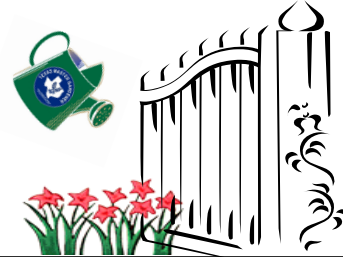




Ellis County Master Gardener's E-Gardening Newsletter



Volume X, Issue One

Official E-Newsletter of the Ellis County Master Gardeners Association, Waxahachie, Texas

January, 2017

Welcome to the Ellis County Master Gardener's **E-Gardening** Newsletter. The purpose of this newsletter is to give you a month-by-month agenda of what you should be doing with your landscape. We will feature horticultural articles that we hope you will find interesting, and important dates where you can find the Master Gardeners speaking, demonstrating, and passing out information relative to your garden. If you would like to receive this newsletter monthly via your email address, log onto our website www.ECMGA.com and click on subscribe. Best of all; it's FREE! Susan Clark, Editor

2017 Master Gardener Calendar



The Ellis County Master Gardeners are proud to present our 11th annual gardening calendar. Our theme this year is "Trees of Ellis County". Also included is a two-page chart of recommended trees, as well as trees NOT recommended and why.

As always, this beautiful and informative calendar includes month-by-month gardening information, soil preparation, fertilization, many of the events of our calendar sponsors, moon signs, as well as other community events.

Your **FREE** copy is now available at all of the following calendar sponsors' locations. Please thank them for being a part of this year's gardening calendar! Without them we wouldn't be able to produce the calendar. And, please shop at their businesses while you are picking up your free calendar.

Ellis County Master Gardeners and Sponsors

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Listen to KBEC

Saturday mornings at 9:00 a.m. on 1390 AM.

The Ellis County Master Gardeners have a five minute segment every week, offering you helpful information on what you need to be doing in your landscape, as well as "happenings" around the county. Be sure to listen in!

Melinda Kocian

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It's January....What Needs To Be Done?

PLANTING

- * Plant shade trees, shrubs, and woody ornamentals from nursery containers. Check out the Texas SmartScape™ program at www.txsmartscape.com to help you create an environmentally friendly landscape.
- * Transplant small trees and shrubs while they are dormant. Water the plant well before digging.
- * Plant cold-tolerant herbs such as chives, cilantro, garlic and parsley. Onions from transplants can be planted late month.
- * Seed for warm-weather annuals can be planted in flats in a temperature-controlled environment. Tomatoes and peppers, especially those hard to find varieties in the spring, can be started from seed mid-month. All require bright light and warm temperatures (60-70°F). Use grow lights for best results.
- * Tulip and hyacinth bulbs, which have been chilled for eight weeks should be planted immediately.
- * Plant blackberries, fruit, and nut trees. Cultivar or variety selection is critical. Contact the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, Ellis County at (972) 825-5175 or visit <http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/fruit-nut> for recommended varieties.

FERTILIZING AND PRUNING

- * Prune trees, including live oaks and red oaks, to remove dead, broken, and unwanted branches, or to raise the canopy to allow more light underneath.
- * Keep a spray can of pruning paint handy to immediately paint any wound on your oak trees. To help prevent oak wilt, we no longer say there are windows of safety because of cold weather or hot weather. Paint every wound all year long.
- * Water newly planted trees and shrubs as needed. Apply a liquid root stimulator monthly.
- * Peach and plum trees should be pruned to stimulate lateral branches and keep their "bowl" shape. Thin out branches to open the center to allow more sunlight resulting in fruit production over the entire tree.
- * Apply blood meal or a slow-release fertilizer to pansies and other cool-season annuals.
- * Maintain free-form crape myrtles by removing "root sprouts" growing from the base, but please, NEVER cut the tops off of crape myrtles. It produces unsightly knots and delays blooming. However, removing spent seed pods is okay.

