

# Tarrant County Master Gardeners



TEXAS A & M AGRILIFE EXTENSION SERVICE

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## The Garden Conservancy's Open Days Program and the Tarrant County Master Gardener Association Present Private Garden Tour on October 8

On Sunday, October 8th, five private gardens in Keller, Southlake, and Westlake will participate in the Garden Conservancy's Open Days program, welcoming the public from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Open Day is rain or shine, and no reservations are required. Admission is \$7 per garden and tickets can be purchased on site; children 12 & under free. Call 1-888-842-2442, or visit [www.opendaysprogram.org](http://www.opendaysprogram.org) for more information. Discount admission tickets are available through advanced mail order.

A portion of the proceeds from this Open Day also benefits the Tarrant County Master Gardener Association.

Master Gardeners will be hosts at the homes and offer informative talks.

Included on the October 8th Open Day:

- Morrison Home, 217 Chandler Road, Keller – features mature oak trees, perennials, a large vegetable garden, grapevines, fruit trees such as apricots, pears, and peaches, and a focal point fountain.
- The Stutsman's Garden, 1575 Knox Road, Keller – highlights include hand-built stone walls providing architectural interest, more than sixty-five native post oaks as well as many understory ornamental trees, native and non-native plants, and a charming garden house is a focal point in the perennial garden.
- Estate of Jan & George Grubbs, Jr., 702 South White Chapel Boulevard, Southlake – features include spiral Spartan junipers, a pond-side gazebo, bronze sculpture, an angel fountain surrounded by boxwood and annuals, extensive perennials and trees, and a pool garden with a five-foot cherub fountain and large planted containers anchoring each corner.
- Schill Garden, 162 Jellico Circle, Southlake – includes a vegetable garden, a butterfly garden, a greenhouse, a large flagstone patio with a fireplace, and a dry rock bed that helps divert water from the foundation of the house.
- Paigebrooke Farm, 1 Paigebrooke, Westlake – a former flat-pastured dairy farm has been transformed into an oasis of ponds, trees, hills, fountains, and rock walls. A patio and garden area was designed by Elizabeth Smidt of Great Gardens of McKinney, and features a pizza oven and entertaining spot.

The Garden Conservancy is a national non-profit dedicated to saving and sharing outstanding American gardens. Since 1995, the Garden Conservancy's award-winning Open Days has welcomed more than one million visitors into thousands of inspired private landscapes – from urban rooftops to organic farms, historic estates to innovative suburban lots – in forty-one states.

See pictures page 2



## Tarrant County Master Gardeners

### Open Days continued



Left, blooms in the Stutsman garden.

Right, the garden house in the Stutsman garden.

Right, the elusive & moving "Black Leopard" plant in the Stutsman garden.



The Garden Conservancy was founded in 1989 by a distinguished American gardener, Frank Cabot. His thoughts were to develop "a national organization with a mission to preserve exceptional American gardens for the public's education and enjoyment. It seeks to develop and deepen public appreciation of gardens as integral elements of our national artistic and cultural heritage. The Open Days Program is a major component of this mission."

"Open Days creates opportunities for people to learn about gardens in the best way possible---seeing exceptional gardens with their own eyes."

See you in the  
Gardens! Sunday,  
October 8, from 10  
until 4.



**Public Speaking Class**

A free introductory class on presentations is being offered in two sessions on September 14 and September 28. We will meet at the Waterworks Learning Center 1801 Circle Drive from 10:00 am until 12 noon both days.

You will need to plan on attending both ses-

sions in order to get full benefit from the program.

Training by experienced speakers will cover many topics necessary to become confident and comfortable in speaking before an audience either large or small.

Some topics are:

Introducing speakers

Preparing a successful speech

Speaking to a diverse audience

Visual aids and props

Gestures & body language

For questions or to register for the workshop call or email Hester Schwarzer. You may also register at the September Master Gardener meeting.

**Volunteer Opportunities**

**September 16, 8 a.m.- 1 p.m. -- Viridian Artist Market**, Viridian Community, 1210 Viridian Park, Arlington

**September 23, 8 a.m.-noon — Keller Farmers Market**, 1100 Bear Creek Parkway, Keller

**October 6-7, Botanic Garden Fall Plant Sale**, Master Gardener table, Friday, 2-6 p.m., Saturday, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

**October 8, 10 a.m.—4 p.m. —Nature Conservancy Open Days**, Master Gardener Desk at the Morrison home, 217 Chandler Road, Keller 10 a.m.-1p.m., 1 p.m.-4 p.m.

