

# GUADALUPE GARDENER MARCH 2021

A monthly publication of the Guadalupe County Master Gardeners in cooperation with the Texas A&M AgriLIFE Extension, Guadalupe County

## President's Message

My fellow gardeners, welcome to March!

I trust everyone has survived the Texas snow-mageddon, but I cannot say as much for my plants.

The Board of Directors made excellent plans to resume in-person meetings in February, but Mother Nature threw us a curveball and, well, come on Spring! As I make this note we are forecast to have temps in the 80s when a week ago temps were in the teens!

Please keep an eye out for future meetings and opportunities to safely gather again as the strong, community-serving group we aspire to be with lunch-n-learns, plant sales, monthly meetings.

There continue to be opportunities in our various community garden areas to accrue your volunteer hours (and it looks great for our monthly tally reported to AgriLife).

The lifeblood of our organization is the camaraderie and passion we have for each other and our love of all things gardening.

As we begin to ramp up our meetings and activities, we will continue to have a strong presence in and around the community as long as we all continue to contribute to the success of the whole. The Board of Directors is looking oh so forward to seeing you all again!

Happy gardening!  
Barry

*"In the spring, at the end of the day, you should smell like dirt."*

Margaret Atwood

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**Note!**

**The following volunteer  
opportunities**

**may be available with**

**"social distancing"**

**on an individual basis.**

**Please contact the coordinator  
of the activity to volunteer.**

## **Ongoing Volunteer Opportunities**

### **At Your Convenience:**

•**Kingsbury** - Kingsbury Habitable Spaces Garden, 3050 FM 1104, Monday – Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Contact Cathy Medlin at [cathmed2003@yahoo.com](mailto:cathmed2003@yahoo.com) or 830-221-8596 the first time you go so she can meet you at the gardens and discuss what needs to be done. Bring tools (hoes, trowels, etc.), gloves, hats.

•**Schertz** – Gutierrez Xeriscape Park, 1231 Borgfeld Rd. Contact Judy Stanley at 830-765-4613 or [jstanley20@satx.rr.com](mailto:jstanley20@satx.rr.com) for further information.

•**Seguin** – Rain Garden at the Irma Lewis Seguin Outdoor Learning Center, 1865 E US Highway 90 (just past the Geronimo Creek bridge east of town on HW 90). Contact Mag Holm-Roesler at [mrhr816@gmail.com](mailto:mrhr816@gmail.com) or 512-656-2360 to discuss what needs to be done.

## **Scheduled Workday on Tuesday**

•**Marion** — Marion Veterans Community Garden. Contact Joyce Friesenhahn at 210-452-2404 or email her at [omaannie2@gmail.com](mailto:omaannie2@gmail.com) The park is located next to the old Schulz Nursery parking lot, 100 W Huebinger St.

## **Scheduled Workdays on Tuesdays & Fridays:**

•**Schertz** — Guadalupe County Community Garden, 1101 Elbel Road, behind the County Annex Building. Start time is 8:00 a.m. Check with Ann Odvody at [odvodyd@swbell.net](mailto:odvodyd@swbell.net) or 210-994-9664.

## **Scheduled Workdays on Wednesdays:**

•**Seguin** — MG Office/Library, 210 E Live Oak, is open from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Volunteers are always needed. Ernestine Sykes [ejackson.sykes@gmail.com](mailto:ejackson.sykes@gmail.com) or 210-544-0756. The office number is 830-379-2153

•**Seguin** — (Only 1st and 3rd Wednesdays) Park West Pollinator Garden, 600 Block of North Vaughn Ave., 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. Maintenance of the pollinator garden and care of new plants. Bring gardening tools, water, hat, sunscreen, insect spray and wear appropriate gardening shoes. Contact Clara Mae Marcotte, [rcm.marcotte@gmail.com](mailto:rcm.marcotte@gmail.com) or Liz Romero, [fleurromero@gmail.com](mailto:fleurromero@gmail.com)

## **Scheduled Workdays on Fridays:**

• **Seguin** — Big Red Barn Gardens, 390 Cordova Road. Start time is 7:30 a.m. for the summer hours and 8:15 a.m. for the winter hours. Check with Janice Knobles at 830-379-6193 or e-mail [jmknobles@yahoo.com](mailto:jmknobles@yahoo.com)



## New YouTube Channel

Getting volunteer hours and continuing education hours has been challenging for many of our GCMG members.