GARDEN WATCH

- * Remove by hand broadleaf weeds, such as clover, dandelions, henbit, and chickweed, in lawns and beds. If necessary, spot spray turf with a broadleaf herbicide when temperatures are above 70 degrees. Be careful when using herbicides in flower beds to prevent the drift from harming desirable plants.
- * Now is the time to have the soil tested in your lawn, vegetable, and flower gardens. Contact the local AgriLife Extension office at (972) 825-5175 for a soil sample test kit and mailing instructions. For additional information, go to <http://soiltesting.tamu.edu>.

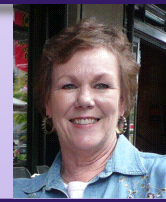
The **Bur Oak** is a deciduous tree reaching a height of 60-70 feet and a width of 60-70 feet. It tolerates full sun and low to medium water needs.

This is a Texas native with reliable fall color. The Bur Oak produces attractive acorns eaten by wildlife, but can pose a significant clean-up chore.



Featured Texas Wild Flower of the Month

*Submitted by Melinda Kocian
Ellis County Master Gardener*



Prairie Verbena – Verbena Family (Verbenaceae)

Verbena Bipinnatifida Nutt.

Region: 1-10 (Ellis County is Region 4)

Size: 12 – 18 inches

Blooms: January-December, Perennial

Usually no more than a foot high and often reclining, prairie verbena sometimes paints large areas with lavender, pink, bluish, or purple. Plants are hairy with square stems.

Trumpet-shaped with five flattened lobes, the tiny flowers are clustered into half-globes. Opposite, stalked leaves are divided twice into finely cut foliage that adds a lacy background to the rounded flower clusters.

Prairie verbena quickly covers barren areas, but is crowded out as other species invade. It is an important nectar plant for butterflies, blooming throughout the year. It often roots from reclining lower stem joints. Texas has thirty-six species of verbena, many similar.



Cool Weather Considerations

*By Carolyn Foster
Ellis County Master Gardener*



While we are enjoying cooling weather, we have time to get some things done with our gardenscape plans and other chores. It's an opportunity to update our garden matrix; doing this by seasons lets you know where dormant items are located, plan what annuals you'll need for this season, and what you can expect to come up this spring.

You can decide what works and what needs to be removed or minimized. Continue to remove any perennials that have died back or frozen. You can also start to plan what needs to be moved while dormant. Trim back anything that needs it. Any mulch that is in advanced stages of decay can be worked into the soil. This will augment the soils micronutrients.

Watering is still necessary if we haven't had enough rain. Also, remember sun and shade requirements for new additions. Any fruit trees that are not native to our area, may need extra care to prevent disease. Read the label for the spraying time and mixture ratios.

Now is a great time for bed preparation. Remove weeds; add amendments; make seed choices, and remember to read the package for depth planting. If planted too deep some seeds will not germinate. Some seeds can be started in the greenhouse or indoors and transplanted when the time is right, or you can purchase sets. Protect seedlings and sets from freezes. Frost blankets, newspaper, mulch, and cold frames are some good options.

Companion planting now is a great way to get some cool season vegetables, herbs, and flowers into the garden. Pansies, delphiniums, larkspur, poppies, and salvias are great. Evergreen shrubs with berries also provide bird food. Rosemary, thyme, lavender, oregano, and sage are good for cooking and oil infusions. These are perennials. Some herbs are annuals or biennials: parsley, dill, fennel, and cilantro can be planted now. Most of these require sun, but will tolerate some shade. Plant spinach, arugula, cabbage, kale, chard, and lettuce in two week intervals for continued harvest.

You still have time to get bulbs in the ground. Daffodils, hyacinths, irises, and gladiolus are all-time favorites. Most bulbs are planted two to three times the width of the bulb, but read the packings for depth instructions as well as fertilization.

Now is also a great time for tool maintenance. Clean off debris and dirt; sharpen and/or replace blades; oil any moving parts; store any item not in use at this time. Then relax and enjoy this slower time...spring will be here before you know it!



Save The Date!
Saturday, March 25, 2017



Light House for Learning

(With the Ellis County Master Gardeners)

For reservations, call Melissa Cobb at (972) 923-4631.

