

Oct-8-2021 | Issue 408

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<u>Nature's Way Resources</u> 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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EVEN WORLD'S FAVORITE PLANT CAN USE TLC!

orange daylilies bright trumpet of gray morning deer tracks in the loam

-- <u>Debbie Guzzi</u>, American poet

by **BRENDA BEUST SMITH**

It's a rare garden these days that doesn't include some daylilies -- either specifically purchased by the owner or happily accepted as friends and neighbors thin out too-happy specimens.

Not to create a dithyramb here, but if we're getting such beauty and hardiness out of our daylilies while totally ignoring them, just think what we might get if we take at least a few tips from the experts

Daylilies are so carefree, they tend to get ignored, especially by very experienced local gardeners (and very lazy gardeners)! No wonder Felder Rushing, in his new book <u>"Maverick Gardeners"</u>



named a daylily the "#1 Favorite Planting Across the Globe." He was speaking of our common tawny daylily, *Hemerocallis fulva* (*pictured.*)

But this beauty is only the beginning of literally thousands of daylily choices these days, including great late-blooming Autumn-colored choices for a perfect Thanksgiving or Halloween

garden setting. That's right, "late-blooming." Choose the right variety and you can have daylilies blooming most of the year.

In our Spotlight article below: great advice experts and some of the many varieties available at the Sat., Oct. 30, Cypress Creek Daylily Club Daylily & Perennial Plant Sale are highlighted. (10:am--3pm, Wunderlich Historical Farm Craft Fair, 18218 Theiss Mail Route, Spring).

First, however . . .



Both photos: <u>MEMORIAL PARK CONSERVANCY -- LAND</u> <u>BRIDGE AND PRAIRE PROJECT</u>

"IT'S THE PARK TRIUMPHING OVER THE HIGHWAY" -- I hope you saw Diane Cowen's great Houston Chronicle article <u>"Memorial</u> Park land bridge takes big step forward with new tunnels."



This exciting 25-acre "planted project" -- under which six lanes of Memorial Drive traffic will one day be passing -- will enable both wildlife and people to more easily, scenically and safely traverse between the north and south park sections.

I can't wait to see what plants they select and why. And I especially love this quote from Thomas Wolfe, whose Nelson Byrd Woltz landscape architecture firm developed the master plan and Memorial Drive land bridge design:

"It's the park triumphing over the highway."YES!!!

Brenda's LAZY GARDENER & FRIENDS HOUSTON GARDEN NEWSLETTER column is based onher 40+ years as Houston Chronicle's Lazy Gardener Email: lazygardenerbrenda@gmail.com





I to r: Hemerocallis 'Everyday Hero' and H. 'Some Pumpkins'

Fall Care for Daylilies (Includes planting new ones!)

By MARY GAGE & JEANNIE MALICK <u>Cypress Creek Daylily Club</u>

October is the prime time in the Houston area to plant daylilies. Plant daylilies now to reestablish a strong root system that will be better able to withstand winter freezes and develop better blooms next spring. Plant them in neutral to slightly acid soil where they will receive at least 6 hours of sunshine. Dark color blooms benefit from a bit of midday shade.



L to r: Hemerocallis 'Autumn Orange Truffle,' H. 'Galadriel' and H. 'Double Soufflé Magic'

A single daylily plant grows from a central ball of tissue called a crown. It will naturally divide, multiplying into what is called a clump. When clumps grow large enough or every 3-5 years, pull apart daylily crowns not completely grown apart to form separate fans, or cut them with a clean sharp knife..

• Dig the entire clump rather than trying to separate a few fans from the side. Use a spading fork rather than a shovel and lift clumps to sever as

few roots as possible. (Below: I to r, single "crowns," Jeannie Mallick

with spading fork and lifting "clump."



 Shake off loose soil and wash in a tub of water and bleach using 1 teaspoon per gallon. NOTE: use bleach labeled "disinfectant." Some bleaches whiten but do not disinfect.



