

Keep Pearland Beautiful
6th Annual Herb & Plant Sale

On October 8, Keep Pearland Beautiful will be hosting the 7th Annual Plant Thyme Fall Luncheon and the 6th Annual Herb and Plant Sale. If you were unfortunate enough to not make a reservation for this event, you are invited to the plant sale from 1:00pm to 5:00pm that Friday, at the Pearland Community Center, 3523 Liberty Dr. Plants from the sale will also be available for purchase on October 9, 2010 at the Pearland Farmers Market, located at Zychlinski Park, 2243 Grand Blvd. KPB will be featuring plants that are native or adaptive to our area and some are considered helpful in creating habitats for birds and butterflies.

The following information is provided by the Houston Chapter of the Native Plant Society of Texas.

The Nature Conservancy is asking Americans to check their yards and gardens for plants that can escape cultivation and cause tremendous damage to the natural environment and the local economy. These plants are referred to as invasive plants.

Plants such as privet, Japanese honeysuckle, eleagnus, ligustrum, nandina, Chinese tallow, kudzu and Chinese wisteria have been used widely in horticulture and landscaping, and can be found in backyards and business lots across the region. At first glance these plants may look pretty, but their beauty is deceptive. Known as invasive species, plants like these typically transplants from distant places. Once free from the natural checks and balances in their native habitats, these alien invaders establish themselves in new areas and quickly spread out of control. They hoard light, water and nutrients, and can alter entire ecosystems by displacing native species, altering fire regimes and changing soil chemistry.

“Keeping invasive plants out of America’s backyards helps the environment and the economy,” said Steve McCormick, president of the The Nature Conservancy. “Taking the time to remove invasive plants and replace them with non-invasive varieties is a great example of bringing new energy to the old adage: think globally, act locally”.

Act locally by visiting the Keep Pearland Beautiful plant sale and buying native and adaptive plants for your back yard. Here are some of the varieties that will be available that day:

Red Turk’s Cap
White Turk’s Cap
Blue Butterfly Clerodendron
Sweet Memory Duranta
Compact Hummingbird Bush
Holik Hamelia
Fruit Cocktail Shrimp Plant
Orange Shrimp Plant
Red Shrimp Plant
Skinner’s Banana Shrub
Dwarf Barbados Cherry
Dwarf Fairy Duster
American Beautyberry

Dwarf Pomegranite
Red Firespike
Blue Vitex
Innocence Mock Orange
Lipstick Graffiti Penta
Red Autumn Sage
Red Miniata Salvia
Blue Plumbago
Yellow Bells

Herbs available that day are:

Sweet Basil

Garlic Chives

Onion Chives

Coriander

Dill

Italian Oregano

Curled Parsley

Lemon Balm

Fennel

English Thyme

Upright Rosemary

All proceeds from the plant sale, luncheon and silent auction will benefit the programs of Keep Pearlland Beautiful and our building fund for the future Delores Fenwick Nature Center.

Questions and comments may be sent to cowles@keeppearlandbeautiful.org or call the office at 281-652-1659.