**October 14, 8 a.m.– noon — Keller Farmers Market**, 1100 Bear Creek Parkway, Keller

**October 21, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. — Arlington EcoFest**, downtown Arlington

Contact Patsy Miller.



# Tarrant County Master Gardeners

You will note under "Resources" there is a document called Management Guide---it HAS been updated but when it was updated, the date failed to be updated!

Mission Statement: To provide horticultural and environmental research-based information and techniques. To volunteer in area horticultural projects.

The Tarrant County Master Gardener Directory

## Some Thoughts from Eleonor Tuck

Have you ever thought about the fact that there are Master Gardener Associations all over the United States? Or where the MG idea came from?

The lead speaker at the 2018 Annual MG Conference will be David Gibby. He is the Agent who decided he needed help to take care of his constituents in his State, which was Washington, and he started the Master Gardener program in 1972. He proved that Volunteers can be of immeasurable value to the Extension Service. The idea has spread over the entire US and continues to grow in its value to each of us and to our neighbors.

I invite you to check out the Texas Master Gardener website. Type in txmg.org and explore all of the resources available to us right here in Tarrant County and Texas. Learn about what other associations are doing and more important-

ly, learn what resources are available to each of us. Explore under "Resources" or the "Awards" column. Learn who the officers are in other counties. Under the Master Gardeners "only" site, the password is sunset, so you can further explore what our officers have available to them and what you have available.

You will note that throughout any of our publications, we are encouraged to use "Research Based" data. A gentle reminder that this doesn't mean "just google it", but if you ARE googling, look for the resource to be from an "edu" site---much more likely to be research based.

This in no way says that we cannot use our past experiences/knowledge/education, but we must focus on the fact that we are a part of Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service and we represent them---therefore we must follow our Mission Statement= research based info and techniques.



## Memorial Walkway Bricks

This is your opportunity to be a permanent part of the garden by adding your name to its future. You may purchase an engraved brick for a donation of \$35.00. Make a memory for yourself, a loved one, or even for your organization or business. This year, 2017, marks the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Association. What a great way to commemorate such an occasion! Of course, you are helping to support the entire Tarrant County Association! With what will you adorn your bricks? Your engraved bricks will memorialize a marriage, bless a birth, provide peaceful proverbs, commemorate a classy celebration or just display true fondness for a faithful friend. Please, buy a brick or two, and share what's on your mind!

### **Favorite Projects...NRH Common Grounds Monarch Station**

The 'Green Thumbs' Intern class, 2017, selected the North Richland Hills Common Grounds Community Garden project to create and plant a Monarch Butterfly Garden, and attain Way Station Certification.

Members of the MG Green Thumbs project group are: John Cheney, Donna Lenick-Findley, Eden

Hines, Dianne Jones and Janet Viola.

We created the garden design based on plant categories, height and width. The Monarchs favorite plants will be blooming from early Spring to first frost. A MG husband built a beautiful display case for our poster which explains the Monarch Butterfly life cycle and migration

pattern. He also refurbished a garden bench so visitors can sit and watch the Monarchs or just enjoy the garden.

We lost some of the plants that did not successfully make the transfer from other gardens but the majority of the plants are established and thriving! Now, it's a matter of weeding and watering and

watching them grow! We are so very proud of our garden and the Way Station certification! We can't wait to see the Monarch Butterflies make it their home when transiting North Texas. Come visit the garden and be inspired to build your own!

Happy Gardening!  
The Green Thumbs 2017



### **Important September Dates**

Monday, September 4 office closed for Labor Day

Thursday, September 7 Master Gardener Monthly meeting

Thursday, September 21 Advisory Board & Executive Committee meeting





## What's Blooming in Your Garden? Take a peek into some Master Gardeners Gardens.



Larry & Mary Matl's backyard garden



Patsy Miller's garden, with art made by her friend, Emily, from Vacation Bible School. It is a wrought iron clock with whisks for arms.



Above , Carolyn Lombard posing in her front garden.  
Right, yard art and blooms in Carolyn's garden.





## A Fun time Flower Pounding at the Home and Garden Show

