



**2015  
STORMWATER CALENDAR**



# JANUARY

Anything left on the ground and exposed to rain can cause water pollution. Storm drains carry untreated rainwater from paved areas directly to local creeks and streams.

You may be surprised at how much your car care habits affect water quality. Fortunately, there are many things such as fixing and repairing leaks that you can do to prevent your automobile from being a source of water pollution.

## 1 DROP MATTERS!



## REPAIR LEAKS, CLEAN UP SPILLS

BY PROPERLY MAINTAINING YOUR VEHICLES,  
YOU CAN PREVENT WATER POLLUTION.

ONE DROP OF OIL LEAKED FROM EACH VEHICLE IN  
JEFFERSON COUNTY POLLUTES 16 MILLION GALLONS OF  
WATER PER DAY. PROMPTLY FIX AND REPAIR LEAKS.

You can clean up any spilled oil or vehicle fluids by sprinkling some absorbent material like cat litter on the area, let it soak up the drips, sweep it up, and dispose of it in the trash. Never use water to wash off paved surfaces.

Routinely monitor for leaks. Follow recommended maintenance. Carefully fuel to avoid drips or spills. Recycle used motor oil at an oil change or retail facility that accepts these materials.

To report environmental issues within the City of Birmingham, call 311.  
To report a sanitary sewer overflow, please call 205-942-0681.  
To report suspected water pollution within unincorporated Jefferson County,  
call 205-325-5792.

# JANUARY 2015

## HOUSEHOLD TIPS

Many household products contain chemicals that should not be spilled or discarded where they could be washed into a storm drain. Only purchase what you need for the job and properly dispose of any leftovers. Visit [www.recycleAL.com](http://www.recycleAL.com) to learn more.

Common pantry items like baking soda and vinegar easily can be used to make safe, inexpensive household cleaners. They are better for your health and the environment, help reduce the purchase of more toxic products, and cost less! There are many tips and recipes available online for making your own cleaning products.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 <i>New Year's Day</i>	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19 <i>Martin Luther King, Jr. Day</i>	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31



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# FEBRUARY

Littering, illegal dumping, and other acts of improper disposal are a big problem in our communities. You can make a difference by properly disposing of unwanted items and getting involved in your community.

Got items that your curbside trash service won't pick up? Visit [www.recycleAL.com](http://www.recycleAL.com) to find facilities that will accept your hard to dispose of items.

## TRASH BLOWS!



## TARP & TIE YOUR LOAD

BY PROPERLY TRANSPORTING AND DISPOSING OF TRASH, YOU CAN PREVENT WATER POLLUTION.

INTENTIONAL OR NOT, TRASH AND OTHER ITEMS THAT BLOW OUT OF VEHICLES OR TRAILERS BECOMES LITTER. LITTER POLLUTES OUR LOCAL WATERWAYS.

Cigarette butts are the most littered items, followed by bottles, cans, fast food packaging and plastic shopping bags. What are you doing to prevent litter?

Do something about littering in your community! Coordinate or participate in a roadside cleanup. Call 205-325-8741 to learn more.

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To report suspected water pollution within unincorporated Jefferson County, call 205-325-5792.

# FEBRUARY 2015

## IMPORTANT DATES

### FEBRUARY 14

#### Annual Birmingham Plant Dig

10:00AM – 2:00PM  
New Georgia Landfill  
Stock up on FREE plants  
for your yard!  
Call 205-787-5222 to  
learn more.

### FEBRUARY 19

#### Urban Forestry Fair

FREE tree seedling give  
away in Linn Park sponsored  
by the Jefferson County  
Soil & Water Conservation  
District. Like us on Facebook  
<https://www.facebook.com/jeffcosoilandwaterconservation> or call  
205-424-9990 x101 for  
more information.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2 <i>Groundhog Day</i> <i>World Wetlands Day</i>	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14 <i>Valentine's Day</i>
15	16 <i>President's Day</i>	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28



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# MARCH

If your garden isn't coming up as beautifully as your neighbor's, it may not be a green thumb that you're missing. The quality of the soil is a major factor in how lush and green your garden grows.

You can purchase a soil test kit from your local lawn and garden store, or pick up a free kit from an Alabama Cooperative Extension System (ACES) office and have your soil sample analyzed by Auburn University for only \$7. Visit [www.aces.edu/soiltest](http://www.aces.edu/soiltest) for more information.

## "SPREAD" THE WORD!



1. PUT SOIL INTO BAG 2. MAIL AS INSTRUCTED 3. FOLLOW TEST RESULTS

## TEST YOUR SOIL BEFORE YOU BUY

BY APPLYING THE CORRECT PRODUCT IN APPROPRIATE AMOUNTS, YOU CAN PREVENT WATER POLLUTION.

IT IS EASY TO APPLY TOO MUCH FERTILIZER WHEN YOU DO NOT KNOW WHAT YOU REALLY NEED. ANY EXCESS JUST GETS WASHED OFF BY RAINFALL OR IRRIGATION AND POLLUTES OUR WATERWAYS.

Help for your home gardening challenges is just a phone call away. For any of your gardening inquiries, call a Master Gardener Volunteer at 1-877-252-GROW and select option 3 for the Birmingham area.

If your soil test report recommends adding lime or fertilizer to your soil, it will specify the amounts to use. Look for the 3 numbers for nitrogen, phosphorus, and/or potassium displayed on the fertilizer package to make sure you are purchasing the right product for your soil.