Register online at http://www.wisd.org/default.aspx?name=CO_LighthouseforLearning

Join Ellis County Master Gardeners and Ellis County Extension Agency in a variety of classes to prepare your gardens and yards for spring.

Thursday, February 23, 6pm–7:30pm, How to Grow Tomatoes. Do you love tomatoes? Have you struggled to grow great tomatoes? This is the class for you. We will go over all the aspects of tomato gardening, including the following: starting from seed or with transplants, where and when to plant your tomatoes, types of tomato plants, specific varieties for our area, and how to care for your tomato plants. Instructor: Susan Norvell. Cost: \$12.00

Thursday March 2, 6pm–7:30pm, Iris and Daylilies. Iris and daylilies are some of the easiest plants to grow for beginners, with many different color and size options. There are a few good things to know though including requirements for their flower production, their favorite spot in the garden, and how to keep them coming back year after year. Other topics include: plant structure, obtaining specimens, how to plant, sun and water needs, fertilization, plant division, and diseases. Bring your questions and we can talk about specifics at the end of the program. Instructor: Jane Slone. Cost: \$12.00

Monday, March 6, 6pm–7:30pm, Landscape Irrigation Design and Maintenance. Learn the basics of designing an efficient irrigation system. Gain the knowledge to install irrigation yourself or have the tools to ask the smart questions of an irrigation contractor. Information will be provided to help you maintain an existing system and test procedures to determine if any adjustments are required to keep your system in top condition. No matter if you intend to install new irrigation maintain an existing system, or just want to know more about one of the most ignored systems in the home, this class is for you. Instructors: Allan Paxton & Jim Drestler. Cost: \$12.00

Thursday, March 9, 6pm–7:30pm, Container Gardening. For those who only have a small space or patio, container gardening is a great way to raise flowers or vegetables. The class will cover: proper container size and shape, how to add an olla (water device) to lessen hand watering, proper soil mixture, placement of container, fertilizer and light requirements, and what to plant for best results. The class includes a demonstration of planting a container garden and a handout will be provided. Instructor: Jane Sloan. Cost: \$12.00

Thursday, March 30, 6pm–7:30pm, Chickens 101. Everyone thinks two-legged feathered friends are easy and fun. You may want the fresh eggs. So how do we get started? What do we need to know before we make that decision? The class will cover the basics: city ordinances, why should you have chickens, how to obtain them, feed and care, house and space needs, and breeds. Instructor: Jane Slone. Cost: \$12.00

Monday April 3, 6pm–7:30pm, All About Trees. Thinking about adding some trees to your property? This class will go over the various trees that grow in our area, including native trees. Subjects covered include what to look for at the nursery, how and where to plant trees, and how to care for trees. The instructor will also discuss pruning basics including when and how to prune. Trees are a big investment so come and learn all about how to choose the best trees for your property. Instructor: Allan Paxton. Cost: \$12.00

Monday, April 17, 6pm–7:30pm, Creating a Butterfly Garden. Creating a butterfly garden can be fun and easy for everyone, from the novice to the experienced gardener. This class will guide participants through all the aspects of planning for and creating garden environments that attract and support butterfly populations. This includes garden layout, host plant selection, plants that provide nectar, and other butterfly friendly environment tips. Instructor: Bea Rocha and Cheryl Ellison. Cost: \$12.00



Having Success with Plants in Our Soil

By: Shirley Campbell, Ellis County Master Gardener



In Ellis County, we have black clay soil. You will hear people say, "We have black gumbo and nothing will grow in it." Well, that's not quite true. There are plenty of plants that will grow in our soil. Our rural areas are covered with native plants; and you can have a beautiful landscape around your home if you understand a few things about soils and plants.

Creating garden soil is physical work and costs money, but it's an investment that pays huge dividends. You want to create a garden soil with a minimum depth of 12 inches that should be composed of 50% native soil and 50% organic matter.

Soil is amended by addition of organic material. Organic materials can be finely shredded bark mulch, compost, Canadian peat moss, rotted manure, and expanded shale.

