

# AMARILLO BOTANICAL GARDENS

## NEWSLETTER

3RD QUARTERLY GARDEN UPDATE

### 2024 Event Calendar:

Summer is coming to an end, but the gardens still have plenty of things scheduled for the coming months. Be sure to check out our event calendar!

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### The vital role of volunteers:

Director Greg Lusk speaks about the crucial role that volunteers hold for the Amarillo Botanical Garden.

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### Garden Wish List:

Your support of our Garden Wish List helps us to expand and enhance our oasis on the plains. We sincerely thank you for your consideration!

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# 2024 Event Calendar

**Day with the Butterflies:** September 14th | 9am-2pm

The day with the butterflies is one of our favorite events that includes an individual butterfly release. General Admission (no breakfast): \$15.00, 10 & under w/ Breakfast: \$15.00, 11 & over w/ Breakfast: \$20.00

**Fall Seed Swap & Sale:** September 21st | 9am-Noon

The Amarillo Botanicals Gardens fall seed swap & sale will be held in the Gallery on Saturday the 21st. Seeds will be available for purchase or trade.

**Pumpkin Fest:** October 5th | 10am-3pm

Bring your family and enjoy our fall kickoff event featuring pumpkin painting, carnival games and so much MORE! This event is fun for all ages! Members: \$10.00 | Non-Members: \$12.00 | Children under 5: \$6.00

**Halloween Ball:** October 26th | 7pm-11pm

All Halloween lovers start planning your costumes now! We cannot wait to celebrate this spooky season with you! Tickets will go on sale later this month.

**Christmas in the Gardens:** December 2024 | 6pm-8:30pm

Christmas in the Gardens is back for another magical season of lights. Join us for the month of December for the best light show in town.

Thursday through Sunday December 5-8th. December 12th-23rd & December 27th.

## FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Are you following us on Facebook and Instagram yet? Be sure not to miss out on a thing! Our pages are being updated constantly with upcoming events, volunteer opportunities and happenings around the garden. Follow us today!

 Amarillo Botanical Garden

 @amarillobotanicalgardens

## The Vital Role of Volunteers

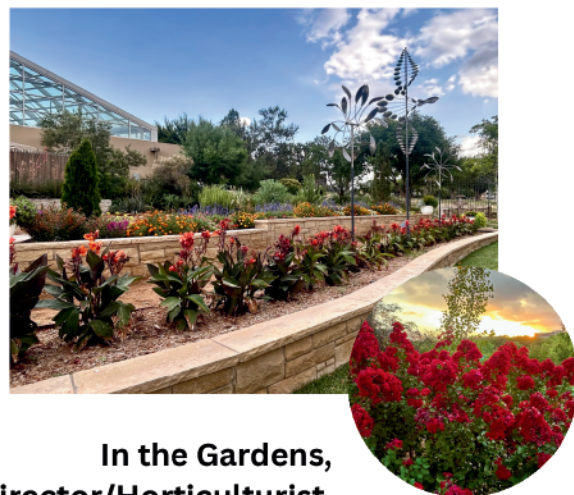
Botanical gardens are more than just beautiful spaces for relaxation; they are vital hubs for education, plant conservation, plant trials, and community engagement. Behind every thriving botanical garden is a team of dedicated volunteers who play an indispensable role in maintaining these green oases. Amarillo Botanical Gardens (ABG) is no exception. As the demand for education and conservation efforts grow, so does the need for passionate volunteers. Here's why volunteers are essential for ABG and how they make a significant impact. Many volunteers bring specialized skills and expertise that are invaluable. Whether it's horticultural knowledge, event planning, fundraising, or education, volunteers contribute a wealth of experience that enhances the garden's operations and programs. Their diverse backgrounds and talents help the garden innovate and grow, allowing it to better serve its mission in the community.

Volunteers are essential to the educational and maintenance efforts of ABG. From tending plants and maintaining gardens, assisting with fundraising efforts, volunteers work to support the gardens' purpose. They help with routine tasks such as weeding, pruning, and planting, which are crucial for keeping the garden in top shape. These activities not only enhance the aesthetic appeal of the garden but also contribute to the health and sustainability of the plant collections, at the same time enhancing visitor experience. They often serve as docents or guides, providing educational tours, sharing their knowledge of plants, garden history, and education efforts. Their enthusiasm and expertise help visitors gain a deeper appreciation for gardens. Volunteers also assist with special events and educational programs, making these experiences more engaging and informative for participants of all ages.

Volunteers play a crucial role in leading our educational programs, working to engage school age children to understand and appreciate the value of the plant world through our school field trip programs. A wide range of students are served, elementary through adults. Much help is needed in our education programs. Educational materials are provided covering a wide range of subjects.

As ABG continues to expand their programs and outreach efforts, the need for volunteers becomes increasingly important. Garden staff often find themselves stretched thin, and the support of dedicated volunteers is crucial for sustaining and growing the garden's impact on the community. Volunteers help bridge gaps in resources and ensure that the garden can continue to thrive and serve the community effectively.

If you have a passion for plants, education, and community, consider volunteering at ABG. Your time, skills, and enthusiasm can make a meaningful difference in supporting the garden's mission and helping it flourish. Whether you have a few hours to spare or are interested in a more long-term commitment, there is a role for you at ABG. Please consider contributing to our success by supporting one of our many volunteer positions to support the garden operations, enhance visitor experiences, advance education and foster community engagement ensuring that ABG continues to grow and to be a treasured resource in our community.



