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Gardening Newsletter

Jun 7, 2019

Dear Friends,

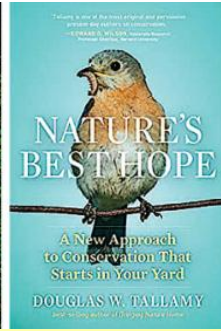
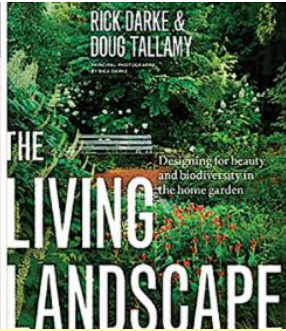
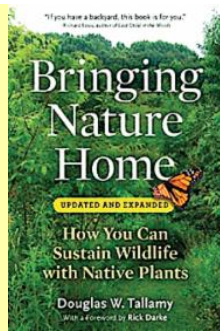
Here is the 295th issue of our weekly gardening newsletter for Houston, the Gulf Coast and beyond. We really appreciate all of our readers hanging in there with us, sharing stories and inspiring us in so many ways.

Thanks so much!

This newsletter is a project of The Lazy Gardener, Brenda Beust Smith & John Ferguson. (John is with [Nature's Way Resources](#)). We also have a great supporting cast of contributing writers and technical specialists who will chime in and tweak away regularly. We would love to keep receiving your input on this newsletter, comments, suggestions, questions. Email your thoughts to: lazygardenerandfriends@gmail.com. Thanks so much for your interest.

Please sign yourself up to receive this newsletter by clicking this link: ["Join Our Mailing List"](#). We will never sell or share our mailing list to protect the privacy of our subscribers.

Enjoy!



GARDENS TAKE POLLINATOR PROTECTION TO THE NEXT LEVEL

BY BRENDA BEUST SMITH

By now, most knowledgeable gardeners are aware of why we need to not only stop killing -- but also to encourage -- bees and other pollinators. Home habitat gardens and local native plantings are steadily growing in popularity.

But, is this going to be enough? And how do those of us with habitat gardens and/or a few native landscape plantings take them to the next level?

For example, how many of the flowers Doug Tallamy examples in our Spotlight Article below do you have in your garden? Each is uniquely important to encourage and help preserve our pollinator populations, as are many strictly local landscape-friendly natives not yet found on home habitat garden lists.

"BRINGING NATURE HOME" by Doug Tallamy is one of the prime, international go-to resources for habitat development at home and beyond. In our Spotlight Article below, Doug generously shares a preview of his upcoming Houston presentation:

THURS., JUNE 27: BRINGING NATURE HOME by DOUG TALLAMY,
5-7:30pm, United Way, 50 Waugh Dr., \$50. Register: [OHBAONLINE.org/events](https://www.ohbaonline.org/events)
Organic Horticulture Benefits Alliance (OHBA) event.

Doug is an internationally recognized, award-winning author and researcher. His latest book "**[Bringing Nature Home: How Native Plants Sustain Wildlife in Our Gardens](#)**" has quickly become a bible for habitat gardeners. Equally as valuable are his "***The Living Landscape***" (with Rick Darke) and "***Nature's Best Hope***" . . . which, Doug believes, "*...starts in our yards.*"

Through his work at the U. of Delaware Entomology/ Wildlife Ecology Department's, Doug's main focus has been to better understand:

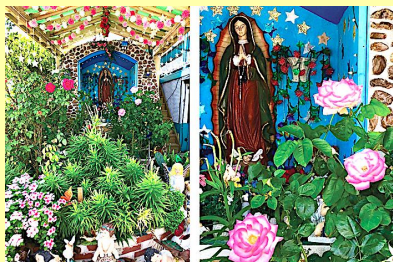
- how and why which insects interact with which plants
- how this impacts our entire flora and fauna communities

Until we understand this, how can we successfully provide protection and encouragement?

I'd like to personally encourage all area garden/horticulture/nature clubs to send one or more representatives to Doug's talk. Then report back to your group. This could be the most important club program you present all year!

* * *

But, first . . .



