

Summer Programs

Distribute 07-19-2018

In the summer vegetable garden, it is time to plant tomatoes for the fall harvest and your peppers and okra are actively growing and producing a crop. It is also not too early to think about the winter garden. The beds need to be planned and prepared for the major planting in September and October. For my money, the winter is the most pleasant time to garden in South and Central Texas. The winter garden can also be very productive. If you haven't ever done a winter vegetable garden or want to become more successful, here are several education opportunities to consider.

On Saturday August 3 the AgriLife Extension Service offers the Backyard Basics Expo at the Garden Center (3310 Funston) from 8:30 am-12:30 pm. The Expo will include classes and exhibits with repeat sessions so that attendees can attend all the programs on their favorite topics. In addition to classes on fall gardening, there will be programs on backyard chickens, fruit trees, pollinator gardening, beekeeping, drip irrigation, and composting. There will be lots of handouts, drawings, and topics to interest young people. The cost for the Expo is \$20 for adults and youth older than 11 if you register by August 1. The fee is \$25 per person after the 1st. Visit <https://agriliferegister.tamu.edu/BexarCounty> to register and for more information.

On Wednesday, August 22 from 6:30 to 8:30 pm at 3355 Cherry Ridge Drive, Suite 208, David Rodriguez and the AgriLife Extension will offer another class on Fall Vegetable Gardening. This class will focus on growing the hot weather fall vegetables like okra, peppers, and tomatoes. On October 10 David will offer another class at the same time and location on growing the cold weather vegetables such as broccoli, carrots, onions, turnips, and spinach. Both classes are part of a 6 Wednesday Evening series on Home Gardening. The classes are \$10 each or \$30 for the whole series. Visit <https://bexar-tx.tamu.edu> or call Denise Perez at 210 631 0400 for more information.

On Saturday August 25 Rainbow Gardens will be offering Fall Vegetable Garden Classes at its two San Antonio locations. The classes will cover all the topics that are required for a successful fall vegetable garden including soil preparation and seeds vs transplants. There are no charges for the classes. Jessica Robertson from Greenleaf Nursery will be the presenter at the Bandera location at 10 am. Call 210 680 2394 to reserve a seat. Master Gardener Karen Gardner will be the speaker at the program at the Thousand Oaks Store. It will start at 2pm on August 25. Call the Thousand Oaks location at 210 680 2394

If you live by the Medical Center area or if it is more convenient for you to attend a program on Saturday September 8 from 9:30 to 11am, I am giving a program on "Growing a Winter Vegetable Garden" at that time. The Program is sponsored by Milberger's Nursery and the Dreamhill Estates Neighborhood at 6800 Dorothy Louse Dr. There is no charge for the program and attendees will receive a broccoli transplant as a start for their winter garden. Youth are welcome.

David Rodriguez will be presenting a Fall and Winter Vegetable Gardening Class from 10:30 to noon at Milberger's Nursery on September 22. Call 210 497 3760 for more information or to reserve a spot.

Horticulturist Rodriguez will also present a Vegetable Seminar on October 6 between 10:30 am and noon at Fanicks Nursery. Fanicks is located at 1025 Holmgreen. The phone number is 210 648 1303.

There are several Fall Vegetable Programs organized just for the kids in August and September at area nurseries. All the youth programs are free but because they involve hands on activities and handouts they require that you call and reserve a spot for your youngster.

At Rainbow Gardens Bandera location (8516 Bandera Rd) the program is scheduled to begin at 10 am on Aug 11. The youngsters will paint rock garden markers to carry home in addition to learning about winter vegetable gardening. The phone number is 210-680 2394. A similar program will be offered at the Thousand Oaks location (2585 Thousand Oaks) on Saturday August 18 at 10 am. To reserve a spot for your young gardener, call 210 494 6137.

The Milberger's Nursery Fall Vegetable Gardening for Kids is scheduled for August 25 from 10-11 am. Call 210- 497-3760 to reserve a seat and materials for your children.