### Newsletter



# Don't miss out on any upcoming 2025 events:





### 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!

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Amarillo Botanical Gardens

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@amarillobotanicalgardens





## 2025 EVENT CALENDAR

Music in the Gardens - Thursday, June 5th - Thursday, August 28th | 7-9 pm The Music in the Gardens summer series is back! The concerts take place every Thursday night through June, July and August. General admission \$10.00 each | Members \$5.00 each | Children 10 & under are FREE.

Day with the Butterflies - Saturday, September 13th, 2025 | 9 am - 2 pm A one of a kind event featuring an individual butterfly release, educational activities, vendor booths and more! General Admission (include a butterfly) \$15 | Butterfly & Breakfast 10 & under \$15 each | Butterfly & Breakfast 11 & over \$20 each

Trail of 1000 Jack- O'-Lanterns - October 22nd - 25th, 2025 | Times TBD See the Gardens in a whole new light, with an evening lit by 1000 Jack- O'-Lanterns. More details and ticket prices to be announced.

#### Christmas in the Gardens - December 2025 | 6:00-8:30 pm

Christmas in the Gardens is back for another magical season of lights. Join us in the month of December for the best light show in town. Thursday through Sunday December 4th-7th. Every day December 11th-23rd & December 26th.

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### In the Garden

What a beautiful spring and summer we have had here at the Gardens. Each day has proven to reveal something new and beautiful under the sun. Cooler temps and rain have certainly helped the gardens flourish, but the staff has done a very good job planning, preparing, planting and caring for the Gardens to ensure everything is in place when the weather helps out. This year we have focused on maintenance and upgrades



to the Gardens. We try to change up beds, incorporating new plants and color schemes where we can, to provide the best experience for our visitors. Speaking about those who visit, each month we are setting new visitor records. We have strived to provide consistently well-managed grounds, and the public has responded with their vote of confidence in our work by visiting and generous words of appreciation and support.

Our events have gone well also. Music in the Gardens, sponsored by Rick Looby Homes, has been well attended. The local bands have not disappointed either. Fall is packed with a full line of family events as well. A Day with the Butterflies is September 13th, featuring a live butterfly release, breakfast, vendors and educational opportunities for the entire family. Get your tickets for this before it's too late! As summer rolls into fall we will be adding thousands of beautiful arrangements, pumpkins and gourds and our first annual Trail of 1000 Jack-O'-Lanterns! This four-evening event will host 1000+ Jack-O'-Lanterns lining the paths through the gardens, jacks in trees and in some very interesting displays! You won't want to miss this family-friendly event complete with music, food and some very spooktacular surprises. We are working on some very exciting new exhibits too. We are still in need of sponsors for our free-flight butterfly house. This would make a great way to honor someone. After all, who doesn't like butterflies? This feature will be both entertaining and educational. A wonderful asset for our community. We are also in the planning stages on a new fossil house. This exciting educational facility will display the fossil collection of Kenneth and Jean Harris! This house will feature fossils in a beautiful way and focus on education relating to our early earth and the animals and plants that once dominated the landscapes during those early times. Look for this exciting display to be complete by next year. We are always looking forward to improve our beautiful space and enhance our events and educational offerings. Please come along with us and inquire how you can become a valued partner as we move into the future of gardening and education in Amarillo.

Happy Gardening, **Greg Lusk** 

### Amarillo Herb Society LUNCHEON SAVE THE DATE "TASTE OF THYME"

#### Tuesday, September 16, 2025

Doors open at 11:30 am | Luncheon 12:00~1:30 pm

Location: Amarillo Botanical Gardens Gallery

Lunch catered by Black Fig Food

Speaker: Ruthie Landelius, owner of

Black Fig Food

# TICKETS: \$40 EACH (CASH OR CHECK ONLY)

All attendees must RSVP by September 2nd, 2025

Herb Society Members will be accepting your reservations and money Mail Checks to: Herb Society, P.O.Box 315, Canyon, TX 79015

Extras for Sale: Herb infused vinegar, oils, salves, and more. Dried herbs and even some crafts made with HERBS! Special giveaways: Neil Sperry's Texas Gardening Book value \$55, plus more!

