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Gardening is cheaper than therapy and you get tomatoes!

It's Summer

May is over and so is spring. We are finally entering the first hot days of summer. By June, gardeners have planted all of their summer flowers and vegetables so it's now down to maintenance for the remainder of the growing season. This means getting your irrigation systems up and running; mulching to control moisture and weeds; and start harvesting. But, it's not too late to plant the following vegetables up to the middle of June: **cucumbers, eggplant, melons, okra, southern peas, peppers, pumpkins, and squash.**

Happy Growing Season!

Take the Earth-Kind Challenge

Is your landscape contributing to a healthy and sustainable environment? The objective of **Earth-Kind Landscaping** is to combine the best of organic and traditional gardening and landscaping principles to create a horticultural system based on real world effectiveness and environmental responsibility.

Earth-Kind Landscaping Encourages:

- Water conservation
- Landscaping for energy conservation
- Reduction of fertilizer and pesticide use
- Reduction of yard wastes entering landfills

HOW MANY FROGS DID YOU SCORE?

	OUTSTANDING
	EXCELLENT
	GOOD
	FAIR
	NEEDS IMPROVEMENT

Want to know how good your gardening principles are? Then take the **Earth-Kind Challenge**. It's easy. Just answer a series of on-line questions about the cultural principles and practices used in maintaining your landscape. The higher the score, the more you are doing to help.

Go to: <https://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/earthkind/challenge/>

*Double Pink**Blushing**Sunny**Rainbow*

Why Knock-Out Roses

If you are new to rose growing or would like to try your hand at roses, then look no further than the Knock-out Rose. Knock-Out Roses are easy to grow; require very little maintenance; are disease resistant; and heat tolerant. What is not to love about them? Well, while they are heavy bloomers from spring to fall, they put out no fragrance or odor. If you are looking for fragrant blooms, then the Knock-Out is not for you.

The Knock-Out rose was developed in the year 2000 by William Radler, after 15 years of trial and error. He was looking for a rose that required little care and was disease resistant. Eventually, seven types of Knock-Out roses were developed: **Knock-Out**; **Double Knock-Out**, **Pink Knock-out**, **Double Pink Knock-Out**, **Blushing Knock-Out**, **Sunny Knock-Out**, and **Rainbow Knock-out**.

- **Planting:** Like most roses, Knock-outs love the sun. Plant in an area where they will get at least six hours of sunshine a day. They also require good circulation so provide at least one foot of open space all around the rose bush. Regardless of soil type, the Knock-out benefits from a year-round layer of organic mulch. This will reduce weeds, help moderate the soil temperature, and control moisture.

- **Care:** Knock-outs bloom best if they are fed after each blooming cycle. They also require a drip irrigation system for watering. In our area with high salt content, a drip irrigation system will eliminate burning of the roses and keep water off the leaves. **Water 1 to 2 inches of water each week** -- in a single watering session -- from early spring through fall. Increase the frequency to every three or four days in hot and dry weather.

- **Pruning:** One of the best things about Knock-outs is that they do not have to be dead-headed after each blooming cycle. They are self-cleaning and require minimal trimming during the growing season. Heavy pruning can be done in late winter or early spring. Remove one-third of the old branches every year to keep them from becoming too large or overgrown.

- **Cold Hardiness:** Hardy in Zone 5b to Zone 9.

- **Size:** They can grow from 4 feet to 6 feet so plant accordingly.

- **Bloom:** Blooms spring, summer, and fall

- **Heat Tolerant:** Can handle our hot Texas summers and are drought tolerant.

- **Pest and Disease-Resistance:** Knock-outs are much more pest and disease resistant than many other types of roses. While they can still be susceptible to a few fungal diseases, they are not affected as severely as other types. However, one especially severe disease that will affect a Knock-out is **Rose Rosette disease (RRD)**. If you find evidence of this disease in your roses, then the *only* solution is to dig out the bush and dispose of it properly.

In the Fields



Coral Bean



Black Eyed Susan



Horsemint



Spiderwort

June Bugs



What exactly is a June Bug? The June Bug is a beetle that emerges from its larval stage around June each year. They are those pesky bugs flying around outdoor lights. By this stage, they are relatively harmless, but in their larval stage, they can cause significant damage to turf grass and other plants.

The scientific name of a June bug is *Phyllophaga sp.* They typically grow from 1/2 to 5/8 inches long, and there are over 100 species that exist in North America. As an adult they are

looking for mates and that is why they are attracted to lights. At this stage they do not bite, sting, damage wood or carry any diseases.

