

Gardens for Wildlife



Prepared by Marcia Erickson, Bastrop County Master Gardener Association

For the Lost Pines Garden Club 2.14.23

Bastrop County Master Gardener Association

Gardens for Wildlife

- **Gail Smith** BCMGA Education Coordinator
- **Marianna Hobbs** BCMGA Project Lead -Cedar Creek Park Butterfly Garden
- **Patricia Todd** Lost Pines Master Naturalist -Bastrop Library Gardens
- **Rebecca and Rudy Zuniga** BCMGA Project Leads
 - Texas A&M Agrilife Ext Office, 901 Pine, Bastrop
 - Bob Bryant Park, Bastrop

Bastrop County Master Gardener Association Gardens for Wildlife

Bastrop Country gardens for wildlife often begin... **Monarch migration**



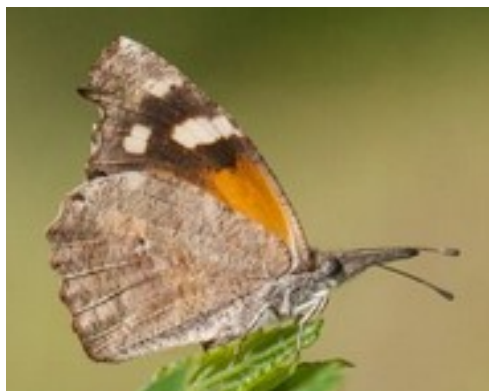
Bastrop County Master Gardener Association

Gardens for Wildlife

Appreciation of the unique ecology of Bastrop County

Creatures

- **Dozens of butterfly and skipper species.**
- **Birds** Nesting, migrating, overwintering.
- **Native bees.** 1,000 species
- **Spiders.**
- **Moths.**
- **Caterpillars.**
- **Beetles.**
- **More**









