



President's Message: It's Coming!



As you read this, fall is just around the corner. September 23rd is the official beginning of fall this year, but as I write this article for the next edition of "Wood Works" the temperature is climbing to 100 degrees and the wind feels like you just opened the oven door. As I look around the woods and fields the grasses are turning brown, leaves are falling from the trees, sumac vine is turning red and orange

against the dead tree trunks, and the Maxillian Sunflowers are blooming so I know that fall is on the way even if it is still summer. The Red Buckeye is plentiful for decorations this year and the Beauty Bush is full with berries so it should be a beautiful fall especially if we get some rain. Most of my cutting garden is dying back now and I am waiting for them to dry so I can collect the seeds for the seed swap in October at our meeting.

Speaking of the seed swap, I have a story. I had Mexican squash drying in the garage and sunflowers drying in the barn. Well, I have free range chicks.

They found them both. I still have a few of the squash seeds and a few more sunflower seeds to swap in October. I thought if I put them in different places they would be safer. Smart chicks. It's called free range, right?

I have heard people talking about cutting their tomato plants back after they finished making tomatoes for the season and they will regrow for fall tomatoes. I am trying that this fall; hope it works. Would be nice to have fall tomatoes as I have never grown them in the fall before. ([click here for full story](#))

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VP- Creating With and Sharing the Fruits of Our Gardens

Sept. 17—program will be a participatory activity. We will view Fall and Holiday decorations made with natural materials and then each member will be given the op-

portunity to create their own to take home. We will use materials found in nature and members are encouraged to bring materials they have found appealing from their gar-

den or landscapes.

Oct. 15— will be the time to share the seeds and plants from our gardens. Fall is a great time to separate bulbs and tubers and gather seeds. ([click here](#))

Online with WCMG: [Click here](#)

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- Volunteer Hours
- Contact info

President's Article continued:

If my plans work out I will have my fall garden well on it's way with the root vegetables (beets, carrots, turnips, onions), lots of greens (turnips, collards, kale, Swiss chard, lettuce), cucumbers, beans, and broccoli by the time you read this article and I will be busy until spring.

Fall is my favorite time of the year for the changing of the colors, collecting the seed pods for decoration, and making wreaths. I love the scents of the woods and fields as I walk them looking for possible items to decorate for the coming seasons. Just watching Mother Nature prepare for winter is fascinating. I thank God for the love He gave me for nature and that I can see beauty in His world.

Enjoy your fall, gardening, and the circle of life. See you in WCMG meetings.

Don't forget to record your volunteer hours, be safe, and think about the plant and seed swap in October.

Sandra McFall

Photo by: Sylvia

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Speaker Schedule cont.

We think swapping seed in October will give everyone time to plant the newly gained specimens. Begin thinking about what you will be bringing and how you might label your items. The plant exchange is always a favorite and one of the best things about being a Master Gardner.

Melissa Deakins



Photo by Clint

The Wood County Ag Office goes modern with the installation of a new flat screen TV. This will enable all presentations to be much easier to follow and understand. No more having bright lights in the speakers eyes, no more trying to get the room just dark enough to see the presentation and still be able to see notebooks and note pads.

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Agent Article: Still Losing Trees to Hypoxylon Canker

In the past 10 plus years, there is no telling how many times I have answered a phone call or had someone come in to the office with the question “My trees are dying, what is the problem?”

You go through a list of questions.

- 1) Has the canopy of the tree being getting weaker?
- 2) Did the leaves die from the tip of the leaf back?
- 3) Did the leaves just turn brown all at once?
- 4) Has the bark sloughed off?
- 5) Is there an olive green to grayish or tan fungal mat right under where the bark was?



<http://texasforestservice.tamu.edu/Diseases/>

If the answer to questions **1, 3, 4** and **5** were yes, then most likely your tree had Hypoxylon Canker.