- Loosen and clean roots working the clump with your hands. Remove old naturally decayed soft dark brown part beneath the crown and any dead or decayed roots.
- Trim leaves to 6-8 inches and roots to 5-6 inches. To keep track of cultivar names, label each cultivar with a plant tag.
- Pictured, Washed daylily roots & plant tag, left. Cut-apart crown crosssection.
- Daylily crowns not completely grown apart to form separate fans and are still attached at the bottom may be gently pulled apart. Tightly joined crowns need to be cut apart carefully with a sharp clean knife.

If you cut into the crown, which is the heart of a daylily or the matrix from which leaves and roots develop, the damaged surface must be allowed dry in the open air for several days so

the tissue can heal and seal. If placed directly in moist soil crown rot may occur and you will lose your daylily! Some people dust the cut crown with sulfur to discourage bacterial growth.

- If you will not be replanting the fans right away, they may be wrapped in slightly damp newspaper and stored in your refrigerator for up to three weeks without significant loss of vigor. Do not use plastic bags or wrap as the plants need to breathe.
- Separated fans ready to be planted may be given a nutrient boost if you soak the roots overnight in clear water and SuperThrive using 1 quarter teaspoon per gallon (yes, it doesn't take much!)
- When replanting, the crown should not be covered by more than one inch of soil. First improve soil with amendments such as rose soil, well-rotted manure, or mushroom compost.



- Loosen soil to a depth of about 12 inches. Make a mound in the center of planting hole on which to set the plant crown. Spread roots around mound sides and work soil around roots. Water well but do not water again for about one week.
- Once the leaves grow long enough to recurve into a fan *(pictured)* you may add non-burning fertilizer such as fish emulsion or MicroLife.



EDITOR'S NOTE: If you don't yet have a gorgeous daylily to enjoy in your garden, you will have an opportunity to buy one at a fall daylily and perennial plant sale the last Saturday of this month!

The Cypress Creek Daylily Club will host a booth Sat., Oct. 30, 10:00am-3pm, Wunderlich Historical Farm Craft Fair, 18218 Theiss Mail Route, Spring. <u>cypresscreekdaylily.wixsite.com/ccdc/daylily-plant-sale</u>

Wildlife Gardening for Birds



with Abbie Ince-Hendrickson M.S.

@ Nature's Way Resources 9:00 AM - 10:30AM on Saturday, October 16th, 2021



Join us for a 45-minute talk about attracting birds to your yard, the habitat elements they utilize, and the native plants on which they rely. Bring your binoculars and outdoor shoes for a short

bird walk after class.

Please remember to bring water and sun protection!

Please RSVP, as class size is limited. (936)-273-1200 or email us at nwmursery@gmail.com





John's Corner

NEWS FROM THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF SOIL AND PLANTS # 169

MINERALS - The Elements and What They Do

Today we continue with our study of all the minerals (elements) in the human body, what they do, with a look at elements number 4, 5, and 6 on the Periodic table. See previous newsletters for a list of references and introduction to the Periodic Table.

4) Beryllium (Be) - Beryllium is the first or lightest of the elements known as the "alkaline earths" which include calcium, magnesium, strontium, etc. listed in column two of the periodic table.

It is found in many minerals but most often found in the mineral Beryl which is beryllium aluminum silicate ($Be_3Al_2Si_6O_{18}$) which is a source of this element. It is a metal used in nuclear reactors, aerospace, and electronics.

If we add a few atoms of the element chromium (Cr) to the crystal structure of this mineral we get the gemstones we call emeralds. Change a few other atoms and we get the gemstone aquamarine. We find beryllium in igneous rocks at 2-8 ppm, shale at 3 ppm, and only 0.1 for sandstone or limestone. It accumulates in coal and can often reach 330 ppm with some levels as high as 2,000 ppm in some deposits.

Beryllium is used as a "rock clock" as oxygen in the rocks (or the atmosphere), when exposed to cosmic radiation, changes into beryllium-10, and by measuring the amount of beryllium one can calculate the age of the rock.

