

The Crosby Arboretum

Mississippi State University Extension Service

Quarterly News Journal

Spring 2019

33.2

THE CROSBY ARBORETUM LIBRARY: BOTANICAL TREASURES

Many members are unaware of one of their best membership benefits – that of borrowing privileges for the Arboretum library. The collection contains an outstanding assortment of titles, and is highly deserving of being called a “special collection”. Visit the library on a rainy day, or when you have a few minutes before a program. Browse books on native plant gardening, wildflowers, landscape design, plant foraging or propagation, public gardens, or topics such as winter botany, medicinal plants, ethnobotany, “household” botany, flora of other states such as Louisiana, or tips for gardening in New Orleans.

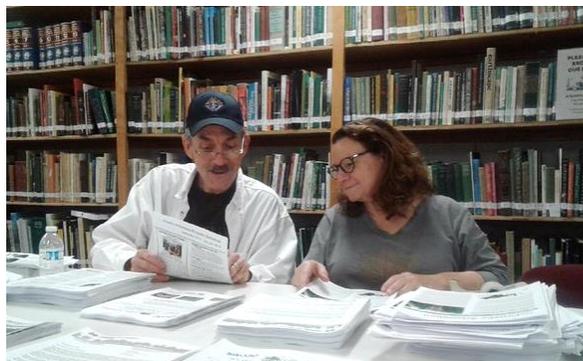
Check out a book on carnivorous plants, gardening in the humid South, or plants for backyard wildlife, such as hummingbirds, butterflies, or other pollinators. Consult field guides on mushrooms, reptiles, caterpillars, insects and spiders, edible or poisonous plants, and venomous animals. Enjoy crafts? You’ll find books on nature crafts like flower pressing, basketmaking, or natural dyeing. Want to get started in birding? Check out books on bird identification, gardening for birds, or birdwatching basics. Read about legendary botanists and plants persons, or Fay Jones, the Arkansas architect who designed our Pinecote Pavilion. Many members have donated books to the library over the years, which are catalogued by Pearl River County Master Gardener Tammy Mokray. Her current projects include the collection of gardening and horticultural books from the family of Yvette Rosen, a former Crosby Arboretum Foundation board member and long-time supporter and member who passed away in October. The family of Arthur L. Welden, Jr. also made a donation last year of his fungi and mushrooms books. Dr. Weldon, was a Professor of Botany Emeritus at Tulane University and was admired and respected for his diverse interests and knowledge. His wife



This set of handmade notebooks on Southeastern trees by Peter van Duym are one of the Arboretum Library’s many treasures.

Frances was a well-known butterfly enthusiast, and had presented programs at the Arboretum. Member Dr. Jean Wooten, botanist and former curator of the herbarium at The University of Southern Mississippi, donated approximately one hundred volumes in 2016, which were deemed true botanical treasures by our State botanist Heather Sullivan who was present when the books arrived! Dr. Wooten built the USMS herbarium from only a few thousand specimens to about 18,000 by the time she retired in 1993. In July 2011, the Crosby Arboretum received a donation organized by Arboretum volunteer Nadine Phillips of Hattiesburg of more than a hundred rare horticultural books from the Woodburn Company of Hopewell, N.J., a firm specializing in antiquarian books. The books, published from the mid-1800’s through the mid-1900’s, cover many topics including historic garden design, botany, forestry, and conservation.

An exceptional donation is the one-of-a-kind, four volume set of handmade notebooks titled “A Celebration of Trees in the Southeastern States” by Peter van Duym (1921-2012), who was an exploration geologist for Shell Oil Company in Louisiana. The books include hand-drawn range maps and high-quality photographs detailing the bark, fruit, flowers and leaves of Southeastern trees. One-page excerpts by nature writers are interspersed with the profiles, along with full-size photographs of outdoor scenes that reflect Mr. van Duym’s love for nature and environmental ethic. Looking through these volumes is quite awe-inspiring, and we’re grateful to have this remarkable creation in the collection.



Volunteer Tom Lehr and Pat Drackett working in the Library on the Fall edition of the Arboretum Quarterly News Journal.

- Patricia Drackett, Director
The Crosby Arboretum, MSU Extension Service



The Crosby Arboretum Mississippi State University

A regional arboretum representing the native flora of the Pearl River Drainage Basin in Mississippi and Louisiana.

