TO: Texas AgriLIFE Extension Agents and Texas Master Gardeners  

FROM: Kara Matheney, County Extension Agent  
Carol Daniels, Bluebonnet Master Gardener Association – Board of Directors  

SUBJECT: Master Gardener Rainwater Specialist Training  

Texas AgriLIFE Extension Service of Austin, Colorado, Fayette, and Washington Counties in conjunction with the Bluebonnet Master Gardener Association are offering a Master Gardener Rainwater Specialist Training in Washington County on July 19th and 20th, 2012. The training will take place at the W. J. “Bill” Rankin Agricultural Complex at Blinn College, 1409 Old Mill Creek Road, Brenham, Texas.

Every trainee will make a rain barrel to take home for their own use, or to use as a demonstration. Each trainee will receive a shirt, PowerPoint Presentations, and other materials to help them install rainwater harvesting system demonstrations in their counties and teach others about rainwater harvesting. Be sure to dress appropriately for outdoor activities. In this informational packet you will find the registration form, a tentative agenda, listing of lodging in the Brenham area, and a map with directions to the Blinn College Campus.

Only 30 participant spots are available for this training, so please submit your registration forms as soon as possible. Registration is on a first come/first serve basis. Payment and registration forms must arrive at the Colorado County Extension Office by June 15, 2012. Registrants will be notified of their acceptance via email by June 20, 2012. The last day to cancel registration without forfeiting registration money will be July 2, 2012; any cancelation notice must be received via email: bmgavolunteer@gmail.com. Please contact Kara Matheney at (979) 732-2082 or by email kjmatheney@ag.tamu.edu to answer any questions or provide further information.

Once the course is complete, Master Gardener Rainwater Harvesting Specialists will be able to set up a rainwater harvesting demonstration and trainings in their counties for other Master Gardeners and for the public.

We are excited to be able to host such a great learning opportunity and look forward to seeing you there!

Sincerely,

Kara J. Matheney  
Extension Agent – Ag/NR  
Texas AgriLIFE Extension Service  
Colorado County  

Educational programs of the Texas AgriLife Extension Service are open to all people without regard to race, color, sex, disability, religion, age, or national origin. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating.
Registration Form
Master Gardener Specialist – Rainwater Harvesting
Texas AgriLIFE Extension Service – Bluebonnet Master Gardeners
Austin, Colorado, Fayette, and Washington Counties Cooperating
July 19th and July 20th, 2012
Colorado County Extension Office (979) 732-2082

Please complete the forms below and remit them to the address listed below by the deadline. Please print legibly.

Name: _____________________________________________
Address: ____________________________________________
____________________________________________

Daytime Phone: ______________________________
E-Mail: __________________________________________  County: ____________________

Do you have any special dietary needs? ____________________

Required
Your Master Gardener Coordinator/County Agent   Signature: ____________________________

Shirt Size:       Ladies_____   Men_____  
S_____ M_____ L_____ XL_____ XXL_____ XXXL_____  

Registration fee: $225.00   Type of Payment: _____ Check _____ Money Order

Note: Breakfast, Lunch, and Snacks provided both days and Dinner on Thursday evening. Transportation and Lodging are on your own.

Make checks payable to: Bluebonnet Master Gardeners
Mail Payments and Registration Form to:

Texas AgriLIFE Extension Service
Colorado County
316 Spring Street
Columbus, Texas 78934

Note: All Registration Forms and Payment Must Arrive in the Extension Office by June 15, 2012. Registrants will be notified of their acceptance by June 20, 2012. The last day to cancel registration without forfeiting registration money will be July 2nd. Any cancelation notice must be received via email: bmgavolunteer@gmail.com
Master Gardener’s Specialist Training - Rainwater Harvesting – TENTATIVE Agenda
W. J. “Bill” Rankin Agricultural Complex at Blinn College
Brenham, TX
July 19th and July 20th, 2012