The organic material will loosen and improve drainage of the clay soil and it will improve the water holding capacity of the sandy soil. Place about six inches of the organic matter on top of the existing soil and till into the top eight to ten inches of soil. Whatever you do, do not add sand to our clay soil. Sand particles are too small to help with aeration and are difficult to incorporate into the clay soil. It can make the situation worse by causing the clay to "set up" like concrete.

It's a good idea to mix in a slow release fertilizer with your preparation. The 4-1-2 or 3-1-2 ratio turf grass fertilizer that you use on your lawn will work. (Do not use a weed-and-feed prod-

uct for this purpose.) This blending of the native soil with the organic material should give you a bed that is about six inches higher than the surrounding area. You have now created an amended, raised bed and the perfect growing medium for most plants.

Now that you have created the correct growing medium, it is time to select your landscape plants or vegetables.

The selection of plants is the next major pitfall for the gardener. Choose from plants that have been recommended for this area of Texas.

What is a recommended plant? The Texas AgriLife Extension Service has tested different varieties of plants and rated them on production, resistance to insects and diseases, tolerance to our heat and cold extremes, and water requirements. The TAES is continually evaluating new and different plants. Those that prove reliable are placed on the recommended plant list. Find the list here: <http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/archives/parsons/publications/NORTHCCN.html>

The Ellis County Master Gardeners have a list of shrubs, trees, and groundcovers and a list of recommended fruits, nuts, berries, and vegetables. Contact the Ellis County AgriLife Extension Office at (972) 825-5175 for a copy of the list.

(Continued on page 6)

Ellis County Master Gardener Scholarship 2017

In 2003, ECMGA decided to make scholarships available to graduating high school seniors residing in Ellis County. We wanted to provide opportunities to these students that chose college studies in horticulture and/or life sciences disciplines. Since then, we have awarded 36 high school students with college scholarships totaling \$63,300.

One of the objectives of the ECMGA is to build partnerships with the Ellis County community to expand horticultural education and opportunities. In keeping with this objective, the ECMGA will again make scholarship funds available in 2017 to deserving high school seniors pursuing studies in horticulture-related fields. To qualify, the applicant must be a graduating high school senior residing in Ellis County from an Ellis County High School, Ellis County Charter High School, or Ellis County Home School Program.

The applicant must have an elected academic major in a horticulture-related field that includes, but is not limited to horticulture, agriculture, environmental science, forestry, botany, biology (e.g.: plant genetics, plant physiology), landscape design, or entomology. Other horticulture-related fields of studies are delineated in the scholarship application package available on the ECMGA website. Applicants must be able to provide proof of acceptance at an accredited institution of higher education. In addition, this year the ECMGA has decided to allow former ECMGA College Scholarship Awardees currently enrolled in horticulture programs/degree plans to also apply for a 2017 scholarship to continue their college/university studies.

ECMGA college scholarships awarded to qualifying students in 2017 will be up to \$3,000. Students applying for the ECMGA College Scholarship are invited to visit <http://www.ecmga.com> to download the application package found under the "What's Happening" tab. The completed application may be submitted by registered mail (return receipt requested) or in person to the Texas AgriLife Extension Service office located at 701 South I-35, Suite 3, Waxahachie, TX 75165. If additional information is needed regarding the ECMGA Scholarship, please call (972) 825-5175. **All scholarship applications must be received no later than 4p.m. on March 15, 2017.**



GARDEN CHECKLIST FOR JANUARY/FEBRUARY
by Dr. William C. Welch, Professor & Landscape Horticulturist, TX A&M

