



# LAZY GARDENER & FRIENDS

Houston Garden Newsletter



## Gardening Newsletter

Sep 13, 2019

Dear Friends,

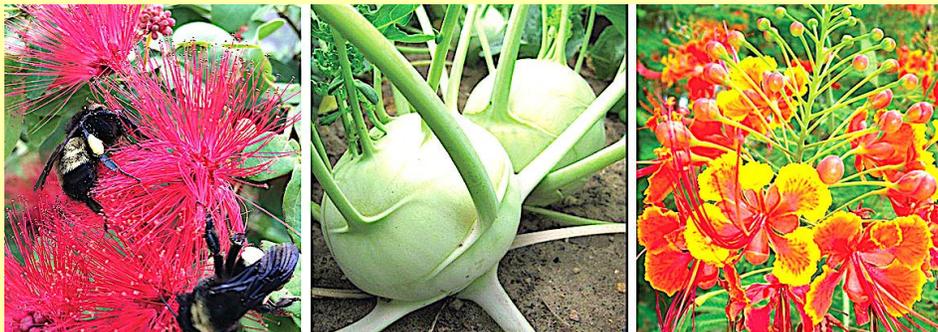
Here is the 308th issue of our weekly gardening newsletter for Houston, the Gulf Coast and beyond. We really appreciate all of our readers hanging in there with us, sharing stories and inspiring us in so many ways.

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](mailto: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!



**BEE BENEFICIAL CONTINUES  
-- VEGETABLE GARDENING  
PITFALLS - BE FOREWARNED!**

BY BRENDA BEUST SMITH

MORE BEE-BENEFICIAL plants with care tips came from Paula Bazan to help expand our [Aug. 15: Good Times Ahead \(If We Save Our Bees\)](#).

- PAULA reports her pink powderpuff plant, right, attracts the most honey bees and bumblebees for her. Paula faithfully deadheads and removes seed pods from all her plants bees favor, including (in left upper corner), her pride of Barbados. (See this issue's "Have You Tried" recommendation below, between John's column and the calendar).

Paula Bazan photos



Above, Paula Bazan's pink powderpuff and friends (insert)

In late July, Paula prunes her flame acanthus, 'Hot Lips' salvia and Ximenia (gerberas) to ensure more new blooms for fall-arriving/year-round butterflies and hummingbirds. Snipping also triggers more flowers and/or beans/seeds on her purple porterweed, firespike, esperanza and golden dewdrop (duranta).

The price of success? Paula uses mosquito netting, long sleeves and ice packs around her neck to protect her from potentially-protesting visitors.

- JUNE LEMOY wants to add that bees prefer single petal flowers (zinnias, black-eyed Susans) especially if they are blue, purple, and yellow, as well as flowering vegetables such as tomatoes and zucchini.
- John Monroe wants to know if I've ever tried bee houses? Sorry, never have. I've had toad houses and bat houses. Google "bee houses." These aren't boxes with frames and queen excluders (we raised bees). These are more like uptown condos. Anyone used one? Only thing my bat and toad houses ever attracted were Husband's laughs!



**PLANNING A FALL VEGETABLE GARDEN?** So many incredible new and improved plant varieties are coming on the market, it's almost impossible to keep up with the latest and greatest. One good way is to shop the many Fall Plant Sales listed in our calendar below. Nurseries have to be very careful in ordering new-to-customer plants. We might not buy unfamiliar names.

At Master Gardener and other organizational sales, chances are members on hand to answer questions have already experimented with plants on sale and you may even see plants growing in on-site MG Demonstration Gardens.

For example, at Fort Bend MGs Oct. 12 Vegetable/Herb Sale chairman Barbara Buckley thinks gardeners will enjoy trying these three newbies below:

Utah celery, left, grows in a



bushy structure that allows thin stalks to be harvested as needed. Plant in the fall and have celery into late spring or early summer.



**Rapini Broccoli (above right)**

This plant has a sprout-like growth pattern. Its small ribs can be snipped for use, as needed, throughout the season.

Most Master Gardener and other large group sales post inventories in advance of their websites. For example, the inventory for the Oct. 12 Fort Bend MG Sale inventory (9am-noon, Bud O'Shields Community Center, 1330 Band Rd.) can be found at [fbmg.org](http://fbmg.org)

**BUT BUYING IS ONLY THE BEGINNING.** In our Spotlight Article below, Fort Bend County Master Gardeners focus on Fall Vegetable Garden mistakes that even our most experienced readers might make.

Be forewarned so you don't waste valuable time and energy! At the end of the article are some more great vegetable learning opportunities.



