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Coordinator Corner

Marcy Sousa, Master Gardener Coordinator

Happy Fall! I hope you are enjoying this cooler weather. Fall is a great time to be out in the garden planting and getting gardens bed ready for winter. Our volunteers are busy working on the details for our Fall Open Garden Day that will be on October 14 from 9-noon. Mark your calendar for our Smart Gardening Conference that will be held on Saturday, February 3rd. More information will be coming out soon!

Recently, our Master Gardener Program was recognized by the County Board of Supervisors for the work that our volunteers have been doing throughout the county as well as the 10th anniversary of the program in San Joaquin County. Since 2007, our volunteers have recorded over 47,500 volunteer hours valued at just over 1.1 million dollars. Our presentation to the Supervisors gave us an opportunity to share all the great things our volunteers are doing. We were also able to recognize several volunteers that have exceeded 1,000 and 2,500 hours. We hope you enjoy this issue of *Garden Notes*. Happy Gardening!



1,000+ hour volunteers with Supervisor Winn, UCCE County Director Brent Holtz and Program Coordinator Marcy Sousa

Gathering and Storing Seeds—So Much to Know

Lee Miller, Master Gardener

There is a lot to know about seeds. Most of us buy them by the packet and if we don't use all of them, what do we do? I have found that storing seeds in a refrigerator can extend their life expectancy. Most seeds have a set viability time if not carefully stored, and some don't have their viability extended much by refrigeration. For example, onion and leek seeds are only good for about one year and, maybe 2 years at most with refrigeration. I have some refrigerated Galia melon seeds that are still viable after over 30 years, whereas most viability tables indicate five years for melon seeds. Just



in case their vitality is waning, I plant more than I should per hill, but up they come every year and I still have to thin them.

Seeds are biological wonder workers. Encased in a seed are all the DNA genetic instructions for growing a plant and its reproduction blueprint. DNA can be encased in the sea coconut that grows on some of the Seychelles Islands. It is the world record largest seed that weighs in at

over 42 lbs. The smallest seed is the orchid with a million seeds per gram (1/28 oz.). That is so small it is hard to com-

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Fall Garden Chores

Sue Davis, Master Gardener

Thankfully, the heat of summer is behind us! Plants are enjoying the cooler weather and yet the soil remains warm for planting trees, shrubs, most ornamentals, and cool season edibles. If we are fortunate again this year, rain will provide all 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, or crepe myrtle. Be sure to check the mature height and width of the trees so they will have room to grow in your landscape.

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 will attract pollinators such as hummingbirds and bees.

Bulbs planted now will provide a colorful spring display. Plant bulbs when the temperature of the soil falls to 55° (when average night time temps are 50° or cooler for at least 2 weeks). Nursery selections should include anemone, calla, Narcissus, freesia, Hyacinth, and Dutch iris.



[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 a place to sit and relax. 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 around 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 (each division should have plenty of leaves and roots). Replant the divisions or gift them to friends immediately.

Add a layer of mulch around 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 (it's edible), 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

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Community Connections—Ripon Community Garden

Julie Schardt, Master Gardener

In our valley's (usually) friendly climate, a garden can be spotted almost anywhere. Home gardens are usually hidden from view behind a house. A casual drive through some valley towns can reveal a sizeable public space tucked between houses or apartments that's crowded with planter boxes or tomato cages, spiky artichoke plants, brightly colored marigolds.

The Ripon Community Garden is just such a space. A drive by the garden in late summer shows an abundance of vegetables, fruit, and flowers. Sunflowers rise above tomatoes, and squash. A mosey through the garden reveals some of the gardeners' personalities. A pink plastic flamingo stands guard over a planter box with impatiens, alyssum, and asters. In another, a gray plastic duck hides among pepper plants.

What appears to be easy abundance, though, is the result of hard work on the part of community members whose garden vision occasionally hit a wall. Finding a plot for their project, planning the garden, accessing irrigation water, maintaining an active board were all part of the challenge of implementing their horticultural concept.

Board members visited several community gardens to glean ideas for their undertaking. A local farmer offered 2 ¼ acres to be leased yearly at no charge. Although the City of Ripon charges for the irrigation water used by the garden, drip irrigation on a timer makes the best use of this resource. A few board members have come and gone since the garden's groundbreaking in 2014, but the garden thrives. Those lucky enough to have the time and inclination to work the garden pay \$50 a year for the use of a garden box and irrigation. They're asked to volunteer at least 10 hours annually to help maintain the garden's common spaces, do basic repairs, and keep water flowing through the drip system.



Photo Courtesy Sharon Butler

The garden is now definitely a neighborhood fixture in northwest Ripon. Ninety-two garden boxes offer community members more than an opportunity to express the handiwork of their green thumbs. The Ripon Senior Center benefits weekly from the harvest of 14 planter boxes tended by board president Sharon Butler and her co-gardeners. Between five thousand and six thousand pounds of produce - squash, peppers, tomatoes, cucumbers, melons - have gone home with Ripon seniors since the program started three years ago.

A successful farm with mixed plantings needs help with pollination to keep plants happy. Ryeon Blanco of Manteca Union High School's Be.Fresh program is the apiarist for the Ripon Garden. This nascent program is already keeping things buzzing with a second honey harvest coming up soon.

Oak Valley Youth Garden shares the Ripon Community Garden acreage. Lovingly overseen by Liz Schuiling and Sarah Darpinian, the youth garden pulls in youngsters from the community to experience the science and the bounty offered by gardening. They farm 7 planter boxes, and have plans to add more as their group grows. There's even an outdoor meeting space marked by bamboo poles in a teepee shape where they learn what their plants need and to create crafty things to enhance their experience. A visitor to their area when children are there will be happily shown around the youth garden and hear a narrative not just about what's growing (beans, broccoli, greens) but also about the fun they have.



