

Wilson Botanical Gardens

Promoting horticultural education through the use of outdoor classrooms to heighten appreciation of how horticulture, gardening, landscape design and environmental stewardship are linked to the land we inhabit.

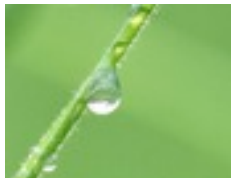
A Quarterly Newsletter

January 2013

Happy 2013! There is a lot to be excited about at the Wilson Botanical Gardens. First we are in the process of training 11 new Extension Master Gardener Volunteers. We all know without their dedicated service and regular

maintenance to the gardens we would be lost.

We have some great programs planned for youth and



adults. See the following pages for details. We have "retired" our 'Alive at 5' series and hope by offering programs on different days and times more of you will be able to attend.

A new website is coming!



Lastly, but surely not least we are geared up for the 2013 Wilson Garden Tour. This is our largest tour with eight

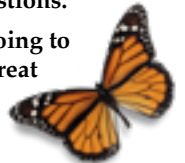
stunning gardens to view. See additional information in this newsletter about the tour, reception with silent auction and ticket information. Invite you friends from out of town because you don't want them to miss this event.

As always I am very interested in hearing your ideas as well as our board welcomes your comments and suggestions.

It is going to be a great year.

Cyndi

Lauderdale, Ext. Dir.



2013 Wish List

We all know times are tough and this especially affects non-profits like the WBG. We rely solely on our members and fundraising efforts to support our projects. Most of our funds have been directed to develop our Children's Secret Garden.

Our dedicated volunteer gardeners have supplied us with a wish list of items that would help them in the New Year.

As you can see most of them are relatively inexpensive. If you can find a way to provide one or more of these items to the WBG gardeners, we would be so thankful.

Fiskers 18 in d-handled pruning saw \$23

Fiskers 14 ft. Bypass pruner \$40

3 bags of potting soil, \$12.00 each

1 hose hanger \$30

2 metal leaf rakes \$10 each

1 shovel \$7

1 pitchfork \$37

6 bags Farfard 3B soil for Greenhouse \$16 each

Pick an item you want to donate. Mail the check to the WBG address listed on this newsletter with the item written on the memo line.

Remember all donations to the WBG are completely tax deductible.



Children make pine cone bird feeders to hang on the Christmas Tree that was located in the Children's Secret Garden, December 2012.



One of the gardens on the 2013 Wilson Garden Tour

2013 Wilson Garden Tour



May 3 and 4: 10 am-4 pm

Evening Reception with Silent Auction: Friday, May 3, 5-7 PM

Eight Gardens featured on tour:

- Mr. & Mrs. Tim Webb: Country Oasis
- Dr. & Mrs. Cummings: Summer Retreat
- Dr. and Mrs. Taylor: Hobbyist Family Garden
- Mr. & Mrs. Hill: Outdoor Southern Living
- Ms. Wikfors: Garden of Delights
- Mr. & Mrs. Skinner: Green Heritage Garden
- Mr. & Mrs. Barnes: Artist's Garden
- Mr. & Mrs. Andrews: Formal and Relaxing

2013 Youth/Children Programs



All youth events, unless indicated will meet at the WBG Children's Secret Garden.

- Greenhouse & Seed Planting Saturday, April 20, 10:00am**
 - Down & Dirty Planting Saturday, May 11, 10:00am**
 - Art & Butterflies Saturday, June 1, 10:00am**
 - Protecting Our Gardens Saturday, September 7, 10:00am**
 - Birds & Feeders Saturday, October 5, 10:00am**
 - Wilson Whirligig Festival – Nature Mobiles, meet at the Wilson Whirligig Festival, Saturday, November 2, 10:00am**
- See more details on our FB page.

2013 Adult Programs



- Hands on Fruit Tree Pruning Thursday, March 7 Meet at Ag. Center 12:30pm**
 - Daylilies – How to Clump & Divide Thursday, March 21, 1:00 pm**
 - EMG Plant Sale: Saturday, April 13 9:00am – 12:00pm**
 - Container Gardening & Miniature Gardens Monday, June 17, 3:00pm**
 - Cooking with Herbs Monday, July 15, 5:00 pm**
 - Ikabana Flower Arranging Monday, September 16, 3:00 pm**
 - Car Show Saturday, October 26, 10 am**
- All events meet in Ag. Center.

Gardening Calendar for January

Lawn Care

- Use a slow-releasing fertilizer on cool-season lawns if you choose to do so.
- Keep tree leaves from collecting on your lawn.

Fertilizing

- Spread ashes from the fireplace around gardens and bulb beds where soil pH is below 6.0. Avoid acid-loving

plants. (3 lbs of ash = 1 lb of limestone)

- Now is the time to put out limestone if needed (it takes about three months for lime to change the soil's pH)
- Fertilize houseplants as needed.

Planting

- Asparagus crowns can be planted at this time.

Propagation

- Hardwood cuttings of many landscape plants like forsythia (yellow bells), flowering quince, weigela, crape myrtle, juniper, spirea and hydrangea can be taken this month.

Pruning

- Prune grape vines
- Any dead or diseased wood can be pruned out anytime of

the year.

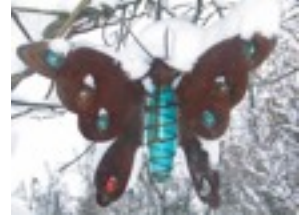
- Weeds should be removed from the landscape.

Spraying

- None

Other Activities

- Order fruit trees and grape vines now if you wish to plant them in February and March.



- Continue putting the leaves from your yard into a compost bin.

Call of the Month: Earthworms

“I see little ant like hills in my yard near the street curb, but no ants, and the ground is really spongy, what should I do?”

This describes earthworms perfectly. Earthworms are clearly beneficial in soil for aeration, water penetration, thatch control, addition of bacteria, organic matter and other benefits. However, on rare occasions and in rare situations, earthworms may become undesirable. Extremely high populations may disrupt roots or create so much upturned castings on the surface as to smother low growing blades and create a bumpy surface.

Control

There is no treatment for earthworms. Power raking or rolling of the lawn when castings are soft will usually even the soil. There are no chemical pesticides for homeowners registered for treatment against earthworms. Check the pH in the soil. Earthworms prefer less acidic soils. Many earthworm problems also tend to be in less well-drained soils.

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