



# COORDINATOR

news

Summer 2018 | Issue 2

## SPOTLIGHT STORY

### Reappointment Dates and Training Details

June 1 - July 30, 2017

Reappointment started on June 1 and runs through July 30. All UC Master Gardener volunteers were notified on Friday, June 1 via VMS to electronically submit reappointment paperwork.

UC Master Gardeners should complete the reappointment process by Monday, July 30.

Reappointment policy as outlined in the UC Master Gardener Handbook:

*“In order to retain active status as a MG volunteer,*

*MG volunteers must apply for reappointment within a specific sixty (60) day period as follows: Thirty (30) days before the end date of the current program year June 30, through thirty (30) days after the end date of the current program year, July 1.”*

Reappointment can be a time consuming process, we recommend blocking out a few hours a week on your busy summer calendars to ensure that

*(Continued on page 3)*

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## LETTER FROM MISSY

**D**ear UC Master Gardener Coordinators, Advisors and County Directors,  
Congratulations to all of you who recently graduated a new UC Master Gardener training class! We're excited about the new crop of volunteers and seeing them engage in program efforts. Kudos for your hard work making this happen, your efforts have led to huge wins with an enthusiastic group of new volunteers.

We've had *a lot of* 'happenings' in the past few months and the sentiment in the statewide office is that we're ready for a breather (*I have a feeling most of you share that feeling!*).

Work continues to go into VMS 3.1 and fixing bugs that arose unexpectedly. Twelve months of testing by over 1,000 users didn't fully alleviate the challenges of a new system. We're prioritizing our work daily to connect and communicate with CSIT to make software improvements. A HUGE win is that the system launched with a full suite of help materials including some wonderful videos Lauren Snowden, Training Coordinator, put together on a \$0 budget. Nice job, Lauren!

Moving into a new program year, the statewide office has some exciting changes that are aimed at better supporting the program. We don't have new financial resources but are leveraging partnerships, grant funds, salary savings and generally taking some risks in order to expand the team.

We've already brought Donna Valadez on 40% time to work closely with Melissa Womack as our Marketing and Communications Assistant. Learn more about Donna and her experience on page 14. Another new face around the office will be a volunteer engagement coordinator, the position posting and recruitment will be happening in the coming months. This individual will support the resolution of volunteer conflict and complaints, coordinate a biennial volunteer engagement training, and coordinate our annual UC Master Gardener Program Coordinator meeting, formally Volunteer Management Institute (VMI).

Finally, effective July 1, I will be back to full time with the UC Master Gardener Program after four years with 25% of my effort going to the UC Master Food Preserver Program. Working with the Nutrition, Family and Consumer Sciences (NFCS) Director, I helped create a long term vision for the UC MFP Program that included transitioning it back to its original academic home under NFCS. This transition will be complete in a couple of weeks and I'm happy to see it come to fruition.

These shifts at the statewide office are all for the better – we'll share an update of roles and responsibilities in the Q3 newsletter. All changes are intended to better support the UC Master Gardener team statewide. I'm glad we're all on this ride together!

Happy gardening,



(Continued from page 1)

reappointment is completed within the admin handbook timeframe. Counties will receive insurance billing information the first week of August at a rate of \$6 per volunteer. Insurance payments will be processed to the recharge account number provided or check can be made payable to *UC Regents*.

## Help and Training Resources

Help documentation and training resources on reappointment in the new VMS have been updated. Feel free to use, copy or share any of the available resources:

- [Step-by-Step Guide for Managing Reappointment in VMS](#) (PDF, 4/16/2018)
- [Step-by-Step Guide to Completing Reappointment in VMS](#) (PDF, 4/16/2018)
- [How-To Complete Reappointment for UC Master Gardeners Volunteers](#) (Video, 4/26/18)
- [Creating a Credit Card Survey for Insurance](#) (PDF, 4/16/2018)

