



GN Gardening Magazine

May 2025

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Look at me!

Oleander (*Nerium oleander*)

Take a drive down Canal Boulevard in New Orleans during the summer and you will see large dark green mounds covered in hundreds of brightly colorful flowers. Mixed in with

live oak trees and crapemyrtles this display can be a colorful surprise when there are not many other plants flowering during the long days of summer.

What you are seeing are oleander shrubs. Oleanders (*Nerium oleander*) tend to have mounded shapes with multiple trunks but can be pruned into tree-forms with one to 5 trunks. They are evergreen plants so they can be used as privacy

screens. They are also good at insulating properties from roads or other sources of unwanted noise.

Oleanders native to southern Asia and the Mediterranean and thrive in USDA hardiness zones 8 through 11. Some sources say that the plants can be injured by cold weather. However, while the flowering may have been delayed a couple of weeks, the snowstorm of January 2025 had little effect on the plants that I see growing in the New Orleans area.

Plants prefer full sun to partial shade and are adaptable to many soil conditions. The plants on

Canal Boulevard are growing in heavy clay soil at the bottom of shallow troughs. Some were even thriving in standing water. Conversely, they are also drought tolerant and can handle the heat. They could be and



Photo by Chris Dunaway

Pink, Red and White oleanders were planted together to make an interesting multi-colored display.

excellent selection for planting in areas that receive the full hot afternoon sun where other plants suffer. The plants also have few pests or diseases of concern.

The standard oleanders can grow to over 15 feet tall and equally as wide. dwarf oleanders are available for smaller areas in the landscape. These shrubs will grow between 3-6 feet tall and wide. Dwarf oleanders

are also excellent for growing in containers.

One problem that you need to be aware of is that all parts of the oleander plant are poisonous. Consuming the flowers, leaves, limbs, or seeds can cause nausea, vomiting, stomach pain, dizziness, slowed pulse, irregular heartbeat, dilation of pupils, bloody diarrhea, and drowsiness, depression and death. The sap can also cause contact dermatitis when in contact with the skin. With this in mind do take caution when handling these plants and do not install them where curious children or animals can have access.

I have a large oleander “tree” that creates a flowering arch over the adjacent sidewalk. I love watching

revelers stop for photographs as they are leaving the Jazz Fest.

~Chris Dunaway



Photo by Chris Dunaway

The lanceolate leaves of the oleander resemble those of the olive trees. The name is derived from the genus name for olive (*Olea*).



Photo by Chris Dunaway

Oleanders bloom from late spring through late summer, and they have loads of five-petaled flowers in pink, white, red, magenta, and salmon.



Photo by Chris Dunaway

The Oleander “tree” outside of my house creates a flowering tunnel.

May Vegetable Planting Guide

Crop	Recommended Variety
Amaranth	None Given
Cantaloupe	Ambrosia, Aphrodite, Athena, Primo, Vienna
Cucuzza	None Given
Cushaw	None Given
Eggplant	Dusky, Night Shadow, Epic, Santana, Calliope
Hot Peppers (transplant)	Grande, Tula, Mariachi, Mitla,
Lima Beans (bush or pole)	Dixie Butterpea, Jackson Wonder, Thorogreen Florida Speckled, King of Garden
Luffa Gourd	None Given
Malbar Spinace	None Given
Mirlitons	None Given
Okra	Annie Oakley, Cajun Delight, Clemson Spineless
Peanuts	None Given
Pumpkins	Atlantic Giant, Baby Bear, Prankster, Sorcerer
Southern Peas	Queen Anne, California #5, Quickpick, Colussus
Soybeans	None Given
Sweet Potato	Beauregard, Evangeline, Hernandez, Jewel
Watermelon	Seedless: Cooperstown, Gypsy, Matrix, Millennium Seeded: Mickey Lee, Sugar Baby, Amarillo
Yardlong Beans	None Given

Misunderstood Plant of the Month

Marsh Parsley (*Cyclospermum leptophyllum*)

Cyclospermum leptophyllum is an annual species of plant in the Apiaceae or parsley family known by the common names marsh parsley, slender celery and fir-leaved celery.