Hypoxylon canker is a fungus that causes cankers of oak and other hardwood trees. The disease is common in East Texas and all across the southern United States. Relatively healthy trees are not invaded by the fungus, but the hypoxylon fungus will readily infect the sapwood of a tree that has been damaged, stressed, or weakened, especially by drought. There are other natural and man-caused factors that can weaken a tree include defoliation by insects or leaf fungi, saturated soil, fill dirt, soil compaction, excavation in the root zone of the tree, removal of top soil under the tree, disease, herbicide injury, excess heat, nutrient deficiencies, competition or overcrowding, and other factors. The hypoxylon fungus is considered a weak pathogen in that it is not aggressive enough to invade healthy trees. In addition to the hypoxylon fungus, weakened and stressed trees may become susceptible to a host of other insect and disease pests.

Hypoxylon canker activity usually increases when prolonged drought occurs. When drought stresses trees, the fungus is able to take advantage of these weakened trees. The moisture content of living wood in live, healthy trees is typically 120% - 160% MC. It is difficult for hypoxylon canker to develop in wood that has normal moisture content. However, any of the factors listed above could weaken or stress trees causing the moisture content of the wood to reach levels low enough for the hypoxylon fungus to develop. When this happens, the fungus becomes active in the tree and invades and decays the sapwood causing the tree to die. Once hypoxylon actively infects a tree, the tree will likely die.

Excess water: Just as not enough water can injure trees and increase Hypoxylon canker activity, so can too much water. Tree roots require oxygen to function properly. This oxygen is forced out of the root zone when the soil is saturated with water. Tree roots in waterlogged soils stop growing, minerals are not absorbed, leaves then turn yellow and remain small, and finally roots begin to die. It can take a considerable amount of time for a root system that has been seriously injured to regenerate, if ever.

[\(continued on next page\)](#)

Wood County TX AgriLife Extension Service

618 South Main Street

Quitman, TX 75783-0968

Phone: 903-763-2924



Wood County Extension Agent,

Clint Perkins

Email: cltperkins@ag.tamu.edu

*Extension programs serve people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, disability or national origin.

Hypoxylon canker disease is first evident as a dieback of one or more branches. The foliage of the diseased limbs turns yellow and dries. This dieback continues from branch to branch through the stem until eventually the tree dies. This may require 1 or more years depending upon the environment and amount of stress experienced by the tree. Near or shortly after tree death the outer bark sloughs off and exposes large masses of brown, dusty one-celled spores (conidia). These spores are gone within a few weeks and a grayish surface is visible. This is covered with numerous black fruiting structures. Mature fruiting structures (perithecia) can forcibly discharge sexual spores (ascospores) for distances of 60 mm. They are then blown to surrounding trees where infection occurs again. Entry appears to be through injured surfaces on limbs or trunk. The fungus will grow best at 86° F but can grow from 50° to 100° F.

Hypoxylon canker causes a dark brown discoloration of the sapwood. With age the infected wood is lighter in color and has black zones or patterns in the wood when observed in cross section.

Hypoxylon canker occurs primarily on trees which are or have been in stressed conditions. Trees which have been damaged by excessive fill soil are often attacked by this organism. It is also suspected to be a fungus that can invade oak wilt-infected trees.

Control is achieved by maintaining the trees in a healthy condition. Avoid injury to the trunk and limbs and never apply fill soil around trees. Chemical treatments would not be effective against Hypoxylon canker because the fungus is located within the tree.

With all of this being said, when I get a call on an infected 100 year old red oak tree there is little that can be done to keep it alive. Most of the time the tree is already half dead and it would take too much water and/or money to ever turn it around. If, however, you have smaller trees in your yard you can keep them alive by watering them slowly a couple of times a week in drought conditions.

For more information on tree diseases go to the following websites, <http://txforests-service.tamu.edu> and <http://plantpathology.tamu.edu/Texlab/index.htm>

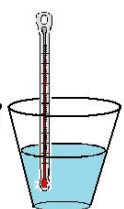
Happy Gardening

Clint Perkins

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This issues tip: Water Hose Safety

When we were kids and bottled water was unheard of it was nothing to turn on the garden hose to get a drink of water. After all we played outside all day long in those days and it only took once to learn to let the water run until it got cool enough to drink. The same practice should be applied when you water your plants outside or fill up watering cans. The hot water in your hose could damage very young plants or seedlings and leave marks on the foliage of others. It takes less than a minute for the water to run cool.



