LSU AgCenter
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GNO Gardening Magazine

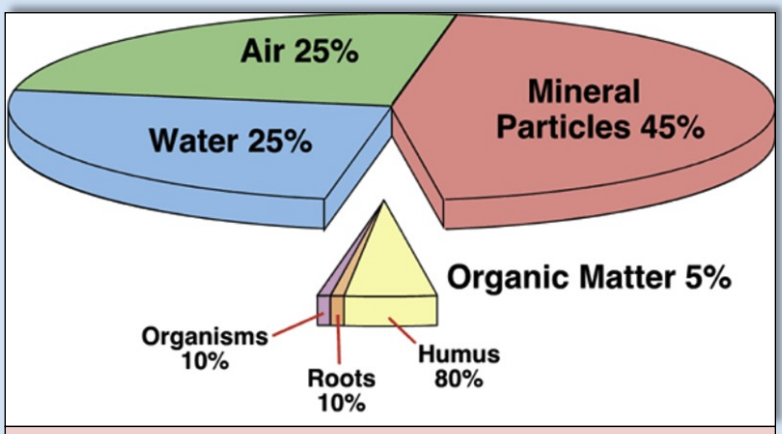
August 2019

In This Issue:

Cover Photo: Snails by Chris Dunaway

Soil Compaction

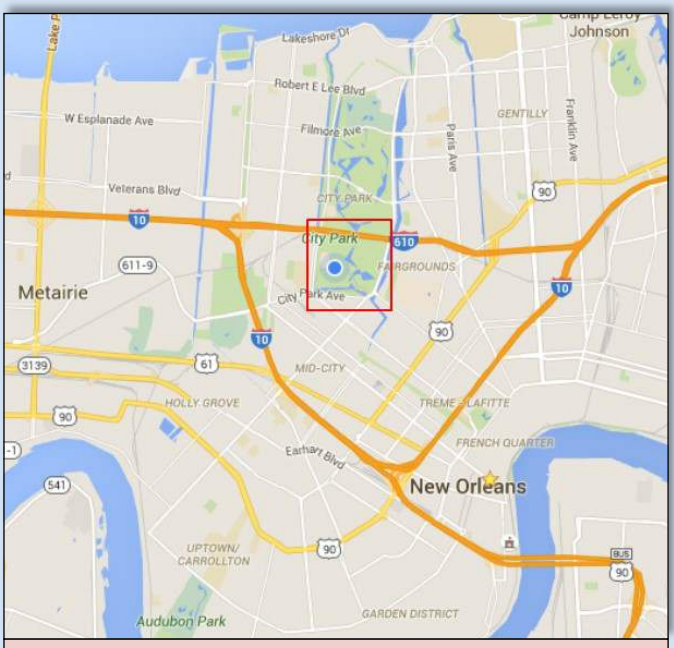
It may seem a little hard to imagine but 1/2 of the volume of good healthy soil should be empty space. When the soil is dry, the space will be filled with air and when it rains the water is able to penetrate the soil and move into that area. Finally, as the soil dries, capillary action draws fresh air into the space which is crucial for healthy plant growth. Unfortunately, much of the soil in urban environments is suffering from compaction. Soil compaction occurs when the mineral particles (sand, silt, and clay) in the soil move closer together eliminating this critical pore space.



Healthy soil is only composed of 45% mineral particles of sand, silt, and clay. 5% of the soil is organic material in the form of plant roots, humus (dead plant material in various stages of decay) and organisms like insects and worms. The remaining 50% should be pore space with fluctuating amount of air and water.

The presence of pore space in soil is important to plants for a variety of reasons. First, plants need fresh water to penetrate the soil but compacted soil can repel water and imped absorption. Second, although plants take in carbon dioxide and release oxygen from their leaves, the roots need renewed supplies of oxygen to thrive. In general the roots of plants need 10% pore space by volume to grow and at least 5% to live. If the root dies, the plant dies.

In addition to being critical for healthy plants, this open space also plays an important role in flood control. When meteorologists describe a rainfall event, they speak of it in inches of rain. But what does that mean? One inch of rainfall means that enough rain fell on one square foot of ground to cover it with one inch of water. This is equal to 0.6 gallons of water and it adds up quickly. A space measuring just 10' long and 10' wide will be inundated with 60 gallons of water for every single inch of rainfall. Over an area of one square mile that number jumps to over 17,000,000 gallons of water. Healthy soil with 50% pore space can hold 3.75 gallons of water per cubic foot. This means that one square foot of soil should be capable of storing over 6 inches of rain for every foot of depth without sending a drop to the pumping stations. While most of us know that things like roads and buildings block the water from entering the soil, many people are not aware that most of the soil under lawns is just as impervious to water penetration leading to runoff and contributing to areawide flooding.



This map shows a portion of the City of New Orleans with City Park roughly in the center. The red square represents an area of one square mile. Each inch of rainfall in a square mile equals over 17 million gallons of water.

Compaction of the soil is caused by two factors in our area. Traffic from vehicles, equipment, or even people walking over soil can force the soil particles closer together. This effect is exacerbated when the soil is saturated with water. The administration for New Orleans City Park has installed hundreds of bollard posts to prevent people from parking under the historic live oaks and causing further damage to the trees.

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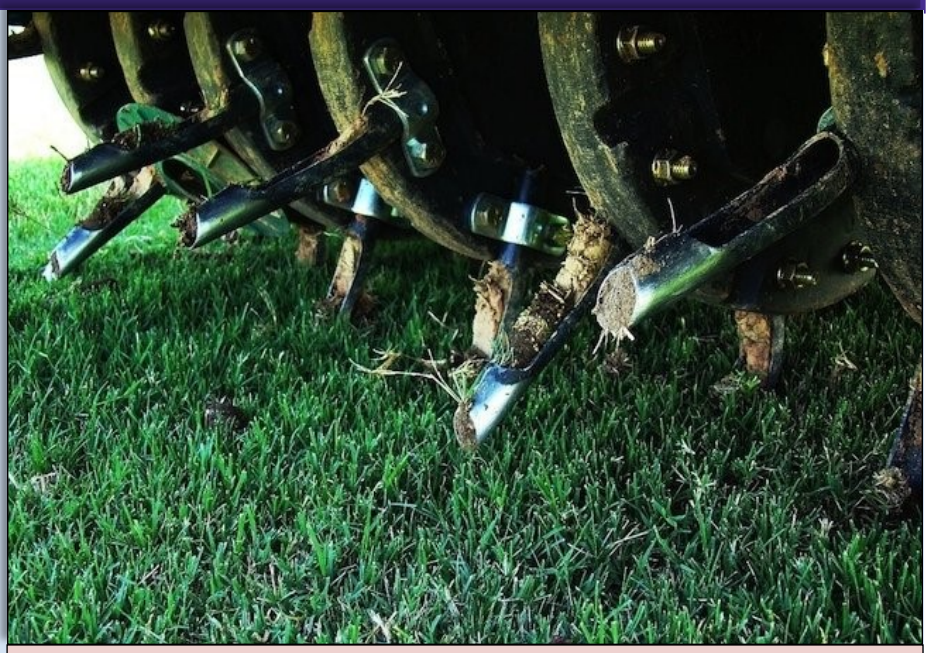
August Vegetable Planting Guide