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# MARCH 2015

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 Daylight Savings Time Begins	9	10	11	12	13	14 International Day of Action for Rivers
15	16	17 St. Patrick's Day	18	19	20	21 World Planting Day
22 World Water Day	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

## IMPORTANT DATES

### MARCH 21

#### Japan-America Society of Alabama's Annual Cherry Blossom Festival

11:00AM – 4:00PM

Japanese Gardens at the Birmingham Botanical Gardens

Free admission and parking. Visit [www.bbgardens.org](http://www.bbgardens.org) for more information.

#### Drug Take Back Program

Properly dispose of unwanted prescription and over the counter medications.

Call your local law enforcement office or visit: [www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drug\\_disposal/takeback/index.html](http://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drug_disposal/takeback/index.html) to find a location near you.



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# APRIL

You can set your spreader to the recommended application rate by adjusting its dial to the number specified in the package directions.

Using more fertilizer than recommended or using the wrong type will not help your lawn or garden to grow. Test your soil and read package directions to be sure!

When calculating the square footage of the area you plan to fertilize, don't forget to subtract the size of paved areas from the total.

## "SPREAD" THE WORD!



## FERTILIZE CORRECTLY

BY KEEPING FERTILIZER OFF OF PAVED AREAS,  
YOU CAN PREVENT WATER POLLUTION.

ANY EXCESS JUST GETS WASHED OFF BY RAINFALL  
OR IRRIGATION AND POLLUTES OUR WATERWAYS.  
ALWAYS FOLLOW LABEL DIRECTIONS.

Never apply fertilizer right before or during a rain because it will be washed into the storm drainage system and carried to the nearest stream or creek.

Buy just enough product for the job so that you won't have to properly store any leftovers.

Finish the job by sweeping up any fertilizer that lands on paved areas!

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To report suspected water pollution within unincorporated Jefferson County,  
call 205-325-5792.



# APRIL 2015

## IMPORTANT DATES

**APRIL 9-12**

**Spring Plant Sale**

Birmingham Botanical Gardens

Visit [www.bbgardens.org](http://www.bbgardens.org) for more information.

**APRIL 25**

**Earth Day at the Gardens**

Birmingham Botanical Gardens

Visit [www.bbgardens.org](http://www.bbgardens.org) for more information.

**APRIL 30**

**Birmingham Electronic Recycle Day**

Linn Park

8:00AM-2:00PM

Call 205-787-5222 for more information. This event is free and open to the public.

**Green Tie Affair**

Call the Alabama Environmental Council at 205-322-3126 for information.

**Village Creek Spring Cleanup**

Visit

[www.villagecreeksociety.org](http://www.villagecreeksociety.org) for more information.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
5 <i>Easter</i>	6	7 <i>World Health Day</i>	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15 <i>Tax Day</i>	16	17	18
19	20	21	22 <i>Earth Day</i>	23	24 <i>Arbor Day</i>	25
26	27	28	29	30		



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# MAY

## IN A PERFECT WORLD!

Most wild animals do not live in close proximity to one another. That is why there is nothing natural about 150,000 domesticated dogs concentrated in an area the size of Jefferson County.

An average sized dog produces about 1/2 pound of waste per day. If you combine all of our dogs' waste, that's about 38 tons per day!

The average pile of dog waste contains 2.5 billion fecal coliform bacteria as well as viruses and parasites. These pathogens can live in both soil and water, and people and pets are at risk of illness if they are exposed to them.



## IT'S YOUR "DOODY"

BY PICKING UP AND PROPERLY DISPOSING OF PET WASTE, YOU CAN PREVENT WATER POLLUTION.

PET WASTE CONTAINS HARMFUL BACTERIA WHICH IS WASHED BY RAINFALL AND IRRIGATION. PET WASTE POLLUTES OUR WATERWAYS.

Pets don't pick up after themselves. So until that happens, it's YOUR 'doody':

- 1- Pick it up.
- 2 - Bag it.
- 3 - Trash it.

Dog waste does NOT fertilize the grass. If not picked up and properly discarded it can wind up in local creeks and streams when rain washes it from the ground.

Some common plants and yard chemicals are toxic for dogs. Visit [www.aces.edu](http://www.aces.edu) and search for "Four-legged Gardening" to learn how to care for your yard while keeping your pet safe.

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To report a sanitary sewer overflow, please call 205-942-0681.

To report suspected water pollution within unincorporated Jefferson County, call 205-325-5792.



# MAY 2015

## IMPORTANT DATES

**MAY 15**  
**Flicks Among the Flowers**  
 Birmingham Botanical  
 Gardens  
 Visit [www.bbgardens.org](http://www.bbgardens.org)  
 for more information.

**MAY 16**  
**Do Dah Day**  
 Caldwell Park, Birmingham  
 Support local animal  
 charities by participating!  
 Visit [www.dodahday.org](http://www.dodahday.org)  
 for more information.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 <i>May Day</i>	2
3 <i>International Migratory Bird Day</i>	4	5 <i>Cinco De Mayo</i>	6	7	8	9
10 <i>Mother's Day</i>	11	12	13	14	15 <i>Bike-to-Work Day</i>	16 <i>Armed Forces Day</i>
17	18	19	20 <i>Earth Day</i>	21	22 <i>International Day for Biological Diversity</i>	23
24	25 <i>Memorial Day</i>	26	27	28	29	30





# JUNE

Got bugs? Call the Plant Diagnostic Lab in Birmingham at 205-879-6964 ext. 19 to help you identify the insect problems and diseases that are plaguing your lawn or garden.

Some bugs are beneficial to humans because they eat harmful bugs and assist in helping keep plants healthy. Some even perform vital functions for our food crops.

Integrated pest management (IPM) strategies are simple. Identify the pest before reacting. Start with non-chemical tactics. If pesticides are needed, use the least toxic products first.