**Delicacy White Kohlrabi**

A fall vegetable unfamiliar to many. The root, chopped and eaten raw, has a great crunch!

\* \* \*

**LOOKING FOR CLUB SPEAKERS & PROGRAMS?**

"LAZY GARDENER SPEAKER LIST" — free — [lazygardener@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lazygardener@sbcglobal.net)

Brenda's column in the **LAZY GARDENER & FRIENDS HOUSTON GARDEN NEWSLETTER**

is based on her 40+ years as the Houston Chronicle's Lazy Gardener

[CLICK HERE](#) for PDFs OF PAST LG&F NEWSLETTERS

\* \* \*

**• SUBMITTING CALENDAR EVENTS?**

- We have no deadline. We publish events from time submitted until occurs. How quickly it gets published depends on YOU: how -- not when -- you submit it.
- Format is carved in stone (capital/lower case letters, punctuation, order, info included, etc).
- Type event notices in our EXACT format right into email ( no pdfs) and it will probably run in next issue. Attached Word docs ok, but slow process. Typed right in email best.
- IGNORE our EXACT format & it will probably take longer to get it in. I don't mind retyping/reformatting your notices. But be prepared for delay. I'm only one doing these.
- Allow 2 weeks to appear if you don't use our format. If don't see it by then, email me.
- We do NOT pick up any events from other newsletters or general PR releases.
- We only use event notices earmarked specifically for publication in the **Lazy Gardener & Friends Houston Garden Newsletter**.
- Email to [lazygardener@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lazygardener@sbcglobal.net) **with your group's name in subject box!**

\* \* \*

## **VEGETABLE GARDEN MISTAKES EVEN EXPERTS SOMETIMES MAKE**

**By FORT BEND COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS.**

Even the most experienced gardeners sometimes make mistakes. With the fall planting season upon us, here are some considerations to keep in mind to chase potential gardener's remorse away!

### **Remember the adage "Too much of a good thing..." -**

- If tilling is part of your garden prep routine, be careful not to overdo it! Too much tilling unduly damages the natural habitat in the soil, the habitat that benefits your plants!
- High quality compost, in the right amount, is an important natural source of nutrients to support healthy plant growth. If a little is good, more is not necessarily better! Too much compost means lots of nitrogen. Your plants will have lots of lush green foliage, but may have fewer flowers and fruits!
- A good compost should have reached a high enough temperature during its processing to deactivate seeds. Know your compost! Nothing is more devastating than to see a crop of sprouting weeds – especially Sedge - in your freshly prepped garden beds!

### **Make the weather your ally**

- Keep a weather journal and know the optimal planting temperature of each plant variety. Heat and drought tolerant varieties are always a good growing choice for our area.
- Fluctuating fall temperatures can put tender new plants in jeopardy - be prepared to shade from undue heat and protect from impending cold.
- Fall transplants can benefit by being placed in the ground just before the arrival of a cool, rain-bearing weather front. Stake to protect them from wind damage.

### **Know your garden insects, both friend and foe**

- Many insects are beneficial and help keep pesky ones in check! Encourage the beneficials!
- Plants that repel pests and pollinator plants that attract beneficial insects can be helpful in controlling unwanted insect guests, as can companion planting.
- Be watchful, be prepared and be proactive if you see insect foes begin to get the upper-hand in the garden. Gardeners sometimes wait too long to take decisive action, in hopes the situation will not get worse.

### **NOTE: Fort Bend Master Gardeners upcoming gardening events:**

- **SAT., SEPT 21, : GROW YOUR OWN FALL VEGETABLES** by FORT BEND COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS, 9-11am, Bud O'Shieles Community Center, 1330 Band Rd., Rosenberg. [fortbend.agrilife.org/grow-your-own/](http://fortbend.agrilife.org/grow-your-own/); 281-342-3034; [brandy.rader@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:brandy.rader@ag.tamu.edu).

- **TUES. & THURS., OCT. 1-NOV. 12, FALL 2019 FORT BEND COUNTY MASTER GARDENER CLASS, 9am-11am, AgriLife Extension office, 1402 Band Rd., Rosenberg. Register: [fbmg.org](http://fbmg.org), 281-633-7033 or [mmcdowell@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:mmcdowell@ag.tamu.edu).**
- **SAT., OCT. 12: FORT BEND MASTER GARDENERS VEGETABLE-PLANT SALE, 9am-noon, Bud O'Shields Community Center, 1330 Band Rd. <https://fbmg.org/files/2019/09/2019Fall-V-H-Sale-Plant-List-VeryShort.pdf> (copy link and paste into browser)**