Honey harvest at Ripon Community Garden

Pests of the Season

Christeen Ferree, Master Gardener

Weed: Poison Oak – *Toxicodendron diversilobum*



Poison Oak Leaves in Autumn

“Leaves of three, let it be.” What summer camper hasn’t heard this rhyme? Contact with poison oak or its oil causes many people to develop a painful skin rash. In California, poison oak is common from sea level to 5,000 foot elevations. It’s an erect deciduous shrub or vine that often climbs other shrubs and trees. The leaves are green or light red in the spring, turning a glossy green in late spring and summer, and yellow or red in the fall. Leaves of poison oak are clusters of three leaflets; however, leaves occasionally are comprised of 5, 7, or 9 leaflets. Flowers and berries are present in the spring and summer. Cutting and removing top growth and digging out roots and horizontal runners can effectively control a few plants. Wear tightly woven protective clothing, including cotton gloves worn over plastic gloves. After removing poison oak, wash any tools that were used and separately launder all clothing thoroughly. Do not burn poison oak as hazardous oils can be transported with

the smoke. Poison oak can also be controlled with glyphosate (Round-up) or other herbicides applied to the leaves before they change color in the fall. For additional information, see [Pest Notes – Poison Oak](#) Source: *Pests of Landscape Trees and Shrubs, University of California ANR Publication #3359*

Pest: Coddling Moth – *Cydia (Laspeyresia) pomonella*

Codling moth caterpillars feed directly on fruit or nuts. They blemish surfaces, penetrate fruit, and bore into the core.

The larvae are the most serious caterpillar pest of apples, pears, and walnuts in California. The larvae are white to light pink “worms” with a dark brown head. Adults are small, brown coppery moths. They make a small hole in the fruit’s skin with brown granular material (frass) coming out. At the core, the fruit turns brown and contains a worm. If consuming, always cut out damaged areas as they can be harmful if consumed. Your best defense against coddling moth is to select varieties of trees that are less susceptible to damage. It is important to clean up fallen fruit. Bagging young fruit on the tree can also help protect against coddling moth. For early detection, inspect fruit – both on the ground and in the tree.

Thin out and remove infested fruit. Pheromone traps can be used to detect early arrivals of this pest. If using insecticides, spray trees monthly with summer oil or conventional insecticide May through August. Proper timing of treatments is critical as once the worm has gone into the fruit, it is protected from pesticides. Reference: [Pest Notes – Coddling Moth](#) Source *California Master Gardeners Handbook, University of California ANR Publication #3382*



Apple affected by Coddling Moth Larvae



Powdery Mildew on a Grape Leaf

Disease: Powdery Mildew

Powdery mildews, which are caused by a number of fungi, are probably among the most easily recognizable of plant diseases. Powdery mildew produces chlorotic (yellowed) or necrotic areas on plant leaves, stems and fruit. These areas are usually covered with whitish-colored mycelia and spore containing fungus structures that look powdery. This disease affects roses, vegetables, grasses, berries and fruit trees, but is more serious on grapes and fruit trees than on vegetables and other plants. Unlike most fungi, powdery mildews are common in climates with lower relative humidity and thrive under the warm, dry conditions of California summer and fall seasons. Powdery mildew spores are carried by wind to host plants. It is more prevalent in shady areas. Management of powdery mildew involves good cultural practices, such as planting in sunny areas, good air circulation, avoidance of excess fertilizers, and proper irrigation techniques. It should be noted that overhead irrigation of a long duration actually reduces powdery mildew. However with vegetables, overhead irrigation may contribute to other pest problems, so this method is not recommended as a control method for vegetables. Control or management of powdery mildew also involves introducing plant varieties that are resistant to this disease. Organic or synthetic fungicides may also be used if cultural practices or host resistance are not effective. For additional information, see [Pest Notes – Powdery Mildew on Vegetables](#)

Plants of the Season

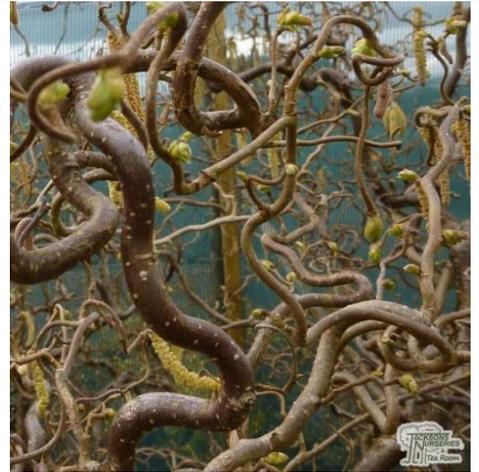
Sue Davis, Master Gardener

TREE:

Contorted European Filbert (*Corylus avellana* ‘Contorta’)

This slow growing, unique plant is often classified as a shrub. However, maturing at 10 to 15 feet, it is a perfect small tree for landscape areas where a large tree would overwhelm the space. Year-round interest is provided by this deciduous tree with gnarled and twisted branches, outstanding fall foliage color, and showy greenish yellow catkins.

Planted in full sun, this little tree with a weeping growth habit will need only occasional water once established. Although the tree will also do well planted in containers, the container planted tree will need water more regularly. The trees are easy to maintain, have extreme cold hardiness, and are used for firescaping as well as container and specimen plants in a variety of landscapes.



SHRUB:

Winterberry (*Ilex verticillata*)

Winterberry, as the name implies, produces a bright and prolific growth of red berries during the winter months. Providing year-round interest, Winterberry is covered with bright green leaves offering a visual cooling effect during the spring and summer months. In the fall, white flowers adorn the shrub in preparation for the showy red berries during the deciduous months of winter. Select the planting location carefully as the berries can produce a toxic reaction if consumed by pets.

The decorative berries of this easy-care plant are often used to brighten floral displays. Winterberry prefers evenly moist, acidic soil and a slow-release fertilizer applied in the spring before new growth appears. Plant this slow growing specimen in partial to full sun in an area where the bright red of the berries won't have competition from other plants in the landscape.