**In the Gardens,  
Greg Lusk, Executive Director/Horticulturist**



# DAY WITH THE Butterflies

**SEPTEMBER 14TH, 2024**  
**9:00AM - 2:00PM**

The Day with the Butterflies features an individual butterfly release & breakfast. Choose either 10am or 11am for your breakfast time. Vendor booths and educational kids activities will be throughout the garden.

## **TICKET INFO:**

*ALL TICKETS INCLUDE AN INDIVIDUAL BUTTERFLY TO RELEASE*

**General Admission (no breakfast): \$15.00**

**10 & under w/ Breakfast: \$15.00**

**11 & over w/ Breakfast: \$20.00**

**PURCHASE TICKETS @ [EVENTBRITE.COM](https://www.eventbrite.com)**

**OR CALL 806.352.6513**



AMARILLO BOTANICAL GARDENS  
1400 Streit Drive Amarillo, TX 79106

# PUMPKIN FEST

CARNIVAL GAMES | PUMPKIN PAINTING | AUTUMN  
ARTS & CRAFTS

**October 5, 2024**

**9:00am  
to  
3:00pm**

## **ADMISSION**

**MEMBERS: \$10.00**

**NO-MEMBERS: \$12.00**

**CHILDREN UNDER 5: \$6.00**

## Garden Wish List:

- GOLF CART FOR DAILY USE OF GARDEN UPKEEP
- USED REFRIGERATOR FOR CATERING KITCHEN



# HISTORY OF THE Garden



In 1929, an enterprising group of hardworking women banded together to create the first garden club of Amarillo, TX. They set out to prove gardening was possible in the challenging high plains of Texas. The environment and soil of the local area tested their knowledge as they sought out plants that could survive drought, windy conditions and extensive sun. Soil amending was mandatory to loosen heavy soils and improve pH levels. After many successful years, they started tackling numerous city beautification projects. By 1945, 125 members belonged to the thriving Amarillo Garden Club. With varied interests and goals, the group divided into 13 garden clubs and societies over the next 10 years.

## The Early Years

In 1954, under the direction of Vera Deason, the Garden Center was formed in Memorial Park as a home to the various garden clubs and their activities. Later, around 1960, a new home for the Garden Center was sought that provided more space for test gardens and the addition of classes for people with disabilities. Then, in 1968, after years of fundraising, the new Garden Center was dedicated on November 17th at the current location in the Medical Center Park.

## Amarillo Botanical Gardens today

Jane Meyers guided the clubs and volunteers giving vision to the gardens as Director from 1979 to



Featured in the photo above, is one of the founding garden clubs that met at WT & Kate Graham's home before the garden center was built.

1992. Jackie Wilson, as Executive Director from 1992-2007, guided the transition from Garden Center into the Amarillo Botanical Gardens. Under her guidance, the original buildings were expanded, the Mary E. Bivins Tropical Conservatory was built and new programs such as the summer Music in the Gardens began.

We owe a special thanks to local citizens who financially supported, volunteered and otherwise contributed and continue to contribute to the success and future of the Amarillo Botanical Gardens.



# WEDDING & EVENT RENTALS

THE GARDENS PRIDE ITSELF ON GETTING TO HELP CREATE MEMORABLE MOMENTS FOR ALL OF OUR CLIENTS; FROM BEAUTIFUL WEDDING AND BABY SHOWERS, TO CORPORATE EVENTS, WE STRIVE TO MAKE EACH EVENT SPECIAL.

WEDDINGS  
SHOWERS  
COMPANY PARTIES  
MEETINGS  
REUNIONS

TO SCHEDULE YOUR PERSONALIZED TOUR OF OUR EVENT  
SPACES GIVE BROOKE A CALL  
(806) 352-6513.

HELPING THE ROMANTIC TO TELL  
THEIR LOVE STORIES

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## CONTACT US

WEBSITE: [AMARILLOBOTANICALGARDENS.ORG](http://AMARILLOBOTANICALGARDENS.ORG)  
EMAIL: [GARDENS@ABGARDENS.ORG](mailto:GARDENS@ABGARDENS.ORG)

## 2024 Monetary Donors:

Victoria Thompson  
Natalie Gouge  
Rick Looby Homes  
Bubba's 33  
Reed Beverage  
Amarillo Property Solutions  
Scott M. Edwards & Jason Joe  
Kay Edmondson  
North Plains Iris Society  
Marian Cole  
Southwest Amarillo Garden Club  
Ascension Academy

## In Kind Donations:

Angie Hanna  
Anne Stich  
Mark Stich

Your donations are greatly appreciated. It is because of generous donors like you that we get to continue our work here at our oasis on the plains.  
If you would like to donate please visit our website [amarillobotanicalgardens.org](http://amarillobotanicalgardens.org) or give us a call at (806) 352-6513. Thank you



## Donation Card

Thank you for your support of the Amarillo Botanical Gardens. Your donation supports our ongoing programs and allows us to continue to inspire young people to be interested in science, and motivate them to continue learning.

***Please make checks payable to: Amarillo Botanical Gardens***

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Credit Card:** Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐ Discover ☐ American Express ☐ **Amount:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Card Number:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Exp. Date:** \_\_\_\_\_ **CVC:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

Your donation is tax deductible. Amarillo Botanical Gardens is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.  
1400 Streit Dr. Amarillo, TX. 79106 | 806-352-6513 | [www.amarillobotanicalgardens.org](http://www.amarillobotanicalgardens.org)