

## Master Gardener Earth-Kind Specialist Training

Date: February 19 and 20, 2018

The Bastrop County Master Gardeners are pleased to host the Master Gardener Earth-Kind Specialist training program. Chaired by Tim Hartmann, Texas A&M AgriLife Horticulture Program Specialist - Earth-Kind, the course will offer an intensive training of Earth-Kind.

**Course Description**: Earth-Kind® Landscaping is the banner program of Aggie Horticulture. Through a combination of organic and conventional management practices, it covers every aspect of Horticulture, using a comprehensive and sustainable approach. This specialist training is designed to equip individuals with the necessary knowledge and tools to build and support strong programs in Earth- Kind in their counties. Participants will receive advanced training in the principles and practices of Earth-Kind. A wide range of topics will be covered that specifically relate to the Earth-Kind landscape including: plant selection, pest and disease management, innovative features of landscape design for resource conservation, soil preparation, rainwater harvesting, and irrigation management. Participants will also be exposed to a wide variety of new and novel plants for use in a water-efficient landscape, including vegetables, herbs, and fruits using the Earth-Kind approach. This course will also cover Earth-Kind Plant Trials, and how to initiate and conduct them in the local county.

Participants will be required to complete a minimum of 20 service hours of educational outreach activities to qualify as a certified Master Gardener Earth-Kind Specialist; serve as a local Master Gardener Earth-Kind Specialist resource; assist with Earth-Kind Specialist training for Master Gardeners and trainees; conduct community/youth Earth-Kind education programs; and, increase clientele knowledge about Earth-Kind Specialist through presentations, workshops and mass media efforts (radio, newspaper, television, newsletters).

The course will be taught over two weekdays (Monday and Tuesday) and includes 16 hours of classroom instruction.

**Course Fee:** $225. Master Gardener specialists who successfully complete their volunteer service component and become certified as Specialists are eligible for a $50 rebate of the course fee through the Texas Master Gardener Association. Your course fee includes all course materials, breakfast and lunch, and light refreshments during breaks on both days.

**Hyatt Ground Tour:** A tour of Hyatt Lost Pines grounds will be at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, February 18th. A great preview to the course. Indicate your interest on the Application.

**Attire: Casual.**

**Accommodations:** Master Gardeners should make their own hotel reservations by contacting the accommodation of their choice. Below are several to consider which are approximately 12 miles east of McKinney Roughs.

**Hampton Inn & Suites –** **Master Gardener rate of $93/night for Std or Dbl room** **(512-321-2898) Rate valid through 2/8/18.**

**Holiday Inn Express & Suites – Master Gardener rate of $91/nt for DblQn or $105/nt for King Suite (512-321-1900) Rate valid through 1/22/18.**

**Comfort Suites – (512-321-3377)**

**Quality Inn – (512-321-3303)**

**Registration:**

Registration deadline for the course will be February 9, 2018. Participation will be limited to 35 participants.



# Syllabus

Earth-Kind Specialist Training

Dates: February 19-20, 2018

Hosted by: Bastrop County Master Gardeners

McKinney Roughs Nature Park

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Monday, February 19th - DAY ONE** | | | |
| **Time** |  | **Topic** | **Speaker** | |
| 8:00 AM – 8:30 AM |  | Registration and Breakfast |  | |
| 8:30 AM – 8:45 AM |  | Welcome and introduction |  | |
| 8:45 AM – 10:00 AM |  | Review of Earth-Kind principles | Tim Hartmann | |
| 10:00 AM – 10:15 AM |  | SHORT BREAK |  | |
| 10:15 AM – 10:45 AM |  | Review of Earth-Kind Principles (continued) | Tim Hartmann | |
| 10:45 AM – 11:45 AM |  | Landscape design strategies for reduced input and maintenance | Dr. William Welch | |
| 11:45 AM – 12:45 PM |  | Turf grass selection and management for water conservation and reduced maintenance | Skip Richter | |
| 12:45 PM – 1:30 PM |  | LUNCH |  | |
| 1:30 PM – 2:30 PM |  | Landscape management for disease prevention | Dr. Kevin Ong | |
| 2:30 PM – 3:15 PM |  | Integrated Pest Management for the Landscape | Tim Hartmann | |
| 3:15 PM – 3:30 PM |  | SHORT BREAK |  | |
| 3:30 PM – 4:45 PM |  | History of Earth-Kind Environmental Stewardship Program and Earth-Kind roses | Dr. Steve George | |
| 4:45 PM – 5:30 PM |  | Earth-Kind Soil management | Dr. Steve George | |

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Tuesday, February 20th  - DAY TWO** | | | | |
| **Time** |  | **Topic** | **Speaker** |
| 8:00 AM – 8:30 AM |  | Breakfast |  |
| 8:00 AM – 10:00 AM |  | Plant selection for the Earth-Kind landscape: criteria and resources for selecting the best plants | Tim Hartmann |
| 10:00 AM – 10:15 AM |  | SHORT BREAK |  |
| 10:15 AM – 10:55 AM |  | Native plant options for the Central Texas landscape | Nick Cowey |
| 10:55 AM – 11:30 AM |  | Tour of McKinney Roughs gardens and grounds | Nick Cowey |
| 11:30 PM – 12:15 PM |  | LUNCH |  |
| 12:15 AM – 1:45 PM |  | Landscape water conservation strategies (rainwater harvesting, drip irrigation, and rain gardens) | Tim Hartmann /  Dr. Drew Gholson |
| 1:45 PM – 2:30 PM |  | Earth-Kind vegetables and herbs | Tim Hartmann |
| 2:30 PM – 2:45 PM |  | SHORT BREAK |  |
| 2:45 PM – 3:30 PM |  | Earth-Kind Fruit | Tim Hartmann |
| 3:30 PM – 4:00 PM |  | Conducting state-wide Earth-Kind plant trials | Tim Hartmann |
| 4:00 PM – 4:30 PM |  | Earth-Kind outreach opportunities and fulfilling service hour requirements | Jayla Fry / Tim Hartmann |
| 4:30 PM – 4:45 PM |  | Closing | Tim Hartmann |



**APPLICATION**

**Master Gardener Earth-Kind Specialist**

**Course will be held at McKinney Roughs Nature Park**

**1884 West Hwy 71, Cedar Creek, Texas**

**Dates: February 19-20, 2018**

## Name:

## Address:

## City: Zip:

**Phone #:**

**Email:**

**Master Gardener Association:**

**County: Hyatt Tour \_\_Y \_\_N**

**Required MG Coordinator/Agent Signature:**

Course Fee: $225 Course fee must be paid at the time of application to reserve your space. **Please make checks payable to Bastrop County Master Gardeners or BCMGA.**

If you have special needs that we should be aware of or dietary restrictions, please describe below:

**Send Application and Course Fee to:**

**Bastrop County Extension Office**

**901 Pecan Street**

**Bastrop, Texas 78602**

**[Fax: (512) 581-7187]**

For more information, call the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension-Bastrop County Office (512) 581-7186 or Bastrop County Master Gardeners (512) 957-1443.