Crop	Recommended Variety	Planting Depth	Spacing Inches	Days Until Harvest * from transplant date
Bell Peppers	Aristotle XR3, Blushing Beauty, King Arthur	⅛ inch	15-18	140-150
Broccoli	Green Magic, Everest, Castle Dome, Packman	⅛ inch	18-24	70-90*
Brussels Sprouts	Jade Cross E, Long Island Improved	⅛ inch	12-15	90*
Cabbage	Bravo, Rio Verde, Caraflex, Blue Vantage	⅛ inch	12-15	65-75*
Cauliflower	Snow Crown, Cumberland, Incline, Freedom	⅛ inch	18-24	55-65*
Chinese Cabbage	None Given	¼ inch	12	60-80*
Collards	Champion, Flash, Georgia, Top Bunch, Yates	⅛ inch	6-12	75
Cucumbers	Slicers = Dasher II, Diva, Fanfare HG, Indy Pickler = Calypso	¼ inch	12-18	50-65
Irish Potatoes	Red-Dark Red Noland, Red Lasoda White-Kennebec, Yukon Gold, Autumn Gold	4 inches	12	90-120
Kale	Siberian, Vates	½ inch	12-18	25-50
Lima Beans	Dixie Buttercup, Fordhook 242, Jackson Wonder	½ inch	2-3	48-55
Luffa Gourd	None Given	½ inch	48	90
Mustard	Florida Broadleaf, Greenwave, Red Giant, Savannah	⅛ inch	1-2	35-50
Pumpkins	Atlantic Giant, Baby Bear, Prankster, Sorcerer	½ inch	36-60	90-120
Rutabagas	American Purple Top, Laurentian	⅛ inch	4-8	88
Shallots	Matador, Prisma	1 inch	4-8	50
Snap Beans	Blue Lake 274, Bronco, Contender, Derby, Lynx	½ inch	2-3	48-55
Squash	Zucchini = Declaration II, Justice III, Payroll Straight Neck = Multipik, Patriot II, Liberator III Crook Neck = Destiny III, Gentry, Medallion	⅛ inch	36	50-90
Tomatoes	Bella Rosa, Sun Chaser, Florida 91, Phoenix, Solar Fire, BHN-216, Solar Set	⅛ inch	16-24	100-115
Turnips	Royal Crown, Purple Top White Globe,	⅛ inch	2-6	40-50

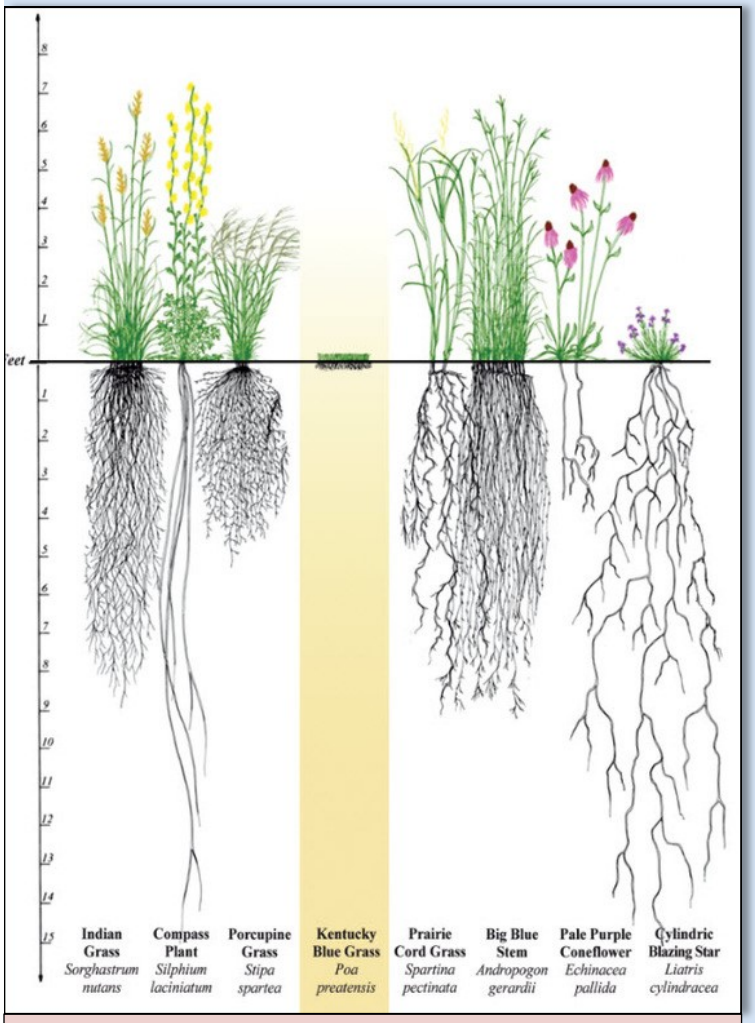
Soil Compaction

(Continued from Page 2.)

The second factor contributing to soil compaction in urban areas has been the replacement of natural environments and native plants with turfgrass lawns. By removing native plants and installing turfgrass lawns, we are no longer reinvigorating the soil with organic material in the form of roots. Tall plants tend to have deeper roots than short plants and turfgrass is very short. Even in the best growing conditions, the roots only go to a maximum depth of about 6 inches. As roots grow, they force their way down into the soil pushing apart the mineral particles and creating channels. Later when the root dies, it will break down providing nutrients for other plants and allowing water and oxygen to enter the soil through these channels. It is important to continually add organic material to the soil since the old material is constantly being broken down further into its constituent components and disappearing from the soil. This allows for the mineral particles to move back together creating compaction issues. Other organisms that would normally help prevent soil compaction are also disappearing from the lawn monoculture system. These include small animals, worms, insects (and other bugs), and beneficial fungi.



The tines of a mechanical aerator cut plugs of soil from the ground.



The graphic above illustrates the comparative difference in depth of the root systems of some common native plants versus a typical turfgrass (Kentucky Blue Grass). With mowing, most turfgrass roots do not exceed 5 inches of depth.

There are ways to alleviate soil compaction. One obvious way would be to replace as much turfgrass as possible with other grasses and plants with deeper root systems. Possible choices include trees, shrubs, native grasses, wildflowers, groundcovers and more. This could also have the added benefit of attracting and providing food and habitat for beneficial insects such as, butterflies, bees and birds to add a fourth dimension to your garden.

