



Brazos County Master Gardener Newsletter

Gardening News for Central Texas Brazos Valley
Volume 4, Issue 5

Contributing Editor: Donna Murray
September/October 2010

From the Editor;

Fall is just around the corner bringing our second growing season. This is when the effort of hot summer maintenance and dragging hoses pays off with a display of roses, mums, fall asters, and delicious vegetable harvest. I look for that singular really cool morning that seems to be the reminder and promise that cooler weather will come once again.

Mark your calendars for the annual Brazos County Master Gardener Fall Plant Sale on September 25. This will be our 3rd and each one just gets better.

The Brazos County Master Gardeners have planned a year that is packed with informative and entertaining seminars and programs so check the calendar at www.brazosmg.org.

We invite your comments and suggestions. Contact us at brazosmg@ag.tamu.edu

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Over the next few issues the GIG will highlight trees planted in the arboretum of the Brazos County Master Gardener Demonstration Idea Garden, D.I.G. The trees featured in this issue are **Chinese Pistachio** and **Shumard and Texas Oak**. The information was compiled and written by Roy Vaughan, President of the Brazos County Master Gardener Association.

CHINESE PISTACHE

Pistachio Chinensis

(Pis-TA-see-ah chi-NEN-sis)

Chinese Pistache

Introduced from China, this deciduous, ornamental, shade tree is medium-sized, averaging 60 feet tall and 50 feet wide.

- Moderate to fast growth and relatively long-lived
- Free of pests and disease
- Loves heat and dry, well drained soil
- Tolerates drought, poor soil and city conditions
- Separate male and female trees (dioecious), fruit on female plant
- Short, stout trunk, but weak crotch unless one side is eliminated, trunk can split

This is the ugly duckling of trees; it is gawky, awkward and lopsided when young, but matures to a symmetrical, umbrella like crown. It has the most spectacular fall foliage in the Brazos Valley.

- Autumn hues of yellow, gold, salmon, orange, red, scarlet, crimson and maroon, often a brilliant mix on one tree; other years it has a single luminous color.
- Deep green foliage with mild radish like fragrance; leaf structure similar to that of pecan or walnut.
- Carefree, clean, Xeriscape plant
- Ideal size for street, lawn or courtyard
- Specimen accent tree - also as an “in a line” or an informal grouping spaced 30 to 50 feet apart to permit full spreading.
- Deep root system - o.k. near structures
- Attractive zigzag branching shows when leaves fall
- Fruit on female tree is red ripening to purple in fall which attracts birds.

“Add one or more of these trees to your landscape, especially if your space is limited and you want a tough, trouble-free tree for fall color.” Dale Groom, *Dale Groom’s Texas Gardening Guide*



Fall foliage of Texas Red Oak
Photo by Donna Murray

SHUMARD AND TEXAS OAK
Spotted oak, Leopard oak, Spanish oak,
Red oak, Shumard red oak, Texas red oak
Quercus shumardii & *Q. texana*

(KWER-cus shoe-MARD-ee-eye & tex-AN-ah)

Shumard and Texas oaks are listed together because they hybridize so readily that intermediate forms abound; both do well in Brazos Valley soil. Whichever, they are native stately trees with a handsome symmetrical shape, prized for their fall color.

A true Shumard measures 60'T x 50'W; a true Texas oak averages 30'T x 25'W.

- Largest and fastest growing of the red oaks
- Tolerates a wide range of soils including alkaline heavy soils
- Drought tolerant once established, but responds to regular moisture and fertilizer
- Can't stand wet feet - over watering is as detrimental as under watering
- Deep taproot system, difficult to transplant, buy stock from a dependable nursery
- Subject to oak wilt, otherwise relatively free from pests and disease

A majestic shade tree is sleek and symmetrical from the time it is young until it matures.

Its autumn foliage can turn to shades of crimson red, russet, bronze and deep maroon.

- Buy and plant in fall to see its color
- May take several cold snaps to trigger a late, prolonged color change
- Lustrous, deeply cut, symmetrical leaves in summer
- Graceful, upright, open branching gives attractive winter appearance
- Nursery stock of unknown origin is risky: Pin oaks and other crossbreeds may look the same but they cannot survive here. With red oaks the provenance of the tree is important - the origin of the acorn from which it grew. Better still, buy trees grown from acorns of a local tree

“A properly chosen red oak tree will be a long-lived garden companion.” Scott Ogden,
Garden Success with Difficult soils.