PERENNIAL:

Christmas Rose (*Helleborus niger* ‘Double Fantasy’)

Blooming with white flowers on tall stalks in late winter to early spring, Christmas Rose cuttings enhance flower arrangements as well as the appeal of gardens in winter. The blooms face outward from the stems, are semi-double with ruffled petals and a circle of gold stamens. The leaves are dark green and form compact clumps which accentuate the flowers as they bud and bloom.

The evergreen ground cover grows from 8 to 12 inches tall and up to 16 inches wide. Christmas Rose is deer resistant, grows best in full shade to partial sun and appreciates weekly watering. Planted among Coral Bells (*Heuchera*), Hosta, and Bleeding Heart (*Dicentra*), Christmas Rose will beautify a landscape.



It's Time to Plant a Fall Garden

Trish Tremayne, Master Gardener

Do you want to reduce your carbon footprint? You can by growing a vegetable garden. It's estimated that 20% of all America's petroleum consumption goes to producing and transporting our food. Do you want to eat healthy? You will get fresh, safe, high quality vegetables from you garden. Do you want to save money? A 20' by 30' garden can produce about \$600 worth of vegetables. After the triple digit temperatures of summer, working in my fall garden is a thing of joy. There are fewer weeds and pest, less watering and overall, less work.

Things to Consider

Location: Your garden will need 6-8 hours of sunlight a day. For best sun exposure, orient the garden so the rows run east to west, with the tallest plants on the north side.

Soil: Choose a well-drained soil; a sandy loam is best. But don't despair if your soil is less than perfect. Most aren't. Soil texture, drainage, and water- holding capacity can be improved by adding compost. The rule of thumb is to mix in one cubic yard of compost for every 300 square feet of garden space.

Water: Make sure there is a convenient source of water.

Fertilization: Use a "starter" fertilizer when planting, then fertilize again in 3 to 4 weeks.

Mulch: Use straw, newspaper, wood chips, or any other organic material that is convenient and inexpensive. Mulch helps regulate soil temperature and moisture and keeps rain water from splashing mud onto your plants.

Plan you garden: Using graph paper, draw your garden space. Decide how much room each plant needs. If space is limited use smaller, earlier-maturing varieties. Consider inter-planting fast-growing plants like lettuce or radishes between your brassicas.

Rotate Crop: Avoid planting crops from the same family in the same place each year.

Choose what to plant: It's important to plant what your family likes to eat, but remember that home grown food tastes better and studies have shown that when children help in the garden, they are more likely to try foods they normally would not eat. Select varieties that are adapted to our growing area.

Transplants vs. Seed: It saves time and is easier to plant transplants of species like broccoli, cauliflower, Brussels sprouts, and cabbage. Gently plant well rooted transplants and water well. Use seed when planting root crops like carrots and beets to eliminate transplant shock. Lettuce, kale, mustard, and Swiss chard are happy planted either from seed or as transplants. Seeds cost less, but take longer to produce. Always read seed packet instructions for spacing and depth information. To extend your season, choose varieties that mature at different times or make successive plantings of the same variety.

Control Insects: Aphid, caterpillars, snails, and slugs are the major fall and winter insects that attack plants. To get a head start on snails and slugs, prepare your garden plot, then spread pet-safe snail bait (iron phosphate-based bait) a couple of days before you plant. You can control aphid by covering the plants with row covers or netting. This will also keep cabbage moths from laying eggs, hatching into caterpillars, and then eating the brassicas.

Here are some of the plants that grow in the fall and winter in this area.

Broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, and Brussels sprouts are all part of the Brassica family and have similar cultural requirements. They require a fertile soil and adequate moisture throughout the growing season. Side dress with a high nitrogen fertilizer once the plants are established and growing.

Broccoli can be planted in staggered rows 18" apart. Harvest can begin about 30 days after transplanting, as soon as the center head is about 3 inch across. Leave the main stock to encourage side shoots. Each leaf will produce a small tender broccoli shoot. Consider planting broccoli raab and sprouting broccoli.

Cabbages come in green or purple round and savoyed (pointed) heads. Plant 18" to 24" apart. Harvest when the head is firm, about 60 to 90, days depending on variety.

Brussels sprouts are a fun and unique plant. The little cabbages grow up the main stem at each leaf axil. Harvest from the bottom as soon as the sprout is about an inch across. Remove the bottom leaves as the plant grows. The plant is remarkably frost tolerant.

Cauliflower needs a lot of room. Space 18" between plants and 24 to 36 inches between rows. Don't let this stop you from planting them. Instead just inter- plant with lettuce, radishes or beets, then harvest

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Beneficials — Predaceous Ground Beetles

Kathy Ikeda, Master Gardener

Have you ever turned over some debris in a sheltered area of your garden only to be surprised by a large black beetle or two scurrying away in search of a new hiding place? Never fear! Although such a discovery can be startling, you've just uncovered a reclusive and often overlooked beneficial insect: a predaceous ground beetle.

Predaceous ground beetles (family Carabidae) are surprisingly diverse. They vary in length from 1/8 to 1 1/4 inch, and although they're customarily black, brown, or deep red in color, some species have a metallic sheen or are brightly colored. There are more than 2,500 known species on the North American continent, and almost 800 hundred different species live in California alone. The most easily recognizable Carabids in San Joaquin County are those belonging to the genus *Calosoma*, with their glossy, jet-black exoskeletons.

Ground beetles have been given that common name for a reason; they spend their entire life cycle in, on, or near the ground. Female ground beetles lay their eggs in damp soil, leaf litter, or other loose organic matter. Once the larvae hatch, they remain near this sheltered, moist habitat. Ground beetle larvae have elongated bodies and large heads with prominent mandibles (jaws), and they grow steadily larger and larger until they undergo transformation to pupal and adult forms. This progression from egg to larva to pupa to adult is called complete metamorphosis, and most ground beetles finish this cycle in the span of one year. Adult ground beetles typically live from two to three years.



