

Course Schedule

Horticultural Principles and Practices for Central Texas

Estimated Time Commitment: 85 hours

Date	Topic and Activity	Format
Aug 14	Kick-off (program overview)	Microsoft Teams Meeting 12 pm
Aug 16	Earth-Kind Demo Garden tour/Light requirements/Earth-Kind Practices Workshop	In person at 1600 Smith Road @ 9 to 11 am
Aug 16	Confirm MS Teams Access Assignment Due	Assignments Self-Study
Aug 19	Earth-Kind Landscaping webinars watched due date	Webinar Self-Study: Earth Kind Principles Part 1 (2 hours): Earth Kind Principles Part 2 (2 hours):
Aug 20	Earth-Kind Unit Test due date	Unit Test Self-Study
Aug 21	Earth-Kind Unit Review	Microsoft Teams Meeting 12 pm
Aug 22	Earth-Kind discussion: Find your Eco Region and native plant list	Microsoft Teams Meeting 12 pm
Aug 23	Earth-Kind Assignments due date	Assignments Self-Study 1. Take the Earth-Kind challenge 2. HOA Restrictive Covenants 3. Find Your Ecoregion
Aug 26	Basic Plant Science webinars watched due date	Webinar Self-Study: Basic Plant Science Part 1 (1 hour) Basic Plant Science Part 2 (1 hour) Basic Plant Science Part 3 (1 hour)
Aug 27	Basic Plant Science Test due date	Unit Test Self-Study
Aug 28	Basic Plant Science Unit Review	Microsoft Teams Meeting 12 pm
Aug 29	Basic Plant Science Discussion: Plants and weather coping strategies – responses to light, heat, and moisture	Microsoft Teams Meeting 12 pm
Aug 30	Basic Plant Science Assignment due date	Assignments Self-Study 1. Yard Botany
Sep 2	Soil Nutrient Management webinars watched due date	Webinar Self-Study Soil Nutrient Management Part 1 – Soil Concepts and Physical Properties (1.5 hours) Soil Nutrient Management Part 2 – Soil Chemistry (1 hour) Soil Nutrient Management Part 3 – Plant Nutrient Uptake (1.1 hours)
Sep 3	Soil Nutrient Management Unit Test due date	Unit Test Self-Study
Sep 4	Soil Nutrient Management Unit Review	Microsoft Teams Meeting 12 pm

Date	Topic and Activity	Format
Sep 5	Soils Nutrient Management Discussion: How to use the online fertilizer calculator & selecting application method	Microsoft Teams Meeting 12 pm
Sep 6	Earth-Kind Demo Garden: Soil Texture and Composting Workshop	In person at 1600 Smith Road @ 9 to 11 am
Sep 6	Soils Nutrient Management Assignments due date	Assignments Self-Study 1. Calculate Fertilizer Application Rate 2. Jar Test 3. Optional Soil Test
Sep 9	Water webinars watched due date	Webinar Self-Study Water Part 1 (1.1 hours) Water Part 2 (1.5 hours) Water Part 3 (3 minutes)
Sep 10	Water Unit Test due date	Unit Test Self-Study
Sep 11	Water Unit Review	Microsoft Teams Meeting 12 pm
Sep 12	Water Discussion: How to calculate water requirements using the ET formula	Microsoft Teams Meeting 12 pm
Sep 13	Water Assignments due date	Assignments Self-Study 1. Draw a hydrozone map 2. Use TexasET Network calculators
Sep 16	Homeowner Landscaping Plans webinars watched due date	Webinar Self-Study Part 1: Site Documentation and Analysis (1 hour) Part 2: Design & Construction (1.5 hours)
Sep 17	Homeowner Landscaping Plans Test due date	Unit Test Self-Study
Sep 18	Homeowner Landscaping Plans Unit Review	Microsoft Teams Meeting 12 pm
Sep 19	Homeowner Landscaping Plans Discussion: Plant Lists (using collections on wildflower center site)	Microsoft Teams Meeting 12 pm
Sep 20	Earth-Kind Demo Garden: Homeowner Landscaping Plans Site Analysis Workshop	In person at 1600 Smith Road @ 9 to 11 am
Sep 20	Homeowner Landscaping Plans Assignments due	Assignments Self-Study 1. Create a scale for your plat map
Sep 23	Entomology and Integrated Pest Management webinars watched due date	Webinar Self-Study Entomology and Integrated Pest Management Part 1 (41 minutes) Part 2 (1 hour) Part 3 (50 minutes) Part 4 (1.1 hours)
Sep 24	Entomology and Integrated Pest Management Test due date	Unit Test Self-Study

