



GN Gardening Magazine

October 2023

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Cover Photo: Common purslane
growing in a Metairie lawn.
by Chris Dunaway

Weed of the Month

Common Purslane *Portulaca oleracea*

As the common name indicates, this weed is not a rare sighting. Common purslane is considered to be a major weed in more than 50 crops. Common purslane (*Portulaca oleracea*) is a ubiquitous succulent weed worldwide with over 40 ecotypes adapted to survive in a wide range of environments. It is a member of the Portulacaceae family, many species of which are cultivated as herbs or ornamental bedding plants. In vegetable gardens, row crops, and in lawns and landscapes, common purslane will be regularly encountered. It is considered a summer annual but will regenerate from stem fragments.

Common purslane grows prostrate to spreading, up to 3 ½ ft. in length and up to 12 inches high. It has multiple branches emanating from the base center. The mostly prostrate stems are smooth and reddish, and the leaves are clustered at stem joints and ends arranged either opposite one another or alternate along the stem. It produces small yellow complete flowers up to ¼" wide with parts in fives. Depending upon rainfall, the flowers appear at any time during the year. On warm sunny days, the flowers open singly at the center of the leaf cluster for only a few hours from midmorning to early afternoon. Seeds are tiny, less than 1/25 of an inch in diameter, circular to egg shaped, flattened, and brown to black with a white tip where they attach. Common purslane can produce viable seeds

as early as three weeks after emergence, with each plant capable of producing over 200,000 seeds. Seed germination occurs when soil temperatures reach 77°F with optimal germination at 86°F. Seeds are reported to remain viable in the soil for up to 40 years. Purslane has a taproot with fibrous secondary roots and can tolerate poor soil and drought.



Figure 1: Common purslane: prostrate plant; Flower; Seed pod; seeds

As a turf weed, purslane can be controlled with the herbicides dithiopyr, pendimethalin, or combinations of benefin and trifluralin or benefin and oryzalin as preemergent treatments. Dicamba, MCPP, MSMA, and 2,4-D are effective postemergent herbicides in turfgrass available to home gardeners.

A thick layer of mulch is an excellent control method in ornamental and vegetable gardens. Spot spraying with glyphosate will control purslane. Herbicides with active ingredients oryzalin, pendimethalin, or trifluralin are also effective. Remember that with all pesticides, the label is the law. So read and follow all label directions when using herbicides.

Though many gardeners see purslane as a nuisance

weed, it has been grown for more than 4,000 years as a food and medicinal plant and is still cultivated in many places today. It is considered very nutritious because it is high in omega-3 fatty acids and antioxidants and contains significant amounts of vitamins A and C, as well as calcium, iron, magnesium and potassium. It also contains high amounts of oxalates so should not be consumed excessively by those susceptible to forming kidney stones. It is sometimes used as fodder and is fed to poultry to reduce egg cholesterol and was also used traditionally as an ointment for burns.

Purslane is easily grown in the vegetable garden from seed, ready for harvest in 6-8 weeks. Sow in fertile, well-drained soil and thin to 4 to 6" apart. The entire plant can be harvested or the stems can be cut back to within two inches of the crown and the plant will regrow, providing edible leaves for most of the summer. Purslane has few pests, although in some parts of the country purslane sawfly, *Schizocerella pilicornis*, and a leafminer weevil, *Hypurus bertrandiperris*, will damage or kill the plants.

In many places outside of North America purslane is commonly eaten as a fresh or cooked vegetable. In the US it can occasionally be found in specialty stores or at Farmer's Markets. Purslane is used in many cuisines around the world, especially in salads, soups, stews, and tomato sauces. When cooked, purslane becomes mucilaginous and will act as a thickener for soups or stews. The seeds are also edible. If you're feeling adventurous, check out this website for purslane recipes ([20 Purslane Recipes You Never Knew You Needed - Insanely Good](https://insanelygoodrecipes.com/20-purslane-recipes-you-never-knew-you-needed/)).

~ Dr. Joe W. Willis

Selected References

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The carrot-like taproot can support a plant spreading over a large area.

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Common Purslane. 2007. [Common Purslane Management Guidelines--UC IPM \(ucanr.edu\)](https://ucanr.edu/Common-Purslane-Management-Guidelines--UC-IPM)

Kim. 2022. [20 Purslane Recipes You Never Knew You Needed - Insanely Good \(insanelygoodrecipes.com\)](https://insanelygoodrecipes.com/20-purslane-recipes-you-never-knew-you-needed/).

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Palsdottir, H. 2023. Purslane – A Tasty "Weed" That is Loaded With Nutrients. [Purslane - A Tasty "Weed" That is Loaded With Nutrients \(healthline.com\)](https://healthline.com/purslane-a-tasty-weed-that-is-loaded-with-nutrients/)

Purslane. 2023. Weedalert.com. [Purslane - WeedAlert](#)

November Vegetable Planting Guide

Crop	Recommended Variety
Beets	Detroit Dark Red, Kestrel, Red Ace F1, Ruby Queen
Cabbage	Blue Vantage, Platinum Dynasty, Stonehead, Cheers, Red Dynasty, Emblem, Savoy King
Carrots	Danvers 126, Purple Haze, Thumbelina, Apache, Enterprise, Maverick, Sugar Snax 54
Celery	None Given
Chinese Cabbage	None Given
Collards	Champions, Flash, Georgia Southern, Top Bunch, Vates, Blue Max, Heavi-Crop
Garlic	Creole: Early, Louisiana, White Mexican; Italian: Italian Late, Early Red Italian, Lorz Italian; Large: Elephant
Kale	Siberian, Vates
Kohlrabi	Early Purple Vienna, Early White Vienna, Winner
Leeks	Alora
Lettuce	Head: , Ithica, Great Lakes 118; Leaf-Red: New Red Fire, Red Sails, Red Salad Bowl; Leaf-Green: Nevada, Salad Bowl, Sierra, Tango, Grand Rapids; Romaine: Tall Guzmaine Elite, Cimarron Red, Coure, Flashy Trout
Mustard Greens	Florida Broadleaf, Greenwave, Red Giant, Southern Giant Curled, Savannah, Tendergreen
Onions	Red: Red Creole, Southern Belle, Red Hunter; White: Candy, Savannah Sweet; Vidalia: Amelia, Candy Ann, Caramelo, Century, Georgia Boy, Goldeneye, Granax 33, Honeybee, Mata Hari, Miss Megan, Mr. Black,
Radishes	Cherriette, Champion, White Icicle, April Cross
Shallots	Matador, Prism
Spinach	Bloomsdale Long Standing, Melody, Tyee, Unipak 151, Chesapeake Hybrid, Early Hybrid #7,
Swiss Chard	None Given
Turnips	Greens and Root: Just Right, Shogoin, Tokyo Cross; Greens: Alamo, White Lady, Seven Top, Purple Top White Globe, Royal Crown

What Bug's Helping You?