Other familiar members of the Apiaceae include anise, caraway, carrots, celery, chervil, cilantro, cumin, dill, fennel, parsley, and parsnips. *Cyclospermum leptophyllum* is found worldwide at warm temperate to tropical latitudes and is considered a noxious weed in many areas.

At the seedling stage, the cotyledons are smooth and linear and about 1/6 - 2/5 inch long and 1/25 inch wide. The first leaf has 3 deep lobes with a long petiole.

The mature plant (Figure 1) forms an erect to prostrate

mound and can grow 2 feet or more in length. The leaves are compound with alternate arrangement and are deeply dissected into threadlike segments. The entire leaf ranges from 11/5 to 4 inches long and the leaf segments, from about 1/8 to 3/5 inch. The upper leaves have no petiole and are more threadlike while the lower leaves have petioles ranging from roughly

4/5 to 5 inches long. The leaves are used by some as a substitute for parsley. However, remember, caution should always be the byword when collecting wild plants. The root system has a slender taproot.



Figure 1: *Cyclospermum leptophyllum* mature plant. Note the dill-like leaves and the flower umbels. Photo by Joe Willis

Flowers (Figure 2) are produced generally from March through June in our area.

Members of the Apiaceae family produce flowers in umbels. Umbels have a flat-topped umbrella shape. The umbel is made up of individual tiny, white, five-petaled flowers (1-2mm diameter)

Fruits are oblong to egg shaped schizocarps, slightly flattened, hairless, and 1/25 to 1/8 inch long. They have about 5 thick, angled ribs with similar appearance to coriander. Fruits are green at first (figure 3) and turn brown as

they mature (Figure 4). Each fruit contains 2 seeds. Individual seeds are 1.0–1.5 mm. long. One side of each seed is flat to slightly concave, while the other side is convex and conspicuously ribbed (3 ribs).

Cyclospermum leptophyllum reproduces by seeds which are dispersed with water, soil, equipment, and by other human activities and possibly as a

contaminant in seed or feed.

Marsh parsley does serve as host for the black swallowtail butterfly (*Papilio polyxenes*).

If control measures are necessary, hand pulling, broad spectrum herbicides and broadleaf herbicides are all means of control.

~Dr. Joe W. Willis

Selected Resources

Cyclosporum leptophyllum. 2025. Wikipedia.

[Cyclosporum leptophyllum - Wikipedia](#)

Cyclosporum leptophyllum. 2025. Plants of Louisiana. [Plants of Louisiana](#)

Cyclosporum leptophyllum. North Carolina Extension Gardener Plant Toolbox.

[Cyclosporum leptophyllum \(Fir Leaf Celery, Marsh Parsley, Slender Celery, Wild Celery\) | North Carolina Extension Gardener Plant Toolbox](#)

Fir-leaved Celery. Illinois Wildflowers. [Fir-leaved Celery \(Cyclosporum leptophyllum\)](#)

Wild Celery (*Cyclosporum leptophyllum*). 2016. UC-IPM. [Wild Celery Cyclosporum leptophyllum - Weed Gallery - UC Statewide IPM Program](#)



Figure 2: Tiny, white, five-petaled flowers of *Cyclosporum leptophyllum*. Photo by Dr. Joe Willis.



Figure 3: Marsh parsley immature fruit. Note the heavy ribs on the slightly flattened fruit. Photo by Dr. Joe Willis.



Figure 4: Mature brown fruit. Each fruit contains 2 seeds. Fruits drop to the ground and the plant reseeds itself. Photo by Illinois Wildflowers.

Disease of the Month

Sweet Olive Leaf Scorch

Sweet olive shrubs (*Osmanthus fragrans*) is an evergreen shrub in our area that is grown for the wonderful, scented flowers it produces in the fall and winter months, and into spring. It is a popular choice

for home landscapes and smaller spaces. Sweet olives reach a mature height of around 20 feet with a spread of 8-10 feet and thrive in a wide variety of soil conditions. Until fairly recently, they have experienced few pest or disease problems of note.

Sweet Olive Leaf Scorch (SOLS) is a bacterial disease that is becoming more common in the greater New Orleans area. It is caused by the pathogen *Xylella fastidiosa*, the same bacterium that causes Pierce's disease in

grape, plum leaf scald, and leaf scorch in oleander, pear, pecan, oak, and several other landscape ornamental trees. The bacteria is present in our environment, and is spread by the piercing-sucking action of leafhopper, spittlebug, and sharpshooter insects, which feed on the sap of these plant species. We have several types of these insects common in the area. As they feed, they transmit the bacteria into the vascular tissue of the plants.