What's Happening at the D.I.G. Demonstration Idea Garden

Located at 2619 Highway 21, adjacent to the Texas AgriLife Extension, Brazos County office

Demonstration gardens are places to test, teach and learn. Brazos County Master Gardeners in 2007 began a renovation of their demonstration garden, the D.I.G. Funded by the Brazos County Master Gardener Association, donations and in-kind contributions, the D.I.G. will be a place to see and learn about plants that are best suited for the Brazos Valley, as well as composting, recycling, rainwater harvesting, water conservation and more.



As you can see the construction of the pathways at the **Demonstration Idea Garden** is progressing and should be completed soon. Several materials were considered and crushed granite was selected to provide a permeable surface that is easy to walk on, low maintenance, long lasting, and as a natural material, compliments the gardens.

Six foot wide paths were marked on site and excavated (approx. 6") with a front-end loader. Approx. 3-4" of road base (a coarse gravel) was poured into the excavated path, raked by hand and compacted with a plate compactor. Landscape fabric was laid on top of the road base and steel edging was installed on top of the landscape fabric. Approximately 3-4" layer of crushed granite was poured on top of the landscape fabric and held in place by the steel edging. The crushed granite was then raked by hand and compacted smooth with the plate compactor. There's approximately 600' of pathways.

Texas Superstar™ Flower Bed at the DIG

Some plants were lost to watering problems and a hard winter. **Plumbago** and **New Gold™ Lantana** have been replaced and are doing well. To our great surprise, a **Firebush** plant sprouted new foliage, thus proving to be a heartier plant than anticipated. Three **Sunny Knockout Roses** were added this spring. Despite inconsistent watering, each of these knockouts has bloomed and shown slow, steady growth. The **Tidal Wave Petunias** have been surviving without much water. However, the **Grandma's Yellow Rose** showed definite stress from the heat. Installation of additional drip irrigation emitters should help it through the summer heat.

In the new Superstar bed, **Burgundy Sun SuperSun Coleus** and **Mexican Bush Sage** have taken the lead. Though planted in late spring, both have offered a steady supply of color. Planted to supply height, **Brazilian Sky Flower Duranta** is beginning to meet it expectations. The **Belinda's Dream Rose** has had difficulty getting established in the dry conditions but is beginning to look more comfortable in the bed. The **Blue Princess Verbena** is also providing color to the Superstar bed.



Planting Trees in Urban Landscapes

Charla Anthony
Horticulture Program Assistant
Texas AgriLife Extension Service
Brazos County

Fall and winter are the ideal times to plant shade trees in the Brazos Valley, but what is the best tree to plant?

That depends on what a homeowner needs. Trees can add value to a home as they accent or conceal a view. If carefully sited, a tree can change the effect of the sun and lower air-conditioning costs. Trees can modify wind, shield noise and attract birds and other wildlife.

Whatever your needs, choosing a tree should be a well thought-out decision. The mature size of a tree should be considered, so evaluate the planting area. Measure the site, locate both underground and overhead utilities, observe the site exposure and establish property lines. Take into consideration, that while you may plant a tree on your property, years later, it may affect your neighbor's driveway or backyard.

Consult with local authorities regarding regulations pertaining to tree placement. Neighborhood associations may also have ordinances governing tree selection and placement. Consider trees that will be long-lived and as insect and disease-resistant as possible. The wrong tree for your property can be a constant maintenance problem or even a hazard during extreme weather.

Clients that call the Brazos County office of Texas AgriLife Extension, frequently ask for recommendation of a fast growing shade tree for their yard. Unfortunately most fast growing trees are soft wooded and prone to damage by wind, insects and disease. Examples to avoid are Arizona Ash, Silver Maple, and Bradford Pear. However, there are some moderately fast growing shade trees that are resistant to insects and diseases.

Select Shade Trees

In his Texas Garden Almanac, Doug Welsh selects five top shade trees for our area - bald cypress, cedar elm, Shumard oak, water oak and live oak. Note that live oaks can grow to well over 60 feet tall and wide. They are best suited to larger, urban sites. Other good choices are lace bark elm, Chinese pistache, and bur oak.