## “BEE” RESPONSIBLE!



## PESTICIDES DON'T PICK & CHOOSE

INSECTICIDES KILL ALL INSECTS, EVEN THE ONES YOU DID NOT INTEND TO HARM, SUCH AS OUR FOOD POLLINATORS.

CONSIDER ALTERNATIVES TO PESTICIDES. CHOOSE THE LEAST TOXIC PRODUCTS FIRST. APPLY PRODUCTS ONLY IN THE LATE EVENINGS WHEN POLLINATORS ARE NOT ACTIVE.

Butterflies and other pollinators are dying because they are the unintended casualties of broad spectrum pesticide application. Spot treat affected plants and avoid over spray.

If bees completely disappear, more than 1/3 of the world's crops would disappear. There also would be much less feed for raising livestock.

You can do your part by using pesticides only when necessary, and spraying early in the morning or late in the evening when pollinators are not out looking for food. Consider planting bee friendly plants in your yard. Visit [www.aces.edu/urban/TreesforBees](http://www.aces.edu/urban/TreesforBees) to learn more!

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To report suspected water pollution within unincorporated Jefferson County, call 205-325-5792.



# JUNE 2015

## IMPORTANT DATES

**JUNE 10**

**JUNE 24**

***Lunch and Learn Series***

11:30AM – 12:30PM

Birmingham Botanical Gardens

Free and open to the public.

No reservations are

required; light refreshments

served. For information

about seminar topics, visit

[www.bbgardens.org](http://www.bbgardens.org).

**JUNE 19**

***Flicks Among the Flowers***

Birmingham Botanical Gardens

Visit [www.bbgardens.org](http://www.bbgardens.org)

for more information.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5 <i>World Environment Day</i>	6
7	8 <i>World Oceans Day</i>	9	10	11	12	13
14 <i>Flag Day</i>	15 <i>Global Wind Day</i>	16	17 <i>World Day to Combat Desertification &amp; Drought</i>	18	19	20
21 <i>Father's Day</i>	22	23	24 <i>Earth Day</i>	25	26	27
28	29	30				



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# JULY

Stormwater picks up pollution as it comes in contact with the ground, paved areas, and other surfaces, and carries these untreated substances into the storm drain system. Stormwater that carries pollution is called polluted runoff.

Reduce runoff by aerating your lawn and amending your soil to enhance its water retention.

Water early in the morning or late in the evening to reduce evaporation and maximize watering efficiency.

## REDUCE RUNOFF!



## WATER THE LAWN, NOT THE STREET

BY KEEPING WATER FROM LEAVING YOUR PROPERTY, YOU CAN PREVENT WATER RUNOFF AND WATER POLLUTION.

RUNOFF CARRIES LAWN PRODUCTS AND LOOSE SOIL TO OUR WATERWAYS CAUSING POLLUTION. DIRECT SPRINKLERS AND DOWNSPOUTS ONTO LAWNS, NOT DRIVEWAYS & SIDEWALKS.

Look for ways to reduce the amount of water your yard needs. Choosing native plants which are drought and pest resistant is a good start. Visit [www.aces.edu](http://www.aces.edu) for more information.

Add or reapply mulch to garden beds to retain moisture and reduce the frequency of watering.

Look for ways to keep rainwater on your property by using features such as rain barrels or rain gardens in your landscape to slow it down, spread it out, and allow it to soak in.

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To report a sanitary sewer overflow, please call 205-942-0681.

To report suspected water pollution within unincorporated Jefferson County, call 205-325-5792.



# JULY 2015

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4 Independence Day
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

## IMPORTANT DATES

**JULY 8**

**JULY 22**

11:30AM – 12:30PM  
Birmingham Botanical  
Gardens

Free and open to the  
public.

No reservations are  
required; light refreshments  
served.

For information about  
seminar topics,  
visit [www.bbgardens.org](http://www.bbgardens.org).

**JULY 17**

***Flicks Among the Flowers***

Birmingham Botanical  
Gardens

Visit [www.bbgardens.org](http://www.bbgardens.org)  
for more information.



# AUGUST

Litter and trash in communities can attract unwanted vermin like rats, raccoons, opossums and snakes.

Participate in a creek clean up near you! For more information, visit [www.renewourrivers.com](http://www.renewourrivers.com)

Properly disposing of litter and trash, covering trash cans to keep out wind and animals, and periodically picking up around your property can help keep these pollutants out of creeks and streams.

## TRASH FLOATS!



## TARP & TIE YOUR LOAD

BY PROPERLY TRANSPORTING AND DISPOSING OF TRASH, YOU CAN PREVENT WATER POLLUTION.

INTENTIONAL OR NOT, TRASH AND OTHER ITEMS THAT BLOW OUT OF VEHICLES OR TAILERS BECOMES LITTER. LITTER POLLUTES OUR LOCAL WATERWAYS.

Whatever is on the ground can be washed by rainwater into the storm drainage system and carried untreated to local creeks and streams.

Got items that your curbside trash service won't pick up? Visit [www.recycleAL.com](http://www.recycleAL.com) to find facilities that will accept your hard to dispose of items.

Make littering unacceptable in your community by coordinating or participating in a roadside cleanup. Call 205-325-8741 to learn more.

To report environmental issues within the City of Birmingham, call 311.  
To report a sanitary sewer overflow, please call 205-942-0681.  
To report suspected water pollution within unincorporated Jefferson County, call 205-325-5792.



**IMPORTANT DATES**

**AUGUST 4**

**National Night Out**

For more, call the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office at 205-325-1450 or the City of Birmingham Police Department at 205-328-9311.