\* \* \*



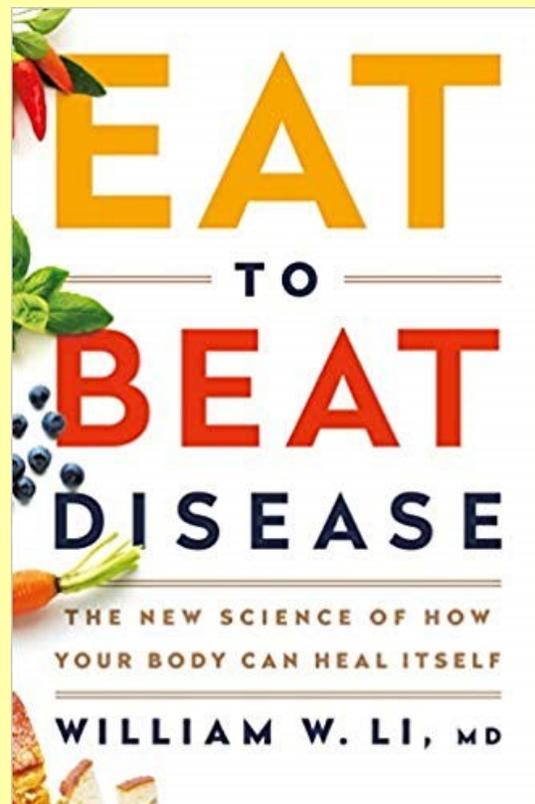
## "EAT TO BEAT DISEASE – The New Science of How Your Body Can Heal Itself"

by William W. Li, MD, Grand Central Publishing, 2019, ISBN: 978-1-5387-1462-1

In this newsletter we often talk about the link between the soil, microbes, plants and our health. Especially the values of growing our own fruits and vegetables. This book is about using the fruits and vegetables we love to be healthy and beat disease.

This book is a story of the power of good healthy food to promote health and prevent disease. Dr. Li explains in easy to understand terms how and why some foods provide major health benefits. He explains the new science of how eating can enable your body to heal itself from cancer, dementia, and dozens of avoidable diseases.

This book is a good summary of research from all over the world on the benefits of eating healthy food.



We have long radically underestimated our body's power to transform and restore our health. Pioneering physician scientist, Dr. William Li, empowers readers by showing them the evidence behind over 200 health-boosting foods that can starve cancer, reduce your risk of dementia, and beat dozens of avoidable diseases. This book isn't about what foods to avoid, but rather is a life-changing guide detailing the hundreds of healing foods you can add to your meals that support the body's defense systems, including:

Plums, cinnamon, Sourdough bread, red wine and beer, black beans, San Marzano tomatoes, olive oil, cheeses like Jarlsberg, Camembert and cheddar.

With Dr. Li's plan, the foods you already love can be optimized to activate your body's five natural health defense systems--Angiogenesis, Regeneration, Microbiome, DNA Protection, and Immunity--to fight cancer; diabetes; cardiovascular, neurodegenerative, and autoimmune diseases; and other debilitating conditions.

Both informative and practical, *Eat to Beat Disease* explains the science of healing and prevention, strategies for using food to actively boost health, and points the study of well-being and disease recovery in an exhilarating new direction."

A New York Times Best seller.

\* \* \*

# Fall Organic Gardening Workshop

Learn how to have the best gardens & lawns ever!

## The A-Z of Organic Growing

Healthy Soils • Healthy Plants • Healthy People

Saturday  
September 21<sup>st</sup>  
8:00AM–1:00PM

McGovern Centennial Gardens  
1500 Hermann Drive  
Houston, TX 77004

Taught by Houston's Premier Organic Educators:

8:00–8:45AM

**Registration, Social, Light Bites**

8:45–9:55AM

**Mike Serant**

Mike has been teaching Organics for 25+ years. His clients include the University of Texas and The Houston Zoo. Mike has manufactured MicroLife Organic Fertilizers since 1988. He will speak on 'Why Organics,' how to have the best lawns and gardens ever, pest control and the vast cost savings with Organics.



10:05–11:15AM

**John Ferguson**

John started Nature's Way Resources in 1994, the state's premier manufacturing facility for soils, compost and mulch. John is a licensed soil scientist and will explain how to achieve healthy soils, why soil health determines plant production, soil microbiology and how to easily grow great plants.



11:30AM–12:35PM

**Brad Phillips**

Want to have the most beautiful and healthiest trees possible? Then this seminar is for you! Brad has been in the tree business for 20 years and is co-owner of ArborTrue. He is a nationally recognized arbor consultant. Come learn how to make your trees thrive and protect your landscape's most valuable asset.