Picayune, Mississippi, USA

Director's Notebook:

The Crosby Arboretum recently reached a social media milestone, as we now have over 4,000 Facebook likes. This fact helps us immensely in getting the word out on upcoming programs and events. Last year, we offered 66 programs and events that served over 2,700 persons. We're pleased that our memberships have been steadily increasing for over decade. At the end of 2018, we had 445 members!

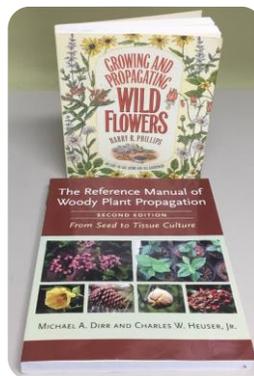
We simply could not do all that we do for our members and the public without the continued support of our team of dedicated volunteers, and the skillful coordination of the numerous volunteer projects by Mary Donahue. The "Green Team" volunteers provided invaluable assistance in the list of plant selections for the upcoming spring sale. With the completed renovation of the greenhouse irrigation system, the Green Team is also making plans for the Pollinator Sale, and quite excited about their fast-developing crop of germinating perennial seeds! Over 1,200 hours were contributed by volunteers last year, a labor value of over \$28,000 to the Arboretum.

Check out the many exciting activities planned in this spring's program calendar, such as the debut of an open mic night on the Pinecote Pavilion. In response to your requests, we've included a wild plant foraging class, a birdwatching basics program, and the return of the smart phone photography workshop. A dedication ceremony will be held in conjunction with the April Strawberries and Cream Festival for the new historical marker on Ridge Road that recognizes the Pinecote Pavilion as a Mississippi Landmark. This project is made possible by a grant from the Mississippi Gulf Coast National Heritage Area. We look forward to seeing you at the Arboretum this spring!

*- Patricia Drackett, Director
The Crosby Arboretum, MSU Extension Service*



The plants in the Quaking Bog Educational Exhibit have been filling in quite nicely. Check it out on your next visit!



*Many excellent references are available to help you on the subject of propagating wildflowers and native plants, including these books available for member check-out from the Arboretum Library. Ask for our recommendations at the upcoming **Spring Native Plant Sale March 15 & 16!***

CURATOR'S CORNER: Planting Native Wildflowers

Planting native wildflowers in your own yard has never been easier. There are now several online native plant suppliers and regional nature centers like the Arboretum that offer a wide variety of native plants and or seeds for you to buy. Be sure to purchase seeds/plants that were collected in or near your ecoregion (designated areas of similar habitats) whenever possible. It is usually better to create your own wildflower mix than to buy a generic mix for the Southeast. Although it is easier for you to purchase your native seeds, if you choose, you may also collect your own; however, you must protect the habitats and plant populations that you are collecting from and have permission or a permit to do so. Make sure you do not over-collect – leave sufficient seeds to repopulate your collection site. Never collect rare, threatened or endangered species or their parts or collect within the habitats where they occur. It may appear that native plants require little or no care, but they have specific growth requirements. Before obtaining seeds, you should learn about the environmental conditions in your yard. Does your yard receive a lot of sun, or is it shady? Is your soil basic or acidic, wet or dry, sandy, or mostly clay? Some of these questions can be answered by testing your soil. Collect a soil sample from your yard and send it to your state's soil testing lab for analysis (<http://extension.msstate.edu/lawn-and-garden/soil-testing>). Additionally, there are several resources in the Arboretum's member-accessible library as well as online that you can consult to find out what other environmental requirements are necessary for the plants that you choose. For example, some seeds may need to be cold chilled for a period of several months before they germinate, some may need to be scarified (scratched) before they will sprout, and/or some may need to be soaked in water before planting. Remember! The more you know—the better your plants will grow.

*- Jennifer Buchanan, Senior Curator
The Crosby Arboretum, MSU Extension Service*



The Crosby Arboretum Mississippi State University

A regional arboretum representing the native flora of the Pearl River Drainage Basin in Mississippi and Louisiana.

Picayune, Mississippi, USA

Thank you, 2018 Annual Appeal Contributors!

The Crosby Arboretum wishes to express our sincere gratitude, and to acknowledge the persons who made contributions to our 2018 year-end Annual Appeal. This year's annual appeal letter was included in your winter quarterly news journal, which resulted in a considerable savings on mailing costs.

