



## Jan. 31, 2020 - Issue #325

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[Nature's Way Resources](#) owner John Ferguson, "The Lazy Gardener" Brenda Beust Smith and Pablo Hernandez welcome your feedback and are so grateful to the many horticulturists who contribute their expertise.

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# WEATHER RULES "LOCAL" IS THE KEY!

***No winter lasts forever; no spring skips its turn.***

-- Hal Borland, 1900-1978, American author, journalist and naturalist

**By Brenda Beust Smith**

***Folks, some notes:***

- I had a major computer crash with backup failures and, while recovering as much as possible, not as much was saved as I hoped.***
- All recently-submitted recoverable event notices are now in the calendar. If you don't see yours, please send again!***
- If you resubmit an event notice, so note and, PLEASE!, type it right into your email -- event notices in our exact calendar format -- so I can copy and paste them right into the calendar. No pdfs or flyers or extended paragraphs, please. Email to me at [lazygardener@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lazygardener@sbcglobal.net)***

***Thanks! Brenda***

What's ahead in our always-roller-coaster weather? The Old Farmer's Almanac isn't perfect, of course, but it's been around since 1792 (Washington was President). It's [almanac.com](http://almanac.com) prediction for Houston's February 2020 is:

- ***"Winter will be milder and drier than normal, with below-normal snowfall in places that normally receive snow. The coldest periods will be in mid- to late November and early January and from late January into early February."***

Although there's no hard freezes indicated ahead for our area, remember the largest snowfall we've ever had -- 20 inches! -- was in February. Okay, it was in 1895 (on Valentine's Day). But "global warming" doesn't just mean hotter all the time. It means increasing extremes in both directions.

Be forewarned: Facebook "friends" constantly share seasonal Planting Guides, especially for vegetables. Don't rely solely on any such guides unless specifically labeled for the "Upper Texas Gulf Coast."

Planting times in our unique subtropical area are often different from even other parts of Texas. On top of that, even these may not be the same as they were in the past here. Planting at the right time is more key than ever, especially with edibles and annual type plants.

Excellent guides are those produced by [Urban Harvest](http://UrbanHarvest.org) and your local county Master Gardeners. To reach your county Master Gardeners:

[mastergardener.tamu.edu/county-programs](http://mastergardener.tamu.edu/county-programs)

Hurry if you're planning to put in some fruit trees. First check specific varieties listed in Urban Harvest's [Fruit Trees, Shrubs, and Vines Suited to the Greater Houston Area](#)

All shrubs can be planted now. But don't prune spring-bloomers like azaleas, camellias, Japanese magnolias or bridal wreath (right). You'll cut off the flowers. Prune these after they bloom. Ok now to prune summer blooming shrubs.



Plant only later-blooming bulbs like amaryllis, cannas, gladiolus, etc. Plant glads every two weeks for a longer bloom period.

Most nationwide "spring-planting" guides include April as "spring." By then, our soil has started to heat up too much for many traditional spring flowers to set strong roots. Your local, independent nursery will focus on having the right plants at the right time for your area gardens.





Bluebonnets (above) are a good example of now-too-late-for-planting-seeds. As with most native wildflowers, plant bluebonnet seeds in Nov.-Dec. Bluebonnets prefer all day or part sun and a well drained area. Their roots easily rot during our monsoons if they stay too soaked too long. If they haven't worked planted in your yard or gardens, try hanging baskets, containers, etc. And, yes, they do come in white and "UH Cougar" red as well as blue. Hybridizers aren't messing with our state flower. These occur naturally in Texas. The [Bluebonnet Festival in Chappell Hill](#) will be April 18 & 19, 2020.

Have you tried and failed with strawberries? Try planting them in a hanging basket or container too. It's ironic that sometimes strawberries are tough to grow here (too wet), considering Pasadena was once the [Strawberry Capital of the World](#)

*(this link includes a great story about Clara Barton, American Red Cross founder).*

Pasadena celebrates its heritage with an annual [Strawberry Festival](#) (May 15-17, 2020). No strawberry plants for sale, but lots of family fun.