[Adult predaceous ground beetle, *Calosoma* sp.](#)
Photo by Jack Kelly Clark

Although some ground beetle species feed on seeds or decomposing plant material, most species are predatory and actively seek out small grubs and insects to eat. Both the adult and larval stages of predaceous ground beetles consume soil dwelling insect eggs, earwigs, and larvae such as cutworms, root maggots, and caterpillars; some species also eat snails and slugs. Since ground beetles are living creatures that feed on harmful garden pests, they've earned the designation "natural enemies." You won't usually see them going about their activities since they're nocturnal insects, hunting by night and hiding during daylight hours. They can consume their body weight in prey every night.

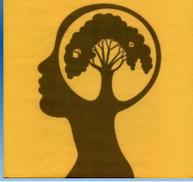
Ground beetles have enemies of their own; they're eaten by larger creatures such as lizards, birds, and small mammals. In order to protect themselves, many ground beetles have developed very effective predator deterrents: bad-tasting or noxious chemicals. One well-known example is the bombardier beetle, a type of black ground beetle commonly seen in wild habitats of our state. When threatened, this beetle will rear up in a defensive pose and discharge poisonous chemicals from glands located on its abdomen. (Think miniature skunk!) The bombardier beetle has a particularly effective delivery method: its chemical weaponry is dispensed with a small explosion of volatile compounds, resulting in an audible pop and a puff of hot, acrid vapor. Not all ground beetles have such formidable or intimidating ways of protecting themselves, and most will run away if disturbed, but it's best to use caution near ground beetles if you're uncertain of their defensive mechanisms.

A word of advice: don't mistake the beneficial black ground beetles for their look-alike cousins — darkling beetles (family Tenebrionidae) — which are considered to be pest insects. Although both types of beetles are either flightless or (in those with functioning wings) rarely fly, here are some clues to help you distinguish one from the other:

- Predaceous ground beetles are generally carnivorous (animal-eating), whereas darkling beetles are herbaceous (plant-eating) and feed on seedlings, flowers, and tender fruit. Plants in the cucurbit family—melons, squash, cucumbers, pumpkins, and gourds—are favorite foods of darkling beetles.
- Ground beetles run rapidly, but darkling beetles tend to plod along or move fast only if poked.
- Ground beetles have thin, thread-like antennae, while darkling beetles have thicker antennae with short, bead-like segments.
- Ground beetles have prominent, forward-jutting, pincer-like mandibles; those of darkling beetles are smaller and hidden on the underside of the head.
- Ground beetles often have a distinct narrowing at the "waist" between the thorax and abdomen (2nd and 3rd body sections) or a thorax that is narrower than the abdomen. Darkling beetles have more straight-sided bodies.

You can encourage ground beetles to inhabit your garden by providing some cool, damp, sheltered places with mulch, leaf litter, or other shelter. An old fence board or a tree trunk cross-section placed on the ground can provide an adequate hiding place, as do large flat stones, logs, and other materials laid upon the soil. Low- or no-till gardening methods will provide ground beetles with undisturbed and healthy soil for egg-laying and larval development. Native bunchgrasses and densely planted hedgerows provide shelter for adult insects. Avoid the use of lawn and garden pesticides since ground beetles are especially sensitive to their toxicity.

For more about these beneficial garden denizens, see Pacific Horticulture's article entitled, "Garden Allies: Predaceous Ground Beetles." For a detailed discussion of the differences between ground beetles and darkling beetles, visit the [Bug Eric website](#).



Growing Knowledge

Pegi Palmes, Master Gardener

2017 UC Master Gardener Conference, Long Beach, CA

The recent UC Master Gardener Conference in Long Beach, CA was the seventh MG Conference I've attended since becoming a MG in 1997, probably qualifying me to be labeled a conference junkie. The August 2017 conference was the best I've attended; it was incredibly well organized, it was located in a beautiful hotel, and the coordinators did an outstanding job keeping everything and everyone on time. Eleven Master Gardeners from San Joaquin County attended this conference, including our leader Marcy Sousa.

Several of us took advantage of the pre-conference tours offered. I started my day at the UC Agriculture and Natural Resources. [South Coast Research and Extension Center](#), a 200-acre field laboratory established by UC in 1956 as a site for agricultural research. The Orange County MGs have a wonderful demonstration area, including examples of what can be done with rainwater runoff, home landscapes, and vegetable gardens; there was also an interactive children's garden, where many repurposed items were on display. The volunteers were enthusiastic, friendly, and incredibly knowledgeable about their display site. They harvested and prepared fruits and vegetables from the site for us to taste. The tour included a wagon ride around the property where the different test areas were explained.

The next stop was a personal tour of the [Sherman Library and Gardens](#).

This 2.2-acre horticultural retreat had a museum of living plants displayed in various settings; gardens, patios, and a conservatory, all blooming with seasonal flowers. The history of how the Sherman Library and Gardens came to be was fascinating, but too lengthy to include here.

On opening day of the conference, we enjoyed two keynote speakers: Adam Schwerner, Director of Horticulture and Resort Enhancements at Disneyland Resorts; and Dr. Allan Armitage, professor at the University of Georgia. Both were quite interesting and entertaining, and they brought with them many years of garden related experiences. Professor Schwerner was previously with the City of Chicago where, with the support of then-Mayor Richard Daley, he was able to transform many of the city's parks and green spaces into works of art. Who knew former Mayor Daley was such a lover of gardens?



It was difficult to choose from the extensive list of programs offered each day of the conference. One of the highlights for me was meeting [Niamh Quinn](#), Human-Wildlife Interactions Advisor for UC Cooperative Extension based at the [UC South Coast Research and Extension Center](#) in Orange County. She is a vertebrate pest advisor currently working on coyote issues in California cities, and she encouraged anyone living in an urban area to use the [Coyote Cacher](#) mobile app to track close encounters with coyotes. She also had very good information about other vertebrate pests. For more information you can contact her at nmquinn@ucanr.edu or visit [Orange County UC Cooperative Extension](#).

