

SOUTH PLAINS HORTICULTURE

TEXAS A&M
AGRI LIFE
EXTENSION



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HAVE YOU HEARD?

Lubbock County Extension brings you the latest ag news every day to your local radio station! Tune in to 105.7, the Red Dirt Rebel, between 1:45 and 2:00 p.m. every day. Be sure to give us a listen!





COMMUNITY UPDATES



Construction is beginning on a new public education garden here in Lubbock! Stay tuned for more info in the coming months.

SMITH SPROUTS

Smith Sprouts is an after-school garden club for students at Preston Smith Elementary. Students gain hands-on horticultural experience through a variety of projects and experiments



FROST BITES BACK

While it may be tempting to prune after a frost, this can actually do more harm than good for plants! Just because plant foliage isn't as pretty doesn't mean the plant is dead! As we reach temps below 32°, bring plants indoors if possible. For outdoor plants, loosely cover with sheets or blankets to block wind and insulate. If damage does occur, allow time for your plants to recover.



MEET OUR INTERN

Meet Olivia Moore, our new horticulture extension intern! Olivia grew up in Frankfort, Kentucky, and loves all things plants. She transferred to Texas Tech this year after spending a year at the University of Kentucky; she is earning her degree in agricultural communications.

"I am so excited to be joining the Lubbock Co. Extension team to expand my knowledge in horticulture and West Texas agriculture!"

GROWING FROM HOME

Tired of the winter weather? Get a head start on spring by starting seeds indoors for your garden or flower bed!

Start Seeds Inside

Herbs

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Basil | <input type="checkbox"/> Lemon | <input type="checkbox"/> Broccoli | <input type="checkbox"/> Lettuce |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Catnip | <input type="checkbox"/> Grass | <input type="checkbox"/> Cabbage | <input type="checkbox"/> Mustards |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chives | <input type="checkbox"/> Majoram | <input type="checkbox"/> Cauliflower | <input type="checkbox"/> Peppers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cilantro | <input type="checkbox"/> Mint | <input type="checkbox"/> Collards | <input type="checkbox"/> Spinach |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dill | <input type="checkbox"/> Oregano | <input type="checkbox"/> Eggplant | <input type="checkbox"/> Tomato |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lavender | <input type="checkbox"/> Parsley | <input type="checkbox"/> Kale | <input type="checkbox"/> Tomatillo |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lemon Balm | <input type="checkbox"/> Thyme | <input type="checkbox"/> Kohlrabi | |

Ornamental

- | | | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Alyssum | <input type="checkbox"/> Dahlias | <input type="checkbox"/> Nasturtium | <input type="checkbox"/> Salvia |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Butterfly Bush | <input type="checkbox"/> Echinacea | <input type="checkbox"/> Pentas | <input type="checkbox"/> Shasta |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Calendula | <input type="checkbox"/> Hollyhocks | <input type="checkbox"/> Petunias | <input type="checkbox"/> Daisies |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coleus | <input type="checkbox"/> Impatiens | <input type="checkbox"/> Phlox | <input type="checkbox"/> Verbena |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cosmos | <input type="checkbox"/> Lobelia | <input type="checkbox"/> Poppy | <input type="checkbox"/> Zinnias |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Marigolds | <input type="checkbox"/> Rudbeckia | | |

Seed Starting Tips & Tricks

- Purchase new seeds (old seeds don't germinate as well)
- If you don't have a planting flat/tray, use an old egg carton.
- Cover your seeds with a plastic dome for adequate moisture (be sure to watch for mold growth)
- Keep seeds under a grow light or near a window with full sun.
- Use a heat mat or electric blanket to keep soil warm for seeds.



Start Seeds Outside

Edibles

- | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Beets | <input type="checkbox"/> Kale | <input type="checkbox"/> Peas | <input type="checkbox"/> Iris & Lily Bulbs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cabbage | <input type="checkbox"/> Kohlrabi | <input type="checkbox"/> Radish | <input type="checkbox"/> Canna Bulbs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Carrots | <input type="checkbox"/> Mustard | <input type="checkbox"/> Spinach | <input type="checkbox"/> Turnip |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cauliflower | <input type="checkbox"/> Parsley | | |

Ornamental

Transplant Outside

- | | | |
|--|--|--------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Asparagus | <input type="checkbox"/> Roses | <input type="checkbox"/> Cedar |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potatoes | <input type="checkbox"/> Shrubs | <input type="checkbox"/> Pine |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fruit & Nut Trees | <input type="checkbox"/> Woody Vines & Ground Covers | |

ROSE PRUNING 101

Get your rose bushes in prime condition by pruning after Valentine's Day.