The "Buy Shrimp Here - I Need Money" address on Bolivar Peninsula for Lorenzo Guevara's seafood market with the delightful grotto garden is 1235 W. Canal, Crystal Beach. Sorry omitted last week!
[facebook.com/AmericanSeafood/](https://www.facebook.com/AmericanSeafood/)

In our "Have You Tried. . ." segment in our last issue, the word "draws" was inadvertently omitted. The line should have read: "Purple coneflowers . . . are major pollinator draws." (*Not "major pollinators"!*). Is there such a thing as a plant that is also a pollinator? I'll have to ask Doug Tallamy!



[Mercer Blue thunbergia \(Thunbergia battiscombei\)](#), listed recently as a great native part-shade vine, was actually named for our Mercer Botanic Gardens, which may have been the first place this plant was seen locally. Thanks to Linda Gay, former Mercer Director, for this tidbit!

And, now, Doug Tallamy on taking habitat gardening to the next level. And then . . . be sure to read John Ferguson's warning about this book!

Brenda's column in the LAZY GARDENER & FRIENDS HOUSTON GARDEN NEWSLETTER is based on her 40+ years as the Houston Chronicle's Lazy Gardener.

A PDF OF THIS NEWSLETTER IS POSTED AT
<https://www.natureswayresources.com/new.html>
We hope you will repost & share it with anyone and everyone!

* * *





Great bee-supporting plants l to r: goldenrod, asters, sunflowers, violets, evening primrose, and native willows

WE CAN REVERSE INSECT DECLINES!

By Doug Tallamy

“Bringing Nature Home: How Native Plants Sustain Wildlife in Our Gardens”

In 1987, E.O. Wilson challenged conventional wisdom by claiming that insects were the little things that ran the world. If insects were to disappear, he explained, so would nearly all flowering plants and the food webs they support. This, in turn, would cause the extinction of reptiles, amphibians, birds, and mammals: in essence, nearly all multicellular animal life forms on earth. The loss of insects would also end rapid decomposition and nutrient recycling. And, oh yes, humans would be among the species that would not survive in a world without insects.

Though sobering, Wilson’s dire predictions were considered little more than theoretical musings, because few people in 1987 were worried that insects would ever decline, let alone disappear entirely. In fact, we were far more interested in discovering new ways to kill them in our homes, lawns, forests, and crops.

Unfortunately, we are now learning that our global war on insects has been enormously successful. Industrial agriculture, millions of miles of road hazards, unnecessary night lights, overuse of pesticides, habitat elimination, tens of millions of acres of sterile lawn, and the widespread replacement of the native plant communities that generate insects with introduced ornamental plants that do not, have caused a 45% decline in insect populations just in the last 40 years.

Headlines like “Insect Apocalypse is Here” and “UN predicts the Extinction of 1 Million Species” are alerting us to the mess we have made of the ecosystems that we depend on, but there is little discussion about what can be done to reverse this unacceptable trend.

The good news is that there is nothing inevitable about insect declines. We can and must restore insects to our landscapes, and we must do it now. Here are five things each home owner can do to help solve this problem:

1) Cut your lawn in half. We are wasting an area the size of New England with this ecologically destructive status symbol.

- 2) Remove invasive plants from your property. By definition, these plants spread to natural areas where they displace valuable native plant communities.
- 3) Plant more of the native plants that support the most insect species. You can find out which plants are best in your county by visiting Native Plant Finder at the National Wildlife Federation website.
- 4) Minimize insecticide use. Homeowners use more insecticide than all of agriculture, and nearly all of it is unnecessary.



- 5) Build pollinator gardens with specialist pollinators in mind. Plants like, 1 to 4 above: goldenrod, asters, sunflowers, violets, evening primrose, and native willows are best at supporting native bee specialists.

You can meet Doug in person at:

THURS., JUNE 27: BRINGING NATURE HOME by DOUG TALLAMY, 5–7:30pm, United Way, 50 Waugh Dr., \$50. Organic Horticulture Benefits Alliance (OHBA) event. Register: OHBAONLINE.org/events



NEWS FROM THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF SOIL AND PLANTS # 87

For thousands of years the only method for the disposition of human remains was burying a body or burning a body. This way the elements in one's body was returned to the soil to generate new life. Somewhere along the way we lost our connection with nature and started embalming bodies and placing them in coffins where they did not return to nature. Next, we started cremating human bodies which is very energy intensive and creates large amounts of greenhouse gasses. However, often those that were cremated often chose to have their ashes scattered over a garden and return their elements to the soil.

