

BMGA Spring Lunch-N-Learn Series Austin County

The Bluebonnet Master Gardeners of Austin County are pleased to present the 2022 “Lunch-N-Learn” series which will be hosted on the third Tuesday of each month, April-June and will continue in the Fall, current months are pending. The overall series will feature topics related to horticulture with homeowner and backyard gardeners in mind! Speakers are experts in their fields and practical gardeners with great tips and information for everyone.

Programs are held in-person at the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Office of Austin County located at 800 E. Wendt Street in Bellville. Program registration will begin at 11:50am with the program beginning at 12:00pm and concluding about 1:00pm. At the conclusion of each session, the speaker and our Austin County Master Gardeners will be available to help answer gardening questions.

All Master Gardener Lunch-N-Learn programs are FREE and OPEN to the public and you are welcome to bring your own lunch and drink. We will have a few refreshments available as well.

Our Spring Series dates and topics will be as follows:

Tuesday, April 19, 2022:

Rainwater Harvesting by one of our very own Bluebonnet Master Gardeners, Al Prescott

Tuesday, May 17, 2022:

Herbs, by Phoebe Lake, owner of New Leaf Nursery

Tuesday, June 21, 2022:

Preservation Tips of Herbs & Vegetables, by Dr. Jenna Anding, a Professor & Associate Department Head-Nutrition with Texas A&M AgriLife Extension

For more information regarding Bluebonnet Master Gardener Association, please visit <https://txmg.org/bluebonnet/>

BMGA PLANT SALE

The Bluebonnet Master Gardener Association hosts its Annual Plant Sale on April 9, 2022, from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. or when they sell out. This year's plant sale will be held at the Sealy Historical Park, 211 East Main Street, Sealy.

A wide variety of plants will be available for purchase including roses, “Texas Superstar” plants, “Texas Native” plants, “Earth Kind” plants, succulents, butterfly friendly plants, ground covers, herbs, bushes, and a few surprises – something for everyone. There will also be rain barrels, a variety of planters and other garden items.

Proceeds from the sale help Bluebonnet Master Gardeners support the four counties (Austin, Colorado, Fayette, and Washington) with graduating high school senior scholarships each year, community gardens, FREE-to-the-public “Lunch & Learns”, and other local activities.

Mark Your Calendars for Upcoming Events

- April 9th: Bluebonnet Master Gardener Plant Sale — Sealy, 9am (See flyer for details)
- April 19th: Lunch N Learn by Bluebonnet Master Gardeners — Austin County Extension Office, Bellville, 12:00pm
- May 3rd: Feral Hog Control — Cat Spring Ag Hall, Cat Spring, 6:00pm
- May 6th: Private Applicator Training — Austin County Extension Office, Bellville, 1:00pm
- May 17th: Lunch N Learn by Bluebonnet Master Gardeners — Austin County Extension Office, Bellville, 12:00pm
- May 20th: New Landowners Series — Pond Management, Washington County, 1:00 pm (2 CEU's)
- June 21st: Lunch N Learn by Bluebonnet Master Gardeners — Austin County Extension Office, Bellville, 12:00pm
- August 5th: Private Applicator Training — Austin County Extension Office, Bellville, 1:00pm
- November 3rd: Private Applicator Training — Austin County Extension Office, Bellville, 1:00pm

Multi-County New Landowners Series 2022

The Multi-County New Landowner Education program is a series of 7 informational meetings, seminars, and field days designed to make new landowners in Austin, Colorado, Fayette, and Washington Counties aware of what types of agricultural enterprises are best for their property. Participants in the program will hear from experts in a variety of fields in agriculture about best management practices that can be implemented on their own property. This innovative program assists new landowners in understanding the concepts of rural living. Participants in the program are given exposure to ideas on raising live-stock and horses, plant identification, fence building, applying pesticides, soil testing, stock pond management, pond construction, fruit and nut production, rainwater harvesting, turf management, and much more. The program also serves as a way for new residents of the four counties to network and meet new people in their communities, find out what can be done on their land, what operations can be successful, and possibly what opportunities they have to serve the community.