#### **CITRUS GREENING QUARANTINE:**

Tip o' the trowel to **BOB WHITE**, who wanted to confirm that Galveston County had been added to the Texas Citrus Greening list. Galveston County Master Gardeners confirm that yes, it was added October 2019 adding, "In the Gulf Coast region Brazoria, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris and Montgomery counties are under the quarantine." Citrus greening is a disease that, to date, has cost U.S industry losses of over \$3.63 billion. More information what quarantine means can be found on the Texas Dept. of Agriculture website:



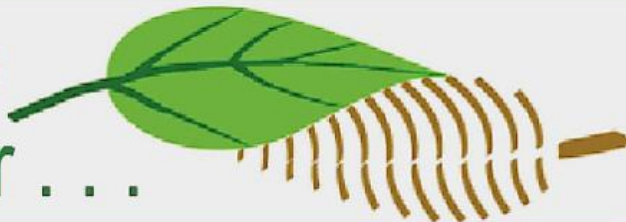
[texasagriculture.gov/RegulatoryPrograms/PlantQuality/PestandDiseaseAlerts/CitrusGreening.aspx](https://texasagriculture.gov/RegulatoryPrograms/PlantQuality/PestandDiseaseAlerts/CitrusGreening.aspx)

\* \* \*

**"LAZY GARDENER SPEAKER LIST" & "PUBLICITY BOOKLET"**

**are free — email request to: [lazygardener@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lazygardener@sbcglobal.net)**

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



## NEWS FROM THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF SOILS AND PLANTS #109

Several times over the last few years I have reported on many new studies talking about the health benefits of Elderberries. Many nutritionists are calling Elderberries one of the super foods for good health.

My first exposure to elderberries was when I was about 7 years old. My father and I would walk over to White Oak bayou (before the Corp of Engineers ruined it) where elderberries grew along the shore line. He would take some thick stem cuttings and showed me how to remove the pithy core. Next, he would collect a pine branch and whittle it down to make a plunger that would just fit inside the hollow cane. I would stick a china berry inside and presto I had a pop gun that could shoot the berry almost 100 feet.

As I was older and in Boy Scouts working on a survival merit badge, I started learning about the culinary or food aspects of this plant, from the flowers to the berries. Later while in college I worked part time jobs for local farmers where they also fed me. I learned how delicious elderberry fritters (fried flower heads) could be.



*Photograph from Internet, source unknown*





***American Elderberry (Sambucus canadensis) Plant with Flower Clusters. Photo by Jim Baker.***

I experienced elderberry jelly and jam and on occasion elderberry wine that also tasted pretty darn good.



***Photograph from Internet, source unknown***

Ancient society knew about the benefits of elderberry, “the plant of God that heals everything it touches”, Hippocrates. Others have called it the medicine chest of the people.

American Indians would sometimes include dried elderberries in their pemmican to add nutrition and some sweetness.

Today I continue to learn about this amazing plant, from the beautiful flowers and delicious fruit to its ability to help stabilize shorelines and prevent erosion.

Elderberries make great screens and hedges and dampens the sound of unwanted noise. Many insects love the pollen including butterflies, bees and other pollinators. Many forms of wildlife love the fruit from birds to small mammals to even box turtles and snakes.

Modern researchers have found that some of the phytochemicals found in the fruit makes it harder for viruses and bacteria to reproduce. The berries (actually drupes for those whom want to picky) also contain health promoting chemicals called flavonoids, more than any other berry. It is also has the highest antioxidant properties of any of the berries. Additionally, they are higher in minerals and other nutrients than other berries.

In addition to wine, elderberries can be used to make meads and beer, cake and meat glazes, soups, tinctures, and syrups.

There are many cultivars available today of both native American and European species. However, the nutrient content is not as high and they are not as tough as the native wild varieties.

Elderberries are perennials that will grow in almost any soil with part to full sun. Native varieties do not care about pH and are very drought tolerant in our area once established. They are essentially disease and pest free or as Brenda might say “a perfect Lazy Gardener plant”.