Proper planting and follow-up care can affect growth significantly. When planting your tree, Dr. Welsh recommends that you "dig the hole twice as wide as the root-ball (container) and no deeper than the height of the root-ball. The soil that you dig out of the

hole is what you use to backfill around the root ball. Firm the soil into the hole to eliminate air pockets. After planting the tree, build a 4 inch tall berm (a small soil dam) around the edge of the hole and fill the berm with mulch.” Do not fertilize at planting and most newly planted trees do not require staking.

Welsh says “right after planting, water the tree by filling the bermed basin with water. For the first week water daily and then every other day in the second week. During the third week water every third day. Water once a week in the fourth week and beyond, as needed.” He states that “the goal is to slowly wean the tree off supplemental irrigation and grow the root system large enough into the natural soil for the tree to thrive on only natural rainfall.” Careful that you do not overwater newly planted trees. Touch the soil under the mulch, if it is dry, then water.

Looking at a container grown tree, it is difficult to visualize the tree at its mature size. To aid in making your selection, drive around the community. On the Web, check out <http://texastreeplanting.tamu.edu> and www.treesaregood.org

In this area, fall and winter planted trees will continue to grow during the mild winters and into spring. These trees can then better withstand the next summer’s heat and drought.

Visit the Brazos County Arboretum in the Brazos County Master Gardener Demonstration Idea Garden located at 2619 W Hwy 21 next to the AgriLife Extension Office to see recommended trees for Brazos County.



"Mosquito Safari"

“The "Mosquito Safari" website, <http://mosquitosafari.tamu.edu/>, sponsored by AgriLife Extension, the Dallas County Health Department and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency – Region 6 Pesticides Division, is a free interactive site containing scientifically based information on mosquitoes and their control. “

“Mosquito Safari was created as an alternative to other Internet sites on the pests that are bogged down by heavily text-oriented pages,” said Dr. Mike Merchant, an AgriLife Extension urban entomologist in Dallas who helped create the site. “It’s a visually appealing and interactive site that helps the user search out and eliminate places where disease-carrying mosquitoes might breed.”

AgriLife NEWS



On the Road

The Garden Conservancy, Open Day in Austin
Suzanne Milstead, Brazos County Master Gardener

Six private gardens tours in and around Austin, benefitting the Garden Conservancy, was the destination as two friends and I drove to Austin one early October. What a rare treat to view the architectural landscape that makes Austin a green environment! Each garden surrounded a uniquely, constructed home that made viewing the home as much a visual adventure as the gardens themselves. Many featured contemporary designs with sharp angles and windows that allowed light and the lushness of the garden to immerse the owners in the tranquility that gardens provide.

Homes and gardens blended naturally with each other. Garden designer's greatest challenge was to mold the rocky hillsides into planting beds and select plants that would thrive in the hot weather and low rainfall.

Many drought tolerant plants were featured like works of art, either in color or form especially the century plant, succulents, and the colorful Mexican bird of paradise. We can truly appreciate why Austin is such a popular place to live.



Bold orange of the Mexican Bird of Paradise



Purple cactus atop a rock wall



Grand century plant as a focal point (Agave Americana)



Recently built Italian renaissance home

“The Garden Conservancy is a national organization with a mission to preserve exceptional American gardens for public education and enjoyment. We seek to develop and deepen public appreciation of gardens as integral elements of our national artistic and cultural heritage. The Open Days Program serves as the primary educational outreach for the Conservancy and is a major component of this mission.”

The “Open Days” in Texas this fall are October 16 in Austin and October 23 in San Antonio. For information visit <http://gardenconservancy.org/opendays/index.pl>.



Photo from Texas Superstar website

THE PRETTY PLUMBAGO

Plumbago auriculata

Ryan Rychetsky

Brazos County Master Gardener

A Texas Superstar™, Plumbago, is not only beautiful but disease, pest, and deer resistant. This mounding perennial shrub is covered with a profusion of pale blue, phlox-like flowers most of the year. In the landscape, plumbago is excellent as a foundation plant, and will cascade down a retaining wall. It also does well in planters.

Hardy in full sun or partial sun growing in good, well-drained garden soil; it will become drought tolerant once established. The shrub stands 3-4 feet tall and up to 5 feet wide. The flowers, which attract butterflies, bloom May to frost. Plumbago grows fast, and can be somewhat of a rambler if not pruned. The shrub may be pruned any time of the year. Deadhead to promote continuous blooming.

Plumbago may be propagated by seed, cuttings, or division.