The programs will be held on the **third Friday of the months of May and August through November**. Each month's meeting will be held at different locations in one of the four counties. The meetings begin at 1:30pm and will last between 4 and 5 hours depending on the topic and possible tour stops. The cost for the program is \$20.00 per person per meeting. A great selection of refreshments will be provided at each session.

May 20th – Pond Management – Construction, Aquatic Weed Control, and Stocking

August 19th – Horticulture Production – Fruit Trees, Pecans, and Grapes for Landowners

September 16th – Forage &/or Livestock Production – Options for Small Acreage Operations

October 21st – Wildlife Management and Native Prairie Restoration

November 18th – Bees and Trees for Homeowners

The May meeting for the 2022 series will take place on **Friday, May 20, 2022**, at the Washington County Expo Sales Facility located at 1305 East Blue Bell Road in Brenham. This session will provide the opportunity for attendees to learn about factors to consider when identifying a site for and constructing a new pond, aquatic vegetation management and control, fish stocking rates, and pond ecology. This is a great opportunity to network with other new landowners and learn about resources that can be of great assistance to you in establishing and/or managing a pond for your property. **Also, if you have a pond weed you would like identified please bring it and we will be glad to identify it for you. Any plant sample needs to be as fresh as possible, include leaves and roots, and flower (if applicable).** Two CEU (1 IPM; 1 Gen) will be available for licensed pesticide applicators. Don't miss this wonderful opportunity!

Registration materials and more information can also be found on our website, <https://washington.agrilife.org/nlo>

RENEWAL UPDATE FOR 2022 FOR APPLICATOR LICENSE HOLDERS

In response to the ongoing Covid 19 pandemic, the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) is extending this exemption of agriculture Continuing Education Unit (CEU) requirements. To address the CEU's and licensure requirements for Ag Pesticide applicators, the TDA will work with the ag pesticide applicators and CEU course providers of Texas during this critical time. Licensed applicators with expiring licenses or needing CEU's will be allowed to renew their license even if they have not met their CEU requirement for their current licensing period through December 31, 2022. Due to the uncertainty of the length and severity of the Covid 19 pandemic, many CEU events have been canceled. The TDA will work to insure all the state's pesticide applicators are able to acquire their licenses and required continuing education courses in a safe and effective manner during this time frame. Once CEU courses resume as normal, applicators will be required to obtain their required CEUs for their respective license classification for each licensing period. By allowing a CEU exemption, this will allow the applicators to maintain their ability to perform pesticide applications for pests, weeds, insects etc., without disrupting daily business functions. Applicators are encouraged to complete online courses even if online courses were completed the previous licensing period.

COMMERCIAL, NON-COMMERCIAL AND NON-COMMERCIAL POLITICAL APPLICATORS For licenses expiring in 2022 ONLY: TDA will exempt commercial, non-commercial and non-commercial political applicators who have taken online or correspondence courses within the last year. The TDA Rule 7.24 (t) (2) does not allow for online or correspondence courses to be taken 2 years consecutively. In light of the unusual circumstances due to Covid 19 (coronavirus), the TDA will allow online or correspondence courses to be taken in consecutive years. This exemption will be for the current 2022 licensing period. Commercial, non-commercial and non-commercial political pesticide applicators are required to obtain 5 CEUs per licensing period.

PRIVATE APPLICATORS For licenses expiring in 2022 ONLY: The TDA will also exempt private applicators from the TDA Rule 7.24 (v) (5). This rule does not allow a private applicator to acquire more than 10 CEUs through correspondence courses. During this quarantine time frame, private applicators will be allowed to acquire ALL of their CEUs through correspondence courses (online). Private applicators are required to obtain 15 CEUs per 5- year licensing period.