The USDA has done studies on using composting as a disposal method for animal mortalities from chickens and swine to horses. They found it is the cleanest, safest, most pathogen free and most cost-effective method. My

experience confirms this, as on rare occasions over the years at my facility we have had an animal hospital bring us a dead horse for disposal. After 90 days we could not even find bones or teeth as they had all been broken down by the microbes and turned back into the elements they were made from. It was very easy and effective hence several years ago, when I saw a sign that said, "Trespassers Will Be Composted" I had to buy it for our sales office. Recently, the State of Washington has passed a law allowing composting as a modern burial method to allow citizens to return to the most natural and lowest cost disposal method. A company called "Recompose" which worked with Washington State University to develop the technology, is the first to offer this type of service. Now the old composting joke can come true, "Compost Grandma and enjoy her forever".

We have known for years that many species of algae have the ability to take nitrogen from the atmosphere and convert it into a plant or microbe usable form, **IF** certain trace elements are present in the soil. This is another reason to apply a good re-mineralizer product every few years to one's yard and garden. A new research paper published in the Journal Environmental Science and Pollution Research (November 2018) by the Desert Research Institute in Las Vegas has found that the freshwater algae *Nannochloris* has the ability to remove several endocrine disrupting chemicals (EDC's) that are harmful to humans and animals from waste water from sewage treatment plants. Another study published in the journal Environmental Pollution (2019) has found the same thing. The studies suggest this species of fresh water algae would be a good candidate to use in an algal pond or constructed wetland to clean up waste water, biodegrading these dangerous chemicals before allowing the waste water to be discharged into our rivers and streams. Other studies in the past have shown that certain species of algae were effective in removing heavy metals from waste water. Using both potentially offers a solution to a major environmental health problem.

The newsletter "Truth About Cancer" has several recent articles on Ayurvedic herbs that help fight cancer by Manuela Boyle, PhD. The first was "withania" (*Withania somnifera*) that has been found to inhibit the growth of gastric cancer cells. Extracts from this plant block the growth of this cancer and stop its progression. The herb is an anti-metastatic and anti-inflammatory. Turmeric is another herb that has been used for 5,000 years to treat health problems that comes from *Curcuma longa*. It has been found to have anti-proliferative, anti-oxidant, anti-ischemic, and anti-cancer properties (both curative and preventative). <https://thetruthaboutcancer.com/withania-turmeric-ayurveda/>

Speaking of growing plants for our health, a study published in the journal Nutrition Research found that a compound in pomegranates known as punicalagin fights cancer by causing cancer cell death. Another study in the journal Food and Chemical Toxicology found that polyphenols from pomegranates helped suppress the growth of colon cancer cells and another study published in the journal Nutrition and Cancer found that pomegranates help suppress the growth of breast tumors. Pomegranates have also fight

inflammation, lower blood pressure, improve memory, boost endurance, reduce joint pain, fight bacterial and fungal infections, and lower the risk of heart disease. Not to mention they are a great source of fiber, protein, vitamins C & K, folate, and potassium (K). Pomegranates grow well in Houston and along the gulf coast, they have beautiful flowers that are loved by many pollinators and they are drought and pollution tolerant. What more can one want in a plant? Natural News (May, 2019).

More and more people are turning to organic methods and products to take control of their health. According to the Organic Trade Association sales of organic products in the United States reached \$ 52.5 Billion in 2018!

Brenda did an interview with Dr. Tallamy above. Doug is a great speaker and extremely informative. He taught a great seminar for OHBA a few years ago that was a sellout, hence he has been invited back. To learn more or register go to www.ohbaonline.org .

However, I want to warn you that reading his book can be dangerous and expensive. A few years ago, after reading his book mentioned below, I was so pumped up, my wife and I purchased some land near La Grange so I could have a blank canvas to practice what I had learned (the cover story I used was to buy some land to build our retirement home on). Below is a short book review I did at the time:

"Bringing Nature Home - How You Can Sustain Wildlife with Native Plants"

by Douglas W. Tallamy, Timber Press, 2014, Edith Printing,
ISBN-13: 978-0-88192-992-8

This book is for anyone who has a yard or garden and loves nature. It is one of the most interesting books I have read in a long time. Linking everything from bird watching and small animals to how and why energy from the sun flows through an eco-system like a yard or garden to the decline of butterfly and moth species.

It is a fascinating account of the interactions between plants, wildlife, insects and the trees, shrubs, and vines that feed them. It explains how exotic introduced plants can hinder the growth of our fauna disrupting the relationship between native fauna and native plants.