If you have water sitting out for pets place the bowls in the shade or put some ice cubes in it every now and then. If you're giving your pet a bath, make sure the water has cooled or they could experience first degree burns. Let's face it, summer temperatures can last into the fall, so let's be safe.

Lori Clark

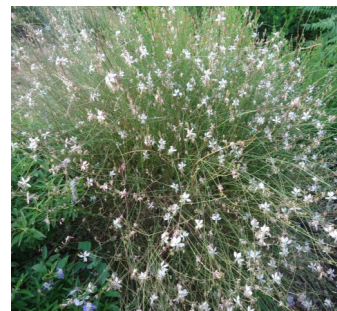
Clip art

Mineola Nature Preserve: **Wildscape and Sensory Educational Gardens**



Salvia

The gardens are showing their beauty and strength through this hot dry weather. The Salvia, Guara, Turk's Cap and Texas Star Hibiscus are in full bloom and the bees and butterflies love every minute of it. The grasses we received from SFA last year are flaunting their stuff in this weather and most of them are now 3-5 ft. tall and showing off their blue coloring and tassels.



Guara

We finally got all the leaks fixed in the drip irrigation system and the timers set. It seems to be working great which is making it a lot easier on the workers. We have kept the wildflower meadow mowed while we decide what we want to do with it in the fall. The bed under the tree is now covered with cardboard and mulch and resting until cool weather returns to be replanted.

The city has finished installing play ready for kids within a few weeks. It pond so now we not only have the but we have the quacking of ducks to



Growing Duck Food?

equipment and the playground should be has also placed a couple of ducks in the sound of water from the spraying fountain accompany our gardens. Nature at its best.

The Ag Tour on Sept. 29, 2015 is going to make a stop at the Preserve for lunch and tour our gardens and the Preserve. We have also reserved the Pavilion for our "Spring Fling" Educational Program on April 23, 2016. In Sept. we will organize a planning committee to start work on the theme, programs, and speakers, decide about vendors and design flyers advertising the program. Volunteers needed!

It is so up-lifting when we are working at the gardens and visitors stop to thank us for doing such a great job and tell us how much they enjoy the beautiful nature area we are preserving. It makes all the sweat and hard work worth-while.

Mineola is also putting in roads, parking lots and cleaning out a lot of areas for the Kacey Musgraves concert on Sept. 25. We were a little upset when the city took down all the trees on one side of the pond, which really makes the area look naked and barren.

Article and Photos: Karen Anderson

On September 26th—Casey Musgraves concert at the Nature Preserve. The fair will be from noon to midnight in the meadow and on the hill just past the Wildscape Gardens. The tickets are \$28 in advance or \$38 at the gate. You will need to bring lawn chairs or blankets as it is a nature preserve. The funds raised are going to the Arts Department at Mineola High School. For further information contact the Mineola City Hall at 903-569-6183 or the Mineola Nature Preserve website at www.mineolanaturepreserve.com.

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INSIDE AND OUTSIDE THE PICKETT FENCE

QUITMAN ARBORETUM AND BOTANICAL GARDEN

We have arrived at the “dog days” of summer. The plants in our newly established Water Wise Garden, planted by Master Gardener trainees from the past two years, are flourishing. It has been interesting to see which of those selections and varieties have made it through this dry spell and which plants are wishing they were back in the nursery. We are in the process of mulching that area once again as the Bermuda grass and Nut sedge have both been quite invasive. Once again, I must mention the Black Diamond crepe myrtles and desert willows. They add beautiful form and color to that area and please the eye with interesting texture ... I sound like a plant catalog!

The same mulching process will be repeated around the Sensory Garden. My favorite way to view this garden is from the George Bridge.

Inside the picket fence many new plants have been added. In particular, the flowering liriopis are now in full bloom and has exceeded all our expectations. It requires very little care and soldiers along through hot, cold, wet, and dry. The addition of a hydrangea bed along the north side of the Stinson House should bring many years of blooms to brighten that dark spot.



The Friends of the Arboretum are in the “staging” process for their annual Yard Sale. We would gratefully accept any and all donations for this sale with the exception of clothing. Donations can be dropped off at the house on any Wednesday between 8:00 and noon. We can also help with arrangements if you have any furniture you would like to add to the sale. This Sale will be held on Friday, September 18th from 8:00 until we drop . . .