Bastrop County Master Gardener Association

Gardens for Wildlife

The unique ecology of Bastrop County

Climate Dry with intermittent flood

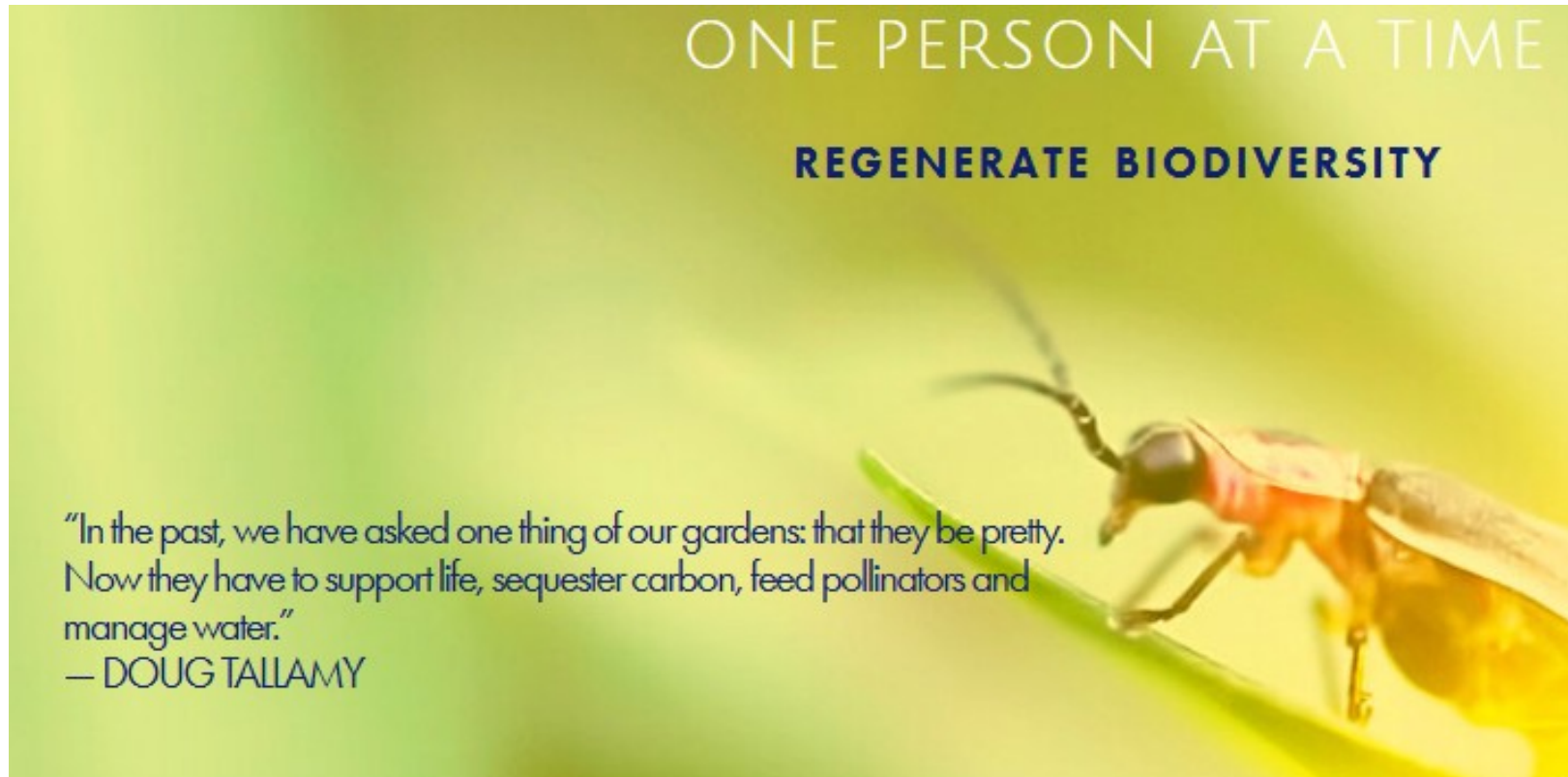
Multiple ecoregions

- **Lost Pines St Park, Tahitian Village, Circle D** - hills, pines, sandy and gravelly soils with a subsurface layer clay
- **Downtown Bastrop and Smithville** next to a major river of Texas that historically flooded leaving rich soil.
- **Blackland prairie** near Elgin. Dark clay soil and native grasses, pecan, cedar elm, various oaks and hackberry.
- **Post oak savannah** includes the Lost Pines but is primarily a transitional area between woodlands and prairies with rolling hills, clay pan soil, scattered oaks.

How to garden respecting nature....

Bastrop County Master Gardener Association Gardens for Wildlife

Inspiration from Dr. Doug Tallamy to “Plant Native”.



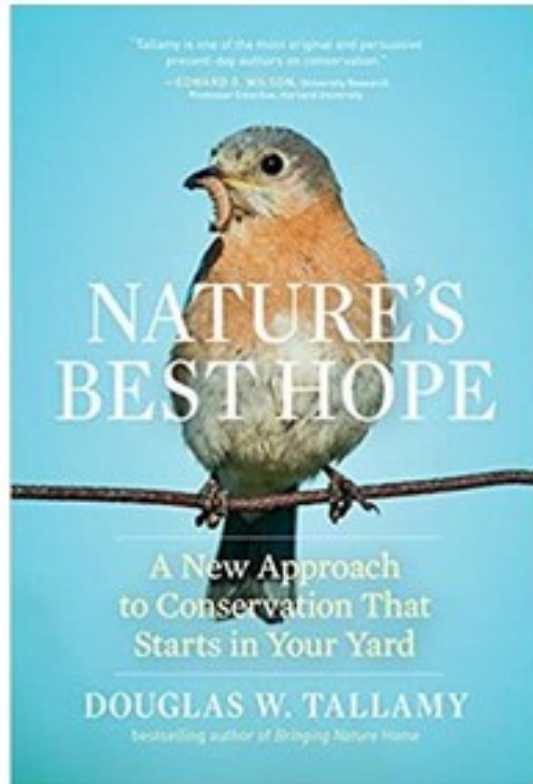
ONE PERSON AT A TIME

REGENERATE BIODIVERSITY

"In the past, we have asked one thing of our gardens: that they be pretty. Now they have to support life, sequester carbon, feed pollinators and manage water."