As the Washington Post stated; " Provides the rationale behind the use of native plants, a concept that has rapidly been gaining momentum.... The text makes a case for native plants and animals in a compelling fashion."

This book drives home the point that the use of native plants in our gardens and landscapes is critical for birds and other wildlife preventing their extinction.

The book was easy to read and the photos were excellent. Many of the ideas and concepts presented I have known for years but this is the first time I have seen them integrated and connected. It has me thinking what can I remove and how can I change my garden to make it even better.

Have You Tried . . .

COPPER CANYON DAISY

(Tagetes lemmonii)

This Southwest perennial native is incredibly drought tolerant, so perfect for that hard-to-water, hot sun spot. Hates being overwatered, so excellent drainage vital during rainy periods. Can take part-shade as long as sun period is really blasting. 3-6' feet in height & wide. Dies back winter, just cut deadwood to ground. Usually deters deer. Late summer/fall flowers. Slight pruning in spring. Its narrow, pungent leaves deter deer (usually!).



Copper Canyon Daisies are carried by Nature's Way Resources. Or contact our sponsor, Montgomery Pines Nursery in Willis, your independent neighborhood nursery or our other sponsors below for possible sources.

* * *

LAZY GARDENER & FRIENDS HOUSTON GARDEN NEWSLETTER

CALENDAR EVENTS

GARDEN/PLANT EVENTS ONLY

Events are in Houston unless otherwise noted. No events are picked up from newsletter, etc. Events must be submitted in exact format below to lazygardener@sbcglobal.net

SAT., JUNE 8, BRINGING BEES TO YOUR GARDEN, 8-10am, & OTHER POLLINATORS BESIDES BEES, 10:30am-12:30pm. AgriLife Extension Office, 9020 Airport Rd., Conroe. \$5 each/\$8 both. Montgomery County Master Gardener event. 936-529-7824 or mcmga.com

SAT., JUNE 8: PLUMERIA SOCIETY OF AMERICA SHOW & SALE, 9:30am-3pm, Bay Area Community Center, 5002 E Nasa Parkway, Seabrook. Free. theplumeriasociety.org

SAT. JUNE 8: ASK A MASTER GARDENER PLANT CLINIC, 10 am-1 pm. Keyworth's Hardward Store, 2209 FM 517 Rd E, Dickinson. Free. Galveston County Master Gardener events. Register: galvcountymgs@gmail.com, 281-309-5065, aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston/index.html

SAT., JUNE 8: GARDENING 101 by KAROLYN GEPHART, 1-3 pm. Rosenberg Library, 2310 Sealy St, Galveston. Free. Galveston County Master Gardener events. Register: galvcountrymgs@gmail.com, 281-309-5065, aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston/index.html

SAT., JUNE 8: LOW VOLUME IRRIGATION, 9:30-11:30am, Houston Museum of Natural Science, 5555 Hermann Park. \$30. Urban Harvest event. Register: 713-880-5540; urbanharvest.org/education/classes/

MON., JUNE 10: BENEFICIALS IN THE GARDEN - INSECTS & MORE by DR. WILLIAM JOHNSON, 6:30pm, West Gray MultiService Center, 475 West Gray. Houston Urban Gardeners (HUG) event. free. houstonurbangardeners.org

TUES., JUNE 11; SEED: THE UNTOLD STORY, 6:30-8:30pm. Houston Museum of Natural Science, 5555 Hermann Park Dr \$16. Urban Harvest event. Register: 713-880-5540; urbanharvest.org/education/classes/

WED., JUNE 12: BEHIND SCENES AT A BOTANIC GARDEN, noon-2pm, Mercer Botanic Gardens, 22306 Aldine-Westfield, Humble. Free. Register: 713-274-4160.

