



Jan-15-2021 | Issue 372

Nature's Way Resources is proud to produce & email you this free weekly newsletter. We have no ads, but sponsors do graciously help support this project as a public service. Please note their names below & show your gratitude for this free service by patronizing their businesses! To become a sponsor, call (936) 273-1200

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.

[Click here to join our email list](#)

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

Nature's Way Resources will accept Christmas trees from home owners for recycling at no charge. They must be not be flocked or have tinsel on them and Christmas tree stands should be removed.

### CORONAVIRUS CANCELLATIONS

If your event in our calendar below is cancelled, please let us know as soon as possible at [lazygardenerbrenda@gmail.com](mailto:lazygardenerbrenda@gmail.com)

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## AMARYLLIS FOR LAZY GARDENERS LET'S STOP VOLCANO MULCHING!

by BRENDA BEUST SMITH

*"Never underestimate the healing power of a moment in the garden!"*

-- Josephine Albert



I am awed by how many folks received potted amaryllis bulbs for Christmas. Talk about gifts that keep on giving! These two pictured were gifts to my Uncle and tenderly cared-for (and photographed) by his friend Susan.



If you're lucky, new stalks appear after flowers fade. Best to let foliage fade naturally. Amaryllis (and many other bulbs) use fading foliage to replenish themselves for next year's blooms. If it bugs you, cut it off. It'll be okay.

Some, maybe not all, amaryllis bulbs store two year's worth of blooms. On 3rd. year, you may/may not get flowers. Not to panic. It's normal. No way to tell if 1. this is true of your bulb or 2. it's the 1st or 2nd year of blooms. Also, some amaryllis send up leaves first, others bloom stalks first. Just be prepared. Nature always bats last! A few other amaryllis notes:

- Generally speaking, the bigger the bulb, the more spectacular the flower.
- Cutting off flowers won't affect future stalks that might appear, so they can be used in arrangements.
- Potted bulb stalks bend toward strongest light. Turn regularly so the stalk will grow straight up
- No need to feed sprouting amaryllis. Food is stored in the bulbs.
- When flowers fade, snip off. Let leaves wilt naturally. When totally wilted, cut back all but a few inches. Let them die naturally. Leave bulb in the pot, move to a larger container or plant in the garden in a well-drained, part to full sun spot, away from plants that need regular watering. They are dormant in summer. No watering!
- Most important! Whether in pot or in ground, at least 1/3 of bulb (narrow neck + top spread) should be above ground. As bulbs multiply, they may sink and stop blooming. Dig them up and plant so the "neck" is above ground.
- When re-planting, a bulb fertilizer may help. In our area, those in ground really don't need feeding.
- Bulbs should multiply, although they do faster in the ground than in containers.
- After blooming, amaryllis go dormant. Don't water inground amaryllis until fall. Or, just ignore them. We get enough fall rain. They'll bloom for years.
- If you want the bulb to bloom again indoors, remove from pot (or leave it in there) and store in a cool, dark, dry place. Don't water. Six to eight weeks before you want flowers again, repot the bulb in fresh "indoor" potting soil or garden soil "amended" to make it drain better. Garden soil usually doesn't drain well enough in pots if it's fresh from the ground.



\* \* \*



As promised last week — from **Dodie Jackson**:

**BEST SELLING DAFFODIL VARIETIES**

at the Garden Club of Houston's annual Bulb & Plant Mart  
(2021 Mart: Oct.14-16, 2021, at St John the Divine, 2450 River Oaks Blvd.).

**L to r above: 'Barret Browning,' 'Mount Hood,' 'Tahiti' and 'Fortune'** (long touted as our easiest-to-grow/naturalizing daff)

**L to r below: 'Carlton,' 'Monal' and two miniatures: 'Tête-à-tête' and 'Jet Fire'**



\* \* \*

**TIP O' THE TROWEL TO SUSAN WOOD**, one of our most generous herbalists. Susan, recognized in the past by The Herb Society of America for "distinguished contributions," is now focusing on the dangerous "volcano mulching" — specifically of 108 trees in the Bellaire Blvd. esplanade." Don't know what "volcano mulching" is? Our Spotlight Article below is excerpted from Susan's *Village News/Southwest News* article. At the end are listed trees in her herbal landscape.



