



A Gardener's Journal

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President's Corner

Dear members,

We hope you have enjoyed the last two meetings as much as Beckie, myself and the Board members. Hopefully, your plan is ready to move on to the next phase . . . what to plant. Steve Huddleston from the FW Botanic Garden is kicking the next phase off with trees and shrubs. As a reminder, we are visiting Metro Maples the Wednesday after our regular meeting so we can see the maples with their fall color SPECTACULAR . . . you will love this!

KSB is busy this time of year too. Twelve environmental grants are being awarded to teachers of Southlake. We congratulate them on their efforts teaching our youngsters environmental values that will continue to inspire them as adults. The leaf recycling program is starting up again. Pick up dates are scheduled for November 18, December 2, December 16 and January 6. The city website (www.cityofsouthlake.com)

has more details.

The Dorothy Wood Education Center is going through its final stages with the City before construction begins. The garden will be planted with earth-kind roses and knock out roses and two trial roses that may be the next two earth-kind roses – 23 in all. Construction will hopefully begin the weekend of the 23rd and will be complete three weeks later. Come see its progress.



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Happy Halloween! See you in November!

Wendi

MARK YOUR CALENDAR -Felder Rushing is coming January 28th. You don't want to miss it!

Local Gardening Events

- 9/19-11/1—Autumn at the Arboretum, Dallas Arboretum
- 10/24—Dallas Open Days Garden Tour—tickets at Calloways
- 10/24-25—Fall Festival in the Japanese Garden—Ft. Worth Botanic Garden

From the dirt up - Trees and Shrubs

Why plant trees? Trees provide a multitude of benefits. Unfortunately, much of the general public is not well informed on this topic. By increasing awareness of the benefits relating to



trees, we can all utilize current scientific evidence to help resolve many challenging issues and improve the livability of our cities. Proper tree care and sound forest management programs are crucial to the health,

longevity, and sustainability of our urban forests. The care of trees is a wise investment in our future.

Trees increase property values, decrease temperature and energy consumption, improve air, water and soil quality, and provide economic, health and psychological benefits to people. On most residential lots, it is recommended to plant 2" to 4" caliper trees. Generally, it takes two to

Creating the Master Plan (cont.)



three years for a tree to become established and thrive. Larger trees are available; then again, the larger the tree is at planting, the longer it takes to establish itself and the lower the survival rate.

A proper landscape plan takes each tree into consideration:

Height. Will the tree bump into anything when it is fully grown?

Canopy spread. How wide will the tree grow?

Is the tree deciduous or coniferous? (Will it lose its leaves in the winter?)

Form or shape. A columnar tree will grow in less

space. Round and V-Shaped species provide the most shade.

Growth rate. How long will it take for your tree to reach its full height? Slow growing species typically live longer than fast growing species.

Soil, sun, and moisture requirements.

Fruit. No one wants messy droppings on busy sidewalks.

Hardiness zone indicates the temperature extremes in which a tree can be expected to grow.

Our guest speaker for November should be able to help us understand which trees will satisfy these requirements for the North Texas area.

Make sure that you join us!



Are you a Co-Hostess?

You may have noticed that we are doing things a little differently this year. We've decided to mix it up with our meetings. Some will be at The Lodge and some will be at member's homes.

This gives us a great opportunity to experience some of the beautiful gardens of our members!

In order to provide more opportunities for everyone to be involved, we've asked members to help out with the hostess duties. Rosemary Hutchins is in charge of Hospitality, and we've asked for 2 co-hostesses for each meeting.

Rosemary will provide the paper goods, utensils

and beverages for each meeting. What's the role of the co-hostess? We'd like to have you help with the refreshments. Something simple for us to nibble on before the meeting.

Rosemary will contact you prior to the meeting to coordinate with both of the co-hostesses. If you are not able to cover the meeting that you signed up for, please let Rosemary know as quickly as possible, so that we can arrange for someone else to take your slot.



Felder Rushing—January 28th!

Felder Rushing is a hardcore, 10th generation Southern gardener residing in Jackson, Mississippi. His garden has been featured in Garden Design, Southern Living, Horticulture, House and Garden, and The New York Times. Rushing's overstuffed, quirky cottage garden has been featured in many TV programs and magazines (including a cover of Southern Living), and includes a huge variety of weather-hardy plants along with a collection of folk art. There is no

turf grass, just plants, yard art, and "people places." And he's coming to Southlake to speak to our group! Please make sure that you set aside the evening of January 28th for this special event. This will also be open to the public, but seating will be limited. Make sure that all of your gardening friends plan on attending. More info on tickets, location and timing will be coming soon!



Save the Date! November Field Trip!!!

To follow up our discussion of trees and shrubs, we're planning a field trip to Metro Maples in Mansfield on **November 18**. They have a display garden with over 50 varieties of Japanese Maples and they sell over 75 varieties.

We'll send out details about where to meet and what time in the next couple of weeks. Be watching your e-mail!

Landscape Plan Update



I know that everyone enjoyed the presentation by Julie and Sharon at the October meeting. Those of you that worked on your plans and would still like some one-on-one help are in luck. Sharon has graciously agreed to set up some individual meetings with members. She'll be available at the Lodge prior to the

Christmas Luncheon. Each session will be 15-20 minutes, and we'll ask that you sign up in advance. Please either call Sharon (817-442-8720) e-mail her (sduquemin@verizon.net), or see her at the November meeting to set up a time. Again, these sessions will be at the Lodge on the morning of December 9th.

November Garden Tips

Keep mowing right up until frost. Letting grass grow taller does not increase its winter durability. Tall grass actually becomes weak grass. Keep fallen leaves off your lawn. They compact, trapping moisture underneath. Turf diseases love those conditions. Either bag or rake them. Use them in the compost pile. Do not send them to the landfill. Remove dead or damaged branches from trees before the trees lose their leaves. That way you can distinguish them from healthy limbs. Root-prune established trees and shrubs

you intend to transplant this winter. Cut around the plant at the location where the final digging will be done. The severed roots will send out new roots, and they will hold the soil ball together more firmly. Clean and oil hand tools when you have finished using them for the season. Take power equipment in for repairs. Prepare houseplants for move indoors for the winter. Gradually acclimate them to darker conditions by cutting back on the water and nutrition you give them.

**Next meeting
November 11—
Judy Anderson's
house
1608 Mockingbird Ln.
Southlake**

Book Signing at the November Meeting

As mentioned during the October meeting, Steve Huddleston will be our guest speaker at the November meeting, discussing Trees and Shrubs. Steve is the senior horticulturist at the Fort Worth Botanical Garden. His book, *Easy Gardens for*

North Central Texas, was published earlier this year. Steve has agreed to sign books at the meeting. If you have a copy, bring it with you. Or, if you prefer, Steve will have copies of the book available for purchase that day.



December PGS Meeting

It's never too early to begin to plan holiday parties! Please join us on December 9th for lunch at Mi Cocina. We'll play some games—with great prizes. We'll also be taking donations for Christ

Haven. We'll have more details as we get closer to December. Watch for the sign up sheet at next month's meeting!



The Perennial Garden Society is a non-profit organization dedicated to educating its members on gardening topics specific to the North Texas area. The primary focus of the group is native and adapted drought tolerant perennials and grasses. Our purpose is to promote, encourage and share ideas with other gardeners regarding the implementation of native and adapted perennial in the suburban Texas landscape.