



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Garden Chores	2
From the Garden	3
A Potpourri of Fanciful Fall Projects	
Pests and Plants	4-5
Broadleaf mistletoe, Scales & Catchweed Bedstraw	
Ginkgo biloba, Barberry, & Heuchera	
Feature	6
Mosquito-borne Diseases	
Beneficials	7
Damselflies	
Growing Knowledge	8
American Grown-The Story of the White House Kitchen Garden and Gar- dens Across America	
Community	9
Connections: School Gardens	
Horticultural Terms	11
Rhizomes, tubers, bulbs, and corms.	
Taste of the Season	12
Coming Events	13
2017 MG Training	17
Open Garden Day	18
Sharps Disposal Info	19

Coordinator Corner

Marcy Sousa, Master Gardener Coordinator

Leaves are falling and the weather is finally cooling... it must be fall! Things will begin slowing down in the garden soon but our Master Gardeners are still busy in our helpline office and participating in community events. We are busy planning our public workshops for 2017 and will be adding new locations and weekday classes, so stay tuned for more info on the new times and locations.

We are currently accepting applications for our next Master Gardener Training which will begin in January 2017. The application deadline is 5:00 pm on October 14th. The next training won't be until 2019, so don't miss out on your chance to become a Master Gardener! Find our application and more info about the training on our [website](#).



2015 Master Gardener Training

Join the Master Gardeners for our first Open Garden Day. This event will take place at our Demonstration Garden on Saturday, October 22, from 9 a.m. – noon. We will have planting, pruning, and irrigation demonstrations. The Help Desk will be open for business if you have a gardening question. There will be crafts for the kids, so bring your junior gardeners! The event is free! The garden is located at 2101 E. Earhart Ave. Stockton, 95206.

We hope that you enjoy this issue of Garden Notes and find it full of useful information.

Raising the Bar on Raised Beds

Susan Price, Master Gardener

Do you have rocky, compacted, or contaminated soil? Do you wish you could extend your growing season? Are there plants you wish you could grow, but your native soil won't accommodate them? Are you tired of bending to plant and harvest your vegetables? Finally, do you have mobility issues and need a way to garden from a wheelchair?

If you are dealing with any of these issues, the answer may be as simple as growing in raised beds.

Raised beds allow you to tailor your soil mix to your specific plant's needs. This is especially important when your native soil is particularly devoid of nutrients, contaminated, or extremely

difficult to work. You can use a different type of soil mix in each separate bed to allow for different plant types. For example, blueberries do not do well in our native, alkaline-rich Central Valley soils, but they can be grown quite successfully in a raised bed with an acid-rich soil mix. For most plants, a raised bed mixed with good topsoil, amended with plenty of organic matter such as compost, will work well.

Raised beds insulate the soil, so they tend to warm up earlier in the spring and remain warmer longer into fall. They also tend to increase yields because the soil used in them can provide the ideal, nutrient-rich mix. Raised beds also help conserve water, especially if using drip irrigation. However, if

[Continued on pg. 14](#)

Fall Garden Chores

Sue Davis, Master Gardener

With summer heat behind us, the soil remains warm for planting trees, shrubs, most ornamentals, and cool season edibles. If we are fortunate again this year, rain will provide the water your garden needs over the next few months.

October Ideas

Plant -Trees planted in fall adapt to your garden over winter. For autumn colors of red, gold, or yellow, choose Chinese pistache, Ginkgo, Tupelo, scarlet oak, red oak, Japanese maple, red maple, crepe myrtle or redbud. Be sure to check the mature height and width of the trees so they will have room to grow in your landscape.

Annuals such as Dianthus, Iceland poppy, pansy, primrose, snapdragon, stock, viola and violets do well in cooler weather. Perennials and shrubs planted in fall are easily established with the help of winter rain. Enrich your landscape with plants that attract pollinators such as hummingbirds and bees.

Bulbs scattered and planted now will provide natural, colorful spring displays. Nursery selections should include anemone, calla, Narcissus, freesia, Hyacinth, Muscari, or Dutch iris. Wait for the temperature of the soil to fall to 55° (when average night time temps are 50° or cooler for at least 2 weeks) to plant.

Winter vegetable transplants that do well now include Bok Choy, broccoli, Brussels sprouts, cauliflower, celery, onions, chard, kale, and kohlrabi. Lettuce, spinach, fava beans, and peas are easy to start from seed. Garlic cloves planted now produce an early summer harvest.



Sow wildflower seeds for flowers that attract butterflies and beneficial insects –California poppies are always cheerful when they bloom.

Maintenance –Trees add value, both aesthetic and monetary, to our homes. They provide shade, oxygen, and just a place to sit near and relax, so saving them is critical to our homes and landscapes. Established trees need a good soak this month. If we haven't had a good rain by mid-month, just wrap a soaker hose under your tree at least three feet from the trunk and within the drip line. Soak the soil for several hours to keep your tree happy over the winter.

Knock down water basins around trees and shrubs to avoid standing water at the root crowns which encourages crown rot.

To discourage brown rot on citrus, prune the tree skirts 24" above the soil, clean fallen leaves and old fruit from under the trees, and mulch to prevent fungus spores from splashing up from the ground.



Cut spent blooms to extend the flowering period of your plants.

Begin pruning back old growth and feed roses one more time to keep the blooms coming through the fall.

Dig clumps of crowded daylilies, iris, Shasta daisies, and agapanthus with a spading fork so the root-ball comes up intact, then use a spade or sharp knife to divide them. Replant the divisions or gift them to friends immediately.

Add a layer of mulch to all of your plants for added protection this winter.

Lawns - Be sure to fertilize. Thatching could help control both Bermuda and bent grass, especially if you over-seed with a perennial rye and fescue mix to keep your lawn green through the winter. Cool season lawns, such as the popular fescue blends, are putting on a spurt of growth now. Mow often so that you are never removing more than a third of the total height of the grass blade. Reduce the frequency of watering by 50% to 75% as the weather cools.

In November

Plant –Put in transplants after a light rain during calm conditions to make digging easier and help roots with hydration. Plant seeds just before a light rain on a calm day.

Cool season annuals like Calendula, Iceland poppy, snapdragon and viola can still be planted.

Bulbs can still be planted. Choose those bulbs that are plump and firm, and rhizomes or corms that feel heavy. Avoid soft or shriveled bulbs. Plant bulbs at least twice as deep as their height.

Plant blueberries in acidic soil, preferably on the east side of a building, for afternoon shade. They will succeed wherever you have azaleas that are doing well.

Maintenance -Leave Dahlia stems in place until spring. Some recommend cutting stems to about 3 inches and then covering them during the rainy season to prevent tuber rot. This seems like a lot of work when leaving stems unpruned naturally prevents water intrusion.

Cover your frost-sensitive plants (being Continued on pg. 15

From the Garden: A Potpourri of Fanciful Fall Projects

Betty Liske, Master Gardener

For the days that bring a chill in the air and dark gray skies, it's lovely to bring into your home some of the beautiful items still out in your garden. These can warm up the feel of your home, show it off for the upcoming holidays, or be made into fabulous hand-made gifts from nature. There are innumerable materials and projects to choose to bring pleasure to yourself and others, both in the creating and the giving. Channel your inner designer to create one or a dozen. Be sure to give each your own creative twist! The following suggestions are just a few.