## Volunteer Management System User's Guide

- ["Volunteer" Section 2.8 Reappointment](#)
  - 2.8.1 What is Reappointment
  - 2.8.2 VMS and Reappointment
  - 2.8.4 Reappointment Extras
- ["Administration" Section 4.0 Reappointment](#)
  - 4.1.1 Reappointment
  - 4.1.2 Reappointment Communications
  - 4.1.3 Collect Digital Reappointment or Resignation Documents from Volunteers
  - 4.1.4 Resigning or Inactive Volunteers
  - 4.1.5 Roster Cleanup, Final Numbers and Insurance Invoicing

**Questions? Contact:**  
 Donna Valadez  
 Marketing Assistant  
[dnavaladez@ucanr.edu](mailto:dnavaladez@ucanr.edu)  
 (530) 750-1200

## Featured Webinar Recording: Reappointment

The statewide UC Master Gardener and UC Master Food Preserver Program offices hosted a "VMS Reappointment FY 18/19" webinar to review the annual reappointment process that begins on June 1st of every year.



VMS Reappointment FY 17/18 (05/2018)

## Agenda:

- Welcome to Reappointment
- The New VMS
- Resources
- Timelines
- Roles - Volunteers, Coordinators, County Director
- Fingerprinting
- Insurance Fee

## Watch recording:

<http://bit.ly/2JnzqfC>

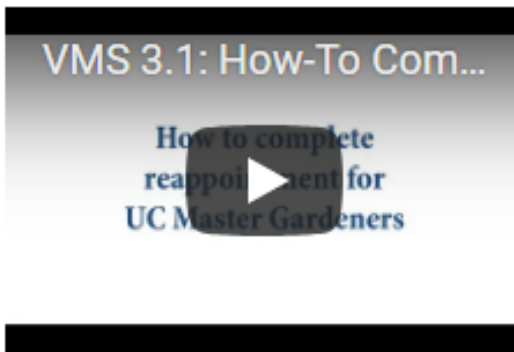
## Power Point:

<http://mgcoord.ucanr.edu/files/240602.pdf>

**Run time:** 66 minutes

A video playlist is available to share and learn about VMS 3.1 with a series of short “how-to” videos. Videos are hosted on the UC Master Gardener Program YouTube channel as well as the VMS help page, [ucanr.edu/sites/vms/help](http://ucanr.edu/sites/vms/help).

How to complete Reappointment for UC Master Gardeners:



How to enter continuing education and volunteer hours:



How to edit your profile:



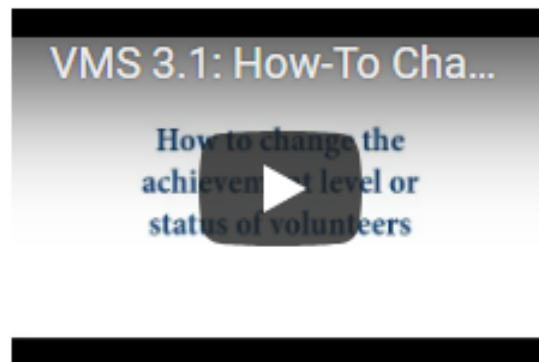
Administrators: How to import new volunteers into VMS:

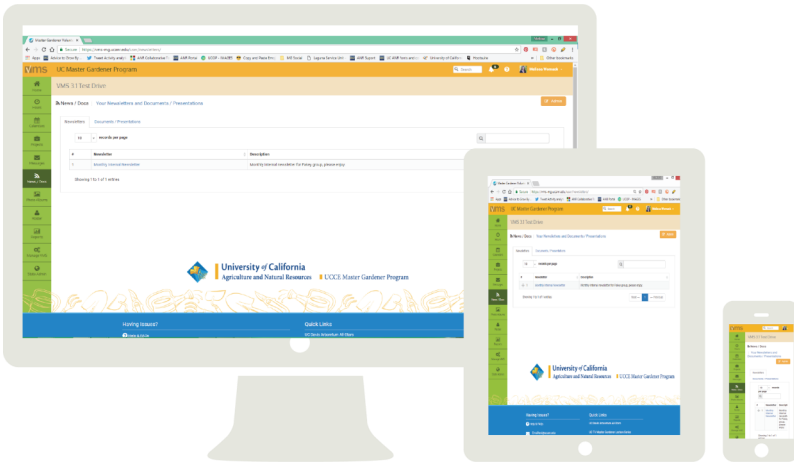


Welcome to VMS 3.1:



