

Over the Garden Gate



<http://www.overthegardengate.org>

City of Wichita Falls Compost Give-a-way

The City of Wichita Falls compost give-a-way is scheduled for Saturday, April the 4th from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. The location for the give-a-way is the Wylie Road Landfill. Take Seymour Highway west toward Seymour to Highway 258, located at the Kamay "Y," proceed West on Highway 258 toward Kamay for approximately one mile to Wiley Road, turn right (North) on Wiley Road and travel two miles to the landfill.

The compost is free to Wichita Falls Residents who pay the \$3.00 charge

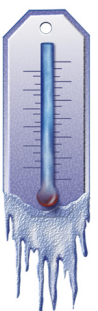
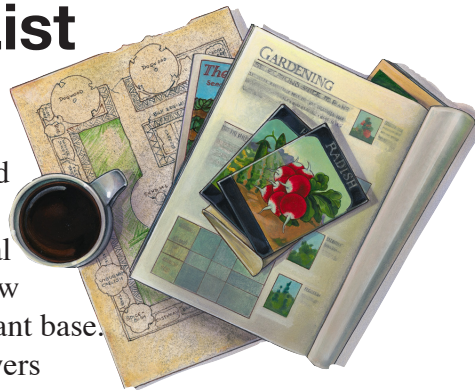


for the green recycle bins. Be sure to bring your current water bill to the landfill in order to receive the compost for free. You are also required to bring a tarp to cover the load. You must cover the load before you leave the landfill.



Garden Check List for March

1. Divide fall-blooming perennials and ornamental grasses, if needed.
2. Cut back dead foliage of ornamental grasses only after you have seen new green growth emerging from the plant base.
3. Fertilize annuals and perennial flowers once this month.
4. Plant trees, shrubs, vines, and ground covers now while temperatures are cool for the plants.
5. After last freeze, begin to plant tomatoes, peppers, and other vegeta-



Freeze-Dates for Wichita Falls

- ° Last Spring Freeze: 3/27
- ° First Fall Freeze: 11/10
- ° Freeze-Free Days: 228

- bles, and flowering bedding plants.
6. Spray to control broad leaf weeds in the lawn when temperature is 45-65 degrees.
7. Plant Fescue grass seed under trees and other shaded areas.
8. Add organic matter to gardens.

LOCALS

MARCH 3: Wichita County Master Gardener Association monthly meeting is at Wichita County Extension Office, 2nd floor, 6th and Scott, Wichita Falls, TX.

Time: 5:30 p.m.

MARCH 12: Red River Native Plant Society monthly meeting is at the Kemp Center for the Arts, 1300 Lamar, Wichita Falls, Texas. **Time: 6:00 p.m.**

MARCH 16: Red River Orchid Society monthly meeting is at the Kemp Center for the Arts, 1300 Lamar, Wichita Falls, Texas. **Time: 7:00 p.m.**

MARCH 17: Burkburnett Garden Club monthly meeting is at the Community Room of the Fidelity Bank. **Time: 5:30 p.m. Contact: Rex Bristol 636-0486**

MARCH 26: Texoma Water Garden Society monthly meeting. **Time: 6:30 p.m. (pot luck dinner) or 7:00 p.m. for meeting.**

MARCH 26: "Clark Gardens" by Debra Clark Birdwell of Henrietta, at the Woman's Forum, 2120 Speedway, Wichita Falls, TX. Lunch reservations required. **Time: 12 noon.** www.womansforum.org. 766-3347

MARCH 27-28: Home and Garden Show. Great Plains Coliseum, Lawton, Oklahoma. (580) 355-2490

MAY 16: Wichita County Master Gardener Association Garden Tour. **Time: 9 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

A Common Sense Approach

The arrival of spring often has an insidious effect on gardeners. Those first warm sunny days beckon us to visit nurseries. It is all too easy to start buying blooming plants that look beautiful in their containers. My mother was always appalled at my lack of discipline this time of year. "You don't have room for that. Did you bother to read the label and see how large that will get?" was her most frequent comment, followed by "Did you make a list this winter of plants you needed to replace or bare spots that needed filling?" Often I had done both but the beauty of the plant is question trumped common sense. Nurseryman know exactly what they are doing—many shoppers buy plants on impulse and I am one. And that is not smart shopping. To shop economically, stick to your list and buy smaller plants. Often they give you a bigger bang for the buck and do better when planted in the ground. Or start them from seed. After all, one of the joys of gardening is watching plants grow until they flower and fill in an area.

Reprinted from Harris' Farmer's Almanac #34



Flower of the Month: Daffodil

Common Names: Daffodil, narcissus, jonquil.
Botanical Name: Narcissus.
Family: Amaryllidaceae

The daffodil, for many, is spring itself. In Victorian England, the daffodil stood for chivalry, perhaps because it sometimes stood in the snow, waiting for the rest of the flowers of spring.

2009 International Master Gardener Conference: Las Vegas, NV March 22-26

Registration is now available.
<http://www.unce.unr.edu/imgc>.
If you have questions or need help navigating the web site, call or e-mail (702-257-5587 or edmundsa@unce.unr.edu.)



Work Day Dates and Times to be Announced at the March Meeting

Association Contacts:

Lulu Canan, *President* 691-4496; Paula Savage, *Vice President* 691-0231; Gail Elmore, *Secretary* 569-0188; Beth Turlington, *Treasurer* 692-7570

Committees Chairperson:

Paula Savage, *Newsletter* 691-0231; Beth Turlington 692-7570 and Mary Barry 592-2075, *Web Site*; Jerry Warren, *Volunteer and Advanced Training Hours Recorder* 767-2020 or enenjay@nts-online.net

State Directors: Peg Marquardt, Mary Barry, Delores Lane and Jeff Smith

Specialists: Peg Marquardt, Rainwater Harvesting and Plant Propagation; Mary Barry, Jr Master Gardener Advisor:

Tara McKnight, CEA-Hort, Texas Cooperative Extension, Wichita County (940)716-8610

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FEBRUARY 27 TO MARCH 1: All-Texas Garden Show with Neil Sperry at the Arlington Convention Center, Arlington, TX. www.arlingtoncc.com. (817) 459-5000

MARCH 7—APRIL 12: The 25th Annual Dallas Blooms at the Dallas Arboretum. 214-515-6500 Open Daily 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

APRIL 23-24 & 25: 2009 Texas Master Gardener State Conference: Marshall, TX. Make plans to join us for the 2009 Texas Master Gardener State Conference, that



will be held in beautiful East Texas. The conference will feature world class azaleas, dogwood and crape myrtles, as well as unique bed & breakfast establishments, just to name a few. This year, something new, the *Earthkind Rose Workshop*, an all-day session will be presented the day before the '09 conference and will feature some of the most renowned experts in the earthkind rose field!! Information on registration for this workshop will be added to the regular registration form, come a day earlier and don't miss-out on this added feature! Harrison County Master Gardener Association

c/o Extension Office
102 West Houston
Marshall, TX. 75670
(903) 935-8413

See this link for more information:
<http://tcaaa.tamu.edu>
09statemeeting.htm

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