Black Soldier Flies *Hermetia illucens*

If you are a composter, you may be familiar with this month's insect highlight. Even if you don't have a composting system, the black soldier fly makes an appearance on sunny leaves in the garden, or around your chicken coop, or anywhere that there is decaying organic matter. The black soldier fly is a member of the true flies (Diptera) family and is found in tropical and subtropical climates in the Western Hemisphere and in Australia. They are one of the most beneficial flies out there, providing valuable nutrient cycling services. Adult black soldier flies have no mouthparts and do not feed or bite. They are a non-pest. So how are they beneficial? Read on!

Black soldier flies are 7/8" long, with a black body and dusky colored wings. The abdomen has two clear segments, with one narrower than the other. Female black soldier flies have a reddish abdomen, and males are more bronze colored. The antennae are elongated, projecting forward from the head. Adult black soldier flies can be easily confused for mud dauber wasps. They lack the true narrow "wasp waist" of a wasp. Wasps also have longer antennae, and true functioning mouthparts. Black soldier flies mate in flight, and females then seek out damp, rotting organic matter to deposit around 500 eggs into. The eggs incubate for as short as four days, to as long as three weeks before hatching. Eggs are 0.039" long, and cream colored when freshly laid. As the egg matures, it darkens.

The larvae of the black soldier fly are the true reason

we consider this insect beneficial. These are fantastic recyclers in the garden! They look alarming and gross, which usually prompts an email to the local ag agent. Larvae go through six instars and are torpedo shaped, segmented, and flattened in shape. Mature larvae are



Adult black soldier fly. Photo by Jeff Tomberlin/Texas A&M AgriLife

1/8" to over 1" in length. Their skin is firm and leathery, and they have a small black head with functional mouthparts.

Black soldier fly larvae are efficient composters and nutrient recyclers. Any decaying kitchen scraps, manure, yard trimmings, etc. are quickly broken down into humus, more efficiently than even red wiggler composting worms would. They have large, powerful mandibles and can chew through all types of waste. They work so quickly that the potential for bad odors from manure or compost piles is greatly reduced. The larvae's voracious eating also decreases

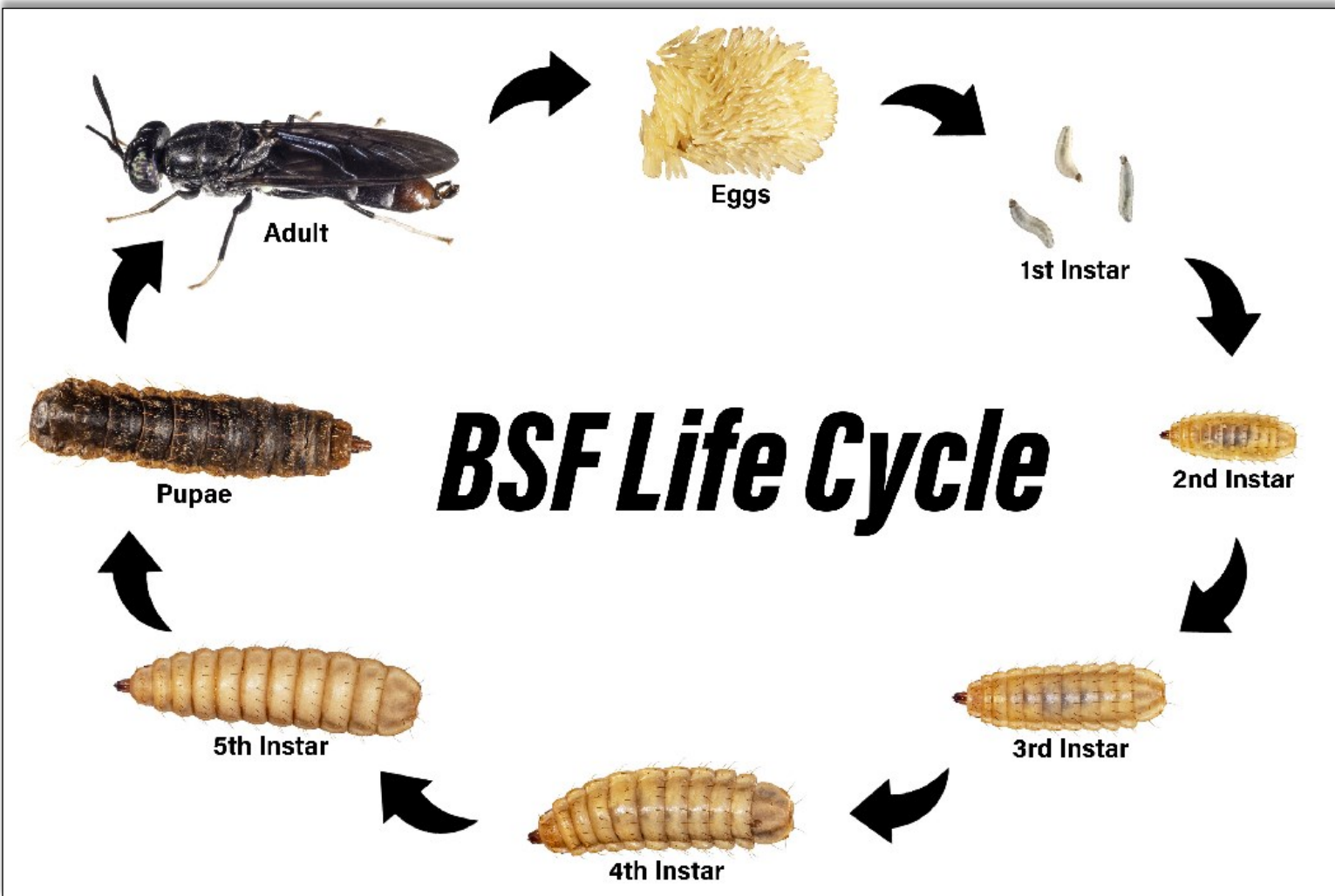
the available food and habitat for pest species of flies. Black soldier fly larvae are now being used in large scale composting and manure management systems. The larvae convert this waste material into compost, but the bodies of the larvae themselves are also useful. They convert waste into 42% protein, 35% fat and can be fed back to poultry, farmed fish, and other livestock as a supplemental, sustainable feed. The larvae also contain high amounts of calcium, which makes them a healthy treat for reptiles and amphibians kept in captivity.