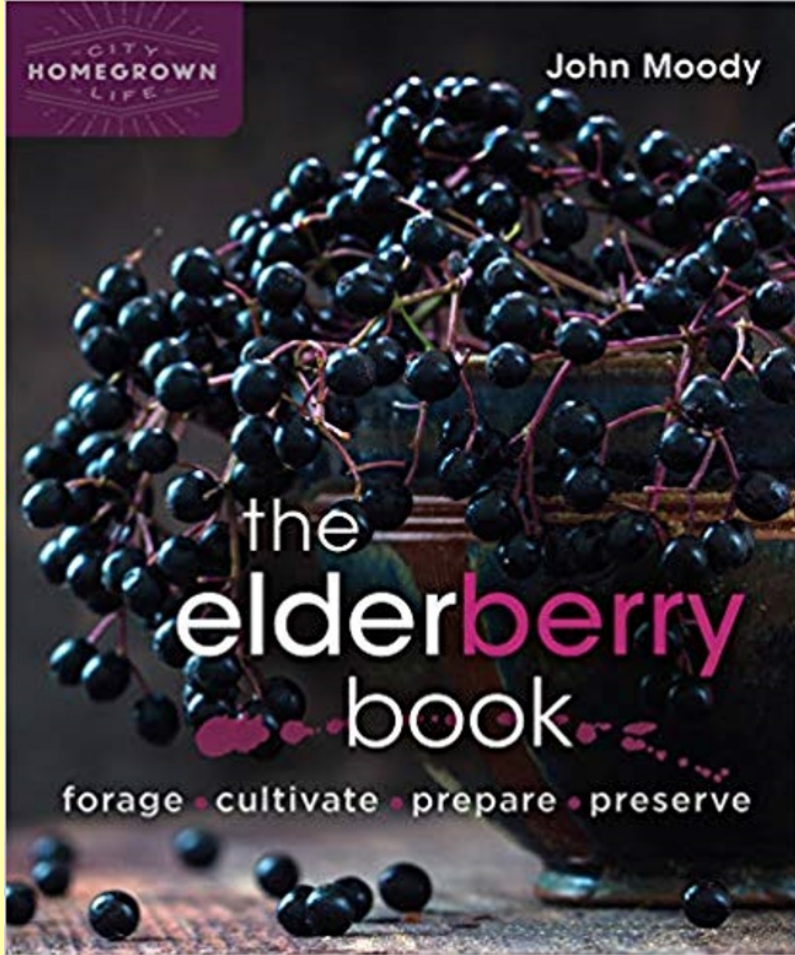
A couple inches (2-4 inches) of leaf mold compost or good aged Native Mulch will make them very happy. They quickly respond to a good organic fertilizer and really like fish emulsion supplements. The Microlife family has very good products for both of these.

This is an excellent plant, extremely low maintenance, and great for habitat gardening. For those interested we have them growing wild on our facility if you want seeds or cuttings and we propagate a few for sale in our nursery.

For more information a good book is:

**“the elderberry book – forage, cultivate, prepare, preserve”**, by John Moody, New Society Publishers, 2019, ISBN: 978-0865719194





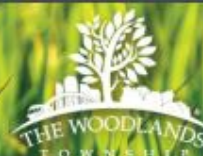
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The Woodlands Township Presents...

# Principles of Organic Landscapes and Gardens

Learn how to have the best gardens & lawns ever!



## The A-Z of Organic Growing

Healthy Soils • Healthy Plants • Healthy People

Saturday

February 1<sup>ST</sup>

8:00AM–1:00PM

Woodlands Emergency Training Center

16135 Interstate 45 S.

Conroe, TX 77385

Taught by Houston's Premier Organic Educators:

8:00–8:30AM

Registration, Social, Light Bites

8:30–8:45AM

Woodlands Township Pollinator Intro

8:45–9:55AM

Mike Serant



Mike has been teaching Organics for 25+ years. His clients include the University of Texas & 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.

9:55–10:10AM

Vendor Meet & Greet

10:10–11:20AM

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.

11:25AM–12:35PM

Brad Phillips



If you want to have the most beautiful and healthy trees possible, this is the seminar for you! Brad Phillips is a Board Certified Master Arborist and has co-owned ArborTrue for the last 20 years. He is a nationally recognized arboricultural consultant and speaker. Come learn how to make your trees thrive and protect the most valuable assets in your landscape.

12:35–12:50PM

Q&A with Speakers



Free Event

Register Online @  
[thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov/environment](http://thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov/environment)

Brought to you by....

