

Sustainability Snapshot

MCC CONTINUING EDUCATION COURSES

- **Fall to Bloom: Planting Cool Season Flowers**

Join Jessica Murphy, owner of Petalum Flower Farm. Learn which flowers to start in the fall for early spring blooms, how to care for seedlings, and tips on how to create seasonal bouquets.

Cost: \$39 – Saturday, September 20, 9am-12pm AVC 5057.60

- **H.O.T. Beekeepers Association - FREE**

This class meets every fourth Tuesday, and is open to everyone from beginners to pros. Join at any time!

Location: ESEC 7601 Steinbeck Bend Drive

7-8pm - September 23, October 28, November 18

MCC KIDS COLLEGE COMMUNITY GARDEN

Sustainability is at the heart of the Kids College Friday program. Many of our STEAM activities reuse and recycle materials; plastic bottles, paper towel rolls, magazines, newspapers, and egg cartons to create hands-on learning experiences. We are accepting donations of *clean* plastic bottles, paper towel rolls, and egg cartons for the fall semester. *(Drop off donations at CSC A8A.)*

Kids College recently cleared our raised garden beds outside the CSC, and began the process of rebuilding them. This fall, we will expand the garden, giving students hands-on experience in growing, harvesting, and sharing food while learning where it comes from, the science behind it, and how to care for the earth. If you'd like to be part of this rebuilding project, we'd love your help!



MCCLENNAN'S FALL SEMESTER SHRED DAY

SAVE THE DATE: FALL SHRED DAY
FRIDAY OCTOBER 3, 2025
7:30AM-10:30AM
MAC PARKING LOT



PLEASE CONTACT CYNTHIA NILES AT 254-299-8863 FOR ASSISTANCE WITH PICKING UP SHRED MATERIALS FROM YOUR OFFICE OR CLASSROOM BEFORE THE EVENT

- NO STYROFOAM OR GLASS
- SMALL BATTERIES ARE ACCEPTED

We are happy to accept small quantities of items from members of the community. These items must be personal or household only, not from a business. We cannot accept cardboard or dirty items (with grease or food stains). Also, please ensure that all paperclips and staples are removed.

Please be aware that we reserve the right to refuse the acceptance of large quantities of shredded materials as well as any materials originating from local businesses or non-profit organizations. Unfortunately, we are unable to issue any certificates for items that have been shredded.

- For assistance with picking up shred materials before the event, email Cynthia Niles at cniles@mclennan.edu or call her at 254-299-8863.
- Bring your shred items from both home and work.
- Please bring your material to the truck by 10:15 am.

To contact the MCC sustainability committee, please feel free to send an email to sustainability@mclennan.edu



LUNCH WITH THE MASTERS – WE LEARN. WE TEACH. WE GROW.

McLennan County Master Gardeners will be hosting *Lunch with the Masters* at the ESEC this fall from 12pm – 2pm.

- September 17: Native Plants & Texas Tough Natives for Droughts and Floods.
- October 15: Grasses, Weeds, and Prairie Restoration.
- November 19: TBD

The Master Gardeners will also be at the Waco Farmer's Market on Saturday, once a month from 9am-1pm.

- October 11: Whimsey in the Garden
- November 8: Bulbs and Rhizomes
- December 13: Herbs

[Free, monthly newsletter:](#)

This newsletter features all the free events happening this month, along with a planting calendar tailored for McLennan County. September is the ideal month for planting beets, carrots, chard, radishes, spinach, cucumbers, and various greens like lettuce and kale.

Local nurseries will stock the varieties that are most appropriate for Waco. Big Box Stores might not always have the right varieties for this region. When you purchase starter plants from Urban Reap, you're not only supporting a local nursery but also contributing to a great cause!