LANDSCAPE ROSE

Landscape roses grow to be full and bushy

LET'S GET PRUNING

1. Trim branches to reach the overall desired size and shape of the bush.
2. Make angled cuts on branches
3. Dispose of removed branches and leaves

MATERIALS

gloves loppers small saw shears

HYBRID TEA ROSE

Hybrid tea roses grow upright

LET'S GET PRUNING

1. Remove leaves on branches you will cut.
2. Cut branches at a 45° angle 1/4" - 1/2" above an outward-facing bud (buds appear as small bumps on the stem)
3. Remove any dead or damaged growth
4. Dispose of removed branches and leaves



THE DROP OF LIFE

Water Weekly

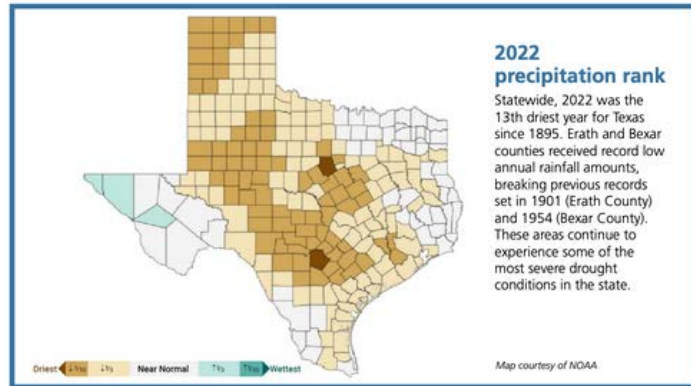
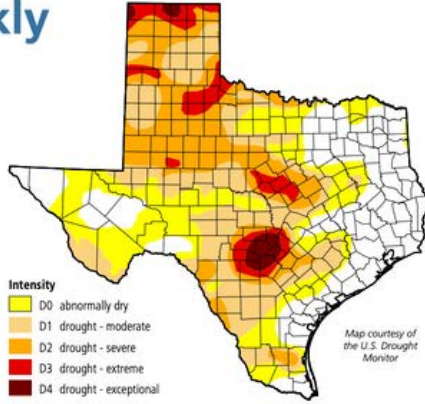
For the week of 01/16/23

Water conditions

This week's drought monitor map, for conditions as of January 10, shows continued expansion and intensification of drought in Central and South Texas. The first half of January has been dry for most of the state. Even during this cooler time of year, that's a recipe for more drought.

Drought conditions

- ◆ 52% now
- ◆ 50% a week ago
- ◆ 73% three months ago
- ◆ 82% a year ago



Written by Dr. Mark Wentzel — Dr. Mark Wentzel is a hydrologist in the TWDB's Office of Water Science and Conservation.

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Texas Water Development Board

Putting knowledge
into action:

What Does A Day Without Water Look Like?

Art Contest!

