



As the Garden Grows

A Publication of the Gonzales Master Gardeners

Gonzales, Texas October 2018 Volume 8, Issue 9

Fall is an Excellent Time to Buy & Plant

FALL TREE & PLANT SALE

Saturday, October 20, 2018

9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Texas Heroes Square

Gonzales, TX

Plans are working out really great for the annual Fall & Plant Sale. Donna Bell and Shirley Frazier have done a great job of getting things organized and ready to go. Everyone should have received an email or two about what is happening. Take time to let them know where you can help out if you haven't already been assigned a task. See ya on October 20. There will be fruit trees, blackberries, perennials, annuals and fall vegetables for sale. Jeff Lowe has organized a Silent Auction and there will be decorated pumpkins for sale.



Gonzales Master Gardeners, Jeff Lowe, Dwaine Siptak, Arline Schacherl and Fran Saliger were in the Come and Take It parade on Saturday, October 6 advertising the upcoming sale.

Pumpkins for Sale at the Fall Tree & Plant Sale!





Arline, Pam, Donna, Fran and Cheryl had a lot of fun decorating the pumpkins for the sale.

Second Grade Children Learn About the Water Cycle

The Second Grade children from GISD came to PACE on September 20 to participate in a wonderful hands on learning opportunity about the Water Cycle and how it effects plants. The 200+ students learned about evaporation, condensation, precipitation and collection of water in the environment. They then created a terrarium to take back to the classroom so they could observe how this process works. Each class worked in teams of 4-5 students to create two "wet" and two "dry" terrariums. Teachers and children had a great time. Thanks to all the volunteers who helped with the program and to David DeMent for teaching the class.

Evaporation



Evaporation is when the sun heats up water in rivers or lakes or the ocean and turns it into vapor or steam. The water vapor or steam leaves the river, lake or ocean and goes into the air. Make your own evaporation. With an adult's help, heat some water in a kettle. Watch closely! Do you see the steam rising? That's evaporation!

Condensation



Water vapor in the air gets cold and changes back into liquid, forming clouds. This is called condensation.

To see condensation in action, put a large (at least 8 1/2 x 11) piece of cardboard (a book will work) in the freezer for about an hour. Now, take the boiling kettle of water and hold the cold book about 1 foot over the spout (right in the steam... wear oven mitts). Water droplets will form on the book. That's condensation!

Precipitation



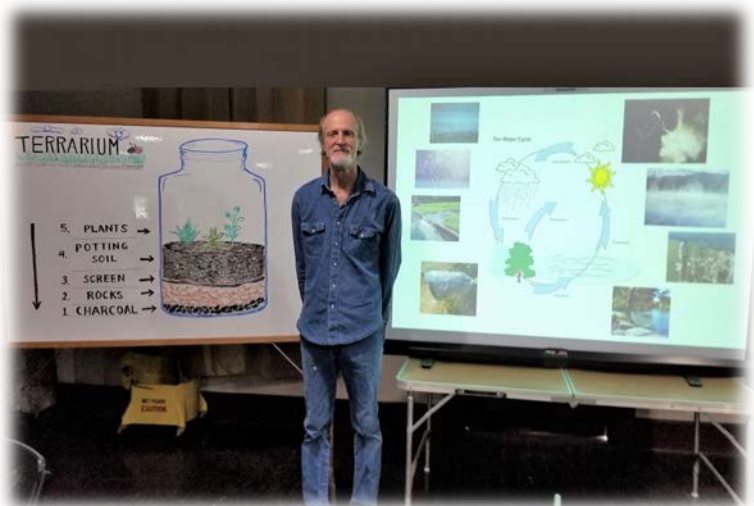
Precipitation occurs when so much water has condensed that the air cannot hold it anymore. The clouds get heavy and water falls back to the earth in the form of rain, hail or snow.

If you continue the condensation experiment long enough, so much water will condense on the book that it won't be able to hold it all. At that point, water will start dripping down from the book and you've created precipitation!

Collection



When water falls back to earth as precipitation, it may fall back in the oceans, lakes or rivers or it may end up on land. When it ends up on land, it will either soak into the earth and become part of the "ground water" that plants and animals use to drink or it may run over the soil and collect in the oceans, lakes or rivers where the cycle starts all over again.



Volunteers are the BEST!

Thanks for all you do! It takes input from each of you to assure that our successful programs continue. There are so many ways that each of you can contribute to the success of our organization.

Recently a team worked at cleaning up the Children's Garden before Come and Take It. Arline is planning to schedule monthly work days at the garden. Plan ahead and help keep the garden looking great. This is a very visible showcase of GMG's community involvement.

