

UrbanDirt

IN COOPERATION WITH THE TEXAS COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

Master Gardener Glen Graves Honored by Duke Energy

Master Gardener **Glen Graves** recently received the prestigious Volunteer Excellence Award from **Duke Energy**. Five awards are given each year to people who have shown outstanding contributions to non-profit organizations.

Glen was nominated by The Leadership Center for his work in developing the Circle of Life program including writing curriculum and training teachers. The Circle of Life program includes elementary school curriculums for Cylinder Gardening, Butterfly Gardening, Composting, Worm Composting and Recycling. Congratulations to Glen on this outstanding achievement. As County Agent **Sandra Farris** put it, Glen is truly “one in a million”.



President's Thoughts

By George Williams

My original message that was transmitted to Tami got lost which is just as well since events have changes since then. Mainly, the water has receded from our **Millennium Garden**, and damage to it was far less than anticipated. There are plants to be replaced, but it could have been much worse. All roads to the Extension Center aren't open yet, but you can get there and there is enough parking space that isn't covered with water. There will be lots of work to do so come join us each Tuesday morning.

Our fish left the pond while the water was high, but **Grady and Virginia Joiner** assure us that they will be replaced. Those were nice fish and they sure left a good home!

Our **Fall Master Gardener Class** completed their classroom activities on Thursday, November 14. The high water has been a problem for them and, also, parking space has been sparse. But they were there in full force for hamburgers cooked by **Marge Chambers** with able assistance from **B. Patterson** and her group. This class has really helped us by volunteering their time on Tuesdays and the Fall Plant Sale. We thank them for that and invite them to remain active in our organization.

In closing, let me remind you of three important events that will take place after January 1, 2003. First is our annual **Fruit Tree Sale** to be held on January 25. A few days later on January 30 is the starting date for our **Spring Master Gardener Class**. Then, on February 22, we have our **Tomato and Pepper Plant Sale**. These dates will be here before you know it, so pass the word around to all who might be interested.

Announcing Peckerwood Garden Open Dates for 2003

The garden will be open from 1-5 pm on the following dates: **March 15-16, April 5-6, April 19-20, May 3-4, May 17-18, June 21-22, Sept 20-21, October 4-5, October 18-19.**

No reservation is needed, but a minimum \$5.00 donation is required for admittance to the garden. Students (12 and older) are admitted free. Unfortunately, small children, baby strollers, and pets are not allowed in the garden due to the

delicate and sharp plants.

Master Gardeners can volunteer at this garden to earn CEU's. Contact Suzanne Chapman for MG opportunities at schapman@cp4.hctx.net.

Peckerwood's website is peckerwoodgarden.com. The nursery next door is open on some of the same days. See Yuccado.com for more info.



Harris County Master Gardener Association
#2 Abercrombie Drive (281) 855-5600
Houston, TX 77084 FAX (281) 855-5638

Board of Directors

President George Williams
(713) 783-4231

1st Vice President Virginia Joiner
(281) 469-2766

2nd Vice President Katherine Peterson
(281) 497-3555

Past President Jean Fefer
(713) 467-0231

Secretary Marge Chambers
(281) 347-5508

Treasurer Mary Lynn Randall
(713) 263-9634

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Douglas McLeod, Anne O'Neil, Clyde Cannon, Jinks Hammer

Ancillary Positions

MG Advisors:

CEA - Horticulture Carol Cammack
(281) 855-5600

CEA - Horticulture Michael Morrison
(281) 855-5600

Horticulture Secretary Becky Deasy
(281) 855-5600

Volunteer Coordinator Scott Hume
(281) 855-5600

Gulf Coast Fruit Study Gp... Yvonne Gibbs
(713) 462-7052

Membership Tom Robb
(713) 465-5987

Greeting Committee Margaret Mason
Gloria Robb

Hospitality Committee Bea Patterson

Book Committee Anne O'Neil
(713) 744-0945

Urban Dirt Layout Tami Pipkin
UrbanDirt@houston.rr.com

Web Surfin'

Tech news for Master Gardeners

By Tom H. Robb, Jr.

It seems as though more and more of our email using members are changing their provider and failing to let me know about it. It seems as though I remove two names from the list for every one that I add. When I receive a "User Unknown" return twice, I remove that name from the list. Be sure to send me the new address and don't forget to include your name. An email address only (i.e. you forgot to include your name), forces me to go out on the database and make a search for the name. And if there is a personal name change, please also tell me what the previous name was. Send me mail at trobbs@hal-pc.org.

