

2012 MMG County Fair Speaker Topics and Schedule



Saturday, June 30, 12:00 Noon

INVITATION TO YOUR GARDEN PARTY: GOOD BUGS ONLY!

Learn how to rid your garden of suckers, chewers and miners (The Bad Bugs) by attracting beneficial bugs (The Good Bugs) instead. This is an excellent way to avoid using pesticides and Master Gardener Diantha Bell will fully educate us about how to make these helpful bugs welcome by supplying a buffet of the plants they love to eat.

Saturday, June 30, 2:00 p.m.

POTAGER IN A POT (EDIBLE CONTAINER GARDENING)

For centuries, cooks have valued their potagers, also known as the kitchen garden. Master Gardener Anne-Marie Walker will discuss all the important elements and demonstrate planting a container garden with vegetables to make a simple seasonal summer meal.

Saturday, June 30, 4:00 p.m.

IRRIGATION TIPS: NEW WATER-SAVING TECHNOLOGY

As much as 30 to 70% of your household water goes to landscape irrigation. Master Gardener Glenn Smith will talk about the latest irrigation technologies and practices to conserve our precious water resources and help you save both money and your plants!

Sunday, July 1, 12:00 Noon

GROW YOUR OWN HEALING HERBS IN A CONTAINER

Master Gardener Kas Salazar will discuss how best to grow healing herbs for daily healthy living in a container right outside the kitchen door. Healing herbs can be a perfect addition to growing your own food. She may even share her recipe for creating a body scrub out of homegrown herbs!

Sunday, July 1, 2:00 p.m.

IRRIGATE YOUR POTS AND CONTAINERS – IT'S EASY!

More and more people are growing herbs or edibles along with ornamentals in containers, which makes consistency of water access essential. Learn how to easily and quickly set up an irrigation system yourself to ensure the most productive and abundant growth from these plants. Master Gardener Glenn Smith will bring the equipment and give information and a demonstration of how to set the system up!

Sunday, July 1, 4:00 p.m.

YOU MEAN I CAN EAT MY ROSES?

Master Gardener Don Chapman will explain how the common rose is used as an herb (voted Herb of the Year by The International Herb Association!) throughout the world and will discuss which roses are best to grow in your garden as edible flowers. He will share recipes, from salads to cakes, that are fun to use and can involve the entire family. Those roses, the day after Valentine's Day, may become your next meal!

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Monday, July 2, 12:00 noon

EXPLORE THE SECRETS OF COMPOST (CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY)

We'll have fun using tweezers to poke into compost and then peer through magnifying glasses to see what is there. We'll spy with our little eyes at who (or what) lives inside compost!

Monday, July 2, 2:00

SIGHTS, SCENTS AND SURFACES (CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY)

What attracts a bug to a plant anyway? How they look, smell, their color? Do plants look the same to people and bees? Why are some plants sticky or prickly? Why do some plants smell so good? Peek into our mystery boxes and learn why plants look, smell and feel the way they do. And, build your own bug house so you can attract good bugs to your garden.

Monday, July 2, 4:00

THE PHOTOSYNTHESIS GAME (CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY)

What does it take to make a plant grow anyway? Want to see a plant grow instantly? Come learn about what makes plants grow big and healthy. Hook a ring on the peg with the right answers (on our Photosynthesis Game Board) and see a plant grow before your very eyes! Then, get creative with stickers and stamps!

Tuesday, July 3, 12:00 Noon

THINKING ABOUT BEES IN YOUR BACKYARD?

An essential role in growing edibles and ornamentals is that of pollinator. Come learn from Jenna Brager, Farm Coordinator and Beekeeper at Indian Valley Organic Farm & Garden, about getting started with a beehive and providing a pollinator habitat for the bees (including native bees). Time to get buzzing with these important creatures!

Tuesday, July 3, 2:00 p.m.

GIVE TREES A CHANCE...LET ALL YOUR HARD WORK BEAR FRUIT

Whether you garden in a large back yard, in pots on your patio or deck, you can grow your own fresh fruit. Henry Wallace, Farm Supervisor, Indian Valley Organic Farm & Garden, will discuss everything you need to know about what fruit trees grow best in Marin and in what kind of conditions.

Tuesday, July 3, 4:00 p.m.

TEN ESSENTIAL INGREDIENTS FOR HEALTHY PLANTS

Whether you're growing edibles, ornamentals or both, there are some basics that are essential for healthy plants. Come hear Master Gardener Dave Phelps discuss what requirements all plants need and leave with a list of what to do in planning and planting a balanced and flourishing garden.

2012 MMG County Fair Speaker Topics and Schedule

Wednesday, July 4, 12:00 Noon

TURN YOUR KITCHEN SCRAPS INTO BLACK GOLD!

We all want to learn how to best recycle and reuse. Master Gardeners Larry and Betty Mulryan discuss various ways to improve your soil by turning kitchen scraps into compost. They'll bring their worm "apartment" to demonstrate how worms live, what they like to eat from our leftovers and how that produces wonderful soil for growing vegetables and ornamental plants.

Wednesday, July 4, 2:00 p.m.

SUCCESSFUL GRID GARDENING

Learn simple, immediately useful steps to creating an abundant, year 'round food garden in a few square feet, with almost no weeds or pests. Master Gardener Susan Miller will offer "How Tos" on setting up a small productive garden in a limited space.

Wednesday, July 4, 4:00 p.m.

COOKING FROM YOUR HERB GARDEN

Like to season your meals from your own garden? This talk will give detailed instructions about what herbs grow in what seasons, what conditions they need and how to use them in your cooking. Merry Kindred, Master Gardener, will provide fresh recipe ideas and help you develop a year-round flourishing herb garden!