Happily, we have great news if you need continuing education hours. Jerry McNulty and my husband, Frank Rippel, worked hard to create a YouTube Channel for the Guadalupe County Master Gardeners! You may now view recorded lectures and lunch & learns presented by our organization at [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCGCMq480CKbLSKER9\\_zz9vg/videos](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCGCMq480CKbLSKER9_zz9vg/videos)

View for free at any time that is convenient for you. The GCMG channel is kid-friendly certified. Enjoy!

April Rippel

Class 27

Check us out on

**facebook**

The GCMG's FB Page continues to see lots of new members, 724 to date, and while it hasn't exactly been filled with pretty plant images this last month, it is filled with helpful hints about handling freeze-damaged plants and trees. In case you didn't see it, here is good advice in a post from Aggie Horticulture:

**"Assessing Freeze damage"**

As everyone well knows most are experiencing an extreme cold event, not the worst cold, but probably the most challenging. Not only have the lows been super cold, but it has stayed there for an extended period. Unfortunately, those of you who have covered stuff and then placed a light underneath have also been thrown a curveball with the power outages. So, the big question is how much damage have we had?? Regrettably, it is way too early to know, so my famous answer is "hurry up and wait!" The other thing I would encourage you to do is "learn to like ugly"! Don't be in a rush to cut back branches and shoots that look dead; let the plant do what it is going to do and then react. So, I would tell you to give things two weeks or so, and then we should be able to determine what is what. Realize, that if you had active shoots, this severe cold could have damaged the water and food conducting vessels, however, this may not show up until summer when the water demand is high. If you start to see shoots die in early or mid-summer, you will find out that the vessels (xylem and phloem) were too damaged by the cold to heal themselves and meet the water demand. So, for now, I would suggest you be patient. The good news is that we had wet with the cold and hopefully that will have mitigated some of the bad effects. Stay tuned as we follow plants and assess the true damage in the coming months. Until next time, stay safe and warm!!"

This is good advice as spring approaches and we're all anxious to "pretty" things up. Remember also that critters take refuge in dead foliage and fallen branches. If possible, let Mother Nature do its thing until it warms up in the next months and new growth begins to appear.

In the meantime, the top five GCMG contributors for the GCMG Facebook Page in February were:

- **Peggy Jones**
- **Melinda Lucas**
- **Caye Powada**
- **Kathleen Avant Smith**
- **Cindy Manak**

Thanks, everyone for sharing. If you need help with joining The Guadalupe County Facebook Page, please feel free to contact me at (830) 379-7203 or e-mail me at [adrippel@gmail.com](mailto:adrippel@gmail.com) and I'd be happy to walk you through the procedure. Thank you all for sharing! Stay active! Stay positive! Stay safe!

