chance of growing for seeds, which should be planted in a row and covered with about ¼ inch of soil. Once plants have grown to a few inches in height, they should be thinned to six to twelve inches apart. To propagate from cuttings, make sure that the cutting selected is a piece that has not yet flowered, then simply take a 4-inch cutting right below a leaf node and remove the leaves off the basil cutting about 2 inches from the end. Place the cutting in a glass of water on the windowsill where it can receive good sunlight, and change the water every few days until root growth is observed. Allow the roots to grow to about 2 inches in length, which can take two to four weeks. Once the roots are 2 inches or longer, place the cutting in a pot or raised garden outdoors in direct sunlight. Keep soil consistently moist throughout the growing season, adding a mulch layer to slow water evaporation from soil. In containers, water whenever the top inch of soil is dry.

Because of its ease of propagation and hardy nature, Thai basil makes an excellent herb to share with friends and neighbors. A great housewarming gift is a basket containing a small potted Thai basil along with a recipe and ingredients for either stir-fry or pho, a delicious, heart-warming Vietnamese soup, to which the leaves of Thai basil are added just before dining. Share and enjoy!



Citations:

<https://florafaunaweb.nparks.gov.sg/>

<https://bonnieplants.com/>

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

SAVE THE DATE!

HOUSTON URBAN FOOD PRODUCTION CONFERENCE



DATE: JULY 27, 2018
TIME: 9:00 - 3:30 P.M.
LOCATION: UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON DOWNTOWN
201 GIRARD, HOUSTON, TX 77002
COST: STUDENT \$30, GENERAL ADMISSION \$50
REGISTER: [HTTPS://HUFPC2018.EVENTBRITE.COM](https://hufpc2018.eventbrite.com)



PRAIRIE VIEW
A&M UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE
AND HUMAN SCIENCES

Cooperative Extension Program



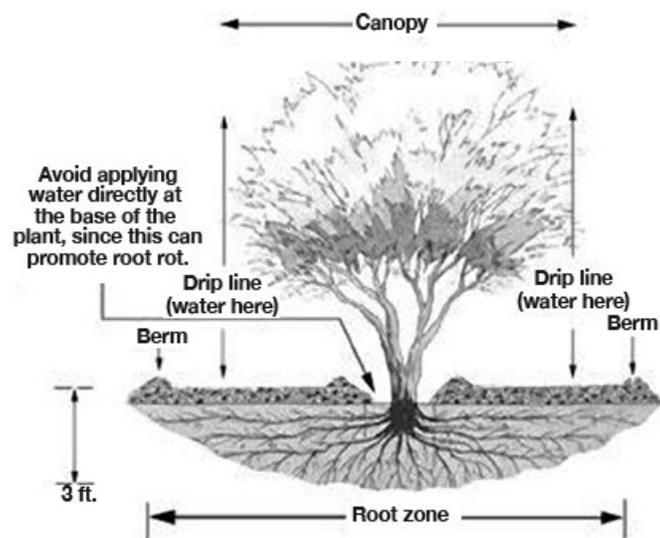
Center for Urban Agriculture
and Sustainability

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.

Following Angela's Lead, *cont'd from pg. 1*

under-watering. I believe I have been under-watering my plants. It's important to know when to water your plants. The ideal time to water is in the morning. For plants in the ground, check the soil with a spade. If the soil is damp for 6-12 inches, you don't need to water. For potted plants, if the first inch or two is dry, you may need to water. If that plant is on the south side in Texas' blistering heat, it will probably need daily watering. For smaller plants in pots, water and then lift the pot. As the plant dries out, the pot becomes lighter. Use this as a gauge to determine if your potted plants need watering. Keep in mind some plants may require more water while others get by with less. One example is that onions can use less water while leafy crops such as lettuce and other greens need more water. One excellent point Angela made during her lecture was that landscape plants could be more forgiving if not given enough water for short periods, but the quality of edible plants and fruits suffers without even, consistent watering. Focus on watering the root zone, not the foliage.