A total of \$4,685 was raised for the purpose of addressing our current needs for repairs and maintenance to the buildings and grounds, including items such as soil and gravel for trail-building, program supplies, and materials and equipment for site maintenance. We are particularly grateful for your response, as this appeal was made due to the reduction to our operating budget this fiscal year, the result of budget shortfalls affecting all State-owned facilities.

Capt. Cornelius and Loretta Acheson
Phelan and Fay Bright
Ruth Cook
Jo Ann Fleming
Martha Frost
Lynn Gammill
Doug and Phyllis Goodwin

Mason and Janet Gordon
John and Laurie Gwaltney
Natalie Locke
Dennis and Mary Martin
Paul and Charlotte Martory
Fred and Tamara Mokray
Robert and Cynthia Murchison
Sylvia North

Sibyl Ramsey
Chris Schneidau and Judy Schwartzer
Robert Stewart
William Thames
Gene Yeager
Anita Warner
Tony and Sue Wilder



Implemented in 2018, member contributions to the Arboretum's 2017 annual appeal supported a summer internship for Nathan Lambeth (top left, with Terry Johnson), a graduate student in Landscape Architecture at Mississippi State University from the Kiln/Bay St. Louis area, who helped with the foundation excavation for the Gum Pond Educational Exhibit's bridge project and also developed trail signage for the Swamp Forest Educational Exhibit. The 2017 appeal also helped to fund improvements to the Arboretum's signage at the welcome booth and main entrance areas, and along the trail and site perimeter, in conjunction with a grant from the Mississippi Gulf Coast National Heritage Area (MGCNHA) and the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources (MDMR) received by the Crosby Arboretum Foundation in partnership with Mississippi State University.

HONOR AND MEMORIAL DONATIONS

Honor and memorial donations made over the past year include a donation made by Connie Sable and the Destiny Perkins Family in honor of **Ms. Katherine Furr**. Memorial donations were made in memory of **Jean Hartfield** by the Pearl River County Archeology Association, Lynn Gammill, and Ms. Katherine Furr. Donations for memorial trees or shrubs were made for the following persons: in memory of **Stella McMichael**, by Joan, Marianne, and Joni Piatek; in memory of **Mary Virginia Van Walt** by Meade and Diana Koehl, Janice Catalano, R.A. Gray III, and McArthur, Slay & Dews, PLLC; in memory of **Donna Catchott Burt** by Kendall McDonald, Channing Green, Lynn Woo, Anne McCauley, Sunny Baker, Sara Douglass; in memory of **Marguerite Morris** by Fay Bright and Lynn Gammill; in memory of **Elizabeth Robertson** by Jennifer Buchanan, in memory of **Anna Bohach** by Ruth Cook, in memory of **Rodney Foil** by Ruth Cook; in memory of the mother of Julia Anderson by Ruth Cook and Lynn Gammill; in memory of **Elizabeth Crosby** by Lynn Gammill, and in memory of **Yvette Rosen** by Stanley and June Polivick.

A memorial celebration was held in January on the Pinecote Pavilion for noted local archaeologist and botany enthusiast **Jean Hartfield**, a member and long-time supporter of the Arboretum who passed away in December. Plans are underway for the construction of a memorial for Foundation board member **Julia Anderson**, who also passed away in December. Plans are proceeding for the Rosen Pavilion planned for Gum Pond Exhibit, a gift to the Arboretum by the family of Foundation board member **Yvette Rosen** who passed away in November.

PLANT PROFILE: *Lyonia lucida*



Lana Gramlich

Lyonia is an evergreen shrub in the Heath Family (*Ericaceae*) that blooms at the Arboretum in early March. This sprawling shrub typically grows from 5 to 10 feet. It is found in the understory of wet swamps and bogs in the southeastern U.S. *Lyonia* prefers moist acidic soils in wet pine flatwoods, wet savannas, and along area stream banks. Although it typically occurs as an understory shrub, it will tolerate full sun. While *Lyonia* generally tolerates poorly drained soils, it does best in moist, well-drained locations, just like the banks of the slough, near the first Arrival Journey bridge.

The News Journal is a quarterly publication of The Crosby Arboretum, Mississippi State University Extension Service. A subscription is included with an Arboretum membership. Journal may be received electronically.