The bacteria reside in the xylem vessels inside the tree or shrub, which work to conduct water upwards from the root system. It multiplies inside the xylem and blocks the channels, eventually obstructing the flow of water and nutrients to the plant. This becomes apparent first in the further extremities of the plant, and in the leaf tips.

Symptoms in sweet olive include a mottled green and yellow of the leaves that starts on the edges and tips and moves towards the midribs of the leaves. As it progresses,

the tips and leaf margins turn brown and die. Severe infections can cause trees and shrubs to die, however sweet olives do seem able to live with this disease and continue to thrive, bloom, and grow.



Necrosis of leaf tips and margins caused by *Xylella fastidiosa*.

Some other environmental conditions can cause the same types of symptoms in sweet olive, including drought stress, root rot, and salt injury. The LSU Plant Diagnostic Center on campus can test for this disease if leaf samples are sent in.

There are no chemical treatments available for management of sweet olive leaf scorch. There are some cultural practices that can help to mitigate the symptoms of this disease and keep the plants vigorous and

growing. Proper watering during dry spells, good drainage during wet spells, and a light application of a balanced fertilizer in spring can help. Pruning damaged sections out of the shrub won't reduce or eliminate the bacteria, but when caught early enough, may help to reduce the spread as the insect vectors feed. The best action is just good gardening- proper water and fertilization. There is no need to remove the sweet olive since the bacteria is already heavily present in the area in other species such as pecan, oak, and pear.

~Anna Timmerman

Selected Resources:

LSU AgCenter Sweet Olive Leaf Scorch

<https://www.lsuagcenter.com/NR/rdonlyres/074A1A97-65A9-4770-9049-059E2A74D5DD/I01864/pub3368SweetOliveLeafScorchFINAL.pdf>

Take it Out the Sun

Head it from a friend who heard it from a friend, who heard it from another you've been breakin' new ground,

They say your front yard's scorching,
Flowers wilting on the porch and,
They're talking about your landscape and it's bringin' me down.

But I know the neighborhood, and since it is in the northern hemisphere that means the south side of the house will receive the most light throughout the day. The east side of the house enjoys morning light and cooler temperatures, while the west side bears the brunt of the day's heat when the sun shines in the afternoon. The north side of the house does not receive as much direct sunlight, providing plants with cooler conditions throughout the day. Now talk is cheaper when the story is good, and suffering plants will surely ignite chatter. Popular plants like *Hydrangea macrophylla* (Bigleaf Hydrangea) and *Farfugium* (Tractor Seat Plant) benefit from afternoon shade. The former's foliage appears very wilted in the light, and the latter's leaves tend to curl up in the bright afternoon sun. Japanese maples also benefit from a little shade, as they show stress when facing the full sun for the full day. Pick the right plant for the right place with regards to light requirements. Best to plan before planting. But even if it is (already planted), keep this in mind – you could install a shade structure as an immediate solution, or you could plant a tree nearby to provide shade... and the shadows grow taller on down the line throughout the

day and as the tree grows. If you are deliberating over where to put sun-sensitive plants, be mindful of the various shades of shade that occur in the landscape.



Photo by Chris Dunaway

A pair of green anole lizards on a tractor seat plant leaf in a shaded garden.

When you get back home (but you won't say when), identify the various light conditions in your garden. If you put plants in the right place, you'll need never look back again. So,

You take it out the sun, baby
Even if you water it, maybe
But that plant won't stick around
I won't believe it, not for a minute
Your plants aren't having fun
So you take them out the sun

~Dr. Damon Abdi

What's Bugging You?

Yellow woolly bear caterpillars (*Spilosoma virginica*) and their woolly relatives (the *Arctiini* tribe)

Having spent April dodging stinging buckmoth caterpillars raining down from the live oak in the front yard, finding non-stinging yellow woolly bear caterpillars (*Spilosoma virginica*) in my garden was a welcome surprise (photo 1). Covered in dense hair, these fuzzy favorites are members of the tiger moth group, or the *Arctiini* tribe, a taxonomic ranking between family and genus. Members of the *Arctiini* tribe undergo complete metamorphosis, cycling through four distinct life stages: egg, larva, pupa, and adult. Yellow woolly bears are the larval stage of adult Virginia tiger moths.