- Harvest a collection of unique and colorful fall leaves to provide the basis for warmth and texture. Arrange a stem of leaves alone or with other fall items such as pumpkins on a bed of moss. Cover with a bell jar, or another attractive glass cover. Display one or a series of individual leaves each in a mason jar. Arrange in a row on a window sill or shelf or put lids on the jars, drill a hole in each lid and, using attractive twine or rope, hang at various lengths together or separately. Adhere a variety of preserved or paraffin dipped leaves to card stock to use in a wall display, holiday card, or mount in one or a series of small frames.
- Use leaves in wreaths, centerpieces, and fall arrangements. Make bunches of them into a leaf garland for your staircase, mantel, or over a door branches: pruned fall branches provide dramatic design interest due to their individual geometries, textures, and colors. They are beautiful in and of themselves, but also perfect used as a framework for showcasing other items. Mount them on or above mantles, over archways or doors. Hang them from the ceiling. Use as a base for a centerpiece or arrangements. Use alone or in garlands on the family tree. Decorate with natural or homemade ornaments, perhaps dried citrus and apple rings, adding great color, texture, and fragrance and brings the garden inside.
- Pumpkins: again, a great variety of pumpkins and gourds in terms of color, size, and shape make for an equal variety of fall decorating possibilities. Use as natural vases. Hollow out just what you need to insert a florist tube or glass vase. Add fresh flowers, pretty stems of leaves, or tall grasses.
- Edible drinks and treats: the number and types of food items made from fresh garden produce fills volumes. Here are a few to add to your repertoire.
- Fresh herbs from the garden can be preserved in a variety of ways for future use or gifting. As gifts, remember that there is added impact using purpose-focused packaging. Dried herbs can be packaged and labeled in attractive jars or in packets individually or as flavor blends.
- Use herbs to create flavored vinegars or oils. Allow time for aging for holiday gift giving.



Use gourds as centerpieces, grouped together or combined with other fall items.



Several fruits can be dried for sweet treats, ornaments, and decorations.

- Display herb wreaths or attractive bundles tied with twine for visual beauty and scent.
 - Fragrant herbs can be used in sachets, for Potpourri, even in a bowl to scent a room.
- Herb-flavored vinegars and oils are delectable gifts. Be sure to allow time for them to age.
- Especially beautiful and feeling of the fall and winter seasons are citrus and apple rings. Get a bit fancier with crystallized citrus or apple rings. String together to make chains or use in mixed arrangements.

Try something new. Bring in the garden for fall and winter delights!

References:

["Preserving Fruit Flavors in Alcohol: Homemade Liquors"](#)

[hgtv.com](#) "13 Easy Fall DIY Projects" "Make a Fall Leaf Garland"

Malcolm Hillier's Christmas. Hillier, Malcolm. 1992 (available on [amazon.com](#) many projects as mentioned above)

Also see YouTube and Pinterest for more ideas and information

Pests of the Season

Marcy Sousa, Master Gardener

Broadleaf mistletoe (*Phoradendron macrophyllum*)

Mistletoe is a parasitic plant that absorbs both water and nutrients from a host tree. Healthy trees can tolerate a few mistletoe branch infections. However, if the infestation is severe, trees can weaken, have stunted growth or dead branches, or die completely. Heavily infested trees may be reduced in vigor, stunted, or even killed, especially if they are stressed by other problems such as drought or disease.

Leafy mistletoes have green stems with thick leaves that are nearly oval in shape. Plants often develop a rounded form up to 2 feet or more in diameter. The small, sticky, whitish berries are produced from October to December. Evergreen clumps of mistletoe are readily observed on deciduous trees in winter when leaves are off the trees. Mistletoe plants are either female (produce berries) or male (produce only pollen).



For good control, remove branches at least 1 foot below the point of mistletoe attachment. Simply cutting off mistletoe from trees can reduce spread, but it won't provide control. If it's not possible to remove the infested trunk or a major branch, prune off the mistletoe and wrap the infested area of the tree with sturdy black polyethylene plastic secured with twine or tape to exclude light. Leave on for up to two years until the mistletoe dies, replacing plastic that becomes torn. For more information and other control suggestions, [click here](#).

Scales

Scales are sucking insects that insert their tiny, straw-like mouthparts into bark, fruit, or leaves, mostly on trees, shrubs, and other perennial plants. Some scales can seriously damage their host, while other species do no apparent damage to plants even when scales are very abundant. The presence of scales can be easily overlooked, in part because they do not resemble most other insects. Armored scales and soft scales are the most common types (or families).



Some scale species, when abundant, weaken a plant and cause it to grow slowly. [Infested plants](#) appear water stressed, leaves turn yellow and may drop prematurely, and plant parts that remain heavily infested may die. The dead brownish leaves may remain on scale-killed branches, giving plants a scorched appearance. If the scale produces [honeydew](#), this sticky excrement, sooty mold, and the ants attracted to honeydew can annoy people even when scales are not harming the plant.

Many species are usually well controlled by beneficial predators and parasites (natural enemies). A well-timed and thorough spray of horticultural (narrow-range) oil during the dormant season, or soon after scale crawlers are active in late winter to early summer, can provide good control of most species of scale. Because ants attack and feed on scale parasites and predators, control ants if they are [tending scales](#). For more information and other control suggestions, [click here](#).

Catchweed Bedstraw

Catchweed bedstraw, Galium aparine, is an annual weed belonging to the Madder (Rubiaceae) family, can be found throughout most of the world. The species name "aparine" comes from a Latin word meaning "to seize," which is very appropriate considering the clinging nature of this weed.

Bedstraw is a winter or summer annual in California with peak germination in mid-to late December and secondary germination in February or March when soil is still cool and moist. Seedlings can emerge even if they are buried up to 3 inches deep in loose soil. Bedstraw has a slender taproot and sprawling stems, and can tolerate freezing temperatures while in the vegetative growth stage. In landscapes and home gardens, bedstraw competes for nutrients, water, and light with desirable plants.

Aside from competition, bedstraw can reduce aesthetic quality of the landscape and can be a serious nuisance in some cases by smothering desirable vegetation and causing physical injury to small plants. It makes the harvesting of fruits and vegetables difficult, as the tangled stems weave throughout the garden. For pet owners, bedstraw seed or vegetation often gets caught in the fur of pets and can be difficult to remove. For more information and control suggestions, [click here](#).



Plants of the Season

Susan Mora Loyko, Master Gardener

TREES, SHRUBS AND PERENNIALS FOR FALL

TREE

Ginkgo biloba (*Ginkgoaceae*)

Survivor from ancient times, the *Ginkgo biloba* is a relatively new tree to home landscapes. A native to China, it's best known for fan-shaped leaves, which are light green in the spring and summer. In fall, they turn a golden yellow, hang on for a while then drop quickly creating a golden carpet where they fall.

It is related to conifers but differs in having broad, up to 4" wide, fan-shaped leaves rather than needles. Its leaves resemble leaflets of Maidenhair fern from which it gets its common name.

Trees can grow up to 80' tall but most top out at 35-50'. They are good trees for streets or lawns and are extremely long-lived. Fairly pest resistant, they're also very tolerant of air pollution, heat, acid, and alkaline conditions.