Another way to alleviate soil compaction is through the use of mechanical means. Mechanical aerators puncture the surface of the soil and penetrate typically to a depth of about 5 inches.

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Soil Compaction

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The most common mechanical aerators actually cut and remove a plugs of soil from the ground and deposit them on the surface. After aerating the soil, collect the plugs and add them to your compost pile then spread out 1/2 inch of fine compost over the lawn. The material will fill the holes adding organic material back to the soil. For small areas there are a variety of hand tools available to aerate the lawn but for larger areas a motorized machine may be necessary. These machines are available from your local equipment rental business if you would like to do it yourself or you may contact a lawn care company that offers aeration services.

This experiment demonstrates the difference in the vigor of plants grown in soils with low compaction (left) compared to highly compacted soil (right).

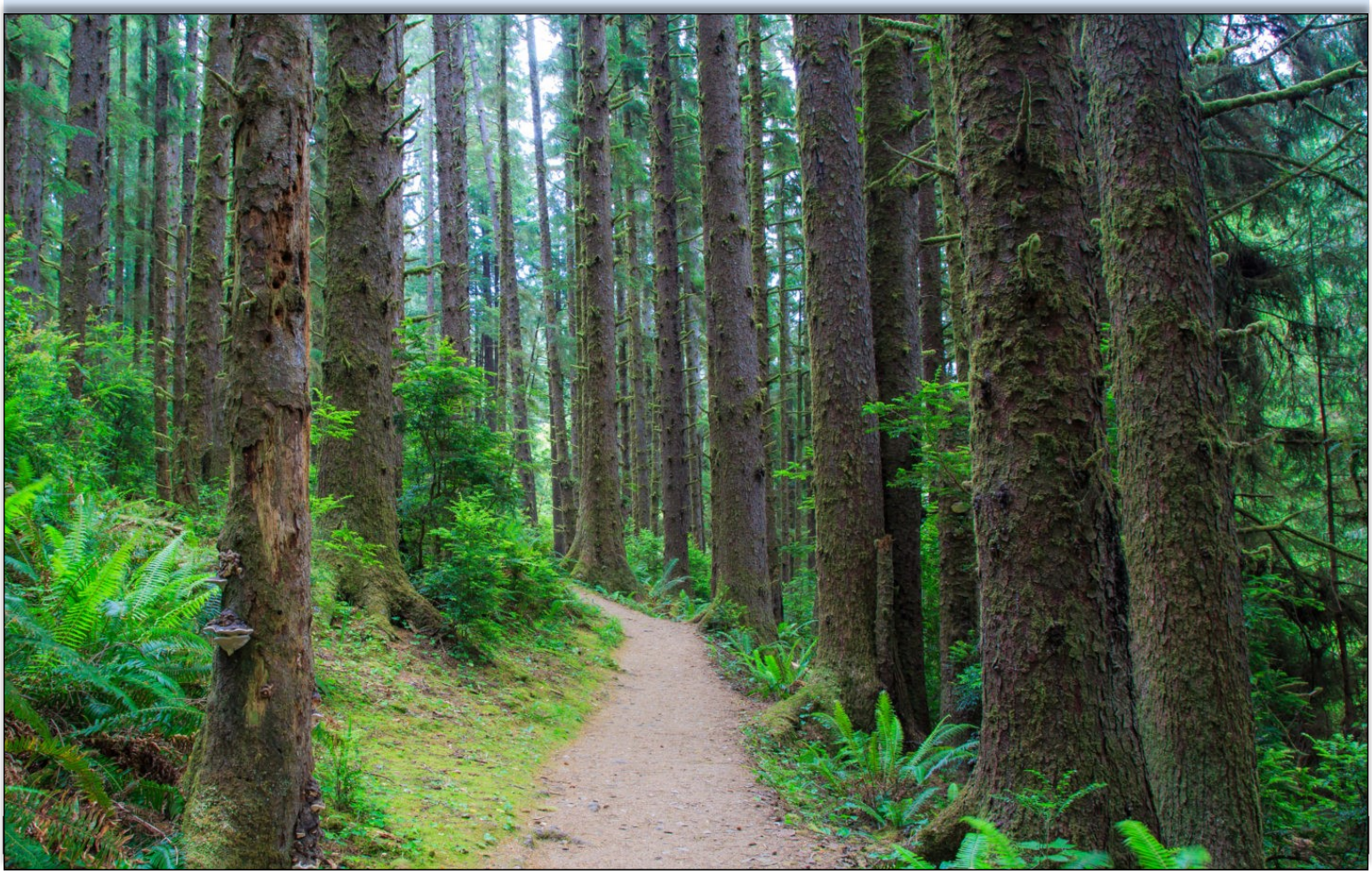
Routine aeration is a necessary part of maintaining a healthy lawn and should be repeated about every 3 years depending on soil type, traffic, and other factors.

Soil with sufficient pore space has many advantages and benefits.

- Increases water infiltration and storage capacity.
- Improves gas exchange.
- Increases soil fertility.
- Decreases stress on plants.
- Reduces incidents of disease.

Soil is a complex system with many components. “The soil beneath our feet is as much a bowl of dirt as an ocean is a vessel of water or the air a bladder of wind.”

~Chris Dunaway



Think About Spring Flowering Bulbs Now??

Okay, you're right. Spring flowering bulbs are planted in October/November so why bring them up now? Well, if you really like spring flowering bulbs as a part of your landscape and don't want to be limited to two or three varieties, now is the time for choosing and ordering what you want. Many of the Fall catalogs are arriving chock full of all colors, shapes and sizes of narcissus, daffodil, amaryllis and the like. Some of the bulbs you order will need to be chilled for six weeks in the fridge vernalized prior to planting.

A collection of tulips planted near the Big Lake at New Orleans City Park.

When choosing your bulbs, keep in mind that many "perennial" bulbs will only bloom reliably in our area their first year. For us they are annuals and this needs to be kept in mind because bulbs aren't cheap. Dan Gill says that some of the one-time bloomers include tulip, grape hyacinth, crocus, hyacinth, ranunculus, anemone, scilla, freesia, ixia, sparaxis and ornithogalum. While the following spring bulbs tend to be reliably long-lived in Louisiana and should bloom for several years at least: Narcissus cultivars such as paperwhites, Chinese Sacred Lily, Soleil d'Or, Grand Primo, Cheerfulness, jonquils, Sweetness, Trevethian, Peeping Tom, February Gold, Thalia, Ice Wings and Petrel. Larger-flowered daffodil cultivars include Ice Follies, Unsurpassable, Carlton and Fortune. Other reliable reblooming bulbs include snowflake *Leucojum aestivum*, some flowering onions *Allium neapolitanum, A. drummondii*, ground orchid *Bletilla striata*, amaryllis *Hippeastrum* species and hybrids, Spanish bluebells *Hyacinthoides hispanica*, spring star flower *Ipheion uniflorum*, Dutch iris *Iris x hollandica* and Easter lily *Lilium longiflorum*.