Yellow woolly bears are often pale-yellow, as suggested by their common name. However, their coloration can range from pale yellow to brown, with earlier instars tending to be lighter and later instars darker (Center et al., 1999). This variability in pigmentation can complicate distinguishing between yellow woolly bears and their equally hairy and harmless cousins, saltmarsh caterpillars (*Estigmene acrea*, photo 2) and the giant leopard moth

caterpillars (*Hypercompe scribonia*, photo 3).

Saltmarsh caterpillars, like yellow woolly bears, can



Photo by Alyssa Tarrant

Photo 1: Yellow woolly bear caterpillar (*Spilosoma virginica*) eating snap pea leaves.

range in color from blond tones to nearly black, with the color similarly corresponding to the caterpillar's age (Capinera, 2023). Often, yellow woolly bears have one long hair at the center of each hairy tuft. In comparison, the hair on saltmarsh caterpillars is more uniform. Additionally, saltmarsh caterpillars have unique, mostly black faces with yellow accents.

Giant leopard moth caterpillars are dark brown or black, with red bands circling the body. The red rings are best seen when the caterpillar is curled.

Like saltmarsh

caterpillars, the hairs on giant leopard moth caterpillars are uniform length.

Yellow woolly bears, saltmarsh caterpillars, and giant leopard moth caterpillars are polyphagous, meaning they eat a wide variety of foliage. Given their diverse diet, and tendency to disperse soon after hatching, they rarely become a nuisance in the landscape.

However, if you notice excessive damage to a beloved

plant, simply move the caterpillars to weedy plants or those that can withstand some feeding damage (i.e. large tree or shrub).

For good reason, stinging caterpillars get the bulk of publicity during caterpillar season. Buck moth, IO moth, puss moth, and saddleback caterpillars possess spines that can puncture skin and release venom, causing itching, redness, and pain for an unlucky passerby (Pollet and Ring, 2006). However, don't let this bad press stop you from enjoying the diversity of less menacing wigglers in southeast Louisiana.

~Alyssa Tarrant

Resources and additional reading

[BugGuide.Net](#). Hosted by Iowa State University Department of Plant Pathology, Entomology, and Microbiology this website provides pictures, descriptions, and general information about all insects. A great resource to help identify bugs and learn more about them.

Capinera, J.L. (2023). Saltmarsh Caterpillar, *Estigmene acrea* (Drury) (Insecta:Lepidoptera:Arctiidae). [IFAS Extension, EENY218](#). doi: doi.org/10.32473/edis-in375-2001.

Center, T.D., Dray, F.A., Jubinsky, G.P., and Grodowitz, M.J. (1991). Insects and Other Arthropods That Feed on Aquatic and Wetland Plants. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service, Technical Bulletin No. 1870.

Pollet, D.K. and Ring, D. (2006). Stinging Caterpillars. LSU AgCenter, [Pub. 1979](#).

Photo by Alyssa Tarrant



Photo 2: Saltmarsh caterpillar showing off its prolegs on an iris.
Photo by Alyssa Tarrant.



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Photo 3: Giant leopard moth caterpillar. Photo by Rebekah D. Wallace, University of Georgia, Bugwood.org.

Pruning-Part 3: Root Pruning

This month's pruning article will be useful to gardeners who do a lot of container gardening.

However, it is also useful to anyone who plants containerized trees and shrubs or repots perennials into larger containers.

The subject this month is Root Pruning. Root pruning is exactly what it sounds like, cutting back the underground roots of a plant. In most cases, this is done on woody perennial shrubs and trees, but the principles are applicable to most plants.

Root pruning is a gardening practice used to encourage healthier root growth, particularly in container plants and to address issues like root circling or competition between roots and other vegetation.

Root pruning is important for maintaining plants growing in containers.

The roots of a plant growing in a container will grow radially until they encounter the container wall. At that point, the roots make a turn and begin to grow downward or in a circle pattern inside the container. Once a root "elbow" forms, the root will continue growing in that bent direction unless it is severed behind the bend. Improperly managed root balls can

form permanent defects, such as circles and bends on the periphery.

