

# Over the Garden Gate



<http://www.overthegardengate.org>

## THROUGH THE GARDEN GATE TOUR

The Wichita County Master Gardeners' "Through the Garden Gate tour is set for Saturday, May 16th from 9 AM to 3 PM. The cost is \$5.00. Tickets may be purchased in advance at Wichita County Extension Office, Smiths Garden Town Farms, Berend Bros at Jacksboro Hwy and Wichita Valley Landscape. Tickets will also be available the day of the tour at each garden.



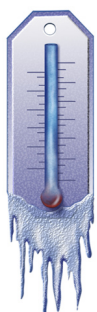
### LOCATIONS:

**4404 Ward:** From a blank slate, Janet Damaska, a Master Gardener intern has begun to design her landscape into the cottage style garden that she has always admired. Earth Kind roses are planted throughout the landscape. The kids are gone, the pool has been filled in and Janet and husband John laid the brickwork in its place. Her garden consists mostly of "pass along plants". This property has sun exposure extremes as well as a rambunctious pooch.

Master Gardeners will be offering "pass along plant" seedlings and divisions to the public at this site.

**4301 York:** Ann and Dennis Dohrer moved into their residence about 6 years ago and began to refurbish a well established landscape. They have removed overcrowded and overgrown trees and shrubs. They have a shallow backyard and have used raised beds and vertical elements to add their personal design sense. Work in the front has only just begun. Ann, Master Gardener class of 2006, has incorporated her vegetables and herbs into her cottage style borders.

At this address Master Gardeners will demonstrate the design and the planting container gardens.



### Freeze-Dates for Wichita Falls

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

**5216 Navajo Trail:** Beth Turlington, Master Gardener class of 2006, says that she "married" her yard 8 years ago. At this time there was a hedge of unknown origin and two

## LOCALS

**MAY 5:** Wichita County Master Gardener Association monthly meeting will be a pre-tour of the Associations May 16th Garden Tour. We will start out by meeting at Nan Warren's Home located at 1530 Celia Dr. and will end up at Beth Turlington's house for dessert. Feel free to bring a sack dinner.  
**Time: 5:30 p.m.**

**MAY 7:** 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.**

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

**MAY 18:** Red River Orchid Society monthly meeting is at the Kemp Center for the Arts, 1300 Lamar, Wichita Falls, Texas. **Time: 7:00 p.m.**

**MAY 19:** Burkburnett Garden Club monthly meeting is at the Community Room of the Fidelity Bank. **Time: 5:30 p.m. Contact: Rex Bristol 636-0486**

**MAY 28:** Texoma Water Garden Society monthly meeting. **Time: 6:30 p.m. (pot luck dinner) or 7:00 p.m. for meeting.**



rose bushes. Both have long since become mulch. Slowly she added 9 beds and a vegetable garden. This year's projects are to expand the vegetable garden and to add a bed at the back of the house. At the present she mows and garden about 2 of the 5 1/2 acres she and husband Ray live on.



At this address Master Gardeners will demonstrate how to make hypertufa containers. For step by step instructions: [www.finegardening.com/design/articles/make-your-own-container.aspx](http://www.finegardening.com/design/articles/make-your-own-container.aspx)

**1530 Celia Drive:** The Warren's redesign began about 12 years ago when they added a garden pond and flower beds. Nan became a Master Gardener in 2002 and Jerry in 2003. From a yard once filled with weeds and dead shrubs, there has involved a backyard oasis for the owners who especially enjoy breakfast by the pond when weather permits. Plants have been chosen to provide enjoyment throughout the year – from earliest daffodil blooms in late January to evergreen berries in December. Mulched beds contain a variety of native and adapted species. Stepping stones lead the visitor from the shady to sunny areas in this eclectic landscape. Antique roses are grown in containers. Fairies hide among the ferns. A garden railway is in the future.

At this address Master Gardeners will show the homes first phase of a planned rainwater collection system that was added in April of this year.

## Association Projects

### Ben Milam Elementary

#### School Project

Jan Gardin is working with Boy Scouts and Ben Milam elementary to install landscap-



ing in front of the school. If anyone is interested in helping, contact Jan Gardin (691-5734) for dates and times. Please bring shovels and gloves. Parents and students will also be there to work as well. This is really turning out to be a great community effort with several local businesses supplying materials.

Hopefully we can get the media to come out and do a story over the event.

### Kell House Gardens Project

Master Gardener Interns, Betty McCulley and Rae Paris are heading up the restoration project. Work began last month with trimming trees, cutting back ivy and removal of dead and under performing shrubs and trees. Paula Savage donated



80+ daffodils bulbs to the project. Research is underway to determine

the types of plants that were used in the garden during the time the Kell family occupied the home.

# E STATE S

**JUNE 1-3: Rain Water Harvesting Master Gardener Specialist Training.** Granbury, Texas. Only 30 participant spots are available for this training, so please submit your registration forms in as soon as possible. Registration is on a first come/first serve basis. Payment and forms must be in our office by May 15, 2009. Contact Marty Vahlenkamp, 817-579-3280, to answer any questions or provide further information.

**JUNE 29-30: Texas Master Gardener Vegetable Specialist Training** Somervell County Expo Center, Glen Rose, Texas. Hosted by Somervell County Master Gardeners and AgriLife Extension Service Master Gardener

Registration information will be forthcoming. Please check the TMGA web site soon for more information.



The goal is to return the gardens to their original design. **Next work day is Wed. May 6th at 9:00AM.**



**Work Day Dates and Times to be Announced at the May 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](mailto: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