Gardens (Spring/Summer 2012)

UT Institute of Agriculture

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The University of Tennessee Gardens located in Knoxville and Jackson are part of the UT Institute of Agriculture. Inspiring 70,000 families, children, youth, green industry professionals and students about plants to enrich their lives with beauty, better health and a closer connection to nature.

**Vision:** To be the premier university garden establishing horticultural connections with the people and green industry of Tennessee, the nation and the world.

**Mission:** To inspire, educate and cultivate an appreciation of plants through horticultural displays, educational programs and research.

**UT GARDENS STAFF**

Dr. Sue Hamilton, director  
James Newburn, assistant director  
Jason Reeves, Jackson research horticulturist  
Beth Willis, trial and volunteer coordinator  
Derrick Stowell, garden educator  
Bobby Cook, assistant curator  
Holly Jones, Knoxville kitchen garden manager  
Carol Reese, UT Extension Western Region ornamental horticulture specialist  
Andy Pulte, Plant Sciences faculty instructor

**STUDENT INTERNS**

Ben Ford, HGTV intern  
Julie Jones, Knoxville Garden Club intern  
Shianne Kaina, HGTV intern  
Daniel Moriarty, Beall Family Rose Garden intern  
Brandon Orrick, greenhouse intern  
Eric Stohl, Beall Family Rose Garden intern  
Alex Thayer, Gardens intern  
Laura Wigger, Steve and Ann Bailey public horticulture intern

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**COVER**

Spring Greetings from the UT Gardens!

Exciting things are happening this spring and summer in the Gardens. I’m thrilled to introduce our new Knoxville garden educator, Derrick Stowell, who has planned a great slate of educational programs and events for this spring and summer and for all ages. Derrick has a background in environmental sciences and outdoor and therapeutic recreation, which prepares him well in leading our educational programming. I’m excited to report that Derrick is being supported by a new partnership that the Gardens has with Scripps Network and HGTV. In turn, Derrick will assist with student horticulture interns involved in developing the Scripps Network property in West Knoxville.

In Knoxville, the KUB sewer construction project that has impacted the Gardens for the past two years is now done. As a result, you will find new pathways throughout the Gardens, of which several connect to the Third Creek Greenway, allowing walkers and joggers easy access into the Gardens. You’ll also find our old turf and ground cover demonstration area renovated into a new labyrinth designed and built with the leadership of Master Gardener Stuart Bartholomaus. Stuart has done several labyrinths at other public gardens like Brookgreen Gardens in South Carolina, and we are thrilled to have him share his expertise and talent in the UT Gardens.

A new KUB “Right Tree, Right Place” demonstration has been installed in the Gardens right off of the main entrance. The demonstration and interpretive signage educates garden visitors how to properly select and plant trees and shrubs under utility lines to reduce the severe pruning sometimes required to keep power lines free and clear of plants.

You won’t want to miss Blooms Days this year scheduled for Mother’s Day weekend, May 12-13. It was a huge success last year over that same weekend with the rose garden at its peak, spring perennials in full bloom, and great outdoor temperatures. It’s a wonderful way to share Mother’s Day with your family and enjoy the beauty of the UT Gardens.

We will once again host the UT Farmers Market, which will run Wednesdays, 4 p.m. to 7 p.m., May 16 through October 24 (same as last year). Every market will include live music, lots of vendors selling fresh produce and products, a craft station for children, and a fresh meal prepared by our UT Culinary Institute student chefs. It’s a great way to wrap up your Wednesdays and support our local growers and vendors.

At the UT Gardens in Jackson, you’ll find old and boring plantings of junipers, nandinas, euonymus, dwarf Burford and Japanese hollies replaced with a new shrub and perennial border with more than 75 new plants. Hydrangeas are the theme for the Jackson Gardens, with a Hydrangea Symposium on June 1 and 2. The symposium includes educational lectures, a hydrangea plant sale, and a tour of private gardens. Summer Celebration at the Jackson Gardens is July 12, and it will also focus on hydrangeas.

Hope to see you in the Gardens!

Dr. Sue Hamilton
Director, UT Gardens
Any day is a good day to visit the UT Gardens! In fact, if you haven’t done so, make sure you visit the UT Gardens in Knoxville and Jackson. However, there are lots of great regional gardens that are easy to visit in no time at all. Often the whole staff of the UT Gardens will take the time to visit other area gardens to find inspiration. This part of the country is ripe with great gardens and great ideas, and many of the best can be found at public gardens. Here are a few public gardens you might consider visiting this year.

**DANIEL STOWE BOTANICAL GARDEN**
(www.dsbg.org)
BELMONT, N.C.

In 1991, Daniel Jonathan Stowe set aside nearly 400 acres of prime rolling meadows, woodland and lakefront property. His vision was for a garden that would rival some of the best in the world. Located in Belmont, N.C., which is just a little over three and a half hours from Knoxville, the garden is a great day trip for those in East Tennessee. Beautiful water features and a stunning conservatory move this destination to the top of any regional list of great gardens. Fall is a particularly inspiring time to visit Stowe, as sweeps of plume-filled grasses and late-blooming perennials abound.

**YEW DELL BOTANICAL GARDENS**
(www.yewdellgardens.org)
CRESTWOOD, KY.

There’s a lot to see and do if you’re a plant lover in and around Louisville, Ky. A short three hours north of Nashville, Yew Dell has more than enough to fill a hortiholic’s day. Yew Dell Botanical Garden, just east of Louisville, would be a great first stop. Recently listed by Horticulture magazine as one of the top 10 gardens to open in the last decade, Yew Dell is young but inspiring. Sixty years ago, this 33-acre garden was Oldham County, Ky., farmland. Theodore and Martha Lee Klein, who lived on the property, spent a lifetime devoted to plants. The result is one of the best places in the country to marvel at botanical wonders.
ATLANTA BOTANICAL GARDEN  
(www.atlantabotanicalgarden.org)  
ATLANTA, GA

Many Tennesseans are very familiar with the well-traveled roads between Tennessee and Atlanta. If you haven’t taken the time to visit the Atlanta Botanical Garden while on a trip to Georgia’s capital city, you are missing out. In 1977 a double-wide trailer was assigned for office space to this new garden that was blooming near downtown Atlanta. Thirty-plus years later, ABG is one of the premier gardens in the U.S., boasting conservatories, conservation programs and world-class educational opportunities.