WED., JUNE 12: LEARN, GROW, EAT & GO EDUCATORS 6 CEUs WORKSHOP. 9am-3pm, Extension Office, 1402 Band Rd., Rosenberg. Register: fbmg.org/junior-master-gardener-teacher-leader-session; mmcdowell@ag.tamu.edu

THURS., JUNE 13: USING THE RIGHT EQUIPMENT FOR THE JOB by Bob Patterson 7:00pm, Cherie Flores Pavilion, 1500 Hermann Drive, Houston 77004. Houston Rose Society event. Free. houstonrose.org

SAT. JUNE 15: PASSION FOR PLUMERIA by LORETTA OSTEEN, 1-3 pm. AgriLife Extension Office in Carbide Park, 4102-B Main St. (FM 519), La Marque. Free. , but Galveston County Master Gardener event. Register: galvcountrymgs@gmail.com, 281-309-5065, aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston/index.html

SAT., JUNE 15: 14" METAL HANGING BASKET CLASS by JIM MAAS & PAT CORDRAY, 10am, Maas Nursery, 5511 Todville Rd., Seabrook. \$35. 281-474-2488, maasnursery.com

SAT., JUNE 15: STARTING A COMMUNITY/SCHOOL GARDEN WORKSHOP, 8:30am-2:30pm. University of Houston Downtown, Rm A629, One Main St. \$20. Urban Harvest event. Register: 713-880-5540; urbanharvest.org/education/classes/

SAT., JUNE 15. GROW YOUR OWN - FRUIT TREES AND SEMI-TROPICALS by FORT BEND COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS, 9-11am, Bud O'Shieles Community Center, 1330 Band Rd., Rosenberg. Register: fortbend.agrilife.org/grow-your-own/ ; 281-342-3034; brandy.rader@ag.tamu.edu.

SAT., JUNE 15: PASSION FOR PLUMERIA by VIRGINIA McCLOSKEY, 11am-12:30pm, Wabash Feed & Garden, 4537 N. Shepherd, Register: bit.ly/2XxCywQ, 713-863-8322. wabashfeed.com

SUN., JUNE 16: A LIVING WREATH WITH FERNS by LARRY RUCKER, 2pm, Judson Robinson Jr. Community Center, 2020 Hermann Dr. Texas Gulf Coast Fern Society event. tgcfernsoc.org .

TUES., JUNE 18: NOMENCLATURE CHANGES FOR BROMELIADS by CAROLE RITCHMYER, 7pm, West Gray Multi-Service Center, 1475 West Gray. Free. Bromeliad Society/Houston event. bromeliadsocietyhouston.org

TUES-THURS, JUNE 18-20: EDIBLE ACADEMY 8am-3pm Tues-Wed, 8am-noon Thurs. Gregory Lincoln Education Center, 1101 Taft. \$350. Urban Harvest event. Register: 713-880-5540; urbanharvest.org/education/classes/

SAT., JUNE 22: HIBISCUS CLASS by JIM MAAS & JOE MILLER, 10am, Maas Nursery, 5511 Todville Rd., Seabrook. \$35. 281-474-2488, maasnursery.com

THURS., JUNE 20: JUST ENOUGH LATIN TO GO PLANT SHOPPING by CAROL CLARK, 6:45-8:30pm; Houston Arboretum, 4501 Woodway. Free. Native Plant Society of Texas/Houston Chapter event. npsot.org/houston

SAT., JUNE 22: RAINWATER CAPTURE FOR IRRIGATION by NELL WHEELER, 11am-12:30pm, Wabash Feed & Garden, 4537 N. Shepherd, Register: bit.ly/2HXbnGm, 713-863-8322. wabashfeed.com

TUES., JUNE 25: SEED ASSETS: FOOD, FIBER, FLOWERS & FUTURE, 6:30-8:30pm, Houston Museum of Natural Science, 5555 Hermann Park Dr. \$16. Urban Harvest event. Register: 713-880-5540; urbanharvest.org/education/classes/

WED., JUNE 26: CSSA VIDEO "PROPAGATING PLANTS & CULTIVATING FRIENDSHIPS," 7:30 pm, at the Metropolitan Multi-Services Center, 1475 West Gray. Free. Houston Cactus & Succulent Society. hcsstex.org

THURS., JUNE 27: BRINGING NATURE HOME by DOUG TALLAMY, PhD, 5-7:30pm, United Way, 50 Waugh Dr., \$50. Organic Horticulture Benefits Alliance (OHBA) event. Register: OHBAONLINE.org/events

SAT. JUNE 29: RAINWATER HARVESTING by NAT GRUESEN, 9-11 am, AgriLife Extension Office in Carbide Park, 4102 Main St. (FM 519), La Marque. Free. Galveston County Master Gardener event. Register: galvcountrymgs@gmail.com, 281-309-5065, aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston/index.html