Gardening and Landscaping Problems Associated with Beryllium (Be)

Beryllium is found in fresh water at 0.001 ppm and seawater at 0.0000006 ppm. For land plants, it is less than 0.1 ppm and even less in land animals. If the human body has plenty of selenium, then we rid ourselves of excess beryllium, as too much beryllium would disrupt the calcium-magnesium relationships or cause berylliosis in our lungs. If beryllium is in a salt form like beryllium chloride (BeCl₂) or beryllium sulfate (BeSO₄), it is very soluble in water and toxic to plants.

Notice that beryllium is in the same column on the periodic table as calcium (Ca) and magnesium (Mg), which means it has similar chemical properties. Since it is chemically similar to magnesium and calcium, plants easily absorb beryllium. If there is too much beryllium in our soils, it will substitute for magnesium (Mg) and cause antagonistic interactions with several metabolic process's plants require.

It can also substitute for magnesium in human enzymes and cause them to malfunction. If levels in the soil reach 2-16 ppm it can prevent seed germination, inhibit the uptake of calcium (Ca), magnesium (Mg), and to some degree phosphorous (P) along with degrading some proteins and enzymes. In high amounts, it is toxic to many life forms. However, in very small amounts beryllium has been found to stimulate the growth of certain microbes and plant species.

Sources: coal, very small amounts in granite and basalt rocks

5) Boron (B) - Boron is an element that is known as a "metalloid" as it has properties of both metals and non-metals. Boron is found in igneous rocks at 30 ppm, 96 ppm in clays and 145 ppm in limestone, in seawater at 4,500 ppm and in fresh water 2-150 ppm. Boron is an anion, which means it has a negative electrical charge when ionized.

Boron is not found in nature in a pure form as it oxidizes rapidly. Boron is often found in nature as boric oxide (B_2O_3) or borate salts often formed by evaporating seawater. It is also found in feldspars and micas, which are common minerals in clay soils or as the insoluble mineral tourmaline, a semi-precious gemstone. In tourmaline, the boron is chemically locked up and not in an available form until actions by microbes breaks the molecule apart and release the atoms of boron.

Boron is used in pesticides, cosmetics, and fertilizers. Combine boron with nitrogen and we get cubic nitride crystals that are almost as hard as diamonds and they are more heat resistant, hence, they are commonly used for abrasives in many industries. When boron is combined with iron (Fe) and neodymium (Nd), it forms one of the strongest magnets known.

Boron is found in household products from Silly Putty to Borax cleaning agents (sodium borate). As a result, boron is a major source of pollution in streams as it comes from the sewage sludge from our waste water treatment plants where all these chemicals are dumped and accumulate. Soil contamination with excess boron is now a worldwide problem.

The Carnegie Institute for Science has found that trace amounts of the element Boron (B), is what makes diamonds blue (think of the world-famous Hope Diamond). They also found that these blue diamonds are formed many times deeper in the earth (much hotter and higher pressures) than regular diamonds.

Boron has beneficial effects on bone and joint strength in humans and is essential to promoting strong healthy bones. It is estimated that 75% of the USA population is boron deficient. In humans, boron has an important role in mineral and hormone metabolism, cell membrane function, and enzyme's function. Boron affects osteoporosis, heart trouble, diabetes, and senility.

Its deficient effects are more marked when vitamin D₃ and magnesium (Mg) are also deficient. Studies have shown that it protects men against deadly prostate cancer (it selectively kills prostate cancer cells while leaving healthy cells unharmed) as it lowers PSA (Prostate Specific Antigen), elevated PSA has been found to be causative factor in prostate cancer progression.

Boron has been found to fight inflammation and decrease joint swelling as it inhibits lipoxygenase (LOX) an enzyme that triggers the inflammatory cascade to increase inflammatory leukotrienes.

Most conventionally grown foods do not provide enough boron (Life Extension, November 2015 pp. 33-38). I looked at many artificial fertilizers on the internet and only one contained boron which explains the deficiency in our food supply. Another reason to only use organic fertilizers, remineralizer, and grow your own food.

