



this quarter...

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President's Message



Well, spring is almost upon us and it's time for a new season to begin. The move to the new office is complete, we have a new phone number: *318-408-0984*, a new address: *Red River Research Station (RRRS), 210 Research Station Dr., Bossier City, LA 71112* and new landscaping to maintain.

The Super Plant beds at the entrance to the RRRS will display to the public our commitment to our new home. Now that the Covid pandemic seems to be winding down and most everyone is beginning to return to "near" normal living, it's time for us to get back to work.

There are plenty of great opportunities to fulfill your annual hourly volunteer commitment. Help is always needed with phone duty and ongoing MG projects such as garden maintenance at the Pioneer Heritage Center and the RRRS. The success of MG events such as the Plant Sale, Bulb Sale, and Le Tour des Jardins would not be possible without the many volunteer hours worked by master gardeners. In addition to these opportunities, this year, we have NEW projects at the American Rose Center. We'll begin assisting with routine work at the center on Thursdays and also with special projects like the new Rambling Rose Preservation Initiative. *Watch for upcoming notices on dates & times.* I encourage everyone to participate in the many wonderful projects our MG chapter has to offer.

In closing, there are changes in two leadership roles this spring. After serving for a number of years in his position, Ron Calk is stepping down as Director of the Fall Bulb Sale Committee and Chris Bertrand is stepping down as editor/coordinator of our quarterly newsletter, Seedling.

On behalf of everyone, thank you Ron for your dedication and the many untold hours of volunteer commitment to making the bulb sale a hugely successful event. Succeeding Ron as director will be Polly Buller. Thank you Polly for volunteering to serve as the new director of this important committee. We offer our support and wish you the best in this new role.

Serving as editor for the last year, Chris has done an outstanding job with the newsletter. Chris, my personal thanks for a job well done. A member of the current MG class, Sarah Nadeau, has volunteered to serve as the new editor, Please welcome Sarah to our ranks and help her by contributing articles, gardening tips and other content for Seedling.

Looking forward to a great new growing season!

Your humble servant,

Ed Durham, NWLA MG President



Spring Lawn Fertilizing



As spring arrives, we look out across our properties and notice a few things as we see our lawns begin to come out of dormancy. First, those pesky weeds that we didn't remove last year are already showing themselves. The time to apply a *pre-emergent herbicide* has already passed, but we still need to treat the problem with *post-emergent herbicides*. Secondly, we notice that the lawn is slowly greening up which is an indication that it's time to apply fertilizer. But what type of fertilizer should we use and when should it be applied?

When looking at the calendar to pick a date to apply fertilizer to the lawn the phrase "Tax Day" should come to mind. As April 15th is generally a time when we are comfortable saying the cold snaps are over and the warm season grasses are actively growing. A more accurate method would be to say that once you have cut your lawn for the third or fourth time (excluding cutting back/down the winter weeds) it is safe to fertilize. The reason we wait for several mows is we want to make sure the lawn is actively growing and able to utilize the nutrients it receives from the fertilizer.

But that only covers when to apply fertilizer to the lawn, not "what type of fertilizer." Or, the more important question, "how much fertilizer?" For best re-

sults, a soil sample should be taken and submitted for testing to the LSU AgCenter Soil Testing Lab. This test cost \$11.00 a sample and boxes can be picked up at any AgCenter Parish Office or Research Station. Once the samples are tested, and the results are sent to you, you'll have a fertility recipe tailored to your lawn's needs.

Regardless of the sample results, we do know that nitrogen will need to be added to our warm season grasses. For lawns comprised of Bermuda, Zoysia or St. Augustine grasses 1.0 pound of actual nitrogen per 1000ft² can be applied. For Carpet and Centipede lawns a lighter rate of 0.5 pounds actual nitrogen per 1000ft² can be applied. To apply 1.0 pound nitrogen, you can use 12 pounds of 8-8-8 or 8 pounds of 13-13-13 per 1000ft². For applications of 0.5 pound of nitrogen you can apply 6 pounds of 8-8-8 fertilizer or 4 pounds of 13-13-13 per 1000ft².



Spring Lawn Fertilizing– *continued*

The use of a broadcast spreader can help give the best uniform coverage, but try to maintain a constant speed and make sure to calibrate your spreader (regardless of the type) before applying. Companies usually provide a key that comes with the spreader showing how to set it for the desired application rate. When applying fertilizer apply to a dry lawn. If the grass blades are wet, the fertilizer will stick, and you will likely burn the blades. After broadcasting fertilizer use your hose or irrigation system to wash any fertilizer off the blades and down into the soil.