Historically, at least in the south, black soldier flies were known as “privy flies” because of their habit of hanging around outhouses. While we all no longer have an outhouse in the backyard (I hope!), these flies can be a welcome addition to your compost pile. Keep an eye out for them!

~Anna Timmerman



A bowl of black soldier fly larvae.



The complete life cycle of a black soldier fly. Graphic Credit: Bransen Shidler, Purdue University

What's Bugging You?

Termites and Landscape Trees

The weather we've been receiving this year has been absolutely horrible. In fact, when you review the recent weather patterns over the last three years, you'll realize that we've had multiple years of extreme weather stacked on top of each other.

2021 brought us Hurricane Ida at the end of August. 2022 started out extremely dry, then went extremely wet for two months, and reciprocated and went dry for the rest of the year. So far in 2023, we can't catch a rain event to save our lives!

Extreme weather affects all living organisms. Water is essential for biological life and for plants, water is

life. Transpiration, water movement in plants, is an integral process that supplies the water for photosynthesis. Water stress affects all plants but larger plants like our native and landscape trees take the biggest hit. Long term environmental stresses like extended drought-like conditions stacked on top of other stresses can lead to plant failure. One issue I am concerned with is termite infestations on weakened trees.

Termites are known for their ability to break down wood because they are some of the only organisms known to digest cellulose, the main constituent of plant cell walls. They are social insects that live in colonies of hundreds to thousands, sometimes millions. Within a colony there are different types of termites with

specialized functions like workers, soldiers, and reproductive forms. The reproductive forms often produce wings and can start a new colony where a suitable host has been located. Drought-stressed, storm-damaged trees could make for excellent hosts for young

termite colonies. Believe it or not, Louisiana is home to several different species of termites. Drywood termites, like their name suggests, build their nests in dry wood such as lumber, telephone poles, and dead branches of trees. Subterranean termites build their nests in the soil and feed on wood that comes in contact with the ground like a damaged root



Photo by Chris Dunaway

Formosan termite soldiers quickly move to guard against intruders when their protective covering is breached. The termites are living and eating inside of the tree.

system. A lot of folks forget that the heartwood, the middle area of the tree trunk or branch is composed of non-living cells. Heartwood can be exposed through lightning strikes, poor pruning practices, storm damage, string trimmers, and other similar scenarios. Both drywood and subterranean termites are native and play a role in the overall nutrient recycling paradigm. Formosan subterranean termites, natives of East Asia, are the most destructive because they are much more aggressive in feeding on live, healthy trees.

To diagnose a termite infestation in a tree there are three areas to inspect. When approaching a possible host, inspect the trunk area directly above the ground up to eye level. Look for shelter tubes or mud tubes, cracks in the bark or exposed heartwood filled with

feces, saliva, and dirt. In simple terms, they resemble cracks filled with mud. Next, focus your attention to the crown area, or area where tree trunk goes into ground. Use a probe and dig around to look for actual termite insects. After making 360 degrees around the tree, look for any old pruning wounds. Examine old pruning wounds for signs of shelter tubes and swarm castles. Swarm castles would be seen more so in springtime after Mother's Day, when termites start swarming in Southeast Louisiana. Check out this cool video by Mr. Chris Dunaway, an LSU AgCenter Extension Agent in Jefferson Parish. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fjb6zZGWBu>

Trees with active termite infestations should be evaluated for risk. The closer to a structure, the higher the risk. The fact that a termite infestation can go unnoticed until tree failure, scouting and early detection is a key to management. Practices that reduce environmental stress and promote plant vigor can help prevent infestations. Maintaining a mulched area under landscape trees is the number one thing a tree owner can do to help maintain vigor. Supplemental irrigation and proper fertilization can help as well.

If an active infestation is found on a high-risk tree consult a certified arborist. For legacy trees and irreplaceable trees, you may want to search out an ISA certified arborist (treesaregood.org). Commercial pesticide applicators have access to products that contain fipronil as the active ingredient that can be applied around the base of an infected tree to manage the infestation. Scouting is the key to termite management and if you see suspicious activity, feel free to call your local parish extension office to discuss with an agent.

~William Afton

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- McCarthy, J., F. Huval, and T.E. Reagan. Coptotermes formosanus, Formosan Subterranean Termite (Blattodea: Rhinotermitidae) Louisiana Coop. Ext. Serv. Publ. 3757.



Photo by Chris Dunaway

Formosan termites fill in large areas with soil and fecal material to cover their nesting sites. Reproductive alates emerge from these sites during their annual mating flights.



Photo by Chris Dunaway

Knocking away the material can reveal the active Formosan termites within.