- * Now is an excellent time to transplant mature or established trees and shrubs while they are dormant.
- * Make flower and vegetable garden plans now before the rush of spring planting. Time spent in armchair gardening before the fireplace will pay off in improved plant selection. Besides, it is fun to page through the garden catalogs.
- * Sow seeds in flats or containers to get a jump on plant growth before hot weather arrives. Petunias, begonias, and impatiens should be sown in early January. Warm temperature plants, such as tomatoes, peppers, marigolds, and periwinkles, should be sown in late January or early February.
- * Apply a light application of fertilizer to established pansy plantings. Use one-half pound of ammonium sulfate per 100 square feet of bed area. Repeat the application every four to six weeks, depending on rainfall. Dried blood meal is also an excellent source of fertilizer for pansies.
- * Prepare beds and garden area for spring planting.
- * Select and order gladiolus corms for February/March planting. Plant at two-week intervals to prolong flowering period.
- * Check junipers and other narrow-leaf evergreens for bagworm pouches. The insect eggs overwinter in the pouch, and start the cycle again by emerging in the spring to begin feeding on the foliage. Hand removal and burning of the pouches are ways of reducing the potential damage next spring.
- * The life of the plant received as a Christmas gift can be prolonged with proper care. Keep the soil moist, but provide drainage so that excess moisture can flow from the pot. Keep the plant out of range of heating ducts and away from heating units. Keep in a cool room at night, preferably at 60 to 65 degrees F.
- * Don't fertilize newly set out trees or shrubs until after they have started to grow, and then only very lightly the first year.
- * When buying plants, the biggest is not always the best, especially when dealing with bare-root plants. The medium to small sizes (four to six feet) are usually faster to become established and more effective in the landscape than the large sizes.
- * Hold off on pruning bush roses until February or early March. Use good shears that will make clean cuts. Remove dead, dying, and weak canes. Leave four to eight healthy canes, and remove approximately one-half of the top growth and height of the plant.
- * Now is an excellent time to select and plant container-grown roses to fill in those bare spots in your rose garden.
- * When pruning shrubs, first prune out any dead or damaged branches; then thin out by removing about one-third of the canes or stems at ground level, removing the oldest canes only. Last, shape the rest of the plant, but do not cut everything back to the same height.
- * Water foliage plants as well as other containerized plants only when needed and not by the calendar.
- * Climbing roses should be trained, but not pruned. Weave long canes through openings in trellises or arbors and tie them with jute twine or plastic/wire plant ties. Securing canes now prevents damage from winter winds, and contributes toward a more refined look to the garden when roses are blooming. Wait until after the spring flowering period to prune climbing or once-blooming shrub roses.

Having Success with Plants (from page 5)

One exception to these recommendations is trees. Landscape trees should be planted in the native soil alone without any amendments. As they mature they will need to grow out into the native soil; otherwise they might want to stay in their own little warm bed with the good soil.

If you like to gamble, certainly you can try new plants in your garden; that's the fun part. Those winter catalogs with their enhanced pictures can sure tempt you to try some northern varieties.

Remember the old saying: "You can put a 10-cent plant into a 50-cent hole and it will live and flourish; but if you put a 50-cent plant into a 10-cent hole, it will die."



**Interested in becoming a
2017 Expo Sponsor Or
Expo Exhibitor?**

Contact James Kocian at
expo.ecmga@yahoo.com

Reserve the date: March 25, 2017!

Following the recommendation for soil amendments of beds or garden plots and using plants recommended for this area will increase your chances of having a trouble free landscape or garden.

Common Onion FAQs

With Robert Shugart
Ellis County Master Gardener



Q: When is the time to plant onions and what varieties are recommended?

A: Mid-January to mid-February is the time to plant onion transplants in our area. The recommended "bulb" varieties are: yellow: Texas Supersweet (Grano 1015Y); red: RedGranex, Burgundy; and white: Crystal Wax, White Granex.

Most local gardeners thin their crops and use these onions for green table onions. Onions are heavy feeders. Apply four or five pounds of 10-10-10 fertilizer per 100 square feet to the soil before planting. Onions should be planted about 1 inch deep. They should be "side dressed" three weeks after planting and again when bulb enlargement begins with two to three tablespoons of a fertilizer per ten foot of row. Recent information suggests fertilizer containing sulphur will make onions hotter.

Q: What is a "shallot"?

A: A shallot is a member of the onion family. The plant lives for many years. It is grown for its mild garlic-like roots, made up of segments called cloves. The plants will grow to about 18 inches tall and often have white or violet flowers in the summer

Q: Should I break over the tops of my onion plants to get larger bulbs?