While out applying fertilizer this is a great time to scout for weeds. After locating weeds in the lawn, proper identification is important so that the right control method can be used. For grass-like weeds it is also important to know what species of lawn grass is in your yard. Some herbicides that target specific weeds cannot be sprayed on certain types of warm season grasses. For post-emergent broad leaf weed control a product containing 2,4-D will work. These products will not kill grasses but will control many of the broadleaf weeds that are already growing. Regardless of what you chose to apply to your lawn always make sure to read the label on the product and remember just because you've used the same product in the past, it doesn't mean that the information on the label hasn't changed. Be sure to double check it.

For more information on lawn care for Louisiana look at the LSU AgCenter publication “Louisiana Lawns Best Management Practices (BMPs)”, publication ID: 2940, call your parish agent or click the link below.

lsuagcenter.com



Mark A. Wilson,
Northwest Regional Horticulture Agent



**Don't guess.
Soil Test!**

Get help
from the
LSU AgCenter
Soil Testing and
Plant Analysis Lab

Eliminate the guesswork and reveal exactly how much fertilizer, lime or sulfur is needed for specific plants to be grown in a particular type of soil.

LSUAgCenter.com/SoilTest



Photo: Forest & Kim Starr CC by 2.0

Zoysia Grass



We all know that transplants need time to adjust to different conditions once planted outside: colder

temperatures, wind, lower amounts of water and strong sunlight. But what changes in plant growth and development actually occur?

- ~ Plant growth slows
- ~ Natural waxes on leaf surfaces thicken as plants are exposed to more sun, reducing the rate of water loss
- ~ Cell walls develop more lignin (a complex organic polymer) to strengthen them
- ~ The amount of freeze-prone water in plant cells is reduced
- ~ The amount of carbohydrates (stored food reserves) in plant tissues increases.
- ~ More rapid root development is stimulated

Harden your plants off gradually, over a 7-10 day period...preferably on a mild or cloudy day.

Original content from lancaster.unl.edu

veggies to plant

Cantaloupe, collards, corn, cubumbers, eggplant*, kohlrabi*, lima beans, mirliton**, mustard, peppers* pumpkin, radish, snap beans, Southern peas, summer squash, Swiss chard, tomatoes*, watermelons, winter squash.

**plant transplants in mid to late March; **plant the entire fruit with the sprouted end in the soil about 3" deep.*



Of the 4,400 worm species, there are 2,700 species of earthworm.

Worms eat so much that they typically produce excrement equal to their own weight every 24 hours.

Although you cannot see them, worms do have mouths. The earthworm mouth is called the prostomium. The worm's mouth is actually big enough and powerful enough to grab a leaf and drag it around.

april

Thigmomorphogenesis

It sounds just like it's spelled! Thigmomorphogenesis is the effect of wind (or other sources of motion, such as touching) on the physical aspects of a plant. Movement (thigo) makes the plant change (morph) into a different form, in a very gradual way (genesis) so that it becomes capable of standing up to wind, rain, and other forces that cause movement. Since plants can't move, this response to mechanical sensation is a basic adaptive talent for surviving in the real world.



Original content: Barbara Pleasant, *The Southern Garden Advisor*

veggies to plant

cantaloupe, collards, corn, cucumber, cucuzzi, cushaw, eggplant, honeydew, lima beans, luffa, spinach, mirli-ton (plant sprouted fruit), okra, peppers, pumpkin, snapbeans, Southern peas, squashes, sweet potato (rooted cuttings known as slips), Swiss chard, tomato, watermelon.

North Louisiana's
average last frost
date is April 1st.

-Heather Kirk-Ballard, LSU AgCenter

In the Garden

may

Louisiana Native
Species

southeastern blueberry bee



fruitgrowersnews.com

North America is home to more than 4,000 native bee species. Louisiana has over 200 native bee species!

Most native bees are solitary nesters...laying their eggs in underground tunnels, hollow plant stems, or decaying wood. They don't form hives, create honey, or live a communal lifestyle.

About 20%-45% of native bees are pollen specialists, they use only pollen from one species (or genus) of plants. If that plant is removed, the bee goes away. If bees are removed, the plant doesn't reproduce. Some of the native bees are specialists on the very plants that we use for food, including squashes, pumpkins, gourds, and the annual sunflower.