URBAN REAP FALL WORKSHOPS

Event Location: Urban REAP 1509 North 15th Street Waco Texas

- ♦ September 20 from 11am – 12pm: Managing Bugs in Your Garden
You will learn from Agronomist Mark Keely on how to reduce pests in our gardens. We will talk about Integrated Pest Management, the holistic approach to keeping our gardens safe, and look at some examples at the Urban REAP greenhouse. [Click here to register:](#)
- ♦ November 15 from 11am – 12pm: Preserving Your Harvest
At this workshop you will learn from garden guru April Strickland on how to keep reaping your harvest long after fall. April will go over tips and tricks for harvest, seed saving, drying, and preservation. [To register:](#)

Urban REAP will be back at the Waco Downtown Farmer's Market this fall starting September 20. Please go see Mari for our fall veggies and herbs, and grab some fresh produce from our aquaponics system.

KEEP WACO BEAUTIFUL CIGARETTE LITTER PREVENTION PROGRAM



Thanks to a grant with Keep America Beautiful®, Wacoans can keep our city beautiful by tossing their cigarettes in convenient bins. 25 bins are located across the city at Lake Waco, Brazos River, and downtown Waco.

It's time to put cigarettes in their place! Be a good neighbor and toss your litter in a designated area. All cigarettes collected are recycled with TerraCycle. The bins are maintained by [Mission Waco Street Sweep](#), helping to employ those who are facing homelessness with a livable wage.

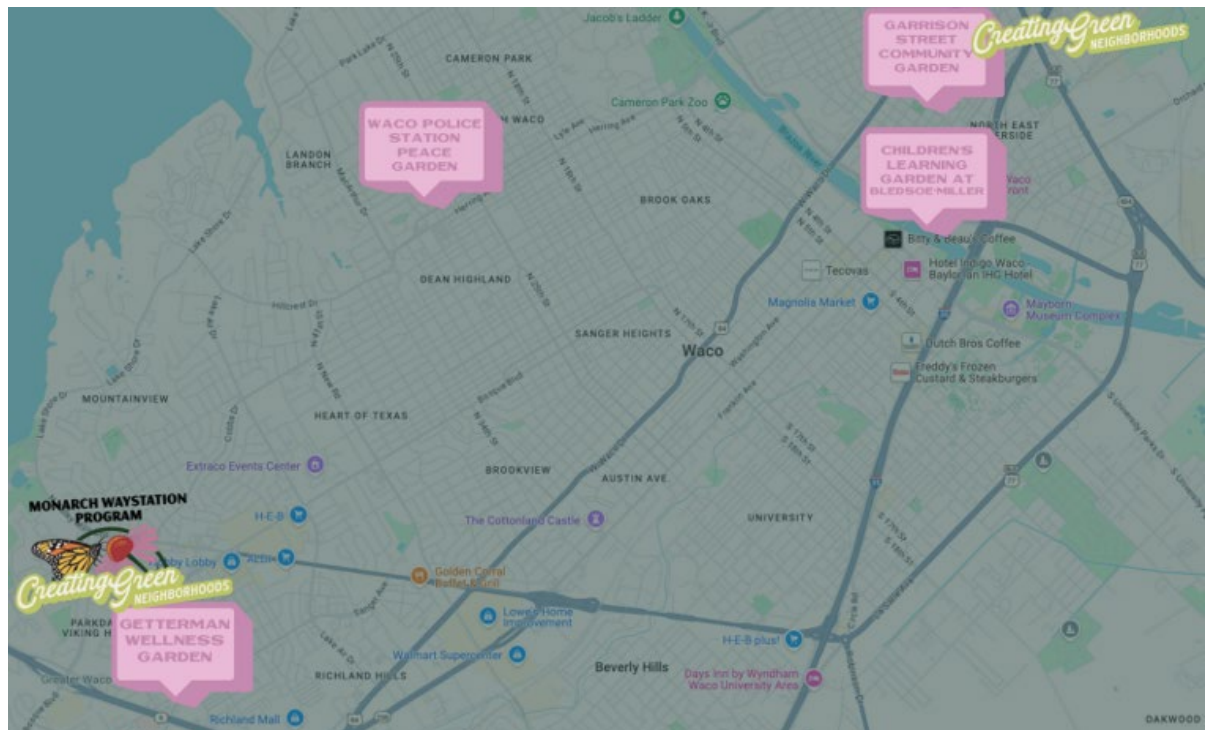
Since launching in 2022, 41 pounds of cigarette litter has been pulled from our city streets, parks, waterways and downtown area.