### **Iris Society**

If you would like to know more about growing irises come and join the group that meets the 2nd Sunday of every month at the Amarillo Botanical Gardens. For more info contact President Bill Pittman @ 806-679-7351.

#### **Southwest Garden Club**

Join us on the 3rd Friday of every month from 9:30-11:00 am. Most meetings are held at the Amarillo Botanical Gardens, but it is best to confirm location prior to attending. Please call Kameron Atkinson @ 970-581-1237. VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT: FRED PEREZ

MEET MR. FRED PEREZ! HE IS ONE OF THE AMARILLO BOTANICAL GARDENS WONDERFUL VOLUNTEERS. HE WAS BORN AND RAISED IN TULIA TEXAS AND HAS LIVED IN AMARILLO FOR THE LAST 46 YEARS WITH HIS LOVELY WIFE AND DAUGHTER. FRED WORKED AS A POLICE OFFICER AND



RANDALL COUNTY SHERRIFF FOR MANY YEARS AND IS NOW ENJOYING RETIREMENT. BECAUSE OF HIS LOVE FOR FLOWERS AND GARDENING HIS WIFE ENCOURAGED HIM TO PURSUE VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES IN HIS FREE TIME. HE BEGAN HELPING IN THE GARDENS IN OCTOBER OF 2024. IF YOU ARE VISITING THE GARDENS ON MONDAY OR TUESDAY MORNINGS, YOU MIGHT SEE MR. FRED OUT WORKING IN ONE OF THE FLOWER BEDS. HE HAS BEEN AN AMAZING HELP TO THE GARDENS BY HELPING TO HANG LIGHTS IN DECEMBER, WORKING THE SNOW MACHINE DURING CHRISTMAS IN THE GARDENS, HELPING PLANT AND MAINTAIN BEDS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR AND SO MUCH MORE! WHEN ASKED, FRED SAID THAT ONE OF THE THINGS HE LOVES MOST ABOUT VOLUNTEERING IS GETTING TO WORK IN THE DIRT AND HELPING MAKE SOMETHING BEAUTIFUL GROW. A FEW OF FREDS FAVORITE HOBBIES ARE GARDENING AND WRITING. HE CURRENTLY HAS 10 PUBLISHED NOVELS AND MANY MORE IN THE WORKS. THE GARDENS WOULD LIKE TO THANK FRED FOR ALL THAT HE DOES FOR US.

# ABG SUMMER HOURS:

The Gardens is currently observing our summer hours.

#### **Summer Hours:**

Monday-Friday: 9am-7pm Saturday: 9am-5pm Sunday: 1pm-5pm

\*We will be observing summer hours through the end of September.



### **Garden Wish-list:**

- Golf cart for daily use of garden upkeep
- Used refrigerator for catering kitchen

#### **2025 Monetary Donors:**

Sandy & Rick Hildner Rick Looby Homes Gaynelle Riffe Patrick & Roni Swindell Dr. Neil & Lisa Veggeberg Sandra Lacv Liz White Marian Cole Ron & Sandy Watts Lorene Lacer Ken & Jean Harris Fountain of Health in memory of Brian Fordham Ted & Becky Cameron in honor of Dick & Fannie Cameron Valys Bourlon in honor of Dick & Fannie Cameron Donita Cameron in honor of Dick & Fannie Cameron Sue Ritchey in honor of Dick & Fannie Cameron Eddie Thonton in honor of Dick & Fannie Cameron Valerie McCarthey-Smith in memory of Vicki Covey Judie Boothe in memory of Liz Jennings

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 or give us a call @ 806-352-6513. Thank you.



