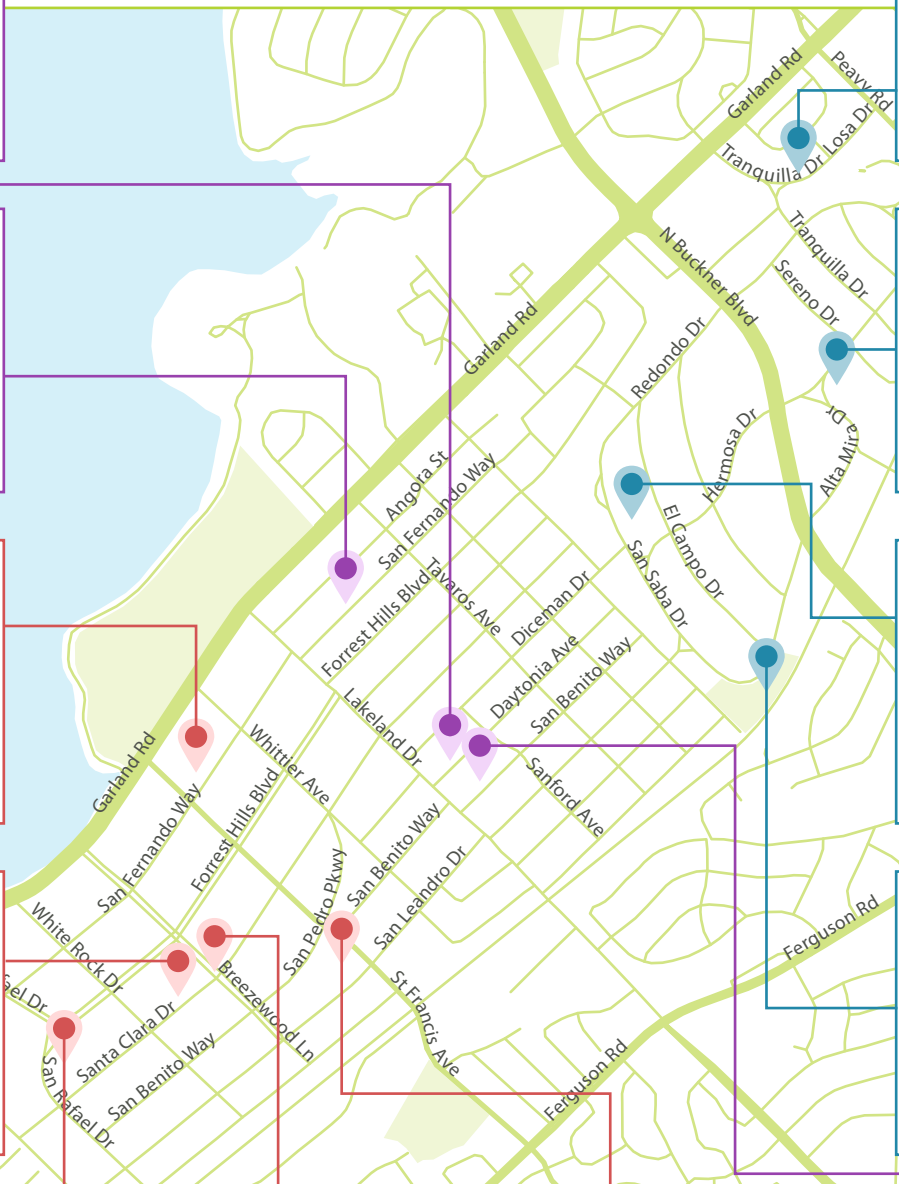


2022

White Rock East Garden Tour

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The Hayden Garden
8619 San Benito Way

FOREST HILLS

The Ross Garden • 8255 Santa Clara Dr

This is one of Forest Hill's contemporary crown jewels. From the street it is easy to appreciate its high style and unexpectedly diverse modern landscape. A grove of cedar elms and a stunning Blue point Agave frame a landscape that mixes architectural plantings with colorful Texas heat lovers. Don't miss visiting the Ross's backyard for all the bells and whistles of this luxurious outdoor living space. Multiple seating & lounging options that grace the swimming pool area include a fabulous Cabana houses a bar/grill, an outdoor living room with fireplace, big screen tv and bath. It's a backyard that can easily accommodate a party of 40... If you open the sliding glass doors on the back and front of the house a party of 150 can easily be accommodated.

The Spieker Garden • 1414 San Rafael Dr

John's longstanding love of our forest canopy has guided his landscaping decisions over the many years he has owned this property. The xeriscape street-beds, the recycled cement block walkways and drip irrigation beds all reflect his deep respect for our environment as do the recycled water cistern, the limited grassy areas and a wild feeling backyard. A long back porch is the perfect perch for enjoying the craggy branching habits of the overhanging Cedar Elms and the carefully chosen trees & bushes that compliment this very natural landscape. A casual fire pit area and raised planters for John's herb garden complete the easy living feel of the porch. Walk down into the garden for a closer look at John's favorite shade loving plants and a glimpse into his woodworking shop.

The Benner & Jett Garden • 8517 San Fernando Way

Sue and Jett's deep front porch looks out across a front yard dominated by a huge old Pecan tree. The landscape is an artist's evolving creation: What began as a garden space to nurture Sue and Craig's children's love of the outdoors with room for a working mom's art studio, has become Sue Benner's refuge and inspiration for her needlework designs. Recently renovated winding rock pathways beckon a stroll through a vast collection of blooming native perennials and well adapted non-natives. Her backyard studio looks out across a semi-wild landscape of swooping beds and garden seating areas. A lovely screened in porch which provides an outdoor great room, is decked out in a lovely combination of finishes to include one of her weatherproof hanging quilts. And a look into Sue's studio reveals world class creations in the making. A visit to this yard is truly a feast for the eyes and food for the creative soul.

