

Bastrop County Master Gardener Fall 2018 Newsletter

2018 Master Gardener Classes Begin - Class of 21 Interns Started on Aug. 1st



The 2018 Master Gardener classes are in full swing with a large group of potential Master Gardeners to help us continue to share gardening knowledge in Bastrop County. This year the classes are being held at the Bastrop Fire House #4 on South Hwy 95. Class speakers are experts in their horticultural field and many are professors from TX A&M University. As the Bastrop County Master Gardener Association grows larger, we are able to design and implement more gardening projects for the county and offer more assistance to citizens with their gardening questions. We are gratified that so many community members are interested in joining us and look forward to welcoming the new interns as full-fledged Master Gardeners.

Master Gardener Program

Becoming a Master Gardener is not only a great way to learn about horticulture, landscaping and irrigation for your own garden. It is also a way that you can help your community through Master Gardener Projects at local schools, municipal buildings and nonprofits. Master Gardener volunteers are dedicated to helping to beautify Bastrop County with flower gardens using Texas Native Plants and Super Stars. Master Gardener volunteers also focus on vegetable gardening. We maintain a vegetable demonstration garden at the County Extension Office on Pecan St., help schools grow vegetables for students and staff to enjoy and help to donate fresh vegetables to the Bastrop County Food Pantry. Master Gardeners also provide education for the community through HEB Backyard Gardening Classes and monthly Lunch-and-Learns held in Elgin, Cedar Creek, Bastrop and Smithville on a regular basis. The public can also contact the Master Gardeners with gardening questions or concerns by calling 512-957-1443. We exist to help the experienced gardener or those just starting out. Call us to find out more about becoming a Bastrop County Master Gardener.





Master Gardener, Dan Hayes, instructs the Lunch & Learn Class at the Bastrop Community Gardens on growing vegetables



Join us For Lunch & Learn

The Bastrop County Master Gardener Association offers gardening information and instruction throughout Bastrop County at our monthly Lunch and Learn series. These free seminars are led by gardening experts and cover a variety of topics. Please join us on:

Wednesday Sept. 19th from 11:30 until 1:00 pm at the Bastrop Community Gardens on HWY 71 in Cedar Creek for: **Fall Landscaping with Debbie Hopper**

Wednesday October 17th from 11:30 until 1:00 pm at the Bastrop County Courthouse Annex in the lower level conference room for: **Plant Health - The Good, The Bad and The Ugly with Glenda Williams**

What Are Texas Superstars® ?



Texas Superstars® plants are tested and selected for their superstar performance in the Texas landscape.

Every plant earning the Texas Superstar® designation undergoes several years of extensive field trials by Texas A&M AgriLife Research and the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, both part of the Texas A&M System. They must show superior performance under Texas' tough growing conditions. During the field trials, plants receive minimal soil preparation, reasonable levels of water and no pesticides.

It isn't easy to become a Texas Superstar® plant. Only the toughest, most reliable and best-looking plants make the cut.

Both vegetables and flowering plants have earned the title Texas Superstar®. You can find these plants at your local nursery and be sure to look for the Texas Superstar® logo on the plant tags.



The Martha Gonzales Rose (top) and the Pride of Barbados (bottom) are just two of the Texas Superstar® Plants that will thrive in the hot Texas summers.

Visit

<http://texassuperstar.com/press/index.html>

for additional information on Texas Superstar® Plants.

HEB Backyard Classes Begin on Sept. 8, 2018

The Bastrop County Master Gardener Association will once again present a series of four classes on Fall Gardening at the HEB Plus on Hasler Blvd. in Bastrop. All classes are free and run from 10 until 11 am. This Fall classes include:

Sept. 8th - Tree Planting

Sept. 15th - Fall Veggies

Sept. 22nd - How To's for Irrigation

Sept. 29th - Landscaping with Superstars® and TX Native Plants



Plan to join us at HEB for these informative and free gardening sessions.



Master Gardeners "beautify" the Bastrop County Animal Shelter

One of the most enjoyable projects created by the Master Gardeners are the flower gardens at the Bastrop County Animal Shelter on Cool Water Drive. This project was initiated by Master Gardener Gary Buckwalter and over the past year Master Gardeners have worked hard on planting and maintaining extensive flower beds at the shelter. In addition to the flower beds, Gary has created seated arbors with climbing vines and planted trees that will one day offer cooling shade to the animals waiting for adoption. The gardens make the shelter a welcoming and cheerful place for those caring for the animals and for those stopping by to adopt a new family member.



BASTROP COUNTY MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION

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