Ants' Quest for Water in Louisiana's Dry Conditions

As dry conditions in Louisiana continue, many insects are in search for water which poses a challenge especially in a drought. Ants, like all living organisms, require water and also use water to hydrate their larvae, which are the future

generations of the colony. This parental care behavior and foraging for resources by ant workers, is needed to support their growing colonies. During the end of summer, ant colonies often experience a surge in population due to successful reproduction during the year. The number of ants in the

colony, including workers, soldiers, and reproductive individuals, significantly increases. Consequently, the demand for resources, particularly water and food, does as well. Water scarcity during dry conditions presents a challenge for ant colonies. Water sources might dry up or become insufficient to meet the needs of the burgeoning population. To counteract this challenge, ants initiate collective behaviors to search for water, ensuring the colony's survival. Ant colonies employ a system of communication that allows them to collectively address challenges. Workers are often in search of water and food sources. Once a scout discovers a viable water source,

it returns to the colony and communicates the location through pheromones which act as chemical signals. This signal prompts a surge of foraging activity as worker ants are mobilized to gather water from the newfound source. The repeated back-and-

forth journeys of worker ants establish well-defined trails that efficiently guide their comrades to the water source. The end of summer and the onset of drought in Louisiana drives results in increased ant foraging behavior in and around our homes as they search for water. If you are having ant activity indoors,



Red imported fire ants collect water along the edge of this puddle of water.

consider potential water sources that could be contributing to their presence, such as leaky pipes or condensation build up, water by sinks, or in house plants and correct associated moisture issues. Additionally, ants can be attracted to indoor areas due to sugary substances and food debris. Ant species identification is critical to the success of pest management strategies used for their control. If you are having issues with ants and would like recommendations for control, please reach out to the LSU Department of Entomology or your local parish agent.

~Dr. Aaron Ashbrook

Hire an Arborist

Before a Big Branch Falls on Your Head

When I speak with people about trees, I am finding that many of them are divided firmly into two categories.

People who love trees and people that hate them.

And as I see fewer and fewer trees in our landscapes, I believe that the haters are winning.

Maybe the word hate is a little strong. More likely, the actual emotion that the anti-tree folks are feeling is primal fear. It is not too hard to imagine why trees can be frightening to people. Only a few months ago, a young man was seriously injured when a tree fell on him and his family while enjoying a peaceful afternoon in the French Quarter. And worse happens to people unremittingly. In addition to human suffering, falling trees and branches can also damage homes and property. Call it hate or fear, the attitude is the same, cut down trees near their homes and never plant another.

The real enemy, as it often is, is ignorance and neglect. Please remember that ignorance is only the lack of knowledge or information. And much of the neglect that I see stems from this ignorance because many people are unaware of their responsibility.

Know This

Each leaf is an independent factory that uses photosynthesis to create the products that it needs for survival. As a tree grows, new limbs will block the sun from older branches and inhibit this process in the lower leaves. This is a natural process that will eventually lead to the death of the older branches. Once a branch has died, fungi and insects begin to decompose the wood even as it is still connected to the tree. Eventually this dead branch will break and fall. This process is called self pruning. Unfortunately, it does not take a very large piece of falling limb to cause heavy damage and injury.

Another problem with these dead limbs is that they

Photo by Chris Dunaway



Can you spot the dead branches in this cypress tree?

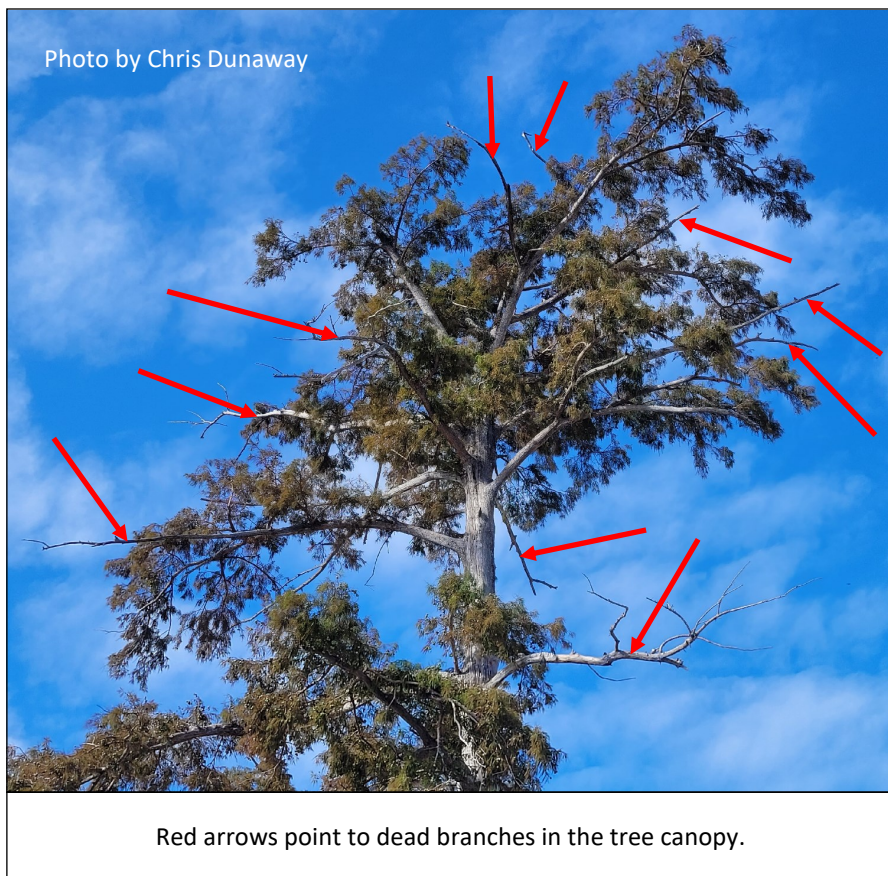
Hint: They have no leaves.

prevent the tree from being able to quarantine the infected material to prevent the spread of decay into the heart of the tree which can cause cavities inside of the tree. These cavities weaken the tree and can shorten the lifetime of the tree. Even after a branch has broken and fallen, the remaining stub should still be removed with proper pruning to allow the tree to seal off the damaged area.