Plant male trees (grafted or grown from cuttings of male plants) as female trees produce messy, smelly fruit. Trees prefer full sun. Plant in loose, well-drained soil, and provide moderate to regular amounts of water. Water young trees regularly until they are about 20' tall and then reduce to occasional watering for established trees. Prune branches on young trees. Older trees will need minimal pruning.



SHRUB

Berberis or *Barberry* (*Berberidaceae*)



Dense, spiny-stemmed relatives of the Western native Mahonia, barberry is easy to grow in climate and soil extremes. It comes in a variety of shapes, sizes and colors including crimson, yellow, orange, greens and more. They are known as "foundation bushes" due to their adaptability and low maintenance. But take care, no matter the variety, the Barberry plant is covered with thorns.

Barberry plants don't need much care. They like well-mulched soil that is somewhat moist. Best of all, they are somewhat drought tolerant. Most make attractive hedges and others are grown for spring flowers. Because of their hardiness, some species of barberry have landed on the invasive species list. When selecting a plant for your garden, choose sterile and low fertility varieties.

To keep barberries healthy, thin out older wood each year. Pruning (in the fall) is most important to younger shrubs. For evergreen varieties, prune to shape after the plant has bloomed and late in the dormant season for deciduous types. This will help your shrub maintain an attractive, healthy, good shape. To revitalize overgrown or unkempt plants, cut to about a foot off the ground before spring growth begins.

PERENNIAL

Heuchera, *Coral Bells* or *Alum Root* (*Saxifragaceae*)

The native *Heuchera* is an American perennial growing in popularity for the beautiful array of colors it brings to the garden. Grown as compact, mounding plants, their leaves are often large and heart-shaped or rounded, and many are variegated or ruffled. Because *Heucheras* are evergreen, they bring year-round color to the garden, even in winter.

The dainty blossoms with their slender 1-3 foot stems with loose clusters of tiny bell-shaped flowers, are attractive too. Bloom time for the flowers varies according to variety from early spring well into fall.

Heucheras grow best in humus-rich soil with good drainage. In the Central Valley, these perennials will do best in afternoon shade or a northern exposure. They can be used as ground cover, as borders, in front of bushes, as edging for beds, clumped together, or on their own.

To keep them growing and healthy, divide the clumps every 3 to 4 years in spring. Use young healthy rooted divisions or cut old woody stems within an inch of the ground and let them regrow. *Heucheras* are easy to propagate from cuttings started in sand or from seeds sown in the spring.



Mosquito-borne Diseases

Norena Badway, Master Gardener

What are mosquito-borne viruses and why should we be concerned?

In addition to being itchy and annoying, bites from infected mosquitos can cause serious illness in children, adults and fetuses. The human and financial cost of treating these ailments is high, making it important for everyone to pay attention to these threats. Although Master Gardeners do not claim to be experts on disease control, there are a number of actions we can take to control mosquito-borne illnesses.

Most of us are aware of the Zika virus threats from the dreaded *aedes aegypti* mosquito, however another virus of local concern is West Nile, which the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reports as the most common virus acquired in the United States.¹ At this time, there are no vaccines that protect humans from these diseases, so it is in all our best interests to work together to avoid mosquito-borne infections. The CDC and the San Joaquin County Mosquito and Vector Control District recommend an integrated approach to mosquito management.²

Integrated Mosquito Management

Four actions can increase safety for our families and communities: prevent, control, protect and report.

Action 1: Prevent Mosquitos by Removing Standing Water

Gardeners should inspect their surroundings for places where mosquitos lay eggs because young mosquitos need water to survive. An inspection will identify tires, buckets, planters, toys, pools, birdbaths, flowerpot saucers and trash containers that might hold even small amounts of water. In addition, scrubbing the surfaces can eliminate any mosquito eggs that are too small to see with the naked eye. Containers that aren't being used should be turned over, covered or thrown away. When our region gets rain, house gutters should also be inspected for standing water. Typically water circulates in swimming pools and spas, discouraging mosquitoes from laying eggs. However, birdbaths and decorative pots that hold plant containers are ripe for mosquito infestation.³ If you collect and store water at your home, tightly cover buckets, cisterns and rain barrels so mosquitoes cannot get inside to lay eggs. Use wire mesh with holes smaller than mosquitoes to cover containers without lids. Another option is to request mosquito fish from the San Joaquin County Mosquito and Vector Control District (209-982-4675); they will deliver the fish to your address.



Action 2: Control Adult Mosquitoes

Mosquitos live indoors as well as outdoors so keeping them out of your home is essential to avoid bites. Window and door screens are the first line of defense, and holes in screens should be repaired immediately. Very fine screen mesh called "no-see-um" repels mosquitoes and is available at hardware or home improvement stores.⁴ Closing doors quickly when entering the house and using exterior bug-repellent light bulbs will also reduce indoor mosquitoes.

Action 3: Protect Humans from Mosquito Bites (see table on page 11)

The use of personal protective measures can help avoid being bitten by infected mosquitoes. The use of Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)-registered insect repellent with one of the following active ingredients can repel mosquitoes.³

When applying repellents, always follow instructions on the product label. Reapply repellent every few hours and do not apply sprays under your clothing. If you are also using sunscreen, apply sunscreen first followed by insect repellent. Treat clothing and gear as well as skin, or purchase permethrin-treated items. Do not use permethrin products that are intended to treat clothing on human skin. And be sure to wear long sleeved shirts, long pants and socks.

Action 4: Report Mosquito Problems to SJMVCD

Integrated mosquito control relies on collaboration among individuals and professionals from our SJMVCD. Gardeners who detect unusually large swarms of mosquitoes, especially during the day, can contact SJMVCD professionals who can determine if adulticide sprays are appropriate, or can advise us about methods or insecticides to use.

Working Together

Being vigilant in our own yards and communities, and collaborating with professionals, can keep us all safer from mosquito-borne infections.

[Continued on pg. 11](#)

Beneficials — Damselflies

Kathy Ikeda, Master Gardener

Have you ever noticed a delicate-looking insect—one that resembles a small dragonfly—flitting around near a pond or water feature? You’ve probably spied a damselfly.

There are approximately 40 species of damselflies in California, with common names such as Forktails, Dancers, and Bluets. Damselflies—like dragonflies—belong to the order Odonata, a name which means “toothed one” and refers to small teeth on the insects’ mandibles (jaws). As their classification indicates, they’re formidable predators.

Damselflies can be distinguished from their closely related cousins in many ways. The most easily recognizable difference is the position of their wings when at rest: damselflies fold their wings together and hold them alongside or above their bodies, while dragonflies keep their wings spread outward, perpendicular to their bodies. Damselflies are smaller than dragonflies, with more slender, needle-like abdomens. Both types of insects have oversized eyes, but those of damselflies are on opposite sides of the head, while the eyes of dragonflies are larger and touch at the top of the head. Some aspects of their reproduction are also different: damselfly eggs are elongated and cylindrical (unlike the round eggs of dragonflies) and damselflies usually mate while perched (while dragonflies mate in flight).