\* \* \*

**WANTED! YOUR THOUGHTS ON ONLINE PLANT SALE SHOPPING**

- How do you like all these online plant sales our local organizations are now forced to use?
- Any suggestions, complaints, kudos you'd like to share?
- Online Group Sale Sponsors: Any "Do" or "Don't" tips for your customers?

Let us know, we'll be glad to share: [lazygardenerbrenda@gmail.com](mailto:lazygardenerbrenda@gmail.com)

\* \* \*

**TOMATOES & FRUIT TREES** — The Mercer Society has posted info for it's big Virtual Tomato & Fruit Tree Sale, beginning Sat., Feb. 13, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m Available varieties are posted along with planting tips from The Mercer Society's Horticultural Manager, Brandon Hubbard. Details:

[hcp4.net/news/tomatoes-or-fruit-trees-try-some-of-each/](http://hcp4.net/news/tomatoes-or-fruit-trees-try-some-of-each/)



\* \* \*



## 'VOLCANO MULCHING' IS DAMAGING TREES

By **SUSAN GAIL WOOD**

THE HERB SOCIETY OF AMERICA, SOUTH TEXAS UNIT

[herbsociety-stu.org](http://herbsociety-stu.org)

### WHAT IS VOLCANO MULCHING?

Mulch is piled high around a tree trunk in the mistaken idea that this is helpful to preserve soil moisture and reduce the amount of water the tree needs. Wrong! Every homeowner can easily make prevent or remedy this in their own landscape or community.



Volcano mulching causes the tree trunk base (where it meets ground) to decay. Once decay and rot set in, the door opens for insect damage and eventual tree death.



The "root flare" a tree develops as it ages is important to its health and stability as you can see in these gorgeous old oaks in Houston's Museum District.  
(M.L. Phillips photo)

Think of these natural root flares as the tree's feet. Smothering the root flare with soil or mulch limits the amount of oxygen that the tree needs in this area.

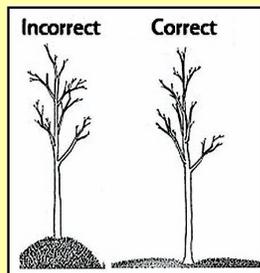
Mulch should be applied starting a foot or more away from the tree trunk, depending on the age and size of your tree. Old oaks may need five feet or more clear of mulch.

***Pictured: Susan removes volcano mulch and soil from a live oak on Bellaire Blvd. to free a root flare which can be seen on the left.***

*(Joyce Gigout photo)*

Want to add soil underneath your trees? Add only about one inch a year and never up

against the tree trunk.



Spread mulch with a depth of only a few inches starting away from the tree trunk and root flare out a couple feet toward the drip line – the outside perimeter of the tree's branches. This helps moderate hot and cold soil temperatures and preserve moisture for your tree.

Replenish the mulch when needed but do not apply too much at a time. A heavy mulch layer can prevent water from soaking down into tree roots. Replenish mulch in fall and again in spring. Use a natural mulch, not one dyed with harmful chemicals. As a natural mulch breaks down, it enriches soil fertility which greatly benefits trees. Two excellent resources:

- [“Morton Arboretum Mulch”](#) — YouTube video.
- [Howard Garrett, aka “The Dirt Doctor”](#) — YouTube video.

**PROTECT ALL TREES - INCLUDING HERBAL TREES** --In my own garden: bay trees, olive, avocado, peach, Mexican lime, and Meyer Improved lemon also outstanding. Almond verbena has grown taller than predicted with blossoms that bring the bees in droves. The ten-foot loblolly pine tree planted 15+/- years ago produces pine cones which contain pine nuts. Banana trees were rescued from a neighbor's home before demolition. Scarlet buckeye is a tribute to my grandparents from the buckeye state. Pecans keep the squirrels happy. Sassafras tree leaves turn red in fall. Intriguing lime green blossoms appear in early spring before new leaves. Huge oaks bordering my property belong to neighbors; their acorns can be pulverized to make flour.

\* \* \*

**NOTE:** For Susan's full article in the Nov. 2020 issue of *The Herb Society of America, South Texas Unit*: <http://www.herbsociety-stu.org>. Click on "About Us", Click on "Newsletters". Then click on Nov. 2020 newsletter for *Volcano Mulching* article.