PRIZES

- \$100 Elementary School
- \$100 Middle School
- \$100 High School

Deadline: March 31st

www.mylubbock.us/klbart

City of Lubbock TEXAS

KEEP LUBBOCK Beautiful

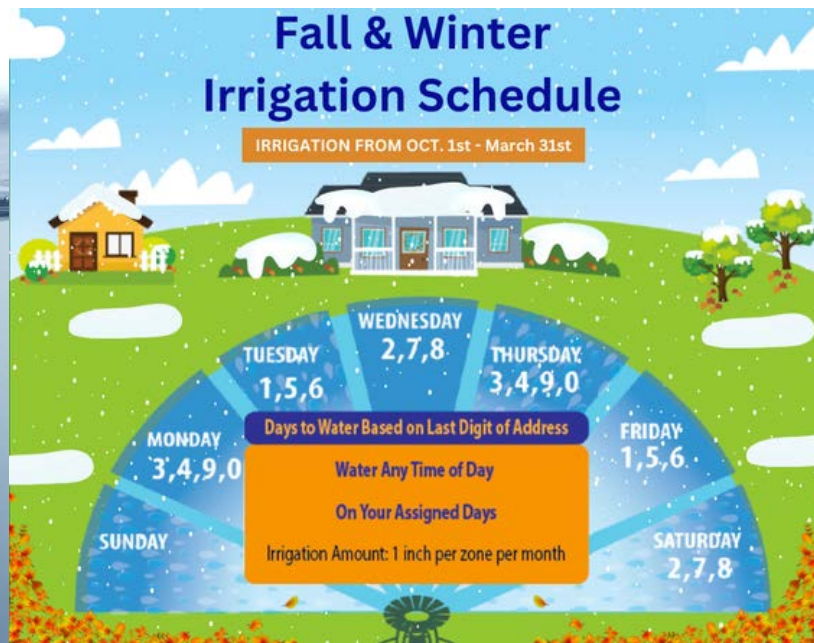


Want to win
\$100?

Elementary thru
high schoolers
can enter to win
the Keep
Lubbock
Beautiful art
contest! Open
now through
March 31st

Fall & Winter Irrigation Schedule

IRRIGATION FROM OCT. 1st - March 31st



TEXAS CHEMICAL COUNCIL

KIDS

ART CONTEST

2023

JANUARY 4 - FEBRUARY 24

All entries must follow the Contest Theme:
"Conserving Water and Keeping it Clean."

**Six winners
will be chosen!**

LEARN MORE

WATER CONTEST THEME

Take Care of Texas
It's the Only One We've Got

Students can showcase
their art skills and environmental
awareness in the Take Care of
Texas art contest! Submissions
due by Feb. 24

Fall in love with getting involved

TEXAS 4-H LANDSCAPE DESIGN

JUNE 5, 2023

College Station, TX

Hosted by the Texas A&M University Horticulture Department

OBJECTIVE

- ✓ Enhance 4-H members landscape design knowledge
- ✓ Promote professionalism to 4-H students by simulating a real-life interaction between customer and landscape professionals
- ✓ Expose 4-H members to career opportunities in horticulture related fields
- ✓ Highlight a degree in a horticultural related field



This is not an official Texas 4-H Roundup contest. Youth that compete in this event will be provided the opportunity to also register for Texas 4-H Roundup held that same week.

Call Lubbock County Extension Office by 12/30/22 to register!

CONTACT INFORMATION

Christina Reid,
CEA- Horticulture Lubbock County
christina.reid@ag.tamu.edu
Extension Office: (806) 775-1740

CONTEST INFORMATION

<https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/projects/horticulture>



Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Lubbock County presents

2023 COMMERCIAL TURF & ORNAMENTAL WORKSHOP

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2023 | 8:30AM - 3:00PM | \$50.00

5 TDA CEUS | LUNCH PROVIDED

TEXAS A&M RESEARCH CENTER 1102 E FM RD 1294 LUBBOCK

Registration & Payment Required by Tuesday, February 21, 2023

by calling (806) 775-1740

Detach and mail registration to:
Lubbock County Extension, PO Box 10536, Lubbock, TX 79408
Make checks payable to AgriLife Extension Acct. 272113 (No credit cards)

Name on CEU Certificate: _____

Pesticide Applicator License#: _____

Phone #: _____

Email: _____

Attend the Commercial Turf & Ornamental Workshop to maintain chemical application licensing and stay up to date on the most recent topics. The event will be hosted February 27th

JUNIOR MASTER GARDENER VIRTUAL TEACHER/LEADER TRAINING CONFERENCE

Get in on this 1.5 day virtual training conference for virtual field trips, keynote speakers, and breakout sessions.

February 21-22, 2023

Conference website is

<https://jmgkids.us/2023jmgnt/>

\$65 for 1.5 day conference

Questions can be directed to

jmgntconference@gmail.com.

RED LEAF LETTUCE

HARVEST OF THE MONTH
FEBRUARY



Red leaf lettuce has large, open leaves and is a reddish-purple color. Lettuce is harvested by cutting the short stem underneath the leafy mass called the "head." Other varieties include romaine, green and butter. Red leaf lettuce is fat-free and offers more nutrients than green lettuce. As one of the world's most popular salad vegetables, lettuce comes in many shapes, sizes and colors. It is usually served cold and fresh although it can be cooked or steamed for a culinary adventure.