**AUGUST 5**

**AUGUST 19**

**Lunch and Learn Series**

11:30AM-12:30PM  
Birmingham Botanical Gardens  
Free and open to the public.  
No reservations are required; light refreshments served.  
For information, visit [www.bbgardens.org](http://www.bbgardens.org).

**Valley Creek Cleanup**

8:00AM-12 NOON  
Valley Creek,  
Free t-shirt and lunch.  
Call 205-930-1274 for more information.

**National Water Quality Month**

What are you doing to protect water quality in Jefferson County's 50 creeks and streams?

# AUGUST 2015

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					



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# SEPTEMBER

Instead of piling your leaves or grass clippings on the curb, start looking at them as a resource instead of a nuisance by using them as mulch or in a compost pile.

You can reduce the amount of garbage your household generates by adding kitchen scraps such as vegetable and fruit peels, coffee grounds, and egg shells to your compost pile. Never add grease, animal waste, or other animal products to the pile.

## IT'S "MULCH" BETTER!



### FLOOD

IT AFFECTS YOU!  
LEAVES IN ROADWAYS  
OR ROADSIDE DITCHES  
BLOCK RAIN FROM  
ENTERING STORM DRAINS  
CAUSING FLOODING.

### FOOD

SAVE MONEY!  
MULCHED LEAVES WILL  
DECOMPOSE SUPPLYING  
PLANTS WITH A NATURAL,  
SLOW RELEASE FORM OF  
FREE FOOD.

ONE LETTER CHANGES EVERYTHING. KEEP LEAVES OUT OF ROADWAYS, ROADSIDE DITCHES, AND STORM DRAINS.

Mulch enriches soil by supplying micronutrients, stabilizing soil temperature, retaining moisture, and reducing weed growth.

Compost is ready to use when it no longer resembles what it originally was, and looks and smells like rich crumbly soil. Compost improves the quality and texture of soil, adds nutrients and helps retain moisture.

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# SEPTEMBER 2015

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

		1	2	3	4	5
6	7 <i>Labor Day</i>	8	9	10	11 <i>Patriot's Day</i>	12
13	14	15	16	17	18 <i>World Water Monitoring Day</i>	19
20	21	22 <i>Car Free Day</i>	23	24	25	26 <i>World Environmental Health Day</i>
27 <i>World Rivers Day</i>	28	29	30	31		

## IMPORTANT DATES

### SEPTEMBER 2 SEPTEMBER 16

#### **Lunch and Learn Series**

11:30AM – 12:30PM

Birmingham Botanical Gardens

Free and open to the public.

No reservations are

required; light refreshments

served. For information

about seminar topics, visit

[www.bbgardens.org](http://www.bbgardens.org).

### SEPTEMBER 13-19

#### **Pollution Prevention Week**

Everything exposed to

rain is a potential source

of water pollution! What

pollutants are lurking at

your home?

### SEPTEMBER 20-26

#### **SepticSmart Week**

Visit [www.water.epa.gov/infrastructure/septic/septicSMART](http://www.water.epa.gov/infrastructure/septic/septicSMART)

to learn more.

#### **Village Creek Fall Cleanup**

Visit

[www.villagecreeksociety.org](http://www.villagecreeksociety.org)

for more information.



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# OCTOBER

Running a lawnmower without the bag attached over the leaves in your yard will chop them into bits and drop the bits back onto your lawn. These bits will decompose on your lawn and provide FREE slow release fertilizer.

Bagging leaves for trash pickup is just throwing away a valuable resource. Use your leaves and yard waste to start a compost pile at home.

## IT'S "MULCH" BETTER!



## LEAF MULCH MAKES FREE FOOD

BY RELYING ON NATURE TO FEED AND PROTECT YOUR LAWN AND GARDEN BEDS, YOU CAN PREVENT WATER POLLUTION.

FALLEN LEAVES CONTAIN NUTRIENTS THAT PROVIDE FREE PLANT FOOD. MULCH SMOTHERS WEEDS, HELPS SOILS RETAIN MOISTURE, AND REDUCES SOIL EROSION.

Got too many leaves for your lawn mower to handle? Use your fallen leaves as mulch for your garden beds as a FREE way to reduce weeds and retain moisture around plants.

Now is the best time to plant trees, shrubs, and other additions to your landscape! Also, don't forget to winterize your plants by reapplying mulch to your garden and flowerbeds.

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To report a sanitary sewer overflow, please call 205-942-0681.  
To report suspected water pollution within unincorporated Jefferson County, call 205-325-5792.



**IMPORTANT DATES**

**Fall Plant Sale**

Birmingham Botanical Gardens

Visit [www.bbgardens.org](http://www.bbgardens.org) for more information.

**OCTOBER 7, OCTOBER 21**

**Lunch and Learn Series**

11:30AM – 12:30PM

Birmingham Botanical Gardens

Free and open to the public.

No reservations are required; light refreshments served. For information about seminar topics, visit [www.bbgardens.org](http://www.bbgardens.org).

**Recycling and Waste Reduction Summit**

Call the Alabama Environmental Center at 205-322-3126 for information.

**Drug Take Back Program**

Properly dispose of unwanted prescription and over the counter medications.

Call your local law enforcement office or visit [www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drug\\_disposal/takeback/index.html](http://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drug_disposal/takeback/index.html) to find a location near you.

# OCTOBER 2015

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
4	5 <i>World Habitat Day</i>	6	7	8	9	10
11	12 <i>Columbus Day</i>	13	14 <i>International Day for Natural Disaster Reduction</i>	15 <i>Boss's Day</i>	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31 <i>Halloween</i>



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# NOVEMBER

Pouring any fats, oils, or grease down the drain clogs the pipes in your home and causes sanitary sewer overflows.