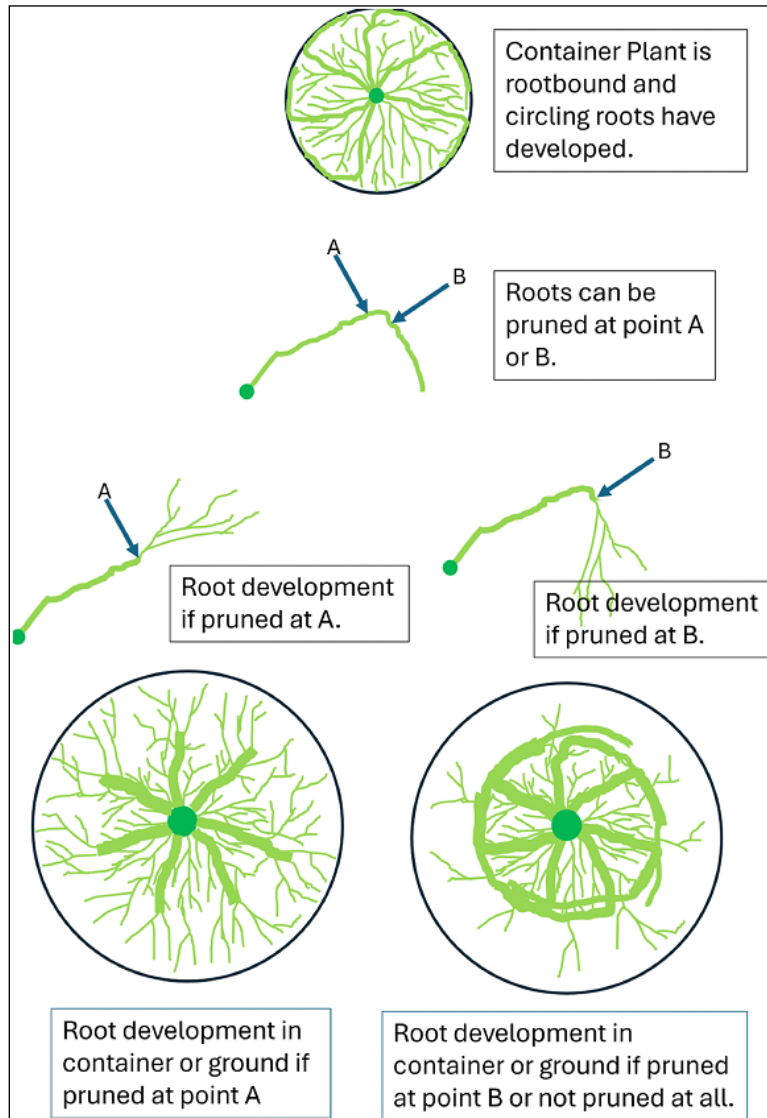


Figure 1. Root development in containers and what happens when transplanting. The above illustrates the root development depending on the point at which the root is cut. Graphic by Dr. Joe W. Willis.

Pruning a plant's roots when shifting it to a larger container or before planting it in the ground improves the root system because it cuts roots back to straight, radial root segments attached to the trunk/stem. In the days, weeks, and months following root pruning, new roots grow outward from the cut ends in a fanlike pattern. These new roots provide greater stability, increased absorption, and won't girdle the plant. (Figure 1)

When pruning roots, making clean cuts is as important as it is when pruning the crown. The use of sharp tools large enough to do the job is essential. However, root physiology is different from stem physiology. Roots do not typically branch from buds in the

same way that stems and branches do. Roots branch from internal tissue, particularly around the central core of the root where its vascular system is located. This contrasts with stems, which develop lateral branches from buds at nodes. Therefore, there is no need to find a lateral bud prior to pruning as is recommended when pruning branches.

The easiest way to prune the roots of a containerized plant is to remove the plant from the container and shave off about a 1" layer around the entire root ball and off the bottom (Figure 2). This method leaves essentially all the roots pointing outward and eliminates both circling and downward pointing roots. When repotted or planted in the ground, the root branches will develop radially in relationship to the plant trunk. The result is a healthier root system and a more stable plant.