Another enjoyable subject was gardening with children. The Orange County MG children's display garden was full of interactive and innovative ideas. The volunteers had many good tips for working with school programs and the general public. Due to the large demand for their services,

the volunteers have come up with a program they call "Lessons in a Box." They are filling an easily portable container with the lesson plan, book, and other necessary supplies that any Master Gardener can pick up and take to a presentation. Some of the lessons they've developed are Worms, Butterflies & Moths, Seeds, Bees, Soil, and one called Friend/Foe. This project is still in the development stage, and the volunteers promise to share what they learn with us as they move forward.

Finally, a highlight of this conference was the many conversations with other Master Gardeners. It was enlightening to share information about what each county is involved in, what works (or doesn't), how to deal with municipalities, and how to determine if you are truly successful in one area or another. I encourage all Master Gardeners to consider attending the next statewide conference in three years. It's well worth the time and money!

From the Garden—Broken Clay Pots

Shannon Kuhn, Master Gardener

As the season turns to autumn, we start to notice changes in our own backyard. As we reluctantly let go of summer, it's time to begin the fall yard clean-up. On your "clean up checklist" there is sure to be raking leaves, composting, pruning, recycling, and maybe even planting fall bulbs in preparation for next spring. As you tidy up, you may also be picking up those cracked or broken pots around the garden that didn't quite make it through the season. However, instead of tossing them aside, why not use them to create something new?

As you get ready to snuggle inside with that pumpkin spiced latte, making crafts out of those broken pots can be an enjoyable and creative way to continue gardening. Broken pot art is a fun addition to your outdoor garden, on a patio table, or even as a holiday gift. So many times, those shards end up as drainage in the bottom of other pots. However, recycling and reusing broken pots can add interest and charm to your surroundings.



With a little inspiration, that thankless chore of fall clean-up will mark a new purpose for those pots. There's no right or wrong way to layer your broken pieces, and each final product has its own charm.

Think layers, texture, color, and natural elements. Just use your imagination. Whatever your fancy, a fairy garden, herbs, or succulents, will be amazing.

Creating a layered or tiered look:

Supply List

- Potting soil
- Broken clay pots
- Small plants from a garden center
- Moss (optional)
- Hammer
- Trowel
- Safely goggles
- Accessories such as fairies or gnomes (optional)

Step 1: Use your largest pot as the base of your design. If you need to widen the cracked opening on the side, use a hammer and safety glasses to create the gap you want. The goal is to create visual interest; play around with the pieces until you find what you like. Turning smaller pots upside down can be the base for another pot and gives height to your work. Use other broken pieces as dividers or addi-

tional tiers. Remember, they don't all have to be terracotta; adding other types can add contrast.

Step 2: Add soil. If there are gaps left between the broken pots, it may not hold soil. To fix this, just move some of the smaller broken pieces to fill in the gaps until the soil is secure.

Step 3: Create layers or tiers. Tilt pots at different angles to get your desired effect. Continue adding soil as you work your way up. You can also use something of interest for the top piece.

Step 4: Planting will be very individual as you add your plants. Keep in mind small ones work best. Be creative! Herbs, succulents, and ground covers are a few suggestions to get you started.

Step 5: Completely optional though often effective is adding dried moss, pebbles, sea glass, or even mulch to give your new garden art a finished touch. If it is a fairy garden you're after, adding miniature gnomes or a door to your broken pot garden will be quite whimsical.

There are several other options for recycling broken pots that are very simple. One easy option is to use a permanent marker and write the name of your plants such as "Oregano" on the wide lip of the broken pot and bury the sharp end into the soil.

Another option is to turn the broken pot on its side and bury a third of it in the soil. With the opening exposed, plant flowers or succulents as if they were spilling out of the tipped pot.

Whatever creative idea you decide to use, remember to recycle those broken pots and have some fun.



Demo Garden—Fall Open Garden Day!

Cherie Sivell, Master Gardener

Meet and greet our Master Gardeners at our Fall Open Garden Day, Saturday, October 14, 2017, 9:00-12 Noon. This is your chance to visit the Demonstration Gardens, see us in action, and ask lots of questions. There will be planting, pruning, information tables. We will have winter vegetable plants for sale along with other UC publications. Bring your hand pruners and drop them off at the tool sharpening table for a quick tune-up! There will be an activity to keep the kids busy as well. Light refreshments will be provided. This event is free! Questions? Call 209-953-6100. [See our full page flyer on page 18 in this newsletter.](#)



Stop by for a visit anytime. It is located at **2101 E. Earhart Avenue, Stockton**, and is open to the public at no charge.



[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.](#)

It's Time to Plant a Fall Garden

(cont. from page 6)

these plants before the cauliflower get large. To preserve the color of the white heads, gather the leaves over the small heads and tie them together with rubber bands, twine or binder clips to blanch them. Don't just plant the white variety. Also try the varieties like Cheddar (yellow), Graffiti (purple), or green like veronica romanesco.

Beets and Swiss chard are in the same family. Both have corky seed that benefit from soaking for a few hours before planting. Beets can be grown for the roots or the greens. Plant beets seed ½ inch apart, then thin to 2 to 3" when the plants are 1 to 2" high. For continuous harvest, plant seeds every two weeks. Start harvesting when the roots are about an inch in diameter. Don't limit your planting to just red beets. Also try the golden yellow beets and Italian heirloom chioggia for beautiful red and white stripped roots. Chard comes with white, red, yellow, orange, and magenta stems. All are delicious. Plant 6" apart in rows 18" apart. You can plant seed or transplants. When harvesting, pick just the outer leaves and the plant will continue to produce all season.



Lettuce is fast growing and comes in many interesting varieties. Picking just outer leaves extends the harvest, or sow consecutive plantings every 3 weeks.

Kale is another long season crop. Fertile soil and consistent moisture will produce the best quality leaves. The flavor is enhanced by a light frost. Picking just the other leaves will keep the plants growing into spring and early summer.

Peas prefer a well drained soil. Inoculating the seed before planting encourages the formation of nitrogen producing nodules on the roots. Shelling peas, snap peas and snow peas all do well in cool weather. Varieties under 3feet high do not need staking. Plant the seed ½ to 1" deep and 2" apart in double rows. The plants will support one another. Taller varieties can grow on a trellis or fencing.