The cost of a plumber to clear clogged drains or a sewage backup can really add up. Keep used cooking oil and grease out of the drain!

## 1 DROP BUILDS UP!



1. COOK & COOL    2. POUR INTO CONTAINER    3. RETURN & EXCHANGE

## OIL & GREASE CLOGS DRAINS

BY PROPERLY DISPOSING OF YOUR USED COOKING OIL AND GREASE, YOU CAN PREVENT WATER POLLUTION.

HOUSEHOLD COOKING OIL & GREASE CLOGS SINK DRAINS AND SEWER PIPES AND IS COSTLY TO REPAIR. SAVE MONEY AND PREVENT HEADACHES ~ RECYCLE THESE PRODUCTS FOR FREE. CALL 205-238-3876 FOR MORE INFORMATION.

Sanitary sewer overflows pollute streams and creeks with raw sewage. These events are costly to repair and unhealthy for people and the environment.

You can avoid costly plumbing repairs by recycling used cooking oil and grease. New, clean recycling containers are available for FREE at all Jefferson County collection centers. Visit [www.jeffcoes.org](http://www.jeffcoes.org) to find a location near you.

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To report suspected water pollution within unincorporated Jefferson County, call 205-325-5792.



# NOVEMBER 2015

## IMPORTANT DATES

**NOVEMBER 4**  
**NOVEMBER 18**  
**Lunch and Learn Series**

11:30AM – 12:30PM  
 Birmingham Botanical  
 Gardens  
 Free and open to the public.  
 No reservations are required;  
 light refreshments served.  
 For information about  
 seminar topics, visit  
[www.bbgardens.org](http://www.bbgardens.org).

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 <i>Daylight Savings Time Ends</i>	2	3 <i>Election Day</i>	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11 <i>Veterans Day</i>	12	13	14
15 <i>America Recycles Day</i>	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26 <i>Thanksgiving Day</i>	27	28
29	30	31				



# DECEMBER

Think twice before pouring used cooking oil and grease outside to dispose of it or to control weeds. This practice attracts unwanted 'visitors' to your home . . . and they might even bring their friends!

Instead of dooming your old electronics and holiday decorations to the landfill, why not recycle them? Visit [www.recycleAL.com](http://www.recycleAL.com) to find facilities that will accept these and other holiday items.

## UMMM BACON!



## YOU CREATED THE GUEST LIST

BY PROPERLY DISPOSING OF YOUR USED COOKING OIL AND GREASE, YOU CAN PREVENT WATER POLLUTION.

COOKING OIL & GREASE Poured ONTO THE GROUND INVITES UNWANTED GUESTS TO YOUR HOME & POLLUTES OUR LOCAL WATERWAYS. RECYCLE USED COOKING OIL FOR FREE.

Rats, raccoons, opossums and other vermin will feed on any type of grease, oil, or other food waste that you place uncovered outside your home. These animals can carry diseases and create a health risk for humans.

Keep creepy critters away from your home by recycling used cooking oil and grease. New, clean recycling containers are available for FREE at all Jefferson County collection centers. Visit [www.jeffcoes.org](http://www.jeffcoes.org) to find a location near you.

To report environmental issues within the City of Birmingham, call 311.

To report a sanitary sewer overflow, please call 205-942-0681.

To report suspected water pollution within unincorporated Jefferson County, call 205-325-5792.



# DECEMBER 2015

## IMPORTANT DATES

### TIPS FOR GREEN HOLIDAYS

#### Free the Tree

Recycle or repurpose your Christmas tree. Visit [www.recycleAL.com](http://www.recycleAL.com) for recycling information and ideas.

#### Recycle Paper

Try wrapping your presents in brown or recycled paper.

#### Turn off the Lights

Christmas tree lights left on for 10 hours a day over the 12 days of Christmas produce enough CO2 to inflate 12 balloons.

#### Defrost your freezer before the Holidays

It will work more efficiently and create more space to store leftover food, so that it doesn't go to waste.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 <i>World Aids Day</i>	2	3	4	5 <i>International Volunteer Day</i>
6 <i>Hanukkah Begins</i>	7	8	9	10	11 <i>International Mountain Day</i>	12
13	14 <i>Hanukkah Ends</i>	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24 <i>Christmas Eve</i>	25 <i>Christmas</i>	26 <i>Kwanzaa Begins</i>
27	28	29	30	31 <i>New Year's Eve</i>	JANUARY 1 <i>New Year's Day</i>	



Keep  
Birmingham  
Beautiful  
Commission



# 2015

## January

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

## February

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

## March

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

## April

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

## May

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
31					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

## June

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

## July

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

## August

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
30	31					1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

## September

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

## October

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

## November

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

## December

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		



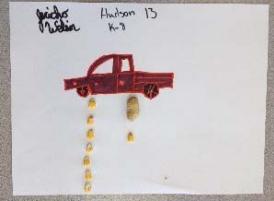



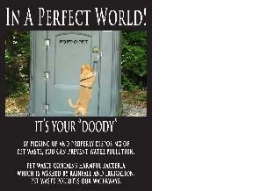













Always Remember  
"Only Rain Down the Storm Drain!"

