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# THE LYNN R. LOWREY ARBORETUM

of Rice University

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## NEWSLETTER

FALL 2007

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### Liddell Garden Completion

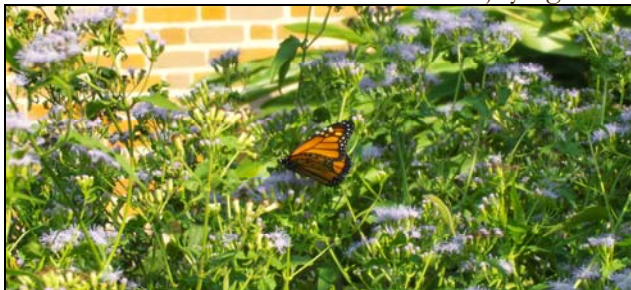
The birdbath designed by Rice architecture student Sarah Simpson has been installed. The design completes the Liddell Garden with an enchanting and appealing centerpiece. Stop by—wander through the gate and down the path, admire the flora and fauna, study the birdbath, relax on a bench—and enjoy the tranquility. More images of the Liddell Garden are available at [arboretum.rice.edu](http://arboretum.rice.edu).



The Liddell Garden Birdbath, designed by Sarah Simpson

### Botany Garden

Amidst the nearby construction, the Botany Garden has been weeded, pruned, and improved. The new species identification tags allow the plants in the garden to be used as an educational resource for classes. Have a walk through the garden, and see what you learn. Even the fall butterflies are enjoying it!



A butterfly in the Botany Garden

### Community Garden

A new course taught by Ecology & Evolutionary Biology and the Environmental Studies program is creating a community garden near the Wiess Grove. Students learn the fundamentals of community gardening, with an emphasis on applying ecological principles to the practice of community agriculture. The goal is to re-shape the Rice garden ecosystem in ways that contribute locally grown produce to the campus food supply. A variety of crops will be planted in the garden plots, including radishes, beets, basil, carrots, chard, garlic, onions, tomatoes, bok choy, and strawberries. Keep an eye out for these crops as they are served at the college serveries.



Fruits, vegetables, and herbs sprouting up in the Garden near the Wiess Grove

### Wiess Grove

The Wiess Grove is vibrant, flourishing with over forty species of trees and shrubs. Nestled between the buildings on campus and the towers of the medical center, the Wiess Grove provides a natural sanctuary in an urban setting.



## Harris Gully Natural Area

Across from the Wiess Grove, major plans are in the making for the Harris Gully Natural Area. Including a variety of native flora and fauna, Harris Gully will be a uniquely wild setting. The gully will be allowed to revert back to its original form—the local, coastal prairie ecosystem that was present before the city of Houston arrived. The gully landscape in its restored incarnation will include native grasses, trees, shrubs, and flowers, and the local fauna will find a needed sanctuary. When complete, the gully will be an invaluable tool for education—for studying both the ecology of a natural habitat and its ecological interactions with its urban surroundings—and a much needed, natural respite for the Rice community.

## Fall Wildflowers & Wiess Recognition

On October 24<sup>th</sup>, Wiess College was recognized for its commitment to the environmental projects of the Arboretum. In the past year, Wiess has graciously housed the Wiess Grove and the Community Garden. In recognition for their dedication to environmental sustainability, Wiess was awarded a plaque by the Facilities Engineering and Planning Department. Students, staff, and faculty also completed the annual wildflower planting during the ceremony. Seeds were sown along the path from Wiess to Autry. Expect to see an eclectic array of colorful wildflowers come spring.

## Our Mission

The mission of the arboretum is to enhance the beauty of the campus landscape while making it ever more useful for learning. Funding opportunities exist for projects of all sizes. Donations and suggestions are always welcomed.

The Lynn R. Lowrey Arboretum is a teaching and research resource of Rice University. An outdoor classroom spanning the Rice campus, it serves programs from biology to engineering to architecture to literature to interdisciplinary studies of the environment. Dedicated on March 18, 1999, the Arboretum honors the distinguished horticulturist whose life and work were devoted to spreading knowledge and appreciation for the trees and plants of the Gulf Coast of the United States and northern Mexico. The Lowrey Arboretum Collection is a set of woody plants that represents native and introduced species suitable to the soils and climate of the Houston area. At present, the Arboretum collection numbers 84 specimens, representing 76 species catalogued on the Rice grounds. Across campus, some 4,605 trees and shrubs have been recorded representing 128 different species. Please see our website for more information – [arboretum.rice.edu](http://arboretum.rice.edu).



### Friends of the Lowrey Arboretum (GM20)

The Lowrey Arboretum impacts the lives of Rice students, visitors to our campus, and the beauty of our Rice neighborhood. Gifts to the Lowrey Arboretum Fund help to expand our role as a resource for Rice and the city of Houston. With your financial support we can facilitate research and educational opportunities, catalog and document the growth of our trees, increase the size of the arboretum collection and positively influence air quality.

Yes, I would like to support the Lowrey Arboretum with a gift of  
\_\_\_\_\$1,000 \_\_\_\_\$500 \_\_\_\_\$250 \_\_\_\_\$100 \$\_\_\_\_.Other

Yes, I would like to support the Lowrey Arboretum with a pledge of \$  
\_\_\_\_\_ to be paid within five years (*minimum \$2,500*).

(Please print)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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Mail to: Lowrey Arboretum  
P.O. Box 200175  
Houston, TX 77216-0175

Or make a gift online at  
<http://giving.rice.edu>

Payment is by: Check (*payable to Rice University*)

Credit card: MasterCard VISA American Express

Amount to be charged: \$\_\_\_\_\_ (minimum \$10)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(name as it appears on credit card)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Account number

\_\_\_\_\_  
Expiration Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Billing Address (if different from address on left)

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_