12:35–12:50PM

**Q&A with Speakers**

Tickets  
\$10

Register Online @  
[organicfall.eventbrite.com](http://organicfall.eventbrite.com)

Brought to you by....

MicroLife™

Nature's Way  
Resources

ArborTrue

For more info contact Mike Serant | 713-957-0909 | [mserant@sanjacsupply.com](mailto:mserant@sanjacsupply.com)



2019 Organic Gardening Workshop brought to you by MicroLife, Natures Way Resources & Arbortrue.

[Read more](#)

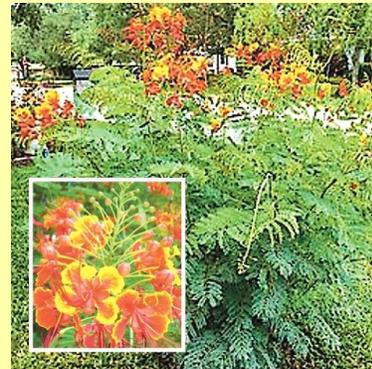
[www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com)

## *Have You Tried . . .*

### **Pride of Barbados**

*(Caesalpinia pulcherrima)*

This eye-popping shrub or small tree loves our area as long as you put it in an extremely well-drained area. Often evergreen, it is normally even root-hardy for us in colder winters. Fern-like leaves provide a beautiful background to the intense tropical-looking red, yellow and orange flower clusters. Prune to ground in late winter for a bushier, more compact shrub. Or prune off lower side branches to create a multi-trunked small tree.



**PRIDE OF BARBADOS** is carried by Nature's Way Resources ([Map](#)).

Or . . . contact our sponsor, Montgomery Pines Nursery in Willis, our other sponsors below or your neighborhood nurseryman 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.  
Individual events must be submitted in exact format below to [lazygardener@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lazygardener@sbcglobal.net)*

THURS., SEPT. 12: BLACKSPOT, BUGS & GARDEN SAFETY BY DR. ALLEN OWINGS, 7pm, Cherie Flores Pavilion, 1500 Hermann Dr. Houston Rose Society event. Free. [houstonrose.org](http://houstonrose.org)

THURS., SEPT. 12: FALL VEGETABLE GARDENING by MARY DEMENY, 11-12:30am, Genoa Friendship Gardens Educational Center Building, 1202 Genoa Red Bluff Road, Pasadena. Harris County Master Gardener event. Free. 713-274-0950; [hcmga.tamu.edu](http://hcmga.tamu.edu)

THURS., SEPT. 12: Q&A WITH HARRIS COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS, 6:30pm, Barbara Bush Library, 6817 Cypresswood Dr., Spring. Free. 713-274-0950; [hcmga.tamu.edu](http://hcmga.tamu.edu)

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](http://maasnursery.com)

SAT., SEPT. 14: KITCHEN GARDENING by MARY DEMENY, 1-3 pm, AgriLife Extension Office, Carbide Park, 4102-B Main St./FM 519, La Marque. Free. Galveston County Master Gardener event. Register: [galvcountymgs@gmail.com](mailto:galvcountymgs@gmail.com), 281-309-5065, [aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston](http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston)

SAT., SEPT. 14, PATIO GARDENING. 8-10 am, & LANDSCAPING FOR CURB APPEAL, 10:30am-12:30pm. AgriLife Extension Office, 9020 Airport Rd, Conroe. Montgomery County Master Gardener event. \$5 each/\$8 both. 936-539-7824, [mcmga.com](http://mcmga.com)

SAT, SUN., SEPT. 14-15: GALVESTON BAY ORCHID SOCIETY SHOW/SALE, 9am-5pm Sat., 9am-3pm Sun., Hilton Hotel-NASA Clear Lake, 3000 E. NASA Parkway, Nassau Bay. Free. [galvestonbayorchidsociety.org](http://galvestonbayorchidsociety.org)

SUN., SEPT 15: MERCER'S TISSUE CULTURE TRIALS by JACOB MARTIN, 2pm, Judson Robinson Jr. Community Center, 2020 Hermann Dr. Texas Gulf Coast Fern Society event. [tgcfernsociety.org](http://tgcfernsociety.org)

MON., SEPT. 16: HARRIS COUNTY MASTER GARDENER OPEN GARDEN DAY & PLANT SALE, 8:30-11am, Genoa Friendship Gardens Educational Center, 1202 Genoa Red Bluff Road, Pasadena. Free. 713-274-0950; [hcmga.tamu.edu](http://hcmga.tamu.edu)

TUES., SEPT. 17: MAKING YOUR BROMELIADS PHOTOGENIC by JOHN EDMONSON, 7pm, Multi-Service Center, 1475 West Gray. Free. Bromeliad Society/Houston event. [bromeliadsocietyhouston.org](http://bromeliadsocietyhouston.org)