Calendar designed by:  
City of Birmingham Stormwater Management  
and Jefferson County Storm Water Management



Topic / month	Student name	School	Age	Artwork
January – “One Drop Matters” (automotive oil and fluids)	Jericho Welson	Hudson K-8	13	
February – “Trash Blows” (litter/ improper disposal)	Isaiah McCullers	Green Acres Middle	12	
March – “Spread the Word” – (proper use of yard chemicals – fertilizers, herbicides, pesticides)	Kimora King	Green Acres Middle	12	
April – “Spread the Word” – (proper use of yard chemicals – fertilizers, herbicides, pesticides)	Isaiah McCullers	Green Acres Middle	12	
May – “In A Perfect World” (proper pet waste disposal)	No entries	n/a	n/a	
June – “Bee Responsible” – (protect pollinators from pesticides)	Jessica Cunningham	Hudson K-8	14	
July – “Reduce Runoff” – (increase infiltration)	Tia Paradise	Hudson K-8	14	
August – “Trash Floats” – (keeping litter / trash out of storm drains)	?			
*September – It’s Mulch Better - (recycling yard waste / composting)	Kaden McLemore	Green Acres Middle	12	

<p>*October – It's Mulch Better – (recycling yard waste / composting)</p>	<p>Serenity Watts</p>			
<p>November – 1 Drop Builds Up</p>	<p>No entries</p>	<p>n/a</p>	<p>n/a</p>	
<p>December – Ummm Bacon (don't attract wildlife, recycle used cooking oil)</p>	<p>Steffen M</p>	<p>Hudson K-8</p>	<p>14</p>	
<p>Cover – BACK of calendar (botanical gardens moon bridge)</p>	<p>Anittra H.</p>			
<p>Cover – FRONT of calendar (botanical gardens moon bridge)</p>				





# Certificate of Award

This certificate is awarded to

*Name of student*

for the creation of artwork selected for  
inclusion in the 2016 Stormwater Calendar

\_\_\_\_\_  
City of Birmingham Stormwater Program

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Friends of Birmingham Botanical Gardens

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jefferson County Storm Water Management Department

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



## Berres, Hana

---

**From:** Berres, Hana  
**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2015 3:54 PM  
**To:** Direcus Cooper (direcus.cooper@birminghamal.gov); Dawn Coleman  
**Cc:** Diclemente, Lyn  
**Subject:** FW: artwork judging guidelines  
**Attachments:** a\_artwork\_matching\_month.jpg; b\_artwork\_poster\_callout.jpg; c\_poster\_artwork\_callout.jpg

**Importance:** High

Third time is a charm!

Dawn:

Once Direcus decides on how to move forward based on the 3 options below we will then need your help in numbering the artwork accordingly. Then we also need you to reach out to Chris to judge.

Direcus:

Given that the calendar is your creation, Lyn and I feel it appropriate that you are the one that needs to decide how to proceed from here. We have listed three options below for your review concerning the artwork as well as made a recommendation to reduce our judging panel down to three. Please let us know which option you would like to proceed with by lunchtime Monday, June 8.

The original calendar plan with the BCAP kids was to:

Have the kids recreate a poster for each month with various materials.

Have 5 judges from various organizations choose the winning artwork for each month.

The winning artwork will replace the stormwater posters for each month as well as serve as the cover art.

Each student that created the winning artwork would be given a FREE week of gross out camp. Up to 13 winners will be selected because all students will submit artwork for the cover in addition to the other months.

Given unforeseen and uncontrollable circumstances, not all months have artwork to choose from. AND of the months that contain artwork to choose from, the artwork doesn't necessarily display the months poster topic.

I recommend that BEFORE we contact the judges, we need to be very clear on the judging instructions. In order to do that we need to decide on how we plan to use the artwork created. For example do we:

- a. Keep the original plan and choose the best artwork for that respective month/topic. If that month/topic doesn't have artwork, then there is nothing to judge – and the calendar will contain our original stormwater poster. (This would mean there are not 13 artwork winners).
- b. Have the judges pick 13 pictures – 12 that relate to stormwater topics (litter/debris, yard chemicals, runoff reduction, oil and grease, etc) and 1 for the cover. Then we can match the artwork with the months as we see fit. BUT to keep with our monthly topic, we can have a smaller version of our poster on the side bar – in the same area where the callouts are in our



current calendar. We can add a box under the artwork that would include information about the student (school, age, name). Then to tie back to the month's pollutant theme Birmingham Storm Water staff could follow up with the student winners and ask them how they think they can prevent that pollutant. Then ask the students something fun – like favorite flavor of ice cream. (This scenario would potentially mean the same student could have created more than 1 winning artwork\*)

- c. Keep stormwater posters as the main picture and use the artwork as a side callout. Judges would pick the top 13 favorites; 1 is used as the cover and the other 12 will be used as a 'monthly highlight' featured in the callout area. (This would potentially mean the same student could have created more than 1 winning artwork\*)

\*enclosed are graphic examples of these concepts.

\*\*If a student had multiple winning artworks – they would only get 1 week of gross out camp.

Judges:

I also recommend **reducing** the number of judges to **3**. I would recommend the judges to be:

- Chris Boles – FBBG
- Edwin Revel – City of Birmingham
- Zhaleh McCullers – Jefferson County

Warmly,  
Hana

**Hana Burwinkle Berres**

Education Training Coordinator – Storm Water Management Department

Room B-210 Jefferson County Courthouse, Birmingham 35203

205.325.8741

[berresh@jccal.org](mailto:berresh@jccal.org)

***From the roof to the stream, you can prevent the pollution in between!***



Judges:

- Chris Boles – Friends of Birmingham Botanical Gardens
- Zhaleh McCullers – Jefferson County
- Edwin Revel – City of Birmingham

Your role as a judge is to choose the best artwork for each topic listed below. The winning artwork will be used for a 12 month stormwater calendar.