April Rippel

# Snow Photos!



Photos by  
Peter Johnson



# Snow Photos!



Photo on the left by  
Lisa Ancelet

Photo below by  
Shennandoah Connor



Photo above by  
Robin Broughton Muschalek

# Snow Photos!



Photo to the left by Rebecca Miller,  
daughter of  
Mary Miller

Photos below by Mary Miller



# Snow Photos!

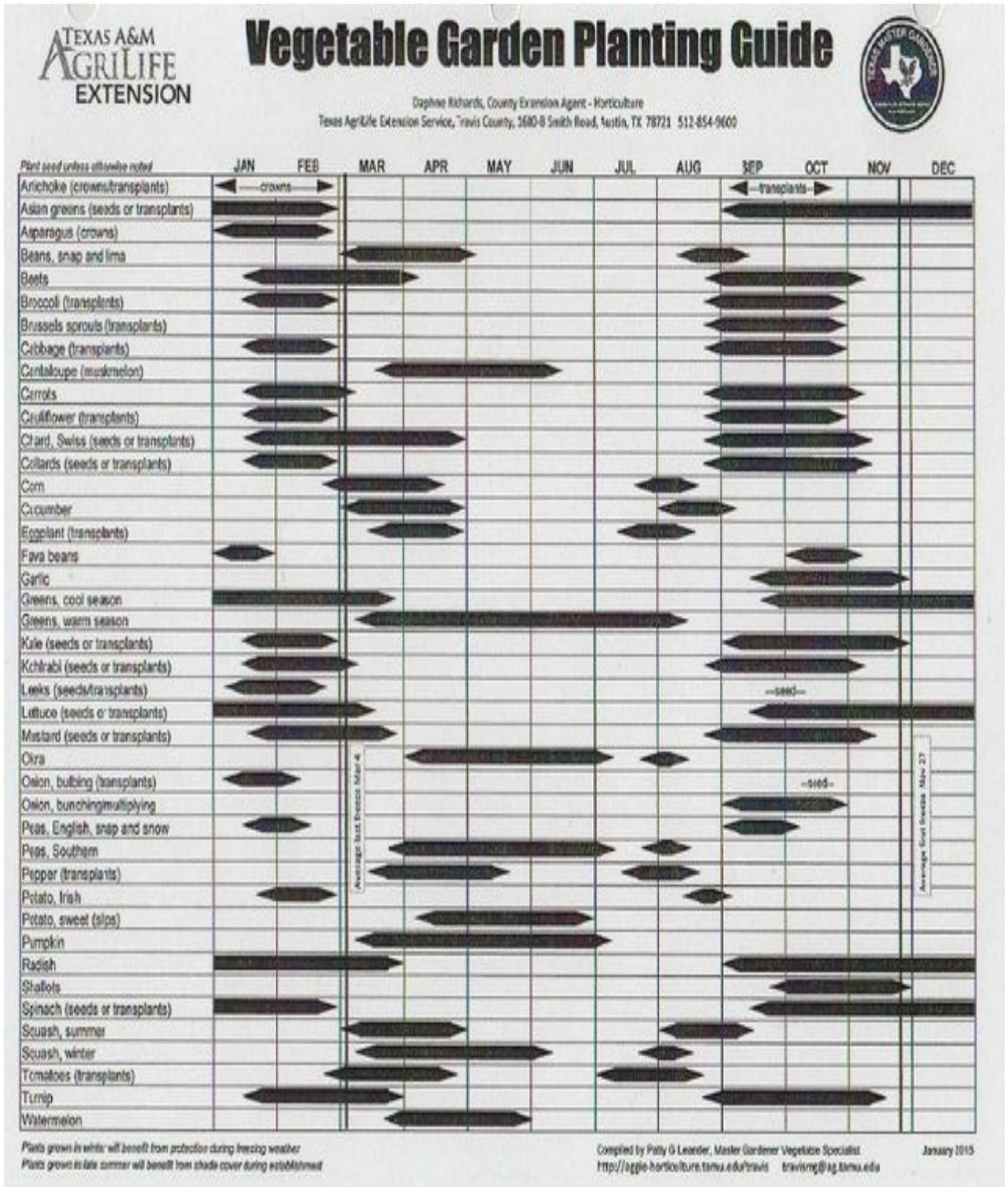


Photos by  
Cheryl Rodriguez



# Vegetable Planting Guide

<https://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/travis/wp-content/>



# *Wandering Gardener*

*Marilyn Moltz*

## *Bluebonnets*

It is March on the calendar and our minds begin to remember fields of blue. We begin to wonder if it will be a showy year or a lean year for wildflower sightings. We might even get out the Texas map to see if we can try some new back roads or make a different loop in hopes to see early, mid and late bloomers. Perhaps several drives over a 4-6 week period.

The Texas bluebonnet is part of the Fabaceae family and we usually see *Lupinus texensis* in our area. This family of flowers is found in many areas of North America. The picture marked Alaska was taken June 4, 2009 in Tok, Alaska. It was our second day in a three month stay in Alaska. I saw this flower (*Lupinus nootkatensis*, Nootka Lupine) in many areas of Alaska. The Rainier picture was taken September 5, 2008, on a day trip to Mount Rainier during a ten day stay in the Seattle, WA area. It is the *Lupinus lepidus*, Pacific lupine. The Big Bend picture is the *Lupinus havardii*. Big Bend is one of my favorite places to visit and if you have been reading my articles, you know I always find interesting and beautiful plants there to write about. This picture was taken March 23, 2018.

We are trying to plan an early summer trip to Sedona, Arizona area. Hopefully, we will be able to take this trip and begin traveling again. I do miss it very much. Maybe I will see you some where on the road this year enjoying the outdoors, nature and taking lots of pictures!

