

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!

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](#)

BY BRENDA BEUST SMITH

***"Whatever solutions there are for floods,
they need to be bipartisan"***

-- Rodney Frelinghuysen, former American politician



PRAYING FOR MORE SURVIVORS

John, Pablo and I are — as am sure as we all are — horrified and devastated by the flooding deaths and damage in Kerrville and other river-flooded west/central parts of Texas.

I truly did try to write a 'flower/gardening' column for this week. But just couldn't focus on that -- not with (at last check) over 109 confirmed deaths (including 30 children), and over 160 people still missing across six of our counties. Dozens more are missing.

All I can think of are the horrible losses and suffering and the years my family (and probably many of yours) spent — a good part of my youth summers -- camping out in dozens of different sites along these rivers. It's a tragedy beyond comprehension.

Where did all that water come? One report: <https://abcnews.go.com/US/factors-contributed-extreme-texas-flooding/story?id=123531903>

Now all we can do is help in any way we can and Houston Public Television is one of many sources who are guiding us with various ways to help. HPT's ***Here's How You Can Help***" list ([link below](#)) is one of the best I could find. I know it's a long link but wanted to get it to you right away. Whatever you do, please do something to help.

Donation sites are starting all over town.

houstonpublicmedia.org/articles/news/local/2025/07/06/525756/how-to-donate-volunteer-to-help-texas-hill-county-flood-victims/?utm_source=rss-local-article&utm_medium=link&utm_campaign=hpm-rss-link

* * *

- **ATTN. GARDEN/PLANT GROUPS --** [Nature's Way Resources](#) offers free guided tours of NWR's extensive nursery/soil/mulch enterprise to plant-oriented, organized groups. As usual, NWR's now-expanded meeting site is free to above groups. Reservations a must for both. Great time to visit!



- **SUBMITTING A CALENDAR EVENT?** *For best chance of getting it in next upcoming newsletter, submit in exact requested format (see top of calendar below. Reformatting by us may = delay in publication)*

* * *

HAVE A COLUMN SUGGESTION OR CALENDAR SUBMISSION?
ADDRESS DIRECTLY TO ME AT LAZYGARDENERBRENDA@GMAIL.COM
(USE "REPLY" for general newsletter suggestions and John's column.

SUMMER CLEAROUT SALE

Save up to 50% off on
select nursery items!

Our Summer Clearout Sale is going on now at Nature's Way Resources! For a limited time, enjoy up to 50% off of select trees, shrubs, perennials, and more. Whether you're planting for pollinators, refreshing your beds, or just adding a splash of color, now's the time to stock up and save.



John's Corner

NEWS FROM THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF SOIL
AND PLANTS # 337

Subject:

John's article will be back next week.

Subscribe to our Email Chain.



Sign up for the exclusive newsletter from Nature's Way Resources and be the first to receive updates on special promotions, news, events, and more! Stay informed about all things NWR.

[Learn more](#)



LAZY GARDENER & FRIENDS HOUSTON GARDEN NEWSLETTER CALENDAR EVENTS

WANT EVENT IN RIGHT AWAY? FOLLOW RULES!

-- ONLY GREATER HOUSTON AREA NONPROFIT GROUP EVENTS --

Expect delay if we must reformat: 3-LINE (max)**EXACT FORMAT:**
DAY, DATE: TITLE (by **NAME if talk**), time, site. Sponsor (*if not in title*).
website/phone (NOTE CAPITALS VS lower case)

- Gardening events **ONLY!** No harvest, cooking, arranging, etc
- **ONLY** events sent **SPECIFICALLY TO US FOR CALENDAR** are used!
- **NO** events picked up from flyers -- **NO PDFS! TYPE IN EMAIL ONLY.**
- Don't add city unless not "Houston." (Don't add "Houston")
- Submit to: lazygardenerbrenda@gmail.com. Check published entry!

THURS., JULY 10: ROSE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS by **HOUSTON ROSE SOCIETY**, 7pm, St. Andrew's Episcopal Church 1819 Heights Blvd. Free. houstonrose.org/

THURS., JULY 10: EARTHKIND and TEXAS SUPERSTARS by **MONTGOMERY COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS**, 6:30-8pm, Texas A&M Agrilife Extension, 9020 Airport Rd., Conroe. 936-539-7824, mcmga.com

SAT., JULY 12: SQUARE FOOT GARDENING – NOT BY THE BOOK! by **ANGELA CHANDLER**, 10am–noon, College of Mainland, 10000 Emmett F Lowry, Texas City, \$29. 409-933-8461; register: [Square Foot Gardening](#)

SAT. JULY 12: AMAZING SUCCULENT PLANTS, by **GALVESTON COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS**. 9-11am, AgriLife Extension Bldg., Carbide Park, 4102-B Main St. (FM 519), La Marque. Free. Register: galveston.agrilife.org/events/