IN STATE

CHEEKWOOD BOTANICAL GARDEN  
AND MUSEUM OF ART  
(www.cheekwood.org)  
NASHVILLE, TENN

In the 1880s, Christopher T. Cheek and his son Leslie founded a wholesale grocery business in Nashville. At the same time, cousin Joel Cheek was blending what would become Maxwell House coffee. The Cheeks eventually bought 100 acres of West Nashville property. Fast-forward to 1960 when Cheekwood opened its doors to the public. Today it is a premier destination for plant lovers all over the country. As part of its mission, “Cheekwood exists to celebrate and preserve its landscape, buildings, art and botanical collections and ... provide an inspiring place for visitors to explore their connections with art, nature and the environment.” For all of these reasons and more, put Cheekwood on your travel list this year.

OTHER GOOD DAY TRIPS

Birmingham Botanical Gardens:  
Birmingham, Ala. (www.bbgardens.org)

Huntsville Botanical Garden: Huntsville,  
Ala. (www.hsbg.org)

Biltmore: Asheville, N.C.  
(www.biltmore.com)

The North Carolina Arboretum: Asheville,  
N.C. (www.nearboretum.org)

Dixon Gallery and Gardens: Memphis,  
Tenn. (www.dixon.org)

Shelby Farms Park Conservancy, Memphis,  
Tenn. (www.shelbyfarmspark.org)

Knoxville Botanical Garden and  
Arboretum, Knoxville, Tenn.  
(www.knoxgarden.org)

MEMPHIS BOTANIC GARDEN  
(www.memphisbotanicgarden.com)  
MEMPHIS, TENN

It wasn’t until 1966 that it was officially called the city’s botanic garden, but Memphians have been enjoying this land since the late 1940s. A unique Japanese garden, an urban orchard, a conifer garden, a butterfly garden and a rose garden are all outstanding features. However, the crown jewel of the MBG is My Big Backyard Children’s Garden. This children’s garden is quickly becoming known as one of the top gardens of its kind in the country. Amazingly, the staff of the garden serves up educational programs for more than 43,000 students each year! The next time you’re in the River City, check out the Memphis Botanic Garden and bring the kids.

See New Zealand and Australia


Join UT Gardens’ Andy Pulte and Jason Reeves for a garden tour of New Zealand, with a trip extension to Sydney, Australia. Discover first-hand the sheer beauty of this garden paradise!

Discounts available for UT Gardens members.

For full itinerary, cost and more information, email Andy or Jason: pulte@utk.edu or jreeves3@utk.edu or call 865-974-8820.
In the fall issue we discussed three of my must-have perennial vines. If you missed it or need a refresher, you can find it online at http://utgardens.tennessee.edu/tips.html. The following three vines are equally as good, and the UT Gardens, Jackson, and my home garden would not be complete without them. I hope you will consider adding these vines to your garden and enjoy them as much as I do.

Favorite Perennial Vines, Part II

By Jason Reeves, UT Gardens, Jackson, research horticulturist
JASMINUM OFFICINALE ‘FROJAS’ FIONA SUNRISE

This superb form of hardy jasmine boasts radiant gold foliage that holds beautifully even in our hot, humid summers in full sun or part shade. While it does produce lightly scented white flowers, its foliage and gold winter stem color are its claim to fame. This jasmine is a twining vine and needs some aid to climb. It is easily woven on a trellis or looks great scrambling through purple foliage plants like loropetalum or smoke tree. At my home I grow it on the corner of a large pergola with Clematis ‘Rooguchi,’ where the brilliance of its gold foliage contrasts with the vivid blue-purple clematis flowers. It can eventually reach 15 feet in height. Hardy to zone (6b) 7 and best planted spring or summer.

CLEMATIS ‘ROOGUCHI’

Dangling from the curved ends of lax stems, dainty ribbed bluish purple flowers, edged in lighter violet blue, compose a nonstop summer fling. Each flower deserves admiration as a work of art: shaped like a hanging bell, with four gently recurving petals that give an overall fairytale appeal. This nonclimbing species, a cross between C. integrifolia and C. reticulata, dies completely to the ground in the winter but springs forth quickly producing its first flowers in early April. It can be trained up an arbor, growing to 8 feet tall. A stunning way to provide contrast with the rich flower color is to let it scramble over gold foliage conifers like Juniperus chinensis ‘Gold Lace,’ Chamaecyparis pisifera ‘Vintage Gold,’ or C. obtusa ‘Fern Spray.’ ‘Rooguchi’ performs well in average garden soil with good drainage and some afternoon shade. Although this plant is resistant to clematis wilt, powdery mildew can sometimes be a problem. Planting it in a location with good air circulation will aid in disease prevention. Hardy to zone 3.

GESEMIUM SEMPERVIRENS CAROLINA JESSAMINE

In March and April Carolina jessamine beams in the landscape with 1 1/2-inch-long yellow, lightly fragrant, trumpet-shaped flowers. The profusion of flowers engulfs its glossy, deep green leaves. The flowers attract a wide range of butterflies and bees to the garden. The dense, wiry stems make a great home for birds to build their nests. Carolina jessamine can climb 10 to 20 feet, and its evergreen nature makes it a useful screening plant on fence or trellis. In full sun it tends to stay more compact, but when grown in partial shade will climb farther, reaching for the light if it has something on which it may cling. Also useful as a ground cover, this plant can be charming when spilling over retaining walls. It is very drought tolerant and will grow in any well-drained soil in full sun to part shade. Native to the southeastern United States, it’s a vine that will outlive most gardeners. Hardy to zone 6.
When visiting either the Jackson or Knoxville Gardens, visitors often ask how the Gardens’ staff come up with the design for our annual trial display beds. Planning the design well in advance is often challenging, because we are unsure what plant material will be submitted for display and evaluation. Even so, we employ many of the same design principles that are utilized in interior, architectural and graphic design.

