

AZALEA TRAIL CAPTAINS & AZALEA GROWERS

Lafayette's Historic Azalea Trail is a part of our cultural heritage and was planted and maintained by many residents and the city over a long period of years. We are celebrating over 80 years of this floral splendor and need your participation. We are looking for neighborhood captains along the trail in each district. Anyone interested in volunteering in this position could coordinate fun clean up days in your neighborhood.

Also, if you'd like to join the Azalea Trail Committee you are most welcome; but not required. Listed below are the ways we can all make a difference in keeping this landscape asset maintained and beautiful. We enjoy this beautiful part of our city and realize it adds value to our properties and is a great springtime attraction for locals and tourists. Please consider getting on board to take this floral ride with us; "Watch us Bloom"!

Suggestions for Maintaining Azaleas:

***Right after bloom season when flowers have faded away is the best time to prune and trim azaleas.

No trimming after July because they begin to grow their flower buds in late summer/ winter for the next spring bloom season. More information on azalea care can be found at <https://www.lsuagcenter.com/>

***During the Summer, pull wild vines and small trees that may be growing inside the azalea bush. Vines can prohibit the bush from growing thicker and producing the flower power that azaleas are known for.

***Cut dead limbs from the bush that do not have any growth on them.

***Select varieties of the smaller azaleas like gumpo pink, fashion, flower bed azaleas may need spraying to keep them free of bugs. Best time to spray is after bloom season in springtime while the temps are still cool. Products can be found at local garden centers.

***Fertilize azaleas before a heavy rain in January before bloom season and again after bloom season in April. This will help the azalea floral development and growth.

Scenic Lafayette has planted over 1,000 new azaleas along the trail over the past several years.

The Azalea Society of America designated Lafayette as an official "Azalea City" in 2016.

We need your help by encouraging others along the trail to take ownership in maintaining this cultural asset:

- A** Advocate for more planting and maintaining of azaleas
- Z** Zealous in organizing watering, fertilizing and mulching for public plantings in your district
- A** Adopt an azalea space in your area / district along the trail
- L** Lead and educate neighbors and friends about the proper care of azaleas (Flyers/Social Media)
- E** Encourage fun clean ups each spring / summer before azalea bloom season
- A** Azalea Trail promotion and awareness in the community as a captain

THANK YOU!

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We are a 501(c) 3 Non-Profit Organization operating as an affiliate of Scenic America.

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