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Woodlands  
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For more info contact [enviro@thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov](mailto:enviro@thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov) | 281-210-3800

## HAVE YOU TRIED . . .

### BUTTONBUSH

(*Cephalanthus occidentalis*)

This 6-12' multi-branched perennial shrub attracts birds, butterflies and bees, especially native, bumble and honey bees. It tolerates (prefers!) moist, shade/part shade areas, so is ideal for spots where rainwater collects. The fragrant, eye-





catching white buttonlike flower balls appear June-Sept.

## Nature's Way Resources Nursery

101 Sherbrook Circle Conroe Tx, 77385  
(936) 321-6990 (936) 273-1200

### EARLY BIRD SPECIAL

25% OFF PLANTS\* NOW THROUGH

SATURDAY, FEB. 8<sup>th</sup>

50% OFF PLANTS IN CLEARANCE AREA

\*(Does not include new arrivals, other exceptions may apply - see nursery associate with any questions)



## LAZY GARDENER & FRIENDS HOUSTON GARDEN NEWSLETTER CALENDAR EVENTS

### ADULT GARDEN PLANT EVENTS ONLY

ALWAYS CHECK TO MAKE SURE YOUR EVENT IS IN! HOWEVER...

### **PLEASE READ BEFORE SUBMITTING EVENTS!**

- Events NOT submitted in the EXACT format below may take 2 weeks or longer to be reformatted/retyped and added to calendar.
- Events written in the email in this EXACT format will be copied & pasted immediately into the next upcoming calendar.
- No pdfs or flyers!!! They only delay publication.
- Submit to: [lazygardener@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lazygardener@sbcglobal.net).
- Put group name in email subject.

SAT., FEB. 1: NEW PLANTS & NEW PLANTING SCHEDULES IN OUR CHANGING CLIMATE by DR. BOB RANDALL, 11-12:30, Wabash Feed & Garden, 4537 N. Shepherd Dr. Free, 713-863-8322, [wabashfeed.com](http://wabashfeed.com)

SAT., FEB. 1: GROWING CAMELLIAS IN HOUSTON by JIM MAAS, & PAT CORDRAY, 10am, Maas Nursery, 5511 Todville Rd., Seabrook. \$45. 281-474-2488; [maasnursery.com](http://maasnursery.com)

TUES., FEB. 4: MASTER GARDENER PROGRAM IN HARRIS COUNTY by BRANDI KELLER & PAUL WINSKI, noon-1pm, Trini Mendenhall Community Center, 1414v Wirt Rd. HCMG event. Free. 713-274-0950; [hcmga.tamu.edu](http://hcmga.tamu.edu)

THURS., FEB. 5: SPRING GARDENING, 10am, MUD Building 805 Hidden Canyon Dr., Katy. Free. Nottingham Country Garden Club event. [ncgctx.org](http://ncgctx.org)

WED. FEB. 5: CONTAINER GARDENING WITH A WHIMSICAL APPROACH by DARLA RASZ McCenna, 9am-noon, Clear Lake United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall , 16335 El Camino Real. Gardeners By The Bay event. Free.

SAT., FEB. 7: HARRIS COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS OPEN GARDEN DAY TOURS, 9-11am. and WORKSHOP, 10:30am, McGovern Centennial Garden, 1500 Hermann Dr. 713-274-0950; [hcmga.tamu.edu](http://hcmga.tamu.edu)

SAT., FEB. 8: COME GET THE SCOOP ON HEALTHY SOILS by GREG COOPER, 11am-12:30pm, Wabash Feed & Garden, 4537 N. Shepherd. Free. 713-863-8322; [wabashfeed.com](http://wabashfeed.com)

SAT. FEB 8. FORT BEND MASTER COUNTY GARDENERS 2020 FRUIT TREE SALE, 9am-noon, Fairgrounds George Pavilion, 4310 Hwy 36S, Rosenberg. Preview list: [fbmg.org/events/annual-sales/fruit-citrus-tree-sale](http://fbmg.org/events/annual-sales/fruit-citrus-tree-sale); 281-341-7068.