I have included tips on many winter vegetables that grow well in our area, but this list is not exhaustive. If there is something not mentioned that you are interested in growing like garlic, leeks, carrots, or turnips, take a moment to look them up. Using the information you find, decide on if it is appropriate for your garden. Enjoy the pleasure and rewards of winter gardening. Whatever you decide to plant I'm sure you will enjoy your fall garden.

Horticultural Terms—Heading and Thinning

Lee Miller, Master Gardener

Fall is here and soon it will be time for dormant pruning. It is important to know two basic pruning terms: **heading cuts** and **thinning cuts**. Heading cuts are designed to head back a branch or trunk by reducing its length. Heading will encourage buds to grow below the cut. Heading cuts are essential on a newly planted fruit tree to develop a scaffold branch structure that will support a crop. Usually newly planted fruit trees are cut back to a height of anywhere from 20 to 44 inches, depending on the type of fruit and where it is planted. Trees planted in a landscape environment may need more clearance for lawn mowing or other activities.

A thinning cut removes a branch at its base to thin out the number of branches on a tree or shrub. It is important to not leave a stub and shear the branch close to its attachment. However you should not remove the collar on the branch which will enhance healing of the wound. If the limb is large and heavy, it is advisable to make the removal with three cuts using a saw. The first cut is upward about a foot from the attachment to the tree. The second is downward to meet this cut and remove the limb. The third cut clears the one foot stub from the tree, without the risk of ripping the bark and leaving a scar as might occur if this were the only cut made.



A peach tree before and after being pruned by heading

The Help Desk

Susan Mora Loyko, Master Gardener

“Don't Move Firewood - Buy It Where You Burn It”

After the long cold winter, my family looks forward to heading to the forests for our camping retreats. No cell phones or television, no nagging household chores to tend to, just peace, quiet and the beauty of nature.

This year we planned to go to a small campsite located near Shaver Lake in the central Sierra National Forest. When we arrived we were shocked to see numerous sickened downed trees and piles of cut wood everywhere. The once small dirt paths throughout the campsite were now dusty rutted roads obviously carved from large tires on heavy equipment.

The ranger explained the bark beetle had ravaged the forests. The past five years of drought had stressed the once stately evergreens (in particular the Ponderosa pines) to about 60 million dead and dying trees throughout the forest. Hundreds of trees had been cut to prevent fires and prevent falling trees. More trees were slated for the chainsaw in the weeks to follow. It was a heartbreaking site.



We learned the bark beetle causing so much large-scale destruction is no bigger than a rice kernel. Their activity is often scattered and hardly noticeable until the horrendous damage becomes apparent. Bark beetles survive in trees that are stressed, diseased, or injured; either by human activity, weather, storms or wild fires.



Small groups of standing trees may be killed but over the large landscape they often go unnoticed.

High numbers of the pest attack trees en masse leaving many dead trees over the landscape similar in appearance to a wildfire. Some years, bark beetles destroy more trees than fire according to the USDA (United States Department of Agriculture).

Stressed trees are not able to fend off bark beetle attacks. The more stressed the tree, the more susceptible it becomes. Bark beetles do not always attack susceptible trees, especially if beetle numbers are low. However, when beetle populations are high, even healthy trees can become victims.

Bark beetle infestation can be prevented, and prevention is key. There is nothing that can be done to save a tree once it has been attacked.

Instead of bringing our own, we were encouraged to use wood from the numerous piles of felled trees for our campfires. Without our knowing, firewood can carry invasive insects and diseases that can kill native trees. New infestations of these insects and diseases can destroy our forests, lessen property values, and be costly to monitor, manage, and control.

The forest service, local fire departments, and the USDA have long supported “Don't Move Firewood - Buy It Where You Burn It” to reduce the risk of moving invasive species in firewood. For more info, visit the following websites:

[CA Firewood Taskforce](#) [Don't Move Firewood](#) [CA—Don't Move Firewood](#)

A Taste of the Season

Julie Hyske, Master Gardener

Sweet potatoes and yams are both root vegetables although they taste different, have different nutritional values, and come from different plant families. The sweet potato is from the morning glory family while the yam is from the lily family. The fact is, yams and sweet potatoes are often mislabeled in cans and recipes, and often misrepresented at the supermarket. All this time Americans have been calling sweet potatoes “yams,” so do a bit of research this holiday season before you ask to pass the “candied yams” casserole. These three recipes indeed show the versatility of the sweet potato as the perfect meal for breakfast, lunch, or as an accompaniment to your holiday dinner. Make sure to save some room for sweet potatoes at your fall dining table!

Baked Egg Stuffed Sweet Potatoes

Ingredients

2 large sweet potatoes
4 large eggs
salt and pepper to taste
optional toppings such as shredded cheese, green onions, chives, salsa, avocado, ketchup, etc.



Preheat oven to 400°F. Wash and dry your sweet potatoes, and prick them all over with a fork before placing them onto a parchment-lined baking sheet. Bake for 1 hour, or until soft and tender. Remove from oven and let stand for about 10 minutes, or until cool enough to handle. Slice each sweet potato in half lengthwise and use a spoon to scoop out the flesh, leaving about a half-inch border around the skin intact. Transfer flesh to a bowl and save for future use. Reduce oven heat to 350 °F. Crack 1 egg into each sweet potato half. Season with salt, pepper, and shredded cheese (if desired). Place on a baking sheet lined with parchment paper and bake for 15-20 minutes, until white has set. If you like your yolks runnier, start watching them at 12 minutes and remove when desired level of doneness is reached. Serve immediately with toppings of your choice and an accompaniment of toast.

