

APRIL 2024

# MANSFIELD GARDEN CLUB

## NEWSLETTER



## Message from the President of Mansfield Garden Club

I hope this message finds you all well and filled with the excitement of spring!

I am delighted to share that our recent butterfly garden workday was a tremendous success, with a great turnout from our dedicated members. Thanks to your hard work the garden looks as lovely as ever. It's a testament to the beauty we can create when we come together as a community.

Looking ahead, mark your calendars for another opportunity to make a difference in our community. We have a service center garden workday scheduled for Thursday, April 11th.

As members of the Mansfield Garden Club, we not only share a passion for gardening but also a deep commitment to our community. I'm looking forward to our upcoming participation in Mansfield's Earth Day Festival on April 27th. It's a fantastic opportunity to share our love of gardening with the wider community. I can't wait to see our garden club shine at this special event!

As always, your dedication and enthusiasm are what make our club truly special. Thank you for your ongoing support and commitment to making our community bloom.

Wishing you all a fruitful and joyous April!

Warm regards,

Sonya

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## MGC BOOTH AT MANSFIELD EARTH DAY CELEBRATION

Saturday, April 27, 2024 | 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

Chris W Burkett Service Center

620 S. Wisteria, Mansfield, Tx 76063

Mansfield Garden Club will have a booth at the city's annual celebration of Mother Earth will be full of fun and educational activities.

Earth Day Mansfield, the City's annual celebration that shows attendees how they can make everyday Earth Day, will be held from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. at the Chris W. Burkett Service Center located at 620 South Wisteria Street in Mansfield.

As always, the festival will feature a wide range of earth-friendly activities including educational opportunities, butterfly release, children's activities, music and entertainment, food vendors, natural product vendors and a painted rain barrel silent auction.

## MGC PICNIC AT MANSFIELD TOWN PARK PAVILION

Tuesday, May 14, 2024

5:00pm-9:00pm

Mansfield Town Park Pavillion

500 N Main St., Mansfield, TX 76063

Join us for a delightful picnic gathering with delicious food, refreshing drinks, and fantastic entertainment provided by the club. Here are the details:

**Food and Drinks:** The club will provide meats and drinks for everyone to enjoy.

**Potluck Style:** Members, please bring sides, salads, and desserts to share!

**Live Music:** We're excited to announce that John and Sara DeMore will be performing live music, adding to the festive atmosphere.

**Raffle for a Cause:** Help support our club's scholarship fund by participating in our raffle! Every ticket you purchase contributes to a worthy cause.

**BYOC (Bring Your Own Chair):** There are picnic tables, but don't forget to bring a comfortable chair to relax and enjoy the festivities.

# APRIL PLANT OF THE MONTH:

## *Asclepias asperula*



*Asclepias asperula*, commonly called antelope horns milkweed or spider milkweed,[2] is a species of milkweed native to the Southwestern United States and northern Mexico.

It is a perennial plant growing to 0.3–0.9 m (1–3 ft) tall, with clustered greenish-yellow flowers with maroon highlights. It blooms from April through June. Antelope horns is a common milkweed in Central Texas. It gets its name from the follicles (seed pods) that resemble the horns of antelope. You can easily spot the flower clusters (technically, umbellate cymes) in open meadows. Milkweed plants are a major food source for Monarch and Queen butterfly caterpillars and as with other milkweed plants, it bleeds white latex if a stem is cut and this sap is toxic to some animals and to humans. It also makes Monarch and Queen butterflies taste bad to potential predators, a nice defense mechanism. From a distance the flowers appear as tennis-sized spheres, but they are clusters of small green, purple, and white flowers. Each flower has 5 pale green petals that cup upward around 5 prominent white hoods (which store nectar).



## MGC SERVICE CENTER PLOTS



Awesome work accomplished by our 17 gardeners last week at the Texas Native Service Center garden plots



# BUTTERFLY GARDEN WORKDAY



A big thank you to our volunteers who helped us at our  
Butterfly Garden Workday!





**MGC  
GAZEBO**

# MANSFIELD GARDEN CLUB

## **MANSFIELD GARDEN CLUB 2024 - 2025 EXECUTIVE BOARD**

President – Sonya Byrne  
Secretary – Donna Rauh  
Treasurer – Baronda Bradley  
1st V.P. of Programs – Pam Smith  
2nd V.P. of Publicity – Donna Mendenhall  
3rd V.P. of Special Events – Rosa Weith and Diane Dillon  
4th V.P. of Community Projects – Valerie Crowe  
5th V.P. of Youth and Education – Kris Schulz and Rebecca Sales

## **MANSFIELD GARDEN CLUB COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

Farmer's Market – Annette Atkinson & Melissa Peckler  
Scholarship – Kris Schulz  
Butterfly Garden – Rhonda Oertwich & Kathe Cleveland  
Man House Gardens – Val Crowe  
Service Center Garden Plots – Rosa Weith  
Gazebo Decorating – Pamela Smith  
Gazebo Garden – Janie Runyan



/MGCTexas



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