SAT., FEB. 8: SPRING VEGETABLE PLANTING I by JIM MAAS, PAT CORDRAY & PAUL NESRSTA, 10am, Maas Nursery, 5511 Todville Rd., Seabrook. \$45. 281-474-2488; [maasnursery.com](http://maasnursery.com)

SAT. FEB 8: TURF GRASS SELECTION & MAINTENANCE, 8-10am, & GROWING SPRING VEGETABLES, 10:30am-12:30pm, by MONTGOMERY COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS, AgriLife Extension Office, 9020 Airport Rd., Conroe. \$5/\$8 both. 936-539-7824; [mcmga.com](http://mcmga.com)

TUES., FEB. 11: DISH GARDENS by LYNN HUBER, 9am, Shenandoah Municipal Complex, 29955 I-45N, Shenandoah. The Woodlands Garden Club event. Free. [thewoodlandsgardenclub.org](http://thewoodlandsgardenclub.org)

WED., FEB. 12: VEGETABLE GARDENING IN SMALL SPACES by Robert 'Skip' Richter, noon-2pm, Mercer Botanic Gardens, 22306 Aldine-Westfield, Humble. Free. Register: 713-274-4160. [hcp4.net/parks/mercer](http://hcp4.net/parks/mercer)

THURS., Feb 13: HOUSTON ROSE SOCIETY ANNUAL PRUNING PARTY, 7pm, Cherie Flores Pavilion, 1500 Hermann Dr. Houston Rose Society event. Free. [houstonrose.org](http://houstonrose.org)

THURS., FEB. 13: SPRING VEGETABLE GARDENING, 6:30-8:30pm, Barbara Bush Library, 6817 Cypresswood Dr., Spring. Harris County Master Gardener event. Free. 713-274-0950; [hcmga.tamu.edu](http://hcmga.tamu.edu)

THURS., FEB. 13: PURPLE MARTINS by MATT FENDLEY, 10-11:30am, Genoa Friendship Garden, 1202 Genoa Red Bluff Rd. Free. Harris County Master Gardener event. 713-274-0950; [hcmga.tamu.edu](http://hcmga.tamu.edu)

FRI., FEB. 14: HOUSTON FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS PLANT SALE. 10 am, First Christian Church, 1601 Sunset Blvd. Free. [houstonfederationgardenclubs.org](http://houstonfederationgardenclubs.org).

SAT., FEB. 15: URBAN HARVEST 20th ANNUAL FRUIT TREE SALE, 9am-1pm, Sawyer Yards, 2010 Winter St. Preview list: [UrbanHarvest.org/fruit-tree-sale](http://UrbanHarvest.org/fruit-tree-sale)

SAT., FEB. 15: ANTIQUE ROSES by JIM MAAS, & MIKE SHOUP, 10am, Maas Nursery, 5511 Todville Rd., Seabrook. \$35. 281-474-2488; [maasnursery.com](http://maasnursery.com)



SAT., FEB 15: GALVESTON COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS 2020 SPRING PLANT SALE. 8am: Preview. 9am-1pm: Sale (bring wagon). Fair Ground, Jack Brooks Park, Hwy 6 @ Jack Brooks Rd, Hitchcock; 281-309-5065. Preview list: [aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston](http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston)

SAT., FEB. 15: GROW YOUR OWN by FORT BEND MASTER GARDENERS, 9-11am, Bud O'Shields Community Center, 1330 Band Rd., Rosenberg. [fortbend.agrilife.org/grow-your-own](http://fortbend.agrilife.org/grow-your-own); 281-432-3034.

TUES., FEB. 18: ORCHIDS IN HOUSTON FROM A "BOX" STORE with Jay Balchan, 7pm West Grey Multi-Service Center, 1475 W. Grey. Bromeliad Society/Houston event. Free. [bromeliadsocietyhouston.org](http://bromeliadsocietyhouston.org)

TUES., FEB. 18: A PLANT LOVER'S TOUR OF PUBLIC & PRIVATE GARDENS IN ST. KITTS & NEVIS by Joan Pritchard, 10am, St. Basil's Hall, 702 Burney, Sugar Land. Sugar Land Garden Club event. Free.