Please send correspondence to: Patricia Drackett, Editor
The Crosby Arboretum, P.O. Box 1639, Picayune, MS 39466
pat.drackett@msstate.edu

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Membership Application

All contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed. For more information call: (601) 799-2311 or print form online.

_____	Student (send copy of student ID)	\$ 20.00
_____	Individual	35.00
_____	Individual/Senior	30.00
_____	Family	45.00
_____	Donor	100.00
_____	Patron	250.00
_____	Benefactor	1,000.00
_____	Sweetgum	100.00
_____	Sassafras	250.00
_____	Live Oak	500.00
_____	Bigleaf Magnolia	1,000.00

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Renewing? Memberships are for one year.



MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY™
EXTENSION

The Crosby Arboretum

Mississippi State University

P.O. Box 1639

Picayune, MS 39466-1639

Crosby Arboretum Program Schedule

March 2019

PLANT PROPAGATION WORKSHOP

Saturday, March 9, 10:00 a.m. to Noon

This workshop, led by Pearl River County Extension Agent **Dr. Eddie Smith**, begins with a presentation covering basic propagation techniques and then will move to the Arboretum greenhouse for hands-on activities to get you started in growing more plants through seeds and cuttings, and the methods to ensure success. All materials are provided. Participants will take home some seeds and cuttings. Members \$8, non-members \$10. Reservations requested.

WORKSHOP: GARDENING WITH KIDS!

Saturday, March 9, 2:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Children will learn about small space gardening through the activities in a fun hands-on workshop led by Dr. Christine Coker, Associate Research and Extension Professor of Urban Horticulture. Members' children \$2; non-member children \$4. Must be accompanied by parent or guardian (no charge for adults). Reservations requested.

SPRING NATIVE PLANT SALE!



March 15 & 16 (Friday & Saturday)
10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Members admitted at 9:00 a.m. each day

Choose from a wide variety of hard-to-find native trees, shrubs, and perennials for your landscape. Pearl River County Master Gardeners will help you choose the plants suited to your property. See our Facebook page for a list of available plant species. **Free admission.** Sale is in the greenhouse area. Please use site Service Entrance.



Participants learned tree identification in January's Winter Botany walk with MSU Extension Forestry specialist **Dr. Glenn Hughes**.