Administrators: How to change the achievement level or status of volunteers:





VMS launched on April 26th after working with volunteers and coordinators to lay the foundation for the new system. VMS 3.1 maintains the functionality of the old system with up-to-date branding and design. Additionally, VMS 3.1 has new features and upgrades to enhance the system, based on feedback from counties across the state.

The statewide team will continue to engage with CSIT to make sure they are aware and working on issues we are all experiencing. We are committed to making the new VMS the best possible system, thank you for your patience and for continuing to report bugs through the bug survey.

## Long Term Bug-Fixes

Bugs and issues with the new version of VMS are being reported and processed through the [Report a Bug](#) feature in VMS. When bugs are reported, Communication Services and Information Technology (CSIT) programmers review the issue and prioritize the fix. CSIT is sharing their Punch List with everyone to keep us informed of their efforts to fix the reported issues. The list contains bugs they are actively working on and the most recent fixes. To view the page either click on Report a Bug, located in the footer, while in VMS or go to the VMS help page.

## What we learned from launch:

- Hiring a full-time programmer for VMS would improve the system, streamline maintenance and improve customer experience.
- VMS punch list to help communicate items programmers are actively working on and what fixes from the survey reports have been addressed.
- We have an amazing team of volunteers and coordinators who jump in and get things done!

## Help is only a click away

Visit the VMS help page, which includes a new VMS User's Guide and How-To videos for commonly used functions. The *User's Guide* contains general VMS information, volunteer section, administrator section, and frequently asked question appendices. The User's Guide will be updated as the system is refined or functions change.

## Websites:

**VMS help page:** [ucanr.edu/sites/vms/help/](http://ucanr.edu/sites/vms/help/)

**Report Bugs and View Punch List:** [ucanr.edu/vmsfeedback](http://ucanr.edu/vmsfeedback)



### Stephanie Wrightson Recognized as Volunteer of the Year in Sonoma County

Spring is here, and oftentimes the busiest season of the year for gardeners to plant edibles with dreams of ripe tomatoes and rows of juicy strawberries. But what about the “non” gardeners, you know the people that struggle to keep a cactus alive? Is there hope for a plentiful harvest for those self-identified terrible gardeners? Absolutely.

Food gardening takes some work, but if you have the determination and are willing to get your hands dirty, UC Master Gardener volunteers are eager to help people find success! Across almost every county in California there are passionate UC Master Gardener

volunteers eager to turn dreams of a bountiful summer harvest into a reality.

### Sonoma County Finds Success with “Food Gardening Specialists”

The UC Master Gardener Program of Sonoma County has spent almost a decade perfecting the art of teaching best practices for food gardening. They have found a winning formula for food gardening workshops that focus on hands-on learning and interactive demonstrations in the garden.

A group of UC Master Gardener volunteers with a passion for growing edible plants joined forces and started a project aptly named “Food Gardening Specialist.”

Food Gardening Specialists receive initial training in food gardening with curriculum developed by UC Agriculture & Natural Resources (ANR) experts. After initial training volunteers continue to grow their food gardening skills with monthly speakers, discussions groups and field trips. These highly skilled and

trained volunteers teach food gardening at community or demonstration gardens across Sonoma County, where anyone is welcome to attend.

Understanding the need to expand reach in Sonoma County, the project identified four key gardens to engage more diverse communities. Garden “captains” build relationships within these gardens, advising home gardeners and developing gardening workshops that are relevant to their community’s needs. One of the core gardens provides year-round fresh produce to a number local food banks and programs that feed the hungry.