A: Breaking over the tops of onion plants will not increase the bulb size; it may actually prevent bulb enlargement. Onion bulbs increase in size as sugars manufactured in the tops are translocated to the bulb. If the tops are broken, this process stops, preventing further enlargement of the bulb.

Q: Last year my onion plants were stunted. When I looked at the roots, they looked purple or pink. What was the problem?

A: This is "pink root" of onions. It is a soil-borne fungus that is most often found in sandy, clay, and wet soils. The only control for the disease is crop rotation. When buying transplants this year, look closely for pink roots on the young plants. If a large percentage of the bunch has it, don't buy them. Most onion transplants are certified to be free of pink root. You can also look for varieties that are resistant to pink root, such as Grano PRR and Granex PRR.



Save The Date!
Saturday, March 25, 2017



Pictures here: <http://thehankydresslady.blogspot.com/2013/06/bicycle-wheel-garden-art-steel-magnolias.html>



Garden Whimsy
Here's two great ideas for old bicycle wheels!



Directions here: <http://www.fleamarketgardening.org/2013/05/07/make-a-stained-glass-garden-spinner/>

Eclectic Gardening

With Jane Slone, Ellis County Master Gardener

THIS MONTH:

GARDENING WITH OLLAS



OLLAS Pronounced ol-uh

Pictured to the right is Pam Wheeler's raised bed with ollas. She has used ollas in her garden with great success. It is an efficient way to save water and reduce the need for frequent hand watering. Pam and I are writing this article to enlighten those of you who have not heard of this unique clay pot. This is an old concept that has existed for centuries. This is a new concept for me and it was new to the Garden Club members, where Pam originally presented this information.

I hope this article will provide you with an alternative to watering your vegetable or flower garden.



Yes, possibly. Vegetable garden placement should occur at the beginning of the planting season. Pam has lived where the winters are very cold and freezing temperatures are common. Her recommendation is that you dig up your olla after harvesting the garden, and replant in the spring.

How does the olla work?

Gardeners are always looking for a shortcut, and a better way to beat the Texas heat. What can we do to save time and money when planting a garden? The answer is to use an olla "planted" in the ground.

Who would have thought that an unglazed pot could be placed in the ground and release water to the roots of the plants as needed? After all the money we spend on irrigation systems and hand watering, this appears to be one of the better ways to directly water the root system of garden plants.

Pam Wheeler, Master Gardener, is one of those who has mastered the watering of vegetables using ollas. When she moved to Texas, she realized that her garden would require watering daily and sprinklers are not very efficient. Pam had used ollas in the past, and decided to start out with them in her garden.



An example, unglazed vase with a neck and opening at the top

The olla is filled with water every few days. The water will gradually be drawn out of the pot and the plants will have a consistent source of water to the roots. This process of giving the roots water as needed is efficient and does not stress the plant.

This will allow the plants to maintain a constant level of moisture. In Texas, we can water in the early morning and often by midmorning, the soil around the plant is dry. Many diseases and pests take advantage of this. The production of fruit is not as abundant with uneven moisture in the soil.

If you water with a sprinkler or water hose, it is next to impossible to water the soil without water touching the leaves or stems. Most soil-borne diseases are spread this way. By installing ollas, you help prevent diseases spreading to your plants.

When using ollas, it is recommended that you mulch the top of your soil.

The mulch layer will help

keep the soil cooler and prevent the sun from drying out the soil surface.

What are the main reasons this process is a good alternative to other watering systems?

- ◆ This process should save resources by using less water.
- ◆ If you only need to water every few days, it will save time and money.
- ◆ Consistent moisture reduces stress on plants. Transpiration is a loss of water through the leaves and causes wilting. The loss of water will decrease the production of fruit.

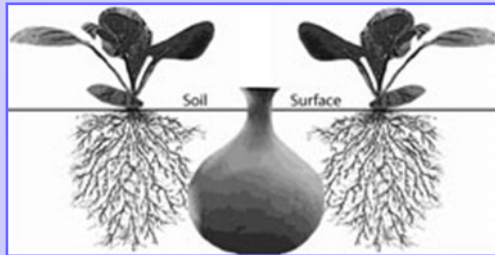
What is an olla?