Planting time may seem like a long way off, but if you don't order you bulbs now, you may be left holding an empty bag.

~Dr. Joe Willis

Garden Myths Exposé: Painting Limb Stubs and Filling Tree Cavities

Trees in natural forest settings regularly heal up from wounds incurred by storm damage, scrapes, abrasions from crossed limbs, insect and animal damage, and fire. Urban trees also possess the natural ability to recover from those types of injuries as well as open wounds caused by pruning and other maintenance.

It is still common to see tree cavities in the New Orleans area sealed up and filled in by spray foam, concrete, bricks and other material. This is an outdated practice, but some trees from the era of "fill and seal" still linger on. Near Longue Vue House and Gardens, there is a live oak that appears to have swallowed a brick wall. This was not the case, rather bricks and concrete were used to plug up a large cavity where a limb was removed or fell off. In City Park it is still possible to see tree cavities filled in with spray foam and painted to conceal the wound. When these techniques are used, the tree is unable to mend naturally or seal the area off from healthy tissue. These fill materials also retain moisture from small leaks and rainwater seepage into the wound, and do not dry out effectively. Termites love these conditions, further compounding the problem. Trees with large cavities are better left alone, even if the area holds moisture.

Photo by Chris Dunaway

A cavity in this old live oak was filled at some point in the past. Later, the tree experienced further structural failure revealing a monolithic block of concrete.

Research conducted in the past few decades has proven that often, trees recover from wounds much more quickly when left on their own. Trees have two methods of responding to trauma: compartmentalization and the creation of natural barrier zones within themselves.

Trees are able to compartmentalize damaged areas by sealing off the wound using what is called "callus" tissue. This tissue forms around the excised bark and effectively seals the edges of the damage, keeping out bacterial and fungal pathogens. Eventually new wood will form to cover the area, sealing in the damaged wood. This protective boundary will not form at all or correctly if there are paints, sealants, foam, concrete or other substances in the way.

Trees are also able to create "barrier zones", which is a natural process that is still not completely understood. While callus tissue is able to seal off wounds from exterior areas, trees are also able to close off the damaged areas internally to avoid further injury by creating chemical and physical boundary areas. Infected cells are surrounded by this barrier, confining any pathogen or wood destroying insect

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Garden Myths Exposé: Painting Limb Stubs and Filling Tree Cavities

(Continued from Page 7.) activity and inhibiting further damage. Trees that are quick to respond to injury by creating these barriers have a better chance of keeping infections localized and preventing further spread of pathogens. Trees that were healthy prior to the damage event have a greater chance of successfully setting up these barrier zones.

Some care steps can be taken in the event that a tree is injured to encourage the two natural healing mechanisms - compartmentalization and barrier zones. If the wound has a lot of ragged, torn bark, use a sharp knife to smooth the edges back to healthy bark tissue. This is a good move especially with messy branch breakage and mechanical scrapes to the trunk or limbs, such as vehicle-caused damage. Take care to only remove damaged bark and not the healthy bark areas. Exposing more live tissue can be counterproductive. Loose bark should also be removed, the chance of the bark fusing back onto the healthy sections of the tree is slim. Ideally, wounds should be cut and shaped gently into oblong ovals, with the longer axis aligned vertically along the trunk or following the direction of the limb's growth. Trees are best able to naturally compartmentalize or set barriers in this configuration.

This pine tree in my back yard suffered an injury in the past that damaged the vascular tissue on the trunk. The would was trimmed to remove jagged material and left open. The tree sealed the open edges and has nearly sealed the opening.

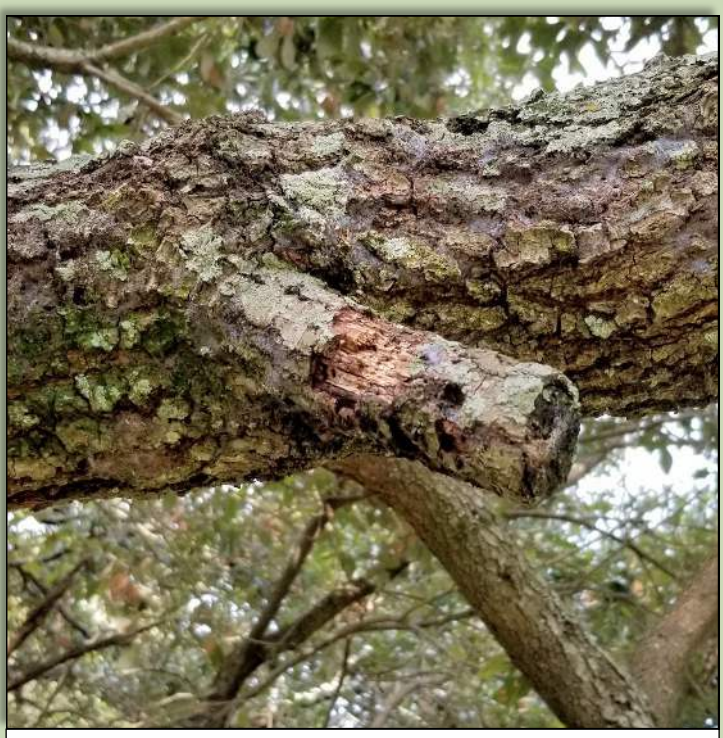
The outdated process of dressing tree wounds with tar, paint, cement and other substances has been shown to prevent wounds from drying, which provides moist conditions that fungal pathogens take advantage of. Trees are unable to form callus tissue over areas that have been dressed with substances like tar and paint. Also, compartmentalization is inhibited by these dressings or filler materials.

Large cavities caused by rot, termites, downed limbs, and other injuries should not be filled in. Filling these holes is usually done for cosmetic reasons and to appeal to humans. Filling does not stop decay and trees are often damaged further when these cavities are filled. Trees will naturally form calluses or set up chemical or physical barriers around these large holes naturally, and filling will inhibit this process. There is little scientific data indicating that trees that were filled in are more stable in winds or storms. It can also be cost-prohibitive, since filling tree cavities is expensive. Most reputable arborists will no longer recommend this procedure. Cavities provide an added ecological service by creating suitable nesting sites for many forms of wildlife and songbirds. Current forestry practices and research is showing that healthy systems require *(Continued on Page 9.)*

Garden Myths Exposé: Painting Limb Stubs and Filling Tree Cavities

(Continued from Page 8.) snags, cavities and crevasses in trees as a form of habitat to ensure that wildlife species can continue to exist and reproduce within human managed forest systems.