### Stephanie Wrightson: Sonoma County Volunteer of the Year

A shining example of a dedicated Food Gardening Specialist is Stephanie Wrightson, who recently was awarded Sonoma County’s Board of Supervisors “Volunteer of the Year” award. Wrightson has been a UC Master Gardener

volunteer since 2010 and a member of the Food Gardening Specialist project since 2011.

Wrightson has donated more than 3,200 hours to the UC Master

*Food Gardening Specialist workshop at the Harvest for the Hungry Garden on May 12, 2018. Tobi Brown, UC Master Gardener, demonstrates how to feed and protect the soil.*



Gardener Program, most revolve around food gardening outreach. “We put on public food gardening workshops, with Spanish translators, and demonstrate sustainable best practices in the garden ... invaluable! We interact,

*Stephanie Wrightson, UC Master Gardener, teaching residents of Sonoma County about sustainable gardening practices and how to grow their own food at the Bayer Farm Neighborhood Park & Garden.*

consult, and advise. We learn from each other!” explains Wrightson. “Food Gardening Specialists share science-based and sustainable food gardening information with garden visitors and workshop attendees. The gardens have quickly become a social hub in the neighborhood, bringing the community closer together.”

It is clear that Wrightson's role doesn't stop at the garden's gate. Wrightson was essential in shaping the vision of the Food Gardening Specialist project while serving on its steering committee and as a project leader. She manages efforts to keep all of the food gardening content updated, posted online or shared on its social media channels. Wrightson also works with the translation team to identify the most popular food gardening topics to make them available in Spanish.

“Stephanie brings such an attention to detail and focus on everything she engages in; we are so grateful to have such a talented UC Master Gardener as part of our organization!” says Mimi Enright, Program Coordinator for the UC



Master Gardener Program of Sonoma County.

### **Where is food grown in your community?**

Do you grow your own food or get homegrown food from a neighbor who gardens? Is there a community garden nearby, or a farmers market with locally grown fruits and vegetables? “It’s becoming more important to understand where our food comes from and to make sure everyone knows how to enjoy its benefits,” says Missy Gable, statewide Director for the UC Master Gardener Program.

The UC Master Gardener Program provides the public with research-based information about food gardening, home horticulture, sustainable landscape, and pest management practices. It is administered locally by UC Cooperative Extension (UCCE)

offices that are the principal outreach and public service arms of UC Agriculture and Natural Resources. If you are interested in learning more about food gardening or would like to connect with your local UC Master Gardener Program visit, [mg.ucanr.edu](http://mg.ucanr.edu).

*(Originally published on the UC ANR Food Blog, “Growing gardeners and nourishing communities”, May 18, 2018.)*

***Do you have a project you would like features in the newsletter or on the statewide blog?  
We would love to hear about it!***

Melissa Womack,  
Marketing Coordinator  
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(530) 750-1388



*Honoring the memory of a volunteer can be difficult to navigate. The statewide office is here to help you recognize their contributions.*

There are numerous statewide and local practices to honor volunteers who have achieved milestones and contributed above and beyond to the program mission.

### **But, how do we recognize a volunteer when he or she passes away?**

It's an honor to work with volunteers and the loss of one can be incredibly difficult for the entire community.

When a long-time volunteer who has been very active, holds a key leadership role, or leads a particularly impactful project passes away it can be especially hard to try and navigate how to recognize their significant contributions.

We would like to help you and

your volunteers maneuver through that emotional time.

When a local program experiences the loss of a key UC Master Gardener volunteer, please notify [Missy Gable](#), Statewide Director, so she can provide support to your local program and extend condolences and gratitude to the volunteer's loved ones.

### **We can support your recognition efforts by:**

- Attending a memorial service
- Meeting with volunteers to honor and celebrate the contribution of their former colleague and dear friend
- Sending condolences to family members on behalf of the University of California and the program

- Assisting with recognition plans such as:

- ◊ Naming rights
- ◊ Proclamations
- ◊ Memorial tree groves
- ◊ Memorial plaques

Please know that you and your program are not alone, when a volunteer passes away. Don't hesitate to reach out and let us know how you'd like support during difficult times of loss.