CREATE A STRONG BED LINE
In designing our beds, we first create a strong bed line to create definition between the landscaped areas and the background canvas (usually turf). Whether the style is formal or more relaxed, a strong edge makes the design stand out. We often “design in the field,” using a water hose and a can of spray paint to outline the bed. The markers allow us to determine correct proportions and see how a new bed will fit in with the established plan. Once bed shape is determined, we use either metal edging or an edging machine to create the desired definition. A crisp edge has the added advantage of slowing weed and grass encroachment into the bed.

CHOOSE THE RIGHT PLANT MATERIAL
Once the bed shapes are determined, we choose plant material. For displays of bedding plant trials and tropica ls we create beds that are aesthetic and offer interest throughout the season. Because of the number of trials we may have, we take care that our planting beds don’t appear busy. For this reason, we often plant in "drifts." Drifts are a massing or grouping of several specimens of one plant. These drifts allow the eye to focus and flow from one massing to the next.

CREATE RHYTHM
We use design principles of color, texture and form to create a “rhythm” within plantings. For example, pairing foliage plants like coleus with flowering bedding plants with complementary or contrasting colors shows each to its full advantage. A soft-textured ornamental grass like Mexican feather grass can soften the coarseness of Kalanchee ‘Flapjack.’ We often repeat a color or vertical element, for instance vine trellises, for a sense of unity and continuity within and between beds. This placement helps to avoid a haphazard, busy appearance.

ESTABLISH A FOCAL POINT
Finally, not everything has to be a plant. We often add a garden ornament like a birdbath, sculpture or garden bench to serve as a focal point. These elements draw the eye through the garden to a point of rest. Choosing garden ornaments is also a way for us to have fun and let our personalities come through. Creating a little whimsy in the garden can add excitement and interest for visitors and staff and keeps the gardens from becoming static and boring. That’s why at various times visitors have seen everything from satellite dishes and rusty box springs to old bullet-riddled trucks and electric ranges in the UT Gardens.

Designing the display beds each year is exciting and fun for our staff. Following a few simple design rules, we are able to create a display with a wide range of plant materials that is aesthetic and pleasing. We hope our displays give you ideas not only of what you can plant, but how you can plant them.
I n the spring of 2010, I had the good fortune of being chosen as the first college intern to work with famed horticultural celebrity P. Allen Smith. For a student studying public horticulture to work with a horticulturist who is so in the public’s eye was a dream come true. If you are not familiar with Allen, he has three television shows: “P. Allen Smith’s Garden to Table,” “P. Allen Smith Gardens” and “P. Allen Smith’s Garden Home.” He also regularly appears on the NBC “Today” show, and he has a book series and his own branded plant collection and garden products.

When I arrived in hot and humid Little Rock, Ark., where Allen lives, my first assignment was to work at his Garden Home Retreat. Located on a high plateau overlooking the Arkansas River Valley, the retreat combines the spirit of a classic American farmstead with many of the current innovations in earth-friendly living. The site includes a traditional style Greek Revival home that has been uniquely adapted with the latest energy efficient construction methods. The extensive gardens are designed in the ferme ornée (ornamental farm) style as extensions of the home’s living space. They showcase two terrace gardens, each with a color theme of hot-colored or cold-colored plants including annuals, perennials, roses, shrubs and espaliered ‘Keifer’ pears and ‘Gala’ apple trees. The fruit trees are surrounded by a low hedge of more than 1,700 blueberry plants, which I personally inventoried and helped plant. Along with being the set for his television projects, the retreat also serves as a working model to teach lessons in garden design, sustainable living and environmental stewardship.

The majority of my summer was spent maintaining the gardens around the retreat, but it seemed that every day I got to participate in something exciting and different. Probably the most exciting work was getting to help with the weekly photo shoots with Allen to help in promoting his garden products. For some of the shoots, the production crew had me demonstrate how to plant herbs, design a cat-friendly garden for Allen’s cat Marge, plant iris and potatoes, and do a timed race running around the vegetable garden labeling plants as fast as I could. I was lucky to have appeared in at least five segments of “P. Allen Smith’s Garden Home.”

As busy as Allen was, I did get to spend some quality time with him in the garden. I learned a great deal about garden design from him, and he personally critiqued several of my designs. The most exciting thing was getting to design a part of my own home garden for a segment on his television show.

The final days of my internship were spent in Chicago visiting the Independent Garden Center Conference and various public gardens in the area with Allen. Imagine what an experience I had getting to tag along with a horticulture giant and celebrity like P. Allen Smith! I made contacts with leading garden bloggers, garden magazine writers, company owners and even the director of the Chicago Botanic Garden. When the trip was over, I was thrilled that Allen offered to extend my internship a few extra months, but I knew I had to get back to Tennessee to finish my college degree.

Being Allen’s first horticultural intern was a thrill, with experiences that are priceless. I’m happy to report that since coming back to UT, I have been invited back several times to visit Allen and his staff, and I continue to maintain good contact with everyone. Allen has been a great mentor to me, and it was a once-in-a-lifetime experience to get my hands dirty with P. Allen Smith!
Growing Green Fences

By Joan Worley, Blount County Master Gardener

In his introduction, Armitage says of invasives, “Yes, I have included plants that the more militant wing of native plant groups will be upset about.” Absent, however, is the rapacious *Euonymus fortunei* (wintercreeper) that has metastasized in my yard.

“Ortho’s All About Vines and Climbers,” by R. William Thomas, is a basic primer with more how-to’s, fewer pages, and a useful guide to about 50 vines. *E. fortunei* is covered, but with no mention of its horrible habit. “Generally a slow grower but vigor varies with the cultivar.” Ha. “Climbing Gardens,” by Joan Clifton, and “Living Fences,” by Ogden Tanner, are lovely books of Canadian origin. Both are focused more on design than individual plants, with photos of vines in the landscape. Neither mentions the perils of wintercreeper.