Wild Bee Conservation | Xerces Society

[pollinatorgardening.pdf \(lsu.edu\)](#)



The Chelsea Chop

The Chelsea Chop is a method of pruning that limits the size, controls the flowering season, and often decreases the flopping of a number of herbaceous perennials.

The Chelsea Chop got its name from the famous garden show that takes place in England in late May— which is historically when the pruning method should be used. However, depending on where you live in the country, the chopping is best done in late spring or early summer, or when the plant has a fairly substantial amount of vegetative growth.

Many summer- and autumn-flowering perennials are perfect for the Chelsea Chop.

More Info...visit this link.

[What's the Deal with the Chelsea Chop?](#)

Finegardening.com

veggies to plant

Collards, cucuzzi, eggplant, hot pepper, luffa, mirliton (plant sprouted fruit), okra, peanut, pumpkin, Southern peas, squash, sweet potatoes (use slips), heat tolerant tomatoes. Due to heat and pest problems, the following veggies are generally not as productive planted this late. If planting in May, plant early in the month. Corn, cucumber, lima beans, snap beans, and Swiss chard.

What is Root Girdling? *(Hint: it doesn't involve Spanx®)!*

Imagine wearing a belt around your waist that is being squeezed tighter and tighter, and you'll get an idea of what girdling roots do to a tree.

Girdling roots are more common than many people realize, yet they can be deadly. When lateral roots at (or sometimes, just below) the surface of the soil encircle or cut into the main trunk of a tree, the flow of water and nutrients becomes restricted. The longer a tree has to deal with girdling roots, the weaker and more unstable it becomes.



arbordayblog.org

Typically, girdling roots don't just "happen." Trees in urban environments are exposed to certain factors trees in nature don't have to contend with, which can cause numerous issues, including girdling roots.

The most common cause is improper planting/transplanting. When trees remain in their nursery containers for too long, the roots can circle the bottom of the pot, having nowhere else to go. When these roots are not loosened during the planting process, they can become girdling roots.

Similarly, when a tree is planted in a hole that is too small, the same process occurs: the tree's roots begin circling one another and in time develop into girdling roots.

Leaving pieces of the planting container or other debris in the planting hole can also lead to girdling roots down the road. Other causes include heavily compacted soil and close proximity to foundations, curbs and other obstructions, all of which can hinder normal root growth.

How to Spot Girdling Roots

Luckily, girdling roots are relatively easy to spot – if you know what to look for.

The number one indicator of girdling roots is an abnormal trunk flare. Typically, a tree trunk flares out where it meets the ground. In a tree with girdling roots, the trunk may appear straight or even narrower.

more➔

You may also observe roots circling the tree above the soil line, although typically girdling roots lie just below the surface. Other, less obvious signs include early leaf drop, small leaves and canopy dieback.

Girdling roots can be removed, but you may need to consult with a certified arborist to avoid damaging the main stem. In severe cases, girdling roots can compromise the tree's stability and the tree may need to be removed.

What Causes Girdling Roots?

More often than not, tree girdling roots are caused by improper planting. That could mean a lot of things, like:

1. Planting in a hole that's too small, which prevents roots from spreading out.
2. Making the planting hole too deep, which forces roots to grow up toward the surface in search of water and air.
3. Planting a container plant without loosening up its circling roots.

Some post-planting actions can result in girdled roots, too. Most commonly, piling too much mulch up against a tree trunk (a.k.a, volcano mulching) can lead to girdling roots.

Treating and Preventing Girdling Roots

The best way to prevent girdling roots – as well as many other problems – is to dig the correct size planting hole. A common misconception is “the deeper the better,” however, the planting hole should be two to three times as wide as the root ball and no deeper than the root ball. There should not be soil above the root flare or mulch up against the trunk.

If there are roots encircling the base of the root ball, break these up before planting to allow for normal root development. Water a newly planted tree consistently and inspect the root flare for defects periodically.

Original content from Arbor Day Foundation, article by John Lang of Friendly Tree





Staghorn ferns, (genus *Platycerium*), are beautiful and unusual plants and we are hard at work propagating them in the master gardener greenhouse this year. Plans are to offer them at the annual plant sale Sat, April 2, 2022.

Being somewhat unfamiliar with this plant, I had to learn how to propagate and care for them myself and I'd like to share my experience.