SPRING GALLERY OPENING: PHOTOGRAPHY BY RHONDA HUNT



Saturday, March 16
1:00 to 2:30 p.m.

~~~~~  
*Opening to follow a*  
*short presentation*

This event will begin with an informal talk by Rhonda on the inspiration for her photography, her subjects and techniques. Following the presentation in the program room, the group will move to the gallery. Light refreshments will be served. Event is *free* to the public. Exhibit runs through May 31.



*USFWS National Digital Image Library*

## CHILDREN'S PROGRAM: LEARNING ABOUT VENOMOUS MISSISSIPPI SNAKES

*Saturday, March 23, 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.*

Children will learn about Mississippi's venomous snakes in this instructional program with **Kim Johnson**. Lifelike snake replicas will be used in this program. Great activity for homeschool students! Children must be accompanied by an adult. Reservations requested. Members' children \$1; non-members' children \$3; no charge for adults.



## CHILDREN'S WORKSHOP: FLOWER PLANTING PROJECT

*Saturday, March 23, 11:00 a.m. to Noon*

Children will enjoy this program with Master Gardener **Amy Nichols**. "Ms. Flora" will read them a story and teach them about the parts of a flower. For the Sunflower Planting Project, they will plant sunflower seeds and make their very own mini-greenhouse to take home. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Reservations requested. Members' children \$2; non-members' children \$4; no charge for adults.

# Crosby Arboretum Program Schedule

March – April 2019

## SMART LANDSCAPES: NATIVE PLANTS FOR HOME GARDENS

*Saturday, March 30, 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.*

Design low-care “Smart Landscapes” based on ecological processes. Save money, reduce labor and energy needs, and increase your yard’s biodiversity. This program with Arboretum Director **Pat Drackett** will focus on the many choices available for durable, useful, and attractive native plant species that can help you reduce your property’s landscape maintenance needs. Members \$2, non-members \$5. Reservations requested.

## MONARCHS, MILKWEED, AND NECTAR PLANTS FOR THE GULF COAST REGION

*Saturday, March 30, 1:00 to 2:00 p.m.*

**Amy Nichols**, passionate Monarch butterfly enthusiast, Mississippi Native Plant Society member, and Pearl River Master Gardener, will discuss the life cycle of Monarch butterflies, their migration, the native milkweeds supporting their larval (caterpillar) stage, and the importance of including nectar plants in your Gulf Coast garden that will support adult butterflies at critical periods in their life cycle. Members \$3, non-members \$5. Reservations requested.



*Paul and Jean MacInnis help to prepare strawberries for a past Strawberries & Cream Festival, held on the Pinecote Pavilion.*

## NATURE DISCOVER DAY



**Thursday, April 11**  
**9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**

In this educational field day, students will be thrilled to explore a wide array of hands-on exhibits and presentations, live animals, guided botanical walks, and letterboxing, and much more. The field day is open to K-7 schools and homeschool groups. Admission is \$2 per child, and free for teachers and chaperones. Groups must call 601-799-2311 to schedule their arrival time.



## STRAWBERRIES & CREAM FESTIVAL

**Sunday, April 7, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.**

*A dedication ceremony for the new historical marker recognizing the Pinecote Pavilion, a Mississippi Landmark, will take place at 12:30 p.m.*

Bring your friends and family out for the afternoon and take a stroll through the Arboretum grounds and plant exhibits in full bloom! Celebrate the history of the Arboretum having a former use as a Depression-era strawberry farm. The event will be held on the Pinecote Pavilion. Listen to music, enjoy ice cream, fresh strawberries, and Picayune Frog Lemonade. Admission is free to all for this annual family-friendly event!

## FORAGING IN SOUTH MISSISSIPPI

*Saturday, April 13, 10:00 to Noon*

Intrigued with the idea of wild plant foraging but don't know where to start? Attend this informative program with foraging teacher, **Myles Ray**, who will cover the edible and medicinal uses of some of South Mississippi's rich plant life and the skills for foraging or survival. Bring your camera, a collecting basket, and pruners if you have them. Members \$3; non-members \$5. Reservations requested.

# Crosby Arboretum Program Schedule

April - May 2019

## CHILDREN'S EASTER PARTY

*Saturday, April 13, 1:00 to 2:30 p.m.*

Children will enjoy games, door prizes, snacks, goodie bags, and do a craft activity in this fun Easter program led by **Kim Johnson**. No minimum age, as children must be accompanied by an adult. Reservations requested. Members' children \$4; non-members' children \$6; no charge for adults.

## SQUARE FOOT GARDENING

*Saturday, April 27, 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.*

Want to grow your own vegetables, but think you don't have the space, time, or energy? Join Pearl River County Extension Agent **Dr. Eddie Smith** to learn just how easy and fun this method of gardening can be. Program is \$3 for members and \$5 for non-members. Reservations are requested.

## WOW! The Wonder of Wetlands Workshop for Educators Thursday, April 25

*9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.*

WOW! The Wonders of Wetlands is an instructional guide for educators that provides a resourceful and creative collection of wetland activities, information, and ideas. The workshop will introduce you to the three parameters of wetlands (vegetation, soils, hydrology), wetland functions and values as well as management options all through fun and engaging activities. WOW! incorporates wetlands into reading, math, social studies, art or physical education lessons. Cost is \$30 total for the educational activity guide, .6 CEU's and entry fee. Pre-registration required. Call the Arboretum at 601-799-2311 to sign up. Bring snacks and lunch.