October 10th is the date for the annual Fall Plant Sale. This is always an excellent opportunity to purchase those plants you would like to get into the ground before the first frost. As we all know, fall planting does pay off and gives your plants an excellent chance to become established in order to make it through our hot summer months.

Don't forget about **The Haunting of Hogg Park!**



We will see you on Saturday, October 31st with your pumpkins, brooms and Witch's Hats.

As usual . . . all volunteers are WELCOME to assist at any and all of the above mentioned events. Come on out and join the fun. No reservations are necessary!

Jan Whitlock

Texas Superstar Plants

Texas Superstar® plants are tested and selected for their superstar performance in the Texas landscape. To make it easy to locate retail nurseries and landscape contractors in your area who stock Texas Superstar plants, they have created a searchable [Texas Superstar® Sales Team Database](#).

Please ensure that each Texas Superstar® plant you purchase also includes our Texas Superstar® pot label. Five cents from the sale of each label comes back to the Horticulture Program at Texas A&M to fund the search for more wonderful plants to brighten your landscape!

Texas Superstar plant releases for 2015.

<http://today.agrilife.org/2015/07/31/little-ruby-alternanthera-named-newest-texas-superstar-plant/>

<http://today.agrilife.org/2015/04/29/heat-tolerant-hybrid-alyssum-named-texas-superstar/>

<http://today.agrilife.org/2015/06/10/arctic-frost-satsuma-mandarin-hybrid-named-new-texas-superstar/>



“As many of you know Dr. Welsh started the master gardening program in Texas. Although he has now retired, the master gardeners still have a special place in his heart. That is why he is giving us first opportunity to attach our name (Texas Master Gardeners) to the Earth-Kind® Garden. Because of your dedication and hard work to the Earth-Kind® program, those who visit the garden will be able to see your results. Thousands will visit the garden each year. Our participation will help educate visitors about Earth-Kind® and also promote the master gardening program. Through our visibility in this endeavor we can invite others to join us.”

<http://txmg.org/files/Gardens-and-Greenway-Master-Plan.pdf>

If you are interested in donating please contact our **Treasurer: Katy Carter**.

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Tools in the Garden

As Master Gardeners, we are all pretty job". Those basic tools we all use on a sharp hoe are very necessary to create We are all looking for that perfect tool ing faster and more permanent and gen- know each of us has a favorite tool that done.



Clip art

well versed in "the right tool for the daily basis, like the hand trowel or a that perfect garden area we all desire. that will make gardening easier, weed- eral maintenance less of a chore. And I we pick up automatically to get the job

But what about those tools we might use for other jobs that could serve us well in the garden? The first of these tools that I repurpose is a vacuum. Whether it is a battery powered hand-held model or the "shop vac", a vacuum is a handy item to use in the garden. With a little practice, you can snag a leaf-footed bug in flight. Being careful not to damage the plant, you can suck up lots of stink bug nymphs.

Another useful dual purpose tool is a battery powered drill. Besides being handy to attach the PVC to a raised bed for a low tunnel, you can use that drill to dig deep holes for your potato starts. I use an old swing tie-down as a miniature auger. I prepare my raised bed as though the plants are already planted, mulch and all. Then with drill in hand, I pull back a handful of mulch and using the mini-auger drill down about 12 to 14" or more. I put a prepared potato piece in the bottom and cover it with about 2" of soil. As the plant grows, I slowly fill the hole until the soil is even with the surrounding ground.

A bulb planter is a great tool for creating a hole for your transplants. It is easy to use and I find that the soil removed with the bulb planter doesn't fall back into the hole before I can get the transplant placed.

Then there is always your phone. Phone? We all usually have our phone in our pocket and it is a great tool to use in the garden. The most obvious use is to make pictures of all kinds of things: insects, diseases, beautiful plants and vegetables, something you want an answer for, keeping a record of activities, etc. It can keep you company by playing your favorite radio program or music while you work or call for help when needed. You can note needed supplies or list jobs that need to be done.

Perhaps you have a special unusual tool that you have repurposed for garden usage. Master Gardeners are always ready for new information-why not share your "tool" ideas?

