



HAPPY  
*Mother's Day!*  
MAY 2017  
The GREENLEAF  
NEWSLETTER

SPRING / SUMMER HOURS

HOURS: MON - SAT 8:00 A.M. TO 6:30 P.M.  
SUN 10:00 A.M. TO 5:00 P.M.

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THE *Cooler Plants*  
YOU DON'T HAVE IN YOUR LANDSCAPE, *YET!*  
*by Brice Creelman*



[Oxalis regnellii](#)

This Shamrock may look like a wimpy plant, but lives through our hot summers and doesn't complain. Shade to part sun. Excellent in beds or containers. Watch for it next year, it can re-seed.



[Phlox 'Minnie Pearl'](#)

I assume (I know, I know) no one remembers Minnie Pearl or admits they watched "Hee Haw" back in the day. Thank Tony Avent in North Carolina to remember. White flowers on much nicer foliage than other upright Phlox. Re-blooms when cut back. Sun to part shade. Blooms earlier than others. Buck Owens was born in Sherman, Texas. I'll let you put 2 and 2 together.



[Muhlenbergia reverchonii](#)

Seep Muhly, Johnson City Strain. In the middle of Hill Country drought, this plant was thriving at Rob Wier's Johnson City house. He brought it in and we divided it, and we think it's a swell native grass. Less than a foot tall and well behaved. Cut back when you want, but doesn't really need it.

# THE *Cooler Plants* by Brice Creelman



## Scutellaria x 'Dark Violet'

A hybrid Skullcap with clean habits that does best in hot, dry sun. Not as large as our Pink Skullcap, but we don't like to compare our children. 6"x 12". Pollinators all over. Don't really know where it came from, but I don't think it's from Sherman.



## Habranthus x 'Front Gas Meter' Rain Lily

I bought this plant at Barton Springs Nursery in Austin. Guessing that it was growing by a gas meter up front or something, but that may be a stretch. Blooms whenever it wants, where ever it wants. Please learn to enjoy that. By the way, Zephyranthes 'Rain Lily' flowers are held upright in foliage. Habranthus nod to one side. Remember that in case you are on 'Jeopardy'. Plant where you need a surprise.



## Carex divulsa

Great little mophead of a plant. So easy to grow. Even you can't kill it. Use this Sedge like you would Liriope. 1'-2' both ways. Great in dry shade. Only an immature person would say it looks like a weedy nutgrass. So don't.



## Lavender Phenomenal

I suspect this plant will soon be as popular as sliced bread. Drought tolerant new cultivar. The toughest yet. Finally, we in Texas can grow Lavender. 24" both ways. Use dried or how ever else you use Lavender. Be in awe of this variety because it will not die the second week you plant it like other Lavenders. Sun to part shade. Believe the name.



### [Tagetes lucida](#)

Texas Tarragon supposedly can be used instead of French Tarragon in cooking. I have never had it so I can't help you, but as far as loving the heat and covering up with yellow flowers late summer and fall, my gosh! Butterflies are free. 12"-18" both ways. Perfect little plant. Put it in the ground now so it will bloom out and amaze you later this fall.



### [Ruellia brittoniana 'Purple Showers'](#)

Not as weedy as your grandma's Ruellia. Much more refined. Doesn't spread aggressively, but will get 3'-4' tall and wide. Wet or dry is fine but in a moist spot will spread quicker. Keep it dry. Looking for a butterfly plant? Pull over here.

*Come Join Us for our  
Saturday Morning Classes!*



MAY 6TH @ 10:30AM

WATER CONSERVATION

MAY 13TH @ 10:30AM

DROUGHT TOLERANT

PERENNIALS

*Classes will resume in the Fall!*

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For Details On Our Promotions and Events!