SAT., JULY 12: EARTHKIND AND TEXAS SUPERSTARS by **MONTGOMERY COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS**, 9-11am, Texas A&M Agrilife Extension, 9020 Airport Rd., Conroe, 936-539-7824, mcmga.com

MON., JULY 14: FALL VEGETABLE GARDENING (virtual) by **HARRIS COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS**, 10-11:30am, Free. Register in advance to receive link: hcc.idloom.events/gardening-series/register

TUES., JULY 15: FALL VEGETABLE GARDENING (virtual) by **HARRIS COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS**, 11am-noon, Free. Facebook Live, no reservation required: facebook.com/harriscountyp/1/events

TUES., JULY 15: THE STORY OF TILLANDSIAS by **AARON DAVILA**, 7pm, West Grey Multi-Service Center, 1475 West Grey, Houston, Bromeliad Society/Houston bromeliadsocietyhouston.org.

SAT., JULY. 19: PLUMERIA SOCIETY OF AMERICA SALE, 9am-1pm, Bay Area Community Center, 5002 E. NASA Pkwy, Seabrook. Free admission and parking. theplumeriasociety.org

SAT. JULY 19: YARD WASTE by **ROBIN KENDRICK YATES**, 10am-noon. Free. Magnolia Multi-Service Center, East End District, 7037 Capitol St, bayoupreservation.org/events/2025-summer-resiliency-workshop

SAT., JULY 26: HERBS FOR HEALTH OF IT by **GALVESTON COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS**, 9-11am, AgriLife Extension Bldg., Carbide Park, 4102-B Main St. (FM519), La Marque. Free. galveston.agrilife.org/events; 281-309-5065

SAT. AUG 9: ONIONS & GARLIC, 9-11am, and **FALL VEGETABLES**, 1-3pm by **GALVESTON COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS**, AgriLife Extension Bldg., Carbide Park, 4102-B Main St. (FM 519), La Marque. Free. Register: <https://txmg.org/galveston/>

MON - TUES: AUG 25-26: SUMMER SUNDOWN ONLINE PLANT SALE by **GALVESTON COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS**, 1-3pm, . Details: <https://galvestonmg.square.site/>

SAT., AUG, 16: VEGGIE GARDENING 101 by **MONTGOMERY COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS**, 9am-4pm, Texas A&M Agrilife Extension, 9020 Airport Rd., Conroe 936-539-7824 mcmga.com

SAT., AUG.18: RAINWATER HARVESTING by **THERESA SEE**, 10am-noon, Bayou Preservation Assn., Magnolia Multi-Service Center, 7037 Capital St. . RSVP: bayoupreservation.org/events/2025-summer-resiliency-workshop

SAT., SEPT.13: TURF FOR THE FALL by **MONTGOMERY COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS**, 9-12am, Texas A&M Agrilife Extension, 9020 Airport Rd., Conroe 936-539-7824, mcmga.com

SAT., AUG 23: TEXAS SUPERSTAR® - BE A SUPERSTAR WITH ANNUALS by. Discovery Garden in Carbide Park, 4102 Main St (FM 519), La Marque. Free. Register: txmg.org/galveston/

SAT., OCT. 11: GROWING CITRUS by **MONTGOMERY COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS**, 9-11am, Texas A&M Agrilife Extension, 9020 Airport Rd., Conroe 936-539-7824, mcmga.com

If your event didn't get in right away,

**PROBABLY NOT In our EXACT - NEVER CHANGING
format, so set aside for REFORMATTING
(delays event publication and opens doors for errors).
Your choice!
SEE TOP OF CALENDAR FOR EXACT FORMAT.**



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!

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



About Us

BRENDA BEUST SMITH

WE KNOW HER BEST AS THE LAZY GARDENER . . .

but Brenda Beust Smith is also:

- * a national award-winning general feature 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 later was said (at that time) to rank as the longest-running, continuously-published local newspaper column in the Greater Houston area. The name, she says, is not just fun, it's true.

Brenda's gradual sideways step from general reporting into also doing gardening reporting 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 (lazygardenerbrenda@gmail.com)

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

For over three decades, Brenda served as Assistant 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 had 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.

About her column, Brenda says: "I don't consider myself a 'garden writer.' I started out 50+ years ago as a very lazy "gardening reporter." I still feel that way today. I hope my columns inspire/help newcomers, but I do not write to them. I write to very experienced gardeners who want to expand their horizons.

JOHN FERGUSON

John is a native Houstonian and has over 35 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. For years he represented 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.



Lazy Gardener And Friends | 101 Sherbrook Circle | Conroe, TX 77385 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!