Ellen Atkins



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

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Please don't burn your leaves – they are valuable.

All soils need organic mater and leaves are a good source. Burning leaves is a terrible waste and not good for the environment. Burning leaves on top of a tree's route zone is not good for the tree.



<https://pixabay.com/en/>

For many years, I lived and gardened in Grand Prairie with its heavy clay soil. Mr. Williams lived in back of us and had the best garden soil. He had moved into the house in 1943. Every year in the fall, he gathered all his leaves and piled them in his garden. He mowed them several times to break them up before tilling them into the garden. He had planted 5 pecan trees around his house and by the time we moved into the neighborhood in 1955, the trees were producing many leaves for his garden. My garden soil, just over the fence from his garden, dried into concrete until I was able to follow his example and add more organic mater into my soil. Since that time I have valued my leaves.

Now that I am in the land of sand, I need my leaves even more. As I add leaves to my soil, it is turning much darker. The organic mater from leaves help aerate the soil and increase its ability to hold water. As the leaves break down, they provide free fertilizer for plants and increase good soil microorganisms.

Leaves may be used tilled into the soil and also as mulch on top of the soil. It is good gardening practices to mulch soil to help retain moisture and keep the soil somewhat cooler especially in our hot summers. I use leaves mixed with chipped up limbs as mulch. Since organic mulch decomposes, it must be renewed every year. Luckily, nature provides me many leaves every fall. I try to get shredded limbs from the electric coop every year; these wood chips are best used after being aged at least 6 months.

Leaves may also be used to produce leaf mold. Place somewhat wet leaves in black bags. Close the bag, punch some holes in the bag, and place in shade to slowly decompose. They should be ready to use as mulch by Spring. Also, I mix in small branches into the leaves.

Leaves can be used to produce compost. Compost heats up really well and decomposes quicker if you have some chicken or ruminant manure. I have a wire enclosure in which I pile leaves, branches and anything else organic. Since I don't have animal manure my compost takes longer to make. It is not advisable to use chicken manure from commercial chicken houses as they are fed arsenic to help them put on weight. I do not knowingly use any compost that has this manure as I do not want to add poison to my soil. Some chicken producers have stated that they are discontinuing the arsenic in their feed. But since I don't know if all have; I avoid all potentially contaminated soil amendments with arsenic.

Historical Note: Ben Green reported in his books that old horse traders fed older horses arsenic with their grain to get them to fill out and look younger and more valuable. All the traders had to do was to file the horses' teeth to finish making the horse looker younger. So arsenic has been used in more than chicken feed in the past.

Just remember that to produce healthy plants, we need to have healthy soil. The addition of leaves can improve the soil health and therefore the health of all our plants. Try it, you might like it!

Willie Kay Paredes

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Directors Meeting Fall 2015: Traveling with Linda and Peggy

Friday, July 31 – no rooms for rent in College Station, of course I knew that several weeks in advance of Linda and I going for the directors meeting, it's Fish Camp weekend for Texas A&M freshmen. The only close room was a B&B in Navasota. I was a little worried with the name of Bogarts Casa Blanca Boutique and we were booking the Mae West room! We found Bogarts on the main street, a large 2 story carriage house. However, our cottage was several blocks away in the backyard of the home of the owner, Dwayne Bogart, a delightful man that entertained us Saturday morning with family stories and history. But, let's go back to the main house, where there is beautiful large patio area with a gazebo, a pergola, a covered deck area for weddings or dancing and art statues placed among the plants in strategic places. Did I mention flowers? Bird of Paradise was showing off with its display of orange/yellow flowers and many other annuals. Now, what is this strange vine, with clusters of gorgeous red flowers, all over the side of the house and hanging off the patio's arched entryway? What is that wonderful smell?



Rangoon Creeper, *Quisqualis indica* AKA: Akar Dani, Drunken Sailor, Irangan Malli or Udani.