## PROJECT LEARNING TREE EDUCATORS' WORKSHOP

**Friday, April 26**

*9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.*

One of the oldest and most successful environmental education programs, PLT offers interdisciplinary, fun, hands-on lesson plans based on sound science. This K-12 workshop will feature a "Hike Through the PLT Guide" and teamwork activities for learning the lesson plans. Cost is \$40 total for the educational activity guide, .6 CEU's and entry fee. Pre-registration is required. Please call the arboretum at 601-799-2311 to sign up. <https://www.plt.org/>. Bring snacks and lunch.



*It was encouraging that so many youth participated in our January Forge Day. Around 500 persons attended the annual event.*

## NATIVE PLANT FIELD WALK

*Saturday, May 4, 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.*

Join Arboretum director **Pat Drackett** on a field walk to explore native plants in the Arboretum exhibits. On our journey we will discuss native plants for the garden and their landscape uses, and those with high wildlife value. Bring your camera and dress for walking. Members free; non-members \$5.

## CHILDREN'S NATURE CRAFT WORKSHOP

*Saturday, May 4, 1:00 to 2:00 p.m.*

Children will complete a fun nature craft project in this program led by **Kim Johnson**. All materials provided. No minimum age requirement, as children must be accompanied by an adult. Reservations requested. Members' children \$4; non-members' children \$6; no charge for adults.

## LANDSCAPING WITH WILDFLOWERS

*Saturday, May 11, 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.*

Learn methods for planning and establishing areas of low-maintenance perennial and annual Mississippi wildflowers that are suited to your property's specific environmental conditions with Pearl River County Extension Agent, **Dr. Eddie Smith**. Program is \$3 for members and \$5 for non-members. Reservations are requested.

## YOGA ON PINECOTE PAVILION

*Saturday, May 11, 1:00 to 2:00 a.m.*

Join certified yoga instructor **James Sones** in the beautiful natural setting of Pinecote Pavilion for a gentle yoga class and short meditation sitting. Class limited to 16. Yoga mats provided, or bring your own. Please arrive 10 minutes early. Members free, non-members \$5. Reservations requested.

# Crosby Arboretum Program Schedule

May 2019

## MUSIC UNDER THE PINES! AN OPEN MIC NIGHT ON THE PINECOTE PAVILION



**Saturday, May 11  
6:00 to 9:00 p.m.**

Dust off that old guitar that's been hiding in your closet! The community is invited to participate in an open mic night in the lovely outdoor setting of the Pinecote Pavilion. Final details, which may include an optional dinner, along with a nominal ticket cost, will be announced as the event approaches. Members will be receiving this information via the listserv. However, you are welcome to call the Arboretum office now at 601-799-2311 to sign up for your 15 minute time slot that generally allows for three songs.

### INTRODUCTION TO BIRDS AND BIRDING

*Saturday, May 18, 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.*

Interested in birding but don't know how to get started? Then this birding basics program is for you! Long-time birder and hummingbird bander **James Bell** will provide an introduction to basic bird identification, places to bird, equipment, books and other resources, and much more. Suited to ages 8 and up. Members \$3, members' children \$1; non-member adults \$5, children \$2.

### SMART PHONE PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOP

*Saturday, May 18, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.*

Photographer **Diana Thornton** will show you how to get stunning images with your phone camera! Go beyond just snapping photos and start creating stunning, artistic images. A presentation will be followed by a photo walk. Designed for iPhone 5 or newer, but other camera phones are welcome. Bring fully charged phone with adequate memory, walking shoes, bug repellent, and notebook. Ages 12 and up. Members \$5, non-members \$10. Reservations requested. Limit of 12 persons.

### CHILDREN'S PROGRAM: SEVEN COMMON TREES

*Friday, May 24, 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.*

Children will learn about seven common Mississippi trees in this instructional program led by **Kim Johnson**. A great activity for homeschool students! Children must be accompanied by an adult. Reservations requested. Members' children \$4; non-members' children \$6; no charge for adults.

## THE NATIVE POLLINATOR PLANT SALE!

**Friday, May 31 & Saturday, June 1  
10 a.m. to 3 p.m.**

*(Members admitted at 9:00 a.m. each day)*



This is our second year for this popular sale featuring native pollinator plants, including native milkweed, and many other useful and attractive species for your yard and garden. A plant list will be posted on our Facebook page prior to the sale. Come browse these hard-to-find species, and speak with plant professionals including Pearl River County Master Gardeners who will help you choose plants suited to your property. **Free admission.** Sale is in the greenhouse area. Use site Service Entrance.

**PLEASE REMEMBER TO CHECK IN AT THE OFFICE  
WHEN VISITING THE ARBORETUM. WE STRIVE TO  
KEEP ACCURATE VISITOR STATISTICS, IN ORDER  
TO VALIDATE FUTURE FACILITY FUNDING.**



[www.crosbyarboretum.msstate.edu](http://www.crosbyarboretum.msstate.edu)

**Reservations:** Call the Arboretum office at (601) 799-2311. **Physical Address:** 370 Ridge Road, Picayune, MS 39466. **Hours:** Wed-Sun, 9 AM – 5 PM.

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