SAT., JUNE 29: BONSAI CLASS by JIM MAAS, CLYDE HOLT, & PAUL NESTRSTA, 10am, Maas Nursery, 5511 Todville Rd., Seabrook. \$45. 281-474-2488, maasnursery.com

SAT., JULY 6: CACTI & SUCCULENTS CLASS by JIM MAAS & PAT CORDRAY, 10am, Maas Nursery, 5511 Todville Rd., Seabrook. \$45. 281-474-2488, maasnursery.com

TUES., JULY 9: GROWING PLUMERIAS, 7-9pm, Cherie Flores Garden Pavilion, 1500 Hermann Drive. Free. Plumeria Society of America event. theplumeriasociety.org

WED., JULY 10: TREE IDENTIFICATION. Noon-2pm, Mercer Botanic Gardens, 22306 Aldine-Westfield, Humble. Free. Register: 713-274-4160.

THURS, July, 11: HOUSTON ROSE SOCIETY ICE CREAM SOCIAL AND SUMMER CELEBRATION, 7pm, Cherie Flores Pavilion, 1500 Hermann Dr.. Free. houstonrose.org

SAT., JULY 13: TROPICAL SYMPOSIUM, 8:30am-4pm, Mercer Botanic Gardens, 22306 Aldine-Westfield, Humble. Fee. Register: 713-274-4160.

SAT., JULY 13: MINIATURE FAIRY GARDEN W/WATER FEATURE CLASS by JIM MAAS, PAT CORDRAY & BRENDA HESSE, 10am, Maas Nursery, 5511 Todville Rd., Seabrook. \$55. 281-474-2488, maasnursery.com

SAT. JUL 6: BEST PRACTICES OF WATERING by KAROLYN GEPHART, 9-11am, AgriLife Extension Office in Carbide Park, 4102-B Main St. (FM 519), La Marque. Free. Galveston County Master Gardener event. Register: galvcountrymgs@gmail.com, 281-309-5065. aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston/index.html

THURS., JUL. 18: VIRTUALLY WILD! TEXAS – CONNECTING STUDENTS DIGITALLY by JAIME GONZALES, 6:45-8:30pm; Houston Arboretum, 4501 Woodway. Free. Native Plant Society of Texas/Houston Chapter event. npsot.org/houston

SAT., JULY 20: PLUMERIA SOCIETY OF AMERICA SHOW & SALE, 9:30am-pm, Bay Area Community Center, 5002 E Nasa Parkway, Seabrook. Free. theplumeriasociety.org

AT, JULY. 20: TEXAS ROSE RUSTLERS SUMMER MEETING, 10am-3pm, Antique Rose Emporium, 10000 FM 50, Independence. Free. Texasroserustlers.com

SAT., AUG. 3: 14" METAL HANGING BASKET CLASS by JIM MAAS & PAT CORDRAY, 10am, Maas Nursery, 5511 Todville Rd., Seabrook. \$35. 281-474-2488, maasnursery.com

WED., AUG. 14: BIRDS OF A FEATHER IN YOUR GARDEN, noon-2pm, Mercer Botanic Gardens, 22306 Aldine-Westfield, Humble. Free. Register: 713-274-4160.

SAT., AUG. 17: PLUMERIA CLASS by JIM & MAAS & LORETTA OSTEEN, 10am, Maas Nursery, 5511 Todville Rd., Seabrook. \$35. 281-474-2488, maasnursery.com

SAT., AUG. 24: FALL & WINTER VEGETABLE GARDENING CLASS by JIM MAAS, PAT CORDRAY & PAUL NESRSTA, 10am, Maas Nursery, 5511 Todville Rd., Seabrook. \$45. 281-474-2488, maasnursery.com

SAT., SEPT. 14: MINIATURE FAIRY GARDEN CLASS by JIM MAAS, PAT CORDRAY & BRENDA HESSE, 10am, Maas Nursery, 5511 Todville Rd., Seabrook. \$45. 281-474-2488, maasnursery.com

SAT., SEPT. 21: GARDENING FOR HUMMINGBIRDS & BIRDS CLASS by JIM MAAS, PAT CORDRAY & KATHRYN COURTNEY, 10am, Maas Nursery, 5511 Todville Rd., Seabrook. \$45. 281-474-2488, maasnursery.com