The genus name *Quisqualis* means “what is this” and for good reason. Rangoon Creeper as a young plant has a form more closely resembling that of a shrub but matures into a vine growing as tall as 12 foot. This fast and aggressively growing vine spreads rapidly with its root suckers. It is a woody liana vine (any various long stemmed, woody vines that are rooted in the soil at ground level and uses trees or other means of vertical support to climb up to the canopy to get access to well lit areas) with green to yellow lance shaped leaves. The stems have fine yellow hairs with occasional spines forming on the branches. The Rangoon Creeper blooms white at onset and gradually darkens to pink, then finally turns red as it reaches maturity. It flowers spring through summer, 4 to 5 inch star shaped aromatic blossoms in clusters. The blooms are incredibly fragrant at night. It will rarely have fruit, but when it does it will appear red in color gradually drying and maturing into a brown, five winged drupe.



This creeper, like all lianas, attaches itself to trees when in the wild and creeps upwards through the canopy in search of the sun. In the home garden, it can be used as an ornamental over arbors, gazebos, trellises, and pergolas or it can be espaliered. It can be trained as a plant in a container with some type of support; it will arch and form large masses of foliage. Also, reported to be deer resistant.

"It takes just a moment to change your attitude. And, in that quick moment, you can change your entire day." - Unknown

Rangoon Creeper is cold hardy in the tropics and in USDA zones 10-11 and will defoliate with the lightest of frost. In zone 9, the plant will lose its foliage, however, the roots are still viable and with mulch the plant will return as an herbaceous perennial. Rangoon Creeper will survive in a variety of soil conditions provided the soil is well drained with pH 5.1 – 6.5. Regular watering and full sun with afternoon shade will keep it thriving. Avoid fertilizers that are high in nitrogen; that will only encourage foliage growth and it will not set flowers. Come spring the hunt will be on for a Rangoon Creeper for my gardens, got just the place for one, well maybe even two. We found this plant growing at Martha's Bloomers in Navasota. Martha's Bloomers is a great place for a little retail therapy.

Navasota looked to be an old interesting town, but alas time was short and we didn't get to explore or shop in the several antique shops, but do recommend La Casita Mexican Restaurant. Definitely, a road trip place in the making. Anyone interested?

Saturday, August 1 - Directors meeting opened with the very knowledgeable Dr. Holly Legette, Assistant Professor at Texas A&M University, giving us a two hour presentation on social media. Do we need social media, why and how do we use it? Do we need all facets: Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Flickr or YouTube and blogs? Social media is interaction with others.

Next was the business meeting where it was announced that:

- The Gardens & Greenway Project goal amount has been pledged
- The 2016 State Conference will be held in McKinney at Myers Park and Event Center
- The Nominating committee presented the 2016 slate of officers
- We do not have a host county for the 2017 State Conference; so, the executive committee is looking at a 4 day cruise to Cozumel. A survey will be sent out to see if there is enough interest, so please send survey back. Oh, how I wish WCMG could host a State Conference! Please read the TMGA newsletter for more details.

Traveling to College Station as WCMGA directors, Linda and I see and learn something new on every trip. This time, we saw the wild grapevines in mass covering the trees, but they were turning brown due to the heat and drought. It just looked odd to see the brown twined through and on top of the green trees, but it will be a great crop of vines for grapevine wreaths.

We also found this small yellow flower popping up in the lawn at the B&B on a stem without leaves. We were told it was just a weed that grows in the area, but it's got to have a name, couldn't find it in my Wild Flowers of Texas book, but it may be a wild cow pea. Can anyone name it?



?

Yes, we continued our education on this trip.

Article and photos by:

Peggy Rogers, WCMGA director, TMGA 2nd VP



October 7 is World Smile Day



MULLEIN

Verbascum thapsu

This tall and imposing plant has many common names referring to its size, shape, often to its hairiness and the many ways that it is used. It was called “great mullein” due to its size, “wooly mullein” because of the soft hairy fuss on the leaves, or “common mullein.” In the western United States residents commonly refer to it as “cowboy toilet paper.”



<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/>

It was imported to the United States in the 18th century and cultivated for its medicinal and pesticide properties. It has spread and is common in all the states. It will grow in most any soil, but prefers bare, dry, sandy or gravelly soils.

Great mullein is a biennial, forming a rosette in the first year and shooting up a flower stalk in the second. Seeds are so tiny you might wonder if it is seed at all. Seeds germinate in the spring and summer. Transplant in sunny, well-drained soil; it can grow well in poor chalky soil also. I have never tried to germinate them indoors, but it can be done. Just don't cover the seeds; lay the seeds on top of your soil. A given flower is open for a single day. After flowering the plant dies back at the end of the second year.

