MOBILE BOTANICAL GARDENS

Prior to European settlement in the 1700’s, the land on which Mobile Botanical Gardens stands today was part of a vast longleaf pine forest. Because most of this land was logged for longleaf pine in the early 1900’s, the forest that you can visit today in our 35 acre conservation area (to the east of the parking lot) is actually considered second generation growth. The lake you drove by in once served as Mobile’s early water source until the 1950’s, which is why the acreage surrounding the lake was restricted from development. In all, the Mobile Botanical Gardens consists of 180 acres of special gardens and Longleaf conservation area. We hope you enjoy your visit to the Gardens today and encourage you to go to our website www.mobillbotanicalgardens.org or stop in at the office for additional information. MBG is a private, non-profit organization, and we appreciate your support!

1. 2. The ReBloom Garden [green] STOP 4, 5, 10

The ReBloom Mobile project sought to rekindle the spirit of community gardening in the City of Mobile and to provide suggestions for plants to achieve a 12-month color display. In conjunction with the ReBloom Gardens, an online ReBloom catalog offers access to outstanding plant selections for local gardens that are not commonly available. Look for the ReBloom QR codes throughout the Gardens for plants that we offer for sale or visit our catalog website at mbgrebloomshop.com

3. Millie McConnell Rhododendron Garden

The Millie McConnell Rhododendron Garden began as a native azalea garden, planted by Tom Dodd, John Allen Smith, and Dr. John Goordano. The garden was redesigned in 2006 to showcase azalea hybrids either created in Mobile, or especially well suited to our climate. These groups include the Eugene Aromi, Tom Dodd, and Kosaku Sawada hybrids. This Garden also boasts the largest public collection of Satsuki azaleas in the U.S., as well as an extensive collection of historic Southern Indica azaleas. Mobile, a port city dating back to the mid 1700’s, featured intricate ironwork on many commercial and residential structures. These plants are set among the pavers in the circle area were handmde and at one time were situated downtown in the de Tonti Square near Beauregard Street.

4. Founders Fragrance and Texture

This garden is often called the Founders Garden because it was designed, planted, and maintained by the founders of the Mobile Botanical Gardens in the early 1970’s. It was designed as a trail for mobility issues. In July of 2015, this garden was completely destroyed during the Tea Maze

Still a work in progress, the shape of tea maze is inspired by a Chinese medallion from the Ming Dynasty. These plants were grown from cuttings of the plants from the old Lipton Tea plantation in Baldwin County. Did you know that tea is made from the leaves of the camellia sinensis? As tea became more popular In the West, many requests went to China for tea plants. Misinterpreting the requests (perhaps intentionally) the Chinese sent flowering camellia japonicas instead, introducing these beautiful plants to Europe and the Americas.

13. The Tea Maze [green] STOP 29

17. The Katherine Shropshire Nature Trail

Dedicated in 1981 and reopened in 2014, this trail is a 1/4 mile walk through a wooded area. The careful observer may be treated with many different forms of wildlife as well as a wide variety of plants and trees native to our area.

18. Arumi Hybrid Azalea Garden

This garden houses the most significant collection of Arumi Hybrid Azaleas in the country! Dr. Eugene Aromi created these azaleas to specifically suit the unique conditions found in Mobile and the Gulf Coast. The Hybrids combine the hardiness and fragrance of native deciduous azaleas with the large flower trusses and color of the cold weather suited Exbury hybrids.
The city of Mobile sits in the middle of the biologically richest part of North America.

- E.O. Wilson, Harvard University biologist and Pulitzer Prize winning author

Plant selections developed under our ReBloom program that are suited to our Gulf Coast environment.

Try our Audio Tour!

Scan QR to begin or Call 251.287.9761

Visit mbgardens.toursphere.com