An article in Life Extension (April 2018) summarizes studies that found boron also helps prevent lung and cervix cancers. Mice fed a boron deficient diet had 63% reduction in osteoblasts which are the bone making cells. Boron was found to help prevent many forms of cancer from getting started. A lack of boron is associated with osteoporosis, poor memory and concentration, weak muscles and ageing skin. I was reading about a new study on women in Turkey. The study compared women living in areas of Turkey that have boron rich soil to areas that are boron poor. Women living in areas of Turkey that have boron rich soil did not have a single incident of cervical cancer. "Boron interferes with the life cycle of the human papillomavirus (HPV) which is a contributing factor to 95% of all cervical cancers."

A study by The University of Texas at the MD Anderson Cancer Center found increased boron intake was associated with a lower risk of lung cancer in postmenopausal women whom were taking hormone replacement therapy.

Boron regulates the absorption of calcium, and it is used in making estrogen. A lack of boron leads to increased menopause symptoms in women and a lack of testosterone in men.

The November 2021 issue of Life Extension has a nice summary of the benefits of adequate boron.

Gardening and Landscaping Problems Associated with Boron (B)

Many forms of boron minerals or ions are readily absorbable by plants. Boron is an essential element for microbial and plant growth; however, all the functions and relations are not fully understood. Mycorrhizal plants have a greater need for boron than non-mycorrhizal plants.

A shortage of boron in the soil is associated with increased insect and fungal damage, and stunting in some plant species while other species seem unaffected. Boron deficiency is often associated with the death of the terminal bud, light green coloring, splintering, or cracking of tubers, root tips swollen and discolored, leaves eventually become brittle and may curl with yellow spotting.

An adequate amount of available boron in the soil is a strong disease fighter since it helps the plants immune system and become more resistant to disease. It is associated with the prevention of many plant problems; cracked stems in celery, internal cork in apples, black heart in beets and turnips, yellowing of alfalfa leaves, etc.

Other signs of boron deficiency are; tips of growing plant turn inward and dies, buds become light green, roots are brown in center, flowers do not form, leaves are small crinkled deformed with irregular areas of discoloration. Boron deficiency is most likely to occur on sandy soils, soils low in organic matter and in areas of high rainfall or frequent watering.

This element is involved with carbohydrate transportation, it is required for certain physiological processes such as enzyme and co-enzyme systems. Boron influences plant growth in many ways but they not fully understood. It also helps plants use nitrogen efficiently.

Studies have found that it is associated with the translocation of sugars in plants hence closely related to quality and taste of foods. Boron regulates flowering and fruiting, cell division, salt absorption, hormone movement and pollen germination, carbohydrate metabolism, water use, nitrogen assimilation and other aspects of plant growth.

Boron interacts in the uptake of other nutrients by plants as it influences membrane permeability and cell colloids. This element is associated with energy transformation reactions, carbohydrate transport, blossom retention, and critical for root elongation.

If there are low levels of zinc (Zn) in the soil, some plants absorb boron to toxic levels, especially in the roots. Boron has an antagonistic relation of silicate ions for absorption sites of boron. Too much calcium (lime) will induce boron deficiency in acid soils. Note: Most artificial fertilizers make the soil too acidic, hence conventional farmers use lime (calcium oxide) to neutralize the acidity. This greatly decreases the nutritional density of our food.

Too much phosphorus (P) ions will decrease boron mobility in the soil and absorption. Uptake and distribution of phosphorous in plants is dependent on the boron concentration in the soil as too much boron prevents the roots from absorbing phosphorous. However, adequate boron assists plants with potassium (K) uptake.

Boron is used as structural element in the cell walls of plants as it strengthens them, but elevated levels of boron hurt citrus plants like oranges and lemons. Using grey-water that has cleaning agents with boron in them can lead to a buildup of this element in the soil.

Olives will not set fruit if boron levels are too low, and plants grown in soils with insufficient levels of boron are more susceptible to insects and disease. Some believe that boron may function as a natural insecticide since boric acid is toxic to many insects. Some plants like hyacinths require boron to produce their fragrance which contains a boron compound.

