# **How Does Your Garden Grow?**



# **News from UCCE Master Gardeners of Calaveras County**

### January 2017

#### From The Editor

This edition of the newsletter features garden tasks for January. Its also time to give your roses some love and clean up after all that wonderful rain and snow.

Happy Gardening! Odile Morrison Newsletter Editor

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# **Pruning and Planting Roses**

By Teresa Spence, University of California Cooperative Extension Master Gardener Of Calaveras County

Start gently pruning repeat blooming roses. Allow spring blooming roses to bloom before pruning them.

Clean up debris, old mulch and leaves from around the bush: cut back dead, broken or spindly canes, wait until the cane buds swell before cutting back the canes by about one third. Do not fertilize until new growth appears.

At this time of the year there are many varieties of bare root roses to choose from at our local nurseries: now is the time to pick up one or several. Bare root roses are less expensive and usually adapt better to their new environment. More



## **Next General Meeting**

February 21, 2017 10am - noon, San Andreas Library

Open to the public for our presentation at 11am:

Tri-County Wildlife and their owls

**More** 

## **Open Gardens 2017**

Open Garden Season begins February 25, 2017. More

# **Need Help?**

Master Gardener training begins Thursday, January 19, 2017 and continues weekly through April 27. MGs are welcome to attend. Topic list and more

#### ....Roses

Continued from front page

To plant a bare root rose: gophers and deer love roses so make a gopher basket and choose a good location so deer cannot nibble on the shrub. Roses like the sun but do better if there is a little shade in the heat of the summer. They need well drained soil. Unwrap the rose and shake off the sawdust, cut back any broken roots or canes and place the roots in a bucket of water for a few hours. Dig a hole about 2 feet wide and 1 foot deep and put in your gopher basket if you are using one. Make a cone of soil in the middle of the hole so that when you spread out the roots and place them on top of the cone, the base of the rose is above the ground. Some roses are grafted and it is critical that the graft, the thickest part of the stem base, is above the ground. Back fill the soil into the hole, tamping it lightly. Water it well, and if the soil is too low add more soil if necessary.

### **January To Do List**

By Teresa Spence, University of California Cooperative Extension Master Gardener Of Calaveras County

Fertilize established fruit trees with manure 3" deep spread out to the drip line, or sprinkle organic fertilizer around the base of the tree according to the package instructions. Rain will help the fertilizer dissolve into the soil.

If you are considering planting anything in the winter, make sure the soil is not too wet; otherwise you will be destroying the "tilth" of the soil, making it less porous so it is difficult for plants to send down roots to absorb nutrition. Soil texture should be crumbly not sticky before you dig.

Tidy up perennial vines, deciduous flowering plants and trees while they are dormant. Wait until spring blooming plants such as azaleas, lilacs and camellias have bloomed before pruning them. Large vines such as overgrown honeysuckle or potato vines can be radically thinned or even cut back to the ground if they are an overgrown mess.



# **February 25 Open Garden**

Our first Open Garden for the season is on February 25, 2017 at the Demonstration Garden, 891 Mountain Ranch Road in San Andreas.

**Topic:** Seed Starting and Garden Preparation.

Presenter: Candace Raupauch.

#### **Next General Meeting**

Our next meeting is February 21, 2017 at 10am. Speaker at 11am.

Speaker: Tri-County Wildlife and their owls



Their Second Chance

to be Wild and Free

Tri County Wildlife Care envisions a world where wildlife and humans thrive together. In 2016 they took in over 900 injured, ill and orphaned critters with the goal of getting them back out into the wild. They also answered over 3,000 calls from the public and work to provide answers to nuisance wildlife conflicts. Tri County Wildlife Care believes that saving wildlife saves all of us and are looking forward to sharing their amazing

raptors. Sue Manning will be the main presenter.

# A Shady Place to Sit

Thanks to Pete
McGraw for
building a bench in
the shade of our
silk tree at the
demo garden. It's
the perfect place to
sit and watch
everyone else
work!



#### **Master Gardener Board of Directors**

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