



Earth Kind:

Environmental Stewardship Programs...

January, 2006

In this E-dition...

This newsletter is prepared exclusively for Extension professionals to support educational programs in the area of Environmental Stewardship - Horticulture.

Each month we feature ideas and examples of successful extension educational programs dealing with horticulture and the environment. In addition, we'll provide information and curriculum materials to assist in establishing similar programs in your area.

In this issue Reggie Lepley presents information on the Walker County Landscape Environmental Awareness Facility – Protection, Reduction, Outreach (LEAF-PRO) project.



You can learn more about the TCE-Horticulture, Earth Kind project by visiting our Web site <http://EarthKind.tamu.edu>. You can also access information on the Earth Kind Action Plan and Evaluation Instrument at <http://futuresforum.tamu.edu/data-summit/index.htm>

Earth Kind News:

Walker County LEAF-PRO

Reggie Lepley,
Walker County Extension Agent - Agriculture
Huntsville, TX

The Walker County, Master Gardener LEAF-PRO (Landscape Environmental Awareness Facility – Protection, Reduction, Outreach) project is an expansion of the Master Gardener Demonstration Garden and community outreach effort. The facility is used to demonstrate methods of solid waste management, source reduction, and recycling. This area has been extremely valuable in supporting outreach capabilities through locally developed educational displays, presentations and publications. These efforts also include an after school program, partnering with the local YMCA, utilizing Junior Master Gardener curriculum materials which contains a positive solid waste recycling message. In addition to solid waste issues, LEAF-PRO also addresses water conservation, pesticide use/safety/reduction, and responsible fertilizer use.



The Walker County Master Gardeners were recently selected as a grant recipient from the Houston-Galveston Council of Government, for Extension educational programs in the area of solid waste reduction. A portion of these resources will be used for the purchase of computer hardware and audio visual equipment. Most of the funds will be used for the construction of permanent, all weather access to the Master Gardener demonstration garden via ADA compliant walkways, as well

as seating in the outdoor classroom. Both the walkways and seating area will be constructed of recycled materials such as Trex lumber and plastic resin benches. Other items funded through the project included a storage building made of recycled door material and a chipper shredder as part of the on site composting demonstration. This grant will also assist in the purchase of display boards, three color tri-fold brochures, interpretive signs and related supplies.

See the LEAF-PRO promotional brochure at <http://earthkind.tamu.edu/LEAFPRObrochure.pdf>

For more information contact



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Drought Information...

Looking for information on landscape water conservation? The Earth Kind web site is an excellent educational resource for delivering quality information on this important topic. Check out these links...

Drought Info on Aggie Horticulture:

<http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/plantanswers/drought/table.html>

Environmental Landscape Management:

<http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/greenhouse/hortgardens/conservation/index.html>

Efficient Use of Water in the Home Landscape & Garden:

<http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/extension/homelandscape/water/water.html>

Texas Smartscape:

<http://txsmartscape.com/>

Central Texas Horticulture:

<http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/travis/>

Grow Green:

<http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/growgreen/>

For more drought information see...

EarthKind.tamu.edu

TCE - Horticulture

2005 Earth Kind Environmental Stewardship Program Summary

Thanks to the many Extension professionals that supported the Earth Kind Environmental Stewardship program in 2005. Based on year-end summary statistics Earth Kind was among the most visible Extension educational programs statewide. Your collective efforts have made a significant impact on conserving and protecting our valuable natural resources.

Congratulations and thank you for your continued support of TCE-Horticulture's Earth Kind program.

Special Identifier Code: 518 – Earth Kind Environmental Stewardship
Time Period: – January, 2005 - December, 2005

Group Methods as Lead Agent or Specialist:

No. Group Methods: 551

Total Attendance at Group Methods: 23,252

Total Contact Hours in Group Methods: 41,966

Contacts vis Individual Methods

Office: 4,207

Site: 8,900

Phone: 3,571,307

Mail: 36,124

Total Individual Contacts: 3,620,538

Media Contacts:

No. News Releases Prepared: 629

No. News Outlets Receiving Releases: 1,708

No. Radio Releases Prepared: 61

No. Radio Stations Receiving Releases: 187

No. TV Releases Prepared: 84

No. TV Stations Receiving Releases: 127

Contacts via Newsletters, Self Study Guides: 201,614

Contacts via All Other Publications: 17,816,482

Volunteerism:

Volunteers Trained: 6,668

Individual Contacts by Volunteers: 123,671

Attendance @ Grp Methods Conducted by Volunteers: 25,853

Method & Result Demonstrations Established: 5

