



## PCMG Weekly Digest

Dear Master Gardener,

I hope you have all had another wonderful week. It's been a whirlwind of a week, folks! Between chasing runaway cucumbers, negotiating peace treaties between feuding tomato plants, and trying to decipher the cryptic messages of our resident garden gnome, I've barely had a moment to stop and smell the roses—although I did manage to accidentally inhale a cloud of pollen yesterday, does that count? Anyway, amidst the chaos and the compost, let's take a moment to sit down, relax, and read through the weekly digest so we can all stay up to date.

The May/June Magnolia chronical is now live. Its another great issue so be sure to click the link below to read our newest issue.

Our May meeting is coming up soon on May 21st at St. James. This month our guest speaker will be Mark Gibson from Green Thumb Nursery who will be speaking on Ponds and Koi. As a kid I always wanted to have a pond with koi fish in my back yard so I am eager to learn from him

**Our spring luncheon is happing in NEXT weeks at Bemis tree farm so be sure to sign up for it online with the link below**

**Dues are now considered late!**

If you have not paid your dues yet they are now **\$30**. You can pay online using the link farther in the digest.

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 [armgs.org](http://armgs.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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*Community Residents in Arkansas*



# Online Focus Group

*We Want to Hear From You from the Comfort of Your Own Home...*

Join Us Virtually  
for a Focus  
Group  
Discussion on  
Nutrition and  
Physical Activity  
Knowledge and  
Resources.

Email our research team  
at [dfend@uada.edu](mailto:dfend@uada.edu)  
or call (479) 575-3902  
to be screened for eligibility.

**Limited Seating  
Available!**

**Focus Group Participants will Receive a \$50 Gift Card**

image: Freepik.com

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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 Bemis 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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Time to pay dues!  
**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' Tool

**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.*

## 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.