<http://www.texassuperstar.com/plants/plumbago/index.html>

Editors’ note: The flowers have a slightly sticky base that my granddaughter and I stick to our earlobes for fanciful earrings. Give it a try.

See it at the D.I.G.

(Brazos County Master Gardener Demonstration Idea Garden)

★ Super Star Bed ★

Texas Superstar™ Plumbago





Photo by Donna Murray

Herbal Highlights

Rue

Ruta graveolens

Donna Murray
Brazos County Master Gardener

Rue, a native of Southern Europe, is a hardy evergreen plant with bluish-green leaves and yellow flowers. It has an odor, not fragrance, and is said to taste bitter. While familiar with the name, Rue, I had never found it at a nursery until I was drawn to an unfamiliar color and leaf pattern combination. It was a given that the plant would come home with me. Rue was planted in a larger pot until I could research and find the best location for it. When weeding around the pot and brushing against the rue I developed, what looked like, first degree burns on my forearm. Time for that research.

The Latin name, *ruta*, is from the Greek *reuo*, meaning freedom. Ancient herbalists believed that rue provided freedom from many diseases and in the Middle Ages was used against witchcraft and as an ingredient in spell breakers. The Catholic Church used sprigs of rue to sprinkle holy water thus associating it with repentance and grace. Shakespeare called it the "...herb of grace o' Sundays..." in *Hamlet*. My favorite story has to do with rue being known as the Vinegar of the Four Thieves. Legend has it that four thieves remained healthy as they robbed the bodies of those who died from the Black Death in Europe in the Middle Ages. When caught, they disclosed the ingredients to the potion they used to ward off the contagion. It was vinegar, lavender, sage, rosemary, mint, wormwood, garlic, and rue. It is also said to deter fleas and pests, and be an antiseptic for cleaning surfaces.

Although my rue is still in a pot, sources say it grows best in poor soil where nothing else survives. As for the burns on my arm-some folks are more susceptible to its' strong oils, thus the phrase, "rue the day". Herb of Grace, Vinegar of the Four Thieves, or "rue the day", it has a wonderful history and is an interesting plant that will stay in my collection. But handled with great caution.

Veggin' with Elmer

Dr. Elmer Krehbiel
Brazos County Master Gardener



Dr. Krehbiel has written a weekly article for The Eagle for over 14 years and has been a Master Gardener 18 years. He's been asked many times about growing vegetables and he's sharing tips for your vegetable garden.

September/October

- ✿ Harvest summer crops of okra, peppers, squash, etc.
- ✿ Shred healthy old crop plants for mulch or compost.
- ✿ Remove old crop diseased plants to trash!!!
- ✿ Apply compost-fertilizer and till into soil about two weeks before planting.
- ✿ Start Fall Crops
 - Sept. 1 - 15: bean, pepper, tomato
 - Sept. 1 – Oct. 20: beet, garlic, spinach
 - Sept. 1 – Oct. 31: Swiss chard, mustard, turnip, radish
 - Sept. 15 – 30: Edible & English Pea
 - Sept. 15 – Oct. 31: broccoli, Brussels sprouts, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, Kohlrabi, lettuce
 - Oct. 1 – 31: collard, kale, green onion
- ✿ Space plants properly
- ✿ Apply mulch on the sides of rows of small plants and completely around large plants.
- ✿ Apply water as required to grow healthy-productive produce. During hot days, the leaves wilt in the afternoon to conserve moisture. If the soil needs water, the leaves remain wilted the next morning.

Tips to Water & Fertilize in Root Zone

1. Purchase a Root Watering System with fertilizer pills at a garden center or hardware store (\$15 to \$20). Attach it to your garden hose and place a pill in the jar. Then push the rod into the soil and turn on the water. It can be used to apply water into the root zone of any annuals, perennials, shrubs and trees. It is considered a lifetime tool.
2. Gardeners could use 1-gallon or 0.5-gallon plastic jugs with lids/caps, and a funnel. First, cut slits in the bottom half of the sides that will be toward the plants. Then bury them deep about 6 inches from the row of small thick plants or 9 to 18 inches near or between larger plants. Ex. I have a 0.5-gallon jugs buried deep and 9-inches between each two bell pepper plants that are 18-inches apart. Milk and juice jugs may be useable for only one or two crops before deteriorating.

Review the Vegetable Planting Guides found at <http://www.brazosmg.com/index.php/plants-for-our-region/vegetables> for additional information.