Staghorn ferns are named so because their fronds are said to resemble the antlers of a male elk. They are epiphytes or "air plants" and grow on trees in the rain forests of South America, Africa and other near equator regions.

They get all their moisture and nutrients from the air around them. They like strong indirect light and can even take a little direct light as long as it's morning light. *They need moist conditions.* If they're not given a moist environment, they'll brown at the tips of the fronds. The more moist the conditions are, the less they'll have to be watered. The whole plant can be misted once a week concentrating on the underside of the fronds or they can be submerged in water for 10 to 20 minutes once a



week. However, if a black spot emerges on the fronds, you're over-watering. They need to be wall mounted so they can have good air circulation, but can also be grown in hanging baskets (**above**). As far as fertilizing, a weak 5-1-1 fish emulsion is best. Repeat once a month.

If you see brown fuzz on the underside of the leaf (**left**) this doesn't need to be removed. These are spores and it's how the plant propagates itself. It's like a mushroom in that way.



The only hard part about propagating Staghorn ferns is getting the individual ferns off the root ball. These need to be cut away and can be difficult to get to. The root ball John Oswalt brought in was about 50 pounds and had to be laid on a table to cut it. The shield, on the base of the plant (**right**) covers the roots and protects them sunlight, and isn't especially hard to cut through, but you will probably need a long sharp knife, or a saw and you'll need to cut a square about 3 inches out from the plant and 3 inches deep to make sure you get all the roots.



Mike Livingston

Once the Staghorn is free, you need to have a square of wood ready. I

used pieces cut from a wooden pallet about 12 X 6 inches. On one side of the wood place some wet sphagnum moss. This is where the staghorn will sink its tiny roots. Next, place the fern on the moss and nail it to the board (**below**). This doesn't hurt the plant. Finally, surround the base of the plant with more long fiber sphagnum moss. That's all there is to it. You'll see a new light green shield forming within 2-3 months.

-Mike Livingston, NWLA Master Gardener



Mike Livingston

Staghorn Tidbits

-Platycerium is a genus of about 18 ferns species. Widely known as staghorn or elkhorn ferns.

-With their elegant long fronds, they referred to as the aristocrats of the fern world.

-The largest staghorn ferns like *P. superbum* can grow to a staggering 5 to 6 ft. across with fertile fronds hanging down 6 or more feet.

garden-to-kitchen

INGREDIENTS


- 6 fresh mirlitons
- 1 tablespoon Rouses Extra Virgin olive oil
- 1 medium-sized onion, peeled and chopped
- 1 rib celery, chopped
- 1 bay leaf
- 1/2 teaspoon dried thyme
- Rouses salt and black pepper, to taste
- Rouses Cajun seasonings, to taste
- 3/4 pound medium-sized wild-caught Gulf shrimp, peeled and deveined
- 3/4 pound Louisiana crawfish tails
- 3/4 pound lump Gulf crabmeat
- Italian Seasoned Breadcrumbs, for topping

DIRECTIONS

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
2. In a heavy black iron pot, bring about 2 inches of salted water to a boil. Drop whole mirlitons in water, cover pot, and reduce heat. Simmer until mirlitons are tender, about 45 minutes. Remove from pot and set aside to cool.
3. Cut mirlitons in half, lengthwise, and remove the seeds. Scoop out the flesh, keeping the shell intact. Rough chop the flesh and set aside.
4. In a large skillet over medium heat, warm one tablespoon of Rouses olive oil. Add onions, mirliton flesh, bay leaf, and thyme and cook until soft, about 5 minutes. Add shrimp, and cook until the shrimp are just pink. Remove from heat, and fold in crabmeat and crawfish tails. Remove bay leaf and season with salt, pepper and Cajun seasonings.
5. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Place mirliton shells in a roasting pan, flesh side up. Spoon vegetable mixture into the shells, and top with a light coating of breadcrumbs. Bake until the breadcrumbs are lightly browned, about 30 minutes.



Mirlitons are native to Mexico, but have been grown on the Gulf Coast since at least 1867.

more info 



delishably.com

Chayote, also known as **Mirliton** (*merl uh TAWN*), sometimes pronounced (*mel e TAWN*), is a green pear-shaped squash used in many Cajun and Creole dishes. It is a member of the gourd family and related to cucumbers. The pear-shaped tropical fruit ranges in color from light green to white and has the pleasant flavor of a nutty squash. The tender fruit contains one large, flat seed that can be eaten.