Bluebonnet Master Gardeners' Annual Plant Sale Saturday, April 9th

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

**At "The Spring Fest"
Sealy Historical Park
211 East Main Street
Sealy, Texas**

**TEXAS A&M
AGRILIFE
EXTENSION**

<https://txmg.org/bluebonnet/>



2022 AUSTIN COUNTY LUNCH N LEARN SERIES

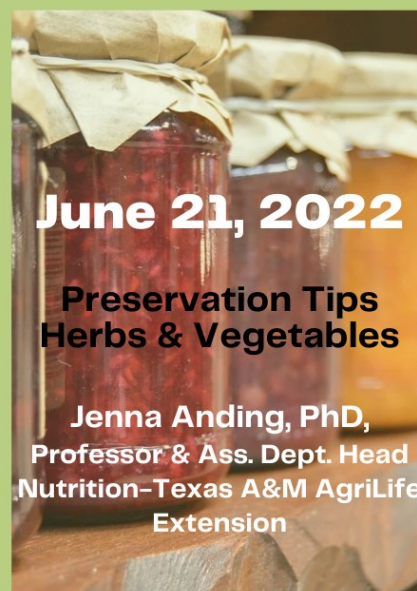
BLUEBONNET MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION

FREE to the Public

Austin County AgriLife Office
800 E Wendt St.
Bellville, TX 77418

Bring your own lunch
Light Refreshments provided

Registration: 11:50am - 12pm
Program: 12pm - 1pm



QUESTIONS PLEASE CALL:
TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE
EXTENSION SERVICE OF AUSTIN
COUNTY AT 979-865-2072

TEXAS A&M
AGRILIFE
EXTENSION

Registration is not required but is
encouraged. To register call the
office or visit our website at
<http://austin.agrilife.org>



INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES WHO REQUIRE AN AUXILIARY AID, SERVICE OR ACCOMMODATION IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS ACTIVITY ARE ENCOURAGED TO CONTACT THE EXTENSION OFFICE IN AUSTIN COUNTY AT LEAST EIGHT DAYS PRIOR TO THE PROGRAM FOR ASSISTANCE. THE MEMBERS OF TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE WILL PROVIDE EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IN PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES, EDUCATION, AND EMPLOYMENT TO ALL PERSONS REGARDLESS OF RACE, COLOR, SEX, RELIGION, NATIONAL ORIGIN, AGE, DISABILITY, GENETIC INFORMATION, VETERAN STATUS, SEXUAL ORIENTATION OR GENDER IDENTITY AND WILL STRIVE TO ACHIEVE FULL AND EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY THROUGHOUT TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE.



What's the pig deal?

FERAL HOG CONTROL

A public meeting to discuss the feral hog problem in Austin County

This meeting will include presentations by speakers from AgriLife Extension and Texas Wildlife Services along with public discussion to identify possible solutions.

6PM - 8PM / MAY 3, 2022

Cat Spring Ag Society Hall

13035 Hall Rd., Cat Spring, TX 78933

RSVP IS REQUIRED:

[AUSTIN.AGRILIFE.ORG/EVENT-REGISTRATIONS/](https://austin.agrilife.org/event-registrations/)

DINNER WILL BE PROVIDED

TEXAS STATE
Soil & Water
CONSERVATION BOARD

Funding for this effort is provided through a Clean Water Act §319(h) Nonpoint Source Grant administered by the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Private Applicator Licenses Trainings for 2022

Friday, February 4, 2022

Friday, May 6, 2022

Friday, August 5, 2022

Thursday, November 3, 2022

Training is from 1pm to 5pm

Check in/Registration starts 15 mins prior

Date & Time are subject to change



Prices:

Training-\$10

Books-\$40

(2 manuals)

**Checks payable to:
Extension Program
Council (EPC)**

Nonrefundable

***Please RSVP to reserve
your spot, space is limited***

<http://austin.agrilife.org/event-registrations/>



Texas A&M AgriLife Extension provides equal opportunities in its programs and employment to all persons, regardless of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, disability, age, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation, or gender identity. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating.

Trainings will be conducted at
Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service of
Austin County located at
800 E Wendt St., Bellville, TX 77418

The purpose of this training is to obtain a Private Applicator License from Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA). This license will enable the applicator to purchase and apply state limited use and federally restricted chemicals on his land or land he has control of for the purpose of production of agricultural commodities. All farm and ranch operators who do not have a Private Applicator's License to purchase "restricted use" pesticides (such as 2, 4-D, Grazon P+D, Tordon 22K, etc.) will need to attend this training.

If you are interested in obtaining a Private Applicator License Training, please contact the Austin County Extension office at (979) 865-2072 to purchase the manuals.