TUES., SEPT. 17: BIRDS OF SOUTHEAST TEXAS by GARY CLARK, 10am; St. Basil's Hall, 702 Burney Road, Sugar Land. Free. Sugar Land Garden Club event. [sugarlandgardenclub.org](http://sugarlandgardenclub.org)

TUES., SEPT. 17: Q&A WITH HARRIS COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS, 6:30pm, Spring Branch Memorial Library, 930 Corbindale. Free. 713-274-0950; [hcmga.tamu.edu](http://hcmga.tamu.edu)

THURS., SEPT. 19: NATIVE TREES IN THE LANDSCAPE: WHY AND HOW? by BRAD PHILLIPS, 6:45-8:30pm; American Red Cross, 2700 Southwest Fwy. Free. Native Plant Society of Texas/Houston Chapter event. [npsot.org/Houston](http://npsot.org/Houston)

THURS., SEPT. 19: Q&A WITH HARRIS COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS, 6:30pm, Freeman Branch Library, 16616 Diana Lane. Free. 713-274-0950; [hcmga.tamu.edu](http://hcmga.tamu.edu)

FRI., SEPT. 20: HOLISTIC GARDENING WORKSHOP by Joseph Novak, Ph.,D. 10am-noon, 6 Fridays-Oct. 25, Rice University. \$325. Betty & Jacob Friedman Holistic Garden, Biosciences at Rice and Garden Club of Houston event. Register: [glasscock.rice.edu/community](http://glasscock.rice.edu/community)

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](http://maasnursery.com)

SAT., SEPT. 21: ANNUAL WILDSCAPES WORKSHOP NATIVE PLANT EVENT, 8am-3:30pm; Anderson-Clarke Center, Rice University. \$45 before Aug. 31. Native Plant Society of Texas/Houston Chapter event. [npsot.org/Houston](http://npsot.org/Houston)

SAT., SEPT 21,: GROW YOUR OWN FALL VEGETABLES by FORT BEND COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS, 9-11am, Bud O'Shieles Community Center, 1330 Band Rd., Rosenberg. [fortbend.agrilife.org/grow-your-own/](http://fortbend.agrilife.org/grow-your-own/); 281-342-3034; [brandy.rader@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:brandy.rader@ag.tamu.edu).

SAT. SEPT. 21: T-BUD GRAFTING OF CITRUS & FRUIT TREES by NANCY LANGSTON-NOH, 9-11 am; TURNING DIRT INTO SOIL – CREATING AN IDEAL SOIL by JIM GILLIAM, 1-3 pm, AgriLife Extension Office, Carbide Park, 4102-B Main St./FM 519, La Marque. Free. Galveston County Master Gardener event. Register: [galvcountymgs@gmail.com](mailto:galvcountymgs@gmail.com), 281-309-5065, [aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston](http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston)

SAT., SEPT.21: Q&A WITH HARRIS COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS, 10:30am-12:30pm, Maud Smith Marks Library, 1815 Westgreen Blvd., Katy. Free. 713-274-0950; [hcmga.tamu.edu](http://hcmga.tamu.edu)

SUN., SEPT. 22: TIDBITS FROM 50 YEARS WITH DAYLILIES by Hershhal Theilen, 2-3pm. Klein United Methodist Church, 5920 FM 2920, Spring. Cypress Creek Daylily Club event. Free. [cypresscreekdaylilyclub.simplesite.com](http://cypresscreekdaylilyclub.simplesite.com)

SUN., SEPT. 22: Reservation deadline for Tues., Sept. 24: HARRIS COUNTY MASTER GARDENER OPEN GARDEN DAY, 10-11:15am, Weekley Community Center, 8440 Greenhouse Rd., Cypress. Register: [ogd.harrishort@gmail.com](mailto:ogd.harrishort@gmail.com)

WED., SEPT. 25: CACTI IN HABITAT PART II by DAVID VAN LANGEN, 7:30 pm, at the Metropolitan Multi-Services Center, 1475 West Gray. Houston Cactus & Succulent Society event. Free. [hcsstex.org](http://hcsstex.org)

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](http://maasnursery.com)

SAT., SEPT 28: LEAGUE CITY GARDEN CLUB GARDEN WALK: "UNDER THE MAJESTIC OAKS," 10am-4pm. Tickets \$15. [leaguecitygardenclub@gmail.com](mailto:leaguecitygardenclub@gmail.com); [leaguecitygardenclub.org](http://leaguecitygardenclub.org).