(c) Kathy Keatley Garvey

The life cycle of damselflies is known as “incomplete” or “gradual” metamorphosis because these insects transition from egg to larva (or nymph) to adult; they don’t undergo a pupal stage. Damselflies are highly dependent upon freshwater habitats (rivers, ponds, lakes, marshes, etc.) since they lay their eggs underwater on aquatic plants, inside hollow stems, or even on floating material such as wood. The eggs hatch after a period of one to three weeks, becoming well-camouflaged nymphs. These nymphs also live underwater, breathing through a set of three feathery external gills at the end of their abdomens. Depending on the species, the water temperature, and the availability of food, it takes several months to a few years for the nymphs to pass through several growth stages and complete their development. Eventually, the fully developed nymphs crawl out of the water to dry, their exoskeletons split open along the back, and the mature damselflies emerge. The adults live for only a few weeks, just long enough to breed and continue the life cycle.

Damselflies are efficient predators and pest control agents. The nymphs feed voraciously upon the water-dwelling larvae of insects such as mosquitoes, midges, and mayflies; they also eat young fish fry and tiny tadpoles. Adult damselflies are also predatory, and they capture numerous mosquitos, gnats, and small flies and moths during their short lifespans. A damselfly catches other insects in mid-air using an extendable organ on its upper “lip” and its six legs, which are designed primarily for snatching prey and grasping onto perches, not for walking. As an integral part of the food web, damselflies also become prey for larger insects (including dragonflies), birds, lizards, frogs, and fish.

In addition to being excellent pest control agents, damselflies can be considered symbols of good fortune. Their presence can be an indication of a relatively healthy body of water, because their nymphs can’t survive in polluted environments. Also, many anglers consider damselflies to be lucky symbols, particularly if they alight on fishing lines, or if fly-fishing lures that mimic these insects attract fish to waiting hooks!

Damselflies are particularly attracted to in-ground or low-level water features surrounded by flowering plants and hollow stemmed water plants (rushes, sedges, and tule reeds). In a home near pre-existing damselfly habitat, even a small garden with a bird bath can become a gathering place for these fascinating insects!

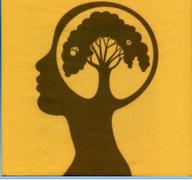
For more information:

YouTube video: [The Lifecycle of the Damselfly](#)

National Wildlife Federation website: [“Attracting Aerial Acrobats to Your Yard”](#)

UC Berkeley BioKeys: [Damselflies & Dragonflies \(Odonata\)](#)

[A male tule bluet \(*Enallagma carunculatum*\) on the fading bloom of a Mexican sunflower \(*Tithonia*\).](#)



Growing Knowledge

Lee Miller, Master Gardener

American Grown-The Story of the White House Kitchen Garden and Gardens Across America. 2012. Michelle Obama. Crown Publishers. 271 p.

This book is a summary and progress report on the White House (WH) garden project that was initiated by Michelle Obama when she became our First Lady. It is also her first book writing effort. If you want to read an uplifting book in a time of so much depressing, bad news in the world, then this book might just be the ticket for you. The book's dedication statement says a lot about how Ms. Obama feels about folks who are dedicated to food growing and its health benefits: "To all the gardeners, farmers, educators, advocates, community leaders, parents and others who have been leading the way for years, teaching us about the food we grow and the impact it has on our families' health."

The first section includes a brief history of WH gardens during two-plus centuries of the 18 acre grounds. Ms. Obama was much like a gardener-in-training at first as she was reared in the urban environment of Chicago and had little food-growing experience before embarking on the WH Garden project in 2009. She was a fast learner and often includes historic and geographic information on the origins of vegetables in her descriptions of vegetables grown in the garden—information that a lot of experienced gardeners may not know.

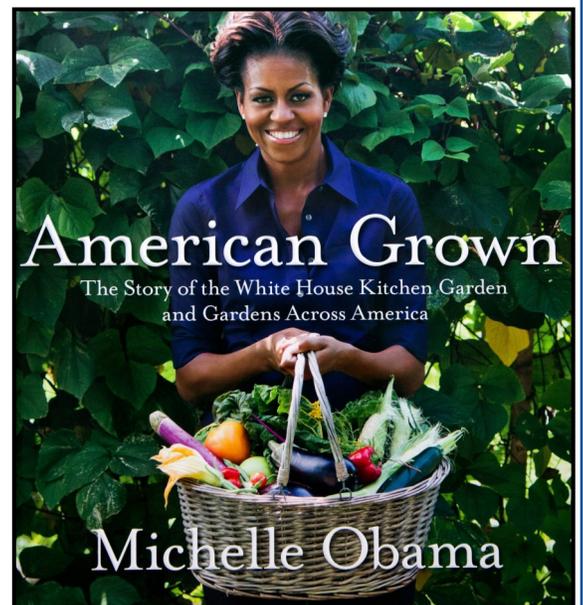
The book includes layout diagrams of the gardens in each season. There are many pictures throughout the book of visits to farmers markets and related excursions. I rate the book highly on the picture content which documents all aspects of the storyline. No problem accomplishing that if you have a professional photographer documenting life at the WH. There are also many boxes with little vignettes on garden related activities or information.

The book sections are divided by the seasons and hence what is happening in each season by year in the WH garden and in other gardens. The emphasis is often on children's learning experiences in the garden. There is also a celebration of a 'three sisters' planting of corn, beans and squash by Native Americans. The WH chefs also played a big part in planning the garden and in using produce for state dinners. The WH executive chef, Chris Comerford, wrote about how they harvested and processed vegetables for the table. The WH landscape folk personnel and National Park Service Supervisory Horticulturist, Jim Adams, contributed to the gardens and the book, the latter by writing a 5-page brief on how to start gardening, including information on composting.

After learning a lot about bees and then teaching Mr. President a lot of bee facts, she ascertained his somewhat apprehensive approval for a bee hive. The WH carpenter, Charles Brandt, was willing to be the official beekeeper. Charles taught beekeeping to all interested children which included hive inspections, decapping honeycomb and centrifuging the honey from the hive frames. The first year yielded 140 lbs. of honey. Honey and other garden items such as pickles and chamomile tea were often included in WH gifts to foreign visitors. Presenting these gifts was pleasurable for Ms. Obama because they were very personal gifts from the garden. She enjoyed answering questions about her efforts from foreign visitors who often expressed interest in her garden.

There are several descriptions of Community Gardens around the country, e.g, Camden City, New Jersey; Milwaukee, Wisconsin; and Brooklyn school gardens. Of course Ms. Obama's main reason to do this is to promote healthier lifestyles and to fight obesity in children. Much of the later part of the book covers how school gardens and better school nutrition can help end the obesity epidemic.

This is a very well done, positive book with lots of information and pictures of the WH gardens and other gardens and farmers' markets. It highlights an influential effort to improve lives through gardening.



Community Connections—School Gardens

Pegi Palmes, Master Gardener

Imagine my surprise to the reactions of 5th and 6th grade boys, with a penchant for causing trouble, when they opened pea pods for the first time. They admired the little peas in a row, compared shapes with one another, eventually looking up at me to ask if they could eat them. These elementary students were ‘accidentally’ sent to our after-school garden session instead of their scheduled staff-supervised ‘movie.’ Every week after this initial involvement these same boys, through good behavior in the classroom, earned the right to join the garden session. Their unending questions, interest and eagerness to work in the gardens was inspiring.