TEXAS A&M
AGRI LIFE
EXTENSION

2
CEUs
(1 IPM; 1 GEN)

Pond Management

2022 Multi-County New Landowner Educational Series

May 20, 2022

Washington County Expo Sales Facility

1305 East Blue Bell Road
Brenham, Texas 77833

Registration 1:00-1:30 pm

Program 1:30-5:00 pm

\$20/Person

To register online visit:

<https://washington.agrilife.org/nlo>

Topics to be covered:

Pond Construction

Aquatic Vegetation Management

Stocking Your Pond - Do's and Don'ts

If you have a pond weed you would like identified bring a FRESH sample with you; include leaves, flowers, stem if possible.



For more information please contact:

Stacie Villarreal

Austin County
(979) 865-2072
Austin.AgrLife.org

Laramie Kettler

Colorado County
(979) 732-2082
Colorado.AgrLife.org

Scott Willey

Fayette County
(979) 968-5831
Fayette.AgrLife.org

Kara Matheney

Washington County
(979) 277-6212 ext. 2
Washington.AgrLife.org



TEXAS *Casual*
COTTAGES

By PARTNERS IN BUILDING

Testimonials

"After purchasing land for our retirement we had so much we needed to learn, and the AgriLife New Landowner series delivered. The expertise of the Agents who run the program, and the speakers they bring to the seminars was outstanding. Whether you have specific questions, or just want to expand your knowledge of land owner issues and solutions, this is your #1 source."

~ **Eric and Andie Wolfer**
2020 New Landowner Graduates

"Informative, educational, useful: three words that describe our experience at the Multi-County New Landowner Series.

We enjoyed attending the seminars which provided a basic understanding of relevant topics, presented by knowledgeable speakers, plus numerous resources and web links supplying additional information.

After our initial investment in land ownership, we invested our time attending the seminars. We highly recommend you do the same!"

~ **Vincent and Jeanette Shepherd**
2019 New Landowner Graduates

"We found the Multi-County New Landowner program to be well worth our time. Not only did we learn a great deal about managing ponds, hay fields and trees, but we also were able to develop a personal relationship with our Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Agent. This ongoing relationship has been very helpful as we encounter new situations and have questions. We highly recommend the program."

~ **Dave and Patricia Penner**
2018 New Landowner Graduates

implement

take home

learn

who to
Contact



Stacie Villarreal
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Austin County

Laramie Kettler
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Colorado County

Scott Willey
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sawilley@ag.tamu.edu
Fayette County

Kara Matheney
979.277.6212
kjmatheney@ag.tamu.edu
Washington County

2022 Schedule

3rd Friday of the Month

All Programs Begin with:

Registration: 1:00-1:30PM

Educational Program: 1:30-5:00PM

Great Door Prizes at Each Program

February 18 Austin County	Introduction Ag/Wildlife Valuations
March 18 Fayette County	Weed & Brush Control
April 15 Good Friday	NO CLASS
May 20 Washington County	Pond Management
August 19 Austin County	Fruit Trees, Pecans, Grapes for Small Acreage
September 16 Colorado County	Forage Production Livestock Production
October 21 Fayette County	Wildlife Management Native Grass Restoration
November 18 Washington County	Bees and Trees for Homeowners

Maps and Directions

Provided prior to each monthly meeting

Visit our New Landowner Website for additional information or to preregister for the series.

Online Credit Card Payment Option for
Series Pre-Registration

<https://washington.agrilife.org/nlo/>

The members of Texas A&M AgriLife will provide equal opportunities in programs and activities, education, and employment to all persons regardless of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation, or gender identity and will strive to achieve full and equal employment opportunity throughout Texas A&M AgriLife. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating.



What is it?

The Multi-County New Landowner Program is a series of meetings, seminars, and field days designed to provide information and resources related to agriculture, natural resources, wildlife, and land stewardship for new landowners in Austin, Colorado, Fayette, and Washington counties. Participants in the program will hear from Extension experts in various fields about best management practices they can implement on their own property.

What does the program cost?

If attending **all sessions**

\$125.00 per person or \$200.00 per couple

*\$15.00 savings per person for entire series
or \$80.00 savings per couple for entire series*

If attending **select sessions**

\$20.00 per person for each session

Payable at the door or in advance.