There is also root pruning of established trees/shrubs in the landscape. If tree roots are encroaching on buildings, pavements, or utility lines, root pruning redirects their growth, mitigating potential harm. In landscaping projects, root pruning creates space for new plants, gardens, or structures while safeguarding existing trees. If girdling roots have developed and threaten the maturing tree, root pruning can remove the girdling roots and allow the tree to develop properly.

In the landscape, root pruning is most effective during the dormant season, typically late fall or early winter, when trees aren't actively growing. As mentioned above, use sharp, clean pruning tools for precise cuts that minimize root damage. Avoid cutting roots too close to the tree's trunk, as this could compromise its stability, unless removing girdling roots. Ideally, cut roots at a distance from the

trunk that is at least 3-5 times the trunk diameter at 4.5 ft. above ground. If only cutting on one side, 3 times the trunk diameter is acceptable. You should also avoid cutting roots larger than 2 inches in diameter, as these are often important for tree stability.

If girdling roots are an issue, the following steps are recommended. First, identify and expose the girdling root by removing soil around the root and trunk flare. Cut the root behind the point where the root begins to circle using sharp, clean tools. With large trees and mature roots, this may necessitate cutting the root at the point where the root comes out of the trunk but avoid damaging the good roots. Make sure to cut the root through completely severing it from the trunk. After severing the root, remove the cut root if possible. If deeply embedded, it may be best to leave it in place and allow it to decay naturally.

~Dr. Joe W. Willis



Photo by Alison O'Connor, Colorado State University



Photo by Alison O'Connor, Colorado State University

Figure 2. The image on the left shows a gardener cutting off the encircling roots by cutting straight down with a saw. The image on the right shows the root ball after all of the encircling roots have been removed. The tree is now ready for planting.

Photo by Chris Dunaway



A cypress tree with girdling roots.

Selected Resources:

Gilman, E.F. and B. Kempf. 2010. Root Management Cue Card. UFL-IFAS. [Rootcueonesheet](#)

Gilman, E.F. 2015. Stem Girdling Root Removal. UFL-IFAS. [Improve health - Maintenance - Landscape plants - Edward F. Gilman - UF/IFAS](#)

Meilleur, G. 2007. Root Pruning: Severing Subterranean Stranglers. Tree Care Industry. [TCI Mag 7.07_front_v3.qxp](#)

Neylon, N. 2023. Stem Girdling Root Removal in Established Trees. UMN. [Stem Girdling Root Removal in Established Trees](#)

O'Neil's Tree Service. 2024. [Understanding root pruning: A Guide to Healthy Landscapes - Oneilstreeservice.com](#)

Wheeler, A. 2015. How to Do Root Pruning. The Arbor Gate. [How To Do Root Pruning](#)

In the Kitchen with Austin

Fried Green Tomatoes

For those of us who just can't wait until that new crop of tomatoes are fully ripened, this recipe is perfect.

Ingredients:

1 cup flour
2 eggs
2 Tbs. water
1 cup cornmeal

Salt and pepper to taste
4 – 6 green tomatoes, sliced
1 cup vegetable oil



Slices of fried green tomatoes

Directions:

Heat oil in a skillet over medium fire.

Set up a battering station by: placing flour in a shallow dish, whisking eggs and water in a second dish, and whisking cornmeal, salt, and pepper together in a third dish.

Dip tomato slices into flour, then egg mixture, and finally in cornmeal mixture. Shake off excess batter and place in skillet. Fry tomatoes for 3 to 4 minutes on each side until golden and crisp.

Drain on paper towels and serve with your favorite dipping sauce.

Bien Manger

Farmers Markets in the GNO Area

Orleans Parish

Crescent City Farmer's Market- Mid-City

500 N. Norman C. Francis at the Bayou
Thursdays from 3-6PM
Walk-up and curbside pre-orders at
www.crescentcityfarmersmarket.org

Crescent City Farmer's Market- City Park

City Putt Parking Lot
Dreyfous Dr. @ Anseman Ave.
Sundays from 8AM-Noon
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

Vietnamese Farmer's Market

4861 Alcee Fortier Blvd., New Orleans East
Saturdays, 5:30AM-9:00AM

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

4516 Clearview Pkwy, Metairie, LA
Or online at:
<https://laughing-buddha-nursery.localline.ca/online-store>

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, 10-4.
Check here the link below for other times and locations.
<https://www.facebook.com/BarceloGardens/>