[\(Incorrect/Correct tree sketch from Morton Arboretum\)](#)

**The Pines and Prairies Chapter** of the Native Plant Society of Texas is now forming.

If you are interested in joining, please visit The Native Plant Society of Texas Web Page and go to the top right corner and click on the red box (join/renew) Or use this link.

Under chapter affiliation choose Pines and



Prairies. This chapter will serve (but not be limited to) the Montgomery County Area.

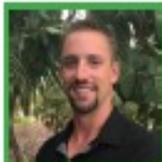
# OHBA

## HORTICULTURE SCIENCE DAY ZOOMINAR

Thursday, January 28<sup>TH</sup> • 8AM to 2:50PM

Want to take you & your team to the next level in the green industry? This day long Zoominar will teach you the latest in Horticultural Science. If you can't tune in on the 28<sup>TH</sup>, private recordings will be available for members only at a later date on our website.

### LOOK WHO IS SPEAKING & THE TOPICS!



**Brad Phillips**

**THE SCIENCE OF ORGANICS.**  
This lecture will show how, Organics being based on science, is always the most economical & logical approach.

8-8:50 AM

**ORGANIC TREE CARE.** Brad is a cutting edge Master Arborist with a love of trees. Learn what trees need to prosper in Urban settings.

12-12:50 PM



**Mike Serant**

**FERTILIZATION & WEED CONTROL.** Learn how easy it is to properly feed your plants, improve soils, reduce problems and control weeds without poisons.

10-10:50 AM



**Dany Millikin**

**GROWING DELICIOUS FOOD.**  
Come learn how build garden beds that grow nutritious & tasty food.

1-1:50 PM



**John Ferguson**

**THE SOIL & PLANT RELATIONSHIP.**  
Learn what makes soils healthy & how to keep them there.

9-9:50 AM



**Skip Richter**

**ORGANIC CONTROL OF PEST INSECTS & DISEASES.**  
Skip lays out how to safely control pest insects & diseases while supporting beneficial insects.

11-11:50 AM



**Molly Pikarsky**

**SELLING ORGANICS.**  
The best horticultural practices are Organic. Now let's sell the dickens out of it.

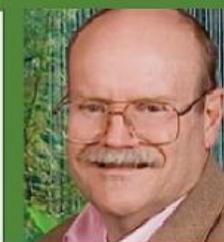
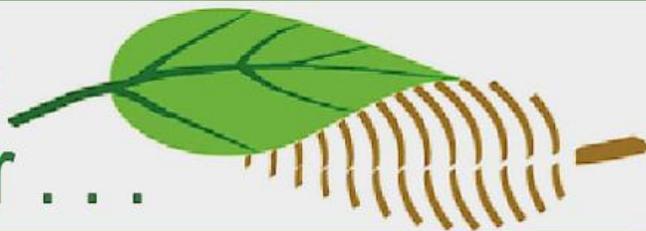
2-2:50 PM

Tickets:  
OHBA Members: FREE  
Non-Members: \$50

**REGISTER HERE TODAY: [ohbaonline.org](http://ohbaonline.org)**  
Want to get in for free? **Join Today: [ohbaonline.org/joinohba](http://ohbaonline.org/joinohba)**

### THANK YOU SPONSORS!





## NEWS FROM THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF SOIL AND PLANTS # 142

As gardeners we are always interested in how to grow the best plants, from turfgrass to fruit trees and flowers. We have often talked about the importance of re-mineralizing our soils. Over the holidays I read a paper published in the journal HortScience (2020) on a group of micro nutrients called rare earth elements that adds more evidence that micronutrients are critical for maximum growth, plant health, animal and human health. These are a group of 17 different elements.

This study was on the medicinal plant *Salvia miltiorrhiza* commonly known as Danshen in China. Medicinal components from this plant are used to treat cardiovascular diseases, liver dysfunction, renal deficiency, diabetes and cancer.

The beneficial compounds are secondary plant metabolites obtained from the dried roots. Previous studies have shown that these rare earth elements accelerated cell growth, enhanced these secondary plant metabolites, and provided tolerance against fungal diseases. These secondary plant metabolites are often in the form of flavonoids or phenols that also counter diseases of the human body caused by oxidative stress.