Just last month, in November, it rained and it rained and it rained and turned Bear Creek into a giant water garden. Unfortunately it was not the type that brings so much joy to so many gardeners fortunate enough to enjoy the pleasure of a water garden. In the past I have had emails and inquiries from gardeners about various facets of water gardening. Alas, they were talking to the wrong person—at least from hands-on experience.

But the great internet is filled with water garden sites. A "Google" search claims to find 1,120,001 references to "water gardens." I'll take their word for it—I didn't count them—I didn't even attempt to look at all of them, only some of them. But I have selected a few addresses that those interested in water gardens may want to try. And for the rest of you, you may want to see some of the beautiful pictures that some of these site display.

Even if you have no intention of ever putting a pond in your garden, its worth the trip to the website of our local Nelson Water Gardens at <http://www.nelsonwatergardens.com/default.html> just to see and hear the beautiful waterfall and pool that shimmers and undulates as the water falls into it.

Another local site is that of Aqua Landscapes of Houston found at <http://www.aqualandscapes-houston.com>. Be sure to look at the photo album of ponds.

The State of Iowa – Department of Natural Resources, Fish and Wildlife Division, has a nice site at <http://www.state.ia.us/government/dnr/organiza/fwb/wildlife/pages/divwatergardens.htm>. It's fairly small but contains some excellent points to consider before constructing a pool. Of particular interest are instructions for maintaining clear water after the pool is installed.

Denver County Cooperative Extension has a water gardening site with quite a bit of information. Find it at <http://www.colostate.edu/Depts/CoopExt/4DMG/Water/water.htm>.

Van Ness Water Gardens is located in California but they have a nice website anyway. Chock full of information about plants and fish and creating and maintaining ponds, find it at <http://www.vnwg.com>.

PetEducation.com has an excellent section on Water Gardens. There are a few nice photos but the main value to be found is the advice given regarding various stages of pool construction

and pool management. Check this one at http://www.peteducation.com/category_summary.cfm?cls=16&cat=1917.

Have a happy and merry Christmas and a safe and sane New Years and at all times — happy surfin'.

MG Web Tip:

Need to download Adobe Acrobat Reader?

Click on the icon below or go to <http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep.html>



Michael's Corner

By Michael Morrison, CEA Horticulture

The water is finally starting to recede here at the Extension office. The greenhouse renovations are being done. This includes plumbing repairs and a new sink and counter and new gate valves on the bench areas. We also have two brand new heaters in the greenhouse. Thanks to **Walt Peckham** and his crew for the help in the renovations. We are installing a new evaporative cooling system in the greenhouse and new grow lights should be installed soon. New side panels for the exterior of the greenhouse will be installed in the next few months and the greenhouse should be looking fabulous!

On January 30th the **Spring 2003 Master Gardener Class** is slated to begin, so get the word out to your friends to sign up!

The **Fruit Tree sale** is slated to have a great variety for the picking this year on January 25th at the Bear Creek Extension office. The **Tomato and Pepper sale** is going to be a hot one, so get the word out to everyone that the date is February 22nd at Bear Creek. Also the same day, February 22 is the **Precinct 2 Spring sale**, which includes tomatoes, peppers, roses, and fruit trees.

What sunshine is to flowers...
Smiles are to humanity.

This holiday season I would like to extend my thanks to each and everyone who has made a difference for Harris County and the people that live in this community. You, as volunteers, bring smiles and moments of joy to the many people

in the Houston area and we at the Extension office want to thank you. May this holiday season bring you happiness and goodness to your hearts and your families.

Being a volunteer brings a warm feeling when you know you have made a difference and we appreciate the dedication and time that you give to the Master Gardeners, the students, education of our youth, and the many hours and hard work you have contributed.

I have only been here for six months, but the smiles and sunshine that you have brought into my life are priceless and I thank you for what you do for the community. Happy Holidays to you and may your garden blossom proudly in our Lone Star State.

Upcoming Environmental Seminar offered "Can the rain forest save me? Using tropical plants in medicine"

Thursday, January 16 in the IMAX Theater at the Houston Museum of Natural Science. Coffee will be available at 9:00 a.m. and the program will begin at 9:30 a.m. Admission to the seminar, which is sponsored by the River Oaks Garden Club, is free of cost. Garage parking is also free.

The topic for the 2003 **River Oaks Garden Club Sadie Gwin Blackburn Environmental Seminar** is "Can the Rain Forest save me? Using tropical plants in medicine."

