



## Habitat Festival and Native Plant Sale

The Watsonville Wetlands Watch presents the 4th Annual **Habitat Festival and Native Plant Sale**, which will be a fun-filled day for the entire family. With a focus on Green Gardening this year, we will feature presentations and workshops given by experts, a fun Kids Zone, live animals, nature walks, music, food, storytelling, face painting, and much more. We'll have over 1000 plants of 45 different native plant species all grown here at the Wetlands Educational Resource Center nursery by staff, volunteers, and students. Plus, our staff will be on hand to offer great advice and plant selection tips.



Native Plant Sale

The Plant Sale begins at 9 am and the Festival starts at 10 am. Both events end at 3 pm. At the Fitz Wetlands Educational Resource Center at the top of the Pajaro Valley High School campus, 500 Harkins Slough Road, Watsonville ([map/directions](#)).

[ZunZun](#), the exciting, bilingual musical group that celebrates the environments and cultures of the Americas through music, will perform starting at 12:15 pm. ZunZun is made up of talented multi-instrumentalists, who during their performance use as many as 25 different instruments, most which are of Latin American origin. This will be a lively, interactive concert for kids of all ages.



ZunZun

### Habitat Festival Presentation Schedule

- **10:00 am – 10:55 am Permaculture & Whole Systems Design in Santa Cruz County** — Permaculture is an ethically-based whole-systems design approach that uses concepts, principles, and methods derived from ecosystems, indigenous peoples, and other time-tested systems to create human settlements and institutions. Join permaculture designer and educator Dave Shaw for an introduction and discussion about how to apply permaculture in our landscapes and communities.
- **11:05 am – 12 pm Backyard Birding** — Ever wonder what birds are in your garden? Would you like to attract more of them? Birding enthusiast Nanci Adams will share bird ID tips as well as gardening suggestions for attracting more birds.

- **12:10 pm – 1:05 pm. Monterey Bay Friendly-Landscaping Ideas for Rainwater Harvesting** — Sherry Lee Bryan, specialist with Ecology Action's pollution prevention/zero waste division
- **1:15 pm – 2:45 pm. *Keynote Presentation* — On Beyond Compost: Soil Management for Green Gardening:** In his talk, Rich Merrill, founder and former Director of the Horticulture Department at Cabrillo College, will discuss the concept of “Green Gardening” as a method of designing and managing landscapes as a cultivated ecosystem, both above and below ground. Merrill will focus on the use of “full-spectrum carbon amendments” for the soil leading to plant health, water conservation, and a mature soil-life ecosystem.



**Keynote Speaker Rich Merrill at previous Habitat Festival**

### **About the Speakers...**

#### **About Dave Shaw**

David Shaw, a Permaculture and whole systems designer, facilitator, and educator, founded Santa Cruz Permaculture and the UCSC Common Ground Center, and has taught ecological horticulture at UCSC since 2004. He works with people worldwide to build healthy, resilient connections with themselves, each other, and the natural world.

### **About Nanci Adams**

Nanci Adams is a past president of the Santa Cruz Bird Club. She began birding as a teen in South Dakota, and she now teaches two birding classes through Watsonville-Aptos Adult Ed. Her emphasis is on non-competitive, supportive birding and an appreciation of local birds and habitats. She leads field trips for Monterey Audubon and participates in three bird surveys in the area. She also helps train wetlands docents and high school stewards for Watsonville Wetlands Watch. She has birded in all fifty states and in various locales in the world. She is currently working her way through South American birds.

### **About Sherry Lee Bryan**

Sherry Lee Bryan is a senior program specialist with Ecology Action's pollution prevention/zero waste division. Ms. Bryan is the co-chair of the Central Coast Greywater Alliance, a collaborative group of contractors, building/planning, environmental health, and water utility staff that develop community engagement programs and resources to help Central Coast residents install code compliant, functional greywater systems. Ms. Bryan is a certified irrigation auditor (Irrigation Association), is a lead instructor and coordinator of the Monterey Bay Green Gardener Certification Program, and is co-owner of the water management company California H2O Agriculture Services. She has spoken extensively on the subject of greywater irrigation.