Alaska





**Photo on left taken at  
Rainer**

**Photo on right taken at  
Big Bend**



**Photo on left taken in  
Texas**

# *Wandering Gardener*

*Marilyn Moltz*

*Snow, Ice, Cold in Texas*

*February, 2021*

It was so beautiful at times and yet so harsh and unforgiving. Freezing cold weather, rolling blackouts, and for some frozen pipes and much worse. I was looking forward to watching it snow as I could be a storm chaser in another life. The weather has always intrigued, amazed, and yes, sometimes frightened me.

I did not get to watch the first snowfall, just woke up in the morning and everything was covered in white, fluffy snow. Of course, I grabbed my camera to take pictures, but soon realized it was very, very cold outside, so I took a few went back in to warm up, and went back out. Then everything started to melt and we had ice-covered snow with footprints and melting puddles. We even had icicles from the roof 2-12 inches in length. The second snow came after we could see the ground again. It began at about 9 in the morning and lasted for 6 hours. Yes, sometimes the snow was light but others it was very thick. I watched it from in and out of the house all day. A five-day roller-coaster ride of emotions.

After it warmed up and I could go out again I began to see the damage to my plants, trees, and shrubs. There are mushy bulbs, very dead leaves on trees, my antique rose bush looks very unlikely to come back, but time will only tell how many I will lose. I fed 300+ birds 3 times a day. I did not know I had that many in my area. They did not fight and I enjoyed watching them; doves, meadowlarks, cardinals, red-winged blackbirds, many kinds of sparrows, and others I still need to identify. It was truly a week we will never forget for many reasons.







## **2021 Guadalupe County Master Gardener's Plant Sale:**

It's Plant Sale time! Yes, we are having a plant sale this year and we have veggie plants for sale! As with many other events, it will look a little different so please note how this year's fundraiser is being held.

You can get your plants in several ways:

1. On-line sales, go to our plant sale website and order online. [www.gcmgtx.org/PlantSale/](http://www.gcmgtx.org/PlantSale/)  
After ordering, you will be given the option of picking up your order at 4037 Stockdale Hwy., Seguin, between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday-Sunday. Or pick up your order during the Big Red Barn Farmer's Market on either March 6<sup>th</sup> or March 20<sup>th</sup>, Saturdays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at the GCMG's Booth. You can also check the website for which plants are available from week to week.
2. Shop in person and purchase plants at 4037 Stockdale Hwy., Seguin, between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday-Sunday. (830) 379-7203. New plants every week. Cash, credit cards, & checks made out to the Guadalupe County Master Gardeners accepted.
3. Shop in person at the Big Red Barn Farmer's Market on March 6<sup>th</sup>, or March 20<sup>th</sup>, Saturdays, 10 a.m.-2:00 p.m. There will be plants available for sale at the GCMG's Booth. Cash, credit cards, and checks made out to the Guadalupe County Master Gardeners will be accepted.

The 2021 Plant Sale is being coordinated by Marty Carter, if you would like to volunteer to help, please contact Marty at [mepcarter11@gmail.com](mailto:mepcarter11@gmail.com) or call (830) 481-0229.

In April, plants will be available at the Big Red Barn's Farmer's Markets, on April 3<sup>rd</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>, Saturdays, 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Seguin's Earth Day is still "to be announced."



The vegetable & herb plants for sale are beautiful. Tomatoes, peppers, eggplants, & a variety of herbs are waiting for you to take them home. Get yours today!

# Plant Sale



## **Continuing Education Events March 2021**

***Please be aware that due to the current COVID-19 situation all training from other organizations being offered is online. Notices from Bexar and Travis counties will be sent out to members as they are received, including reminders and updates. At the time of this writing, we have no information on scheduled March training from those organizations but it will be sent to members as soon as it arrives.***

### **Guadalupe County Master Gardeners**

***Thursday, March 4, 2021: “Soils of Guadalupe County”*** presented by Guadalupe County Master Gardener Liz Romero at the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, 210 E. Live Oak, Seguin. 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. Free. Check us out on Facebook and at [www.guadalupecountymastergardeners.org](http://www.guadalupecountymastergardeners.org)

***Wednesday, April 7, 2021: “Growing Pineapples in Guadalupe County”*** by Guadalupe County Master Gardener John Watkins at the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, 210 E. Live Oak, Seguin. 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. Free. Check us out on Facebook and at [www.guadalupecountymastergardeners.org](http://www.guadalupecountymastergardeners.org)

***Wednesday, May 12, 2021: Topic TBD*** by Master Gardener Gail Johnson at the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, 210 E. Live Oak, Seguin. 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. Free. Check us out on Facebook and at [www.guadalupecountymastergardeners.org](http://www.guadalupecountymastergardeners.org)