WED., FEB. 19: AMERICAN EDEN: DAVID HOSACK, BOTANY, AND MEDICINE IN THE GARDEN OF THE EARLY REPUBLIC by VICTORIA JOHNSON, 2020 Nancy Stallworth Thomas Horticulture Lecture, 10am, St. Luke's Methodist Church Fellowship Hall, 3471 Westheimer. Free. [gchouston.org](http://gchouston.org)

THURS., FEB. 20: MUSHROOMS: THEIR NICHE IN ECOSYSTEMS by TERI MACARTHUR 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)

SAT., FEB. 22: 14" METAL HANGING BASKET by JIM MAAS, & PAT CORDRAY, 10am, Maas Nursery, 5511 Todville Rd., Seabrook. \$35. 281-474-2488; [maasnursery.com](http://maasnursery.com)

SUN., FEB. 23: CACTI AND SUCCULENTS by JACOB MARTIN, 2pm-3pm. Klein United Methodist Church, 5920 FM 2920, Spring, TX 77388. Cypress Creek Daylily Club event. Free. [cypresscreekdaylilyclub.simplesite.com](http://cypresscreekdaylilyclub.simplesite.com)

THURS., FEB. 27: TIM BELL'S DAYLILY GARDEN, 7-9pm, Cherie Flores Garden Pavilion, 1500 Hermann Dr. Free. Houston Hemerocallis Society event. [ofts.com/hhs/](http://ofts.com/hhs/)

SAT., FEB. 29: MINIATURE FAIRY GARDEN by JIM MAAS, PAT CORDRAY & BRENDA HESSE, 10am, Maas Nursery, 5511 Todville Rd., Seabrook. \$45. 281-474-2488; [maasnursery.com](http://maasnursery.com)

SAT., MAR. 2: WALLER COUNTY MASTER GARDENER VEGETABLE & HERB SALE, 9am-1pm, VEGETABLES by MARY KARISH; VEGETABLES by HENRY FLOWERS. Extension Office, 846 6th St., Hempstead. [wallermgardener2103@gmail.com](mailto:wallermgardener2103@gmail.com)

TUES., MAR. 3: A HOMEOWNER'S GUIDE TO WEED CONTROL by JOHN JONS, 6:30-8pm, Extension Office, Carbide Park, 4102-B Main/FM 519, La Marque. Register: [galvcounnymgs@gmail.com](mailto:galvcounnymgs@gmail.com), 281-309-5065, [aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston](http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston)

SAT., MAR. 7: SPRING VEGETABLE PLANTING II by JIM MAAS, PAT CORDRAY & PAUL NESRSTA, 10am, Maas Nursery, 5511 Todville Rd., Seabrook. \$45. 281-474-2488; [maasnursery.com](http://maasnursery.com)

SAT., MAR. 7: HERBS FOR THE GULF COAST by BRIANA ETIE, 9-10:30am; KITCHEN GARDENING by MARY DEMENY, 1-3pm, Extension Office, Carbide Park, 4102-B Main/FM 519, La Marque. Register: [galvcounnymgs@gmail.com](mailto:galvcounnymgs@gmail.com), 281-309-5065, [aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston](http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston)

SAT., MAR. 7: PARTY FOR THE PRAIRIE!, 11am-2pm, Safari Texas Ranch Palm Pavilion, 11627 FM 1464, Richmond. Free. Native Prairies Association of Texas. [texasprairie.org/party](http://texasprairie.org/party); 512-392-2288.

SAT.-SUN., MAR. 7-8: SPRING BRANCH AFRICAN VIOLET CLUB SHOW & SALE, Sat.: 9am-5pm Sale, 1-5pm show. Sun.: 10am-3pm Sale. Judson Robinson Jr. Community Center, 2020 Hermann Dr. Free. [kjwross@yahoo.com](mailto:kjwross@yahoo.com)

TUES. MAR 10, 2020: BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS WITH PLANT SOCIETIES by MARK WOMACK, 7-9pm ; Cherie Flores Garden Pavillion, 1500 Hermann Dr. Free. Plumeria Society of America event. [theplumeriasociety.org](http://theplumeriasociety.org)

FRI. MAR. 13: HOUSTON FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS PLANT SALE. 10 am, First Christian Church, 1601 Sunset Blvd. Free. [houstonfederationgardenclubs.org](http://houstonfederationgardenclubs.org).