Thursday, July 19th, 2012

9:00-9:30  Registration & Continental Breakfast provided
9:30-9:45  Welcome & Introductions – Blue Bonnet Master Gardeners
9:45-10:30  Water and You – Brent Clayton
10:30-11:15  Where Does the Rainfall Go? – Billy Kniffen
11:15-11:30  Break – Refreshments Provided
11:30-12:30  Rainwater Harvesting Basics – Billy Kniffen
12:30-1:30  Lunch – Meeting Room – Blue Bonnet Master Gardeners
1:30-2:15  Rainwater Harvesting Basics – continued
2:15-3:15  System Installation
3:15-3:30  Break – Refreshments Provided
3:30-4:15  Rainwater Harvesting for Wildlife – Billy Kniffen
4:15-5:15  Construction of Wildlife Bird Bath
Dinner – To Be Announced

Friday, July 20th, 2012

8:15-8:30  Continental Breakfast provided
8:30-9:15  Landscaping for Rainwater Capture – Billy Kniffen
9:15-10:15  Rain Gardens and Other Stormwater Control – Brent Clayton
10:15-10:30  Break
10:30-11:30  Drip Irrigation and Rain Garden Demonstrations
11:30-12:30  Lunch – Meeting Room – Blue Bonnet Master Gardeners
12:30-2:30  Tour of Rainwater Harvesting Systems
2:30-3:00  Overall Land and Water Stewardship – Billy Kniffen
3:00-3:15  Break
3:15-4:00  Construction of Rain Barrels – Brent Clayton
4:00-4:45  Evaluations, Your Charge, Closing Remarks – Brent Clayton / Billy Kniffen
Lodging in the Brenham Area

La Quinta Inn & Suites Brenham
2950 Woodridge Blvd, Brenham, TX
(979) 836-5551

Comfort Suites
2350 South Day Street, Brenham, TX
(979) 421-8108

Hampton Inn & Suites Brenham
2605 Schulte Blvd, Brenham, TX
(979) 337-9898

Ant Street Inn
107 West Commerce Street, Brenham, TX
(979) 836-7393

Holiday Inn Express Hotel & Suites Brenham
555 Hwy 290 W, Brenham, TX
(979) 836-4590

Best Western Plus Inn of Brenham
1503 Highway 290 E, Brenham, TX
(979) 251-7791

Far View Bed & Breakfast Inn
1804 South Park Street, Brenham, TX
(979) 839-1672

Super 8 Brenham
2831 South Market Street, Brenham, TX
(979) 830-8885
Directions to Blinn College

Detailed directions and maps can be located at the following web address:
http://www.blinn.edu/Map%20details/Directions%20to%20Blinn.htm

West
From Austin
- Enter Brenham via US 290
- Remain on Bus. 290E towards downtown Brenham.
- At the first traffic light, turn right onto Blinn Blvd. and the campus will be .1 mile.

North
From Somerville
- Enter Brenham from Somerville via US 36.
- Remain on Bus. 36 to the downtown area.
- Bus. 36 becomes Austin Parkway and Austin St.
- After crossing Main St., College Ave. will be approximately .25 mile on the right.
- Take a right on College Avenue and the college will be ahead.

Northeast
From Bryan/College Station
- From College Station, you may drive west on FM 60 through Snook to US 36 south
- Enter Brenham from Somerville via US 36.
- Remain on Bus. 36 to the downtown area.
- Bus. 36 becomes Austin Parkway and Austin St.
- After crossing Main St., College Ave. will be approximately .25 mile on the right.
- Take a right on College Avenue and the college will be ahead.

-----OR-----
- Travelers may travel west on FM 60 to FM 50
- Take a left on FM 50 and travel 24 miles to US 105.
- At US 105, take right into Brenham.
- At the intersection of US 105 and FM 577 take a right to Bus 36.
- At Bus 36 take a left and follow Austin Parkway to College Ave.
- Take a right on College Avenue and the college will be ahead.

Southeast
From Houston
- Enter Brenham via US 290.
- Remain on US290/36 loop and exit Blinn College exit.
- Turn right on FM389 (Prairie Lea St.)
- Follow to College Ave.

South
From Bellville
- Enter Brenham from the south on US 36.
- At intersection of US290 and US36, turn left under the highway and enter US290/36 loop.
- Take Blinn College exit ramp to FM 389 (Prairie Lea St.)
- Follow Prairie Lea St. to College Ave.