



## PCMG Weekly Digest

Dear Master Gardener,

We have done it! We made it through all of our plants sales, as well as our continuing education call and Earth Day. All events last week were a huge success and I want to give a huge shout out to everyone who was involved. Thank you to those who helped and thank you to those who participated.

After the stress of last week this week has been a breeze. I got the opportunity to go on some Farm Tours this week. The first farm was Wye Mountain flower and berry and it was amazing. A very beautiful farm with a ton of blueberries and blackberries. They will be open this summer so be sure to go out and support our community.

**Only 4 more days to pay dues before you will have to pay a late fee!**

If you have not paid your dues yet they are \$20 and you can pay online using the link farther in the digest. If you do not pay your dues by **APRIL 30th** you will need to pay 30 dollars instead.

War Memorial is doing their spring planting **TODAY** and could use some extra hands!

Join the War Memorial project as we plant the spring garden!

War Memorial Entrance - located at the intersection of Markham and Fair Park Friday, April 26, 9:00 a.m.

Have fun and help beautify our city park!

Questions?? Contact Nancy Archer at:

[nlarcher@yahoo.com](mailto:nlarcher@yahoo.com)

We have a lot of new and upcoming events this month so the digest has gotten rather long. Please scroll through as

we have several master gardener events you wont want to miss out on!

Thank you for joining constant contact. Feel free to reach out if you have any questions or concerns.

Happy Gardening,  
Derek Reed

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Magnolia Chronicle has a new look and a new location on the [armqs.org](http://armqs.org) website! New issues and archive issues can now be accessed from the main menu bar.

In this issue of Magnolia Chronicle:

- President's Message
- A Guide to Spring Garden Tours in the South
- Urbana Farmstead: A Journey from Heritage Roots to Urban Farming in Arkansas
- Gardening is Good Therapy for All
- Kathy Ratcliffe: A Garden Legacy
- A Day in the Garden at Historic Arkansas Museum

Magnolia Chronicle

Visit our Website

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## DIRECTORY TIME!!!!

We are planning on making a printed directory again this year after not doing it for the past year.

So in order to insure that everyone's information is correct please go to the directory on our ARMGS and check your information. If you wish to make changes to your listing please contact Cindy Strauss at [cjstrauss@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cjstrauss@sbcglobal.net).

You can find the directory by either logging into our [armgs.org](http://armgs.org) website and clicking on the directory tab on the bar above or you can check the PDF by clicking the link below.

Thank You!

[PCMG 2024 Directory](#)

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Both our March and April monthly meeting recordings have been added to our website. If you were unable to attend and want to watch them please click the links below to check them out!

[March](#)

[April](#)

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# Central Arkansas Iris Society Annual Iris Show



**Saturday, April 27, 2024**

**Open to the Public 1:00–4:00 PM**

**Grace Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall**

**Kavanaugh at Hillcrest Street - Little Rock**

**(Adjacent to Mount St. Mary Academy)**

*Enter our Photo Contest – Call 253-678-1536 to register!*

*Everyone's invited – No cost to attend*

**[www.CentralArkansasIris.org](http://www.CentralArkansasIris.org)**

For more information contact Susan Rose at [daffodilsrose555@gmail.com](mailto:daffodilsrose555@gmail.com) or  
501-416-6390

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# Spring Luncheon

*Bemis Family Tree Farm*  
13206 Asher Road  
Little Rock, Arkansas

*Wednesday, May 15th*  
11:00 am - 1:30 pm

**Speakers:**  
**Randy Forst-Pollinators**  
**Anthony Bolden-Arkansas Trees**

**Lunch will be catered by RX Catering**  
**Chicken Caesar Salad or Chicken Fajita Salad**  
**Vegetarian: Strawberry Salad**

**Cost:**  
**\$15.00 per person**  
**Online Registration or**  
**Make checks payable to**  
**Pulaski County Extension**  
**Send to the Extension Office**  
**2901 W. Roosevelt**  
**Little Rock, AR 72204**  
**Please designate salad choice on**  
**check**

THE UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS SYSTEM DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/EQUAL ACCESS/AFFIRMATIVE ACTION INSTITUTION. IF YOU REQUIRE A REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION TO PARTICIPATE OR NEED MATERIALS IN ANOTHER FORMAT, PLEASE CONTACT PULASKI COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. DIAL 711 FOR ARKANSAS RELAY.



