

# Junior Master Gardener®

## Speaker Biography

Lisa A. Whittlesey  
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Lisa is an employee of Texas AgriLife Extension Service part of the Texas A&M system. She received her bachelor and masters degree from Texas A&M University in horticulture with an emphasis in education/curriculum development. Her professional work experience includes teaching/coordinating horticulture training program at a Federal Prison Camp for female offenders, coordination of horticulture therapy programs at 2 drug treatment facilities and youth gardening curriculum development. For the past 9 years, she has served as the program director for the **JMG<sub>sm</sub>** International Junior Master Gardener program which currently operates in all 50 states and has expanded internationally through collaborative partnerships with the Borlaug Institute for International Agriculture.

She is the author of nine award winning youth environmental curriculums and her horticulture work and expertise has been featured in over 120 popular press/newspaper articles including *Saturday Evening Post*, *Southern Living*, *Better Homes and Garden*, *Readers Digest*, *Cosmopolitan*, *Family Life*, 7 national children's magazines, and on HGTV. She has been an invited speaker to over 70 national conferences and has generated over 2.1 million dollars in external funding to support the Junior Master Gardener program.

Lisa is a guest lecturer for the Benz School of Floral Design and provides Master Gardener training in the areas of floral design, botany, and children's gardening. Lisa also has been a guest speaker for the Weekend Gardener television segment for local CBS affiliate KBTX-3 College Station, TX.

She is married to Randel Whittlesey and has 2 children Taylor(17 years) and Cole ( 13 years).