Mansfield Garden Club

SEPTEMBER 2026 NEWSLETTER



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

September has arrived, although you certainly wouldn't know it from the temperature. We, and our gardens, are at the tail end of another long North Texas summer, and by now we know what thrived, what struggled, and what we may never plant again.

As we step into this new month, the Mansfield Garden Club is entering a season of change right alongside our yards. Seasons shift, gardens adapt, and we find ourselves figuring out what needs pruning, what needs extra care, and what is ready to bloom next.

Lately, I've been thinking a lot about community. Not in the big, abstract sense, but in the everyday version of it. The person who remembers your name. The neighbor who brings your package inside. The friend who checks in. The woman who makes room for someone new at the table.

Most of the things that make a place feel like home are actually pretty small: a little consideration, a little generosity, and simply paying attention to the people around you. We spend so much time talking about where we live, but how we live with each other matters just as much. Kindness isn't complicated, and maybe community is really just what happens when enough of us decide to practice it together.

I look forward to seeing you all at our September meeting as we grow through this next season together.
Warmly,

Sonya Byrne
President, Mansfield Garden Club

UPCOMING EVENTS

September Mansfield Garden Club meeting

- Tuesday, September 8 at 6 pm
- Location: Chris Burkett Service Center
- Topic: Tom Leach, President of Mansfield Historical Society will present an overview of the “cook’s cabin” recently built at the Man House, and the herb and vegetable garden planned in partnership with our garden club.

MGC Plant Sale at Mansfield Farm and Cottage Market

- Saturday, September 12. **CANCELLED**
- Due to weather conditions the board decided to cancel this sale and focus on Founder’s Day and the November sale. It will be a better time for both our plants and our volunteers!

Terrarium Class

- Monday, September 21
- Location: Ephemera Terrarium, Forth Worth
- Sign up at our meeting to attend this fun one-hour workshop followed by lunch!

Mansfield Founders Day

- Saturday, October 3, 10 am - 4 pm
- Location: Man House, 604 W. Broad Street
- Volunteers needed for our booth as we’ll sell plants and crafts. Please sign up at the September meeting for this fun event.

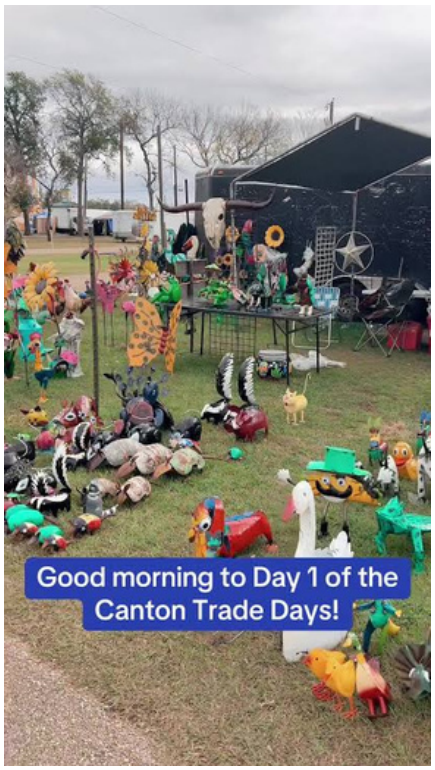
MGC Plant Sale at Mansfield Farm and Cottage Market

- Saturday, November 14
- Volunteers needed to set up at 7 am, to assist customers from 8-12 noon and to tear down at 12 noon.
- Location: parking lot in front of Mansfield Thrift Store- 703 E Broad St
- Please contact Russ www.mjmartin9921@gmail.com / text 817-682-3898 to volunteer or donate plants. All proceeds benefit our scholarship recipients.

ADDITIONAL UPCOMING EVENTS

Shoppping in Canton/First Monday Trade Days

- October 30 or Sept 1, full day
- Carpool to site, about 1.5 hours from Mansfield
- According to Texas Monthly, Canton is known as the world's largest flea market. It is only open the first Monday and weekend of the month. It is an excellent site for finding garden accessories, plants, and a great place to start early Christmas shopping. Bring walking shoes, a hat and a bag for goodies. Sing up at our September meeting.







Metro Maples

- Tuesday, November 17
- Field trip to a 6 acre nursery with over 15,000 trees, specializing in Japanese and Chinese (Shantung and Trident) maples. Metro Maples is in its 30th year as a quality grower and offers a wealth of information for gardeners who wish to grow these beautiful trees in North Texas.
- Please sign up at the September meeting.

CLUB ACTIVITIES

Although we did not meet in August, the Mansfield Garden Club had a busy couple of months despite the challenging heat. A total of 54 volunteer hours were logged in July and at least 24 in August, per Russ Martin's report. Below is a quick update on our activities:

- **Butterfly Garden at Mansfield Library**: Approximately 15 Legacy High School students helped to weed and spread 60 bags of mulch in the heat. Needless to say their help and enthusiasm was much appreciated. Major root removal also occurred as we prepare for adding additional plants this fall.



- **Gazebo and Gardens:** July and August was spruce up time with 14 volunteer hours total. The gazebo was pressured washed and painted with volunteers from the city, the solar lights were reinstalled and new flag holders were also added, replacing several broken ones. Bunting was replaced for Labor Day.
- **Man House**: continued to work with the Mansfield Historical Society with Val being our key coordinator with Russ' help. We are providing some assistance with designing a new herb and vegetable garden to support a new period kitchen just completed.
- **Burkett Service Center Demo Gardens**: weeding needs to be done and watering has been uneven. September is the month to clear beds and overgrowth so plot leaders are asked to coordinate with Russ.

UPDATES FROM MGC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Update to Bylaws

The executive committee, at the behest of our club president, has updated the bylaws. Members will have an opportunity to review the updated bylaws in advance of a vote at our October meeting.

ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Master Gardener classes

- The **Tarrant County Master Gardener** program will soon open applications for those wishing to become certified. Interns learn about about every facet of gardening, from trees to bugs to perennials and soil testing through twice per week classes from January to April, then complete volunteer hours in a variety of settings across the county. More information at https://www.tarrantmg.org/become-a-master-gardener
- Did your plants suffer while you were away this summer? Or your planning a trip and wondering how to get your potted plants to survive? Join Tarrant County Master Gardener Donna Perrikka as she teaches you how to make a **wicking bucket.** Saturday, Sept 19 from 9-12 noon in Fort Worth. To register and learn about other gardening classes go to tcmga.org and click “Upcoming Events.”



PLANT OF THE MONTH







Common Name	Mums
Botanical Name	Chrisanthemums
Plant Type	Annual
Mature Size	1-3'
Sun Exposure	full sun for best blooming and stronger stems, partially shaded area after blooming
Soil Type	well-draining
Bloom Time	September until first frost
Flower Color	shades of yellow, white, orange, red, purple, or lavender
Hardiness Zones	USDA 4-9
Toxicity	mildly toxic to both pets and humans.

Mums signal that fall is near. Choose buds over blooms, ensuring that they will bloom over a few weeks, providing you with more color for a longer period. Be careful with overwatering as they need good drainage. Mums prefer temperatures ranging from 60 to 70 degrees. Move them to the shade if it reaches 90 degrees and bring mums in containers inside before a freeze. Also, “deadheading” or pinching off faded flowers encourages new buds and often a second round of blooms.