However, excess boron in the soil restricts growth, causes sickly green color often mistaken for nitrogen deficiency, associated with root deterioration and poor yields.

One of the problems with using artificial fertilizers is that there is a very narrow range of boron in the soil that decides whether it is toxic or beneficial. Water-soluble artificial fertilizers if they even contain boron, just dump the boron into the soil even if it is not needed causing toxicity problems.

Watering with the affluent from septic systems can also be a source of excess boron in the soils as with grey-water mentioned above.

Food sources are apples, plums, grapes, avocados, most vegetables, nuts, and legumes are our major food sources of boron (if it is in the soil in sufficient quantities for plants to absorb). Prunes, raisins, almonds, hazelnuts, dates are other sources.

Sources:

Sedimentary deposits of borate salts, in feldspars and micas, which are common minerals in some clay soils, igneous rock sands like granite and basalt, remineralizer.

6) Carbon (C) - "Carbon stands supreme as having the chemical properties on which all life depends", John Emsley.

Carbon is found in many forms, from pencil lead to the gemstones we call diamonds. Carbon is the main component of coal and petroleum hydrocarbons that our society depends on for energy. It is also a major component of natural gas in the form of methane (CH_4) .

Carbon can be found in igneous rocks at 200 ppm, shales at 15,300 ppm, sandstones at 13,800 ppm, and limestones at 113,500 ppm. In marine plants, carbon increases to 345,000 ppm and in land plants to 454,000 ppm.

When carbon is combined with oxygen (O_2) , it forms carbon dioxide (CO_2) which is directly linked to global warming. When carbon dioxide freezes, it becomes dry ice and if dissolved in rainwater it forms carbonic acid with a pH of 5.7

Carbon is the element most used by plants as between 45-56% of a plant's compounds are structured with carbon. Carbon is the basic building block for all organic materials and the key to life, as we know it.

Carbon is frequently referred to as the energy of the soil. For example, when we burn wood in our fireplace, energy is released in the form of heat and light. The carbon in the wood is combined chemically with oxygen (O_2) in the air releasing energy. Alternatively, when carbon in gasoline is combined chemically with oxygen (O_2) in the air releasing energy that powers our cars. Hence, the carbon in organic matter in the soil provides the energy to grow soil life from microbes to earthworms, release nutrients from rocks and minerals, create soil structure, etc.

Gardening and Landscaping Problems Associated with Carbon (C)

If we look at the major components of most terrestrial plants, they can be broken down into glucose, cellulose, lignin, and some proteins. The amount of these compounds varies between species, for example a tree will have more lignin than an annual flower. Additionally, all plants have water (H_2O) in their cells, roots and stems that are not part of the plant. If the water is removed and we look at what is left they are primarily molecules made of carbon chains. A few examples are:

- Glucose $C_6H_{12}O_6$ has six carbon atoms as its base units
- Cellulose $(C_6H_{10}O_5)_n$ has six carbon atoms as its base units
- Lignin (C₃₂H₃₄O₁₁)_{n -} has 32 carbon atoms as its base units
- Proteins are composed of amino acids that all have carbon as their base unit.

We can look at the vascular tissue, the cambium layers, and the bark of the plant, all of which are composed of molecules based on chains of carbon atoms.

Typically, for trees we see the following breakdown: 50% Carbon, 42% Oxygen, 6% Hydrogen, 1% Nitrogen, and 1% other.

When we look at *all the atoms* that compose a plant or tree, carbon is the most common element. As mentioned, carbon in decaying organic matter is the energy source for microbes and other soil life, carbon is the base unit for

humus that is so critical for good soil health. Plants can get carbon from the air via photosynthesis or be absorbed via their roots. Note that the character of the nitrogen source governs carbon availability and carbon becomes deficient if too much nitrogen is available (like we get from artificial fertilizers).

Researchers have found that healthy, fertile soils, with low insect, disease and weed pressure have 30 carbon atoms for every nitrogen atom, what is known as a thirty to one ratio (30:1). This ratio is common in natures from microbes, to earthworms, to birds and mammals including mankind.