Finally, William Cullina’s “Native Trees, Shrubs, & Vines: A Guide to Using, Growing and Propagating North American Woody Plants,” is 353 pages long, covering almost a thousand plants. This book was published under the aegis of the New England Wild Flower Society. Because of that word native, you will not find sweet potato, Mandevilla, black-eyed Susan, and many another familiar vine. Again by definition, wintercreeper (native to China) is excluded.

Among the book’s notable features are the best introduction I’ve ever seen in any horticultural book, which, praise the Lord, defines terms (native, for one); an attractive, colorful format; a “native to” note with every entry, which includes climate and terrain as well as state(s), and region; and how to pronounce every Latin plant genus. The alphabetical plant descriptions are practical and interesting, and like “Armitage’s Vines,” they are written with a light, sometimes humorous touch. “Native Trees” gets five stars, but remember, it’s just about plants that were here before Columbus.

There are still more books on vines, but you’ll need to look long and hard before you find one to rival Armitage. He has lots of ideas for your fence.
A two-day event featuring an exciting plant sale offering a large selection of new and hard-to-find hydrangeas. Friday features a propagation workshop plus demonstrations on pruning, drying and arranging hydrangeas. Saturday will offer tours of exceptional private gardens, followed by speakers on a colorful array of topics related to hydrangeas.

Registration required by May 4.

Friday, June 1
Workshop, 3:45-7:30 p.m.  
How to Make More Plants! — Rita Randolph, Randolph’s Greenhouses

Pruning Each Species the Correct Way, Plus Tips on Fertilizing — Jason Reeves and Carol Reese, University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture

Arranging with Hydrangeas and Tips on Drying — Rita Randolph

Pruning Methods for Boxwood, Holly, Azaleas, Crape Myrtles and Japanese Maples — Jimmy Williams, gardening columnist and pruner extraordinaire

Saturday, June 2
Private Tours and Symposium, 8 a.m.–7 p.m.

Begin the day with a tour of the Stoneciphers’ private estate, which combines sweeping views with elegant hardscapes and lavish plantings. Then explore the Mullins’ extensive hydrangea collection that is punctuated with a startling variety of companion plants and their own numerous whimsical concrete creations.

A Hydrangea Hodgepodge: Sorting Them Out (different species, their cultural requirement, and fertilizing) — Linda Lanier, president and co-founder of the Mid-South Hydrangea Society

Hydrangea Mania: Newest, Bestest, and Beyond — Mike Sykes, horticulturist for Gardeners Confidence Collection with McCorkle Nurseries

Wimps and Winners — Dr. Mark Windham, professor of Ornamental Plant Pathology, UT Department of Entomology and Plant Pathology

Garden Vignettes: Hydrangeas and Companion Plants — Carol Reese, UT Extension horticulture specialist

Cost:
Full registration: $80.
Friday only: $30
Saturday only: $60
Registration required by May 4.
Register online at http://west.tennessee.edu/events.
For more information call 731-425-4768.

Friday’s registration includes workshop, dinner and plant sale. Saturday registration includes transportation to private gardens, lunch, educational seminars and plant sale.
ABOUT OUR PROGRAMS

The Gardens hosts several series of programs for varying age ranges and interests:

**GARDEN SPROUTS**
Get the youngest members of your family excited about gardening. These activities are for children ages 3 to 5 and one adult.

**GARDEN BUDS**
Designed for the older children in your family. These activities are for children ages 6 to 9 and one adult.

**GRANDKIDS GROWING**
Designed for grandparents and grandchildren to explore the Gardens together.

**GROWING TOGETHER**
Join us for these fun-filled family events and learn about gardening and activities to do at home as a family.

**ADULT WORKSHOPS**
Learn about gardening basics and other fun topics, such as how to capture your garden in photos.

MEMBERSHIP

Members of the Friends of the UT Gardens receive discounts on programming. If you attend a program and want to join as a member the day of the program, you can receive a $5 discount on your membership.

For more information, call 865-974-7151 or email utgardens@utk.edu.

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UT GARDENS, KNOXVILLE

**MAY**

**BLOOMS DAYS 2012**
Saturday and Sunday, May 12 and 13, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
Garden Festival and Market Place

**ADULT WORKSHOP: PHOTOGRAPHY IN THE GARDENS**
Saturday, May 19, 2-4 p.m.
Learn how to photograph what you grow to enjoy later on those rainy fall days. Learn basics of photography and how to compose photographs using the setting of the UT Gardens. You will need to bring your own camera to this class.
$10 member/$14 nonmember

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**JUNE**

**GARDEN BUDS: CYCLING IN THE GARDENS?**
Saturday, June 23, 10-12 a.m.
Take a ride on the water cycle. See how water is used in the Gardens and where it goes once the plants use what they need. Learn about ways to save water in your home and in your garden.
$10/member, $14/nonmember

**GRANDKIDS GROWING: THE EDIBLE GARDEN**
Friday, July 27, 10-11:30 a.m.
There is nothing more fun than getting to eat what you grow. This class will cover some of the edible plants we have in the Gardens. Also, learn how to make a tasty honey treat. There is nothing more fun than getting to eat what you grow. This class will cover some of the edible plants we have in the Gardens. Also, learn how to make a tasty honey treat.
$10/member, $14/nonmember

**JULY**

**ADULT WORKSHOP: FILLERS, THRILLERS AND SPILLERS**
Saturday, June 9, 2-4 p.m.
This fun and educational session will give you an overview about container gardening. Learn about some of the perennials in the Gardens and see how to plant a container garden. Bring your favorite container to fill up with some fun and exciting plants to display at your home.
$19/member, $24/nonmember

**GRANDKIDS GROWING: GARDEN BUDS: GARDEN PIZZA PARTY**
Saturday, Aug. 4, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.
Come and have a party with us in the Gardens. See what herbs and veggies go into making a great slice of pizza. Learn how to plant your own garden pizza at home. We will make a healthy pizza snack to enjoy. We also will sing a song, and make a pizza pie craft to take home and hang up on your refrigerator.
$10/member, $14/nonmember