The researchers found that these rare earth elements stimulated increased root growth even in low concentrations which also increased chlorophyll content. Additionally, they increased the amount of secondary plant metabolites along with increased enzyme activity. For example, one of the medicinal components called "tanshinone" increased by almost 55%.

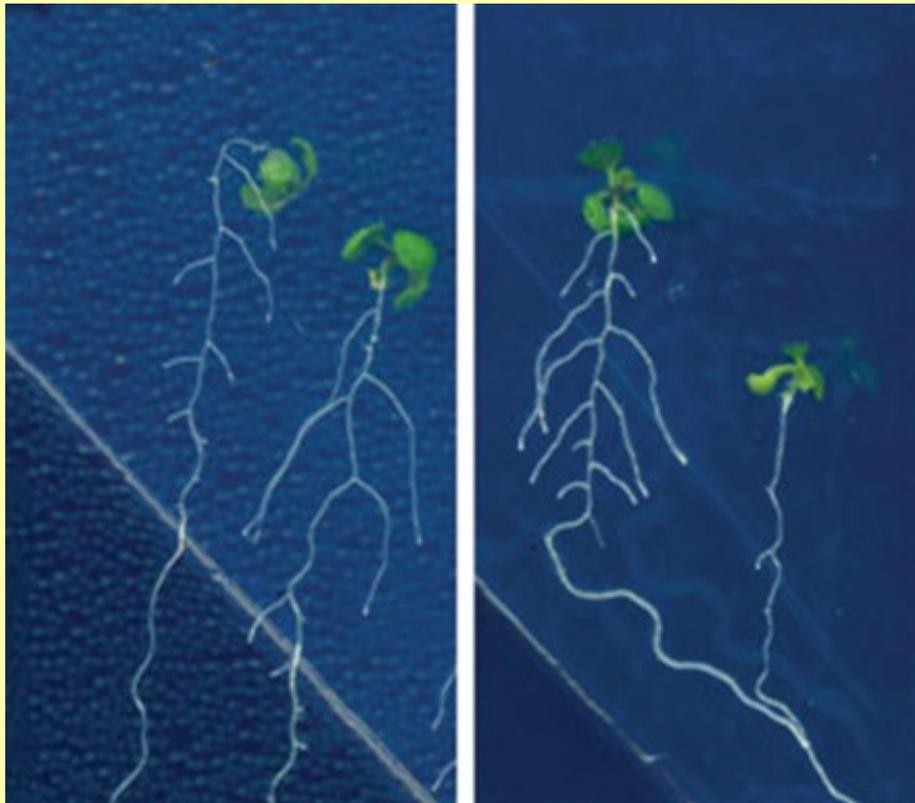
This is why we recommend that Re-mineralizer be applied 40 pounds per 700 square feet ever few years. It helps us have healthier soils which means healthier plants, which means healthier food for all life, from insects and birds to humans.

Another minor element essential for plants is iron (Fe). However, it is often in chemical forms that plants cannot use which then limits plant growth. Scientists at the Max Planck Institute for plant breeding research have found that plants will release substances from their roots (exudates called coumarins) that feed bacteria, which have the ability to digest the iron bearing minerals and make the iron available to plants. For plants to use this mechanism it requires organically rich soil to support the bacteria and other microbes. Published in the journal Cell Host & Microbe (2020).