# MAY 2017 TIMELY HINTS

## **PLANT... heat loving season color!**

- We have LOTS to choose from, ... such as **Lantana**, **Zinnias**, **Vinca**, **Pentas**, **Begonias**, **Purslane** ... just to name a few! When choosing **Perennials** remember that we are here to help you pick the “Right Plant for the Right Place”! Incorporate some tropical color out on your patio or pool deck to give your outdoor spaces some extra pizzazz ... such as **Tropical Hibiscus**, **Mandevilla**, and **Bougainvillea**. Most tropical color blooms on new growth, so be sure to fertilize regularly throughout the summer with **Colorscapes** or **ColorStar™** plant food to enhance blooming.
- Container grown trees can be planted now, just be prepared to hand-water or use **Treegator®** bags on them to get them through the summer’s heat. It’s best to wait on planting balled and burlapped (B&B) trees until the fall.

## **PRUNE... as needed.**

- Just for controlling odd shape growth and to maintain size on plants.

## **FERTILIZE...**

- Apply **Colorscapes** or **ColorStar™** on annuals and perennials to keep them happily blooming. Don’t forget that we have bulk refill available for **ColorStar™** which saves money when you need to re-purchase!
- Use **SuperThrive®** on newly planted plants, or any stressed plants and trees.
- Use **Gardenville 7-2-2** on your lawn again by the end of the month. May is the prime month for lawn grasses to grow. Make sure your lawn is fed properly to prepare it for the summer heat to come.

## **WATER... as needed.**

- **Hand water newly planted plants** to help them establish before the heat of summer kicks in. Remember a lot of our drought-tolerant plants have been grown with regular watering in their pots. You need to hand water them after planting for the first two to three weeks and gradually wean them off frequent watering as their root system establishes in your landscape. Once established (about a month) they can survive on less water.
- Consider converting your beds to **drip irrigation** to use water more efficiently.
- Because of the water restrictions in the past, we have learned which of our grasses and plants can **survive and thrive on less**. With our area continuously building and growing, water demand and usage will increase, and we will continue to see regional water restrictions in place. When summer’s heat returns, your established drought-tolerant and well-adapted plants (and your budget!) will love you.

## PESTS...

- As we've stated before, it is virtually impossible for us to give accurate pest advice over the phone. **Bring in samples of problems in a baggie** and we'll advise you on choices for control. With insects, we encourage you to identify the insect first, then use an appropriate control for that bug.
- Check Crape Myrtles for scale on branches. The scale looks like small white fuzzy cotton pieces attached to the stems. Control with **All Seasons Oil**, which suffocates them. Once you see fungus it is hard to clear up the affected spots, but you can spray to prevent new foliage or other foliage from getting the problem.
- We carry an organic disease control product called **Serenade Garden Disease Control**. This product is safe for use on fruits, vegetables, and ornamentals. It can be used around people, pets, and wildlife. You can learn more about it through their website, [www.serenadegarden.com](http://www.serenadegarden.com). As always, we try to give you earth friendly options for pest control.
- Watch out for Bagworms on your evergreens this time of year when eggs hatch and the worms begin to move around and eat the needle leaves. Control the issue with **B.T.** (bacillus thuringiensis). We have this in a dry or liquid form.

If your Garden Group is in need of a location to hold your club meetings, or if you are exploring speaker options, look no further than



We love having groups here, and we have a wide variety of topics we'd enjoy sharing with you!

**GIVE US A CALL!**

*Remember Mom  
May 14th*

To the world  
you are a

*Mother,*  
but to your family  
you are the

*World.*

## OTHER BITS & PIECES...

- **Keep Mosquitoes Away** with Mosquito Bits®, Mosquito Dunks®, and Sandalwood Mosquito Sticks. They really work!
- **Mulch, Mulch, Mulch.** Keep mulch at a minimum of 2" on all planting bed areas. With summer's heat around the corner it will conserve water and keep your plantings healthier.
- **Keep up with the veggies you planted.** Have more than you can use? Donate them to your local food pantry.
- **Put out your Hummingbird feeder!** Better yet, plant the right plants they prefer. We've got a gorgeous selection of plants that attract Hummingbirds ... we're here to help you make the right selection.



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