Graphic courtesy <http://ktep.org>

Plants or seedlings recently bumped up or planted will need more water at first until they are established. Usually the first two weeks are critical. Shrubs and trees that have been in the ground more than five years should have a root zone that is capable of supporting them with less water, but trees and shrubs that have been in the ground less than five years may need more water. Don't forget to mulch! It helps reduce water evaporation and runoff.

So what are common watering methods we use? One common method is sprinklers, but they are recommended primarily for lawns. Hoses and water cans are used for watering plants in pots or sections of garden areas with edible or decorative garden plants.



Photo courtesy rainbird.com

Seep or soaker hoses work to send water to established plants or those in rows and can be hidden beneath mulch to reduce evaporation loss. The system Angela discussed was automated low volume irrigation.

These setups can save time and labor while reducing water usage. Irrigation systems supply slow amounts of water to the plant root zone. The systems require a minimal number of tools to set up, there is a huge amount of literature and videos online to access and there are several companies that provide the irrigation systems and accessories needed. Just a few of the companies with low volume irrigation systems are: Dig Corp, Netafim, Mister Landscaper, Rainbird and Toro among others. All of the companies listed above have manuals online that can be downloaded. There are also manuals available at hardware stores that carry their systems and accessories and there are videos at the company website and Youtube. The companies feature different types of emitters, some of which are adjustable for watering plants in different types of soil and plants with different water volumes. While many of us use a sprinkler system to water our lawns, with a little time, money and effort we can conserve our water usage and labor efforts to provide adequate moisture to our gardens by installing and using a low water irrigation system for our landscaping and gardens. Your wallet and your plants will thank you.

Useful internet websites include:

Texas A&M has a files on LVI. It can be accessed at <https://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/earthkind/files/2010/10/lowvolume.pdf>

Also from Texas A&M:

<https://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/earthkind/drought/efficient-use-of-water-in-the-garden-and-landscape/>

Angela's lecture online: <http://urbanharvest.org/documents/118591/605131/Irrigation+Handout/ff1048b3-4a45-41cf-b512-c7ccd1fdb886>

Aquaponics from A to Z, *cont'd from pg. 3*

There are numerous types of aquaponic systems you can set up. Some of the common types are the media filled beds, the nutrient film technique and deep water cultures. The media filled beds are the simplest form. Tanks are filled with a rock medium where the plants grow. There are two ways to maintain it. Either water flows continuously over the rocks or the grow bed is flooded and drained. The nutrient film technique (nft) pumps nutrient enhanced water down small gutters and plants are seated in small plastic cups that allow their roots to absorb the nutrients. Plants with smaller root systems such as leafy vegetables are best for this method. Deep water culture is a commonly used commercial method. Plants float on top of the water while their roots dangle in the water. The system at Bear Creek used an NTF method. The system took about six hours over two days and cost about \$600. It had been located inside the Bear Creek greenhouse until hurricane Harvey struck.

Almost any plant that can be grown in soil can be grown using an aquaponic system. Squash, culinary herbs, leafy greens, green onions, tomatoes, melons, okra, peppers, cucumbers marigolds and others may be used. Peter gave valuable tips regarding the