### **Questions? Contact:**

Missy Gable  
Statewide Director  
[mjgable@ucanr.edu](mailto:mjgable@ucanr.edu)  
(530) 750-1266



## Giving Thanks and Keeping Donors Engaged Throughout the Year

Several years ago I started a fundraising job with a non-profit and the very first message I received from the board chair was, “During the past couple years, not only have donations suffered, but so has stewardship.”

One of our long-time donors (*an advisory board member*) recently told me that she felt as if she was being “treated like a bank.” I have heard similar comments from others.

A week later, I was hopping on an early morning flight to visit the donor for a long overdue lunch meeting. I was ready for the worst, but she was thrilled. Finally, someone would be able to give her the scoop on what was happening with our organization. My two-week tenure did not provide me with a deep institutional knowledge and I wasn’t able to answer many of her questions, but I promised to get her answers, and I did.

What I found was a person deeply committed to our organization and our mission that had simply been ignored for years, despite her consistent and substantial contributions. What she wanted to know was how her contributions were making an impact, whose lives were being touched, was the money being spent, and surprisingly ... was she doing enough?

The relationship needed more mending than just one lunch meeting, but after consistent follow through and regular communications, trust was restored and the donations resumed.

**“WHAT SHE WANTED TO KNOW WAS HOW HER CONTRIBUTIONS WERE MAKING AN IMPACT, WHOSE LIVES WERE BEING TOUCHED, WAS THE MONEY BEING SPENT, AND SURPRISINGLY ... WAS SHE DOING**

Donors need more than a letter once a year asking for money. They invest in our programs and deserve to know what their investment is yielding. How else could we expect to retain them as donors?

I’m not talking about thanking them with lavish gifts, trinkets, or sending them a fruit cake during the holidays. Rather, focus on specific communications that recognizes their support and informs them of how they made a difference. This should be crafted in a way that celebrates them as donors and is not interwoven with a message asking for another contribution.

To put it simply – we can’t thank our donors enough. As many donations come in at year-end, now is a good time to start thinking about how we can sincerely offer our gratitude to donors to keep them engaged and committed to our programs in 2018.

**Questions? Contact:**

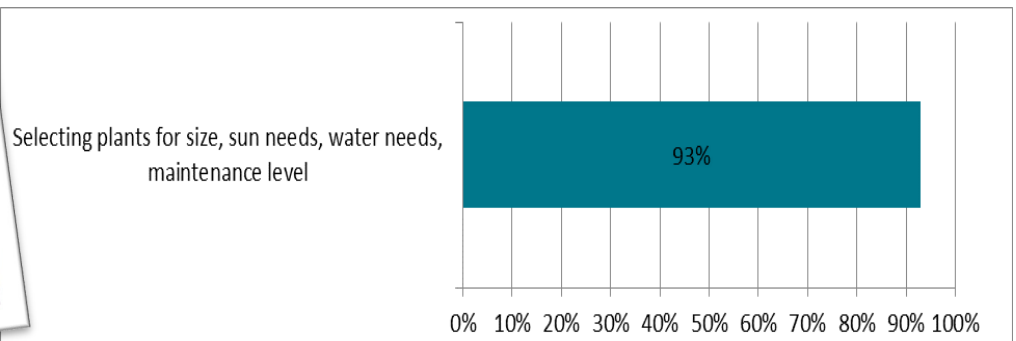
Kelly Scott  
Major Gifts Officer  
[kdscott@ucanr.edu](mailto:kdscott@ucanr.edu)  
(530) 750-1307



During the April 25<sup>th</sup> webinar, [Program Evaluation Update](#) – data results for the first quarter of the statewide follow-up survey were presented and celebrated. Since the webinar, quarterly reports were prepared and emailed to all counties that started the evaluation process and submitted email contacts between Sept.-Dec. 2017. County level data indicates that public education events are having a positive impact for residents!