— DOUG TALLAMY

Bastrop County Master Gardener Association Gardens for Wildlife



Nature's Best Hope: A New Approach to Conservation that Starts in Your Yard

Douglas W. Tallamy's first book, *Bringing Nature Home*, awakened thousands of readers to an urgent situation: wildlife populations are in decline because the native plants they depend on are fast disappearing. His solution? Plant more natives. In this new book, Tallamy takes the next step and outlines his vision for a grassroots approach to conservation. *Nature's Best Hope* shows how homeowners everywhere can turn their yards into conservation corridors that provide wildlife habitats.



“What’s the Rush?”

Doug Tallamy
University of Delaware
Co-founder Homegrown
National Park

24:34



What’s the Rush? Doug Tallamy, Co-Founder Homegrown National Park®

This is a recording of the April 6th virtual event. Doug Tallamy presents the grassroots science-based solution to the biodiversity crisis and explains why it’s so urgent.

Bastrop County Master Gardener Association

Gardens for Wildlife

We can garden and support nature

- Texas Agrilife Ext “Earth-Kind Landscape Management”
- Use Texas or local native plants to create gardens for wildlife.
- Start with the soil.

Bastrop County Master Gardener Association Gardens for Wildlife

Bastrop County Master Gardener Association Event

“Creating a Wildlife Garden Part 1 Create the soil. Saturday Feb 4, 2023 1-4:30PM

Hands on converting lawn into habitat.

Low cost "no dig" earth friendly technique to layer organic materials to create soil over time from local organic waste materials from businesses, farms, yards. “

Bastrop County Master Gardener Association Gardens for Wildlife

Creating a Wildlife Garden Part 1 Create the soil. Saturday Feb 4, 2023 1-4:30PM

Hands on converting lawn into habitat.

Low cost "no dig" earth friendly technique to layer organic materials to create soil over time from local organic waste materials from businesses, farms, yards.

THE ZUNIGA METHOD

Bastrop County Master Gardener Association

Gardens for Wildlife

The Zuniga Method.

- **Draw a garden bed plan.**

Bastrop County Master Gardener Association

Gardens for Wildlife

The Zuniga Method.

- **Stage organic waste materials.**

Cardboard	Local shops. Free.
Mulch	Recycle Center, LaGrange. 1 ton truck full \$15.
Mushroom Compost	Kitchen Pride Mushroom Farm, Gonzales. Free.
Mushroom Blocks	Mushroom Farm, Kyle. Free. Locally \$5.
Green	Leaves, lawn clippings, kitchen vegetable scraps.
Dried leaves.	Curbside. Free.
Rabbit manure.	Local rabbit farms. Donation or purchase meat.
Dry pine needles.	Kind neighbors. Rake and bag your own.



Bastrop County Master Gardener Association Gardens for Wildlife



Bastrop County Master Gardener Association
Gardens for Wildlife

Layers of Organic materials + Time = Soil

with beneficial bacteria, worms, fungi, nutrients

Bastrop County Master Gardener Association

Gardens for Wildlife

SOIL + A succession of NATIVE PLANTS and INTENTIONAL DESIGN
= HABITAT

for native bees, butterflies, moths, other insects, amphibians and birds.

Bastrop County Master Gardener Association

Gardens for Wildlife

- **Piet Oudolf**, public garden designer of The High Line in NYC and Lurie Garden in Chicago, used more natives in his latest project Oudolf Garden District in Detroit.
- A review stated, “His public gardens transform people and places.” while he described it this way:

“For me, garden design isn’t just about plants, it is about emotion, atmosphere, a sense of contemplation. You try to move people with what you do. You look at this, and it goes deeper than what you see. It reminds you of something in the genes — nature, or the longing for nature.”

– PIET OUDOLF

Bastrop County Master Gardener Association
Gardens for Wildlife

Thank you. Happy Valentine's Day to LPGC.

Marcia   