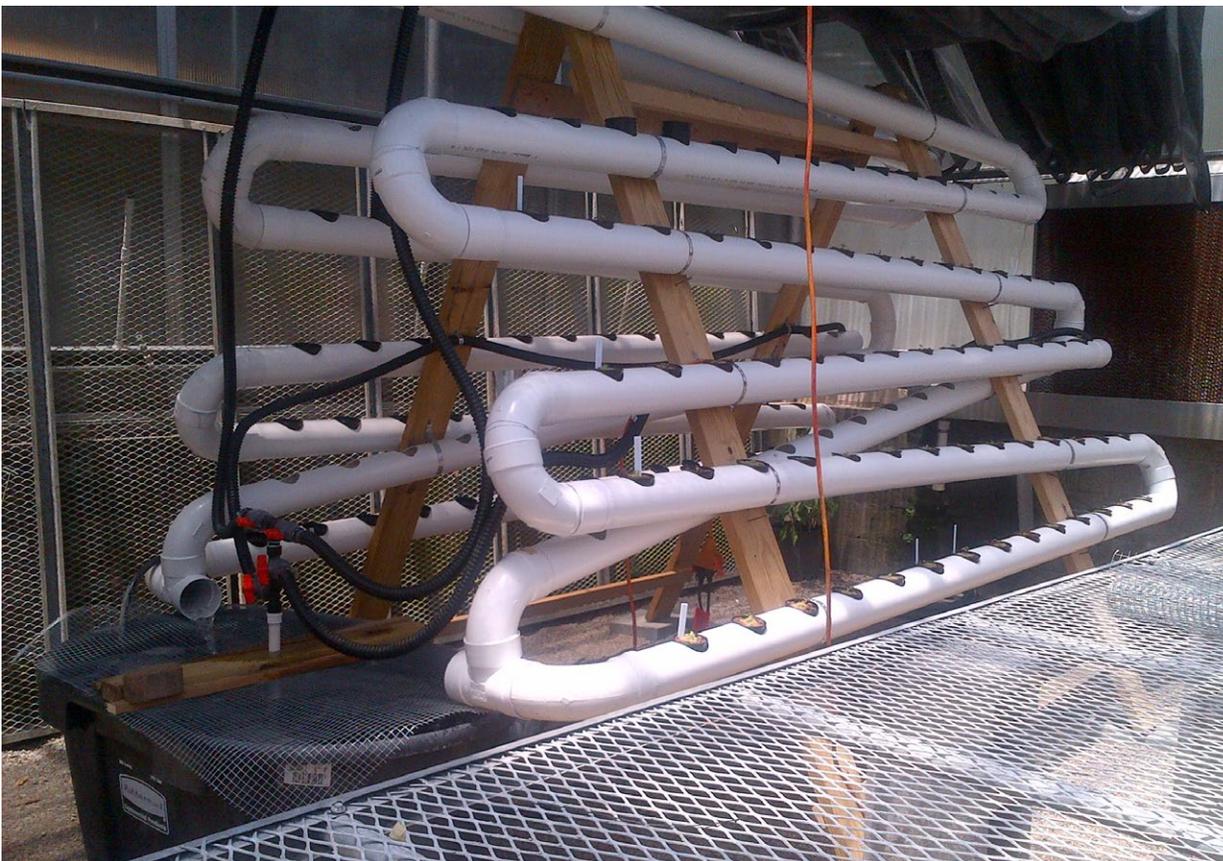
Aquaponics harvest

marketing aspect of your organic produce. He warned about underpricing your plants. He also spoke about the vigilance needed to keep your system in balance.

Aquaponics can reduce your carbon footprint. Your produce can be marketed locally and transportation costs are lower. It can also reduce

your water use. Aquaponic systems use a minimal amount of it since a well designed system will only lose water by evaporation. There is no weeding and less manual labor is needed as long as

your system is at the right height. You can enjoy eating organic produce and your own fish as well. Overall, this was an excellent lecture and I hope if it is offered again that some of you will consider attending.



