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### **Huntsville Botanical Garden welcomes fall season with “Festifall” activities, events**

HUNTSVILLE, Ala. (Sept. 20, 2022) – As the first day of fall approaches on Sept. 22, the [Huntsville Botanical Garden](https://www.hsvbg.org) offers seasonal activities for all ages with “Festifall,” the Garden’s annual celebration of the changing seasons.

Among the most popular events during Festifall is the Scarecrow Trail, a collection of whimsical scarecrows created by local community members and businesses. This year, the Scarecrow Trail features 35 scarecrows of all shapes and sizes.

“We love the Scarecrow Trail because it’s a fun way for the community to get involved with the Garden,” said Donna Parsons, the Garden’s director of guest services. “Every year, we look forward to seeing the creativity of participants and enjoying how their creations bring the Garden to life in a new way.”

Along with scarecrows, guests at the Garden can enjoy pumpkin displays, late-season blooms such as mums and black-eyed Susans, and a fall family photo opportunity with a 1949 Ford tractor and its wooden-wheel flatbed wagon, all included with regular Garden admission.

Outside of regular admission, the Garden offers additional programs and events during Festifall.

The annual Fall Plant Sale begins on Sept. 22 for Garden members before opening to the public on Sept. 23 and 24. The sale will feature a wide selection of trees, shrubs and native plants, and staff and volunteers will be available to lend their expertise and help guests with plant selection.

For children and families looking for Festifall events, options include an overnight campout in the Garden; guided night hikes through the Scarecrow Trail; and a live raptor show with owls, hawks and more from the Southeastern Raptor Center. BOOtanica, a Halloween celebration in the Garden, also returns this year with trick-or-treating, crafts, games and costumes.

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Educational offerings in September and October focus largely on trees as a reminder that fall is the best time of year to plant trees, large shrubs and perennials.

“Many home gardeners don’t realize that fall is the best season for planting shrubs and trees,” said Rebecca Turk, director of learning and public engagement at the Garden. “Planting now gives time for these plants to establish their roots before the stress of warmer temperatures in the spring and summer. At the Garden, we talk a lot about trees in the fall to help our community remember this tip so that they can have happy, healthy gardens of their own.”

For ages 4 through 11, the Garden’s Fall Break STEM Camp, “Tree Adventures,” provides a week-long outdoor experience that explores what trees do for us and what we can do for them.

For adults, fall classes include selecting the best trees for your home landscape and how to prune trees properly. Taught by the Garden’s own certified arborist, the classes can be taken individually or as a series.

“Fall is such a special time of year to be at the Garden,” said Anna Beck, the Garden’s director of communications and special projects. “Whether you’re learning something new or exploring familiar scenery, it’s the perfect time to get outside and enjoy the beauty of nature.”

Festifall at the Huntsville Botanical Garden takes place in September and October. For more information about event dates and ticket prices, visit [hsvbg.org/Festifall](https://hsvbg.org/Festifall).

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### **About the Huntsville Botanical Garden**

The Huntsville Botanical Garden exists to connect people to plants in order to support a healthier quality of life for the region. Open year-round, the Garden contains diverse ecosystems to explore within its 118 acres. From grassy meadows to woodland paths, aquatic habitats to stunning floral collections, the Garden invites guests of all ages to discover the beauty and wonder of the natural environment. In addition to public admission, the Garden offers exhibits, special events and STEM education programs for youth and adults throughout the year. A 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, the Garden is an accredited botanic garden by Botanic Gardens Conservation International and an accredited arboretum by ArbNet, as well as a member of the American Public Gardens Association, the North American Plant Collections Consortium and the American Horticultural Society. For more information, visit [www.hsvbg.org](https://www.hsvbg.org).