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**AUGUST**

**GRANDKIDS GROWING: BERRY FUN TIME**
Saturday, July 21, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.
Bring your grandchild and be a part of the celebration of National Blueberry Month at the UT Gardens. This class will give you and your grandchild a chance to learn about blueberries and make a fun and healthy treat to eat.
$10/member, $14/nonmember

**ADULT WORKSHOP: LEAF CASTING**
Saturday, Aug. 4, 2-4 p.m.
Leaves are one of the most recognizable and enjoyable parts of many plants. The problem is, once they fall off a plant they are gone for good. Right? Come and learn how to make leaves last by creating a leaf casting. These castings can be used in the garden as a decoration or even a birdfeeder or bird bath. The workshop will provide materials to create a leaf casting to take home and use in your garden.
$30/member, $35/nonmember

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**GARDEN SPROUTS: PIRATES OF THE GARDENS**
Friday, Aug. 17, 10-11:30 a.m.
Get ready to have some shipwrecked good times! Come and learn about the life of a pirate. You and your grandchild will have a blast learning about the strange, dangerous, and fun facts of how pirates live. You will also make a fun activity to take home.
$8/member, $12/nonmember

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**GARDEN SPROUTS: BLAME IT ON THE RAIN**
Friday, June 22, 10-11:30 a.m.
Come and learn how rain makes your flowers grow. Enjoy a day out in the Gardens, rain or shine. Play some water games, and sing a song. Make your very own rain gauge to take home and keep track of how much rain your garden is getting.
$8/member, $12/nonmember

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**GARDEN SPROUTS: THE EDIBLE GARDEN**
Friday, July 27, 10-11:30 a.m.
There is nothing more fun than getting to eat what you grow. This class will cover some of the edible plants we have in the Gardens. Also, learn how to make a tasty honey treat. There is nothing more fun than getting to eat what you grow. This class will cover some of the edible plants we have in the Gardens. Also, learn how to make a tasty honey treat.
Grandkids Growing: Ants on a Log
Saturday, Aug. 18, 1-3 p.m.
Come and help your grandchild make a fun snack out of the vegetable of the month (celery). Learn all about ants and eat this fun and healthy snack in the Gardens. $10/member, $14/nonmember

Garden Buds: Carnivorous Plants
Saturday, Aug. 18, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.
Watch out! Those plants bite. Well not exactly, but they do eat insects. This class will teach you about some plants and how they have adapted to trap and get their nutrients from insects. $10/member, $14/nonmember

Garden Buds: Inchworm Measuring
Saturday, Sept. 29, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.
Come help us measure what is growing in the Gardens. Learn how we can use inchworms and other things we find in the Gardens as nonstandard units of measure. See how to compare various sizes and shapes of plants in the Gardens. $10/member, $14/nonmember

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Tours (Free)
Come and take a walk in the Gardens and get a few gardening tips along the way. Events are rain or shine and will only be canceled in the event of lightning. All tours will depart from the Friendship Plaza at the entrance to the Gardens. (Advance registration is appreciated, but not required.)

Noon and Twilight Tours (Free)
Tours will be held every third Tuesday of the month: May 15, June 19, July 17, Aug. 21, Sept. 18, Oct. 16. The noon tour will begin at noon, and the twilight tour will begin at 6 p.m.

Family Nature Nights (Free)
Take a walk through the Gardens in the evening. Bring your whole family to enjoy an hour-long walk. Don't forget to bring your camera to snap a few pictures. All Family Nature Nights begin at 6:30 p.m.

Events at the West Tennessee AgResearch and Education Center

Summer Celebration Lawn and Garden Show
Thursday, July 12, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Admission $5

Landscaping Review Commercial Ornamental Horticulture
Tuesday, Sept. 11, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Admission $10

Pumpkin Field Day
Thursday, Sept. 27, 1-4 p.m. Free admission.

Autumn Fest Plant Sale and Garden Lecture Series
Friends of the UT Gardens Preview Party
Wednesday, Oct. 3, 5-7 p.m.
Friends of the UT Gardens can avoid the plant shopping rush of Thursday and enjoy an evening of shopping and light refreshments plus special discounts!

Garden Talks and Plant Sale
Thursday, Oct. 4, 2-6:30 p.m.
Sale runs from 3-6:30 p.m. Outdoor lecture, 2 p.m. Indoor lecture, 6:30 p.m. Free admission. Sale features hundreds of quality plants that will make great additions to your garden. Trees, shrubs and a wide selection of perennials and annuals can be available for purchase.

Middlesboro Tennessee AgResearch and Education Center

Fruits of the Backyard
Tuesday, June 12, 8:30 a.m.
Learn how to grow small fruits like blueberries and grapes in your own backyard. Featuring demonstrations, orchard tours and presentations on proper management of your lawn and landscape.

Books & Blooms (Free)
Back by popular demand! Bring your kids for fun-filled story time in the Gardens. Each week will feature a different nature theme. Read a story, sing a song, create a craft and take a run through the sprinkler in the warmer weather. For more information and to sign up to receive email notices about Books & Blooms, contact Derrick Stowell at dstowell@utk.edu or 865-974-7151. Books & Blooms is held every Thursday starting May 17 and ending October 25 (excluding July 5). Best of all, this event is free for the entire family.

Musical Jam Session (Free)
Come and enjoy some free live music in the UT Gardens. Take a walk around and enjoy the beautiful summer day. Bring your own instrument and jam with some other local artists. Music Jam Session will be held during the UT Gardens Farmers Market, 5-6 p.m., on select days: June 13, July 11 and Aug. 8.
CAN YOU DIG IT?
bugs, plants and much more. a fun and exciting way. Learn about experience nature and gardening in like. Give your child a chance to as many sessions as you would meet the scheduling needs of your Garden Explorers is designed to nonmember child per session 4- to 5-year-olds for your Lil’ Gardener. session will be sure to be a buzz the plants in the Gardens. This Learn how bugs can help or hurt defend the Gardens from pests. Join us as we read about Lady Bug Girl, Bumble Bee Boy and the rest of the Bug Squad. Come and create Entomologist and go on a bug hunt. Do a bee dance and learn how bees take pollen and turn it into some tasty honey.