Branches that are torn or wounded can be pruned back to the trunk or main branch structure. Dead, dying, or broken branches should be removed in this fashion. Branches that are low, or in the way, or crossing so that they are rubbing one another should also be removed since resulting wounds can invite fungal and bacterial pathogens as well as wood destroying insects. When pruning these branches back, use sharp tools and make clean cuts at the branch collar. Leaving branch stubs actually makes the problem worse, looks bad, and invites cold damage in many trees. Cut back to the place where the branch meets the trunk or larger branch, there will be a slightly raised seam. This is the collar, and the tree will be able to form callus tissue at this junction. Cut the limb just slightly above this collar. Cutting it flush will make it more difficult for the tree to heal the area and increases the chances that a decay organism will enter the area. The best time to make these cuts is in the winter or dormant period of the tree. Trees are not focusing on active growth at this time and can dedicate necessary resources to proper healing mechanisms.



The pruning cut to remove this limb was not done properly. The cut was made past the branch collar. Insects and wood destroying fungus have been able to insinuate themselves into the limb stub. The tree cannot seal this wound providing these organisms with access to the rest of the tree.

Healthy trees need little to no intervention by us to effectively compartmentalize and create barriers around wounds and infections. The majority of the time, no action is the best course of action to take when healing trees. Paint, tar, cement, brick, plaster and other materials for sealing the wounds or cavities in a tree are no longer recommended, but examples of this practice linger on. Let's file this practice with the rest of the "Garden Myths".

~Anna Timmerman

This image shows a typical limb emerging from the trunk of a tree. At the junction of the limb and the trunk is usually a clearly defined collar. Limbs should be pruned to the top of the collar where it meets the limb.

To prevent tearing and damaging the tree arborists use a three cut method.

1) Make a cut on the bottom about 4 inches from the collar. Make the cut 1/3rd of the way through the limb.
2) Remove the limb by cutting above the first cut.
3) Now that the weight is gone, remove the stub at the collar.

What's Bugging You? Slugs and Snails

Few things are more disappointing than to check your garden in the morning and find your lettuce full of holes or your new little transplants totally leafless and nothing is more disgusting than to cut into a homegrown head of cabbage and finding holes in all the leaves and the head filled with small green slimy slugs. Heaven forbid you go walking through your garden barefoot and hear the crunch snails or feel slugs squishing between your toes.

A snail glides along this leaf leaving behind a telltale slime trail.

Snails and slugs are gastropods of the Mollusca phylum and related to one of our favorite mollusks – the oyster. And as much as we love our oysters, we hate their cousins. Snails have a protective shell they carry around with them and slugs don't. They both have a single foot they use to crawl around on a thin layer of slime they produce to "grease the rails". Most land snails are hermaphroditic – they have both male and female sex organs and produce both ova and spermatozoa. Snails can self-fertilize but many still mate with other snails with one providing ova and the other spermatozoa or each sharing both. With some species, love darts are involved (look it up). After mating, they each go their separate way. When the eggs have matured, they lay them (about 30 eggs) inside a small hole they make in the topsoil. The process is very similar with slugs.

Here you can see the underside of the snail's foot as it clings to a piece of glass. Notice its open mouth.

Snails and slugs feed mostly at night and are most active during wet periods or in moist microclimates. They feed at night and retreat into the cooler dark recesses during the day. They will eat most anything that has soft succulent tissue but like their food close to the ground. Slug and snail predation looks very much like the holes made by caterpillars and beetles; the telltale sign is the slime trail they leave behind which looks like silvery glistening lines on the plant. In our area, they are active almost year-round. If you irrigate your garden, they always have a moist environment.

It is very important to properly diagnose slug and snail damage because controlling them is much different from controlling caterpillars and beetles. They are usually controlled using baits (in liquid or pellet form) though hand-picking is also effective. For years, baits commonly contained the active ingredient metaldehyde. It is very effective but is also very toxic to pets and other animals. Iron phosphate as an active

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What's Bugging You? Slugs and Snails

(Continued from Page 10.) ingredient is a much safer alternative and just as effective. Follow the label directions for when, where and how often to use and any precautions that need to be taken.

Beer traps are another often used approach to snail and slug control. A shallow dish or jar lid is placed in the garden at ground level and filled with beer. The mollusks fall into the beer dish and drown; however, this YouTube video (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cf6FHv5x3sc) may convince you that its better to drink your beer while spreading iron phosphate pellets.

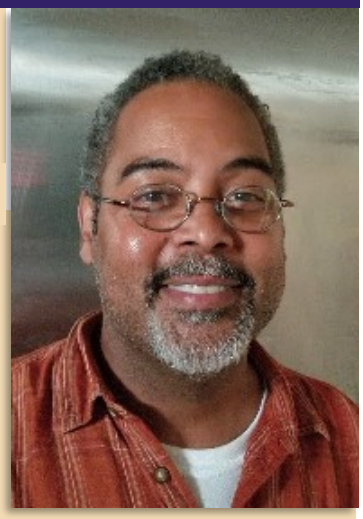
Copper tape is also sold to control slugs and snails. Most of the research indicates that it can be effective to some degree but only if the tape is at least 2" wide. Slugs and snails just crawl across anything narrower.

Slugs and snails are important components of the soil biota in breaking down organic matter and are food for a lot of other garden visitors (toads, birds). You don't want to completely rid your landscape of them. If you identify slugs or snails as the culprits eating your favorite plants, use iron phosphate pellets or some other means to protect the plants that can't sustain any damage (lettuce, cabbage, etc.) and try to tolerate a few holes here and there on your other landscape plants. With our recent rainy weather, slugs and snails are guaranteed to be around but be selective on when and where you control them.

~Dr. Joe Willis

In the Kitchen with Austin

Ambrosia Mold



Call me old-fashioned, but I love a fruit mold in the summer time. Here is one I am sure you will enjoy.