Chayote is a perennial with long, climbing vines, closely resembling a cucumber plant. Each chayote generally weighs between 6 and 12 ounces but can weigh as much as 3 pounds.

Although native to Mexico and Guatemala, chayote has been grown successfully in tropical regions in the southern United States. This low-calorie fruit can be eaten raw, pickled, or cooked. It can be served in a variety of ways, including baked, sautéed, broiled, mashed, fried, buttered, or in pies.

The Mirliton-Louisiana Connection-

Chayotes are specifically Spanish, so they came to New Orleans in a roundabout way. New Orleans, being a French colony, picked up Spanish cultural influences because it was a port city, but the agriculture and cuisine was predominantly French (hence the French name change to “mirliton” later on).

Chayotes made their way to New Orleans in the mid-1700s, around the same time that France transferred Louisiana to Spain in 1763 as a result of their defeat in the Seven Years War. Spain sent bureaucrats from Cuba and the other Caribbean colonies to New Orleans, and trade between the Caribbean cities and New Orleans increased dramatically.

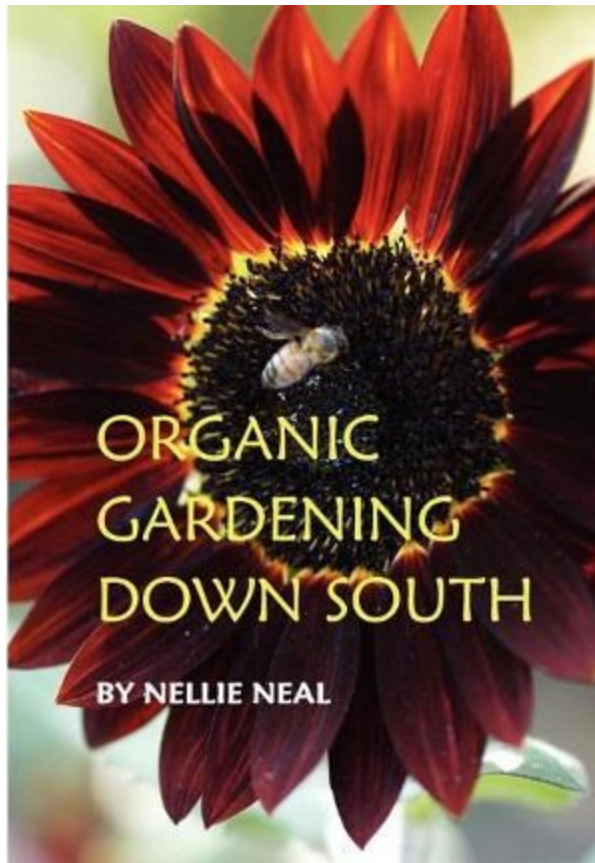
Although Spain controlled the city, folks from the Canary Islands also began to immigrate to New Orleans. They became known as “Los Isleños”, and chayotes were a regular part of their diet. New Orleanians likely called the gourd, which tastes sort of like a cucumber when uncooked, “chayote,” until the 1790s, when a huge influx of white immigrants came to the city from Haiti, on the heels of the slave uprising on that island. Those French-speakers would have called it “mirlitons.” The Creole-French name stuck from then on.

Original content from gonola.com, by Edward Branley

For more information on the mirliton, visit
www.mirliton.org

Learn how to grow mirliton plants with LSU AgCenter horticulturist Will Afton. Visit the LSU AgCenter publication on growing mirlitons: <https://bit.ly/GrowingMirlitons>

Also watch: [Growing Mirlitons in Louisiana - YouTube](#)



Organic Gardening Down South

by Nellie Neal, (2008)

Nellie Neal says, ***"Yes, we can garden organically down South!"*** And in this book she tells us how. This book makes the creation of safe and satisfying organic gardens easy. The South has special factors that challenge gardeners but Nellie Neal, as usual, has the answers. Topics include soils, garden conditions, planning, pests, and ornamental and edible plants.

"Her book gives solid, practical advice for anyone wanting to grow organic, but for uniquely Southern tried and true expertise, especially for the new grower or regional newcomer, Organic Gardening Down South is the book to buy."

—Amazon Reviewer

Top Book Picks!

