

[View this email in your browser](#)

January Newsletter

[Engage](#) | [Learn](#) | [Research](#) | [Garden](#) | [Plant](#)



ENGAGE: WITH THE FWBG | BRIT COMMUNITY

New Year's Goals? Ready, Set, Go!

It's a new year—time for a new you! Now if only those goals you set for yourself weren't so hard to achieve.

If you made a list of New Year's resolutions on January 1, you might already be wondering how you're going to carry them out. [Consider our beautiful, combined campus and programs to help you succeed.](#)



LEARN: STAY CURIOUS

Make the Most of Your Garden by Improving Your Soil

Many people pay no attention to what is under their feet. To them, dirt is just . . . dirt. In fact, soil is the foundation of a successful garden.

“Only climate has more impact on the garden than soil,” said VP of Horticulture and Assistant Director Bob Byers. “You can’t do much about the climate, but you can definitely improve your soil.”

Byers will teach the fundamentals of building healthy soil in his upcoming workshop “Good Earth: From Healthy Soil to Healthy Garden” on January 19. [Learn more about the class, and the single most important thing you can do to improve the health of your soil.](#)



RESEARCH: FROM PLANT TO PLANET

Scientists Discover New Species of Mushroom on Fort Worth Botanic Garden Grounds

The 120 acres of FWBG | BRIT contain many treasures. One of the tiniest—and the most recently discovered—is a species of mushroom previously unknown to science found growing on one of the garden’s trees.

A research team including scientists Harold W. Keller, Edward D. Forrester and Billy G. Stone found the mushroom in a sample of bark taken from an American elm tree located in the garden. *Mycena ulmi* is tiny—the caps of the mushroom grow to a diameter of 1.5 to 5 mm, about the length of a flea.

You can read all about the discovery in the [December issue of the Journal of the Botanical Research Institute of Texas](#). Make sure you check out the images in the article; those taken with the institute's scanning electron microscope show remarkable details of the mushroom.

Photo by Brain Perry of the University of California, East Bay.



GARDEN: WHAT'S IN BLOOM

Preserve the Beauty of Your Crape Myrtles—and Stop Crape Murder!

This time of year, gardeners, arborists and lovers of nature are forced to witness a horrific crime. They must endure the horror of an assault on a beloved plant and see the stark evidence of bare branches against the winter sky. The time has come, they cry in unison, to stop this travesty.

Japanese Garden Horticultural Manager Nick Esthus speaks for them all when he pleads, "If you're going to prune your crape myrtles, arm yourself with some knowledge."

[Learn more about this great plant and how to properly prune it for a lifetime's enjoyment.](#)



PLANT: THE SEEDS OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL STEM EDUCATION

Stretch Your Imagination with Leaf Art, Large and Small

Fallen leaves are still in large supply during the month of January. Make use of what is usually called leaf litter to create something beautiful!

[Read our instructions on a fun family activity](#) that will take you outside in nature, then back inside to read a book and craft your own leafy creations.

FORT WORTH
BOTANIC GARDENBOTANICAL
RESEARCH INSTITUTE
OF TEXAS

CENTER FOR BOTANICAL EXPLORATION & DISCOVERY

JOIN TODAY!

fwGROW.org

Happy New Year, Members!

Thank you for your support in 2020. Your calls, emails, and Garden visits showed us just how much you really care for FWBG | BRIT.

Membership ended the year just shy of 4,000 members. That's a number we're proud of, all because of you. As 2021 begins, I hope your support remains.

Sincerely,
Katherine Campbell, Director of Membership

Stay in Touch Online!

Fort Worth Botanic Garden:



Botanical Research Institute of Texas:



Fort Worth Botanic Garden
3220 Botanic Garden Blvd. | Fort Worth | Texas | 76107 | Phone: 817.392.5510 | FWBG.org
Botanical Research Institute of Texas
1700 University Drive | Fort Worth | Texas | 76107 | Phone: 817.332.4441 | BRIT.org

[Privacy Policy](#) | [Unsubscribe](#) | Copyright (c) 2021