Ingredients:

4 (3 oz.) boxes pineapple gelatin mix

2 cups boiling water

2 (13.5 oz.) cans coconut milk

1 ½ cups miniature marshmallows

1 (15 oz.) can mandarin orange segments, drained and halved

1 ¼ cups cherries, pitted and quartered

Directions:

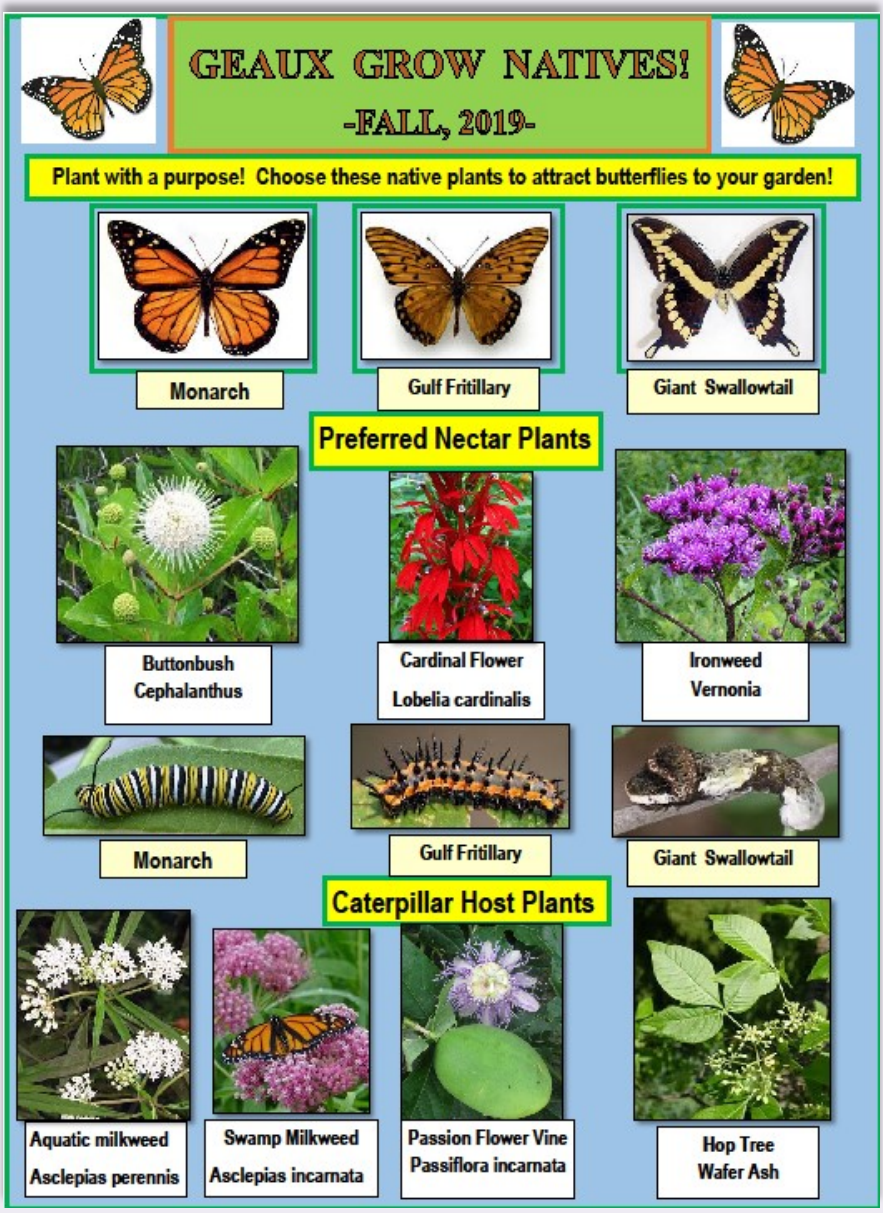
- Dissolve gelatin in boiling water in a large bowl.
- Stir in ½ cup cold water and coconut milk.

- Refrigerate, uncovered, until slightly set. Mixture should have the consistency of egg whites, about 1 hour.
- Lightly coat a 12-cup mold or nonstick Bundt pan with cooking spray.
- Whisk slightly set gelatin until well blended, then fold in marshmallows, oranges, and cherries.
- Pour gelatin mixture into mold and refrigerate, uncovered, until set, about 4 hours.
- When ready to serve, invert onto large plate and garnish with mint leaves and additional fruit.

Bon Manger!

Geaux Grow Natives Project Update

It's mid July and in six short weeks, having survived the brain cooking days of August, we will be welcoming the cooler days of September when it will be time to get out to the garden with shovel and gloves. We will revive the plants that passed the grueling test of thriving on neglect while we were inside trying to stay cool. Many of our pretty annual plants having done their job of giving us bright colors all summer, will be sort of peaked out.



Meanwhile the report on my *"Geaux Grow Natives!"* Spring Showcase plants is this: *"They are rocking and a-rolling!"* Garden Phlox, Purple Coneflowers and Slender Mountain Mint (the three chosen nectar plants) are all in full bloom and are being visited daily by hungry butterflies plus other pollinators. Aquatic and Swamp milkweeds *Asclepias perennis and incarnata*, the two native milkweed choices, have been very successful in attracting female Monarch butterflies to lay their eggs and the caterpillars have eaten them down to sticks. Partridge Pea *Chamaecrista fasciculata* plants are calling female Cloudless Sulphur and Sleepy Orange butterflies to lay their eggs.

The "Geaux Grow Natives!" project has stimulated both interest and conversation in our local gardening community. More and more folks are asking their nurseries for native plants! But before we say, "Mission accomplished!", let's get ready for round two with the **Fall Plants Showcase**. The three suggested nectar plant additions to your fall garden are Buttonbush *Cephalanthus occidentalis*, Cardinal Flower *Lobelia cardinalis*, and Ironweed *Vernonia*. The white globular buttonbush flowers are packed with pollen. On our woodland hikes we see a variety of skippers, bees, and butterflies enjoying the nectar of these unique blossoms. The bright red Cardinal Flower *Lobelia cardinalis* is a favorite of the Sulphur butterflies and should be planted close to the Partridge Pea. Planting the preferred nectar and host plants together will insure better butterfly visitation. Ironweed is the perfect invitation for late summer/ autumn butterflies. These tall, gorgeous purple flower heads reaching high into the sky provide a landing pad for the larger swallowtails such as Giant and Tiger. Buckeye butterflies also adore the pollen.

As far as the four caterpillar host plants, the two native milkweeds, Aquatic and Swamp, will be repeated since many gardeners are still in the transition of changing out their tropical milkweed to native varieties to lessen the *(Continued on Page 13.)*

Geaux Grow Natives Project Update

(Continued from Page 12.) chance of transmitting the Monarch's O.E. parasite over winter. Coupled with these two are the Passion flower vine *Passiflora incarnata* for the Gulf Fritillary and the Hop tree or Wafer Ash *Ptelea trifoliata* for the Giant Swallowtail. If you're lucky, you might one day find both Gulf and Variegated Fritillary caterpillars on your passion flower vines. They appear to have stinging barbs but they do NOT have the ability to sting. It's their natural defense to trick predators. The Giant Swallowtail caterpillar, on the other hand, uses the *"I'm a bird poop"* defense. Isn't nature grand?

All of this fascinating activity can begin merely by creating the invitation with these plants. I hope you will share your love of nature with everyone you know by helping promote the right native plant selection for maximum benefit. Want a piece of this action? Want to know where and when you can get these plants? The fun begins on Saturday, September 7 then every Saturday of that month you can find me at the following dates, locations and times. All of the plants are being grown locally. Support your local garden centers and growers by adding some of the Fall Plant Selection. Enhance your garden diversity by trying these natives. You will be amazed at all the new critters that will accept the invitation to your garden party.