CAN YOU DIG IT?
Friday, June 8, 9:30-11:30 a.m. Dig into this exciting camp and learn all about worms and dirt. See how worms help to turn your table scraps into yummy food for plants. Learn how compost helps plants grow and how to compost at home with your parents. Make a snack out of “dirt” and see how to make a fun snack out of cookies that have worms for you to eat.

THE BUG SQUAD
Friday, June 29, 9:30-11:30 a.m. Join us as we read about Lady Bug Girl, Bumble Bee Boy and the rest of the Bug Squad. Come and create your own Bug Squad costume and defend the Gardens from pests. Learn how bugs can help or hurt the plants in the Gardens. This session will be sure to be a buzz for your Lil’ Gardener.

WATER, WATER, EVERYWHERE
Friday, July 20, 9:30-11:30 a.m. Did you know the water you drink this morning as been around since the beginning of the Earth? Come learn how nature recycles water over and over again. Learn why conserving water is important and take home a few tips on how to save water at your house. Bring your swimsuit and flip flops, because there will be water activities outside in the Gardens.

I SCREAM FOR ICE CREAM
Friday, Aug. 3, 9:30-11:30 a.m. Come and beat the heat with a cold treat. This camp will teach you how ice cream is made. See how some beans and other ingredients make a tasty summer treat that we all love. Learn where cream comes from and how milk “does a body good.” Each camper will get to make his or her own ice cream to enjoy as a snack. (If you have food allergies, let us know so we can have alternative ingredients on hand for you to make your own snack.)

GARDENS EXPLORERS CAMP
6- to 12-year-olds
Cost $25/member child, $35/nonmember child June 11-14, 9 a.m.-12 p.m.

We will be partnering with UT Extension Knox County and Master Gardeners to bring you this fun-filled week of camp where kids grow into gardeners from the ground up. Learn how to grow your own fruit and veggie garden at home; sow your own seeds at camp so you can get a head start! Explore the Gardens on a color-filled scavenger hunt as you learn about how plants are specially designed to thrive in their world. Sift through soil particles, make soil ribbons, heat up a compost pile, and see the world’s smallest dirt factory! Wriggle and squirm like a worm learning about yummy compost.

WHAT’S BUGGING YOU?
Tuesday, June 6, 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. (ages 6-8)
Wednesday, June 7, 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. (ages 9-12)
This camp will focus on bugs. Learn about pollinators and see how we depend on them for food and much more. See what bugs are bad and how to keep them out of your garden. Learn how honey is made and get the buzz on other beneficial bugs found in the garden.

GARDENS EXPLORERS CLASSES
6- to 12-year-olds
Cost $15/member child, $20/nonmember child per session

WATER, AIR AND FIRE
Tuesday, July 17, 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. (ages 6-9)
Wednesday, July 18, 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. (ages 10-12)
Soil, water, air and sunlight are key to growing plants. Come and take part in this fun camp and learn what plants need to grow. You will also get a chance to build a solar oven and harness the power of the sun to cook your food. See how water pressure can make a rocket fly. And learn how air can make things go.

YOU ATE WHAT?
Tuesday, July 31, 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. (ages 6-9)
Wednesday, Aug. 1, 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. (ages 10-12)
Ever stop and read the nutritional information on products you buy in the store. Just what is high fructose corn syrup anyway? This camp will explore nutrition and some of the strange ingredients you may be eating. You will also learn how to make some of your favorite snacks and treats from scratch and see which ones taste better—store bought or homemade. Of course, we will spend some time in the Gardens and have tons of fun!
The University of Tennessee Gardens Presents

Lantana Luscious Citrus Blend
Top Annuals of 2011

**BEST IN SHOW**
*Lantana Luscious Citrus Blend.* This carefree plant is a fantastic performer—its full, shrubby habit grows to 3 ½ feet tall, with great foliage texture and masses of vibrant blooms in shades of red and orange. (Proven Winners)

**BEST NEW VARIETY**
*Angelonia Sungelonia Deep Pink.* This annual provides nonstop blooms all summer and can grow to just over 2 feet tall. Fantastic shades of pink on the blooms contrast beautifully with dark purple stems and deep green foliage. (Suntory Flowers)

**BEST REPEAT VARIETY**
*Petunia Supertunia Vista Bubblegum.* A selection that never fails to impress with its vigorous growth, tall mounding habit (up to 1 ½ feet tall) and large, soft pink blooms that cover the plants. It sets the standard for vegetative petunias. (Proven Winners)
Top 20 Annuals
Antirrhinum ‘Twinny Peach’
Begonia ‘Whopper Red Bronze Leaf’
Bidens ‘Sunbeam’
Calibrachoa Superbells Coralberry Punch
Capsicum ‘Black Pearl’
Gaillardia ‘Arizona’ series
(Apricot and Red Shades)
Heliotropium Simply Scentsational
Impatiens Infinity series (Electric Cherry and Salmon Bisque)
Ipomoea ‘Sweet Caroline’ series
(Bewitched Improved, Bronze, Raven, Sweetheart Purple and Sweetheart Red)
Lobularia Snow Princess
Mecardonia Gold Dust
Pelargonium Presto Dark Salmon
Pennisetum Graceful Grasses Vertigo
Petunia Cadenza Rose Red
Petunia Surfinia Wild Plum
Scaevola Surdiva series
(Light Blue and White)
Solenostemon Lancelot Velvet Mocha
Torenia ‘Kauai Lemon Drop’ and ‘Kauai Magenta’
Torenia Summer Wave Large Amethyst
Verbena Aztec Burgundy
Verbena Tapien Blue-Violet
Zinnia ‘Double Zahara Fire’