The seminar features two speakers. Both speakers are entertaining as well as knowledgeable about the tropics.

Dr. Don Stone is a botanist. He served as Chairman of the Department of Botany at Duke University. For twenty years, he provided leadership to the Organization of Tropical Studies as its Executive Director.

Luis Diego Gomez, with the Organization of Tropical Studies in Costa Rica, will also speak. He is the director of the Wilson Botanical Garden and the Las Cruces Biological Station in Costa Rica. Luis is also a charter member of the Costa Rican National Academy of Sciences and the coordinator of the American Botanical Rainforest Pharmacy Workshops in the Amazon.

For more information, please contact **Leslie Blanton** [713/963-8875, ldb3347@aol.com] or **Callie Paterson** [713/529-3012, chpaterson@aol.com].

Garden Gifts

News from our Outreach Gardens

By Kenneth Dorman

If it rains any more I am going to have to start using a deodorant spray with Clorox in it.

Thank goodness all the garden beds are very raised and are surviving pretty good, but the lack of sunshine has done some harm.

Seeing all the hummingbirds recently reminds me that we have bee plants and mockingbird plants (the fig trees) at CCSC and BSHOH now so maybe it is time to plant some hummingbird plants. Probably we should wait until next spring unless any of you have any suggestions on stuff to plant now. It would be quite an occasion to have someone write or call in response to my requests for help that appear in this article. Make my day.

More lessons from the garden! The wonderful hybrid French melons we grew last summer spawned some offspring from a couple of melons that rotted before we could harvest them and guess what happened. We had three kinds of melons grow from the hybrid seeds and I assume they were the parent plants used to breed the hybrids. One melon was very large and orange and rotted before it could be sampled, another was very small and pale green and ripened on the vine and another stayed dark green and just rotted on the vine. The pale one was not too bad, but not nearly as good as the hybrid.

Bill Adams said that was what would happen if I tried to save the seeds and he was right again.

Mike Hammer has gone off to Costa Rica for good, it seems, and **George** is ailing for a little while so **Walter**, **Sharon** and I have been re-doing the garden from spring and summer to fall and winter. As we pull out the pea and bean plants and dig up the okra trees and harvest the sweet potatoes the momma mockingbirds and their offspring sit around like miniature buzzards waiting to get the bugs and worms we dislodge and uncover. These guys are omnipresent, which, I guess, is good since we need help with the tomatoes and figs. The state bird of Hades!

I depend on **Rodney** at the Bonita Street House of Hope to keep those gardens going. He is knowledgeable and dependable and keeps the residents interested in helping with the plants. And then he just goes and gets sick. I had planted seeds of broccoli and collards and some Savoy cabbage in the vacant beds around the area and without Rodney they did not get taken care of and I didn't go by again until they died from not getting watered. So we

planted transplants from the greenhouse. Rodney, thank goodness, is better now, although not completely well.

The manager of the Pantry at CCSC told me that one of the chefs from Brennan's works at the Pantry as a volunteer and he saw some of the okra we brought in and said it was the best he has seen in Houston. And they see a lot of okra at Brennan's. The okra is Zeebest developed by **George and Mary Stewart** here in Houston. The plants get absolutely huge, each one has ten or twelve branches and all of them have okra. I have picked twenty okra a day from each plant for weeks at a time. When we got ready to take the plants out I cut the limbs off and then used a grubbing hoe and axe to dig them out.

I hope you all enjoyed our autumn on October 30, 2002.

Sharon, one of our most dependable and by far the prettiest of our regular volunteers, has just finished her Master Gardener course and taken on the added chore of reviving the rose garden at Central Presbyterian Church. To date she has alienated such rose experts as Clyde Cannon, the president of the Houston Rose Society and is working on me, but the garden does look better. I hope she doesn't get to the description of rose in my trusty gardener's dictionary: "*Rose – There are thousands of hybrids of this beautiful and fragrant flower, but the most common type found in Houston gardens is a specimen with a tight, 6" cluster of short, thick, brownish stems with large thorns, bearing a single shiny metal tag about 1 inch in diameter.*"

Be nice to each other and love yourself.