The history of using ollas goes back to a process originating in Africa over 4,000 years ago. It has been adapted over the centuries by different people groups all over the world.

An olla is a clay pot that has not been glazed. Using an unglazed pot allows water to flow through the surface. If we were to place a house plant in this type of pot and leave it sitting on a table top, the water would leave a ring of water on the table.



al-



Do you plant in the olla?

No, but you do need to plant the pot in the ground. Place the unglazed pot in the ground with the top exposed, and fill with water. You do not plant in the olla.

Can the olla be added to an existing bed?

(Continued on page 9)

Eclectic Gardening (Continued from page 8)

- ◆ Plants will tend to be free of disease. Using ollas should reduce blossom end rot on tomatoes, less cracking of vegetables, and mildew on squash.
- ◆ Ollas will allow for vertical planting to increase roots



Blossom end rot due to water or calcium,, usually due to uneven watering.

- ◆ Very little maintenance. Replace water every three to four days, instead of watering each day.
- ◆ Save money by not wasting water. Water on the top of the soil is not efficient, due to evaporation and transpiration.
- ◆ Fewer weeds will develop because the top of the soil is dry and weeds are less likely to germinate.
- ◆ Research also shows that nutrients in the soil are not leached out as easily and you may not need to fertilize as much.

1—rubber stopper from the plumbing department, sized to fit the flower pot (If you use a 10 in. pot, the hole will need a 1" x 1.25", which works out to #6 stoppers through online scientific supply stores.)

—a small level can be helpful.

Dig a hole in the center of your garden. Put the flowerpot in the hole and level the pot. Bury the pot up to the ridge around its neck. Fill with water and place the lid on the pot. Check every few days to make sure the olla has water.

HAPPY GARDENING!

Other references:

<http://www.texasgardener.com/pastissues/mayjun16/Rain-Harvesting.html><https://suburbanfarmonline.com/2010/08/09/make-your-own-ollas/>

Gardening with less water by David A. Bainbridge
www.storey.com

<https://www.change-making.com/make-your-own-flowerpot-ollas/>

[https://www.google.com/search?q=picture+of+an+olla&tbm=isch&tbo=u&source=univ&sa=X&ved=\(IMAGES\)](https://www.google.com/search?q=picture+of+an+olla&tbm=isch&tbo=u&source=univ&sa=X&ved=(IMAGES))

<http://www.drippingspringsollas.com/>

<http://www.darrolshillingburg.com/GardenSite/PorousClayCapsuleIrrigation.html>



Above is a healthy garden using ollas. This is Pam Wheelers garden of tomatoes.

How do you find ollas for sale?

Ollas can be purchased in all sizes and shapes. Ollas are usually not found in box stores, but can be located with an internet search or a catalog for gardeners.

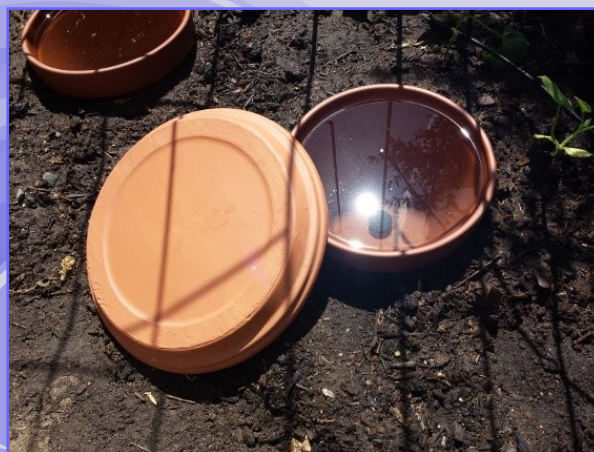
Can I make my own olla?

You can make your own olla if you use an unglazed pot and plant your garden in a circle around the pots. Below are the directions for making your own olla.

MATERIALS NEEDED

1—unglazed flower clay pot, 10 in (The size can be adjusted to fit your area.)

1—flower pot saucer, to fit the TOP of the pot, 12in (This is larger to fit over the top.)



Thank You All!

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