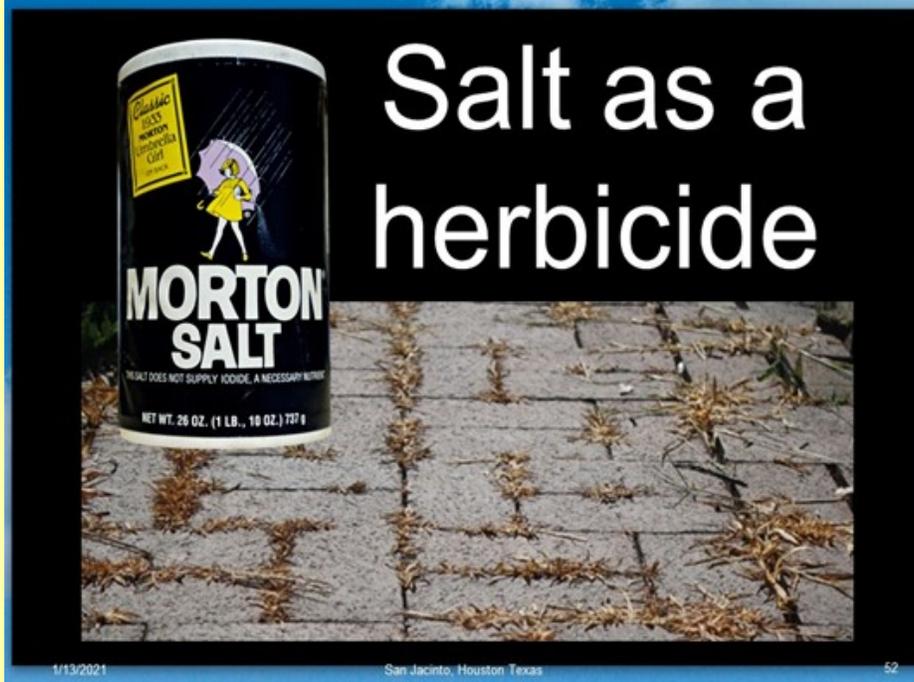
**We** all know that we use salt as a preservative in many food products since it kills bacteria. Many of the soils along the Gulf coast are already high in salt, hence products high in salt like poultry manure or cow manure, are not good choices for our area, and frequently cause harm to our plants. The above information on bacteria and iron is another example of how salt-based products harm our plants as it shuts down this mechanism for plants to get their needed iron.

The picture below shows another negative effect of salt. The area below the membrane on the left image has no dissolved salt and the roots go right on through the membrane. When salt is present the roots can sense it and will not even go near the area with where salt is present. Salts in the soil prevents the roots from going deep to obtain water and nutrients.

This effect is one of the reasons the roots of St. Augustine turfgrass do not grow deep when artificial fertilizers are used, as the salts leach a few inches down into the soil and form a hardpan layer, even though the grass has the biological potential for roots to grow to grow over 12 feet deep (University of Florida study)!



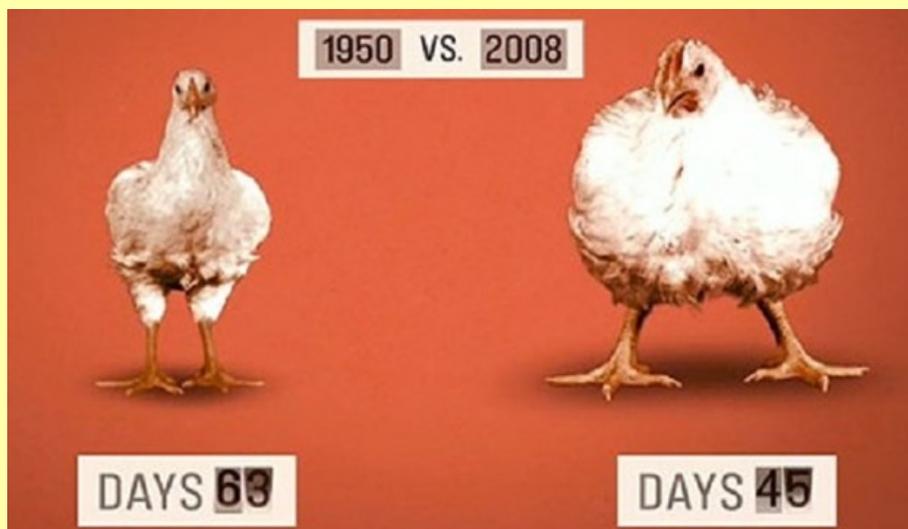
Many of us probably remember this advertisement shown below.



Salts are not good for plants and the effects can range from stunting and poor growth, increased insect and disease issues, to outright death of the plant.

The salt effect is one of the reasons good organic fertilizers like the Microlife™ line of products provide better results, as all artificial fertilizers are chemically salts!

Another reason not to use poultry manure or cattle manure (in addition to salts), is that both cattle and poultry are fed large amounts of antibiotics and growth hormones, as the picture below indicates. These dangerous substances end up in the manure as well as the meat.