Upcoming Events

Upcoming Events at Precinct 2

December First Wednesday: Annual Christmas Party at the Garden

Dec 4th at 11:00 am the Harris County Master Gardeners at Precinct 2 will gather for their annual Christmas celebration in the Genoa Friendship Garden. Johnny Jones will be cooking us a very special lunch, a shrimp boil with all the trimmings! A \$3.00 contribution and an RSVP is all that you need to attend, all Precinct 2 Master Gardeners are invited. Please email Pmitrowski@msn.com or leave a message at the office (281) 991-8437. We'll also be doing a plant exchange as part of the celebration, what better gift for gardeners to share! Please let us know if you want to participate in the plant swap as well.

January Program Date Change

We will hold our First Wednesday meeting on Jan. 8th (the second Wed. of the month) due to the holidays. Master Gardener **Josie Watts** will teach us about caring for houseplants. The perfect time of year to concentrate on growing indoor plants! Registration begins at 9:30 am, the class at 10am, please call (281) 991-8437 to reserve a spot.

It's not too early to start planning for the Master Gardener Summer Classes at Precinct 2. Classes run June 3rd through July 3rd, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:30 am-2:30 pm. Please call (281)991-8437 and leave a message to receive more information.

Precinct 2 programs are held at HCMGA office at 1202 Genoa Red Bluff. Please call to reserve a spot (281) 991-8437. Stay and enjoy lunch with us for \$3.00.



Bear Creek Events

December 3 – Hamburger Tuesday

8:00 am Work up an appetite
Noonish Home cooked burgers, then Carol Cammack on *Southern Landscape Plants and Holiday Decorating*.

Note: There is no general meeting in December.

January 7 – Hamburger Tuesday

8:00 am Work up an appetite
Noonish Home cooked burgers, then Tom Robb on his *Costa Rica Adventure*.

January 21 – General Meeting

6:30 pm Coffee.
7:00 pm Sally McQueen Squire on *Glorious Bulbs and Rhizomes for Houston*.

Urban Harvest Classes Offered

Saturday, **December 7 Backyard Orchard 1, Growing and Tasting Citrus**, 9:30 to noon, taught by Dr. Bob Randall, Executive Director of Urban Harvest, who grows a wide variety of citrus at his home and advises community gardeners on how to grow citrus.

Saturday, **January 4 Backyard Orchard 2, Peaches, Plums, Pomegranates, and other Fruit**, 9:30 to noon, taught by Ethan Natelson, MD who is president of the North American Fruit Explorers and grows a broad selection of fruit.

Thursday, **January 9 Backyard Orchard 3, Care of Fruit Trees**, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., taught by Dr. Bob Randall.

Friday, **January 10, 17, 24 Backyard Orchard 4, Hands-On Fruit Tree Pruning**, 4 to 6 p.m., taught by Dr. Bob Randall.

Saturday, **January 11, Backyard Orchard 5, Apples, Pears, & Persimmons**, 9:30 to noon, taught by Ethan Natelson, MD.

Tuesday, **January 21 Tomatoes**, taught by Mark Cotham, co-author of *Growing Tomatoes in Greater Houston, the Community Garden Experience*.

In January, Urban Harvest also begins two of its most popular class series, **Organic Vegetable Specialty Class**, a 31-hour class leading to an Organic Vegetable Gardening Specialist Certificate, which begins **January 16**; and **Permaculture: Gardening for a Sustainable Texas. An Introduction to Permaculture** is offered Wednesday, **January 15**, 7 to 9 p.m., then **The Ecological Foundations of Permacultural Design**, one of four classes offered over a year period, will begin **January 22**.

Call Urban Harvest at (713) 880-5540 for locations, fees and other info.

Mercer Arboretum & Botanic Gardens • Free Workshops for Professional Landscapers

Compost & mulch improve landscaping and save money

Composting Workshop: Large-scale Composting for the Green Industry

Thursday, December 12, 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., join the **Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ)** for a free composting workshop. Topics include “Understanding the Benefits of Compost and Soils” and “Using Compost, Water-efficiency, and More to Save Money and Get Better Results.” For more information, please contact Brian Noble with the TCEQ at (512) 239-6780 or visit their Web site at <http://www.tnrcc.state.tx.us/exec/oppr/compost/workshops.html>.

Mercer Arboretum & Botanic Gardens is a Harris County Precinct 4 facility located at 22306 Aldine Westfield Road, one mile north of FM 1960. Harris County Precinct 4 programs serve people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race, sex, religion, national origin, or physical ability. Anyone requiring special assistance to participate in any program, or for more information, please contact Mercer at (281) 443-8731 or mercercarboretum@cp4.hctx.net. On the web at <http://www.cp4.hctx.net/mercercarboretum>.