Fresh Pinkeye Purple Hulled Peas

Marian Cothran
Brazos County Master Gardener

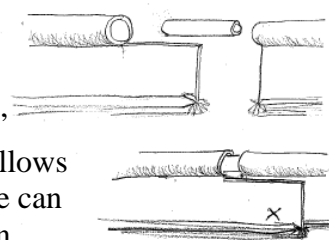


I've planted the same variety of Southern peas--Pinkeye Purple Hull--in my home garden as was planted at the Brazos County Master Gardener Demonstration Idea Garden (DIG). As seen in the photos of the harvested pods and shelled peas, the hulls turn purple as they ripen--pretty in the garden-- and the "eyes" are pinker than regular black-eyed peas. They taste the same as black eyed peas and are just as lucky on New Year's Day. I freeze the first ones I harvest for New Year's Day and then eat the remaining peas as I accumulate enough for 4 servings. If you haven't prepared fresh peas before, they take only 5-10 minutes to cook, not like dried and rehydrated peas that can take 20 minutes or longer. Try growing some purple hulled peas at home next year. Mine have done very well.

Planting dates in Brazos County for Southern Peas are April 5-June 15 and fall planting time of July 15-July 31. See <http://www.brazosmg.com/plants-for-our-region/vegetables> for additional planting times and varieties of vegetables.

HINTS and TIPS **Securing Edging Connections**

To keep the ends of plastic edging material from pulling apart after installation, I've found that cutting back a 4-6" portion of the top round section the connector slides in, allows you to overlap the bottom portions of the edging. A stake can then be inserted through both ends of the edging (see X in illustration). This, in addition to the connector at the top, joins them together more securely.



New Earth-Kind™ Roses for 2010

Many years of testing are required before a rose is designated as Earth-Kind, and here are the two newest Earth-Kind roses.



Reve D'Or



Cecile Brunner

Check them out at <http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/earthkind/roses/>

Brazos County



Master Gardener
Association

Brazos County Master Gardeners Speakers Bureau

Brazos County Master Gardeners can help you find a knowledgeable speaker on a wide range of gardening topics to give a program to your club or organization. Whether the purpose of your program is to inspire or inform, our Speaker's Bureau is a great starting point to find speakers who can educate, motivate, and keep your organization on the right 'garden path'. Our clients trust us to present environmentally sound horticultural principles and practices. We offer presentations on many topics, including those listed below. For further information, call **979-823-0129**, email brazosmg@ag.tamu.edu.

Texas Superstars
Home Landscaping
Poisonous Plants
Container Gardening
Vegetable Gardening
Pests you can Conquer
Color in the Landscape

Gourds
Butterfly Gardening
Rainwater Harvesting
Composting
Turf Management
Propagation

Woolly Oak Aphids

Charla Anthony
Horticulture Program Assistant
Brazos County AgriLife Extension



Photos by Dr Bart Drees

Aphids, which are some of the most common insects, are not easily detected because of their small size. Recent outbreaks of a particular aphid in the Brazos Valley are drawing attention, however.

A white substance covering oak tree leaves, an indication of a woolly oak aphid, has been observed in numerous local landscapes. This material resembles cotton and entomologists describe it as masses of white wax filaments.

Another sign of aphids is the presence of sooty mold, a grayish-black fungus, on oak leaves. The wind-blown sooty mold spores stick to honeydew — a sweet, clear substance produced by aphids — and grow on it.

Aphids are sap-sucking insects, ranging in size from 1/16 to 1/8 inch long. They are pear-shaped and may be green, yellow, black, brown, red or pink. While they typically do not kill a plant, they can reduce plant vigor and appearance.

Unlike other egg-laying insects, aphids can reproduce without mating and give birth to living young. Large numbers reside on tender new growth or along stems and sometimes on the undersides of leaves. Even though their population can build rapidly, control measures are simple.

Control and prevention

A strong spray of water will get rid of large numbers of these soft-bodied insects. Because the current outbreak of aphids is on large oak trees, this is probably the most practical and environmentally safe control measure. Very few surviving aphids that are knocked to the ground can successfully find their way back onto their host plant.

High winds, heavy rains and extreme temperatures also take a toll on these delicate insects. And you can simply prune off heavy infestations on new growth and dispose of it.