***Wednesday, May 19, 2021: “Native Plants”*** by Guadalupe County Master Gardener Judy Stanley at the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, 210 E. Live Oak, Seguin. 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. Free. Check us out on Facebook and at [www.guadalupecountymastergardeners.org](http://www.guadalupecountymastergardeners.org)

***Wednesday, June 16, 2021: “A Landscape You Can Eat”*** by Guadalupe County Master Gardener April Rippel at the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, 210 E. Live Oak, Seguin.. 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. Free. Check us out on Facebook and at [www.guadalupecountymastergardeners.org](http://www.guadalupecountymastergardeners.org)

# Volunteer Recognition Drawing (At Some Point)

February 2021 Volunteer Recognition Drawing			
Hours Reported 1-31 January 2021			
1	Bowe, Mary		8 Nodine, William
2	Cover, Kay		9 Odvody, Ann
3	Cox, Bob		10 Odvody, Dale
4	Friesenhahn, Joyce		11 Suchan, Carol
5	Glasgow, Millie		12 Sykes, Ernestine
6	Henry, Beth		13 Taylor, Marvin (T)
7	Knobles, Janice		

To qualify for the Monthly Volunteer Recognition Program drawing, Certified Guadalupe County Master Gardeners must report a minimum of five (5) volunteer hours earned during the month in VMS by the last calendar day of the month. Hours earned for attendance at the monthly GCMG Membership Meeting are not included in the minimum five (5), except those earned for meeting setup. Board members do not participate in the Volunteer Recognition Program.

**Top Volunteers for January (25 or more hours):  
Bill Nodine, Dale Odvody**

**REMINDER**

If anyone needs a card from the organization for an illness or loss of a family member, contact: Amy McNulty , Secretary, 830-491-4742 or e-mail [amcnulty4@yahoo.com](mailto:amcnulty4@yahoo.com)

**Newsletter Staff**

Editor - Mary Miller  
Photographer - Marvin "T" Taylor  
Proofreaders- Beth Zies,  
Ranee Malmsten  
Wandering Gardener - Marilyn Moltz  
IT Guru –Greg Miller

**Members in Service**

**Texas Master Gardener Board of Directors**

**Two Year Term (2020/2021)** Mark Mullen, Alternate – Rachel Cavazos

**One Year Term (2021)** Jerry McNulty, Alternate – Vacant

Speakers Bureau - Treva Hicks

Guadalupe Co. Community Garden - Dale & Ann Odvody

Master Gardener Office/Library - Ernestine Sykes

Refreshment Coordinator - Kathleen Smith

Big Red Barn - Janice Knobles

Gutierrez Xeriscape Park - Judy Stanley

2021 County Fair - Kathleen Smith

Facebook Administrator - Vacant

Christmas Tree Decorating - Ernestine Sykes

Newsletter Editor - Mary Miller

Web Master -

Spring 2021/Seguin Class Coordinator – Kay McElveen



**Guadalupe County Master Gardeners, Inc.**

**210 East Live Oak St.**

**Seguin, TX 78155**

**Guadalupe County Master Gardeners <http://www.guadalupecountymastergardeners.org> 830-379-1972 Ext 210**

**Guadalupe County Texas A&M AgriLIFE Extension <http://guadalupe.agrilife.org/> 830-379-1972**

**Texas Master Gardeners <http://www.txmg.org>**

**GCMG Officers & Board of Directors**

Barry A. Jackson -- President

Jerry McNulty -Past President

April Rippel -President Elect

Vacant-Vice President

Valerie Bartonek -Secretary

Rachel Cavazos -Treasurer

Janice Jadwin -Publicity Director

Kim Darrough -Membership Director

Kay McElveen -Education Director

Carol Calentine-Volunteer Director

Travis Franke -AgriLIFE Agent Master Gardener

Coordinator

Reference to commercial products or trade names is made with the understanding that no discrimination by the Master Gardeners is implied, and no endorsement by the Master Gardeners is implied. The members of Texas A&M AgriLife will provide equal opportunities in programs and activities, education, and employment to all persons regardless of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation or gender identity and will strive to achieve full and equal employment opportunity throughout Texas A&M AgriLife.

**Mary Miller, Editor [marymcmiller@gmail.com](mailto:marymcmiller@gmail.com)**