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) is inviting professional landscapers to attend a series of free workshops to help them learn how compost and mulch applications can improve their landscaping and save money.

By adding compost to the soil, lawn watering can be cut by one-half. Compost also builds healthy soil, supports plant growth, and suppresses disease and pests. Mulches are useful in preventing erosion and in weed control.

The workshops will demonstrate the use and benefits of compost, and ways to use compost in revegetation and erosion control projects. The sessions will also inform landscape managers how they can cut water usage by 50 percent and also reduce fertilization costs. Sports turf managers will learn how to revive worn athletic fields and Texas Department of Transportation landscape architects will explain how compost-amended soils can revegetate right-of-ways and how mulches are used for erosion control.

The professional landscapers invited include school sports turf managers, public works and utilities managers, parks and recreation grounds managers, golf superintendents, and landscape contractors.

The Houston workshop will be from 8:00 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. and will be held at the following location on the specified date.

December 12 – Mercer Arboretum & Botanic Gardens

Continuing Education Units (CEU) are available to those attending the workshops to maintain the one or more of the following professional license or certification:

- Landscape Irrigator & Installer –TCEQ (4 hours)
- Texas Certified Pesticide Applicator – Texas Department of Agriculture (2 hours)
- Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (0.35 hours)
- Texas Nursery and Landscape Association (TNLA) (4 hours) for a Texas Certified Nursery Professional, Texas Master Certified Nursery Professional or Texas Certified Landscape Professional.

These workshops are sponsored by the TCEQ through a grant from the US EPA.

Interested professional landscapers are asked to register at least one week prior to the workshop. To register or get more information, call **Brian Noble** at (512) 239-6780 or **Scott McCoy** at (512) 239-6774 or visit TCEQ at <http://www.tnrcc.state.tx.us/exec/oppr/compost/workshops.html>.

All TCEQ news releases are available at <http://www.tnrcc.state.tx.us/exec/media/press/index.html>.

Musings from the Lazy Gardener

By Brenda Beust Smith

When you write a gardening column, you get lots of gardening questions—usually the same ones over and over again:

Overwatering problems

This year, most problems facing gardeners seem to be the result of overwatering. Drought tolerant plants are all the rage, but marketed plants are mainly native to Central/West Texas where rainfall is scarce and what little does fall just sort of kisses the roots as it passes by.

When “xeriscape” or drought-tolerant plants are subjected to our normally heavy spring and fall rains, and then overwatered, they first stop blooming, then become so weak they are prey to insect and disease. We need to put these plants into raised beds—and then to be careful not to overwater them: Antique roses, bauhinia, black-eyed susans, blue daze, bluebonnets, bush daisy, butterflyweed, cassia, cats whiskers, celosia, cestrum, coneflowers, copper canyon daisies, cosmos, crepes, cuphea, duranta, guara, hamelia, lantana, fern leaf lavender, leonodis, lycoris, Mexican zinnia, oleander, pavonia, poinciana, rusellia, salvias, silverado sage, skullcap, spirea, verbena, vitex, yesterday-today-and-tomorrow, yellow bells (esperanza) and zexmania.

Insect & disease damage

Questions about insect/disease damage are never-ending. I’m sure readers get very frustrated as I do not recommend chemical treatments (except for roaches and rats which should be nuked on sight). My aversion to making these recommendations started when my column started—as a newspaper reporter, I knew the liability of recommending toxic products.

The Lazy Gardener’s motto quickly became: “If a plant has unacceptable insect/disease problems, don’t treat. Replace it with a plant that doesn’t have unacceptable levels of insect/disease problems in your area.” At first, this was just my ploy to stay out of trouble. But thanks to my Master Gardener course and 30+ years of interviewing area horticulture experts, I now feel strongly most, if not all, our insect/disease problems can be solved by:

1. Choosing the right plants—plants adapted for this area.
2. Putting the plant in the right site (for sun/shade/drainage).
3. Focusing not on problems topside, but on soil health.

All plants have built-in resistance to insect/disease damage. So damage is just a symptom that resistance is low,

a sign the plant is weak. Why? Usually one of the factors above is to blame. Fix the basic problem, don’t just treat the symptom.

MG Web Tip:

More musings can be found in Brenda’s online column, **Brenda’s Garden**, at <http://www.guidrynews.com>

Houston’s unique growing conditions

My most frustrating experiences are dealing with gardeners who are trying to follow gardening advice written for the rest of Texas or—even worse—for the nation at large.