BOUNYFUL Farmer's Market-Algiers Point

530 Powder St, New Orleans, LA
First and Third Sundays of the month, from 10AM-1PM
See more times and events at the link below.
<https://www.bounyfulgreenmarket.com/>

Sankofa Fresh Stop Market

5200 Dauphine Street, New Orleans, LA
<https://sankofanola.org/rfq/>

Sheaux Fresh Sustainable Foods

2500 Bayou Road
Order online at:
sheauxfresh.food

FUBU Market NOLA

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

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/TheMandevilleTrailhead>
985.624.3147

Folsom Village Market

Hwy 40, one block east of Hwy 25
Saturday: 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM (weather permitting)
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/farmers-market>
985.892.0711

Camellia City Farmer's Market

2055 2nd Street, Old Towne Slidell
Saturday: 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM (rain or shine)
<https://www.facebook.com/CamelliaCityMarket/>
985.640.7112

St. Charles Parish

German Coast Farmer's Market-East Bank

St. Charles Parish East Regional Library
160 West Campus Drive, Destrehan, LA
Saturdays, from 8AM-Noon
<http://www.germancoastfarmersmarket.org/>

German Coast Farmer's Market-West Bank

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

Farmers Markets in the GNO Area

Jefferson Parish

Gretna Farmer's Market

Between 3rd & 4th St. along Huey P. Long
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
Saturdays 9AM-5PM & Sundays 9AM-4PM
Fridays 11AM-3PM
<https://www.facebook.com/NawlinsMarket/>

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/>

Jean Lafitte Town Market-Lafitte

920 Jean Lafitte Blvd.
Last Saturday of the month, 9AM-2PM
<https://www.facebook.com/JeanLafitteLa/>

Lafreniere Park Market-Metairie

3000 Downs Blvd.
Wednesdays, from 1-6PM
<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100064920097975>

Westwego Farmer's Market

484 Sala Ave., Westwego
3rd Tuesday of the month, 11AM-3PM
<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100075979938725>

Laughing Buddha Farm

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

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>

Harahan Farmer's Market

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

The Market at Kenner City Park

3800 Loyola Drive, Kenner, LA
Thursdays 1PM-6PM
2nd & 4th Saturdays 10AM-2PM
<https://www.facebook.com/RivertownFarmersMarket>

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	
Garden Specialties, Inc.	3601 Florida Ave., Kenner, LA 70065	(504) 468-2300
Clearview Plant and Garden	4511 Clearview Pkwy, Metairie, LA 70006	(504) 888-7700

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

Local Independent Garden Centers

Orleans

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.plantery.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

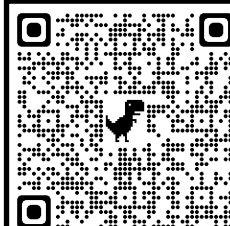
St. Tammany

The Boho Being	1184 Front St., Slidell, LA 70458	(985)707-1623
Banting's Nursery-Northshore	26300 Hwy 190, Lacombe, LA 70445	(985)882-5550

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May Checklist/Garden Tips

Great warm-season bedding plants for sun include abelmoschus, ageratum, amaranthus, balsam, begonia, blue daze, celosia, cleome, coleus (sun-tolerant types), coreopsis, cosmos, Dahlberg daisy, dusty miller, gaillardia, gomphrena, lantana, marigold, melampodium, narrow-leaf zinnia, ornamental pepper, periwinkle, pentas, portulaca, purslane, rudbeckia, salvia, scaevola, sunflower, tithonia, torenia, verbena (perennial), zinnia.

During dry weather don't forget to keep your compost pile evenly moist. Dry organic matter will not decompose. Do, however, avoid keeping the pile saturated as this will create bad odors.

Powdery mildew on many ornamentals (crape myrtles, roses, euonymous) and vegetables (squash, cucumbers) continues to be a problem due to dry weather. Treat with chlorothalonil or other labeled fungicides.

Birds will peck holes in tomatoes just before you decide they are ripe enough to harvest. If birds are a problem, cover your plants with bird netting or harvest the fruit in the pink stage and ripen them inside. Bird netting also works well to protect fruit crops, such as blackberries, blueberries and figs, from bird damage, and is available from local nurseries or feed stores.