SAT., MAR. 14: TOMATO STRESS MANAGEMENT 3 by IRA GREVAIS, 9-11am. free; BONSAI WORKSHOP by CLYDE HOLT, 1-4pm, \$25. Extension Office, Carbide Park, 4102-B Main/FM 519, La Marque. Register: [galvcountymgs@gmail.com](mailto:galvcountymgs@gmail.com), 281-309-5065, [aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston](http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston)

SAT., MAR. 14: MUST DO, SHOULD DO, DON'T DO IN YOUR GARDEN, 8-10am, & ATTRACTING BEES, BUTTERFLIES AND OTHER POLLINATORS, 10:30am-12:30pm, by MONTGOMERY COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS, AgriLife Extension Office, 9020 Airport Rd., Conroe. \$5/\$8 both. 936-539-7824; [mcmga.com](http://mcmga.com)

THURS., MAR. 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)

SAT., MAR. 21: LOUISIANA IRISES by MONICA MARTENS, 9-11am; AQUAPONICS by GENE SPELLER & BRIANA ETIE, 1-3pm, Extension Office, Carbide Park, 4102-B Main/FM 519, La Marque. Register: [galvcountymgs@gmail.com](mailto:galvcountymgs@gmail.com), 281-309-5065, [aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston](http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston)

SUN., MAR. 22: BIRDS OF THE BAYOU CITY by MARY ANNE WEBER, 2pm-3pm. Klein United Methodist Church, 5920 FM 2920, Spring, TX 77388. Cypress Creek Daylily Club event. Free. [cypresscreekdaylilyclub.simplesite.com](http://cypresscreekdaylilyclub.simplesite.com)

THURS., MAR. 26: BLUE RIDGE DAYLILY GARDENS, 7-9pm, Cherie Flores Garden Pavilion, 1500 Hermann Dr. Free. Houston Hemerocallis Society event. [ofts.com/hhs/](http://ofts.com/hhs/)

SAT., MAR. 28: CYPRESS CREEK DAYLILY CLUB SPRING DAYLILY & PERENNIAL PLANT SALE, 10am-3pm. Wunderlich Historical Farm, 18218 Theiss Mail Route Rd., Klein. Cypress Creek Daylily Club event. Free. [cypresscreekdaylilyclub.simplesite.com](http://cypresscreekdaylilyclub.simplesite.com)

SAT., MAR. 28: TAKING CARE OF ROSES by JIM MAAS, PAT CORDRAY & KATHRYN COURTNEY, 10am, Maas Nursery, 5511 Todville Rd., Seabrook. \$35. 281-474-2488; [maasnursery.com](http://maasnursery.com)

SAT., MAR. 28: GREENHOUSE SELECTION & MANAGEMENT by BRIANNA ETIE, 9-10:30am; RAINWATER HARVESTING by NAT GRUESEN, 1-3pm, Extension Office, Carbide Park, 4102-B Main/FM 519, LaMarque. Free. Galveston County Master Gardener event. Register: [galvcountymgs@gmail.com](mailto:galvcountymgs@gmail.com); 281-309-5056; [aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston](http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston).

SAT. MAR. 28: MONTGOMERY COUNTY MASTER GARDENER SPRING PLANT SALE, 8 am sale preview; sale 9-noon, AgriLife Extension Office, 9020 Airport Rd, Conroe. Bring wagon. 936-539-7824; [mcmga.com](http://mcmga.com)

SAT., APR. 4: HERB GARDENING by JIM MAAS, PAT CORDRAY & KATHRYN COURTNEY, 10am, Maas Nursery, 5511 Todville Rd., Seabrook. \$45. 281-474-2488; [maasnursery.com](http://maasnursery.com)

SAT., APR. 4: WHITE OAK GARDEN SPRING PLANT SALE 10am-2pm; PREVIEW by HEIDI SHEESLEY, 9am, White Oak Conference Center, 7603 Antoine Dr. Free. [nnmd.org](http://nnmd.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)



SAT., APR. 11: WILD THYMES HERB GARDENING by JIM MAAS, & MELDA SIEBE, 10am, Maas Nursery, 5511 Todville Rd., Seabrook. \$35. 281-474-2488; [maasnursery.com](http://maasnursery.com)