The Event Committee is at it again! That's right join PCMG at Beemis Tree Farm on May 15th for our spring educational event. We will have two educational speakers:

Dr. Antony Bowden will be talking on Arkansas Trees and some guy named Randy Forst will be talking about Pollinators.

The event is 15 dollars a person.

Three lunch options are available for the day:

Chicken Fajita Salad  
Chicken Caesar Salad  
Vegan Salad

Please contact Sharon Priest at 501-837-8200 or [priestsharon931@gmail.com](mailto:priestsharon931@gmail.com) to register.

You can pay by cash or check (checks must be made out to Pulaski county extension) at the county office or at our April general meeting. Or pay online by clicking the link below!

When sending in a payment please indicate what the payment is for and what you would like for lunch that day.

Looking forward to seeing you there!

[Register and Pay Online!](#)

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The third Saturday of the month  
April through October  
enjoy the  
**2024 Mount Holly Garden Series**  
presented by Little Rock's Downtown Dames

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- ☞ Bring a lawn chair and sun protection and enjoy Mount Holly's seasonal beauty while you learn something new about gardening.
- ☞ Presentations start at 9 a.m. and last about an hour.
- ☞ **Please enter the cemetery through the pedestrian gate on 13th Street between Broadway and Gaines Street. On-street parking is available on 13th, Arch, and Gaines Streets.**
- ☞ Master Gardeners may count attendance toward their educational hours requirement.
- ☞ We meet at the Bell House, in the center of the cemetery. The Downtown Dames provide refreshments and door prizes.
- ☞ A donation of \$5 is suggested.  
Donations directly benefit Mount Holly Cemetery.

***Schedule:***

- Apr 20     **Grafting in the Garden: Roses, Fruit Trees, Veggies and More**  
James Shelton, Arkansas Forestry Division, Baucum Nursery
- May 18     **Butterflies and Bees**, Leslie Fowler Cooper, Quail Forever
- Jun 15     **Carnivore Plants, Including Venus Flytraps and Pitcher Plants**  
Mark Gibson, Owner, Green Thumb Water Gardens
- Jul 20     **Gardening for the Birds**, Lauren Marshall, Witt Stephens Nature Cent
- Aug 17     **Unique Arkansas Native Plants: Where and How They Grow**  
Lynn Foster, Arkansas Master Naturalist
- Sep 21     **Rainbow of Colors: Irises of all Hues**  
Susan Rose, Pulaski County Master Gardener
- Oct 19     **Let's Do Fall!** Ted Lewis, Owner, Floral Express
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The Arkansas Unit of The Herb Society of America  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Seminar**  
**All Things Herbal 2024**

May 4<sup>th</sup>

Register Today!



**Three Speakers • Demonstrations • Plant Sale • Tastings**

**Please join the Arkansas Herb Society for their second annual All Things Herbal!**

Join us for our 2nd Annual Seminar: All Things Herbal 2024 for an incredible opportunity to learn more about herbs! Expand your herbal and gardening knowledge with our three speakers and table-top demonstrations.

You'll learn about native herbs from our own Jane Doty. Learn about monarch biology, native bees, and the native plants that support them with Leslie Cooper from the Arkansas Monarch Conservation Partnership.

Debbie Boutelier, Chair of the Herb Society of America's GreenBridges program, will talk about how to easily incorporate pollinator-friendly plants into your landscape and qualify to be a part of the GreenBridges program.

There will be short breaks throughout, as well as an hour break for guests to have lunch on their own. During breaks, guests can enjoy tastings of herbal refreshments, demonstrations of fun ways to use herbs, and of course, shop at our plant sale!