[Click here to see where you can recycle your cigarette butts.](#)

Thanks to Mission Waco for helping Keep Waco Beautiful make this program possible! Ever since 2020, Mission Waco Street Sweep has served homeless individuals reentering the workforce. With a goal of empowering participants to have a renewed sense of self-determination and worth with a focus on employment, housing, and finances, through professional training and holistic case management.

KEEP WACO BEAUTIFUL GARDENS FOR WACO RESIDENTS

- ★ GETTERMAN WELLNESS CENTER WALKING TRACK, MONARCH WAYSTATION & SHADED GARDEN
- ★ CITY OF WACO POLICE STATION & PEACE GARDEN
- ★ BLEDSOE-MILLER CHILDREN'S LEARNING GARDEN
- ★ GARRISON STREET COMMUNITY GARDEN. HOME TO OUR GREEN SCHOOL'S PROGRAM.



Waco is creating more beautiful, lively, and green neighborhoods.

Thanks to our donors, sponsors, and grants, we have been able to establish several gardens around Waco, Texas. With over 45 years of beautification efforts, we have continued to make placemaking, green spaces, and community gardens for our residents to enjoy.

CITY OF WACO MYWACO APP



Please inform us if you see a lot of waste and trash.

The MyWaco app is a free and easy-to-use tool that connects you to City of Waco services. With the app, you can quickly submit service requests for a variety of issues like code violations, potholes, streetlight outages, excess trash, discarded furniture or tires, and more. When you submit a request, it's automatically routed to the correct department for attention, and we'll keep you updated every step of the way.

SIGN UP FOR FREE EMERGENCY ALERTS

September is National Preparedness Month, and there is no better time to take simple, effective steps towards being ready for emergencies. This year, we are challenging everyone to "**Do 1 Thing**" to get ready for emergencies, one small step at a time.

Sign up for free emergency alerts from McLennan County at AlertWaco.com. Get notified about severe storms, flash floods, tornadoes, fires, and other emergencies. You can also customize your alerts to receive notifications for multiple locations whether you are at home, work, or your child's school. Get the information you need when it matters most. This app is designed to help you and your family incorporate emergency preparedness into your daily lives.

Pick your first "thing" this month! Be prepared and stay safe!



A SAFER HOME STARTS WITH A WACO FIRE ASSESSMENT

The Waco Fire Department is always ready to respond on your worst day, but we're also here to help you prevent emergencies from happening. Sign up for a free home safety assessment with a licensed fire inspector. We'll help identify potential risks and give you a detailed report with recommendations to make your home as safe as possible.

The assessment identifies likely hazards and risks to avoid unfortunate events. A licensed fire inspector will review:

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| smoke alarms | carbon monoxide alarms |
| electrical hazards | fire extinguishers |
| escape plans | fall hazards |
| appliance safety | chemical and hazardous materials |
| child safety concerns | healthy environment |

A recommendation report will be provided. All corrective measures are the responsibility of the homeowner. Corrective actions are not required nor enforced on privately owned homes.

Together, we can make Waco a safer place to live, work, and thrive. You can register for any of these services:

Child Car Seat Installation

Home Safety Assessment

Smoke Alarm Installation

The Waco Fire Department is dedicated to fostering a safer community through proactive education and engagement. Our Community Outreach programs offer a wide range of services. [Request a Home Safety Assessment](#)