SAT. SEPT. 28: HERBS FOR THE GULF COAST by NANCY LANGSTON-NOH and BRIANA ETIE, 9-11 am, AgriLife Extension Office, Carbide Park, 4102-B Main St./FM 519, La Marque. Free. Galveston County Master Gardener event. Register: [galvcountymgs@gmail.com](mailto:galvcountymgs@gmail.com), 281-309-5065, [aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston](http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston)

SAT. SEPT. 28: RAINWATER HARVESTING by NAT GRUESEN, 10:30 am-12:30 pm, Friendswood Public Library, 416 S. Friendswood Dr., Friendswood. Free. Galveston County Master Gardener event. Register: [galvcountymgs@gmail.com](mailto:galvcountymgs@gmail.com), 281-309-5065, [aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston](http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston)

SAT., SEPT. 28: WOODLANDS LANDSCAPING SOLUTIONS, 9am - noon, Recreation Center, Rob Fleming Park, 6464 Creekside Forest Dr., The Woodlands. Free. [thewoodlandstowship-tx.gov/environment](http://thewoodlandstowship-tx.gov/environment)

SAT., SEPT. 28: ORCHID CARE 101, 9am–11am, Mercer Botanic Gardens, 22306 Aldine-Westfield, Humble. Free. Register: 713-274-4160.

SAT. SEPT 28: NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY OF TEXAS/CLEAR LAKE CHAPTER FALL PLANT SALE, 8am-Plant Overview, 9am-noon plant sale. University of Houston Clear Lake – Environmental Institute of Houston, 2700 Bay Area Blvd. [npsot.org/wp/clearlake/](http://npsot.org/wp/clearlake/)

SAT., SEPT. 28: DAYLILY AND PERENNIAL PLANT SALE, 10-2pm. Wunderlich Farm Market, 18218 Theiss Mail Route Rd. Klein. Cypress Creek Daylily Club event. Free. [cypresscreekdaylilyclub.simplesite.com](http://cypresscreekdaylilyclub.simplesite.com)

MON, SEPT. 30: WALLER COUNTY MASTER GARDENER 2019 TREE SALE PRE-ORDER DEADLINE. Pre-order pick-up Oct 26. [txmg/wallermg/treesale](http://txmg/wallermg/treesale), Facebook Waller County Master Gardeners; 979-826-7651 x3068.

TUES. & THURS., OCT. 1-NOV. 12, FALL 2019 FORT BEND COUNTY MASTER GARDENER CLASS, 9am-11am, AgriLife Extension office, 1402 Band Rd., Rosenberg. Register: [fbmg.org](http://fbmg.org), 281-633-7033 or [mmcdowell@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:mmcdowell@ag.tamu.edu).

WED., OCT. 2: MONARCH BUTTERFLIES by CHRIS ANASTA, 9-11 am, Clear Lake United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall, 16335 El Camino Real. Gardeners By The Bay event. Free.

THURS., OCT. 3: BIBLICAL GARDENS by JEAN FEFER, 10 am, MUD Building, 805 Hidden Canyon Dr, Katy. Free, Nottingham Country Garden Club event. [ncgctx.org](http://ncgctx.org)

THURS.-SAT, OCT. 3-5: NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY OF TEXAS 2019 FALL SYMPOSIUM, South Shore Harbour Resort & Conference Center, League City. Register: [npsot.org/wp/symposium2019/](http://npsot.org/wp/symposium2019/)

SAT., OCT. 5: VISIT WITH RANDY LEMMON, 11am-1 pm., Wabash Feed and Garden, 4537 N. Shepherd. Free, 713-863-8322, [wabashfeed.com](http://wabashfeed.com)

SAT., OCT. 5: SPRING BRANCH AFRICAN VIOLET CLUB ANNUAL PLANT SALE, 10am-4pm, Judson Robinson Jr. Community Center, 2020 Hermann Park Dr. Free. 281-682-1073, [cseverson57@comcast.net](mailto:cseverson57@comcast.net)

SAT., OCT. 5: HEALTHY LANDSCAPES = HEALTHY WATERWAYS CLASS, 8am - Noon, The Woodlands Emergency Training Center, 16135 IH-145 South, The Woodlands. Free. Register: [thewoodlandstowship-tx.gov/environment](http://thewoodlandstowship-tx.gov/environment)

SAT., OCT. 5: POLLINATOR FESTIVAL, 10am–4pm, Mercer Botanic Gardens, 22306 Aldine-Westfield, Humble. Free. 713-274-4160.

