



Gail Barton

Landscape Consultant Meridian, Mississippi

Presentation,

“Plant Propagation Workshop: Make More Plants in Your Own Backyard!”

This interactive hands-on workshop will focus on propagation techniques for native plants. Since biodiversity is such an important part of native plant gardening, we will concentrate mostly on seed propagation. We will handle samples of many types of seed and discuss harvesting techniques and timing. Participants will process fruit to get clean plant-able seed. We will review seed treatment options and techniques for storing or planting seed and discuss where and how to successfully grow young seedlings. We will then take cuttings, divide plants and discuss timing and follow up care. The instructor will recommend pots, soil, plant labels, irrigation & winter protection that would be useful in a small commercial or backyard nursery. Participants should wear comfortable clothes that can handle some dirt. Please bring a pair of sharp scissors and lots of questions.

Bio

After a long career in the Stephen F. Austin State University Department of Agriculture, Dr. Gail Barton taught Plant Propagation for over two decades as part of the Meridian Community College Horticulture Program. During her long horticultural career, she worked as a Horticulture Instructor, owner of a retail mail order nursery, garden writer and landscape consultant. She is past president of the Mississippi Native Plant Society and currently serves as the MNPS Field Trips Chair. Gail maintains a small backyard nursery on her 6 acre home place in Meridian, Mississippi. She firmly believes that small scale propagation is one of our best hopes for preserving and maintaining local ecotypes. Gail is a certifiable plant fool. She enjoys botanizing, kayaking and exploring her own wooded nature trails with her pack of happy dogs.