SUN., SEP. 22: TIDBITS FROM 50 YEARS WITH DAYLILIES by Hershal Theilen, 2-3pm. Klein United Methodist Church, 5920 FM 2920, Spring. Cypress Creek Daylily Club event. Free. cypresscreekdaylilyclub.simplesite.com

SAT., SEPT. 28: 14" METAL HANGING BASKET CLASS by JIM MAAS & PAT, 10am, Maas Nursery, 5511 Todville Rd., Seabrook. \$35. 281-474-2488, maasnursery.com

TUES., OCT. 8: GROWING PLUMERIAS, 7-9pm, Cherie Flores Garden Pavilion, 1500 Hermann Drive. Free. Plumeria Society of America event. theplumeriasociety.org

SAT. DEC. 14, 2019: CHAPPELL HILL GARDEN CLUB CHRISTMAS HOME TOUR, 10am-5pm., Chappell Hill. \$20 advance/\$25 tour day. 713-562-6191; 979-337-1200

If we inspire you to attend any of these,
please let them know you heard about it in . . .

THE LAZY GARDENER & FRIENDS NEWSLETTER!
& please patronize our Newsletter & Calendar sponsors below!

PLEASE READ BEFORE

SUBMITTING AN EVENT FOR THIS CALENDAR. _

Events NOT submitted in the EXACT written format below may take two weeks or longer

to be reformatted/retyped. After that point, if your event does not appear, please email us.

Sorry, no children's programs. - Submit to: lazygardener@sbcglobal.net

-

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BY THE FOLLOWING SPONSORS**

If you are interested in becoming a sponsor, please contact us at 936-273-1200 or send an e-mail to: lazygardenerandfriends@gmail.com



www.bartlett.com



About Us

BRENDA BEUST SMITH

WE KNOW HER BEST AS THE LAZY GARDENER . . .

. . . but Brenda Beust Smith is also:

- * a national award-winning writer & editor
- * a nationally-published writer & photographer
- * a national horticultural speaker
- * a former Houston Chronicle reporter

When the Chronicle discontinued Brenda's 45-year-old Lazy Gardener" print column, it then ranked as the longest-running, continuously-published local newspaper column in the Greater Houston area.

Brenda's gradual sideways step from Chronicle reporter into gardening writing led first to an 18-year series of when-to-do-what Lazy Gardener Calendars, then to her Lazy Gardener's Guide book which morphed into her Lazy Gardener's Guide on CD. which she now emails free upon request.

A Harris County Master Gardener, Brenda has served on the boards of many Greater Houston area horticulture organizations and has hosted local radio and TV shows, most notably a 10+-year Lazy Gardener specialty shows on HoustonPBS (Ch. 8) and her call-in "EcoGardening" show on KPFT-FM.

For over three decades, Brenda served as as Production Manager of the Garden Club of America's BULLETIN magazine. Although still an active horticulture lecturer and broad-based freelance writer, Brenda's main focus now is THE LAZY GARDENER & FRIENDS HOUSTON GARDEN NEWSLETTER with John Ferguson and Pablo Hernandez of Nature's Way Resources.

A native of New Orleans and graduate of St. Agnes Academy and the University of Houston, Brenda lives in Aldine and is married to the now retired Aldine High School Coach Bill Smith. They have one son, Blake.

Regarding this newsletter, Brenda is the lead writer, originator of it and the daily inspiration for it. We so appreciate the way she has made gardening such a fun way to celebrate life

together for such a long time.

JOHN FERGUSON

John is a native Houstonian and has over 27 years of business experience. He owns Nature's Way Resources, a composting company that specializes in high quality compost, mulch, and soil mixes. He holds a MS degree in Physics and Geology and is a licensed Soil Scientist in Texas.

John has won many awards in horticulture and environmental issues. He represents the composting industry on the Houston-Galveston Area Council for solid waste. His personal garden has been featured in several horticultural books and "Better Homes and Gardens" magazine. His business has been recognized in the Wall Street Journal for the quality and value of their products. He is a member of the Physics Honor Society and many other professional societies. John is the co-author of the book Organic Management for the Professional.

For this newsletter, John contributes articles regularly and is responsible for publishing it.

PABLO HERNANDEZ

Pablo Hernandez is the special projects coordinator for Nature's Way Resources. His realm of responsibilities include: serving as a webmaster, IT support, technical problem solving/troubleshooting, metrics management and quality control.

Pablo helps this newsletter happen from a technical support standpoint.



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