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# *Master Gardeners and Pulaski County Gardens*



Many garden projects in Pulaski County are maintained by Master Gardeners, whose program is coordinated by the Pulaski County Extension Service. The gardens belong to the public through city, county or state government, and government personnel do the basic manual labor of preparing a site and furnishing supplies and some plants. Then Master Gardeners design and maintain the gardens throughout the year, planting perennials and seasonal annuals for color and interest.

## **A Cooperative Arrangement**

In Little Rock and North Little Rock, the municipal departments of parks and recreation own the gardens. In Jacksonville, the gardens are at City Hall. In Sherwood, the Library is a branch of the Central Arkansas Library System. In addition, some of the gardens are at Pulaski County and State of Arkansas locations.

Master Gardeners use the State Hospital greenhouse to grow plants for many of the projects. Furthermore, some local nurseries supply plants for special occasions at project sites.



## **Which Plants Where?**

Each site's characteristics dictate the choice of plants. Some locales require plants that tolerate sun, such as wildflower meadows full of rudbeckia and coreopsis. Others require plants that are shade-loving, such as hostas and impatiens.

In the fall, plants that tolerate cold, like pansies, are used. Bulbs provide additional spring color. The contrast of color and evergreen lends visual interest and drama to the gardens.

Knot gardens such as the ones at the Old State House and the Pulaski County Extension Office herb garden and the parterre at Curran Hall provide the lasting structure sorely needed in vigorous herb and perennial gardens.

### **The Master Gardener Program**

The International Master Gardener program began in 1972 in the state of Washington. In Arkansas, the first Master Gardener class was trained in the fall of 1988. The concept is that highly motivated volunteers who already have an interest in gardening can be trained to set up school and civic programs, serve as speakers, and carry out other community activities promoting good gardening practices.

Pulaski County Master Gardeners work with the University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture cooperative Extension Service and the governments in Pulaski County to provide demonstration gardens and horticulture-related information to the residents of the county. In 2003, these volunteers gave more than 15,000 hours of service.

### **MASTER GARDENER PROJECT GARDENS**

#### **Little Rock:**

**Arkansas Arts Center:** containerized gardens, south entrance, courtyard gardens, and two planters at the west entrance; 9<sup>th</sup> Street in MacArthur Park.

**Cammack Fruit Demonstration Garden:** strawberries, blackberries, blueberries, and grapes developed by the University of Arkansas; UA Cammack Campus, North University Avenue at Hawthorne.

**Contemplation Garden:** shrubs, Louisiana iris, and seasonal plants around a pond; MacArthur Park.

**Curran Hall:** beds in a historic landscape around a restored 1842 house that serves as the Little Rock Visitor Center; 615 East Capitol Avenue.

**Governor's Mansion Vegetable Garden:** vegetables for use at the Mansion; also an herb garden maintained by the Herb Society; 17<sup>th</sup> & Center Streets.

**Historic Arkansas Museum:** herb garden and historic plantings; 200 East Third.

**Mount Holly Cemetery:** heritage roses and other historic plantings; Broadway at I-630.

**Oak Forest Community Garden:** neighborhood cooperative with L.R. Parks and Recreation; Curran-Conway Park, Monroe at 27<sup>th</sup> Street.

**Old State House:** plantings around the fountain; 'New Dawn' roses on rear fence; 300 West Markham.

**Pinnacle Mountain State Park:** native plants and flowers only in visitors center, meadow, and front gate gardens; also butterfly/hummingbird garden; off Hwy. 10.

**Pulaski County Extension Office:** herbs, shrubs, and seasonal beds; 2901 W. Roosevelt Road.

**State Cooperative Extension Office:** lawn, shrubs, and seasonal beds; 2301 South University.

**State Hospital Administration Building:** butterfly garden; UAMS campus, West Markham at Rose.

**War Memorial Garden:** shrubs and seasonal plantings; West Markham at Fair Park.

#### **North Little Rock:**

**Old Mill:** extensive beds around mill pond and historic architecture and sculpture; on Lake #2, Lakewood.

**Park Hill Water Works:** beds around three Art Deco buildings; 3427 Magnolia.

**Patrick Henry Hayes Senior Center:** seasonal color with annuals and shrubs at 401 Pershing Blvd.

#### **Jacksonville:**

**City Hall:** flower beds which reach a peak for the fall festival.

#### **Sherwood:**

**Amy Sanders Library:** seasonal color with annuals and perennials at 31 Shelby Drive.

**Nongardening Master Gardener projects include a horticultural therapy class at Baptist Rehabilitation Institute, horticulture clinics in the River Market and at the Pulaski County Extension Office, and educational outreach at Wildwood Park for the Performing Arts.**

### **OTHER GARDENS TO ENJOY IN PULASKI COUNTY**

Little Rock and Pulaski County have many public landscaped areas. Each season will showcase different annual and perennial flowers, shrubs, and trees. Consult a map and visit these gardens.