The artwork was produced by students participating in the Birmingham Cultural Alliance Program (BCAP) during their two weeks of study at the Birmingham Botanical Gardens.

Winning students will be awarded a FREE week of *Gross Out Camp* compliments of Fresh Air Family. Only one week of camp will be awarded per student even if their artwork is selected for multiple topics.

- The artwork is stored in *Dropbox*; a link will be sent to you shortly. If you don't currently have a *Dropbox* account, you will need to create one – it is easy, and free.
- The artwork has been placed into folders that correspond to the topics listed below.
- Each piece of artwork has been assigned a unique number.
- Please place the number of your winning selection next to the corresponding topic in the ballot below.
- You will be directed to the same folder for the months of September and October.
- Return this form to Direcus Cooper, [Direcus.Cooper@birminghamal.gov](mailto:Direcus.Cooper@birminghamal.gov), by Wednesday, June 10, 2015 at 12:00 Noon.
- If you are unable serve as a judge, please let us know ASAP.

Photo Choice #	Topic
	January – “One Drop Matters” (automotive oil and fluids)
	February – “Trash Blows” (litter/ improper disposal)
	March – “Spread the Word” – (proper use of yard chemicals – fertilizers, herbicides, pesticides)
	April – “Spread the Word” – (proper use of yard chemicals – fertilizers, herbicides, pesticides)
No entries	May – “In A Perfect World” (proper pet waste disposal)
	June – “Bee Responsible” – (protect pollinators from pesticides)
	July – “Reduce Runoff” – (increase infiltration)
	August – “Trash Floats” – (keeping litter / trash out of storm drains)
	*September – It’s Mulch Better - (recycling yard waste / composting)
	*October – It’s Mulch Better – (recycling yard waste / composting)
No entries	November – 1 Drop Builds Up
	December – Ummm Bacon (don’t attract wildlife, recycle used cooking oil)
	Cover – FRONT of calendar (botanical gardens moon bridge)
	Cover – BACK of calendar (botanical gardens moon bridge)

\*Choose 2 artworks from this folder. One artwork will be used for the month of September and the other will be used for the month of October.



## Berres, Hana

---

**From:** Berres, Hana  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 16, 2015 1:10 PM  
**To:** Chris Boles  
**Cc:** Dawn Coleman ; Diclemente, Lyn; Direcus Cooper (direcus.cooper@birminghamal.gov)  
**Subject:** revote: final artwork choices needed for 2016 storm water calendar  
**Attachments:** Artwork choice ballot.docx; 12\_december\_choice.jpg; 4\_april\_choice.jpg; 9\_september\_choice.jpg; 10\_october\_choice.jpg

**Importance:** High

Chris,

On behalf of Dawn and the 2016 calendar team, we are asking all of the judges to re-vote some of the months artwork.

It came to our attention that not all of the original artwork was loaded into the dropbox account. In an effort to be fair for all students that participated in this project, we ask that you review the newly uploaded pictures against the artwork that was chosen by majority vote from the judges responses. The months that include new artwork are April, September, October and December.

Enclosed you will find four jpg images – one file for April, September, October and December.

The image files contain all of the artwork for that respective month that we would like you to 're-judge'.

Each artwork for that month has been labeled by a blue arrow.

- April choice file. Please open the file and choose between one of the two artworks (winner and new) to represent our "spread the word" topic. This topic relates to proper use of yard chemicals.
- September choice file. Please open the file and choose one of the two artworks to represent our "it's mulch better" topic. This topic relates to recycling yard waste / composting.
- October choice file. Please open the file and choose one of the three artworks to represent our "it's mulch better" topic. This topic relates to recycling yard waste / composting.
- December choice file. Please open the file and choose one of the two artworks to represent our "ummm bacon" topic. This topic relates to don't attract wildlife, recycle used cooking oil.

Fill out your winning choices in the ballot below – which is also attached in case the table doesn't display properly.

We need this done today – if at all possible.

Please 'respond all' with your winning choices.

Thank you for taking the time to judge and re-judge the artwork for our 2016 storm water calendar!

Warmly,  
Hana

Artwork choice	Artwork Topic / Month
	4_april – choice (winner vs. new)
	9_september – choice (winner vs. new)
	10_october – choice (winner vs. new #1 or new # 2)
	12_december – choice (winner vs. new )



# Gross Out Camp

(It's science but please don't tell the kids!)

Fresh Air Family's  
Summer Day Camp

Cart: 0

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Fresh Air Family  
P.O. Box 321038  
Birmingham, AL 35232

[Donate](#)







# About Gross Out Camp

## Our Philosophy

### “Tired, Dirty Children... Who Actually Learn Something”

Fresh Air Family is offering award-winning Gross Out Camp in eight different locations this year!