Our heavy spring/fall rains, fluctuating winter temperatures and incredibly long growing season separate us from others in our zones. We need advice from experts who understand our unique Gulf Coast climate.

Unfortunately, we are experiencing a major crisis in local gardening books. Many great local gardening books are going, or have gone, out of print. Why? Because chain bookstores carry few, if any, local books. Texas gardening books are helpful, but we need LOCAL gardening books. If major bookstores do not order our local books, publishers will not reprint them.

Most nurseries carry local gardening books but nursery sales alone won’t justify reprints. Besides, most new gardeners go to bookstores, not to nurseries, to buy gardening books. That’s a shame, but it’s a fact of life.

Please help convince major bookstores they should have a “Local Gardening Book Section.” Ask for local books. If they don’t carry the ones you want, complain to the manager! Need to know what local books are available? **River Bend Company**, a local publishing company, distributes a free list called “Building a Lazy Gardening Library” that includes over 30 books that offer great advice for this area.

For a copy, send a self-addressed, stamped (37¢), legal size envelope to:

Lazy Gardener Library List
River Bend Company
9039 Katy Freeway, Suite 502
Houston, TX 77024

Volunteer Hours

See below for instructions.

Name _____

Phone Number _____

Email address _____

Period covered – from _____ to _____

Date	Facility or Garden Name	# Contacts	Hours
Total hours this worksheet			

Submitting your volunteer hours Please drop off completed forms in the inbox on **Scott Hume's** desk. Scott can be reached at (281) 855-5600 or oshume@taexgw.tamu.edu.

Want to fill out this form on your computer? The volunteer hours form included here is for printing out and filling in by hand. But we've posted a spiffy version on the MG website, which you can fill out on the computer in Acrobat Reader before printing to save you all that tedious handwriting. The downloadable version even prints the current date and totals your hours for you. Get it at <http://harris-cnty.tamu.edu/hcmga/urban.htm>.

December 2002

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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25 Christmas Day 	26	27	28
29	30	31 New Year's Eve	1 New Year's Day	2	3	4

January 2003

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<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Newsletter deadline 5pm</p> <p>An Introduction to Permaculture — Urban Harvest page 6</p>	<p>16</p> <p>River Oaks Garden Club Environmental Seminar page 4</p> <p>Organic Vegetable Specialty Class — Urban Harvest page 6</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Backyard Orchard 4, Hands-On Fruit Tree Pruning — Urban Harvest page 6</p>	<p>18</p>
<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Monthly meeting at Bear Creek — Glorious Bulbs & Rhizomes for Houston page 6</p> <p>Tomatoes — Urban Harvest page 6</p>	<p>22</p> <p>The Ecological Foundations of Permaculture — Urban Harvest page 6</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Backyard Orchard 4, Hands-On Fruit Tree Pruning — Urban Harvest page 6</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Fruit Tree Sale page 2</p> <p>Arbor Day celebration — Mercer</p>
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eDIRT DECEMBER 2002

The Flower Garden

By Jennifer Lowenthal

As you all know by now, we are wet. Honestly, we have not been able to get to the gardens in the last 3 weeks. So, I am not able to give you any updates on how any of the plants are doing.

Much of the garden is in a bit of a transitional stage. However, we do have several flats of seeds that are probably ready to go into the ground. (That is, of course, whenever we are able to go back into the gardens.) Some of the plants that we have lined up for the winter and early spring are nasturtiums, snapdragons, petunias, phlox, and an old time favorite, pansies. We are going to try some varieties that have been recently introduced to the public.

Whenever it is possible to get back into the gardens there will be a noticeable change in our garden. The timber edging has been replaced with windsor stone. It now matches the edging that is already in the garden near the community building. A tremendously big THANK YOU goes to **Virginia and Grady Joiner** along with a few helpers who replaced

the entire edging border. They completed this job on a morning when no one else was around. They can be pretty sneaky. But, we truly appreciate the help they give us on a weekly basis.

There is not much going on until the beginning of the new year. We are going to construct an arbor to frame the fountain that we made earlier this year. Along with creating an archway to cover up the rough edges of one of the emergency exits coming out of the extension building. The idea we have is to plant a colorful vine on the archway and arbor that will make the background more pleasing to the eyes.

We are really excited about this coming new year. Lots of projects to do and lots of weeds to pull. So, if you want to talk plants or just get your hands dirty come on out. We would love to visit with you. Until next month, try to stay dry.