SAT., OCT. 5: HIBISCUS CLASS W/HIBISCUS GRAFTING by JIM MAAS & JOE MILLER, 10am, Maas Nursery, 5511 Todville Rd., Seabrook. \$35. 281-474-2488, [maasnursery.com](http://maasnursery.com)

SAT., OCT 5: MONTGOMERY COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS 2019 FALL PLANT SALE, 8am Sale Preview, 9am-noon Sale. Agrilife Extension Building, 9020 Airport Rd, Conroe. Free. 936-539-7824; [mcmga.com](http://mcmga.com)

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

TUES., OCT. 8: MAKE HOUSE A HOME WORKSHOP USING PLANTS & FLOWERS FROM GARDEN by BETTY LAHIRI, 9am, Shenandoah Municipal Complex, 29955 I-45 North, Shenandoah. The Woodlands Garden Club event. Free. [thewoodlandsgardenclub.org](http://thewoodlandsgardenclub.org)

WED., OCT. 9: SURPRISINGLY SPOOKY, MARVELOUSLY MYSTERIOUS PLANTS, noon–2pm, [Mercer Botanic Gardens](http://Mercer Botanic Gardens), 22306 Aldine-Westfield, Humble. Free. Register: 713-274-4160.

THURS., Oct. 0: BEHIND GARDENLINE SCENES by RANDY LEMMON, 7pm, Cherie Flores Pavilion, 1500 Hermann Dr. Rose Society event. Free. [houstonrose.org](http://houstonrose.org)

FRI., OCT. 11: PLANTS OF THE BIBLE by JEAN FEFER, 11:30am, Jim & JoAnn Fonteno Senior Education Center, 6600 Bissonnet St., Free. [pct3.com/Senior-Centers/Jim-JoAnn-Fonteno-Senior-Education-Center](http://pct3.com/Senior-Centers/Jim-JoAnn-Fonteno-Senior-Education-Center)

SAT. OCT 12: GALVESTON COUNTY MASTER GARDENER FALL PLANT SALE, 9am-1pm; SALE PREVIEW, 8am, Galveston County Fair Grounds, Jack Brooks Park-Rodeo Arena, Hwy 6 & Jack Brooks Road, Hitchcock. Free. [galvcountymgs@gmail.com](mailto:galvcountymgs@gmail.com), 281-309-5065, [aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston/index.html](http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston/index.html)

SAT. OCT 12: GALVESTON COUNTY MASTER GARDENER FALL PLANT SALE, 8-8:50am-Overview; 9am-1pm-Sale. Galveston County Fair Grounds, Jack Brooks Park-Rodeo Arena, Hwy 6 & Jack Brooks Rd, Hitchcock. Free. [galvcountymgs@gmail.com](mailto:galvcountymgs@gmail.com), 281-309-5065, [aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston/index.html](http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston/index.html)

SAT., OCT. 12: FRUIT TREE CLASS by JIM MAAS, PAT CORDRAY & PAUL NESTRA, 10am, Maas Nursery, 5511 Todville Rd., Seabrook. \$35. 281-474-2488, [maasnursery.com](http://maasnursery.com)

SAT., OCT. 12: FORT BEND MASTER GARDENERS VEGETABLE-PLANT SALE, 9am-noon, Bud O'Shields Community Center, 1330 Band Rd. <https://fbmg.org/files/2019/09/2019Fall-V-H-Sale-Plant-List-VeryShort.pdf>

MON. OCT 13: BASICS OF BOTANY by ANITA TILLER, 6:30-9pm, Good Shepherd Episcopal Church, 2929 Woodland Hills, Kingwood. Lake Houston Gardeners. Free. [lakehoustongardeners.org](http://lakehoustongardeners.org)

TUES., OCT. 15: UNDERSTANDING BROMELIADS by DENNIS CATHCART, 7pm, Multi-Service Center, 1475 West Gray. Bromeliad Society/Houston event. Free. [bromeliadsocietyhouston.org](http://bromeliadsocietyhouston.org)

THURS., OCT. 17: KATY PRAIRIE UPDATE by WESLEY NEWMAN, 6:45-8:30pm; American Red Cross, 27000 Southwest Fwy. Free. Native Plant Society of Texas/Houston Chapter event. [npsot.org/Houston](http://npsot.org/Houston)

SAT., OCT 19:: TEXAS ROSE RUSTLERS FALL CUTTINGS EXCHANGE & Q&A by DR. WILLIAM C. WELCH & GREG GRANT, 9am-3pm, St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 414 E. McAlpine St., Navasota. Free. [texasroserustlers.com](http://texasroserustlers.com)

SAT.-SUN, OCT. 19-20: HOUSTON BONSAI SOCIETY FALL SHOW, 9am-5pm Sat., 10am-5pm Sun., Memorial City Mall. [houstonbonsaisociety.com](http://houstonbonsaisociety.com)