Sources:

compost, native mulches, Leonardite, humates, and coal.



* * *

OCTOBER 27, 2021 • 5:00 to 7:00PM United Way of Greater Houston 50 Waugh Dr. Houston, Texas 77007

<u>TICKETS:</u> Members: \$30 Non-Members: \$40

REGISTER HERE: OHBAONLINE.ORG/REGISTER



David Ramjohn CEO of AlgEternal Technologies, LLC

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LAZY GARDENER & FRIENDS HOUSTON GARDEN NEWSLETTER CALENDAR EVENTS

SUBMITTING EVENTS? PLEASE READ!

• Only events submitted <u>specifically</u> for LG&FHGN calendar will be used

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• Put your group's FULL name in email subject.

I.

- Very long links will be shortened, but full link activated when clicked
- Submit events to: <u>lazygardenerbrenda@gmail.com</u>

FRI. OCT. 8: TREE PLANTING & HARRIS COUNTY FLOOD CONTROLby **NICHOLAS GRIFFIN**, 10am, Trinity Episcopal Church, <u>1015 Holman</u>. Houston Federation of Garden Clubs event. <u>houstonfederationgardenclubs.org</u>

SAT, OCT. 9: NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY OF TEXAS—CLEAR LAKE NATIVE PLANT SALE., 9-11am. EIH Habitat Garden, University Of Houston Clear Lake, 2700 Bay Area Blvd. Live sale but pre-order trees online. npsot.org/wp/clearlake/

SAT., OCT. 9: FALL FAVORITE VEGETABLES by **GENE SPELLER**, 9-11. Free. Galveston City Master Gardener event. Preregister: *galveston.agrilife.org/horticulture/mgseminars/*

SAT., OCT. 9: FORT BEND COUNTY FALL VEGGIE-HERB PLANT SALE, 9am-noon (or sell-out), 1402 Band Rd. <u>fbmg.org/events/annual-</u> <u>sales/vegetable-herb-sale/</u>.

SAT., OCT 9.: BOKASHI COMPOSTING: WASTE NOT, WANT NOT (Zoom) by **ANGELA CHANDLER**, 9:30 – 11:30 am. Urban Harvest event. <u>urbanharvest.org/stec_event/bokashi-composting-waste-not-want-not/</u>

SAT., OCT 09.: EDIBLE ACADEMY: FALL GARDENING AND NUTRITION WORKSHOP, 9am- 1pm., Gregory-Lincoln EC., Urban Harvest event. <u>urbanharvest.org/stec_event/2021-edible-academy-fall-garden</u>

SUN., OCT 10.: DESIGNING BOUNTIFUL GARDENS SERIES 1/6 (Zoom), 1-5:30 pm. Urban Harvest event. <u>urbanharvest.org/stec_event/designing-</u> <u>bountiful-gardens</u>

MON., OCT. 11: PLANT PROPAGATION (virtual), 10-11:30am. Free. Harris County Master Gardeners event. Register: <u>hccs.edu/community-learning-</u> <u>workshops</u>

TUES., OCT 12: IN THE GARDEN: COOL WEATHER VEGETABLE GARDENING by GABRIEL BORJA, 6-7:30 pm. Urban Harvest event. <u>urbanharvest.org/stec_event/in-the-garden-cool-weather-vegetable-gardening/</u>

WED., OCT 13.: TOUGH TEXAS NATIVE PLANTS (Zoom) by PAUL WINSKI, 10-11 am. Urban Harvest event. <u>urbanharvest.org/stec_event/tough-texas-</u> <u>native-plants/</u> THURS.-SAT., OCT. 14-16: HOUSTON BULB & PLANT MART, St. John's Church, 2450 River Oaks Blvd. *gchouston.org/bulb-plant-mart-info/*

FRI.-SAT, OCT 15-OCT 16: GALVESTON COUNTY MASTER GARDENER FALL PLANT SALE (Online). Noon Fri. to noon Sat. Browse begins Fri, Oct 8. <u>store.galvestonmg.org</u>