My new book, BugLady's Butterfly Summer will also be available for sale and will be personally signed by the author! It is 15 short stories about raising butterflies accompanied by 31 color plates of what I raised. It's packed with information on range, habitat, host plants, life cycles and fun facts. Go adventuring with me on woodland trails and in my garden. Be fascinated by the butterflies and caterpillars I discover. Hope to see you at one of the plant promotion tour stops! ~Linda Auld "BugLady"

Fall, 2019 Plant Promotional Tour Dates

Sept. 7	Jefferson Feed	9:00 AM - 11:30 AM
	Double M Feed	12:30 PM - 3:00 PM
Sept. 14	Crosby Arboretum	9:30 AM - 12 NOON
Sept. 21	Harold's Plants	9:00 AM - 11:30 AM
	Rose Garden Center	12:30 PM - 3:00 PM
Sept. 28	Clegg's Siegen Lane	9:30 AM - 12 NOON
	Clegg's Denham Springs	1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

The list of the participating locations:

Barber Laboratories	6444 Jefferson Highway	Harahan	504-739-5715
Charvet's Nursery	4511 Clearview Pkwy	Metairie	504-888-7700
Clegg's Nursery	5696 Siegen Lane	Baton Rouge	225-292-9153
Clegg's Nursery	10645 Greenwell Springs Rd	Baton Rouge	225-275-7006
Clegg's Nursery	31275 LA Hwy. 16	Denham Springs	225-791-6060
Clegg's Nursery	274 N. Donmoor	Baton Rouge	225-927-1419
Crosby Arboretum	370 Ridge Road	Picayune, MS	985-641-3600
Double M Feed	8400 Jefferson Hwy	Harahan	504-738-5007
Harold's Plants	1135 Press Street	New Orleans	504-947-7554
Jefferson Feed	4421 Jefferson Hwy	Jefferson	504-733-8572
Longue Vue Gardens	7 Bamboo Rd	New Orleans	504-488-5488
Options, Inc.	19362 W. Shelton Rd	Hammond	985-345-6269
Pelican Greenhouse	#2 Celebration Drive	New Orleans	504-483-9437
Rose Garden Center	4005 Westbank Expressway	Marrero	504-341-5664

Coming Events

Date	Event	Cost	Link
Wednesday August 7th 7—8:30 PM	Plants for Birds with Wendy Rihner @the East Bank Regional Library 4747 W. Napoleon Blvd., Metairie	Free	http://la.evanced.info/jefferson/lib/eventcalendar.asp?lib=0&et=Adults *Master Gardener Continuing Ed Credit!
Saturday August 10th 10:30 AM—NOON	Gingers for the New Orleans Area with Tim Chapman @the New Orleans Botanical Garden 5 Victory Ave., New Orleans	$12, pre-registration required	https://www.facebook.com/events/407111580085099/ *Master Gardener Continuing Ed Credit!
Friday August 16th 6:30—8 PM	Permaculture Design Salon @Grow On Urban Farm 2358 Urquhart, New Orleans	$10	https://www.facebook.com/events/458285168067243/ *Master Gardener Continuing Ed Credit, treat as a gardening style, not research-based info.
Saturday August 17th 4:00—9:00 PM	Annual Bonsai Auction Hosted by the Greater New Orleans Bonsai Society @the Marine Corps League Hall, 2708 Delaware St., Kenner	Free	https://nola.verylocal.com/event/bonsai-auction-2/54015/?fbclid=IwAR2taH-RCLmV3qVSTx1xQvZBoGV7BB6wxsteO8STPlT4VYjCFUIgPfu8zlY
Saturday August 24th 9 AM—NOON	Pelican Greenhous Plant Sale @New Orleans City Park #2 Celebration Drive, New Orleans	Free	http://neworleanscitypark.com/events/pelican-greenhouse-plant-sales
Monday August 26th 6—7 PM	Historical LA Landscapes: The "Why" Behind the Native Plant Movement with Tammany Baumgarten @the East Bank Regional Library 4747 W. Napoleon Blvd., Metairie	Free	http://la.evanced.info/jefferson/lib/eventcalendar.asp?lib=0&et=Adults *Master Gardener Continuing Ed Credit!
Tuesday August 27-29th 5:30—8 PM	Community Forestry Educational Series	Free Pre-registration required	https://soulnola.org/education/ *Master Gardener Continuing Ed Credit!
Saturday, August 31st 10—11 AM	Foraging for Wild Edibles @the Louisiana State Arboretum 1300 Sudie Lawton Ln., Ville Platte, LA	Free	https://www.facebook.com/events/669822566818294/ *Master Gardener Continuing Ed Credit!

Coming Events

NEW ORLEANS CITY PARK
BOTANICAL GARDEN

Pelican Greenhouse 2019 Plant Sales

August 24
9:00 AM—Noon

Other Dates:
Fall Garden Festival
October 5, 2019 - 10 am to 5 pm
October 6, 2019 - 10 am to 4 pm

The Pelican Greenhouse is located at #2 Celebration Drive, City Park. Just South of the I-610 overpass. For additional information, call 504/483-9464.

Visit our website at www.neworleanscitypark.com, or e-mail to plants@nocp.org

FOURTH ANNUAL COMMUNITY FORESTRY EDUCATIONAL SERIES AUGUST 27TH-29TH

Join us to discover what caused New Orleans' deforestation, the role our urban forest plays in our resilience, and how as citizens we can replant our city. Classroom and field instruction includes:

- How to Plant, Prune + Stake Trees
- New Orleans' Stormwater Systems
- Growing Fruit Trees in the City
- Tree Maintenance + Preservation
- Green Infrastructure + Trees
- Tree Identification; and more!

Your attendance is required at every session.

Presentations are from 5:30-8pm and include dinner. Presentations will occur at the New Orleans Botanical Gardens' Garden Study Center and the ReFresh Community Room at 300 N. Broad.

Visit soulnola.org/education for more information and to register.

This educational series is free of charge.

If you need a special accommodation for your participation in the event, please contact Catherine Wheeler at cwheeler@soulnola.org at least two weeks prior to the event.