Mullein produces hundreds of thousands of seeds from a single plant, but since Mullein can't compete with established plants it isn't considered a serious agricultural weed.

It is a reservoir of the cucumber mosaic virus and Texas root rot. It is also a host for insects, both pests and beneficial. Because of this I generally burn my plants at the end of fall to prevent over wintering of the pests. Control of the plant is best by pulling it up when young. Due to the hairy surface of the plant liquid herbicides roll off the plant. Chicken and goats are credited with helping in the control the plant. I don't allow it to grow in my fields or for the goats to eat, but the chickens do like the seeds.

Mullein has been used for centuries as a remedy for skin, throat and breathing ailments. Both the flowers and leaves are used to treat persistent coughs, mucus and hoarseness. The leaves are used for migraine, earache and coughs. The leaves can be placed in shoes when soles become thin. The tall candle like dry plant can be used as a torch and the yellow flowers are used for hair color and dye for materials. During the Civil War wounds were wrapped with the leaves to treat infections. You can find it in health and herbal stores, being used to treat respiratory problems.

Mostly I just enjoy the beauty of the plant year around. I keep it in contained areas and use it for decorations and potpourris.

Sandra McFall

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Work Days and Schedules

Wildscape—Tuesdays starting around 8:00. Bring your basic gardening tools. We do have larger tools like shovels, rakes, etc. We will work every Tues. unless there is a chance of severe weather or high percentage of rain.

QA&BG—Wednesdays at 0900. Bring your own gardening tools. Please come and help us maintain our public garden.

Do not forget that Fall is our big Festival season. The festival chairperson is looking for volunteers at the three major festivals. For full information contact her. In addition, it is back to school time and our JMG leaders are looking for help with their projects in the local Wood County school system.

More volunteer opportunities are available. Project Chairpersons and contact info can be found on the Master Gardeners Committee List.

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Tea Thyme: Sandra McFall

Hibiscus Tea

3 cups near boiling water

1 cup “full” of hibiscus leaves

1 tbsp. “full” of mint leaves

Honey, to taste

In medium saucepan, bring water to near boil. Place hibiscus and mint leaves in a ceramic teapot. Pour boiling water over herbs to infuse. Cover and steep for 5 minutes. (Full means just that, but not packed).



Clip art

Have you considered giving to Wood County Master Gardeners?
We are a 501-C-3 non-profit organization that will joyfully receive
your gift and provide a receipt for you tax records.

Contact Katy Carter, WCMG Treasurer



Clip art



Left to Right

Treasurer: Katy Carter

Secretary: Jenna Nelson

President: Sandra McFall

Vice President: Melissa Deakins

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Online with WCMG

—**Website** at <http://txmg.org/woodcounty> for up-to-the-minute news and scheduled events, back issues of the newsletter and seasonal videos. Any new content for the web-site can be sent to Keith Zimmerman.

—**Facebook**, search for **Wood County Master Gardeners, Inc.** You should find 3 pages to choose from,

- Page 1 is a blank site that has been removed
- Page 2 is Wood County Master Gardeners / Kentucky
- [Page 3 Wood County Master Gardeners, Quitman](#)
- Then "like" us!

—**CEU—ON LINE:** <http://txmg.org> -look to side of page, click on Training, click on Training Opportunities, click Earth-Kind Training for Master Gardeners, almost to bottom of page you will find Directions. There are 12 subjects, click on arrow in front of subject for video then click on survey or test. You are not graded on the test.

—**Sunshine:** If you know of a member who needs a warm thought or sympathy contact **Joyce Holloway**

—**Volunteer Hours:** <http://texas.volunteersystem.org> Just click on the link and you will see where to enter your password. Before logging in, right click on the page and save to favorites or bookmark or Create Shortcut to you desktop. Thanks for entering your hours. If you need help contact Peggy Rogers.

Editor-you can find all E-mail address and contact information on the Membership Roster sent to you by E-mail or in the Member Roster on the Volunteer Hours Website site above.