Aquaponics setup at Bear Creek



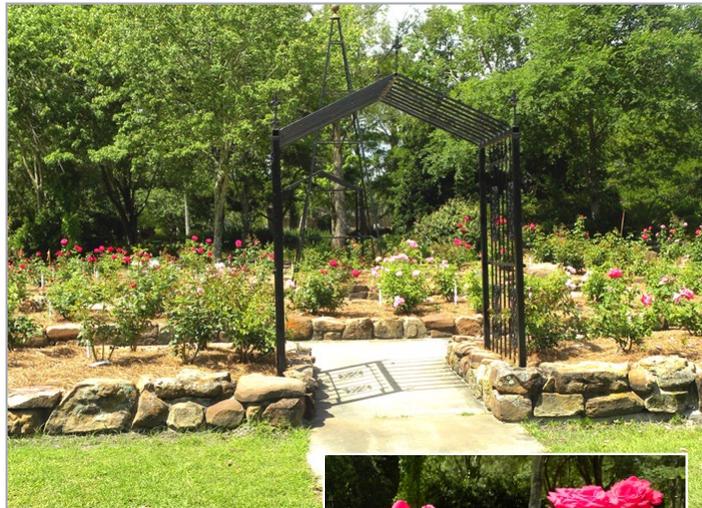
Beautiful Beaumont Botanical Gardens

Article and photos by Kathryn McCleod, Master Gardener

On a recent driving trip my husband, master gardener Douglas McLeod, and I made a pit stop at the tourist information in Beaumont. While we were there, we perused the brochures and found that Beaumont had a botanical garden. On the return trip we stopped. The gardens as well as the conservatory are beautiful.

The gardens began in 1968 when the City of Beaumont set aside 23 acres in Tyrrell Park for the gardens. The gardens were developed and are now maintained by the Beaumont Council of Garden Clubs. Many private donations have been instrumental since the inception to maintain the gardens.

While we were there, plans were being made for the annual maypole festival which is celebrated on the Saturday before Mother's Day. Members working there told us how the original garden club members dug the gardens themselves. The sidewalk connecting the gardens grew square by square as donations were made.



The gardens include the 9/11 Memorial Garden which was dedicated on June 22, 2002. Soil from each of the three sites attacked are included in the Memorial Garden. We were lucky enough to be at the gardens when the roses were in bloom. The Memorial Rose Arbor is made from roses from the 1800's. Hybrid roses are in a formal rose garden. The Butterfly Garden contains milkweed

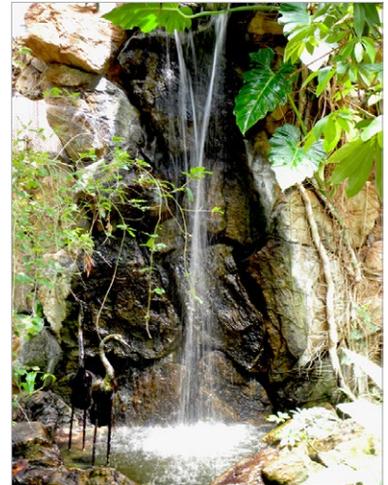


for the monarchs. There is also an herb garden which includes herbal plants used for cooking and healing.

Maybe our favorite part of the garden is the pond and waterfall. Koi and turtles swim in the pond and fun sculptures surround it.

The conservatory is a tropical paradise. Inside it there is another pond and waterfall with more sculptures. The conservatory contains bromeliads, orchids and other exotic tropical plants from around the world.

The motto of the Beaumont Council of Garden Clubs is "Take time to smell the flowers," and they mean it.



GFG Trial Gardens Open to the Public

by Evan Hopkins, Master Gardener

Harris County Master Gardeners at Genoa Friendship Gardens are excited to participate with Texas A&M AgriLife Extension and Horticulture Agent, Paul Winski, in developing a Research Trial Gardens program as part of the GFG Demonstration Venues. The project started in March with setting the planting beds and propagating the collection of All American Selection (AAS) seeds to produce 19 Annual varieties and nurturing 650 transplants.

Starting in May, the team began planting the 4-inch transplants and now the five garden beds are full of color. The annuals grew and began to bloom quickly, and more will continue to bloom until the first freeze. Consulting with Paul, we can add cooler tolerant plants towards the end of the heat of summer and take the trials into the Fall.

These trials are conducted at universities and demonstration gardens around the country. The evaluation of the targeted plants can be used in determining Earth-Kind or Super Star designations based on plant performance with temperature, drought and soil conditions.

We welcome you to visit the Genoa Friendship Gardens and see the progress. View the potentially new AAS winners that will eventually find their way to the nurseries. Remember a Garden is always a work in progress. This one is no exception.

