

2023 Texas Master Gardener Conference Agenda



Monday, May 1

12:30pm – 4:30pm **Leadership Workshop**

Lifelong Learning: Taking Learning to Practice to Action
Dave Close, Volunteer Engagement Specialist, Virginia Cooperative Extension

5:00pm-6:00pm **Endowment Discussion**

Brandy Kines, Director of Development - Texas A&M Foundation
Jayla Fry, State Coordinator, Texas Master Gardener Program
Elisabeth Castro, Texas Master Gardener Association President

Tuesday, May 2

8:30am – 9:00am **Welcome**

Jayla Fry, State Coordinator, Texas Master Gardener Program
Dr. Rick Avery, Director, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service

9:00am – 10:15am **Keynote Presentation**

Joe Lamp'I - [Growing a Greener World](#)

10:30am – 11:30am Breakout Sessions #1

1. Don Renchie – [Pesticide Safety Education](#)
2. Jacy Lewis - [Raspberries: New Possibilities](#)
3. Ashley Morgan-Olvera - [Texas Gardens Beware, Invasive Worms are Encroaching!](#)
4. Brad Voss - [Drought-Proofing – Working with Nature](#)
5. Randy Seagraves - [Get Kids Growing with JMG Core Curriculum](#)

11:30am – 1:00pm Lunch Break

11:45am- 12:45pm Virtual Tours

1:00 pm – 2:00pm Breakout Sessions #2

1. Gregory Archer - [Backyard Chicken Management](#)
2. Dianne Odegard and Lee Mackenzie - [Peaceful Coexistence with Bats](#)
3. Juan Anciso - [Hot, hot, hot! Growing Peppers](#)
4. John W. Smith - [Understanding Rainwater Harvesting Systems / Sustainable Agriculture Research Education \(SARE\)](#)
5. David Rodriguez - [The History of the Rodeo Tomato](#)

2:15pm – 3:30pm Keynote Presentation

Sara Lewis – [Protecting the Jewels of the Night](#)

3:45pm – 4:45pm Breakout Sessions #3

1. Janet Carson - [Made for the Shade](#)
2. Wizzie Brown - [Texas Dragonflies](#)
3. Bob Whitney and Kate Whitney-Hajda - [A Practical Approach to Organic Vegetables and Lawn Care](#)
4. Steve Chaney - [Move Over, Raised Beds, and Make Room for Hugelkultur](#)

6:00pm – 6:30pm TMGA Search for Excellence Awards

Wednesday, May 3

8:30am – 9:30am Morning Virtual Tours

9:45am – 11:00am Keynote Presentation

Sara Dykman - [Biking with Butterflies: Learning about Monarchs One Mile at a Time](#)

11:15am – 12:15pm Breakout Sessions #1

1. Michael Cook - [What's the Buzz about Pesticide Impact on Honeybee Colony Collapse Disorder](#)
2. Manuel Chavarria - [Turfgrass Weeds Management](#)
3. Skip Richter - [Composting: The Basics & Beyond](#)
4. Raeline Nobles - [Gardening as a Therapeutic Resource](#)
5. Chris Wieisinger - [The Bulb Hunter](#)

12:15pm – 1:30pm Lunch Break

12:30pm- 1:15pm Directors Meeting and Agent Meeting

1:30pm – 2:30pm Breakout Sessions #2

1. Molly Keck - [Butterflies 101 – Butterflies are Amazing Creatures!](#)
2. Jake Mowrer - [Gardening in Consonance with the Soil](#)
3. Tim Hartmann - [What's New and Exciting in the World of Texas Fruit](#)
4. Allison Watkins - [Year-Round Landscape Color](#)
5. Kelly Bryan - [The Hummingbirds of Texas](#)

2:45pm – 3:30pm Q&A with the Tour Guides

3:45pm – 5:00pm Keynote Speaker

Doug Tallamy - [Nature's Best Hope](#)

5:15pm – 5:30pm Closing Remarks