Silent Earth: Averting the Insect Apocalypse

by Dave Goulson, (2021)

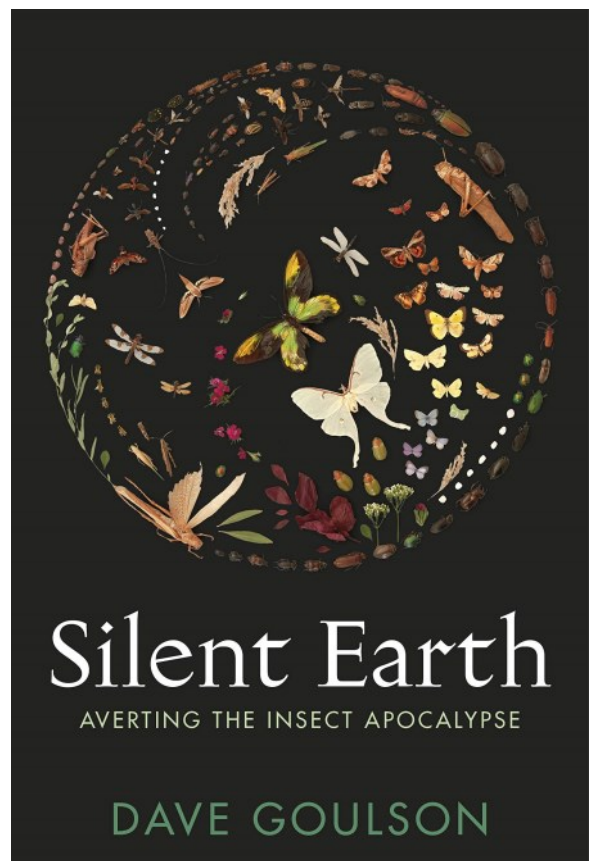
Goulson is a biology lecturer and leading expert in insect ecology, particularly bumblebees.

"Eye-opening, inspiring, and riveting, Silent Earth is part love letter to the insect world, part elegy, part rousing manifesto for a greener planet."

—Goodreads Reviewer

"A terrific book...A thoughtful explanation of how the dramatic decline of insect species and numbers poses a threat to all life on earth."

—Booklist Review



Events & Things to Do!

March 2022

Compiled by Jill Beebe & Chris Bertrand, NWLA Master Gardeners

Sat, March 5th 10:00-4:00. Gibsland's Jonquil Jubilee Garden Tour, 2452 South Main, Gibsland, LA 71028. Celebrate the arrival of spring in the Daffodil Capital of Louisiana. View of tens, of thousands of daffodils along the garden tour. Vendors will also be setup along the tour. Visit [Jonquil Jubilee Garden Tour 2022](#) to purchase tickets online \$10.00/person. *Ticket holders must visit the information booth downtown Gibsland to receive armband and tour map.* Info: **318.843.6228**



Fri, Mar 18th & Sat, Mar 19th. Jonquil Festival, Historic Washington State Park, Washington, AR, 71867 (about 2hr drive). Parking: \$5.00 per person. Celebrate a tradition at this wonderful state park. Tours of the park, historic homes, and museums are available at regular price. Info: **870.983.2684**



[Jonquil Festival | Arkansas State Parks](#)

Fri, March 25th through Sun, May 8th. BLOOM! Annual Juried Exhibition, R.W. Norton Art Gallery, Shreveport, LA. Just as the gardens burst forth with blossoms each spring, so does this special floral-themed exhibition! The exhibit is comprised of art from not only the Ark-La-Tex, but also across the U.S. and 13 countries from around the world. Stroll through the garden-inspired galleries. Lovely! Info: **318.865.4201**



***Wed, Mar 9th , 11:30-1:00** NWLA MG General Meeting, Broadmoor Baptist Church

***Louisiana Nursery Gardening Seminars & Workshops Seminars begin at 9:00 am. \$5.00/ person.** Call for info or to register 318.925.0971. louisianasnursery.com

Sat, Mar 5th, "Square Foot Gardening & Worm Composting"

Sat, Mar 12th, "Dig In! Louisiana Veggie Gardening"

Sat, Mar 26th, "For the Love of Herbs!"

***Akins's Nursery & Landscaping, Garden Education Series Seminars begin at 10:00 am. (Free)** Call for info or to register 318.868.2701. akinsnursery.com (10% off plants & gifts with MG membership card)

Sat, Mar 26th, "Planning for Spring"

Events approved for Ed hrs & MG General Meetings w/guest speaker, members receive 30 min ed hrs.*

Events & Things to Do!

