

# Heat management month has entered the chat.

Your Gulf Coast yard in May is not “spring cute” anymore—it is negotiations with humidity, the first serious mosquito receipts, and brick that lies about how hot your roots are. Here is what we are watching, what we are doing, and where to go learn beside neighbors who also own too many hoses.

Bloomers · Mobile-first field notes · Issue no. 1

## From the desk

May is when the Lower South stops apologizing for being itself. Afternoon sun on stucco and brick turns porch pots into little saunas. Tomatoes want consistent deep water, not panic misting. If you have not walked your lot after a thunderstorm lately, do it before June—puddles tell the truth about grading, gutter splash, and the saucer you forgot behind the shed.

We are biased toward **Midtown habits**—oak-edited light, tight beds, alley wind—but the calendar below includes events that reward anyone growing along the coast. Always double-check times, tickets, and weather calls before you drive; organizers move dates when Gulf humidity throws a tantrum.

### CHECKLIST

## May yard jobs (honest version)

- **Water deep, early.** Shift container checks to morning; brick radiates heat into dusk.
- **Scout tomatoes daily.** Hornworms do not send a calendar invite—handpick or invite parasitic wasps by tolerating a little chewed leaf theater.
- **Mosquito audit.** Dump saucers twice weekly; walk the alley after storms like you are looking for lost change.
- **Sharpen tools.** Humidity dulls edges faster than pride; clean cuts heal cleaner in fungal weather.
- **Storm posture.** Pot feet, clear drains, and a “grab the pots” plan beat optimism named Jim from the Weather Channel.



Herb desk reminder: mint gets its own apartment.

### Pollinator patience

If you sprayed broad-spectrum “just in case,” you also fired the lacewing night shift. Narrow targets, evening applications when neighbors’ windows are closed, and a written log so future-you does not repeat the crime.

*“May is not a mood—it is logistics with pollen on its shoes.”*

— Bloomers desk

## Gear desk · one purchase to postpone

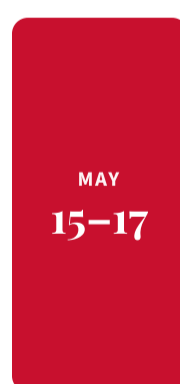
If you are about to buy a bigger oscillating sprinkler because “this summer will be different,” pause. Night watering keeps metal cool but leaves foliage wet until dawn—coastal fungal pressure notices. Favor soaker lines at the root zone, timers under porch shade, and a soil test before you pour another bag of hope on yellow leaves.

## Midtown whisper

North-facing porch? Your cilantro might still love you. South-facing brick hellstrip? Your basil is filing for emotional damages. Cluster pots for a little shared humidity, but leave air gaps—powdery mildew loves a crowd as much as gossip on Dauphin.

## Local calendar · May 2026

Garden-adjacent happenings in and around Mobile—plant people, open gardens, botanical art. Links open organizers’ sites; Bloomers is not the box office.



### Mobile County Master Gardeners · Tour of Gardens

Three days, eight gardens, self-guided across Downtown/Midtown, Spring Hill/West Mobile, and South Mobile County—rain or shine, 9 a.m.–4 p.m. each day. Tickets about \$20; research-based plant info and practical ideas for sun and shade beds.

[Tickets & details](#)

Source: Mobile County Master Gardeners / Gulf Coast Media, March 2026.



### Mobile Botanical Gardens · Sketch Club in the Gardens

Friday afternoons (series continues through May)—casual botanical sketching with instructor oversight, 2–4 p.m. Free for MBG members; regular admission for non-members. Call [251-342-0555](tel:251-342-0555) to confirm room/studio for your date.

[Series calendar](#)

Source: Mobile Botanical Gardens events calendar.



### Downtown farmers & makers rhythm

Cathedral Square and nearby Saturday markets usually pick up steam as summer nears—herbs, starts, and the occasional soap that smells good enough to confuse your dog. Hours shift with organizers; check City of Mobile or market social pages the week you plan to visit.



### Alabama Extension · Mobile County

Lunch-and-learns, soil testing guidance, and pest ID resources rotate through the year—useful when you need science instead of a Facebook thread written by someone’s cousin in Ohio.

[Mobile County Extension](#)