

ADULT LEARNING, 2021

Normally, we offer several in-person ADULT LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES, unlimited in size. Due to COVID-19 protocol, we are scheduling in-person classes for up to 16 participants, by reservation only, required social distancing and facemasks. Or, ZOOM ACCESS is available.

All class/lecture fees are: FREE with membership or admission; \$5 others.
Make reservations at 361-852-2100; or email info@stxbot.org for ZOOM info.
(If COVID counts dictate, classes may be announced as ZOOM only.)

WINTER LECTURE SERIES, 10-11am, Wednesdays.

Residents and winter guests love this Wednesday morning series, where you enjoy a cup of coffee, new acquaintances, and new knowledge about Texas Coastal Bend horticulture, environmental education, other interesting topics, from different guest speakers each week.

Jan 20	Edible Gardens	Deb Holliday, Master Gardener
Jan 27	Trees for South Texas	Michael Womack, Exec. Director
Feb 3	Face Lift for Landscapes	Whitney Lance/Color by the Door
Feb 10	Growing Orchids on a Stick	Jorge Garcia, Orchid Curator
Feb 17	Monarch Waystations	Rosemary Plank, Master Naturalist
Feb 24	Plumeria Winter Wakeup	Melissa Garcia, Plumeria Society

ABCs OF SPRING VEGETABLE GARDENING

Saturday, February 6, 9:15 am –10:15 am.

Carol Krank, STBGNC Horticulturist, along with Nueces County Master Gardeners Deb Houlihan and Frank Eicholz, share secrets and life-times of gardening experiences on the best vegetable varieties, planting techniques, and how to head off potential problems in spring vegetable gardens, maximizing harvest.

GARDENING IN SAND

Saturday, February 20, 9:15 am –10:15 am.

Shelby Guerro of Bloomers Nursery in Rockport provides insights for gardening in sandy soils including plant selections, soil preparation, and other techniques to master this challenging growing environment.

NEW VARIETIES AND OLD FAVORITES FOR LANDSCAPES

Saturday, March 6, 9:15 am –10:15 am. (ZOOM only)

Kathy Hubner, Landscape Designer at Gill Landscape Nursery, shares examples of new plant varieties for local landscapes, providing information on some of her favorite plant picks that perform consistently through the years to give you more choices on sprucing up your landscape in spring. Get ideas from her years of experience on how to jazz up those old landscapes to create a vibrant new look with lots of curb appeal!

{SPECIAL EVENT}: SPRING BREAK

Daily Activities, March 6-21!

Students off during spring break weeks can fill a day at the Botanical Gardens, touring and joining special activities:

REPT-TALES, daily 10:30-11:00 am.

PARROT TALK, daily 1:30-2:00 pm.

NATURE PLAY, an hour, daily at 2:30 pm, creative thinking using natural building blocks like "tree cookies," woodblocks, stones, other youth activities, to encourage self-guided outdoor play.

ON YOUR OWN, explore nature trails, wetland boardwalk, wildlife blinds, floral conservatories, gardens, "Resident Reptiles," Butterfly House, Monkey Mansion Tree House, more. General Admission covers all.



KITCHEN HERBS

Saturday, March 20, 9:15 am –10:15 am.

Nueces Master Gardener Deb Holliday and her "herbie" compadres will provide insights into selecting and growing culinary herbs to spice up your recipes. Tastings of select dishes also are provided as they share ways to use herbs in your meals.

{SPECIAL EVENT}: BIRDIEST FESTIVAL IN AMERICA

Wednesday-Sunday, April 21-25

Spotlighting South Texas peak spring migration in one of country's busiest flyways, festival features optional guided birding field trips to regional hot spots, shorebird/wading bird sites, and private ranches. "The Raptor Project"

presentations, vendor tradeshow; NEW THIS YEAR:

KEYNOTE SPEAKER, Noted Birder, Author, and Illustrator

DAVID SIBLEY will share insights on migration on Friday, April 23rd. Registration open Dec. 15.

Details, www.birdiestfestival.org.



POLLINATOR GARDENS

Saturday, May 1, 9:15-10:15

Nueces Master Gardener Deb Houlihan provides insights on planting a garden that attracts a variety of visiting pollinators to your landscape. Learn plant varieties which attract butterflies, hummingbirds, and bees to your garden.

SPECIAL EVENT: MOTHERS DAY FREE WEEKEND

MOMS GET IN FREE! Saturday, Sunday, May 8-9

Celebrate Mothers' Day Weekend with us! At Visitors Center Check-in, all a mother needs to say is "Moms Love Flowers!", and she gets in free. Sorry, the rest of the family pays general admission. (Of course, members always get in free.) SPECIAL MOMS DAY DEAL: Buy Mom a membership this weekend, at 20% off for a year's worth of free admission, Nature's Boutique, nursery, BIG BLOOM and other discounts, national magazine subscription, plus 325 Reciprocal Gardens around the Country (www.ahsgardening.org/rap).

TROPICALS IN LANDSCAPE Saturday, May 15, 9:15-10:15

Nueces County Extension Horticulture Agent Kevin Gibbs explores options on transforming your backyard into a jungle paradise with tropical plants to transport you to the islands after a long day at work.

NEST CHECKS: MARVELS OF PURPLE MARTINS

Saturday, May 22, 9:15-10:15

Louise Chambers, retired biologist with Purple Martin Conservation Assoc will give guests an chance to peak at tiny purple martins recently hatched in the STBGNC colony!