Top Perennials
Clematis ‘Roogucchi’
Dryopteris celsa – Log Fern
Echinacea ‘Quills ‘N Thrills’
Helenium Mardi Gras (‘Helbro’) Hypericum Hypearls series
(Ivia and Renu)
Iris germanica – Bearded Iris (Reblooming)
Juncus Blue Mohawk
Thelypteris decursive-pinnata – Japanese Beech Fern
Vernonia lettermannii ‘Iron Butterfly’

Top Tropicals
Cyperus Graceful Grasses series
(King Tut and Baby Tut)
Carica papaya Papaya

Top Trees and Shrubs
Buddleia Lo & Behold ‘Blue Chip’ – Butterfly Bush
Callicarpa dichotoma ‘Duet’ – Variegated Beautyberry
Chamaecyparis pisifera ‘Vintage Gold’ – False Cypress
Chionanthus retusus ‘China Snow’ – Chinese Fringetree, Chinese Fringetree Cornus sanguinea ‘Midwinter Fire,’ also sold as ‘Winter Flame’ – Bloodtwig Dogwood

Best Roses
‘Carefree Marvel’ Shrub Rose
‘My Girl’ Shrub Rose
‘Pink Double Knockout’ Shrub Rose
‘Legends’ Hybrid Tea Rose
‘Vavoom’ Floribunda Rose
‘Love and Peace’ Hybrid Tea Rose

Cotoneaster lacteus (formally C. parneyi) – Parney Cotoneaster
Edgeworthia chrysantha – Paperbush Plant
Heptacodium miconioides – Seven-son Flower
Hydrangea paniculata Little Lime – Panicle Hydrangea
Hydrangea quercifolia ‘Little Honey’ – Oakleaf Hydrangea
Illicium parviflorum ‘Florida Sunshine’ – Anisetree
Juniperus x media ‘Daub’s Frosted’ Juniper
Osmanthus heterophyllus ‘Goshiki’ – ‘Goshiki’ False Holly
Liquidambar styraciflua ‘Slender Silhouette’ – Sweetgum
Xanthocyparis nootkatensis (formerly Chamaecyparis nootkatensis) ‘Glaucoperdula’ and ‘Green Arrow’ – Alaskan Cedar

Spring/Summer UT Gardens Magazine | 17
Here are seven trees that often provide a magnificent presence in our Tennessee landscapes. Their arboreal majesty impacts many human generations. Fossil remains over millions of years tell of their ageless presence. All grow to large stately trees averaging 70 to 80 feet in height, but most start out slowly, developing a deep, well-branched root system, thus ensuring their long survival. They also provide multiseasonal ornamental attributes over two or more seasons. The gardener who plants any of these trees is planting for the next generation to enjoy their grandeur, since most likely he or she will not see them reach their regal size in his or her lifetime.

**Ginkgo** (*Ginkgo biloba*) is distinctively male or female. Young male clones often start out slow and are gawky at first, but patience is rewarded with a stately tree with striking branches becoming more horizontal with age, particularly on the female trees. The foul-smelling female fruits, described as “small apricots,” ripen and drop. Fruitless male clones are grafted and are most definitely the ones to choose. Ginkgo’s fan-shaped green leaves are very distinctive, borne on short, stubby spurs. Over three to four cool autumn days, the bright yellow foliage falls into a neat pile directly beneath the boughs. Its gray bark is imprinted with dark furrow lines.

Strong as an oak best describes our native **white oak** (*Quercus alba*). Annual growth rate is slow, favoring root development first over shoot growth. Start with an acorn or plant a young tree in mid- to late winter. In its formative years, provide an environmentally stress-free planting site along with proper mulching and irrigation practices. Pyramidal when young, the oak matures into a substantial tree with a wide-spreading, rounded crown. Soft green, rounded-lobed leaves emerge in late spring and are rarely injured by frost. Variable fall color ranges from dull bronzes to variable shades of red.

Oaks are in the same family as **American beech** (*Fagus grandifolia*). It is best to plant a young beech in mid- to late winter (larger trees do not transplant dependably). Cherished for its gray muscular bark, beech thrives in a deep loamy soil. Summer’s dark green glossy foliage turns bronze in the autumn, with some leaves hanging on through the winter months.

**Bald cypress** (*Taxodium distichum*) is a deciduous conifer indigenous to southern swamps, bayous and rivers. They are primarily found in coastal areas from Maryland to Texas and in the lower Mississippi River Valley as far north as the southeast corner of...
Missouri. In the Deep South, it is a familiar sight to see bald cypress growing directly in swamplike water, often in large strands, with its branches heavily draped with Spanish moss. Away from its preferred natural swamplike environment, bald cypress is remarkably drought tolerant in upland Tennessee soils. Although it looks like a needlelike evergreen (same family as redwoods) in summer, it is deciduous ("bald" as the common name suggests) with its foliage turning a coppery bronze color in the fall. Its narrow-branched, wintry framework distinguishes bald cypress from most trees.

Related to, and closely resembling, bald cypress (Taxodium) and redwood (Sequoia) is dawn redwood (Metasequoia glyptostroboides). Fossil records show that dawn redwood is known to have existed as many as 50 million years ago. However, it was not until 1941 that dawn redwood was first discovered growing in the wild in China and was then reintroduced in the United States in 1948. Dawn redwood establishes and grows rapidly. Bright green, soft needle-like foliage arises in early spring, broader and coarser textured than bald cypress; yellow to brown colored deciduous foliage falls in mid- to late autumn. Dawn redwood prefers a moist, well-drained soil and is moderately drought tolerant once established. Branches have a more open habit than bald cypress. Its reddish bark sheds off and turns a rich burgundy color when wet.

Southern magnolia (Magnolia grandiflora) is a broadleaf evergreen tree that is noted for its attractive dark green leaves and large, extremely fragrant flowers. It typically grows to 60 to 80 feet tall with a pyramidal to rounded crown. This magnificent tree of the South is native to moist wooded areas from North Carolina to Florida and Texas. Leathery evergreen ovate to elliptic leaves (to 10 inches long) are glossy dark green above and are variable pale green to gray-brown beneath. Its fragrant white flowers (8 to 12 inches in diameter) usually have six petals. Flowers bloom in late spring, with sparse, continued flowering throughout the summer. They give way to spherical cone-like fruiting clusters (to 3 to 5 inches long) that mature in late summer to early fall. The genus name honors Pierre Magnol, French botanist (1638-1715).

