

URBAN WATER E-NEWS

Texas A&M AgriLife Research | Extension Center at Dallas Newsletter

3rd Quarter 2014

July is Smart Irrigation Month. What are you doing to be smart with your landscape watering?

Limited rain, water restrictions and Texas heat are a combination we have seen for many years now. Being smart with your sprinkler system is a way to survive these limitations. As part of Smart Irrigation month, we are offering classes on Tuesday evenings in July on the following topics :

- How to Operate Your Sprinkler System;
- Sprinkler System Quick Fixes;
- Drip Irrigation Conversion DIY.

An efficient sprinkler system will give you maximized watering for your landscape. Sign up today!!!!

Check out our website for more details at dallas.tamu.edu/courses.

Water Efficient Tips

[Cycle and Soak](#) method for lawn watering.

Raise your mower to shade out weeds and help retain the moisture in the soil.

During limited rain and/ or water restrictions don't fertilize your lawn. Plant growth naturally slows down and/or plants go dormant during a lengthy drought. Do not encourage new growth by fertilizing.



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[Cycle and Soak](#) Method for lawn watering

Upcoming Courses

113 How to Operate Your Sprinkler System
July 15, 2014, 6:30 –8:30 pm

111 Sprinkler System Quick Fixes
July 22, 2014, 6:30 –8:30 pm

105 Drip Irrigation DIY
July 29, 2014, 6:30 –8:30 pm

106 Saving from a Rainy Day, Making a Rain Barrel
August 7, 2014, 6:30 –8:30 pm

101 Landscape Basics
September 16, 2014, 6:30 –8:30 pm

102 Lawncare Maintenance
September 23, 2014, 6:30 –8:30 pm

109 Composting
September 25, 6:30 –8:30 pm

Register at <http://dallas.tamu.edu/courses/>

Recommended Plants



July

Texas Columbine
(*Melampodium Leucanthum*)

Native to Texas, the Blackfoot Daisy will give you blooms in your landscape from March to November. Great as a border plant growing up to 6-12 inches, this plant's appealing white bloom and hardiness will be a go to plant for you. Needs well drained soil and is deer resistant. Plant in full sun or part sun.



August

Soft Caress Mohonia
(*B. Laguroides*)

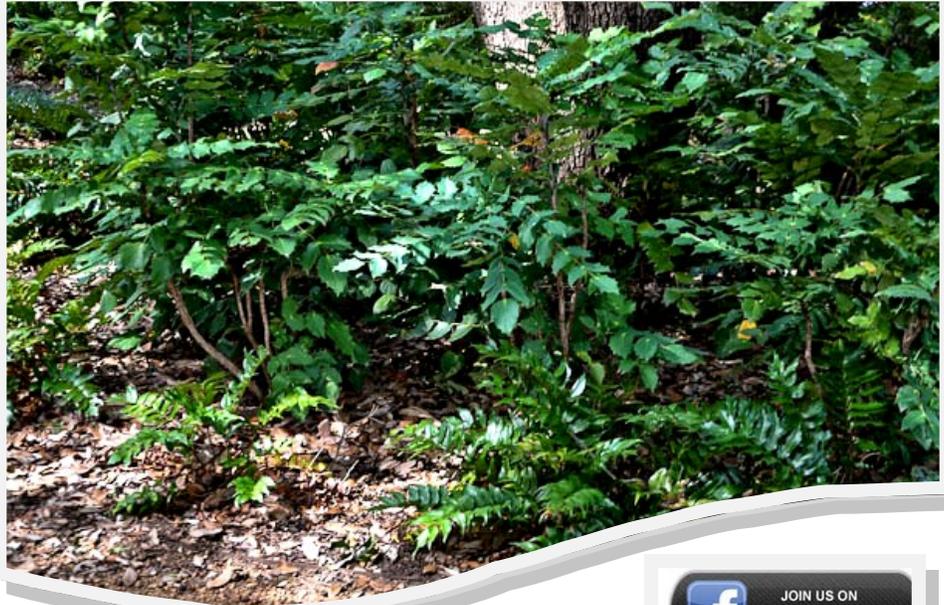
An evergreen shade loving plant, that gives you bright yellow flowers in early winter. Great plant for a container, mass planting or in sloped areas. Part sun to shade with a moderate growth rate to about 3' tall. Sometimes used in Asian gardens or a specimen.



September

Texas Red Oak
(*Quercus buckleyi*)

Also, known as the Spanish Oak or Q. Texana, this Texas native tree gives reliable fall color, as well as seeds or fruit for wildlife. With this variety, Oak Wilt is a serious problem for this species, so pruning in the fall is recommended. Moderate growth rate, medium in size and deciduous. A great tree to shade your home in the summer and let the sunlight in to warm it in the winter.



What the hell grows in the shade?

Shade Gardening, What the hell grows in the shade?

Gardening in the shade and finding a plant that will grow with limited sunlight presents a problem for a lot of North Texas homeowners with maturing trees and/or shaded areas. Landscapes with maturing trees, houses built close together, etc. won't let sunlight in for turfgrass to grow. Remember that turfgrass requires a minimum of 6 hours of sunlight to perform and over-pruning your trees is not a recommended practice. Trees are one of the best landscape investments that take years to grow, where other landscape plants and grasses can be replaced with minimal cost.

Don't fret!! We have answers for you with a class called, "**What the hell grows in the shade.**" This class will go over a plant list showing you how to incorporate ground covers and plants that will survive in the shaded areas of your landscape.

Registration is available at <http://dallas.tamu.edu/courses/>

Resources - Water My Yard

- Contains: Weather information
- Current and average evapotranspiration data
- Irrigation watering recommendations

www.watermyyard.org

Who We Are

The Texas A&M AgriLife Research and Extension Center at Dallas is a gateway to science, researchers and Extension educators across the U.S. The Center serves all of urban Texas, and the Dallas-Arlington-Fort Worth metropolitan area in particular.

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