

## **Zandra Faris – Best Trees for North Texas**

**Description:** Native trees are important to any landscape, especially in urban areas. They reduce climate change, restore ecosystems, and support biodiversity. It is important to understand that not all trees provide the same benefits. Native trees are valuable because they are naturally adapted to local conditions, play an essential role to the balance of local ecosystems, and provide nesting sites for birds, insects, and mammals.

**About the Speaker:** Zandra became a Dallas County Master Gardener in 2013. In February 2021, Tarrant County Master Gardener Association offered a three-day class on Tree and Tree Care Advanced Training. In addition to 24 hours of classroom training, over 60 participants from across Texas committed to perform 20 hours of tree-related volunteer service. In Dallas County, seven aspiring tree experts joined to identify every tree on the 7.5 acres of Texas Discovery Gardens, which happened from June 2021 to September 2022.

As project leader, Zandra and the other 6 members are devoted to making sure the public understands why trees are important for your home landscape and the essential life on this planet. The right tree planted in the right place benefits us all. Due to severe climate issues and insect infestation, it is imperative to plant trees within your own "backyard". The best tree is hardy, long-lived, and thrives in Dallas County. Learn more about how you can change our little part of the world.