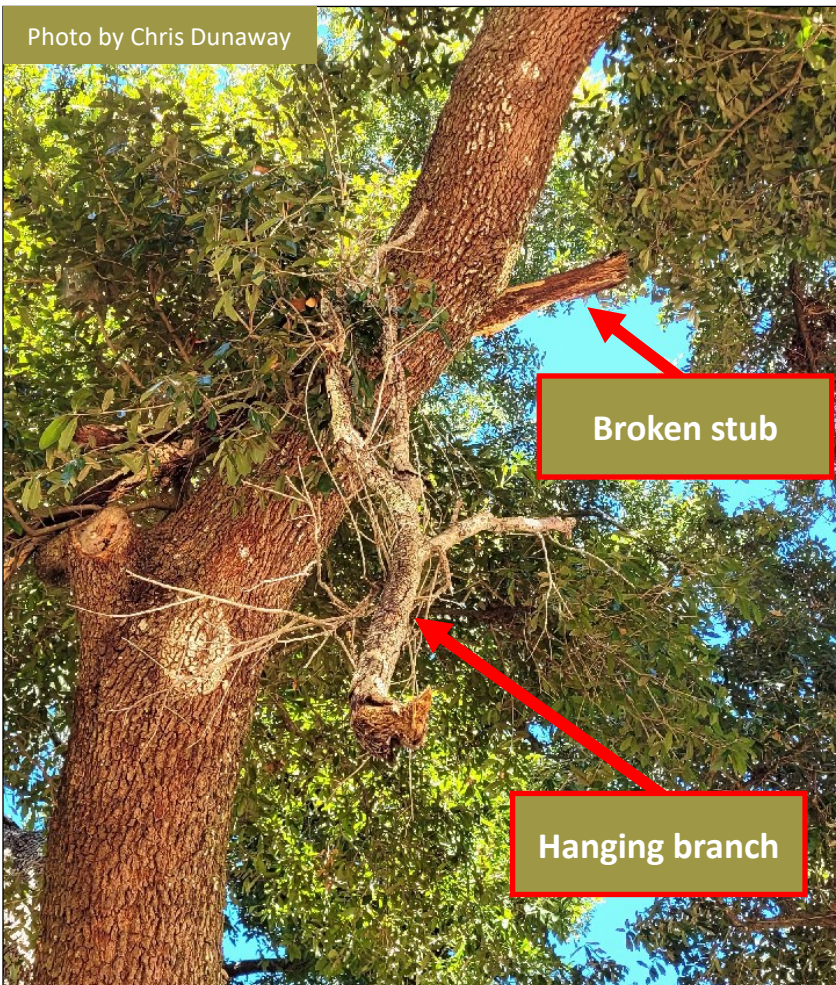
The good news is that as the cavities expand, they create living space for wildlife. There are many species of birds that prefer to nest in tree cavities. Most birdhouses, after all, are just man-made tree cavities. Raccoons and squirrels also like a nice room cavity. And honeybees frequently build their hives in hollow trees.

Do This

Fortunately the solution already exists. Look up.



Red arrows point to dead branches in the tree canopy.



Broken stub

Hanging branch

A broken dead branch is caught in the tree. A broken limb stub is also visible in the photo.

That's right, the next tree that you see, look up into the canopy. There are still leaves on the trees so it is pretty easy to spot the dead branches. They will be the ones without leaves. You should also look for branches that have already broken but are still caught in the canopy. These are called hangers in the tree industry. If you do see either of these, then hire an arborist to remove the dead material. A good arborist can also correct irregularities that can lead to major issues in the future in addition to many other beneficial services.

Unfortunately as I look around, I see these dangerous branches, and sometimes whole dead trees, everywhere. Whether it be in Jefferson Parish, Orleans Parish or even on a recent trip to St. Louis.

Trees provide too many benefits to live without them. We need to help fill the ignorance gap and be aware that, like us, trees do need an occasional health checkup. The concept of "plant and forget" is not a viable option.

~Chris Dunaway

Marguerite Daisy-Ville: A Tribute to Jimmy Buffett

Nibblin' on king cake, feeling the clouds break,
Toiling in the garden, spreading some soil.
Sidewalk needs string trimmed, trees need to be
de-limbed,
Before the neighbors come for a boil.

Irrigating away in Marguerite Daisy-Ville.
Searching for a colorful result.
Some people claim that there's a landscaper to blame,
And I know.... It must be their fault.

Don't know the reason, planted in the cool-season.
Nothin' to show but a lackluster view.
Bees are a-buzzin, but my memories fuzzy.
Did I leave my irrigation on all afternoon?

Irrigating away again in Marguerite Daisy-Ville.
Soil tests confirmed that there's not too much salt.
Some people claim that there's a landscaper to blame.
But I think... it could be my fault

I repaired my drip-line, the garden will be fine.
If I cut off the water and let the soil dry out.
Landscape crews at the neighbors, with all this hard
labor.
I'd look like a fool if they ever found out.
Wasting my day away in Marguerite Daisy-Ville.
Hoping for a couple days of drought.
The landscapers claim that since my garden won't
drain,
That my excessive watering is at fault.

~Dr. Damon Abdi and Dr. Jeb Fields



Marguerite Daisy in bloom

Farmers Markets in the GNO Area

Orleans Parish

Crescent City Farmer's Market- Mid-City

500 N. Norman C. Francis
Thursdays from 3-7PM
Walk-up and curbside pre-orders at
www.crescentcityfarmersmarket.org

Crescent City Farmer's Market- City Park

Tad Gormley Stadium parking lot at
Marconi and Navarre
Sundays from 8AM-Noon
Preorder contact-free drive through only,
info at www.crescentcityfarmersmarket.org