Last of the magnificent seven is the Atlas cedar (Cedrus atlantica), which hails from the Atlas Mountains in northern Morocco (USDA hardiness zone 6). The blue needle form ‘Glauca’ is almost universally preferred. In its first 40 years, Atlas cedar grows tall and narrow with stiff, nonpliable branches. As the tree ages, the overall canopy widens and loosens, assuming a slight weeping form. The short blue-green needles and medium gray bark are handsome as winter matures.
ARE YOU GETTING E-NEWS?
We email a monthly e-newsletter highlighting upcoming programs, our plant of the month, regional gardening tips, and information relevant to our members and area gardeners.

If you are not receiving the monthly e-news, you can sign up for it on our website home page, http://utgardens.tennessee.edu. We do not share, rent or sell member email addresses. You may unsubscribe at any time.

WHAT’S MY RENEWAL DATE?
Last fall we began sending out membership cards printed with your renewal date to new and renewing members. Shortly after you join or renew your membership this year, you will receive your card in the mail. As we are transitioning to this new card system, you will receive a notice telling you when your membership is about to expire and inviting you to renew.

Need to know your renewal date but haven’t received a card? Have other membership questions or would like further information? Contact Beth Willis at 865-974-2712 or ewillis2@utk.edu.

MEMBER BENEFIT: BETTER HOMES & GARDENS SUBSCRIPTION
We are excited to offer an additional benefit to our new and renewing members during 2012! Through the UT Gardens membership in the American Public Gardens Association (APGA), we are able to extend an offer of a one-year subscription to Better Homes & Gardens magazine. You will receive a BHG subscription card with your UT Gardens membership card. To claim your subscription, simply fill out and mail the postage-paid card to BHG. Current subscribers will have the option to extend their subscription.

MEMBER BENEFIT: RECIPROCAL ADMISSION
The UT Gardens is proud to be participating in the American Horticultural Society’s Reciprocal Admission Program. This program is a great benefit for our members, who now can enjoy free admission at many gardens across the country. Certain gardens may ask for proof that your UT Gardens membership is active. If you have not yet received one of our new membership cards, we can provide you with one before you travel. We also suggest that you carry with you a current list of participating gardens in case there are any questions about a particular garden. The most up-to-date list can be accessed through our website (http://utgardens.tennessee.edu). Go to our Links page and then to the Reciprocal Admissions Program link. If you need any assistance, let us know.

BECOME A KNOXVILLE GARDENS VOLUNTEER
The UT Gardens, Knoxville, is always in need of new volunteers. Whether you like getting your hands in the soil, prefer to help with special events or educational programming, or enjoy office duties, we have volunteer opportunities that are tailor-made for you.

Volunteers play a vital role in the UT Gardens, and we invite you to join this dedicated team. You’ll meet people with common interests and learn more about gardening. Contribute to your community, form new friendships, and learn new skills—all while having a lot of fun! Volunteer opportunities also exist for students and teens. The UT Gardens values its volunteers and aims to offer every volunteer a satisfying, productive, and rewarding experience.

To learn more about volunteer opportunities at the UT Gardens, Knoxville, contact Beth Willis, volunteer coordinator, at 865-974-2712 or ewillis2@utk.edu.

DID YOU KNOW?
Last year 168 volunteers donated 1,197 hours of their time to the UT Gardens. According to Independent Sector, the leadership forum for charities, foundations and corporate giving programs, that’s an estimated value of $26,275! Thank you to all of our volunteers … you truly make a difference in the UT Gardens!
Knoxville-based HGTV plans to increase its support of the UT Gardens to make gardening education more accessible to enthusiasts of all ages and to help educate the next generation of public horticulturists and landscape architects. Last spring, the popular cable network established the HGTV/UT Gardens Internship Fund to support public horticulture students.

This year, the partnership grew by establishing a new HGTV/UT Gardens Educator and an HGTV Landscape Design Initiative for Student Success. The HGTV/UT Gardens Educator provides more educational opportunities for the moderate-level gardener and engages children and youth to become more involved in gardening and landscaping. Earlier this year, Derrick Stowell joined the UT Gardens staff as garden educator and will coordinate new educational programming in partnership with HGTV.

“Derrick’s addition to the staff was kick-started with grant funding from the Stanley Smith Horticultural Trust,” Sue Hamilton, director of the UT Gardens, said. “We anticipate leveraging university resources with support from HGTV to continue garden education programming, which will benefit visitors to our gardens and visitors to HGTV’s home at the Scripps Networks Interactive headquarters in West Knoxville.”

The HGTV Landscape Design Initiative for Student Success will allow students studying landscape architecture and public horticulture to help design and implement projects for the HGTV Home Studio program. HGTV’s Home Studio focuses, in part, on internship programs that enable the network to build relationships with some of the country’s top design and garden students, gaining fresh insights from new talent and, in return, giving them exclusive access to a wealth of expertise in the home and media industries.

Already, a group of graduate students, studying under UT Plant Sciences Associate Professor Gary Menendez, have completed a design project for a portion of the Scripps Networks Interactive campus.

According to Sarah Cronan, HGTV’s senior vice president for brand management, anticipated landscape improvements at the HGTV office will provide students the chance to make design recommendations, participate in plant material selection, and contribute to the execution of the design.

“We’re glad we can provide this opportunity and environment for students and are eager to see how their work can impact our plans for furthering the HGTV Home Studio program,” Cronan said.

HGTV will also continue support for the internship fund, which will provide more students a chance to gain real-world experience with the nation’s largest network dedicated to home and gardening.

“With this support we can deliver the wow factor,” Hamilton said. “And wow, is this going to be fun.”

HGTV and UT Gardens Grow Partnership

By Tom Looney, director of development

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