

SOUTH TEXAS Botanical Gardens & Nature Center

April, 2016 Calendar

(CHECK IN VISITORS CENTER FOR CLASS LOCATION)

BIG BLOOM Saturday, April 2, 9am-5pm

The **BIG BLOOM!**, South Texas Botanical Gardens & Nature Center's annual mega Plant Sale, Garden Festival, and **Dollar Day**, will be 9 am to 5 pm, Saturday, April 2, on Gardens & Nature Center grounds, 8545 S. Staples St. Shop *and* tour the entire Botanical Gardens for just \$1 per person. **Members will be admitted free, and may begin shopping at 8 a.m.** Orchids, plumeria; natives, xeriscape, tropicals, exotics, roses, butterfly attractors, herbs, tomatoes, peppers, more. Vendors with more plants plus outdoor décor plus nature and garden-related merchandise. Nueces Master Gardeners, Corpus Christi Rose Society and Plumeria Society of South Texas members on hand for selection and horticulture help. Butterfly Releases, Resident Reptile shows, Parrot Talks, Kids 'Touch & Learn' Lady Bug releases, nature trail walk-and-talks, Wetlands Boardwalk birding scopes, outdoor Iguana House. *Orchid Conservatory, Tropical Garden*, PLUS "**Nature's Brush Strokes**" art exhibition premiere, AND **Food Trucks** on site for lunch! Shoppers are encouraged to bring their own plant carriers. Parking is free; festival entrance through Rose Garden Pavilion. Vendor spaces are available through March. For more information, visit stxbot.org; 361.852.2100.



projects and inflatables,
New 1800 square-foot

"Nature's Brush Strokes" juried art exhibition April through September

Features 30 outdoor reproductions of original works by area artists. Colorful wildflower and native plants in 30 x 60" vertical format, displayed along the Mary Hope Brennecke Nature Trail. Funded by a Corpus Christi Arts & Cultural Commission grant. Included in general admission. Premieres at BIG BLOOM, April 2.

Orchidology Thursday, April 7

The *Orchidology Class* meets at 7 p.m., Thursday, April 7, at the South Texas Botanical Gardens & Nature Center, 8545 S. Staples. Meeting the first Thursday of each month on a continuing basis, the orchid class series—taught by Orchid Curator Sam Jones—is an on-going Orchid *chat-and-learn*, for novice to experienced growers, in the Education Station classroom. Monthly topics range from different orchid genera, climate and acquisition to specific orchid culture techniques. **FREE class!** Orchids for sale at most meetings. Information: 361-854-7624.



Blacklock's Birds & Spring Migration Saturday, April 9

Experience those unique bird species which pass through South Texas during spring migration in **Blacklock's Birds & Spring Migration** one-day short course, with acclaimed and entertaining birder, naturalist, educator and author Gene Blacklock, Saturday, April 9, at the South Texas Botanical Gardens & Nature Center, 8545 S. Staples. Class will be 9 am to noon in Education Station; followed by a 1:30-5:30 pm field trip. Tuition is \$45 members; \$60 others, and must be prepaid by April 4 at the Botanical Gardens, 361.852.2100. Curriculum questions, 361.558.1829.



Rose Show Saturday, April 16

The South Texas Botanical Gardens & Nature Center and Corpus Christi Rose Society hold their first rose show from 9 am to 6 pm, Saturday, April 16, at the Botanical Gardens Education Station, 8545 S. Staples St. Admire blooms from rose gardens around the Coastal Bend as growers of all levels exhibit their "American beauties." Anyone may exhibit their own rose blooms without a fee. Entries must be submitted on Friday, April 15, from 2 to 5 pm, or Saturday, 8 to 9 am, at Education Station. Rose Society members will be on hand for questions and growing tips. Rose Show admission is free; but General Admission applies to visit the rest of the Botanical Gardens & Nature Center. For more information, contact Jan Shannon, Corpus Christi Rose Society, 361-241-7141, or ccshannon@aol.com.

Companion Plantings Saturday, April 23

Learn what plants grow well together creating beautiful landscape groupings with texture, color and foliage contrasts for a look worthy of gardening magazines, in the '**Companion Plantings**' seminar, from 10 am to noon, Saturday, April 23, at the South Texas Botanical Gardens & Nature Center, 8545 S. Staples St. General admission includes this class. Members free! Check at Visitors Center for class location. Information, 361.852.2100.



Tropical Paradise Saturday, April 30

Learn what vibrant plants will make your landscape look like the lush tropics in "**Tropical Paradise**" seminar, from 10 am to noon, Saturday, April 30, at the South Texas Botanical Gardens & Nature Center, 8545 S. Staples St. General admission includes this class. Members free. Check in at Visitors Center for class location. Information, 361.852.2100.