SAT., APRIL 11: SOIL ISSUES, 8-10am, & BEST HERBS FOR YOUR GARDEN, 10:30am-12:30pm, by MONTGOMERY COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS, AgriLife Extension Office, 9020 Airport Rd., Conroe. \$5/\$8 both. 936-539-7824; [mcmga.com](http://mcmga.com)

SAT., APR. 18: 14" METAL HANGING BASKET by JIM MAAS, & PAT CORDRAY, 10am, Maas Nursery, 5511 Todville Rd., Seabrook. \$35. 281-474-2488; [maasnursery.com](http://maasnursery.com)

THURS., APR. 23: MS. MARIKO GONDA'S GARDEN, 7-9pm, Cherie Flores Garden Pavilion, 1500 Hermann Dr. Free. Houston Hemerocallis Society event. [ofts.com/hhs/](http://ofts.com/hhs/)

SAT., APR. 25: PLANTING IN GLASS by JIM MAAS, & PAT CORDRAY, 10am, Maas Nursery, 5511 Todville Rd., Seabrook. \$45. 281-474-2488; [maasnursery.com](http://maasnursery.com)

SUN., APR. 26: HOW TO GROOM A DAYLILY FOR A FLOWER SHOW by MARY GAGE, 2pm-3pm. Klein United Methodist Church, 5920 FM 2920, Spring. Cypress Creek Daylily Club event. Free. [cypresscreekdaylilyclub.simplesite.com](http://cypresscreekdaylilyclub.simplesite.com)

SAT., MAY 2: GARDENING FOR BUTTERFLIES & BEES by JIM MAAS, & PAT CORDRAY, 10am, Maas Nursery, 5511 Todville Rd., Seabrook. \$45. 281-474-2488; [maasnursery.com](http://maasnursery.com)

SAT., MAY 2: PARTY FOR THE PLANT, Armand Bayou Nature Center, [abnc.org](http://abnc.org)

SAT., MAY 2, MONTGOMERY COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS OPEN GARDENS DAY, 9:30-12:30. AgriLife Extension Office, 9020 Airport Road, Conroe. Free. 936.529.7824; [mcmga.com](http://mcmga.com)

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)

SAT., MAY 9: DAYLILY PLANT SALE 10am-3pm. Gethsemane Lutheran Church, 4040 Watonga, Houston, 77092. Houston Hemerocallis Society event. Free. [ofts.com/hhs/calendar.html](http://ofts.com/hhs/calendar.html)

TUES. MAY 12: PLUMERIA IN THE CARIBBEAN ISLANDS by NICOLE TIERRMAN, 7-9 pm; Cherie Flores Garden Pavillion, 1500 Hermann Dr. Free. Plumeria Society of America event. [theplumeriasociety.org](http://theplumeriasociety.org)

SAT., MAY 16: PLUMERIA by JIM MAAS, & LORETTA OSTEEN, 10am, Maas Nursery, 5511 Todville Rd., Seabrook. \$35. 281-474-2488; [maasnursery.com](http://maasnursery.com)

SAT., MAY 23: MINIATURE FAIRY GARDEN by JIM MAAS, PAT CORDRAY & BRENDA HESSE, 10am, Maas Nursery, 5511 Todville Rd., Seabrook. \$45. 281-474-2488; [maasnursery.com](http://maasnursery.com)

SAT., JUN. 13: 14" METAL HANGING BASKET by JIM MAAS, & PAT CORDRAY, 10am, Maas Nursery, 5511 Todville Rd., Seabrook. \$35. 281-474-2488; [maasnursery.com](http://maasnursery.com)

TUES., JUL 14: BONSAI by SCOTT BARBOZA, 7-9pm; Cherie Flores Garden Pavillion, 1500 Hermann Dr. Free. Plumeria Society of America event. [theplumeriasociety.org](http://theplumeriasociety.org)

TUES., OCT 13: FALL PLUMERIA SOCIETY OF AMERICA SOCIAL/LUAU 7-9:00 pm; Cherie Flores Garden Pavillion, 1500 Hermann Dr. Free. [theplumeriasociety.org](http://theplumeriasociety.org)

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

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## 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.