SAT., OCT. 16: THE LAWN CARE: GREEN WITH ENVY (virtual) by THE WOODLANDS TOWNSHIP, 9am - noon. Free. Register: thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov/environment

SAT., OCT. 16: MONTGOMERY COUNTY MASTER GARDENER HERB & VEGETABLE PLANT SALE and OPEN GARDENS, 9am-noon, 9020 Airport Rd., Conroe. Free. <u>Online purchase</u> pickup Oct.16 at sale site. 936-539-7824; mcmga.com

SAT., OCT. 16,: TEXAS ROSE RUSTLERS FALL CUTTING EXCHANGE & ROSE SALE, 10am, St. Mary's High Hill Catholic Church, Schulenberg. Free. <u>Texasroserustlers.com</u>.

TUES., OCT. 19: PLANT PROPAGATION (virtual), 11am-noon. Free. Harris County Master Gardeners event. <u>hccs.edu/community-learning-workshops</u>

TUES., OCT. 19: SAVING THE WORLD ONE HERBAL AT A TIME by JAY WHITE, 10 am, St. Basil's Hall, 702 Burney Road, Sugar Land. Sugar Land Garden Club event. Free. <u>sugarlandgardenclub.org</u>.

FRI.-SAT., OCT. 29-30: HOUSTON ARBORETUM & NATURE CENTER FALL PLANT SALE, 9am-4pm, 120 West Loop North. (Inventory online Oct. 25). *houstonarboretum.org*; 713-681-8433

SAT., OCT 30: KOKEDAMA by **KAT TONDRE**, 9-11am. \$20. Galveston County Master Gardener event. Register: *galveston.agrilife.org/horticulture/mgseminars/*

SAT., OCT. 30: CYPRESS CREEK DAYLILY CLUB DAYLILY & PERENNIAL PLANT SALE, 10am-3pm, 9020 Craft Fair at Wunderlich Farm, 18218 Theiss Mail Route Rd, Spring. Free. https://cypresscreekdaylily.wixsite.com/ccdc/daylily-plant-sale

SAT.-SUN., OCT. 30-31: NATIVE LANDSCAPE CERTIFICATION PROGRAM LEVEL 1 — INTRODUCTION (Part 1 online). Part 2: Mercer Botanic Gardens, 22306 Aldine Westfield Road, Humble. \$45. <u>Register</u>. Info: nlcp@npsot.org or 512-589-1316

SAT., OCT. 30-NOV. 2: 2021 TEXAS BUTTERFLY FESTIVAL, Mission, TX. texasbutterflyfestival.com/

SAT., NOV. 6: RAINWATER HARVESTING CLASS by THE WOODLANDS TOWNSHIP, 9am-noon., The Woodlands Emergency Training Center, 16135 IH-45 South, The Woodlands. Free. Register: <u>thewoodlandstownship-</u> <u>tx.gov/environment</u> **SAT., NOV. 6: THE WOODLANDS GARDEN CLUB PLANT SALE**at the **WILDFLOWER FESTIVAL**, 10 am, Rob Fleming Park, 6055 Creekside Forest Dr, The Woodlands. <u>thewoodlandsgardenclub.org</u>

FRI., NOV.12: GARDENS OF EUROPE by **VIVIANE TONDEUR**, 10am, Trinity Episcopal Church, <u>1015 Holman</u>. Houston Federation of Garden Clubs event. <u>houstonfederationgardenclubs.org</u>

SAT. NOV. 13: HOUSTON FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS PLANT SALE AND FOOD DRIVE. 10am-1pm, Trinity Episcopal Church, <u>1015</u> Holman. <u>houstonfederationgardenclubs.org</u>

Check contacts for covid-triggered changes and/or masking policies NOTE! Only events submitted specifically for this calendar publication will be used. We don't pick up events from other newsletter or mass emails. Links will be fully linked if clicked but word-shortened if too long.



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!

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





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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-project to reporting, it then ranked as the longestrunning, 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.