Also known as plant lice, aphids are the favorite food of many beneficial insects. Lady beetles and their larvae, green lacewing larvae, parasitic wasps, and serphid fly larvae are excellent aphid predators. Learn to identify these beneficial insects and limit pesticide use when they are present.

Insecticidal soaps are an environmentally friendly control option. The soap spray must contact the aphids, so thorough coverage is essential. When using any pesticide, always read, understand and follow the label directions.

To prevent aphids, avoid heavy applications of nitrogen fertilizer, which can encourage succulent plant growth. Routinely monitor your plants for aphids and intervene to stop large populations from building up.



Photo from Texas Superstar website

Blue Princess verbena regains Texas Superstar™ crown

Read about it at
<http://www.texassuperstar.com>

New Pink Flare and Peppermint Flare hibiscus named 2010 Texas Superstar™

Read about them at
<http://www.texassuperstar.com>



Photo from Texas Superstar website

Gardenline: Your Garden Questions Answered

Each Wednesday when you call Texas AgriLife Extension, Brazos County at (979)823-0129, a Master Gardener will research your question and give you an answer based on the unique garden challenges we face in our county. Master Gardeners have gone through extensive training on various horticultural topics and are certified to distribute information supported by Extension and research of Texas A&M University. It is our mission as Master Gardeners to bring you quality, relevant, and accurate information on your gardening concerns. So, write down the number and keep it handy so when a pesky insect invades or something is not quite right with your garden, you can pick up the phone and give us a call.

Gardenline: Wednesdays 9-1

979-823-0129, email: brazosmg@ag.tamu.edu

You can now find us on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/brazosmg



UPCOMING EVENTS

Brazos County Master Gardener Plant Sale

September 25, 2010

9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Brazos County Extension Office

2619 Highway 21 West

Bryan, TX 77803

Join the Brazos County Master Gardener Association at their Fall plant sale.

A wide selection of unusual and unique plants, adapted to Brazos County will be offered. Heirloom plants, pass-a-long plants and more from the gardens of local Master Gardeners will also be available for purchase.

A preview talk, highlighting the choicest plants and their growing requirements, will be presented from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. Space for this special event is limited and on a first-come, first-served basis.

Proceeds from the sale will be used to fund the community education programs of the Brazos County Master Gardeners, a non-profit organization of Extension volunteers.

Come early, bring a wagon to fill with "must have" plants and enjoy a wonderful time with fellow Brazos County gardeners.

For additional information visit our website: brazosmg.org

or email to: brazosmg@ag.tamu.edu or

call the Brazos County Extension office: 979-823-0129

Rainwater Harvesting

An Earth-Kind Approach to Water Conservation

Hosted By

Texas AgriLife Extension - Brazos County Master Gardeners

October 16, 2010 9 a.m.-12 p.m.

Brazos Center, Bryan TX

Speakers Justin Mechell, Extension Program Specialist I&

J. Brent Clayton, Extension Assistant

- Texas Water and You
- Rainwater Harvesting Basics

Learn how to capture and use rainwater in your landscape and make your own rainwater barrel to take home. Learn about rainwater harvesting – how to capture and store rainwater to lower usage of municipal water supplies and protect this valuable natural resource. Program cost of \$40 per participant includes rain barrel, program handouts, & refreshments.

Registration information will be available soon.

Brazos County 2011 Master Gardener Training Course

Applications will be accepted September 1 to December 1, 2010

Classes will meet on Thursdays from January 13 to May 12, 2011

The Master Gardener program is a volunteer development program of Texas AgriLife Extension and is designed to provide educational programs to the public in the areas of horticulture and gardening.

We seek “experienced” gardeners with basic knowledge in horticulture. Applicants should have a desire to volunteer, to obtain advanced training and to share their gardening knowledge with others in the community.

Training is presented by Texas AgriLife Extension Specialists, Master Gardeners, and local horticulturists.

Applications Available September 1, 2010

at www.brazosmg.org.

Brazos County



2010 Brazos County Master Gardener Association



Officers

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Ryan Rychetsky

If you are interested in sharing our newsletter with a friend or **subscribing online** to the e-newsletter, go to www.brazosmg.org. Please contact us with comments and suggestions, at brazosmg@ag.tamu.edu.

Brazos County Master Gardeners is a program of the Texas AgriLife Extension Service. Extension educational programs are open to all people without regard to race, color, sex, disability, religion, age, or national origin.