Farmers Markets in the Greater New Orleans Area

Jefferson Parish	**Where**	**When**
Fat City Farmer's Market	3215 Edenborn, Metairie	Every 2nd and 4th Sunday, 9AM-1PM
Gretna Farmer's Market	739 Third Street, Gretna	Every Saturday, except the Saturday of Gretna Fest, 8:30AM-12:30PM
Kenner Rivertown Farmer's Market	2115 Rev. Richard Wilson Drive, Kenner	Every Saturday, October-July, 9AM-1PM
Nawlins Outdoor Market	1048 Scotsdale Dr., Harvey	Every Saturday & Sunday, 9AM-5PM
Old Metairie Farmer's Market	Bayou Metairie Park, Between Metairie Lawn Dr. and Labarre	3rd Tuesday of the month, 3:30PM-7:30PM
Westwego Shrimp Lot	100 Westbank Expressway, Westwego	Daily Mon-Sat 8AM-8PM, Sun 8AM-6PM
Crescent City Farmer's Market-Bucktown	325 Metairie-Hammond, Highway at Bucktown Harbor	Fridays, 3PM-7PM
Crescent City Farmer's Market-Rivertown New Orleans	Williams Boulevard at the River	Saturdays, 9AM-1PM
Crescent City Farmer's Market-Ochsner West Campus	2614 Jefferson Highway, Ochsner Rehab Facility	Wednesdays, 3PM-7PM
Orleans Parish	**When**	**Where**
Laughing Buddha Farm Hubs	See website for details	Bywater, Broadmoor, Lakeview, Irish Channel, Mid-City, Algiers point, Uptown, and Covington Locations. Follow the link for details: https://www.laughingbuddhanursery.com/events
Crescent City Farmer's Market-Uptown	200 Broadway Street at the River	Tuesdays, 9AM-1PM
Crescent City Farmer's Market-Bywater	Chartres and Piety, at Rusty Rainbow Bridge	Wednesdays, 3PM-7PM
Crescent City Farmer's Market-Mid-City	3700 Orleans Avenue	Thursdays, 3PM-7PM
Crescent City Farmer's Market-Downtown	750 Carondelet St at Julia	Saturdays, 8am-12PM
Sankofa Market	5029 St. Claude St.	Monday-Thursday, 9:30AM-4:00PM
ReFresh Farmer's Market	300 North Broad St.	Mondays, 4:00PM-7:00PM
Vietnamese Farmer's Market	14401 Alcee Fortier Blvd.	Saturdays, 5:30AM-8:30AM
Marketplace at Armstrong Park	901 N. Rampart	Thursdays, 3PM-7PM
Mid-City Arts and Farmer's Market	Comiskey Park,	Market dates vary, check http://midcityaf.org
Treme Farmer's Market	814 N. Claiborne	Market dates vary, check https://gloriastremegarden.com/treme-farmers-market/
St. Bernard Parish	**When**	**Where**
St. Bernard Seafood and Farmer's Market	409 Aycock St., Arabi	2nd Saturdays, 10AM-2PM

August Checklist/Garden Tips

Small, yellow aphids on your butterfly weed or milkweed will not damage the plants or affect the feeding of adult and larval monarch butterflies. Do not use pesticides.

Spider mites and white flies are abundant now and many gardeners are experiencing heavy outbreaks. Make several applications of Year Round Oil or All Seasons Oil before they get too out of hand. Spray the underside of the leaves for best control, and spray in the early morning when it is cooler.

Begin to order spring flowering bulbs from catalogs for delivery in October.

Remove flowers on coleus, and pinch back vegetative growth to prolong new foliage production.

Prune ever blooming roses back about one third their height in late August or early September. Also remove any dead canes and weak spindly growth. This pruning prepares the roses for the outstanding blooming season in October and November. Do not cut back once blooming roses that only bloom in spring and early summer and stop, as you will reduce flowering next year.

After a summer of vigorous growth outside, some containerized plants may be pot bound. Check and repot into larger containers if necessary. Also, plants in pots sitting on a brick surface or soil may grow roots out of the drainage holes into the ground. Prevent this by lifting the pots occasionally or boost them up on pot feet or pieces of brick.

Fine, silvery webbing on the bark of area trees is being caused by tiny insects called psocids or bark lice. These scavengers are completely harmless to the trees and no control is needed.

If your spring planted eggplant and pepper plants are still in good condition, they can be generally be relied on to produce a fall crop. Control pests and keep the plants well watered and fertilized as needed. They will begin to set more fruit as the temperatures become cooler.

Transplant fall tomato plants into your garden by mid-August. Be prepared to spray with insecticides and fungicides since insect and disease pressure is usually greater in the fall than in the spring. The cultivars that have produced satisfactorily in the fall are Mountain Pride, Mountain Delight, Hawaiian Hybrid, Pelican, Bingo, Whirlaway, Floradel, Celebrity, Pacific and Solar Set.

If you need to, dig and divide Louisiana irises, Easter lilies and calla lilies this month.

Many bedding plants that will continue to bloom through fall were planted months ago and may be somewhat leggy and overgrown by this time. Cut them back by about 1/3 to 1/2 to produce stockier, fuller plants for the fall blooming period. Fertilize after you cut them back to stimulate new growth. This is often done to bedding plants such as impatiens, begonia, lantana, blue daze, verbena, pentas, salvia and periwinkle.

As your flowers and vegetables grow, they deplete the soil of organic material. Be sure to add plenty of compost to your garden plots before planting your Fall crop. You should also take a soil test and add fertilizer and amendments according to the test results

Lawn Care Do's & Don't's

Do's:

1. This is the last month to lay sod Bermudagrass.
2. You may fertilize at this time if you have not already done so. Look on page 5 of the Louisiana Lawns Best Management Practices Guide for information on the correct timing and application rates.
3. Continue to scout for fungal damage and control with fungicides if necessary. The most prevalent is called Large Patch of Warm-Season Turfgrass. Click here to find information about large patch disease from the LSU AgCenter.
4. Irrigate as necessary to moisten the soil to a depth of 4-6 inches. The best time to water is in the morning. It is safest, from a disease standpoint, not to keep a grass wet all night long. Watering established sod during midday is discouraged because of extra loss from evaporation
5. Aerate the soil if necessary to alleviate compaction.
6. Dethatch the lawn if necessary.
7. Keep an eye open for insect pests. Hot, dry weather is ideal for chinch bug damage to show up on area lawns, particularly St. Augustine. Look for enlarging areas of brown, straw-like grass, especially in sunny, dry areas between the sidewalk and the street and along driveways. Treat with acephate, bifenthrin, Malathion, or other insecticides labeled to control chinch bugs on lawns. Read and follow label directions carefully.
8. Spread fill soil and compost over the lawn to add organic material and smooth out the lawn. Do not add more than 2 inches over actively growing grass.
9. Set your mower to the correct height for your turfgrass type.

Don't's

1. Do not apply selective herbicides to the lawn.
2. Do not cut more than 1/3 of the height at a single time.
3. Do not try to grow grass in deep shade.

Your Local Extension Office is Here to Help

E-mail us at: GNOGardening@agcenter.lsu.edu

Follow us on Facebook at GNOGardening

For more information visit LSUAgCenter.com

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