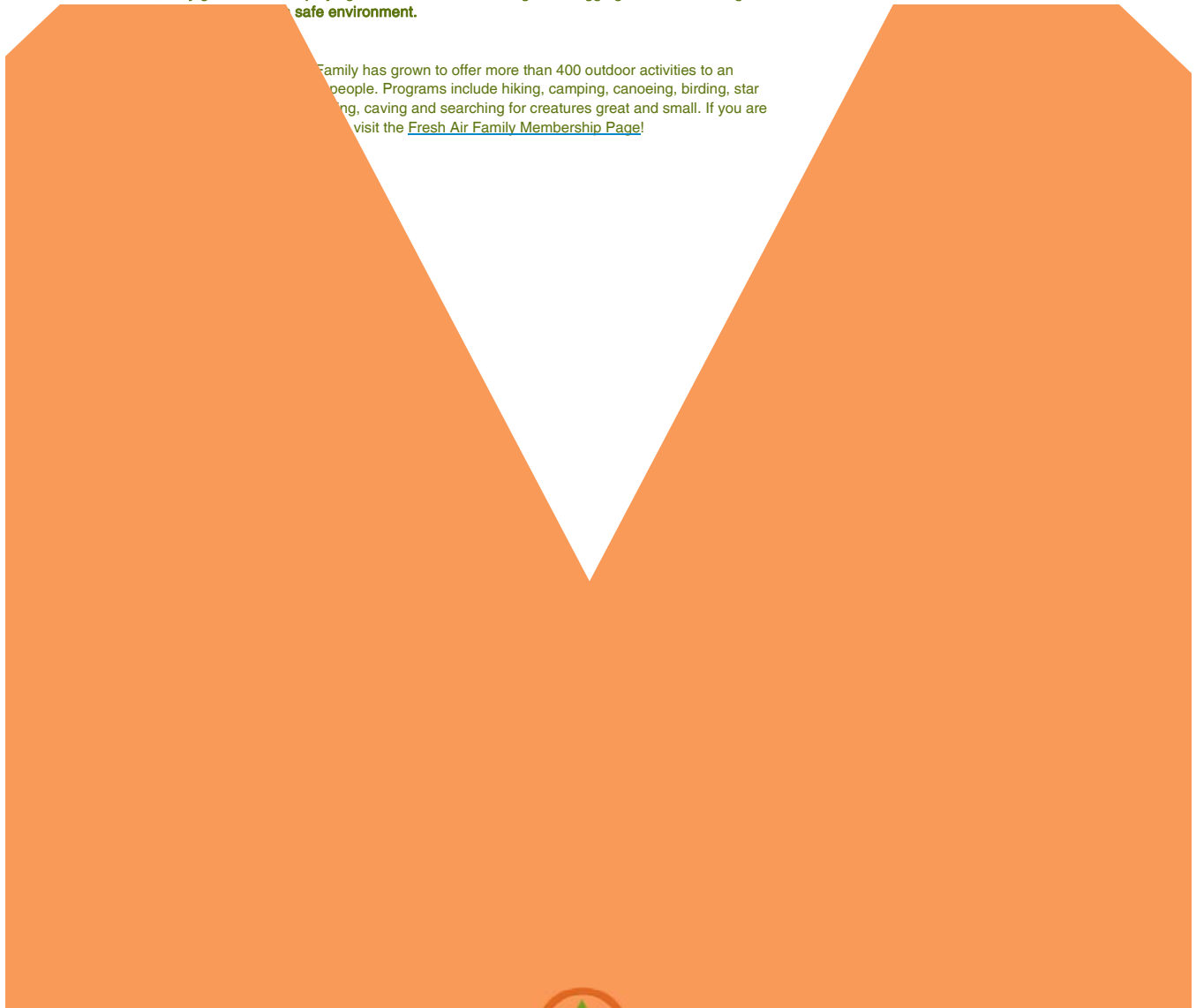
Snakes, a red-tailed hawk, crawdads, roly poly races, owl pellets, slime and polar, non-polar molecules – all of this plus the freedom to explore the natural world, comprise award-winning Gross Out Camp. It is the kind of science children love, hands-on, a bit disgusting, and all taking place in the Great Outdoors, the natural habitat for children and youth. We offer children the opportunity to learn, and they do, in spades, real spades as they dig up decomposers, i.e. worms and roly polies.

It is also fun -- because we believe nothing is more fun than learning! With hands-on learning, we address every learning style so that every child can be successful Using self-directed studies, the children can learn at their own pace -- and what they are interested in.

And, they get to be kids - playing in the creek bed, building forts, digging for worms, hiking in safe environment.



REGISTER



Family has grown to offer more than 400 outdoor activities to an people. Programs include hiking, camping, canoeing, birding, star ing, caving and searching for creatures great and small. If you are visit the [Fresh Air Family Membership Page!](#)



Our Staff & Directors



**Sydney Upp**  
Camp



**Emma Ruiz**  
Camp



**Grace Allison**  
Junior

# Gross Out Camp

(It's science but please don't tell the kids!)

## Fresh Air Family's Summer Day Camp

Cart: 0

[Home](#) [About Us](#) [Birmingham](#) [Gulf Shores](#) [Huntsville](#) [Montgomery](#) [Kentucky](#) [Registration](#) [FAQ](#) [Sponsor A Kid](#)



## at Birmingham Botanical Gardens

9am-5pm with before and after care available  
 \$200 for members (Fresh Air Family and Gardens)  
 \$225 for non-members for the week

Early Bird special through March \$175 members/\$200 non-members  
 Scholarships available.

Email: [Amanda@FreshAirFamily.org](mailto:Amanda@FreshAirFamily.org)

Birmingham Botanical Gardens is Alabama's largest living museum with more than 12,000 different plants in its living collections. The Gardens' 67.5 acres contains 25+ unique gardens, 30+ works of original outdoor sculpture and miles of serene paths.

### 1st - 4th Grade Only Sessions

**Session 1: June 1-5 -- Grades 1-4 (CLOSED)**

Session 3: June 15-19 -- Grades 1-4

Session 4: June 22-26 -- Grades 1-4

Session 6: July 6-10 -- Grades 1-4

Session 7: July 13-17 -- Grades 1-4

Session 9: July 27-31 -- Grades 1-4

**REGISTER NOW!**

### Grades 1 - 7 & 5th - 7th Grade Sessions

Session 2: June 8-12 -- Grades 1-7

Session 5: June 29 - July 3 -- Grades 1-7

Session 8: July 20-24 -- Grades 5-7