Rewarding events like this are all part of the garden in the After School Education & Safety Program (ASES) at a local elementary school. The curiosity of and questions from the students, the calming effects our weekly hour together in nature, and the gift of all those tasty fruits and vegetables keeps us inspired.

A school garden program can bring nature and agriculture to students on campus. Gardens give young people an opportunity to better understand their relationship with nature, creates a dynamic environment for learning core subjects, and promotes cooperation through group activities. A garden encourages self-confidence and a sense of responsibility. Children become excited about math, history, science and nutrition through gardening experiences. Parents can become involved with their child by volunteering in the school garden. Most importantly students can learn by doing, getting their hands dirty and thereby becoming immersed in learning.

California’s Central Valley has a rich agricultural history, producing much of our country’s food. Many of the students I work with have never experienced growing their own foods and flowers, and many had no idea where these things came from. For me this is the core value of the school garden program. From the basic needs of plants (soil, air, water), to the harvest of the food, we see our students grow—awakening to the joys of gardening and enjoying the fruits of their labor. In only three years, our program has grown from fewer than 10 students to between 25 and 30 participating each week.

Thanks to the many volunteer gardeners before us, our garden has a solid foundation. We have two large raised beds, a hoop house, a mini orchard, irrigation and a shaded space with picnic tables. We work to maintain great school support, fantastic volunteers and happy students. Our space provides us with many opportunities to experience various aspects of garden-related activities. Whether you have a set-up like ours, or are just getting started on a concrete patio with containers, it’s possible to engage students.

I like to start any project with words from author Steven Covey: “Begin with the end in mind.” The end I have in mind when I begin the school year is to have a successful harvest with smiling students all around me. How to get to that end begins with a solid understanding of what is expected by the school administrators, teachers, parents and volunteers.

School personnel are overwhelmed with tasks to accomplish in a given school year, so a school garden is often seen as one more burden. While staff admits to the value of garden programs for students, they often don’t have the time or energy to devote to the program. Similarly, parents are often too busy to participate in the school garden program, but really appreciate it when someone takes the time to provide this opportunity for their children. Garden volunteers must understand these concerns and find ways to make school garden programs work for everyone concerned. A basic understanding between all parties involved is necessary for a successful program. Rules must be agreed upon for a strong program foundation.

There are many great resources, grants, fundraising ideas, and plans for just about any situation out there.

[Continued on pg. 10](#)



Community Connections—School Gardens

(cont. from pg. 9) Pegi Palmes, Master Gardener



Knowing where to turn and where to find what you need to grow a successful school garden program is sometimes a challenge. For information about getting started, check out [School Garden Wizard](#). This program has been created for America's K-12 school community through a partnership between the [United States Botanic Garden](#) and [Chicago Botanic Garden](#). This website will help you advocate for your garden, plan for success, create the garden, learn in the garden, and keep your garden growing.

The San Joaquin County Master Gardener website has a great section devoted to school gardens: [School Garden Resources](#). Here you will find information on getting started, CA Ag in the Classroom, environmental stewardship, fundraising and grant information, community and social development, and so much more. This is a fantastic resource for anyone working with or thinking of starting a school garden program. This website also lists *Four Pillars of School Gardens: Environmental Stewardship, Community and Social Development, A Healthy Lifestyle, and Academic Achievement*. A school garden is a powerful environmental educational tool; by engaging in gardening, students become responsible caretakers and they learn the responsibilities and impacts of cultivating the earth. They develop an understanding of the natural world and—for many students—the school garden offers their only opportunity to be close to nature. School-grown foods provide life lessons on how to maintain a healthy lifestyle. Participation in

a school garden also has positive carry-over effects on a child's academic achievements.

Another excellent website is [School Garden Weekly](#). It has many resources, including ones that help you have an overview of your school garden projects, and others that help you to plan around holidays, no-school days, growing seasons, etc. Along with growing and harvesting food, exploring crafts and gifts from the garden is also fun, and this website provides many ideas: pounded flower note cards, potpourri from flowers you dry, forced paper-whites for table decorations, and painted stones to decorate a home patio or garden area.

A big 'garden hit' with our students is the annual Weed Pulling Contest. Students are given a bag to fill with weeds, their roots intact. We pair older students with younger students in teams of two. Prizes are given to those teams with the fullest bags. This is an excellent way to get the gardens weeded!

From the awe of peas in a pod to the end-of-year garden celebration I look forward to my time in the garden with the students, staff and other volunteers. Through our successes and failures, laughter and (sometimes) tears, we grow in our understanding of our connection to the earth and each other. The value of gardening with students can only be measured in terms of the impact on each child's whole life. Seeds planted in the earth, in our brains, and in our hearts grow out of this time we spend together. Imagine a world where every student has the opportunity to open a pea pod and taste fresh peas.

Being organized, prepared and flexible are vital to having a successful school garden experience. Anyone interested in volunteering and setting up a school garden experience for students can request help from one of our San Joaquin Master Gardener at [School Garden Consultants](#). Once you submit your request, a volunteer will be assigned to your school and will contact you to arrange the first meeting.

May you transplant the joy of gardening into the hearts of the next generation!

(This article includes excerpts of information published on the SJ Master Gardener website.)



[UC IPM website](#)

Integrated pest management, or "IPM," is a process you can use to solve pest problems while minimizing risks to people and the environment. IPM can be used to manage all kinds of pests anywhere. [Click here for more info.](#)

Mosquito-borne Diseases cont. from page 6

Norena Badway, Master Gardener

Active ingredient <i>Higher percentages of active ingredients provide longer protection</i>	Some brand name examples*
DEET	Off!, Cutter, Sawyer, Ultrathon
Picaridin also known as KBR 3023 , Bayrepel , and icaridin	Cutter Advanced, Skin So Soft Bug Guard Plus, Autan (sold outside of United States)
IR3535	Skin So Soft Bug Guard Plus Expedition, SkinSmart
Oil of lemon eucalyptus (OLE) or para-menthane-diol (PMD)	Repel

*Insect repellent brand names are provided for your information only. Master Gardeners of San Joaquin County, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services cannot recommend or endorse any name brand products.

1 [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Morbidity and Mortality Report, Sept 4, 2015.](#)

2 <http://www.sjmosquito.org/>

3 [Centers for Disease Control, National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases, Division of Vector Borne Diseases. \(August 2015\). Help Control Mosquitoes that Spread Dengue, Chikungunya, and Zika Viruses](#)

4 Thank you to Benjamin Holt Ace Hardware for this information.

Horticultural Terms

Corinne Bachle, Master Gardener

Dividing rhizomes, tubers, bulbs, and corms:

RHIZOMES are stems that grow horizontally and have eyes or buds that appear along the top and sides which grow upward and produce new stems and foliage. To propagate, cut into sections containing at least one eye and plant.

TUBERS are thickened terminal portions of the stem. They are usually fat, round, and knobby, and do not grow horizontally. They have eyes or buds that will become new plants. Tubers can be cut into sections containing at least one eye per section. Caladiums, cyclamen, and tuberous begonia are all tuber plants.