To set a tour date or for any questions contact Evan Hopkins at evanjhopkins@hotmail.com. The Gardens are open Monday and Wednesday 9:00 am – 11:00 am at 1202 Genoa Red Bluff Road, Houston, Texas 77034.

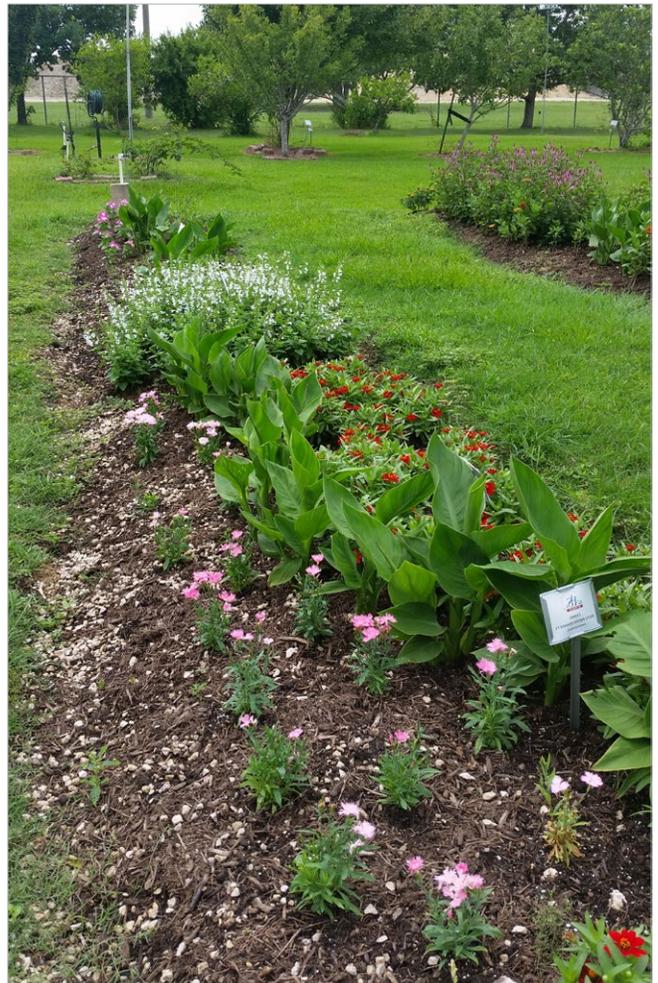


Photo by Carolyn Boyd, Master Gardener

Photo by Evan Hopkins, Master Gardener



Photo by Carolyn Boyd, Master Gardener



Genoa Friendship Garden plant trial plot

Photo by Patricia Metzinger, Master Gardener



Weekley Community Center, 8440 Greenhouse Rd., Cypress, TX 77433

Open Garden Day is back! OGD has been relocated to the Weekley Community Center at 8440 Greenhouse Road, Cypress, Texas 77433.

We won't have outdoor gardens, so the activities will focus on nature crafts, small plants in pots and games. Activities will include decorating seed pods and making pine cone bird feeders and acorn jewelry. There will be

coloring pages, legos, playdough and toddler puzzles. We hope you can make it!

Pre-Registration required by Sunday May 20th, to ogd.harrishort@gmail.com with number of child participants and their ages, so we are sure to have enough supplies for everyone. Also, please contact us with questions or comments.

**2018 Tuesday
Open Garden Day schedule**

Jul. 24th	Oct. 16th
Aug. 28th	Nov. – TBD
Sep. 25th	Dec. – Winter break





H C M G A
1202 Genoa Red Bluff Road
Houston, Texas 77034
Email: phoneHCMGA@gmail.com
Phone: 713.274.0950

HARRIS COUNTY
*Master
Gardener*
ASSOCIATION

The Genoa Friendship Gardens Welcomes you to Open Garden Days

On the 3rd Monday of every month, 8:30 am until
11:00 am, March thru October. Admission to the
Exhibit Gardens is Free

- Tour the variety of exhibits to inspire you with vegetable, perennial, rose, tropical & native gardens
- Meet and talk with a Master Garden about planting citrus, fruit or berries for you home orchard
- Contemplate the joy in the serenity garden and catch the view of the water garden
- Don't leave the GFG until you have shopped the Greenhouse where seasonal herbs, vegetables and perennials are available for bargain prices until September.