DID YOU KNOW?

Red leaf lettuce comes from a big family, including: new red fire lettuce, red sails lettuce, redina lettuce, galactic lettuce and benito lettuce.

FUN FACT

Did you know lettuce is a member of the sunflower family?



RED LEAF LETTUCE GROWING REGIONS

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| 1. The High Plains | 5. Trans Pecos |
| 2. North Texas | 6. Winter Garden |
| 3. East Texas | 7. Coastal Blend |
| 4. Central Texas | 8. Rio Grande Valley |



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
COMMISSIONER SID MILLER

This product was funded by USDA. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.



Lubbock Master Gardener Association 2022 Intern Class

LUBBOCK COUNTY
Christina Reid | CEA-Horticulture



Relevance

The Lubbock Master Gardener Association is an active, key component to horticulture education to the general public in Lubbock County. They serve as the volunteer educational wing of Texas A&M AgriLife Extension in many counties throughout the state and work to support the local horticulture agent by hosting and teaching educational classes, volunteering for community betterment and beautification projects in Lubbock County. The Lubbock Master Gardener Association has become well known in the Lubbock community and has developed a brand which represents expertise, professionalism, and high quality, helpful programming in the realms of home horticulture, vegetable gardening, water use/conservation, rainwater harvesting, Earth-Kind and other beneficial horticultural practices.



Response

- 2022 Lubbock Master Gardener Intern Training Course (26 interns).
 - (8) In-person classes held from 9/8-10/27 for a total of (56) hours of education taught by Texas A&M Agrilife personnel, Texas Tech University professors, local environmental experts, and certified Lubbock Master Gardeners.
- (26) interns volunteered 1,300 hours in Lubbock County as of 12/31/22 with the value of \$38,935.00 (\$29.95 per hour).**

Evaluation Strategy

- Lubbock Master Gardener Intern Training Course was implemented weekly in the fall. A pre-post evaluation was administered at the conclusion of the session. In total 26 of 26 graduates returned the evaluation instrument for a response rate of 100%.

VALUE STATEMENT

Lubbock Master Gardener Association

The Lubbock Master Gardener Program is an educational volunteer organization, part of Texas A&M University's AgriLife Extension Service. The Master Gardener Program is designed to increase the availability of horticultural information and extend horticultural projects throughout Lubbock County. The program provides invaluable training and educational opportunities. Adults who become Master Gardeners contribute time as volunteers, working through the AgriLife Extension office to provide horticultural-related information in various ways to the Lubbock community.

\$85,058.00

VALUE IN
VOLUNTEERISM
BACK TO LUBBOCK
COUNTY



80

Certified Lubbock
Master Gardeners



Lubbock Master Gardener Association 2022 Intern Class

LUBBOCK COUNTY

Christina Reid | CEA-Horticulture

RESULTS

Extension Agent Reid taught the Extension Orientation, history and landscape design programs, while other local experts covered other chapters of the Texas Master Gardener Handbook. Pre- and post-surveys indicate participants had a statistically different positive change as a result of the Lubbock Master Gardener Association 2022 Intern Class program in the following areas:

Knowledge Gained

- Pre-survey average score: **21% (failing grade)**
- Post survey average score: **72% (passing grade)**
- 67% increase in sustainable plant choices for Lubbock County
- 89% increase in knowledge of water conservation
- 75% increase in proper plant maintenance techniques

SUMMARY

The value of the Lubbock Master Gardener Intern program in Lubbock County is empowering adults with the knowledge and support to successfully practice horticultural activities, provide examples for the Lubbock County public, offer educational opportunities for the Lubbock County public, and volunteering for community betterment and beautification in Lubbock County.

FUTURE PROGRAMMING

The Lubbock Master Gardener Intern program will continue in 2023. Expansion areas include: new speakers and topics, hands on demonstrations, and new emerging horticultural issues.