Serves: 4

Chili-Stuffed Sweet Potatoes

Ingredients

4 large sweet potatoes, washed
2 Tbsp oil
½ cup diced red bell pepper
½ cup chopped onion
1 (15 ounce) can Chili No Beans
1 (15 ounce) can black beans, drained
¼ tsp ground ginger
½ cup shredded cheddar cheese
½ cup sour cream
1 large avocado, sliced



Heat oven to 400 °F. Bake sweet potatoes 1¼ hours or until tender. Heat oil in large saucepan over medium-high heat; add bell pepper and onion and sauté until tender. Stir in chili, beans, and ginger. Cook over low heat until thoroughly heated. To serve, split sweet potatoes; scoop out center and spoon chili mixture into potato. Top with shredded cheese and return to 350 °F oven for 20 minutes. If desired, serve with sliced avocado and sour cream.

Pineapple Stuffed Sweet Potatoes

Ingredients

2 sweet potatoes, washed
2 Tbsp whole milk
2 tsp light brown sugar
¼ tsp ground cinnamon
¼ tsp salt
¼ cup crushed pineapple
¼ cup chopped walnuts

Preheat oven to 400°F. Coat a baking sheet with cooking spray. Place potatoes on baking sheet. Bake 50-55 minutes or until very soft. Cool potatoes slightly, then slice in half lengthwise. Scoop out sweet potato center, leaving a thin layer inside, and place in a medium bowl. Add milk and mash until smooth. Stir in brown sugar, cinnamon, salt, and pineapple; mix well. Spoon potato mixture evenly into each potato shell and sprinkle with nuts. Place on baking sheet and bake for 20 minutes at 350°F, or until heated through.



Coming Events

Corinne Bachle, Master Gardener

OCTOBER 2017

Saturday, October 7 (members only) and

Saturday, October 21 (public sale)

UC Davis Arboretum Plant Sale

Members only: 9 a.m. – 11 a.m.

Public: 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Davis Arboretum Teaching Nursery (free parking is available at the visitor parking lot 55 and Putah Creek Lodge parking lot)

LIFE AFTER LAWN Fall is the time for planting. If you are converting your lawn to a low-water landscape or are just interested in including more environmentally-friendly, easy care plants in your gardens, this is the sale for you. Shop from the selection of over 25,000 regionally-appropriate plants including Arboretum All-Stars, California natives, and gorgeous drought-tolerant varieties.

This event is free.

Saturday, October 14

Fall Open Garden Day with the San Joaquin Master Gardeners

9 am— 12 noon

We will have informational tables, tool sharpening, winter vegetable plants for sale and Master Gardeners will be available to answer your gardening questions.

This event is free. Questions? Call (209) 953-6112

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

Sunday October 15

Winter Vegetable Gardening

11:30 am—1:30 pm

Learn what to grow and how to prepare

your garden for a winter harvest.

Boggs Tract Community Farm
466 S Ventura Ave, Stockton, CA 95203

Tuesday, October 21

Gardening with Natives

10:00 – 12 noon

Delta Tree Farms Nursery, 12900 N. Lower Sacramento Road, Lodi

No reservation is necessary.

Discover the power of California native plants in your yard and garden. Less water, feeding, and maintenance, but more beauty, birds, bees, butterflies, beneficial insects, and wildlife! Christie Johnson of Milkweed Garden Designs and Delta Tree Farms employee, will discuss design, planting, watering, care, and maintenance of natives.

This class is free.

Tuesday, October 24

Weed Woes

10:30 – 12 noon

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

Call (209) 953-6100 by the Wednesday before class to reserve your seat.

This class will provide an overview of the kinds of weeds that plague the valley and how to identify and control them.

This class is free.

NOVEMBER 2017

Saturday, November 4

UC Davis Arboretum Plant CLEAR-ANCE Sale

Open to the public 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Davis Arboretum Teaching Nursery (free parking is available at the visitor parking lot 55 and Putah Creek Lodge parking lot)

Everything will be marked down at least 10%. Members will save an additional 10% off sale prices.

This event is free.

Monday, November 6

Winterize your garden and tools

9:30—11:30 am

Lodi Library
201 W Locust St, Lodi, 95240

Properly winterizing the garden is an important step to help your plants survive the winter and produce in the spring. Learn the best techniques to maintain your tools so they serve you well throughout the year.

This class is free.

Saturday, November 11

Planting Bare Root Fruit Trees and Roses

10:30 – 12 noon

REI (Upstairs) 5757 Pacific Avenue, Stockton

Call (209) 953-6100 by the Wednesday before class to reserve your seat.

This class will discuss site selection, planting, pruning, and specific bare root varieties that perform well in our area.

This class is free.

[Continued on page 17](#)

Gathering and Storing Seeds—So Much to Know

(cont. from page 1)

Lee Miller, Master Gardener

prehend.

Seed saving is a good gardening experience to complete the plant life cycle. It can save money. You can trade seeds at seed swaps and make new gardener friends, and you can try saving seeds that are adapted to your garden area. You can save rare or heirloom seeds not readily purchased.

It takes little effort to save seeds. Here are some things to know if you are going to embark on some seed saving of your own. Know the species and variety so they can be properly labeled. You also should know when seeds are ready for harvest. Are they hybrids or open pollinated varieties? Seeds should be saved only from open-pollinated plants. Saving from hybrids will yield unknown results. Open pollinated seeds are those pollinated by insect, bird, wind, humans, or other natural mechanisms. Since there are no restrictions on the flow of pollen between individuals, open-pollinated plants are more genetically diverse which allows for selection of seeds best suited to your garden's environment.

Many plants are self-pollinating with small hermaphroditic flowers that often exclude insect or wind pollination. Some self-pollinating plants are wheat, peas, beans, lettuce, tomatoes, apricots and peaches. These are the easiest plants to save seeds from. Many plants capable of self-pollinating can also be cross pollinated, e.g., peppers. If you want to save seeds from cross pollinating plants, you will need to control the pollination by isolating the female part of the plant in a manner that you know where the male pollen came from. This is often done by following the guidelines for the distance from other varieties. For example, your carrots should be ½ mile from other carrots or wild carrots. Isolation is sometimes done by using cages to keep insects from cross pollinating.