Grow cucumbers on trellises to save space, increase production and improve the quality of the cucumbers produced.

Constant watering rapidly leaches nutrient elements from the soils of container grown plants. To replace them it is best to use either soluble fertilizers or slow release fertilizers. Soluble fertilizers are easy to apply especially when you use a hose end applicator, but they must be applied every two weeks to maintain a constant supply of nutrients. Slow release fertilizers provide nutrients over several months from one application and so cut down on labor.

Cannas that have brown, deformed leaves with holes in them have been attacked by canna leaf-rollers, a caterpillar that is devastating to cannas in our area. Control is difficult and requires regular spraying all summer. If you decide to treat, use a systemic insecticide such as acephate and make weekly applications.

Plant basil plants now and enjoy a wonderful fresh seasoning for summer cooking. Many herbs already in your garden, such as thyme, sage, oregano, lavender, dill, cilantro and parsley, are at their most productive now and will play out as the weather gets hotter. Harvest freely and dry or freeze the extras.

Remove the developing seed pods from such plants as Louisiana irises and amaryllis when they finish blooming. This keeps the plants more attractive and prevents them from wasting effort on seeds that are not needed. It would be better for the plants to put that energy into growing leaves and roots.

Watch azaleas for azalea lace bug damage. Small white spots on the upper surface and small dark brown spots on the back of leaves indicates they are present. Spray with a broad spectrum insecticide getting under the leaves thoroughly.

Caterpillars will feed on the foliage and flowers of ornamentals and the foliage and fruit of vegetables. The tomato fruit worm eats holes in tomatoes. Sevin, spinosad and BT regularly applied will keep them in check.

Termite mating season is upon us and millions of sexually mature Formosan termite alates will be seen flying around light poles at night for the next several weeks. Although termites are active year round, the heightened activity makes it more easy to find the harborages in which they live. Check for the soil and debris that the termites use to hide themselves on local structures and trees. [Click here for more information on termites in trees.](#)

May is one of the busiest months in the flower garden. As cool season annuals become unattractive, the beds need to be cleaned out and replanted with warm season annuals. Don't forget that summer heat makes the care of flower bed uncomfortable to say the least.

Lawn Care Do's & Don't's

Do's:

1. This is the prime planting season for warm season grasses such as St. Augustine, centipede, bermuda and zoysia.
2. Soil preparation is important to successful lawn installation. Add compost, amendments and fertilizer to the soil. Till the soil to a depth of 6 inches and smooth to grade.
3. This month is the last chance to apply broad leaf weed killers before the weather gets too hot. Button weed is particularly troublesome around the state. This low, mat-forming weed has one inch pointed leaves and small, four petaled white flowers. Most people don't notice it until July, but it is beginning to grow now. LSU AgCenter trials show Ferti-lome Weed Free Zone to work best, especially when applied to young plants in early summer.
4. If you have not already done so, apply fertilizer now. The rate is 0.5-1 pound of nitrogen per 1,000 square feet of lawn area. You will need 3 pounds of a fertilizer with 33% nitrogen, 33-0-0, to have 1 pound of nitrogen.
5. Continue to scout for fungal damage and control with fungicides if necessary. The most prevalent is called Large Patch of Warm-Season Turfgrass. [Click here to find information about large patch disease from the LSU AgCenter.](#)
6. Irrigate as necessary to moisten the soil to a depth of 4-6 inches.
7. Aerate the soil if necessary to alleviate compaction.
8. Dethatch the lawn if necessary.
9. Keep an eye open for insect pests and treat if necessary.
10. Spread topsoil over the lawn to add organic material and smooth out the lawn. Do not add more than 2 inches over actively growing grass.
11. Set your mower to the correct height for your turfgrass type. Bermudagrass = 1 inch, St. Augustine = 3 inches, Centipede = 1.5 inches, Zoysia = 1.5 inches.

Don't's

1. Do not cut more than 1/3 of the height at a single time.
2. Do not let winter weeds go to seed in the lawn. Use the bagging mower to collect clippings and dispose of them if seed heads are present.

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For more information visit LSUAgCenter.com

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