WED., OCT. 23: PROPAGATION OF HAWORTHIA by WALLY WARD, 7:30 pm, at the Metropolitan Multi-Services Center, 1475 West Gray. FREE. Houston Cactus & Succulent Society. [www.hcsstex.org](http://www.hcsstex.org)

FRI.-SAT., OCT. 25-26: HOUSTON ARBORETUM FALL NATIVE PLANT SALE, 9am-4pm, 120 West Loop North. Free. [houstonarboretum.org](http://houstonarboretum.org); 713-681-8433

SAT. NOV 2, TEXAS ARBOR DAY, 1pm – 4pm, Mercer Botanic Gardens, West Side Arboretum, 22306 Aldine-Westfield, Humble. Free. 713-274-4160.

SAT., NOV. 2, MONTGOMERY COUNTY MASTER GARDENER OPEN GARDENS, 9-11:30 am, AgriLife Extension Office, 9020 Airport Road, Conroe. Free. 936-539-7824, [mcmga.com](http://mcmga.com)

SAT., NOV. 2: BULB CLASS by JIM MAAS & MARGARET CHERRY, 10am, Maas Nursery, 5511 Todville Rd., Seabrook. \$45. 281-474-2488, [maasnursery.com](http://maasnursery.com)

SAT., NOV. 2: MONTGOMERY COUNTY MASTER GARDENER OPEN GARDENS, 9-11:30 am, AgriLife Extension Office, 9020 Airport Road, Conroe. Free. 936-539-7824; [mcmga.com](http://mcmga.com)

FRI., NOV.8: CREATING A BIRD-FRIENDLY COMMUNITY by ANNA VALLERY, 10am, First Christian Church, 1601 Sunset Blvd. Houston Federation of Garden Clubs event. Free. [houstonfederationgardenclubs.org](http://houstonfederationgardenclubs.org)

WED. NOV. 13, GARDENS (MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS COLLECTIONS), noon–2pm, Mercer Botanic Gardens, 22306 Aldine-Westfield, Humble. Free. Register: 713-274-4160.

SAT., NOV. 16: MINIATURE FAIRY GARDEN CLASS by JIM MAAS, PAT CORDRAY & BRENDA HESSE, 10am, Maas Nursery, 5511 Todville Rd., Seabrook. \$45. 281-474-2488, [maasnursery.com](http://maasnursery.com)

WED., Nov. 20: CACTI IN HABITAT PART III by DAVID VAN LANGEN, 7:30 pm, Metropolitan Multi-Services Center, 1475 West Gray. Houston Cactus & Succulent Society. Free. [hcsstex.org](http://hcsstex.org)

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

FRI., JAN. 10, 2020: RECYCLE, REDUCE, REDUCE by Native Plant Society of Texas, & PLANT SALE. 10am, First Christian Church, 1601 Sunset Blvd. Houston Federation of Garden Clubs event. Free. [houstonfederationgardenclubs.org](http://houstonfederationgardenclubs.org)

FRI., APRIL 10, 2020: EXCITING UNDERUTILIZED PLANTS ADAPTABLE TO HOUSTON REGION by ADAM BLACK. 10am, First Christian Church, 1601 Sunset Blvd. Federation of Garden Clubs event. Free. [houstonfederationgardenclubs.org](http://houstonfederationgardenclubs.org)

FRI. MAY 8, 2020: THINGS I WISH I HAD LEARNED SOONER (ABOUT ROSES) by BAXTER WILLIAMS. 10am, First Christian Church, 1601 Sunset Blvd. Houston Federation of Garden Clubs event. Free. [houstonfederationgardenclubs.org](http://houstonfederationgardenclubs.org)

**If you're planning to submit an event notice, please read our important directions at the end of my column above to ensure it actually gets in.  
Thanks, Brenda**

*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](mailto:lazygardener@sbcglobal.net) \_

**THIS NEWSLETTER IS MADE POSSIBLE  
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](mailto:lazygardenerandfriends@gmail.com)**

green  
**PRO**

healthy lawns, happy families

COMPOST TOP DRESSING  
LAWN, TREE, & BED FERTILIZATION

**YearRound**

Organic Fertilizers  
Core Aeration  
Compost Top Dressing

[YearRoundHouston.com](http://YearRoundHouston.com)

**MicroLife**<sup>TM</sup>

f&s  
landscaping  
LLC  
Complete Organic Solutions

Montgomery Pines Nursery

[www.bartlett.com](http://www.bartlett.com)

NATURE'S WAY  
RESOURCES  
*an organically based service company*

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 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.