TEXAS A&M
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FACT SHEET

Texas AgriLife Extension Service – Harris County
 3033 Bear Creek Drive, Houston, Texas 77084
 713-274-0950 • <http://harris-tx.tamu.edu/hort>

Vegetable Varieties for Harris County

* Top performers in Harris County trials

BEANS

BUSH

Accelerator *
 Contender
 Jade
 Provider *

POLE

McCaslan
 Northeaster
 Rattlesnake

LIMA (BUTTERBEAN)

Fordhook
 Florida Butter
 Henderson
 Jackson Bush
 Sieva (Carolina)

BEETS

Chioggia
 Detroit Red
 Pacemaker III

BROCCOLI

Arcadia *
 Green Magic *
 Packman

BRUSSEL SPROUTS

Diablo
 Tasty Nugget

CABBAGE

Early Jersey Wakefield
 Point One
 Ruby Perfection
 Sombrero

CHINESE CABBAGE

Brisk Green
 Joi Choi
 Pac Choi

CANTALOUPE

Ambrosia
 Caravelle
 French Orange *
 Super 45
 Tasty Bites

CARROTS

Early Caracas *
 Mokum
 Purple Haze *
 Scarlet Nantes
 Sugarsnax 54 *

CAULIFLOWER

Brocoverde (Cauli-Broc)
 Majestic
 Snow Crown
 Violet Queen (Purple)

CHARD

Bright Lights
 Fordhook
 Rhubarb

COLLARDS

Champion
 Flash
 Georgia

CORN

Sweet
 Bonanza (Yellow)
 Merit (Yellow)
 Silver Queen (White)
Sugar Enhanced
 Funk's G-90 (Bicolor)
 Kandy Korn (Yellow)
 Tendertreat (Yellow)

CORN (continued)

Super Sweet

Crisp n Sweet (Y)
 Florida Stay Sweet (Y)
 Honey n Pearl (Bi)
 How Sweet It Is (W)

Triple Sweet

Honey Select
 Serendipity

CUCUMBERS

Pickling

Calypso
 Carolina
 H-19 Little Leaf

Slicing

Diva
 Spacemaster
 Suyo
 Sweet Success

EGGPLANT

Fairy Tale
 Neon
 Ping Tung
 Purple Rain

GARLIC

Elephant
 Mexican Purple
 New York White
 Texan White

KALE

Lacinato
 Red Russian
 Vates
 Winterbor

KOHLRABI

Early White Vienna
 Grand Duke
 Purple Danube

Veggie Varieties for Harris County, cont'd from pg. 11

* Top performers in Harris County trials

LEEKs

American Flag
King Richard

LETTUCE – Head

None Recommended

LETTUCE – Leaf

BIBB

Buttercrunch
Esmeralda

ROMAINE

Defender *
Flashy Trout Back *
Green Forest *
Parris Island *

RED

Red Fire
Red Sails
Redina
Vulcan

OAK LEAF

Brunia (Red)
Salad Bowl

MUSTARD

Florida Broadleaf
Savannah
Southern Giant Curled

OKRA

Cajun Delight
Clemson Spineless
Emerald
Louisiana Green Velvet
Silver Queen

ONION

BULBING

Burgundy
Granex (Wh, R, Y)
Grano 1015Y
Grano 502

BUNCHING

Beltsville Bunching
Southport White

PARSLEY

Italian Greenleaf
Pagoda
Triple Curl

PEAS

SOUTHERN

Blackeye #5
Mississippi Silver
Purple Hull

Texas Pinkeye
Zipper Cream

ENGLISH

Little Marvel
Wanda

SNAP

Cascadia
Sugar Ann
Sugar Bon
Sugar Snap

PEPPER

SWEET BELL

Big Bertha
Blushing Beauty
Golden Summer
Gypsy

Jackpot

Lilac

SWEET

Giant Marconi
Senorita (Jalapeno)
Super Heavy Weight

HOT

Anaheim
Mexibell
Mucho Nacho
Santa Fe Grande
Super Cayenne
TAM Hidalgo Serrano

POTATO

IRISH & NEW

Irish Cobbler (White)
Red Lasoda (Red)
Red Pontiac (Red)
Russian Banana (Fingerling)

