

PCMG Weekly Digest



Serenity Garden PEST visit

Dear Master Gardener,

I hope everyone had a wonderful week!

I have been absolutely swamped lately, but I have had the opportunity to do some really exciting things over the past couple of weeks. Last week, I had the opportunity to attend the National ASHS Conference in Dallas, Texas. ASHS is the American Society for Horticultural Science, and it was a great experience. I made a lot of great connections and attended several classes on a variety of horticulture topics that I found very interesting.

I also attended several sessions focused on Master Gardeners and came away with quite a few ideas for future projects and events that we may be able to work on here in Pulaski County. I also volunteered to be one of the judges for the Ohio Master Gardener Project of the Year submissions. I wanted to see what the judging process looked like firsthand so I could get a better idea of how the judging side of things works. Hopefully, that experience will come in handy for some of the projects we have here!

I got back from Dallas on Saturday, and then on Sunday I presented on pest management for the Central Arkansas Iris Society, which went wonderfully.

This week, I attended the first of several leadership trainings as part of iLEAD. I spent the past few days with fellow UADA employees from all over Extension.

iLEAD is a year-long leadership training program that I was lucky enough to be accepted into. Over the next year, I will be working on a leadership project, meeting with my cohort, developing my leadership skills, and getting a better understanding of all the different parts of Extension.

I was honestly a little hesitant about the training at first, but I really enjoyed this past week and am looking forward to the rest of the program. After everything going on lately, I have had very little time in my office, so I am a little behind on things. Hopefully, I will be able to get caught up over the next few days!

Fall 2026 Master Gardener Class

Our Fall 2026 Master Gardeners have now mostly completed their interviews with the board, and we are excited about our new group! Their training will begin on October 21st at 8:00 a.m.

If anyone is interested in sitting in on a class to refresh their knowledge on a particular topic, please let me know. I plan to send out the training schedule once I have it finalized.

As always, be sure to scroll down and check out everything happening over the next few weeks. We have several exciting events, educational opportunities, volunteer activities, and trips coming up that you won't want to miss. I hope to see many of you at one or more of them!

**Happy Gardening,
Derek Reed**

It's the start of a new year! If you are in need of extra hours check out upcoming volunteer opportunities.

Additional Hours

In Remembrance

We remember and honor the members of our Master Gardener family who have recently passed away. We are grateful for the time, knowledge, and dedication they shared with our program and our community. They will be remembered with appreciation and respect.



Dues (late) \$30

[Click here to Pay](#)

Click the link below to check out our Pulaski County Master Gardener shirts and swag.

[Click Here to Shop](#)



The latest edition of the Magnolia Chronicle is here!
Inside, you'll find a message from our president, Michele Wasson, From the Greenhouse, What's Bugging You, Project Spotlight, and so much more!

[Magnolia Chronicle](#)

The background of the flyer features several botanical illustrations. In the top left, there is a butterfly with orange and yellow wings perched on a green leafy branch. In the top right, there are green leaves from a plant. In the bottom left, there is a detailed illustration of a pink rose with green leaves and thorns. In the bottom right, there are more pink and white roses. The text is centered on a light cream background.

MOUNT HOLLY
GARDEN
Series 2026

AUGUST 15 PROGRAM

ANCIENT & OLD GROWTH ECOSYSTEMS OF ARKANSAS:

FROM FORESTS TO GRASSLANDS

THEO WITSELL

AT THE BELL HOUSE AT MOUNT HOLLY CEMETERY

1200 BROADWAY ST, LITTLE ROCK,

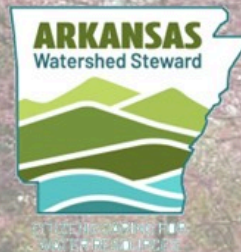
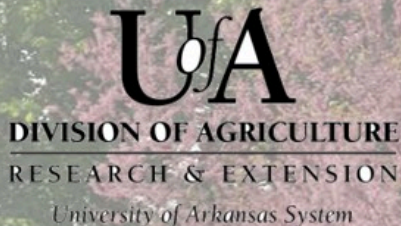
ENTER THRU 13TH STREET

PROGRAM BEGINS AT 9AM

Bring a lawn chair and sun protection
Refreshments and door prizes
Donations appreciated



FREE TREES for CENTRAL ARKANSAS!!



Central Arkansas
Tree Planting
Project Website

Plant our free trees to support
Central Arkansas:

Online Tree
Request Form



- Community beautification
- Support wildlife habitat
- Sequester carbon dioxide
- Improve watershed health

For more information contact treeplantingproject@uada.edu

Central Arkansas Tree Distribution
Request Form



Project Partners:



Pursuant to 7 CFR § 15.3, the University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture offers all its Extension and Research programs and services (including employment) without regard to race, color, sex, national origin, religion, age, disability, marital or veteran status, genetic information, sexual preference, pregnancy or any other legally protected status, and is an equal opportunity institution. This program is funded in partnership with Metroplan through a federal U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) subaward.



Link to the website: <https://www.uaex.uada.edu/environment-nature/water/central-ar-tree-project/>
 Link to the order form: <https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=T5VNF15Yw0CuHAGtpfJnI-PEyVrbqWZNiOpOCZV-qptUNV5M1NKSUhON01PUjLRM2WDM1WIJSMS4u>

PCMG Native Seed Project

Restoring pollinator habitat in landscapes with locally sourced native seed

Please consider collecting seeds from any Arkansas native plants at your projects to share with the PCMG native seed project. We will sort and store each species appropriately to preserve viability. We distribute them to PCMG and community projects during the optimal time for planting to promote germination.

Together, we can support our local wildlife and restore biohabitat. Please contact Ruth Landers

#501-519-1786 with any questions

Ruth@landersfam.com

Thank you !



PCMG Native Seed Project

We are excited to announce the arrival of a new seed dispenser in the lobby of the extension office.

Free packets of Marigolds and Zinnias are available while supplies last to brighten up your garden over the summer months. Fall native seeds will be available late September to overwinter. Questions ?
Contact PCMGNativeSeedProject@gmail.com



Survey of Tomato Producers Using Compost as a Soil Amendment



U of A DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE
RESEARCH & EXTENSION
University of Arkansas System

Are you a tomato grower in the Southern Region?

We want to learn about your interest and experience using compost on your farm or in your gardens. We've put together this regional survey to inform our future outreach and educational efforts. Your participation will help our extension faculty pursue interests and concerns you have! Please consider taking a few moments (5 to 6 minutes) to complete this brief (<15 questions) survey about compost use on your farm or garden.

This link or QR code direct to the survey:
<https://forms.office.com/r/UBRK3ugxNt>

Contact Dr. Matt Bertucci
(Bertucci@uark.edu) with any questions or concerns



Pulaski County Master Gardeners | 2901 W Roosevelt | Little Rock, AR 72204 US

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