




Mansfield Garden Club

JUNE 2026
NEWSLETTER



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

By July, summer has fully settled into North Texas. The crepe myrtles are blooming, butterflies are busy in the garden, and most of us have learned to appreciate the cooler hours of the morning before the heat takes hold.



Gardening teaches patience in every season, but summer may be its greatest lesson. After the excitement of spring planting, July invites us to slow down and enjoy what has emerged from months of care and attention. It is a time to observe, to appreciate, and perhaps to be reminded that growth often happens quietly.

One of the things I value most about gardening is how it encourages us to notice the world around us. A new bloom, a visiting pollinator, the fragrance of herbs in the evening, or the simple pleasure of sitting in the shade with a cup of coffee can transform an ordinary day. As you move through the heart of summer, I hope you'll find time to enjoy your garden and all the beauty this season has to offer.

Happy gardening,

Sonya Byrne
President, Mansfield Garden Club

TARRANT COUNTY MASTER GARDEN VISIT JUNE 2026

Approximately a dozen club members visited the Fort Worth Demonstration Garden maintained by Tarrant County Master Gardeners. Our hosts gave us a very informative tour of the orchards, the rose, perennial, and herb gardens, the composting area and the water harvesting area. TCMGA president Cheri Mills welcomed our group and shared updates on the growth of its membership and future plans. Master gardeners working the various areas of the two-acre+ site were also available to answer questions. Mansfield Club members also purchased plants at a discount as we'd missed the earlier plant sale due to rain.



JUNE MEETING RECAP

FIELDS OF FIDELIS LAVENDER FARM

Lenda Fidelman and her husband, shared their work on their veteran-owned boutique lavender farm in Anna, Texas, as well as their involvement in the Seed Project Foundation. The foundation champions organic and sustainable agriculture through community-driven projects. The Fidelmans are strong advocates for McKinney Roots, a nonprofit farm that helps combat food insecurity in Colin County. They are also involved in supporting veterans through a variety of efforts. They shared tips on the types of lavender plants that do well in Texas, harvesting and processing the oil into an array of products. They grow six different varieties and recommend Grosso (Fat Spike, Hybrid), a Spanish/Dutch hybrid for our area.



CLUB ACTIVITIES

Congratulations to Avery Matthews, the Mansfield Garden Club scholarship winner for this year. Proceeds from the club's plant sales and raffles help us raise funds to support our MISD students interested in agriculture or related fields. Avery is a prime example of the excellence in our community. She graduated from Lake Ridge High School and will be attending Texas Tech in fall where she'll major in Agriculture Education.

Avery is a volunteer teacher at Daulton Elementary, a teacher's aide at her church's ministry, and works part time at The Little Gym. She was praised by her teachers for her leadership skills, serving as Chapter President for the local FFA, and area FAA Vice-President. She competed in the Tarrant County Jr. Livestock Show in Fort Worth where she won major awards. Her mom joined her at our June meeting as we recognized her achievements and shared in her excitement as she starts college.



Our July 14, 2026 ice cream social will also include the City of Mansfield's newest employee! River is a rambunctious black Labrador mix adopted from the city's Animal Care & Control shelter. He is a specialized K-9 trained to sniff out chlorine in treated drinking water to help detect hidden leaks in the city's water infrastructure.



Field trip to Lavender Ridge Farm

A group of MGC members toured this beautiful family farm. They got great tips on growing a variety of flowering plants, as well as enjoyed a delicious lunch. Stay tuned for more field trips and activities this Fall.



Gazebo Decoration

Several MGC volunteers braved the steamy conditions to add new bunting and flower pots to the gazebo at Broad Street and Country Club Dr. The gazebo was built in 1990 and has served as a backdrop for prom and holiday pictures. The gazebo was dedicated in honor of longtime member Lucretia Mills in 2017.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Mansfield Garden Club Ice Cream Social

- Date: Tuesday, July 14, 6 pm.
- Location: Chris Burkett Service Center, Kitchen area
- No business meeting, only an opportunity to eat ice cream with a variety of toppings and get to know your fellow gardeners.
- No August Mansfield Club meeting.

Perennials: Why Fall Planting Matters

- Tuesday, June 23rd at 7pm via Zoom
- Led by Tarrant County Master Gardener Sheryl Whited
- FREE Zoom seminar to learn why fall is the optimal time to plant perennials in North Texas
- Contact TCmastergardener1801@gmail.com to register

Mansfield Hazardous Waste Drop Off

- July 9 and 10, 3- 7p.m.; July 11 (Saturday), 10 am- 3 pm
- Environmental Collection Center (ECC), 616 S. Wisteria St. Mansfield, TX 76063
- Residents with proof of residency can drop off household hazardous waste (HHW) and electronics.

Mansfield Garden Club Plant Sale

- Saturday, July 11 8 am- 12 noon
- Volunteers needed to help set up plants, assist people seeking suggestions, to tear down at 12 noon and take plants home to water until our Sept. sale.
- Please contact Russ www.mjmartin9921@gmail.com / text 817-682-3898 to volunteer or donate plants. All proceeds benefit our scholarship recipients.

PLANT OF THE MONTH?



| | |
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| Common Name | Globe Amaranth |
| Botanical Name | Gomphrena Amaranthaceae |
| Plant Type | Annual |
| Mature Size | 1-2 ft |
| Sun Exposure | Sun |
| Soil Type | Drought Tolerant |
| Bloom Time | Summer until first frost |
| Flower Color | Pink, purple, white, orange and red |
| Hardiness Zones | USDA 2-11 |
| Native Areas | North America, Europe and Asia |
| Toxicity | Non-toxic to animals or children |

Gomphrena, also known as globe amaranth, is a delightful flowering annual grown for the petite globe-shaped blooms that can be enjoyed fresh or as dried flowers. Native to Central and South America, most cultivated varieties are from the species *Gomphrena globosa*, though there are other species grown as garden plants. The showy heads that resemble clover flowers are actually papery leaf bracts that surround the inconspicuous white or yellow flowers. This long-blooming sun lover is heat and drought tolerant, requiring little maintenance, making it a valuable addition to beds, borders and containers, it also attracts many pollinators.