Crescent City Farmer's Market- Uptown

200 Broadway
Tuesdays from 8AM-Noon
Walk-up and curbside pre-orders, info at
www.crescentcityfarmersmarket.org

SPROUT NOLA Truck Farm Table

200 N. Broad (In Whole Foods lobby or in
parking lot, weather permitting)
Walk up <https://www.sproutnolaform.org/>

Vietnamese Farmer's Market

14401 Alcee Fortier Blvd., New Orleans East
Saturdays, 5:30AM-8:30AM

Marketplace at Armstrong Park

901 N. Rampart
Thursdays from 3-7PM
<https://www.facebook.com/MarketplaceArmstrongPark/>

New Orleans French Market

Lower Decatur Street
Daily, 9AM-6PM

Mid-City Arts and Farmer's Market

Comiskey Park, New Orleans
Market dates vary.
Check <http://midcityaf.org>

Laughing Buddha Farm Hubs

Pick up points vary, pre-orders available
Bywater, Broadmoor, Lakeview, Irish
Channel, Mid-City, Algiers Point, Uptown
Locations
[https://www.laughingbuddhanursery.com/](https://www.laughingbuddhanursery.com/events)
events

Barcelo Gardens Farmer's Market- Upper 9th Ward

2301 Gallier Street at the garden, Saturdays
from 10AM-1PM
3440 Piety Street Fresh Market open daily,
weekly bulk produce sale.
<https://www.facebook.com/BarceloGardens/>

Bywater Market at Trap Kitchen-Bywater

1043 Poland Ave
Sundays from 10AM-3PM

BOUNYFUL Farmer's Market-Algiers Point

4123 Woodland Dr. Algiers
First and Third Sundays of the month, from
10AM-1PM
<https://www.bounyfulgreenmarket.com/>

Sankofa Fresh Stop Market

Coming soon!
<https://sankofanola.org/rfq/>

Sheaux Fresh Sustainable Foods- Treme-Laffite

585 N. Claiborne at Lafitte Greenway
(under overpass)
Check for current dates/times at
www.sheauxfresh.org

FUBU Market

3101 Erato Street New Orleans, location
changes, check website/social media
<https://www.facebook.com/TheFUBUMarket>
www.fubumarket.com/

St. Tammany Parish

Covington Farmers' Market

Covington Police Department
609 North Columbia St., Covington, LA 70433
Saturday: 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM (rain or shine)
Covington Trailhead
419 N. New Hampshire
Wednesday: 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM (rain or
shine)www.covingtonfarmersmarket.org
General information: 985.966.1786

Mandeville Trailhead Community Market

Mandeville Trailhead
675 Lafitte St, Mandeville, LA 70448
Saturday: 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM (rain or shine)
[https://www.facebook.com/](https://www.facebook.com/TheMandevilleTrailhead)
TheMandevilleTrailhead
985.624.3147

Madisonville Market

Riverside Park South
Water St., Madisonville, LA 70447
Sunday: 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM
www.madisonvillemarket.org

Folsom Village Market

Hwy 40, one block east of Hwy 25
Saturday: 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM (weather per-
mitting)
Every 2nd and 4th Saturday
985.507.6496 (daytime only)

Abita Springs Art and Farmers' Market

22049 Main St., Abita Springs, LA 70420
Sunday: 12:00 PM – 4:00 PM (rain or shine)
[https://www.townofabitasprings.com/](https://www.townofabitasprings.com/farmers-market)
farmers-market
985.892.0711

Camellia City Farmer's Market

Old Towne Slidell
333 Erlanger St. (Corner of Third St.)
Saturday: 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM (rain or shine)
[https://www.facebook.com/](https://www.facebook.com/CamelliaCityMarket/)
CamelliaCityMarket/
985.640.7112

St. Charles Parish

Luling Farmer's Market at Westbank Bridge Park-Luling

13825 River Road, Luling, LA
Wednesdays, from 1-5PM
<http://www.germancoastfarmersmarket.org/>

German Coast Farmer's Market

160 West Campus Drive, Destrehan, LA
Saturdays, from 8AM-Noon
<http://www.germancoastfarmersmarket.org/>

Farmers Markets in the GNO Area

Jefferson Parish

Gretna Farmer's Market

739 Third Street, Gretna
Every Saturday, except the Saturday of
Gretna Fest, 8:30AM-12:30PM
<https://www.gretnala.com/visitors/farmers-market/>

Nawlins Outdoor Market

1048 Scotsdale Dr., Harvey
Every Saturday & Sunday, 9AM-5PM
<https://www.facebook.com/NawlinsMarket/>

Jean Lafitte Town Market-Lafitte

920 Jean Lafitte Blvd.
Last Saturday of the month, 9AM-1PM
<https://www.facebook.com/JeanLafitteLa/>

Lafreniere Park Market-Metairie

3000 Downs Blvd.
Wednesdays, from 2-7PM
<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100064920097975>

Westwego Farmer's Market

484 Sala Ave., Westwego
3rd Tuesday of the month, 10AM-2PM
<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100075979938725>

Westwego Shrimp Lot

100 Westbank Expressway at Louisiana St.,
Westwego
Daily Mon-Thurs 8AM-6PM, Fri 8AM-7PM,
Sat 7AM-7PM, and Sun 7AM-6PM
<https://www.facebook.com/officialwestwegoshrimplot>

Laughing Buddha Farm Hub-Clearview

4516 Clearview
Store Pickups, preorder online at <https://www.laughingbuddhanursery.com/buy-groceries-1>

Harahan Farmer's Market

501 Oak Ave., Zeringue Park, Harahan
Sundays, 9AM-1PM
<https://www.facebook.com/HarahanMarket>

Rivertown Farmer's Market

400 Block of Williams Blvd., Kenner
Thursdays Noon-6PM (Off for August)
<https://www.facebook.com/RivertownFarmersMarket>

Old Metairie Farmer's Market

Bayou Metairie Park, Between Metairie Lawn
Dr. and Labarre
1st & 3rd Tuesday of the month, 3:30PM-
7:30PM** Check for seasonal dates!
<https://www.oldmetairiegardenclub.com/tag/farmers-art-metairie-market/>

In the Kitchen with Austin

Winter Squash Soup

The great thing about this recipe is that it can be used with any winter squash.
It's simple and delicious!