Plants that use insects for cross-pollination are apples, plums, pears, raspberries, blackberries, black currants, strawberries, runner beans, pumpkins, squash, melons, daffodils, tulips, heather, lavender, and most flowering plants. Plants that use wind for cross pollination are grasses, dandelions, maple trees, and ragweed, and catkin-bearing trees like walnuts.



Seed collection needs to be done when the fruit or flower is mature and hence the seed is mature in all aspects. Some seeds may mature unevenly. I have had uneven germination from purchased tomato seeds and I suspect the seed purveyor harvested some seeds too soon. Time of maturity will vary by species and if you wait too long, the seeds might get dispersed before you gather them. For example, as sweet peas mature and the pod dries, it splits and propels the seeds out of the pod. Pods will mature unevenly, so you should collect them before this happens to all of the pods. This same technique goes for California poppies.

Tomato seeds are commonly saved and the trick is to ferment the gel off the seed. The gel keeps the seeds from sprouting within the tomato and it must be removed by fermentation. Squeeze the seeds out of the tomato into a quart container which is filled 2/3 with water. Do it outside in the shade as it can get a little smelly as a mold usually forms on top of the water. After 3 days, pour the water off and wash the seeds in a sieve. Don't go beyond 3-4 days or the seeds can start to germinate. Dry the seeds on some soft paper in the shade and after they are dry, put them in an envelope or vial with date and variety labeled. Store seeds in the refrigerator in a jar or plastic bag that is sealed. Refrigerated tomato seeds can last a long time. I have germinated some after 30 years in the refrigerator.

Lettuce is another easily harvested seed that is self-pollinating. Collect it after blooming is nearly finished. Lettuce seed is mixed with chaff which can be separated by sieving with a colander or screen or you can blow chaff away with "lung power," wind, or a fan while pouring seed and chaff from one container to another. Lettuce seed is light so a slight breeze is best or you can blow away seed as well as chaff.

Chard, beet, and carrot seeds are easily harvested, but they do cross pollinate. However, if you grow only one variety and you don't have a garden next door with other varieties, you are fairly safe. These are biennials, so they go to seed in the second year. Seeds are easy to collect without any processing beyond separating from their attachments.

The following items are useful for seed saving: baskets, buckets or paper bags, blossom isolation bags, colanders and sieves, screens, fans, drying filters, drying bags, labels, labeling pens, pencils, envelopes, vials, jars, and your hands and lung power.

I have barely scratched the surface of this topic, so for more information on seed saving, see: (1) *Seed to Seed: Seed Saving and Growing Techniques for Vegetable Gardeners*, 2nd Edition Paperback; 2002 by Suzanne Ashworth. (2) *The Complete Guide to Saving Seeds: 322 Vegetables, Herbs, Fruits, Flowers, Trees, and Shrubs*; Paperback; 2011; by Robert E Gough and Cheryl Moore-Gough.

Summer Garden Chores (cont. from page 2)

Sue Davis, Master Gardener

stems can be left unpruned so water doesn't invade easily.

Cover your [frost-sensitive](#) plants (being 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 for the winter 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 to eliminate 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 commences. 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. 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.

Horseradish and rhubarb are available in local nurseries this month.

Acacia, columbine, flowering quince, foxglove, gaillardia, salvia, and winter Daphne are perennials to plant now for early spring bloom.

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 need little care in December. Use the free time to plan your spring garden.



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

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

For nondiscrimination policy, [click here](#)

Coming Events continued

Corinne Bachle, Master Gardener

Sunday, November 19

Season Extension

11:30 am—1:30 pm

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

Boggs Tract Community Farm

466 S Ventura Ave, Stockton, CA 95203

Tuesday, November 28

Winterize your Garden and Tools

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

Call (209) 953-6100 by the Wednesday before class to reserve your seat.

Properly winterizing the garden is an important step to help your plants survive the winter and produce in the spring. Learn the best techniques to maintain your tools so they serve you well throughout the year.

This class is free.

Sunday, December 15

Soil Building

11:30 am—1:30 pm

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 Ave, Stockton, CA 95203

Fall Open Garden Day

with the UC San Joaquin Master Gardeners

**Saturday, October 14th
from 9 a.m.-12 p.m.**



Our Fall Open Garden Day will feature pruning, irrigation, and planting demos. There will also be displays on composting and vermi-composting, tool care, Integrated Pest Management, and attracting pollinators. Master Gardeners will be working in the garden and available to answer your gardening questions. Light Refreshments will be provided.

There will be a game and prizes for the kids!

Bring your hand pruners to the tool sharpening table for a quick une-up!



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***

We will have
**WINTER VEGETABLE
PLANTS FOR SALE!**
Cash only.



Got Drugs?

Turn in your used or expired medications for safe disposal

Saturday, October 28
10:00am - 2:00pm



Stockton

Arnold Rue Community Center
5758 Lorraine Avenue
- Sharps Accepted* -

Code 3 Safety Outfitters
304 Lincoln Center North
Sharps **NOT Accepted**

University of the Pacific
757 Brookside Road
- Sharps Accepted* -

Garden Acres Community Center
607 Bird Avenue
Sharps **NOT Accepted**

Tracy

Tracy City Hall
333 Civic Center Plaza
North Parking Lot **10am-1pm**
- Sharps Accepted* -

Lodi

Lodi Police Department
215 Elm Street
- Sharps Accepted* -

Ripon

Ripon Police Department
259 N. Wilma Avenue
- Sharps Accepted* -

Lockeford

Payless Market
18980 E. Highway 88
Sharps **NOT Accepted**

Lathrop

Lathrop Senior Center
15707 5th Street
- Sharps Accepted* -



Directions:

- Remove Pills From Containers & Packaging
- Consolidate Loose Pills in Plastic Bag
- Remove Personal Information from Packaging
- *Medical Sharps Accepted Only at Select Locations
- *Medical Sharps Accepted Only in Sealed Bio-Hazard or Other Sturdy Sealed Containers

For additional information, please contact San Joaquin County
Department of Public Works, Solid Waste Division at
468-3066 or visit us on the web at:



www.SJCreecycle.org