A number of people work every week to see that the plants in the Greenhouse are maintained (Dwayne, Jeff, Shirley and Fran). The Lunch and Learn events are teaching others in the community about gardening and horticulture. Thank you, Carolyn Wilkerson, for leading this program. She needs help in providing speakers and providing the meal. Thanks to Robbie Cole for taking the lead on our "Fun and Educational Trips". This is one of the suggestions that the membership wanted in a recent survey. Let Robbie know of any field trip destinations that you think would be of interest to the membership. Thanks to our GMG Training class assistants for 2018-2019-Phyllis Gavillet, Dwayne Siptak, Carolyn Parratt and Jacky DuCote. And Thanks to all the others who take on leadership opportunities and support our programs.

Does someone want to volunteer to keep the PACE grounds looking great? Perhaps schedule a monthly clean up date? Let me know!

There are many ways in which each of you can do your part in keeping GMG a great organization. It takes all of us to assure the continued success of GMG. Find your spot!

Volunteers turned in 185 hours for September!! Thank you very much.

Thank You,

Fran Saliger, Volunteer Coordinator

3rd Grade Black Walnut Tree Restoration Project

11/13/18 – Tentative date for Black Walnut tree give away

11/28/18 (alt 12/05/18) – Planting black walnuts with the 3rd grade students at PACE

Donna Bell will lead the program for the 3rd Grade class session. Numerous volunteers will be needed to get the tree pots ready for the class and assisting with the class on **November 28**. A date for gathering walnut seeds will also be planned soon. Stay tuned for more follow-up on the program.

Noon MG Lunch Meeting

The next general meeting of GMG will be held on November 1, 2018. Jacky DuCote and Carolyn Wilkerson will be providing the lunch. Please plan on being there as we will be electing the next "Executive Committee" (board of officers) for the next two years and voting on the approval of the revised "By-laws" for the organization.

The Nominating Committee has selected the following persons for the ballot:

President: Arline Schacherl

Vice-President: Jacky DuCote

Secretary: Robbie Cole

Treasurer: Nick Wentworth

If anyone else wishes to be on the ballot, your nominations will be accepted at the meeting and voted upon by the members present at this meeting.

The Executive Committee has been considering revisions to the GMG By-Laws over the past several months. These revisions were sent to each member via email and presented at the October general meeting. The revisions will be voted upon at the November meeting. If you did not receive the revisions and would like to review them before the meeting, please contact someone on the current Executive Committee.

Come and enjoy a great lunch and visit with everyone. **All new students are welcome to join us at the meeting.** We look forward to seeing everyone. Bring a door prize!

Gonzales Master Gardener Recertification

To be recertified as a GMG each year, 20 hours of volunteer work and 6 CEU's along with membership dues are needed by December 31 to be a certified Texas Master Gardener.

Gonzales Master Gardener member dues for 2019 are now being accepted. Dues are payable by cash or check, made out to GMG. Please bring your dues payment to GMG Treasurer, Nick Wentworth at the November or December member luncheon meetings.

Dues are \$20 per year for regular member (students exempted). If you graduated in May 2018, you do not pay dues until December 2019.

Check out <http://texastreeplanting.tamu.edu>

and discover what trees grow best in Gonzales County

Recommended small trees for Gonzales county



Mexican Plum

Prunus mexicana

Leaf

Type: Deciduous

Comments: Good fall color, yellow to red to purple; prefers well-drained soils.



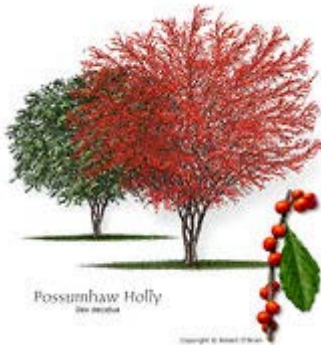
Texas Redbud

Cercis canadensis
var. texensis

Leaf

Type: Deciduous

Comments: Good choice for Central and West Texas.



Possumhaw

Ilex decidua

Leaf

Type: Deciduous

Comments: Striking native plant. Choose female plants in the nursery for the berries.



Common Crapemyrtle

Lagerstroemia
indica

Leaf

Type: Deciduous

Comments: Many sizes and colors available, but 'National Arboretum' cultivars are excellent choices.

DATES TO REMEMBER: (Check elsewhere in newsletter for details)

**Unless otherwise noted, all meetings/classes are at
623 N. Fair Street (Plantatarium: A Center for Exploration-aka PACE)**

OCTOBER 14	15	16	17	18 Plant Sale Preparation	19 Plant Sale Preparation	20 FALL TREE & PLANT SALE 9AM TILL 1PM
21	22	23 MG class Propagation 8:30 am- 12:30 pm	24	25 Board Mtg. 9:30 am	26	27

Web pages:

<http://gonzalesmastergardeners.org>

<http://gonzales.agrilife.org>



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