BULBS actually contain the embryo of a new plant. If a lengthwise cross-section cut were made, you would see a tiny stem and flower along with fleshy modified leaves (called scales) encircling the embryo. These scales serve as food reserves. There are two types of bulbs: one has onion-like skin called a tunic, as in tulip; the other has overlapping scales like garlic and no outer skin, such as lilies. Propagate by dividing bulbils (lateral buds on the base plate) off the bulb and replanting or storing until the next planting season.

CORMS are similar to bulbs, but do not have fleshy scales. They are either rounded or slightly flattened at the top and have dry scale-like leaves held together at the basal plate where the roots grow. The parent corm dies back, but produces cormels or cormlets from buds on the top or side of the original corm. Cormels can be divided from the shriveled parent corm and planted separately. Gladiolus and crocus are examples of corm plants.



Source: <http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu>

A Taste of the Season

Julie Hyske, Master Gardener

Broccoli Apple Salad

Ingredients

4 cups fresh broccoli florets, (about 2 medium heads)

½ cup shredded carrots

¼ cup diced red onion

2 large apples, finely chopped

½ cup walnuts, halves and pieces

½ cup dried cherries

Creamy dressing ingredients:

½ cup light mayonnaise

½ cup low fat Greek yogurt

2 tbsp. lemon juice

1 tbsp. sugar

¼ tsp. salt

⅛ tsp. pepper



In a large bowl combine broccoli, carrots, red onion, apples, walnuts, and dried cherries. To make the dressing: whisk together mayonnaise, Greek yogurt, lemon juice, sugar, salt and pepper. Add the dressing to the salad and toss to coat. Chill until ready to serve.

Serves: 4-6

Pumpkin Spice Oatmeal in the Crockpot

Ingredients

1 can (15 ounces) solid-pack pumpkin

1 cup steel-cut oats

3 tbsp. brown sugar

1½ tsp. pumpkin pie spice

1 tsp. ground cinnamon

¾ tsp. salt

3 cups water

1½ cups 2% milk

Optional toppings: toasted chopped pecans, ground cinnamon and additional brown sugar and milk.

In a large bowl, combine the first six ingredients; stir in water and milk. Transfer to a greased 3-qt. slow cooker.

Cook, covered, on low 5-6 hours or until oats are tender, stirring once. Serve with toppings as desired.

Serves: 6



Baked Apples

Ingredients

¾ cup oats

¾ cup flour

¾ cup light brown sugar, packed

1 tsp. ground cinnamon

½ tsp. ground ginger

½ tsp. kosher salt

1 stick cold unsalted butter, diced

4 Braeburn apples (Fuji will substitute)

4 tsp. honey



In a bowl combine all the dry ingredients and diced butter. Rub mixture briskly between finger tips until it forms small moist clumps in a loose sandy mixture. Refrigerate while preparing the apples. Cut a small layer off the bottom of each apple to create a flat, stable bottom surface. With a small paring knife, cut a cylindrical cone out of the top of the apple, moving about 1-inch outside of the core. Remove the top and discard. With a melon baller or a teaspoon, remove the remaining core and seeds taking care not to puncture the base of the apple. Place apples in a pie dish and fill each center with a teaspoon of honey. Spoon in dry mixture and pack lightly until heaped and overflowing. Bake in oven at 350° for 40 minutes or until filling is golden brown and the tip of a paring knife can be inserted into the side of the apple with little or no resistance. Let apples stand for 10 minutes before serving.

Serves: 4

Coming Events

Corinne Bachle, Master Gardener

OCTOBER

Saturday, October 8, 10-11:30am **San Joaquin Master Gardener Workshop: Trees in the Landscape**

Learn about trees that do well in our area and how to maintain them.

City of Stockton Delta Water Supply Project, 11373 N. Lower Sacramento Road, Lodi

Class size is limited. Please RSVP by the Wednesday before the class at (209) 953-6100. Classes are free.

Wednesday, October 12, 9am-Noon **Midweek Open Garden**

In the vegetable garden see how cool season vegetables are growing; get tips on succession planting. Learn how to protect citrus from frost. Get tips for planting bulbs in containers. See methods for dividing perennials.

Fair Oaks Horticulture Center, 11549 Fair Oaks Blvd., Fair Oaks (916) 876-5338

Saturday, October 15, 10:30am-Noon **San Joaquin Master Gardener Workshop: Trees in the Landscape**

Learn about trees that do well in our area and how to maintain them.

Manteca Library, 320 W. Center, Manteca
Please RSVP one week before the class at (209) 953-6100. Classes are free.

Saturday, October 22, 9am-Noon **SAN JOAQUIN MASTER GARDENERS' FIRST "OPEN GARDEN" DAY**

Our Master Gardeners will be working in the Demonstration Garden doing what they love to do most..GARDENING. We will have demonstrations in some of the seven gardens (Foliage, Mediterranean, Edibles, Natives, Cutting) The Help Desk will be open for business and we will hold a Plant Clinic if you have something you would like to bring in (Please be sure it is contained in some way as to protect our gardens from unwanted pests and diseases). We will also offer several demonstrations. Please see [Page 18](#) of this newsletter for further details.

Robert J. Cabral Agricultural Center
2101 E. Earhart Way, Stockton

Saturday, October 22, 1:30-3:30pm **Learn to Make a Succulent Turtle**

No one can resist this little guy- who would not want a succulent turtle? We will show you the technique and provide all the materials and instructions to construct this living masterpiece of adorability. Make a herd of them for friends and

family. Primarily an adult project or kids with adult supervision. Cost is \$75.00+tax. Please make your reservation by Oct. 19 as space is very limited.

Alden Lane Nursery, 981 Alden Lane, Livermore (925) 447-0280

Saturday, October 22, 2016, 8am-Noon **Register by October 1**

Gifts from the Garden Workshop

Join us in welcoming fall with your personally crafted centerpiece and a fragrant herbal sachet. Learn from Master Gardeners about growing herbs, succulents and bulbs.

Alden Lane Nursery, 981 Alden Lane, Livermore (925) 447-0280

Sunday, October 30, 8-10am **Winter Veggies**

Learn what to grow and how to prepare your garden for a winter vegetable harvest.

Boggs Tract Community Farm, 466 S. Ventura Avenue, Stockton (rain or shine)



NOVEMBER

Saturday, November 13, 10-11:30am **San Joaquin Master Gardener Workshop: Succulents and Practical Landscape Design**

Learn how to incorporate succulents into your landscape.

City of Stockton Delta Water Supply Project, 11373 N. Lower Sacramento Road, Lodi

Class size is limited. Please RSVP by the Wednesday before the class at (209) 953-6100. Classes are free.

Saturday, November 19, 10:30-Noon **San Joaquin Master Gardener Workshop: Succulents and Practical Landscape Design**

Learn how to incorporate succulents into your landscape.

Manteca Library, 320 W. Center, Manteca
Please RSVP one week before the class at (209) 953-6100. Classes are free.

Saturday, November 19, 1:30-3pm **Learn to make a Terracotta Pot Bird Feeder**

Simple to construct, but designed to give your feathered friends an elegant place to dine! Come and make this lovely bird feeder with a little embellishment—make it your own creative yard art. It is also easy to clean and to fill! The holes will be pre-drilled for you to hang. This class is suitable for kids 10+. The cost for this workshop is \$55.00+tax. All materials and instruction are included. Please make your reservation early so we have enough materials for everyone-- space is limited.