LITTLE FOREST HILLS

The Hayden Garden • 8619 San Benito Way

The front landscape of this modern Little Forest Hills home offers a journey through Texas and Mexico with yuccas, a Mexican Grass tree, Whale's Tongue Agave and Texas Mountain Laurel. Then travel down the side yard to make your way to the Far East where you will find a Zen garden and plunge pool, complete with a pagoda lantern and ferns with a backdrop of gracefully swaying bamboo, nicknamed "bamboo alley." And don't miss the expansive screened porch that serves as a second living space and brings the natural tranquility outside in. As you head back to the front yard, take a look up to the garage rooftop where the owners grow vegetables, herbs and flowers (somehow the squirrels haven't been able to get to the tomatoes, shhhh!).

The LaPlante Garden • 8647 San Fernando Way

This yard has been completely transformed to host perennial Texas Native plants that attract birds, bees, and butterflies. While the front yard enjoys long hours of sun, the backyard is an unexpected oasis, with large pecan trees that shade the wandering paths of decomposed granite. The front yard has custom metal walls with shadow cut out of Texas critters that play peak-a-boo amongst the vegetation. The backyards raised beds are ringed with metal cutout that glow at night to highlight the forms and host ceramic garden stacks to help bring color and interest year round. Several seating areas also adorn the rear yard, making it a cozy spot to host guests and is a constant inspiration to the resident artist.

The McKinney Garden • 8619 Daytonia Ave

Upon entering this garden through the rose covered trellis and walking the flagstone pathway between the white picket fence covered with Peggy Martin Roses, Sweet Autumn Clematis & purple passion flower vine and beds of

perennials and seasonal color, try to imagine how the scene looked 24 years ago. There was no water source. After water was brought to the garden, the work on the brick-lined cypress mulch pathway and designated beds began. Upon watering, St. Augustine grass started to quickly fill in. The owner never planted any sod. As trees were added to the landscape, the garden became shadier and less conducive to growing grass, so a free-form flagstone patio replaced the grass and cypress mulch pathway. Several areas for seating and dining have been created. Bird feeders and Bird baths provide for a wide variety of birds. Trees that have been added are: Dogwood, Chinese Pistache, Japanese maples, Parasol (started from a cutting from the owner's daughter's tree in Louisiana), Rose of Sharon, Natchez Crepe Myrtle and Trident Maple. One mature Hackberry still stands. Various perennials are wood and holly ferns, hosta, daylily, dianthus, candytuft, oxalis coneflower, salvia, iris, cheer daffodils, knock-out roses and peonies. Various annuals are scattered in the garden beds and in the owner's collection of blue and white pottery. Be sure to step up on the porch to view the photos of the garden's transformation and take a peek into the newly re-done casita, which serves as storage, garden shed and playhouse.

CASA LINDA ESTATES

The Hoffman Garden • 1436 San Saba Dr

Over the last 10 years, the Hoffmans have made their garden and yard their own. They started with an established koi pond, a fenced vegetable garden and an ornate gate from the previous owners. Now, in addition, you will find a chicken coop, a fire pit, and a large open space for entertaining or a game of badminton. The pond and patio are calming and serene amidst low maintenance shade perennials, while the hot sun on the driveway strip is a bed of drought tolerant plants, riotous color, and texture.

The Guillen & Selzer Garden • 9715 Losa Dr

Home of Master Gardener/Naturalist Vera Guillén and Paula Selzer, the front yard features a small berm with newly-planted native and pollinator plants. The backyard garden features a native-scaped pool surrounded by potted bougainvillea, antique roses, and ferns. There are several Japanese Maples, a fig tree, olive tree, and a small greenhouse. The homeowners are avid birders and have installed bird baths and feeders. They have recorded more than 40 species of birds in the backyard.

The Bouchard Garden • 9514 Hermosa Dr

This home is an Austin stone traditional that is situated on an acre of land in Casa Linda Estates neighborhood. The original owner was awarded the land for his military service in the battle of San Jacinto from the governor of Texas. The Brown family started the purchasing process in 1930 and Carl Brown developed this property from the original owners in 1937. He also helped designate street names within the neighborhood including "Hermosa" the Spanish meaning of beautiful.

Howard Brown, son of Carl Brown, designed and built the original structure seen on this property.

The Bouchard family purchased the home in 2008, at the time there was very little vegetation on the property with the exception of 2 old large pecan trees and several Crepe Myrtles.

The side shade garden was designed as an oasis from city life for sipping coffee and reading. It is an escape from the Texas heat even in the dead of summer.

As you move from the shade garden, you enter into to main entertainment area. The pool and fireplace were custom designed in 2017 with plans to continue to expand with added cabana area. The bed of hydrangeas off the pool provides a show of color throughout the summer and into fall.

The hydrangeas also offer cooling relief in our back structure, "The Kathy Shack," where you can escape for a nap once the sun wipes you out. Another project we are passionate about is our vegetable garden around the corner. This year we have transformed it into a salsa garden!

But of, course, we can't forget the men, the BBQ area was designed with the pit master in mind including a show of roses to the right and a comfortable relaxing area to enjoy a fine Cuban cigar.

Finally our porch is where most of our memories are made. From after dinner drinks to talks with our children we enjoy all the garden has to offer from this vantage point.

We welcome you to our garden!