From a Publication of ATTRA, the National Sustainable Agriculture Information Service a division of the USDA:

“Much of the arsenic used as an antibiotic in commercial broiler production ends up in the litter. Using this litter as a soil amendment is not prohibited by the National Organic Program. Much of this litter comes from commercial broiler operations, which use arsenic as a feed additive to control parasites and increase weight gain. Most of this arsenic does not accumulate in the poultry

meat, but is excreted by the birds. As a result, almost 90% of the arsenic fed to poultry ends up in the litter. Because this heavy metal has the potential to build up in the soil, cause health problems for farm workers and produce consumers, and be transported to adjacent lakes or streams....”.

Note: The use of arsenic is being slowly phased out as it is also a strong carcinogen.

**The reasons to use modern organic methods based on biological science increase almost daily!**

## Have You Tried . . .

### **CHEROKEE SEDGE**

*(Carex cherokeensis)*

This deer-resistant, grass-like, clumping native sedge is a perfect accent for smaller gardens with its tiny greenish, white flowers and wheat-like seed spikes. Fast-growing, thick green narrow leaves gracefully droop. Caterpillar host for various butterflies, moths. Drought tolerant but thrives better in slightly moist environments. Ideal as a border to prevent soil erosion. Low-maintenance. No significant insect/disease problems. 6-8 inches tall in the winter but may double height during summer months. Tolerates direct sun but prefers mid-day part shade.



**CHEROKEE SEDGE is carried by Nature's Way Resources ( Map).  
Or contact our other sponsors below or your  
neighborhood nurseryman for possible sources**

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## **LAZY GARDENER & FRIENDS HOUSTON GARDEN NEWSLETTER CALENDAR EVENTS**

**All events in Houston unless otherwise specified.**

**See Farmers Markets at end of calendar**

**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.**
- **FARMERS MARKETS** -- Normally we do not run non-gardening/plant events. During this pandemic, when most gardening events have been cancelled, we are happy to publish a running list of local Farmers Markets. See at end of calendar.

**Submit events to: [lazygardenerbrenda@gmail.com](mailto:lazygardenerbrenda@gmail.com).  
PLEASE ALWAYS put group's FULL name in email subject.**

***CHECK WEBSITES FOR ON-SITE COVID-19-RELATED PRECAUTIONS!***

TUES., JAN. 19: COMPANION PLANTING by Angela Chandler, (Zoom event), 10am; Sugar Land Garden Club. [www.sugarlandgardenclub.org](http://www.sugarlandgardenclub.org)

MON., JAN. 19: PRUNING BASICS (virtual) by HARRIS COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS, 11am-noon, free. Facebook Live: [facebook.com/harriscountyp/live](https://facebook.com/harriscountyp/live)

WED., JAN. 20: HOUSE PLANT MAINTENANCE/IDENTIFICATION (virtual) by HARRIS COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS, 10am, free. Register: [gardeningonthegulf.eventbrite.com](https://gardeningonthegulf.eventbrite.com)

THURS., JAN. 21: SOIL TESTING (virtual) by SHANNON DIETZ. 10am, free. Harris County Master Gardeners event. Register by 7am, Jan. 21: [homegrown2021Q1.eventbrite.com/](https://homegrown2021Q1.eventbrite.com/). [harris.agrilife.org](http://harris.agrilife.org)

SAT., JAN. 23, 2021: HARRIS COUNTY MASTER GARDENER FRUIT TREE SALE, 9am-noon, Richard & Meg Weekley Park, 19110 Longenbaugh, Cypress. [hcmga.tamu.edu/plant-sales/](https://hcmga.tamu.edu/plant-sales/)

SAT., JAN. 23: THE JOHN FAIREY GARDEN OPEN DAY, 11am tour. [jfgarden.org](http://jfgarden.org)

SAT., JAN. 30: SEED SWAP SOCIAL. 9am, Kickerillo-Mischer Preserve, 20215 Chasewood Park Dr. Free. Harris County Precinct 4 event. Register [hcp4.net/tap/events](https://hcp4.net/tap/events).