To get involved, please visit the Lubbock Master Gardener Association website:
www.lubbockmastergardener.org



For more information:

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Lubbock County

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Email: christina.reid@ag.tamu.edu

Landscape Industry Professional Programs

LUBBOCK COUNTY
Christina Reid | CEA-Horticulture



Relevance

Consumers look to industry professionals as experts in their field, and the landscape industry is no different. In Lubbock County, consumers are seeing a lack of extensive training, up to date knowledge, and credentials from landscape professionals that is resulting in wide spread loss of trees and plant materials, landscape business owners losing their businesses, worker job safety hazards, and a decline in our overall environmental aesthetic in the county.

Response

- 2022 Commercial Turf & Ornamental Workshop (76 professionals).
This (1) day in-person course offers (5) Texas Department of Agriculture Continuing Education Units for chemical applicators.
Texas Department of Agriculture requires all chemical applicators to have (15) Continuing Education Units every (3) years to renew professional licenses and continue conducting business. The Commercial Turf & Ornamental Workshop fulfills this requirement.
Topics covered: Herbicide and the Future, Identification and Control of Insect Pests on Turf Grass and Ornamentals, New Spray Laws and Regulations, Calibration of Spray Equipment, and Adjuvants to Overcome Water Quality Concerns
- 2022 International Society of Arboriculture Certified Arborist Prep Course (28 professionals)
This (2) day intensive in-person course offers a deep dive into the study materials for the Certified Arborist Exam.
 - Texas Forestry Personnel and Certified Professionals came to Lubbock from across the state in order to provide mentorship and guidance, emerging tree care issues, hands on class experience, and promote industry professionalism.

Evaluation Strategy

2022 International Society of Arboriculture Certified Arborist Prep Course pre-post evaluation was administered at the conclusion of the session. A total of 28 of 28 participants returned the evaluation instrument for a response rate of 100%.

VALUE STATEMENT

International Society of Arboriculture

Through research, technology, and education, the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) promotes the professional practice of arboriculture and fosters a greater worldwide awareness of the benefits of trees. ISA is focused on research and the dissemination of results to contribute to a world with healthier trees, sustainable communities, and a green economy. ISA is a cohesive, inclusive network of practitioners, scientists, and students that is recognized as the global source for arboricultural information and knowledge. Arborists are recognized as qualified, competent, and safe tree care professionals who are sought out by the public, government organizations, and other professions. Professional tree care practitioners have the required knowledge, training, and expertise to perform proper tree care safely.

104

LUBBOCK COUNTY
LANDSCAPE
BUSINESSES
REACHED

Texas Department of Agriculture Pesticides

The Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) is designated as the state's leading agency in the regulation of pesticide use and application. TDA is responsible for licensing and training pesticide applicators, overseeing worker protection, registering pesticides for sale in the state and working to minimize unnecessary impacts to agriculture while enhancing protection of endangered and threatened species.



Lubbock Master Gardener Association 2022 Intern Class

LUBBOCK COUNTY

Christina Reid | CEA-Horticulture

RESULTS

Extension Agent Reid and other professionals taught each chapter of the ISA Certified Arborist Study Guide. Pre- and post-surveys indicate participants had gained statistically knowledge in the following areas:

Knowledge Gained

- Pre-survey average score: **46% (failing grade)**
- Post-survey average score: **82% (passing grade)**
- 43% increase in worker safety
- 79% increase in tree pruning
- 54% increase in tree biology and health

During the program, participants expressed the need for a tree climbing educational program and to have a set time to build local industry relationships. From this identified issue, Extension Agent Reid planned a "Learning to Climb" Workshop on 4/11/22 at the Lubbock Memorial Arboretum. (19) participants spent the day learning to climb from local tree professionals and networking over lunch, all while donating their expertise to the Lubbock Memorial Arboretum.

SUMMARY

The value of Landscape Industry Programs in Lubbock County is empowering landscape professionals with the knowledge and support to successfully practice horticultural activities, provide excellent services for the Lubbock County public, continue to operate their businesses, and provide safe job environments for employees.

FUTURE PROGRAMMING

The Commercial Turf & Ornamental program will continue in 2023. The ISA Certified Arborist Prep Course is projected to continue in 2024. Expansion areas include: new speakers and topics, hands on demonstrations, and new emerging horticultural issues.



For more information:

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