

# ALDRIDGE GARDENS

NATURE AND ART IN BALANCE



## Aldridge Gardens Special Event Venue

As summer begins, so does the wedding season. In the last few years, Aldridge Gardens has quickly become one of the premier wedding venues in the Southeast. With our grounds offering numerous “venues” and wedding sites, we can host weddings of all shapes, sizes and configurations. Want a small intimate ceremony? Our Gardens offers numerous places. Envision a large, formal wedding with seated guest? We have several options for that too. And don’t forget—we are the perfect place for engagement parties, rehearsal dinners and receptions. The Aldridge House or our Pavilion are perfect for parties AND dinners!

Amanda Baker, Director of Sales and Catering here at the Gardens, can help you plan a truly memorable event. Contact Amanda at 205-739-6554 or at [amanda.baker@hooveralabama.gov](mailto:amanda.baker@hooveralabama.gov). Let us help make your dream come true!



## Community Orchard

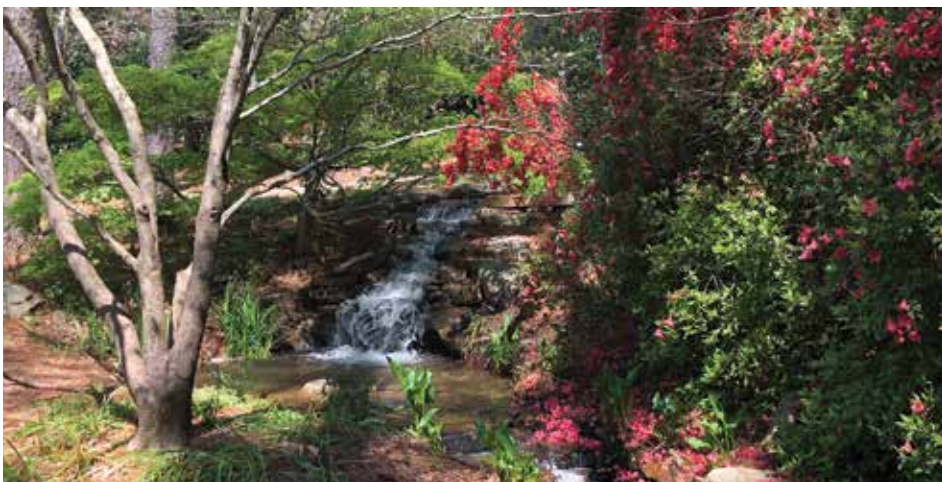
Did you know Aldridge Gardens has planted a Community Orchard? It's free for the picking, but leave some for others!

With "food deserts" appearing country-wide, Aldridge Gardens decided to plant an orchard, free and available to all. Last year, during the pandemic shutdown, the Gardens' staff did an initial planting of blueberries, blackberries (thorn-less of course!), raspberries and fig trees. On Arbor Day last March, the second phase of apple and pear trees were planted.

The blueberry, blackberry and raspberry plants are producing and will be available this spring. The fruit trees may bear as early as next year, but realistically, the 2023 spring/summer/fall harvest will be the first.

In addition to being a fun and purposeful planting, the orchard will be an additional source of pollinators for the bees and birds, something Aldridge Gardens is committed to.

And yes, this IS **free of charge** for the public. Our only request is to be respectful of our orchard, and leave some for others!



## Renovated Woodland Stream

Have you seen the "new" Kay's Woodland Stream? It's not really new, just wonderfully renovated. We did re-do the outfall, moving it up the hill to create a really nice "waterfall" as the stream drops into the large pool at the base of the Japanese Maple.

Years of silt had created a false bottom to the stream that has now been cleaned and flushed. The pump has also been serviced, and now, we have a flowing, delightful stream again!

Visit the Gardens and discover Kay's Woodland Stream all over again.

## Summer at the Gardens

Summer months are very special at Aldridge Gardens. Hydrangeas are in full bloom, and color is everywhere. Plus, this warm weather is perfect for all of our beautiful garden weddings and outdoor events.

We continue to set records on the number of visitors coming to Aldridge Gardens on a daily basis. Some are out to enjoy a leisurely stroll through the gardens, while others are putting down a blanket for a picnic. Whatever the reason, we all are in need of some outdoor space and great weather, and Aldridge Gardens is just the spot to for that.

While weddings are in abundance, the gardens remain open during these events, so you might get to see a beautiful bride enjoying her special day, a group of birdwatchers viewing their favorite specie or a big catch being made at the lake. There is so much to do and see right in the middle of Hoover!

We have also partnered with the Hoover Library and have our first "little free library" installed in our parking lot area. It has been refilled every week since it was installed, and we are thrilled that everyone is using it.

Aldridge Gardens is your neighborhood garden, and we hope everyone continues to support us and to visit during these summer months.

To book an event or schedule a photography session, contact Amanda Baker at 205-739-6554 or [amanda.baker@hooveralabama.gov](mailto:amanda.baker@hooveralabama.gov).

Memberships are available, and you can visit our website [aldrigegardens.com](http://aldrigegardens.com) or call Janet Abernathy, Membership Coordinate at 205-739-6553 for more information on these and our calendar of events and educational classes.

Thank you all for visiting and supporting beautiful Aldridge Gardens.