SWEET

Beauregard
Centennial
Jewel

RADISH

Champion
Cherry Belle
Easter Egg
French Breakfast
White Icicle

SPINACH

Bloomsdale
Melody
Space Tyee

SUMMER SQUASH

YELLOW

Dixie
Pic-N-Pic *
SuperPik *

ZUCCHINI

Gold Rush
Magda
President
NOVELTY
Peter Pan
Sunburst
Trombone

WINTER SQUASH

Acorn types
Buttercup types
Butternut types
Spaghetti types
Sweet Mama

TOMATO

CHERRY

BHN 968
Juliet
Sun Gold
Sweet Chelsea
Sweet 'n Neat *
Tumbling Tom *

PASTE

Roma
Viva Italia

STANDARD

Bush Early Girl
Celebrity
Champion
Tycoon *

TURNIPS

Purple Top White Globe
Royal Globe
Shogoin
Tokyo Cross
White Lady

WATERMELON

Crimson Tide
Golden Crown
Jubilee
Mickylee
Minilee
Sugar Baby
Yellow Doll

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.

Gardening Tools

This chart is a handy guide for knowing the best times to plant in Harris County.

	Fact Sheet											
	Texas AgriLIFE Extension Service 3033 Bear Creek Dr, Houston, TX 77084 713-274-0950 http://harris-tx.tamu.edu											
	Marginal Planting Time						Ideal Planting Time					
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Asparagus Crowns												
Beans - Bush												
Beans - Pole & Lima (Butterbean)												
Beets												
Broccoli Plants												
Brussels Sprouts												
Cabbage												
Cabbage - Chinese												
Carrots												
Cauliflower Plants												
Chard, Swiss												
Collards												
Corn												
Cucumbers												
Eggplant Plants												
Garlic												
Kale												
Kohlrabi Plants												
Leeks - Transplants												
Lettuce												
Melon - Cantaloupe, Honeydew												
Mustard												
Okra												
Onion - Bulb-type sets												
Onion - Transplant for Scallions												
Onion - Multipliers												
Parsley												
Peas - English & Snap												
Peas - Southern												
Pepper Plants - Sweet												
Pepper Plants - Hot												
Potato - Irish												
Potato - Sweet												
Pumpkin												
Radish												
Spinach												
Squash - Summer												
Squash - Winter												
Tomato												
Turnips												
Watermelon												

TEXAS A&M AGRI LIFE EXTENSION

TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE EXTENSION SERVICE

3033 BEAR CREEK DR.

HOUSTON, TX 77084

713-274-0950

harris.agrilife.org/program-areas/hort/

hcmga.tamu.edu

Like Us On Facebook

The Harris County Master Gardeners as well as Texas A&M Agrilife Extension - Harris County Horticulture are actively participating on Facebook offering tips, lists, news and plant advice almost daily. The best part, instead of locating planting guides or insect documents, and sale



dates for individuals, you can add the HCMG site to your account and easily share information with others. This is a definite timesaving device for these busy garden days and helps promote our organization.

www.facebook.com/HarrisCountyMasterGardeners

www.facebook.com/HarrisCountyHorticulture

URBAN DIRT • JULY 2018

July Green Thumb Gardening Series

Raised Beds, Drip Irrigation & Rain Barrels



July 12

Barbara Bush Library

6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

July 17

Spring Branch Memorial Library

6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

July 19

Freeman Branch Library

6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

July 21

Maude Smith Marks Library

10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.