

# Over the Garden Gate



<http://www.overthegardengate.org>

## Help Stop the Spread of Invasive Plants!

Did you know we are being invaded by aliens everyday? It's true, but they may not be the kind of aliens that you traditionally think of. These alien species are plants or animals that do not originate in the area or region in which they are found. It's not that they come from another planet, but from a different country, state or even region of our state. If a species was not historically found living in a particular area where it is now found, then it is considered an alien. Alien species are also called non-native, introduced or exotic organisms. Native species are those that occur naturally in a region or habitat. The introduction of alien plants can potentially have a negative economic and environmental impact on the landscape, but not always. When an introduced plant species causes negative economic and environmental impact on the landscape and to human health, then it is called an invasive species.

*The Rolling Plains Chapter of the Texas Master Naturalists is offering a seminar:*

### Invaders of Texas

Presented by the Lady Bird Johnson  
Wildflower Research Center

Sept. 19, Saturday

9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

at River Bend Nature Center

Cost: \$10

To register for this seminar: Email:

Janely26@aol.com or larnold5138@aol.com or  
Call Mark Howell of the Texas Parks and Wildlife  
Fisheries at 766-2383

Seating is limited so get signed up as soon as possible and turn in your money.

Examples of non-native invasive plants growing out of control are Chinese tallow tree, Japanese honeysuckle, Chinese and European privet, Chinaberry, Japanese climbing fern, kudzu, salt cedar and giant reed; however, there are many others.

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**Above Left:** Salt Cedar near Lake Whichita. **Above Center:** Chinese privet  
**Above Right:** Chinese Tallowtree

## LOCALS

**SEPTEMBER 1:** 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.**

**SEPTEMBER 10:** 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.**

**SEPTEMBER 17:** Burkburnett Garden Club monthly meeting is at the First Bank. **Time: 5:30 p.m.**  
**Contact:** Rex Bristol 636-0486

**SEPTEMBER 18:** The First African Violet Society of Wichita Falls, monthly meeting is at the University United Methodist Church, 3405 Taft Boulevard, Wichita Falls, TX. Our program is: From Tucson to Tulsa - New Introductions for 2004-2008. **Time: 9:30 a.m.**

**SEPTEMBER 21:** Red River Orchid Society monthly meeting is at the Kemp Center for the Arts, 1300 Lamar, Wichita Falls, Texas.  
**Time: 7:00 p.m.**

**SEPTEMBER 24:** Texoma Water Garden Society monthly meeting. **Time: 6:30 p.m. (pot luck dinner) or 7:00 p.m. for meeting.**



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Understanding the importance of native, non-native and invasive species is very important. An alien species doesn't become a problem until it begins to out-compete the native species, thereby displacing it from its home. This is when an alien species becomes an invasive.

Learn to recognize the plants that have potential to harmfully impact trees and other vegetation in our community by attending the Invaders of Texas Seminar on September 19, 2009.

## Fall Vegetable Gardening Seminar is a Huge Success!

The Wichita County Master Gardener Association new Vegetable Gardening Specialist, Beth Turlington gave her first seminar August 20, 2009 to an over flow crowd. Around 98 people attended the free seminar that covered: location of your garden, soil prep, weed control, insects, diseases, what to plant, mulching, watering and composting. WELL DONE, BETH!

### We Need Your Help with a Butterfly Garden

The Rolling Plains Chapter of Texas Master Naturalists is in the process of designing a butterfly garden for Ft. Richardson State Park in Jacksboro. The area is in full sun with rock outcroppings and bordered by a plum thicket on one side.



We would love to have the assistance of Master Gardeners **who can make donations of native plants that would benefit caterpillars and butterflies.** Anyone that would like to help us plant is also welcome to come to our workday **in Jacksboro on Saturday, September 26.**

#### For further information contact:

Terry McKee  
vice-president Rolling  
Plains TXMN  
at 766-4097 or e-mail  
dgm59@aol.com



### City of Wichita Falls Compost Giveaway

**Date:** October 3rd, Saturday  
**Time:** 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.  
**Location:** Wylie Road Landfill- (West of Wichita Falls)  
**Cost:** Free to Wichita Falls Residents who pay the \$3 charge for the green recycle bins

You must be a resident of Wichita Falls and have the \$3 charge show up on your water bill. Bring your current water bill to the landfill in order to receive the compost. Bring a tarp! Must cover and tarp load before you leave the landfill.



### Work Day Dates and Times to be Announced at the September 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@gmail.com

**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

# E STATE S

**SEPT. 12: Wildscape Workshop 2009** The Fredericksburg Chapter of the Native Plant Society of Texas will sponsor *Wildscapes Workshop*, an educational seminar on perennials, produce and pollinators. Learn how to integrate edible plants (vegetables and herbs) into your wildscape and garden.

The workshop will be held at the Fredericksburg United Methodist Church, 1800 N. Llano Street. For a registration form go to The Native Plant Society of Texas web site at <http://npsot.org/wp/>. A box lunch is included with registration.

In addition to a series of four seminars, the workshop includes educational exhibits and a book sale. A plant sale will offer many of the specimens featured in the presentations. Following the workshop is a self-guided tour of three area gardens representative of the Grow it Yourself presentation.

#### OCT. 17-18: RoseDango 2009

The City of Farmers Branch and Chambersville Tree Farms will host the second annual RoseDango to be held in the cities of McKinney, Chambersville and Farmers Branch, Texas.

This is an excellent opportunity for Master Gardeners to see what is thought to be the largest environmental horticulture research in the country. The National Earth-Kind Trial Rose Garden in Farmers Branch is the only garden to evaluate all 100 cultivars under consideration for future Earth-Kind designation on a national level.

For additional information visit: [www.rosedango.com](http://www.rosedango.com)