### **About Keynote Speaker Rich Merrill**

Rich is the founder and former Director of the Horticulture Department at Cabrillo College, where he taught for 30 years. During his tenure, he established the popular Mother's Day Plant Sale, and designed / facilitated the College's 11 acre Environmental Horticulture Center. Upon retirement, Rich received the Floyd Younger Career Award for Teaching Excellence. He has written several magazine articles on gardening, and books including: 1) Radical Agriculture, 2) The Energy Primer: Solar, Wind, Water and Biofuels, and 3) The Gardeners' Table: Growing and Cooking Vegetables Naturally. Currently Merrill runs his own Environmental Consulting Business - Merrill Associates.



**Master Falconer Kenny Elvin with his Great-horned Owl Boggs**

### **Workshop Schedule**

**10 am–3 pm Snakes Alive!** — Reptile Meet and Greet with herpetologist Paul Haskins. Learn about and hold native and exotic snakes.

**10 am–11 am Live Raptors!** — Live Falconry Demonstration with falconer Kenny Elvin. Meet and watch his captivating raptors in action.

**11 am–12 pm Cooking with Elderberries** — Elderberries are native plants that grow abundantly in our area and are full of culinary and medicinal value. Learn about elderberry preserving and cooking techniques from award-winning jam maker Laurel Pavesi.

**1 pm–2 pm Garden Tool Sharpening** — Bring your dull garden tools and sharpen them as you learn in this workshop led by Sharon Hazel. Typical garden tools include shears and pruning tools such as floral scissors and snips, grass shears, hand pruners, hedge shears, and loopers.



**Herpetologist Paul Haskins with snakes**

### **Other Activities**

**Kids Zone** The Kids Zone will include fun activities, including storytelling and crafts, baking cookies in a solar oven, face painting, and more.

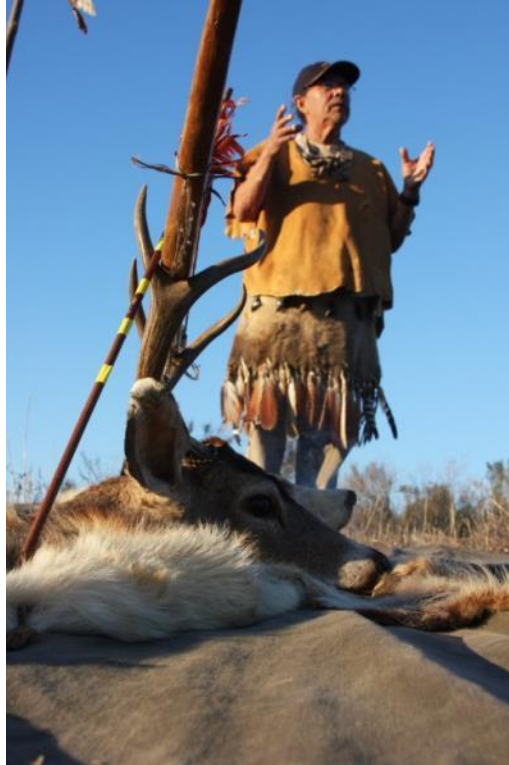


**Nature Walks at 12 pm and 2 pm** Take a tour of the Environmentally Sensitive Habitat Area adjacent to Pajaro Valley High School. Discover the birds, animals, native plants and importance of the Watsonville wetlands with expert tour leaders.

**Birding for Kids at 1 pm** Join Wetlands Watch environmental educator as he helps kids discover the wonder of birds, with fun activities, in both English and Spanish.

**Ongoing Propagation Demonstrations** Stop by the Propagators booth and learn the skill of native plant propagation from expert volunteers

**Native Traditions with Patrick Orozco at 1:15 pm** Our special guest Patrick Orozco, the chairman of the Pajaro Valley Ohlone Indian Council, will tell stories, sing, and talk about local native traditions.



**Patrick Orozco in regalia**