Sunday, November 27, 2-4pm **Season Extension**

Learn proven methods for extending your growing season into the winter.

Boggs Tract Community Farm, 466 S. Ventura Avenue, Stockton (rain or shine)

DECEMBER

Saturday and Sunday, December 3 & 4 **24th Annual Festival of Trees at the San Joaquin County Historical Museum** **10am 4pm each day**

This family holiday event features more than 60 uniquely decorated Christmas trees, children's activities, crafts, entertainment, food, photos with Santa, historical exhibits, and demonstrations of pioneer or handcrafted work. Docents are dressed in Victorian and pioneer clothes. Visitors will feel as though they took a step back in time to celebrate the holidays. 11793 Micke Grove Road, Lodi. The museum is in Micke Grove Park, just south of Lodi.

- General admission is \$10
 - Children aged 2-12 are admitted for \$1ea
 - Children under 2 are admitted free
- Tickets may be purchased in advance beginning in mid-October by calling the museum (209) 331-2055. With advance tickets, the \$6 parking fee in Micke Grove Park is waived.

Sunday, December 18, 2-4pm **Soil Building**

Learn the components of soil and how to build a healthy soil profile through sheet mulching, composting, and growing cover crops.

Boggs Tract Community Farm, 466 S. Ventura Avenue, Stockton (rain or shine)

The San Joaquin Master Gardeners do not hold classes in December, HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Raising the Bar on Raised Beds (cont. from page 1)

Susan Price, Master Gardener

your soil mix drains too quickly, your beds may need less, but more frequent watering,

Plan your irrigation in advance of building your raised bed. You may want to run your main line underneath the bed to keep it out of sight.

Raised beds can be of any size but 12" deep works for most plants, allowing for good root development. They can be as tall as 2' for deeper rooted plants or wheelchair access, or as short as 6". If mobility is an issue, be sure to leave enough room between beds for easy maneuvering. Also, it is a good idea to have wide enough paths between beds, e.g. 3-4' to allow for wheelbarrow access. Beds are usually no more than 4' wide, allowing you to reach the center from either side. If you only plan to access from one side, 2-3' wide beds work well. The length of a raised bed comes down to personal preference and what the space allows. Common lengths are 8-12 feet, but any size can work. It is advised to break up particularly long beds, e.g. a 50-foot length, into two separate 24' beds with a 2' walkway between, to save steps when tending the garden. Adding capped walls of 2x6" or 2x8" boards provides a seating area around your planter beds making it easier and more convenient to do gardening tasks, e.g., weeding and harvesting.



Orient your raised beds to receive the desired amount of sun. This is another advantage of raised beds; you can place them exactly where your plants will thrive. For most vegetables and herbs, that's a sunny spot that gets at least six hours a day. A north-south orientation is best for low-growing crops, allowing direct sunlight to both sides of the bed. Beds that will contain taller crops, like pole beans or caged tomatoes, might do better on an east-west axis.



Placing your raised beds near your kitchen means you're more likely to use the fresh vegetables and herbs you've planted there. Convenience is everything! Likewise, if you haven't installed an automatic watering system, or need to hand-water on occasion, placing the beds near a water source is essential.

Raised beds can bring style and order to a garden. They can be made from a variety of materials. If using wood, natural woods like redwood and cedar work well as they resist rot. Natural woods, however, can be costly. Leftover composite decking material is also a good option. Avoid using painted wood which may contain lead, and treated wood which may contain arsenic. Chromated copper arsenate (CCA) has been phased out due to safety concerns. Alkaline copper quaternary (ACQ) and copper azole (CA) are the common alternatives. They do contain copper, which can leach from treated lumber, but is not expected to have adverse health effects. If you are uncertain about the safety of treated lumber, place a heavy plastic liner between

the treated lumber and the soil to prevent direct contact of plant roots with the treated lumber

Brick, rock, and cinder blocks are also popular choices. The internet is filled with creative ideas using non-traditional materials, like water troughs and clay roof tiles. One of our Master Gardeners made a raised bed from galvanized scrap metal cut-offs capped with redwood top rails. Another used concrete wall blocks surrounded by a distressed metal bedframe. These unusual beds add beauty and character to the garden, along with serving as a conversation piece! Using repurposed or upcycled products reduces materials sent to the landfill and so many of these potential cast-off materials make great raised planter "parts." All that is needed is a little imagination! Of course, when choosing materials for your raised bed, it is important to consider durability, toxicity, affordability, maintenance requirements, and how permanent or portable you want your raised bed to be. There are many clever ideas on Pinterest and other sites that look great but will not stand the test of time. If doing it yourself is not an option, there are numerous raised bed kits available for purchase online, in big box stores and large nurseries. Many offer a range of materials and prices, and the kits are easy to install.

Raised beds can have a bottom (with drainage holes) if they are going to be used on a hard surface or to keep moles or gophers out. Wire mesh works well as a cheap and effective liner. With some structural additions, they can be made to accommodate a cold frame (in the winter) or netting, to keep out pests.

Raised beds offer convenience and flexibility. You can customize them to fit your particular needs and preferences. With so many design options and creative choices, they can become one of the favorite features of your garden!

References: [For step-by-step building instructions from Sunset Magazine](#) | [Lumber Selection](#) | [Raised Bed Gardening](#)



Garden Chores (cont. from page 2)

Sue Davis, Master Gardener

sure to keep covers from touching foliage) before sunset so that ground heat is preserved. Remove the covers during sunny days. Highly frost-sensitive plants such as Hibiscus and Begonia will be damaged at any temperature below 32° and will be killed by a freeze. Consider moving these plants to a greenhouse or your garage during cold spells.



Row covers and water-filled containers surrounding young vegetable seedlings offer a warmer nighttime environment. Keep container plants watered because moist soil retains heat better than dry soil. Remove saucers from under your containers so pots can drain during rain.

Control [earwigs](#) and [snails](#) by reducing the dark, cool, moist places they favor and handpick or trap and discard them. Look for them under boards, pots, and broad leaf plants during the day.

Protect plants near your home from becoming waterlogged by extending rain gutters with flexible pipe. Save the water run off for landscape watering in the spring. Check outdoor faucets and fix any that are dripping. Wrap exposed portion of the water pipes to protect them during freezing weather.

Drain water from garden hoses and straighten them out to prevent cracking in the frost. Drain and turn off your irrigation system once the rainy season starts. Remove the batteries from your irrigation timer and store the timer for the winter.

Apply dormant sprays to fruit trees after pruning. Spray after a period of rain or foggy weather – not during or just prior to freezing weather. Your local nursery person can direct you to appropriate products for your particular fruit tree variety. Sprays are tree and pest specific - read labels and follow directions carefully.

Lawns – Heavy dew on your lawn every morning is usually enough water for November. Rake fallen leaves from your lawn regularly to prevent a fungus infection or other damage from lack of sunlight. Raked leaves can be added to your compost pile or used as mulch. Raking your lawn regularly will warm you up this month, be beneficial for your lawn, and is less polluting to air quality and noise levels than blowers..

December Notes

Plant -Camellias are beginning to bloom now. Select a color and bloom type to enhance a shady area. Acacia, columbine, flowering quince, foxglove, Gaillardia, Salvia, and winter Daphne are

perennials to plant now for early spring bloom.