A June bug's life cycle is about one year with the female laying up to 75 eggs a week in the summer. The larval stage produces white grubs, and these are the pests that cause the most damage when they emerge in the spring because they feed on the roots of many plants especially lawns such as Bermuda grass, Zoysia grass, Buffalo grass, and St. August-



tine grass. Not only are the grubs destructive but other predators seeking to eat the grubs can cause secondary damage as well. It is one of the staples of feral hogs this time of year!

If you think your lawn is being affected by June bug larva, then dig out a patch in a suspicious area and see if you find the grubs in the soil. If you see between five and ten grubs in a square foot, then consider it a problem.

If you prefer to use a pesticide then look for common ones that contain imidacloprid or halofenozide. If you want to get rid of grubs the natural way, then purchase nematodes. Attracting more birds and toads into your yard can also be of great help. While they won't completely eliminate all of the grubs they will at least

keep the population in check.

The ideal treatment time for white grubs is around the time they hatch which is in June here in Central Texas.



White grubs in turf grass

June 2019

Schedule of Events

- **June 1: Grimes County Master Gardeners:** “Horticulture Judging at the Grimes County Fair”; 1:00 p.m.; Grimes County Fairgrounds
- **June 5: Grimes County Master Gardeners:** “Senior Day at the Grimes County Fair”; 9:00 a.m.; Grimes County Fairgrounds
- **June 8: Brazos MG:** “Drip Irrigation for Raised Beds”, 10:00 a.m.—11:00 a.m., Clara B. Mounce Library, Bryan
- **June 8: Montgomery County Master Gardeners:** “What’s all the Buzz? Bringing Bees to your Garden”; 8:00 a.m.—10:00 a.m.; Tom Leroy Building, Conroe
- **June 8: Montgomery County Master Gardeners:** “Other Pollinators Besides Bees”; 10:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m.; Tom LeRoy Building, Conroe
- **June 11: Grimes County Master Gardeners:** “Monthly Business Meeting”; 9:00 a.m.—11:00 a.m.; Court Annex Building, Navasota
- **June 15: Brazos MG:** “Summer Waterwise Lawn Care”, 10 a.m.—11 a.m.; Clara B. Mounce Library, Bryan
- **June 29: Martha’s Bloomers:** “Rose Rosette Disease”; 11:00 a.m.; Navasota

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 ★
2	3	4	5 ★	6	7	8 ★
9	10	11 ★	12	13	14	15 ★
16	17	18 ★	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29 ★

Did You Know.....



Texas has over 5,000 species of native plants. Because of its size and geography, it is one of the most biologically diverse states, with forests, deserts, mountains, hills, prairies and coastal plains. The Native Plant Society of Texas wants to protect our state’s native plant heritage and preserve it for future generations. The Native Plant Society of Texas is a non-profit organization, run by volunteers, sponsoring educational programs, workshops, demonstration gardens and many other types of projects. Anyone can join and is welcome.

- **Sam Houston Chapter** (Huntsville)
- **Meetings:** 3rd Tuesday of each Month
- **Next Meeting:** Tuesday, June 18, 2019
- **Meeting Time:** 6:30 PM – Meet & Greet, Social Time, Refreshments
7:00 – 8:00 PM – Chapter Meeting & Presentation
- **Location:** SHSU Natural History and Art Research Center
746 University Ave, Huntsville 77320

Forty-Two Place Seminar

On May 16th, Grimes County Master Gardeners presented two topics to the residents of **Forty-Two Place** in Navasota. Mike and Connie Arden provided an overview of the **Monarch Butterfly Migration** and Paula Parmley presented the merits of **Container Gardening**. The residents not only got a bit of education there were also several door prizes and plants given away. Thank you to all our members who attended and provided help. It was a great success!



Recognitions



GCMG 2018 Awards Photo for Navasota Examiner



Michael Arden, Marti Luedtke, Michael Havens

Junior Master Gardener Program

Lisa Whittlesey, Texas Program Coordinator for the Junior Master Gardener (JMG) Program, presented to the Grimes County Master Gardeners an overview of the JMG program at the May 14th Monthly Business Meeting.



Texas Master Gardeners

203 Veterans Memorial Drive
Navasota, Texas 77868

Website: txmg.org/grimes



Grimes County Master Gardeners

Please send submissions and photos by the
20th of each month to: pwparmley@gmail.com



Monarch Butterfly

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