What do you receive with your full enrollment?

- ♦ 24+ hours of instruction, training from experts
- ♦ Notebook **FULL** of publications and resources
- ♦ Opportunity for one-on-one discussion with experts, County Extension Agents, and others
- ♦ Opportunity to visit local farms/ranches
- ♦ Opportunity to network with other landowners
- ♦ Get your agriculture and natural resource questions answered and dispel internet myths

What is AgriLife?

Extension is a public agency based within the land grant university, Texas A&M University.

We have agents in each Texas county that act as an Extension of the University knowledge and research. We provide research-based information to help Texans better their lives.

What do we do?

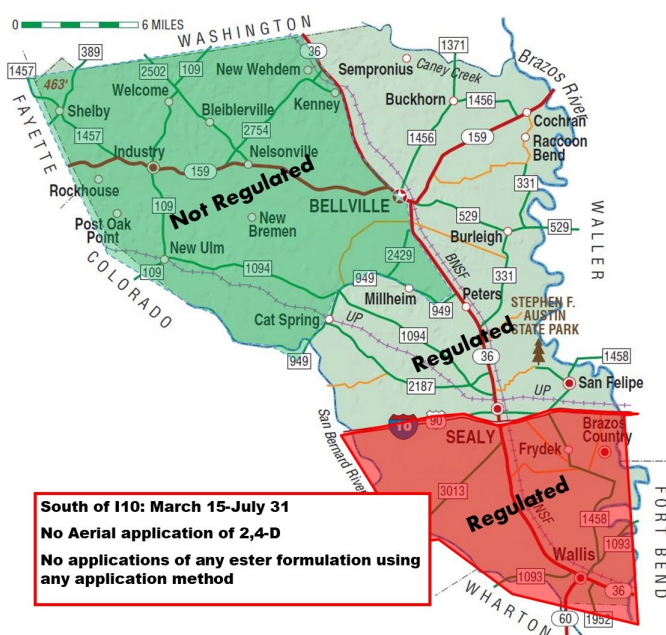
We provide programs, tools, and resources - on a local and statewide level - that teach people how to improve agriculture and food protection, advance health practices, protect the environment, strengthen our communities, and enrich youth.

SPRAY PERMITS REQUIRED FOR A PORTION OF AUSTIN COUNTY

As a reminder to anyone that will be using state limited use or state restricted use herbicides in Austin County, a permit to apply these herbicides must be obtained through the Texas Department of Agriculture if you plan on spraying in certain portions of the county. The following areas of Austin County must acquire a permit as is specified in the Texas Agricultural code, chapter 75,

- 1) Only that portion of Austin County lying east and south of the line beginning at the point where State Highway 36 crosses the north county line, thence southerly along Highway 36 to FM 949; thence westwardly along FM 949 to the San Bernard River is regulated by the Act, Subchapter G and regulations adopted thereunder.
- 2) Between March 15 and July 31, in that portion of Austin County lying south of Interstate Highway 10, the following restrictions on the use of 2,4-D formulations shall apply:
 - (A) the application by aircraft is prohibited
 - (B) the use of all ester formulations by any method is prohibited.

Permits may be obtained from the Texas AgriLife Extension Service of Austin County at (979) 865-2072. Forms can also be obtained by contacting the Texas Department of Agriculture Gulf Coast Regional Office in Houston at (713) 921-8200.



REGISTERING FOR A COUNTY PROGRAM?

[CLICK HERE](#)

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Stacie M. Villarreal

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service

County Extension Agent- Agriculture & Natural Resources - Austin County

1 East Main, Bellville, TX 77418 (Mailing Address)

800 E Wendt St, Bellville, TX 77418 (Physical Address)

Phone: 979-865-2072

stacie.villarreal@ag.tamu.edu

Austin.agrilife.org

Educational programs of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service are open to all people without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, or veteran status. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating. Individuals with disabilities who require an auxiliary aid, service or accommodation in order to participate in this meeting are encouraged to contact the County Extension Office at (979) 865-2072 ten (10) days prior to the meeting to determine how reasonable accommodations can be made.