SAT., JAN. 30: SEED SWAP SOCIAL. 1pm, free. Jesse H. Jones Park, 20634 Kenswick Dr. Free. Harris County Precinct 4 event. Register: 281-446-8588.

FRI., FEB. 5: GARDEN CRUISIN': TOUR DE 4, Mercer Botanic Gardens, 22306 Aldine Westfield. For ages 60+ and ages 12+ with transportation needs. Free. Details: 713-274-4160.

MON., FEB. 8: SPRING VEGETABLE GARDENING (virtual) by HARRIS COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS, 10-11:30am, free. Register: [hccs.edu/community-learning-workshops](https://hccs.edu/community-learning-workshops)

THURS., FEB. 11: MERCER BOTANIC GARDENS VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION. Register: 713-274-4160.

FRI., FEB. 12: WALK 'N' TALK - PLANT FOLKLORE: LOVE & DEVOTION, 10-11am, Mercer Botanic Garden, 22306 Aldine-Westfield, Humble, Free. Register. 713-274-4160

SAT., FEB. 13: VIRTUAL TOMATO & FRUIT TREE SALE, 10am-8pm. The Mercer Society event. Details: [hcp4.net/news/tomatoes-or-fruit-trees-try-some-of-each/](https://hcp4.net/news/tomatoes-or-fruit-trees-try-some-of-each/)

TUES., FEB 16: SPRING VEGETABLE GARDENING (virtual) by HARRIS COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS, 11am-noon, Facebook live: [facebook.com/harriscountyp/live](https://facebook.com/harriscountyp/live)

FRI., FEB. 19: GARDEN CRUISIN': TOUR DE 4, Mercer Botanic Gardens, 22306 Aldine Westfield, Humble. For ages 60+ and ages 12+ with transportation needs. Free. Details: 713-274-4160. Register: 713-274-4160

FRI., FEB. 19: GARDEN CRUISIN': TOUR DE 4, Mercer Botanic Gardens, 22306 Aldine Westfield, Humble. For ages 60+ and ages 12+ with transportation needs. Free. Details: 713-274-4160. Register: 713-274-4160

FRI., MAR. 5: WALK 'N' TALK: TEXAS TOUGH PLANTS FOR A GULF COAST GARDEN, 10-11am, Mercer Botanic Gardens, 22306 Aldine Westfield, Humble.

SAT, MAR. 20: MARCH MART VIRTUAL PLANT SALE, 8am-8pm The Mercer Society. Online only at [themerchersociety.square.site](https://themerchersociety.square.site). Details: 713-274-4166.

## LOCAL FARMERS MARKETS

- **URBAN HARVEST FARMERS MARKET**, Saturdays, 8am-noon, in St. John's School parking lot, 2752 Buffalo Speedway.
- **FULSHEAR FARMERS MARKET** Saturdays, 9am-1pm, 9035 Bois d'Arc Lane @ FM 1093, Fulshear.
- **THE WOODLANDS FARMERS MARKET AT GROGAN'S MILL**, Saturdays, 8am-noon, Grogan's Mill Shopping Center Parking Lot, 7 Switchbud Pl., The Woodlands
- **BEAUTY'S GARDEN**. Acres Homes Farmers Market Saturday, 10am-2pm, 4333 W Little York Rd.
- **WESTCHASE DISTRICT FARMERS MARKET**, Thursdays, opens 3pm, St. Cyril of Alexandria Catholic Church, 10503 Westheimer Road (at Rogerdale Road, one block west of Beltway 8)
- **MEMORIAL VILLAGE FARMERS MARKET**, Saturdays, 9am-1pm, 10840 Beinhorn Rd.

Although normally we do not run out-of-garden events, during this pandemic period when most gardening events have been cancelled, we are happy to publish a running list of local Farmers Markets. Send notices to [lazygardenerbrenda@gmail.com](mailto:lazygardenerbrenda@gmail.com)



For event submission rules, see top of calendar

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!

## 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)



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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 -- started in the early '70s as a fun side-, it then ranked as the longest-running, continuously-published local newspaper column in the Greater Houston area.

Brenda's gradual sideways step from reporter into gardening writing -- first as a just-a-fun side Chronicle assignment in the early '70s -- 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 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 Humble, TX, and is married to the 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.