[Click Here to Register](#)

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Time to pay dues!  
**ON-TIME DUES AMOUNT:**  
\$20 (Jan. 1<sup>st</sup> - April 30<sup>th</sup>)  
**PAST-APRIL DUES AMOUNT:**  
\$30 (After April 30<sup>th</sup>)  
**ONLINE PAYMENTS!!!!**

[Click Here to Pay Dues Online!!!!](#)

**Spring PLANT SALES**

APR 1 UNTIL MAY 31

**ACCESS GARDENS**  
MON-SAT  
9:00 - 2:00

1500 N. MISSISSIPPI ST.  
[ACCESSGROUPINC.ORG](http://ACCESSGROUPINC.ORG)

**CHECK OUT OUR FRESH, NEW INVENTORY OF PLANTS AND SUPPORT OUR MISSION WITH EVERY PURCHASE**

**NOW OFFERING:**  
**PW**  
PROVEN WINNERS  
The Best Gardeners' Secret

**Annuals**

Dwarf Sunflowers  
Lantana  
Supertunias  
Verbena  
*Plus many other sun and shade options*

**Perennials**

Dianthus  
Heuchera  
Russian Sage  
Salvia  
Tall garden Phlox  
*Plus many more*

**Vegetables & Herbs**

Basil  
Peppers  
Rosemary  
Tomatoes  
*Plus additional options*

**Grab & Go Pre-Assembled Baskets & Patio Pots**

*Limited quantities available for all plants. Shop early for best selection.*



**You and your friends are invited to our  
Garden Group Native Plant pre-sale!**

**Friday, April 26th  
9:00am - 12:00pm  
Izzy's Farm and Apiary  
8300 Hood Road  
Roland, AR 72135**

*If you have reserved a plant package you can also pick that up at the same time. Payment for plant packages will be on the day of pick up.*

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**Are you wanting to plant native plants to bring more wildlife to your yard and help nature? Learn what you need to know and buy the plants at CALS 2nd Bringing Nature to Your Yard event.**

**Saturday April 27th 10:00 -1:00**

**Learn how to bring native bees, butterflies, & birds to your yard--how to select native species--how to start a pollinator garden--how to buy plants--and what plants not to buy--from experts who will be on hand to answer your questions! Learn about environmental groups and programs from exhibitors! Buy native plants from eight local sellers! And bring your kids, because library staff will offer a variety of children's activities!**

- Leslie Cooper (Arkansas Monarch & Pollinator Coordinator, Quail Forever) Planting for Bees and Butterflies 10:15AM & 10:45AM**
- Kevin Krajcir (Conservation Biologist/Grants Coordinator, Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission) Creating a Bird-Friendly Yard 11:15AM & 11:45AM**

- **Theo Witsell (Co-Founder & Chief Conservation Officer, Southeastern Grasslands Institute) Choosing Plants 10:15AM & 11:45AM**
- **Anne & David Holcomb (Arkansas Master Naturalists & Native Gardeners) Tips for Pollinator Gardens 11:15AM & 12:15PM**
- **Lynn Foster (Arkansas Master Naturalist & Vice President, AAS) Buying Native Plants 10:45AM & 12:15PM**

**[Click Here for More Information](#)**

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## 2024 Backyard Garden Workshop Series - Save the Dates

Presented by the Pulaski Conservation District in Partnership with UA Little Rock



April 13, 9:00 am to Noon: Getting the Most Out of Your Garden Space

Learn how to maximize the yield from your backyard garden with three different presentations covering tips for container gardens, the benefits of companion plantings, and how to facilitate adequate pollination.

Location: Hillary Rodham Clinton Children's Library, Little Rock



May 18, 9am to 10:30 am: Managing Backyard Chickens

Learn the basics of managing chickens in an urban environment including incubating eggs, hatching and raising chicks, feeding and watering, collecting eggs, selling eggs, trading chickens, butchering birds, daily care, and legal requirements. The class will be on-site at an urban chicken yard.

Location: 810 Water Street, North Little Rock, 72117



June 22: 9 am to Noon: Integrated Pest Management

Learn the best techniques for identifying and controlling pests before they get control of your garden.

Location: UA Little Rock Student Center followed by a tour of the Campus Garden

Registration Information Will Soon be Uploaded to the UA Little Rock Office of Extended Education website

For additional information contact the Pulaski Conservation District at (501) 758-2544 ext 3.