#### **Community/Neighborhood Gardens:**

**Dunbar Community Gardens:** vegetables and flowers; cooperative with Little Rock Public Schools, L.R. Parks and Recreation, Heifer International, and Arkansas Urban Gardening and Educational Resources (AUGER); Chester and 18<sup>th</sup> Street, Little Rock.

**Oakbrooke Elementary School Junior Master Gardener Project:** 2200 Thornhill, Sherwood.

**Pulaski County Garden Center and Two Rivers Park:** large garden plots for individuals to rent; park includes scenic trails for walking (park gardens planned for the future); off Highway 10.

**Pulaski Heights Elementary School Junior Master Gardener Program:** butterfly garden, trees; 319 North Pine, Little Rock.

**South End Community Garden:** neighborhood cooperative with South End Alert Center and L.R. Parks and Recreation; 33rd and Ringo, Little Rock.

**Woodruff Community Garden:** neighborhood garden; Lamar Porter Field, Brown at 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Little Rock.

#### **Little Rock City Parks (Some are maintained by the Adopt-a-Park program):**

**Allsopp Park:** entrance on Cedar Hill Road near Cantrell; also Promenade on Kavanaugh near Cedar.

**Benny Craig Park:** entrance at Gum Springs Road and Rosemoor Drive.

**Boyle Park:** beds and historic C.C.C. architecture; Boyle Park Road entrance and at the springhouse.

**Cedar Hill Road at Cantrell:** traffic islands plus wildflower pilot project areas.

**Grandview at Scenic:** triangular island above the Arkansas River.

**MacArthur Park:** several lakes plus the Arkansas Arts Center and Contemplation Garden.

**Murray Park:** two entrances on Rebsamen Park Road.

**Prospect Terrace:** entrance and island beds on Crestwood west of Kavanaugh.

**Rebsamen Park Road:** streetscape near Sherrill Drive; also triangle garden at golf course.

**Riverfront Park:** extensive trees, shrubs, and beds with seasonal plantings; water features.

**Southwest Kiwanis Park:** *entrance and pond; 42<sup>nd</sup> Street at Foster.*

**University Park:** *Rebsamen Tennis Center and Adult Leisure Center; 12<sup>th</sup> Street west of University Avenue.*

**War Memorial Park:** *entrances at Markham and Fair Park and at 12<sup>th</sup> and Jonesboro; Louisiana iris on creekbank and island; golf course tees #1, 3, 9, 17, and pro shop; entrances to the zoo and to the fitness center.*

#### **Gardens Around State or County Buildings:**

**Arkansas School for the Blind:** *herb garden; 2400-2600 West Markham, Little Rock.*

**Arkansas State Capitol:** *rose and iris gardens, arboretum; 7th & Woodlane, Little Rock.*

**Decorative Arts Museum:** *butterfly garden and arboretum, in cooperation with the Little Rock Garden Club; Seventh Street at Rock, Little Rock.*

**Pulaski County Courthouse:** *rose gardens; 401 West Markham, Little Rock.*

**Statehouse Convention Center:** *Arkansas Select Plants featured in Arkansas Flower Show Garden; Statehouse Plaza, Markham at Main, Little Rock.*

#### **Additional Landscaped Areas:**

**William J. Clinton Presidential Center and Park:** 1200 President Clinton Avenue, Little Rock.

**Heifer Project International Headquarters:** President Clinton Avenue, Little Rock (completion 2005).

**Little Rock Council of Garden Clubs Center:** Kavanaugh between Lee Avenue and Martin.

**Oasis Renewal Center:** *meditation vistas on trails, lakes, and woods; 14913 Cooper Orbit Road, Little Rock.*

**Pinnacle Mountain State Park:** *arboretum; 11901 Pinnacle Valley Road, off Hwy. 10 west of Little Rock.*

**Wildwood Center for the Arts:** *five gardens, including Oriental garden, wildflower glen, and arboretum; 20919 Denny Road, Little Rock.*

#### **NORTH LITTLE ROCK:**

**Burns Park:** *gardens at information center, Union Pacific caboose and tennis center.*

**City Services Building:** 120 Main Street.

**Emerald Park:** *hiking trail with native woodland plants, Levy.*

**Faucett Gazebo Park:** across from NLR Riverfront Hilton.

**Faucett Memorial Park:** JFK Boulevard at "A" Street.

**Heritage Park:** 22<sup>nd</sup> and Franklin.

**Lakewood Lakes and Parks,** *including the Old Mill and historic landscape sculpture.*

**McCain at North Hills Boulevard:** *planters with seasonal color.*

**Main Street Argenta:** *plantings in the historic district.*

**Medians on JFK and McCain Boulevards.**

**Northshore Riverwalk Park** *and perennial beds at the seawall.*

**Riverfront Drive medians.**

**13<sup>th</sup> –15<sup>th</sup> Street Park.**

#### **JACKSONVILLE:**

**City Hall:** *annuals, perennials, and shrubs; W. Main Street.*

*List prepared by Pulaski County Master Gardeners*



Master Gardeners plant fall annuals at the State Cooperative Extension Service Office in Little Rock.



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