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Bottle Trees

Today on Gardening in a Minute: bottle trees.

Bottle trees are a familiar sight in the South, and they're a very simple way to add color, sparkle, and history to your own garden.

Often referred to as "poor man's stained glass" or "garden earrings," the bottle tree's originated in Africa. Bottles were suspended in trees to attract evil spirits, or haints, who would then become trapped in the bottles.

Bottle trees can be made with dead trees, wooden posts with large nails, welded metal rods, or bottles simply stuck on the tines of an upended pitch fork.

Most are festooned with bottles of many colors, but the blue bottles are considered best. Blue has long been associated with haints, ghosts, and spirits.

Check out this Southern tradition today and plant a bottle tree in your own yard!

For more information about bottle trees and many other gardening topics, contact your county extension office or visit Gardening in a Minute dot com.

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