Ingredients:

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| 1 Tbs. butter | 2 stalks celery, chopped |
| 1 Tbs. olive oil | 1 Tbs. honey |
| 1 onion, chipped | 5 cups vegetable or chicken stock |
| 2 ½ lbs. winter squash, peeled,
seeded, and cut into chunks | Salt and pepper to taste |



A bowl of winter squash soup

Directions:

Sauté onion and celery in melted butter and olive oil over medium heat. Add squash and cook 5 minutes, stirring occasionally.

Add honey and stock, bring to a simmer and cook until squash is tender.

Remove from heat and buzz in a blender until smooth. Season with salt and pepper and serve with chopped parsley, yogurt, or roasted seeds as a garnish.

Bon Manger

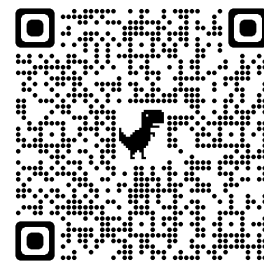
Help Support Horticulture programs in the Greater New Orleans Area

Funding helps the LSU AgCenter agents provide help for:

- School and Community Gardens
- Educational Training Events
- Seed Libraries
- Demonstration Gardens
- Educational Scholarships
- Local Research
- and Much More



Dr. Joe announces the winners of the Fall Garden Festival awards at the annual vendor/volunteer party.



Scan the QR code above to go to the LSU Foundation donation webpage.

Or Click here: <https://securelb.imodules.com/s/1585/17/interior.aspx?sid=1585&gid=1&pgid=666&cid=1464&bledit=1&dids=5517>

Local Independent Garden Centers

Jefferson

Perino's Garden Center	3100 Veterans Memorial Blvd., Metairie, LA 70002	(504) 834-7888
Rose Garden Center	4005 Westbank Expressway, Marrero, LA 70072	(504) 341-5664
Rose Garden & Pet Store	5420 Lapalco Blvd., Marrero, LA 70072	(504) 347-8777
Banting's Nursery	3425 River Rd., Bridge City, LA 70094	(504) 436-4343
Jefferson Feed	4421 Jefferson Hwy., Jefferson, LA 70121	(504) 733-8572
Nine Mile Point Plant Nursery	2141 River Rd., Westwego, LA 70094	(504) 436-4915
Palm Garden Depot	351 Hickory Ave., Harahan, LA 70123	(504) 305-6170
Double M Feed Harahan	8400 Jefferson Hwy., Harahan, LA 70123	(504) 738-5007
Double M Feed Metairie	3212 W. Esplanade Ave., Metairie, LA 70002	(504) 835-9800
Double M Feed Terrytown	543 Holmes Blvd., Terrytown, LA 70056	(504) 361-4405
Sunrise Trading Co. Inc.	42 3 rd St., Kenner, LA 70062	(504) 469-0077
Laughing Buddha Garden Center	4516 Clearview Pkwy., Metairie, LA 70006	(504) 887-4336
Creative Gardens & Landscape	2309 Manhattan Blvd., Harvey, LA 70058	(504) 367-9099
Plumeria Insanity Nursery	https://www.facebook.com/Plumeria-Insanity-Nursery-102123651930419	

Soil Vendors

Schmelly's Dirt Farm	8301 Olive St., New Orleans, LA 70118	(504) 535-GROW
Laughing Buddha Garden Center	4516 Clearview Pkwy., Metairie, LA 70006	(504) 887-433
Reliable Soil	725 Reverand Richard Wilson Dr., Kenner, LA 70062	(504) 467-1078
Renaissance Gardens	9123 W. Judge Perez Dr., Chalmette, LA 70043	(504) 682-9911
Rock n' Soil NOLA	9119 Airline Hwy., New Orleans, LA 70118	(504) 488-0908
Grow Wiser Garden Supply	2109 Decatur St., New Orleans, LA 70116	(504) 644-4713

If you would like your licensed retail nursery listed, please email gnogardening@agcenter.lsu.edu

Pelican Greenhouse Plant Sales

Visit the Pelican Greenhouse for a large selection of plants for sale. Many of plants are propagated from cuttings, seeds, and divisions from plants already growing in the Botanical Garden.



November 17 and 18, 2023

9AM-NOON

At the Pelican Greenhouse

2 Celebration Drive

New Orleans, LA 70124

Local Independent Garden Centers

Orleans		
Urban Roots	2375 Tchoupitoulas St., New Orleans, LA 70130	(504) 522-4949
The Plant Gallery	9401 Airline Hwy., New Orleans, LA 70118	(504) 488-8887
Harold's Plants	1135 Press St., New Orleans, LA 70117	(504) 947-7554
We Bite Rare and Unusual Plants	1225 Mandeville St., New Orleans, LA 70117	(504) 380-4628
Hot Plants	1715 Feliciana St., New Orleans, LA 70117	www.hotplantsnursery.com
Pelican Greenhouse Sales	2 Celebration Dr., New Orleans, LA 70124	(504) 483-9437
Grow Wiser Garden Supply	2109 Decatur St., New Orleans, LA 70116	(504) 644-4713
Jefferson Feed Mid-City	309 N. Carrollton Ave., New Orleans, LA 70119	(504) 488-8118
Jefferson Feed Uptown	6047 Magazine St., New Orleans, LA 70118	(504) 218-4220
Ninth Ward Nursery	2641 Deslonde St., New Orleans, LA 70117	(504) 296-8398
Crazy Plant Bae	800 N. Claiborne Ave., New Orleans LA 70119	(504) 327-7008
Canopy Plant Company	6030 St. Claude, New Orleans, LA 70117	(504) 381-4033
Too Tall Nursery	2817 N. Roman, New Orleans, LA 70117	tootallfarm@gmail.com
Plantery NOLA	Pop Up Locations	www.planterynola.com
Canopy Plant Co.	Pop Up and Online Sales	www.canopyplantco.com
New Orleans Succulent Boutique	Online Sales	https://sites.google.com/view/nolasucculentshop/home
Root Life Mobile Plant Nursery	Pop Up Locations	https://rootlifeplantnursery.com/
New Orleans Green LLC	Online Sales	www.neworleans-green.com
Plaquemines		
Southern Gateway Garden Center	107 Timber Ridge St., Belle Chasse, LA 70037	(504) 393-9300
Belle Danse Orchids	14079 Belle Chasse Hwy., Belle Chasse, LA 70037	(504) 419-5416
St. Charles		
Plant & Palm Tropical Outlet	10018 River Rd., St. Rose, LA 70087	(504) 468-7256
Martin's Nursery & Landscape	320 3 rd St., Luling, LA 70070	(985) 785-6165
St. Bernard		
Plant Pricks	Pop Up Locations	https://plantpricks.com/
Nice Plants, Good Pots	6720 St. Claude Ave., Arabie, LA	Etsy.com/shop/NicePlantsGoodPots
St. Tammany		
The Boho Being	1184 Front St., Slidell, LA 70458	(985)707-1623

