

Henderson County Master GardenersWeekly News ArticleJanuary 16, 2017

HCMGA Presentation on Soil Nutrients

by Lydia Holley

Master Gardener Bob Erickson will present "Feeding Your Flowers and Food: Soil Nutrients" on Tuesday, January 24, 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the Clint W. Murchison Memorial Library, 121 S Prairieville St., Athens. This presentation will be free to the public.

We all know we need to feed our flowers for them to produce the most and biggest blooms. We want our garden to be at its best. Vegetables, too, need

sufficient nutrients in order to reduce disease, and to produce at optimal levels. Nutrient deficiencies can be displayed in plants through various symptoms.

You want your garden to have nutrient-rich soil. This will allow your plants to absorb the minerals it needs to grow at its best. Soil is important, even in how the plant takes in carbon. There is a study that shows plants grown in nutrient-rich soil absorb carbon from the air better than plants grown in soil that is poor in needed nutrients.

Of course, our soil has no voice. It can not tell you when to feed it, or what nutrients it needs. If you overfertilize, that can be just as detrimental or possibly even worse for your garden than not fertilizing at all. You should not just copy which fertilizers your neighbor or fellow gardener add to his garden because your soil may have a completely different mix of nutrients.

Come hear Bob Erickson as he tells you how you can easily find out what your soil is lacking, and how to get the best soil for the crops you are growing.

This is a part of Henderson County Master Gardener Association's "Learn at the Library" series. Future presentations are scheduled to be given on the third Tuesday of each month, and will cover a variety of topics.

For more information, call 903-675-6130, email <u>hendersonCMGA@gmail.com</u> or visit <u>www.henderson-co-tx-mg.org</u>.