Date	Topic and Activity	Format
Sep 25	Entomology and Integrated Pest Management Unit Review	Microsoft Teams Meeting 12 pm
Sep 26	IPM Discussion: How to Read a Chemical Label (Pesticide, Fungicide, or Herbicide)	Microsoft Teams Meeting 12 pm
Sep 27	Entomology and Integrated Pest Management Assignments due date	Assignments Self-Study 1. Active ingredient lookup 2. Read chemical label
Sept 30	Plant Pathology webinars watched due date	Webinar Self-Study Plant Pathology Part 1 (50 minutes) Plant Pathology Part 2 (1 hour) Plant Pathology Part 3 (1 hour) Plant Pathology Part 4 (25 minutes)
Oct 1	Plant Pathology Unit Test due date	Unit Test Self-Study
Oct 2	Plant Pathology Unit Review	Microsoft Teams Meeting 12 pm
Oct 3	Plant Pathology Discussion: How to use the Texas Plant Disease Handbook and diagnostic tips	Microsoft Teams Meeting 12 pm
Oct 4	Earth-Kind Demo Garden: Entomology and Plant Pathology Scavenger Hunt Workshop	In person at 1600 Smith Road @ 9 to 11 am
Oct 7	Plant Pathology Assignments due	Assignments Self-Study 1. TX Plant Disease Handbook 2. Citrus Greening
Oct 7	Turf Care and Maintenance webinars watched due date	Webinar Self-Study Turf Care and Maintenance Part 1 (46 minutes) Part 2 (25 minutes) Part 3 (46 minutes)
Oct 8	Turf Care and Maintenance Test due date	Unit Test Self-Study
Oct 9	Turf Care and Maintenance Unit Review	Microsoft Teams Meeting 12 pm
Oct 10	Turf Discussion: Maintenance practices – mowing height, raking, aerating, clippings, water restrictions, shade	Microsoft Teams Meeting 12 pm
Oct 11	Turf Care and Maintenance Assignments due date	Assignments Self-Study 1. Mowing Height 2. Water My Yard (with station suggestions)
Oct 14	Fruit Crops webinar watched due date	Webinar Self-Study Fruit Crops (2 hours)
Oct 15	Fruit Crops Test due	Unit Test Self-Study
Oct 16	Fruit Crops Unit Review	Microsoft Teams Meeting 12 pm
Oct 17	Fruit Crop Discussion: Calculating Chill Hours, Site Selection and Variety Selection	Microsoft Teams Meeting 12 pm

Date	Topic and Activity	Format
Oct 18	Earth-Kind Demo Garden: Turf Aerator Workshop	In person at 1600 Smith Road @ 9 to 11 am
Oct 18	Fruit Crops Assignments due date	Assignments Self-Study 1. Cost of Water 2. Variety Selection
Oct 21	Vegetable Gardening webinar watched due date	Webinar Self Study Vegetable Gardening Part 1 (52 minutes) Vegetable Gardening Part 2 (49 minutes) Vegetable Gardening Part 3 (32 minutes) Vegetable Gardening Part 4 (43 minutes)
Oct 22	Vegetable Gardening Unit Test due	Unit Test Self-Study
Oct 23	Vegetable Gardening Unit Review	Microsoft Teams Meeting 12 pm
Oct 24	Vegetable Gardening Discussion: Site Preparation	Microsoft Teams Meeting 12 pm
Oct 25	Vegetable Gardening Assignments due	Assignments Self-Study 1. Recommended Seed Sources 2. Warm or Cool Season
Oct 30	Program wrap-up and Next Steps	Microsoft Teams Meeting 12 pm
Oct 31	Program Evaluations	Customer Satisfaction Survey Earth-Kind Landscaping Skills
Oct 31 – Nov 8 th	Final Exam due date	Self-Study. 2 hours. Exam ends 11:59 pm Nov 8 th
Nov 11	Invitations to apply for Travis County Master Gardener Program sent to qualified participants	Please note that passing the exam does not guarantee an invitation.
Nov 18	Deadline for Master Gardener Applications from those invited to apply	Late applications are not accepted.
Nov 25	Interviews for Master Gardener program applicants begin	Please note that an interview does not guarantee acceptance into the program.