Horseradish and rhubarb are available in local nurseries this month. Bare root plants are arriving in nurseries. [Fruit trees](#), [grapevines](#), [cane berries](#), [roses](#), strawberries, artichoke, asparagus, and horseradish make nice gifts for family members who garden. Boysen, Marion, and Olallie are blackberries that do well in the Valley and should be available as bare root selections late this month. If you are going to add to or begin a rose garden, be sure to choose Grade 1 roses for vigorous first-year growth.

[Poinsettias](#) received as a holiday gift need the foil surrounding the pot removed to avoid root rot. Select one with an abundance of dark, rich green foliage that is undamaged, dense, and plentiful all the way down to the soil line. Display away from heater vents in a spot that gets bright, indirect light or outdoors under an overhang next to the house. Temperatures below 45-50° can damage plants. Water when the top of the soil feels dry to the touch. Poinsettias can thrive inside through the winter when placed in a warm, sunny location, out of drafts. Water your poinsettias weekly; feed them monthly through April, then transplant them outdoors.



Living plants that make good holiday gifts and grow well indoors in a sunny window include basil, lavender, lemon balm, marjoram, mint, oregano, parsley, rosemary, tarragon and thyme.

Maintenance - [Citrus trees can handle frost](#), but need to be covered in a hard freeze. Be sure your cover does not touch the leaves of your tree. Little, twinkling holiday lights will keep your tree warm and add sparkle to your winter garden.

[Inspect your garden](#) after storms for broken branches, overturned pots, and wind damage.

Clean, sharpen, and oil your pruners so they'll be ready for the pruning season. Clean and oil shovels, rakes, and other garden tools before putting them away for the winter.

Lawns- will need little care in December. Use the time you would normally devote to your lawn to plan your spring garden.

Resources: ipm.ucdavis.edu, sunset.com/garden, farmerfred.com
San Joaquin Master Gardeners: A Valley Gardeners Journal
Sacramento County Master Gardeners: Gardening Guide

Have a gardening question? Call our hotline!

San Joaquin County Master Gardeners

Phone: 209-953-6112

2101 E. Earhart Ave.

Suite 200, Stockton, 95206



E-mail: anrmgsanjoaquin@ucanr.edu

Web-site: <http://sjmastergardeners.ucdavis.edu>

Program Coordinator: Marcy Sousa 953-6100

Find us on Social Media

Twitter: twitter.com/ucsanjoaquinmgs

Facebook: facebook.com/ucsjmg

Pinterest: pinterest.com/sjucmg

Garden Notes is published quarterly by the University of California Cooperative Extension Master Gardeners of San Joaquin County.

For nondiscrimination policy, [click here](#)



FREE HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION EVENT

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 8TH 9:00 AM TO 2:00 PM TRACY MUNICIPAL AIRPORT 5749 S. TRACY BLVD.



ACCEPTABLE MATERIALS
Household Hazardous Waste: chemical cleaners, used oil, paints, pool chemicals, garden products, automotive products, pesticides, 1 gallon and 5 gallon propane tanks, etc.
Universal Waste: fluorescent light bulbs, batteries, mercury containing devices.
Electronic Waste: computers, monitors, printers, TVs, radios, VCRs, telephones, stereos, etc.

NO TIRES, LARGE APPLIANCES, EXPLOSIVES, OR RADIOACTIVE MATERIALS ACCEPTED

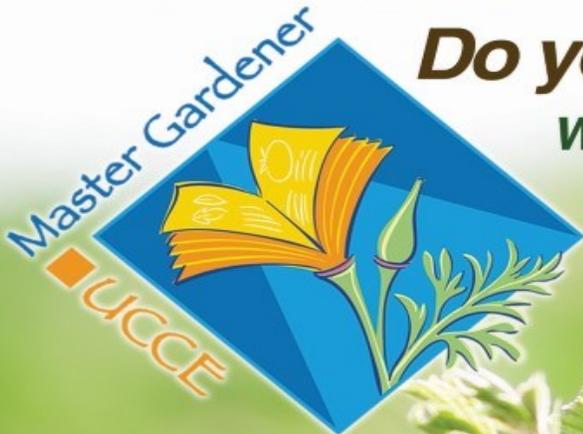
For more info please visit:
www.SJCreecycle.org
or call 468-3066

SAFETY TIPS

- Transport no more than 15 gallons or 125 pounds.
- Don't mix chemicals.
- Use only sealed, non-leaking containers.
- Transport in truck bed or trunk; pack to avoid spilling.
- Please leave pets at home!



2017 Master Gardener Training



Do you enjoy gardening?

***Want to increase your knowledge
and horticulture experience?***

***Interested in volunteering
your time and talent with
people in your community?***

The UC San Joaquin Master Gardener Program is currently accepting applications for our next training that will begin in January 2017.

Applications can be found on our website and are due October 14th, 2016.
<http://ucanr.edu/2017sjmg>

Have a question?
Call us today at 209-953-6112

Fall Open Garden Day



with the *UC San Joaquin
Master Gardeners*

*Saturday, October 22
from 9 a.m.-12 p.m.*

Our Fall Open Garden Day will feature: pruning, irrigation, and planting demonstrations. There will also be a vermi-composting display and kid's craft activities so bring your junior gardeners. Master Gardeners will be available to answer your gardening questions.



The demonstration garden was created to showcase sustainable landscaping principles and the many varieties of plants and edibles that can be grown throughout the year in our Mediterranean climate.

For more information, call 209-953-6112

The event is free. Registration is not required.

***The garden is located at the Robert J. Cabral Agricultural Center
2101 E. Earhart Ave. Stockton, 95206***



Safe Sharps Disposal **and it's FREE!**



Using the program is as easy as 1,2,3:

1. All Sharps Must Be In a Sealed Container



2. Sharps Accepted:



3. NO Loose Sharps!



NO MEDICATIONS!



Dispose of Sharps at These Participating Locations:

Stockton

El Dorado Drug Store

2005 E Mariposa Rd
464-7722

Waterfront Pharmacy

123 S Commerce St, Ste A
463-7777

St Joseph's Medical Center

1800 N California St
943-2000

San Joaquin County HHW Facility

7850 R A Bridgeford St
468-3066

San Joaquin Residents ONLY!

NO Business Materials Accepted

Call Location for Details and Limits

Tracy

Grant Line Pharmacy, Inc.

2160 W Grant Line Rd, Ste 205
832-2999

Reich's Pharmacy & Medical Supply

350 W Grant Line Rd
835-1832

Tracy Recycling Buyback Center

590 E 10th St
832-1024

Tracy Material Recovery Facility

30703 S MacArthur Dr
832-2355

Lodi

Fairmont Pharmacy

1121 W Vine St, Ste 13
625-8633

Manteca

Community Medical Center

200 Cottage Ave, Ste 103
624-5800

Manteca Solid Waste Division

210 E Wetmore St
456-8440

Escalon

Vineyard Pharmacy & Gifts

1900 McHenry Ave, Ste 202
838-0511

Lockeford

Young's Payless IGA Markets

18980 N Highway 88
727-3762

www.SJCreycle.org

"Please Support San Joaquin County Businesses"



Sponsored by the Communities of San Joaquin County ~ Working Together Today for a Greener Tomorrow