April 2022

April 1st, 8am – noon, (Event Set Up) NWLAMG Spring Plant Sale

LSU-Ag Red River Research Station, 262, Research Station Dr., Bossier City, LA. Need help with tent/table set up.

April 2nd, 8am – 12pm, (start time for workers is 7:00am)

NWLAMG Spring Plant Sale

LSU-Ag Red River Research Station, 262, Research Station Dr., Bossier City, LA. Needing Cashiers, Checkers, Greeters, Sales Assistances for this event. To volunteer, contact Co-chairs John Oswalt (mroswalt@gmail.com) or Cindy Rowell. For event info (nwlamg.weebly.com)



April 8-10, Ennis Texas Blue Bonnet Trails Festival

bluebonnettrail.org Go crazy over bluebonnets! The epicenter of the craze is Ennis, TX, the home of the "Official Texas Bluebonnet Trail." Wander along 40 miles of wildflower trails and experience a sea of blue in Northern Texas!

[Bluebonnet \(bluebonnettrail.org\)](http://bluebonnettrail.org)



*Louisiana Nursery Gardening "Make-n-Take Container Gardening Hands-On Workshops" Call for info 318.925.0971. louisianasnursery.com

Sat, April 9th, 16th, 23rd @ 2:00 & 3:00 pm Bring your own container or purchase one from their selection. They provide planting mix, fertilizer and expert planting instruction. Your only cost is the plants and containers you select.

***Wed, April 13th, 11:30-1:00** NWLA MG General Meeting, Broadmoor Baptist Church

*Akins's Nursery & Landscaping, Garden Education Series Seminars begin at 10:00 am. (Free) Call for info or to register 318.868.2701. akinsnursery.com (10% off plants & gifts with MG membership card)

Sat, April 30th, "Growing Orchids"

Events approved for Ed hrs & MG General Meetings w/guest speaker, members receive 30 min ed hrs.*

Events & Things to Do!

May 2022

Sat, May 7th 9:00-4:00 "Sunset Herb & Garden Festival"

The *Sunset Garden Club* has continued to impress garden enthusiasts with a wide selection of plants and herbs for over twenty years through the Annual Sunset Herb & Garden Festival in Sunset, Louisiana. 240 Marie St., Sunset, La 70584 (about 3hr drive). \$5.00 per person. Info: **337.662.3542**



Link below has great suggestions for hotels, restaurants and other great things to do while visiting St. Landry Parish!



[Sunset Herb & Garden Festival - St. Landry Parish Tourist Commission](#)

*Wed, May 11th , 11:30-1:00 NWLA MG General Meeting, Broadmoor Baptist Church

*Louisiana Nursery Gardening Seminars & Workshops **Seminars begin at 9:00 am. \$5.00/ person.** Call for info or to register 318.925.0971. louisianasnursery.com

(TBA)

*Akins's Nursery & Landscaping, Garden Education Series **Seminars begin at 10:00 am. (Free)** Call for info or to register 318.868.2701. akinsnursery.com (10% off plants & gifts with MG membership card)

Sat, May 28th, "Picking Perennials"

Events approved for Ed hrs & MG General Meetings w/guest speaker, members receive 30 min ed hrs.*

Community Supporters



Crew Masters, LLC



Thank You!

Editorial Notes-



"In the spring, at the end of the day, you should smell like dirt." said author, Margaret Attwood and I agree! Happy spring to all!

As gardeners, this is the time of year we relish. Everything is growing and blooming...putting on its best show. The temperatures are mild, the sun is shining and the promise of a brand new year is ahead.

Happily, once again, we can look forward to the feast of spring happenings in our area. Be sure to enjoy the many gardening seminars/events, you-pick-it farms, farmer's markets, flower festivals, and our very own NWLA Master Gardener activities this season.

We've had a lot of change recently for our organization and change brings new ideas and growth...always exciting! With that said, this issue of Seedling will be my last as editor and I hope you will join me in welcoming our new editor, Sarah Nadeau! Sarah comes to us with newsletter experience and much enthusiasm for serving the organization. Many thanks Sarah!

In closing, it's been a pleasure to produce Seedling over the last year and to work with our writers. Thank you for continuing to bring us such interesting content!

Farewell and Happy Gardening!

Chris

Chris Bertrand, NWLA MG &
Grammatically-Challenged, Seedling Editor
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Seedling is the newsletter of the Northwest Louisiana Master Gardeners
An Affiliate of LSU Ag Center
lsuagcenter.com