

5130 Headland Avenue
Dothan, Alabama 36303
(334) 793-3224
FAX: (334) 793-5275
Email: dabg@dabg.com
Website: www.dabg.com

NEWS From the Dothan Area Botanical Garden

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: March 27, 2020

Contact: William Holman

Contact Number: 334-793-3224

Contact Email: wholman@dabg.com

BOTANICAL CENTER TEMPORARILY CLOSES AT BOTANICAL GARDENS

In response to Gov. Ivey's recent health order closing all non-essential businesses, the Dothan Area Botanical Gardens announced the temporary closing of the Ralph & Carolyn Smith Botanical Center effective March 28 at 5:00pm, according to William Holman, Executive Director. The Garden grounds will remain open for the public to walk the grounds and enjoy the 46-acre garden. The Botanical Center building will remain closed to visitors until April 18, but staff will be available daily by phone to conduct Garden business. The Garden office number is 334-793-3224.

"The purpose of closing the Botanical Center is to reduce person-to-person contact" stated Holman. "The admission is still \$5 for adults age 16 or over, with free admission to visitors age 15 or younger and to Garden Members. The admission will be on the honor system during this time, and visitors can place their admission in the black metal donation boxes at the beginning of the walkways" Holman said. "Hopefully, everyone will be respectful of this and place their fees in the collection boxes."

"The Garden is a great place to practice social distancing, especially during this challenging time. Exercise, sunlight, and beautiful surroundings can be helpful in fighting sickness" Holman stated. "We have placed extra signage in the garden reminding visitors to stay 6ft apart from other visitors, to wash hands frequently and other health-related tips".

The Garden's "Children's Jungle Garden" playground is also closed temporarily due to the difficulty in sanitizing the playground features.

The Dothan Area Botanical Garden includes over 20 different "pocket gardens" including a Rose Garden, Hydrangea Garden, Daylily Garden and more. Other features of the 46-acre garden include a wedding

garden, gazebo, picnic pavilion, children's playground and both large and small spaces for rentals. The garden's primary structure is the 8,000 sq.ft Ralph & Carolyn Smith Botanical Center.

The Dothan Area Botanical Garden is located at 5130 Headland Ave in Dothan. The pet-friendly (must be on leash) facility is open from 9:00am-6pm DST 7 days a week. For more information, please contact the Garden office 334-793-3224.

###