November Checklist/Garden Tips

Now is a good time to divide and transplant most hardy perennials. Do not divide perennials in active growth now, such as Louisiana irises, acanthus, Easter lilies, calla lilies and lycoris.

Cut back chrysanthemums after they finish flowering to remove the old faded flowers. Sometimes the plants will set a new crop of flower buds and produce more flowers during the winter if weather is mild.

Dormant amaryllis bulbs become available in the fall, but they should not be planted into the garden now. Plant amaryllis bulbs into pots using a well drained potting soil with the neck above the soil surface. The pot should be large enough that there is a one inch clearance between the pot rim and the bulb. Place the pot in a sunny window and keep the soil evenly moist. When the flower stalk begins to emerge rotate the pot one-half turn every few days so it will grow straight. Flowering generally occurs in December or early January. Sometime . After the flowers have faded cut the stalk at the point where it emerges from the bulb, but do not cut any foliage. Keep the plant inside and continue to provide plenty of light or the leaves will be weak. Water regularly when the soil begins to feel dry. Plant bulbs into the garden in April, where they will get into the normal cycle of blooming in April each year.

Don't forget to hose off and check outdoor container tropicals carefully for pests and critters before moving them inside for the winter.

Paperwhite narcissus (and other Tazetta narcissus such as Soleil d'Or) may be planted in pots this month and are easily grown for winter bloom indoors.

Don't worry about those yellowing and dropping leaves on broad leaved evergreens such as gardenia, citrus, magnolias, azaleas, cherry laurel, hollies and others. Many of these plants shed their older leaves in the fall, and will often lose some more this spring.

Harvest broccoli when the largest buds in the head are the size of the head of a kitchen match. Do not focus on the size of the head itself as that is not an indication of when the broccoli is ready to harvest. If you begin to see yellow flowers you waited too long.

Make sure you mulch new beds of cool season bedding plants as soon as they are planted to control weeds. It's also helpful to water them in with a soluble fertilizer to get them off to a good start. Repeat the application every 7 to 10 days until the plants begin to grow well.

Cut garden mums back to remove the old flowers after the blooms fade. Left in place and given good care, they will bloom for you again next fall and in years to come.

Finish planting spring flowering bulbs such as daffodils, Dutch irises, narcissus, lilies, etc this month.

Lettuces, especially the leaf and semi-heading varieties are very productive in the cool season garden. Fall is the best time to plant lettuces as they mature during progressively cooler temperatures. Problems with bitterness that often affect spring grown lettuce do not occur in the fall. Keep lettuce growing vigorously with regular watering and occasional side dressing with a nitrogen containing fertilizer such as ammonium sulfate or blood meal.

Use a lawnmower to shred falling leaves to reduce the volume and accelerate decomposition. Leave them in place to break down and add needed organic material to the soil. Or collect them for use as mulch or add them to your compost system.

Do not let the leaves build up to a depth that will completely block the sunlight from the underlying turf. Wet leaves can quickly create a mat covering that can severely damage the turfgrass.

Lawn Care Do's & Don't's

Do's:

1. You may apply selective herbicides to eliminate broad leaf weeds in the lawn.
2. Cool damp weather is ideal for the appearance of Large Patch Disease in your lawn.
[Click here to find information about large patch disease from the LSU AgCenter.](#)
3. There are still reports of chinch bugs feeding on lawns in the area. [To find the LSU AgCenter publication on chinch bugs with more information, click here or go to \[https://www.lsuagcenter.com/extranet/~media/system/c/5/6/9/c56985e3c3dda2019d176c733b159417/p3624r_lahomelawnsouthernchinchbugpdfpdf.pdf\]\(https://www.lsuagcenter.com/extranet/~media/system/c/5/6/9/c56985e3c3dda2019d176c733b159417/p3624r_lahomelawnsouthernchinchbugpdfpdf.pdf\)](#)
4. Be sure to correctly identify disease or pests before applying treatment.
5. Irrigate as necessary to moisten the soil to a depth of 4-6 inches. The best time to water is in the morning.
6. Mulch fall leaves and let them decompose in place if possible or collect them with a bagging mower and add them to your compost pile or use them as mulch in your gardens.
7. Take a soil test. Test kits are available in our offices in the New Orleans Botanical Gardens, the Yenni Building, and New Orleans City Hall as well as local garden centers. Follow this link to see Dr. Joe demonstrate how to take a soil sample: <https://www.facebook.com/1030624690304124/videos/1452161988150390/>

Don't's

1. Do not spread fill over the lawn until it is actively growing again in the spring.
2. Do not apply fertilizer to the lawn again until April of next year.
3. Do not apply phosphorous winterizer to the lawn without taking a soil sample first. We have ample amounts of phosphorous in our soil already.
4. Do not attempt to install a new lawn until spring.
5. Do not cut more than 1/3 of the height of lawn grass at a single time.
6. Do not aerate the lawn.
7. Do not dethatch the lawn.

Your Local Extension Office is Here to Help

E-mail us at: GNOGardening@agcenter.lsu.edu



Follow us on Facebook at [GNOGardening](#)

For more information visit LSUAgCenter.com

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