**This data is crucial to helping you develop a narrative and bridge from the data to our impact stories and the differences we make in the communities we serve.**

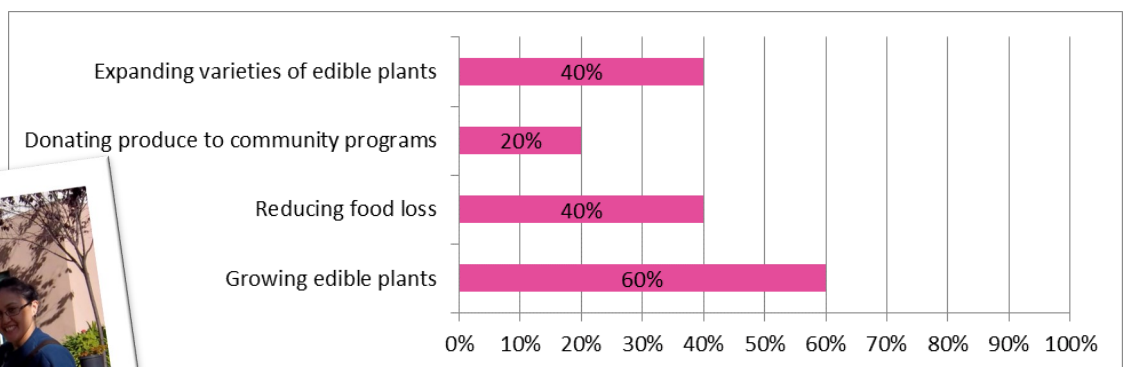
### Example 1: Right-Plant Right-Place in Mariposa County



**Data:** 93% of survey respondents reported that they had improved on their selection of plants as it relates to size, sun and water needs, and maintenance level as a result of participating in events held in Mariposa County.

**Data Story Example:** By encouraging residents to consider plant characteristics and the proper planting location, the UC Master Gardener Program in Mariposa County is not only saving community members money and time, but they are also conserving resources and preventing excess green waste from filling our landfills. [cont. ...]

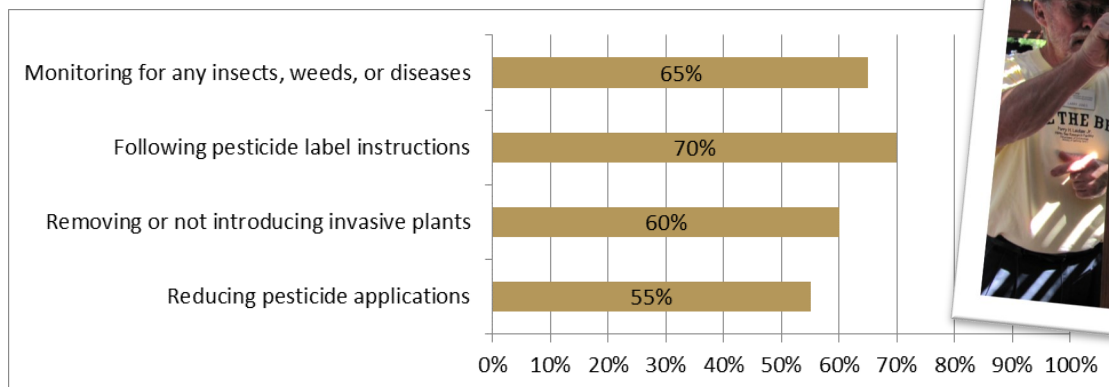
### Example 2: Food Gardening in San Mateo-San Francisco County



**Data:** 60% of attendees at public education events reported improvement in growing edible plants as a result of events held in San Mateo-San Francisco.

**Data Story Example:** Home gardens and community gardens increase access to fresh fruits and vegetables. Research has shown that consumption of fresh fruits and vegetables is correlated with growing these foods. UC Master Gardener volunteer activities have improved the overall health of county residents in San Mateo and San Francisco by increasing both access to and the quality and quantity of fresh, locally produced fruits and vegetables. [cont. ...]

### Example 3: Pest Management in Amador County



**Data:** 70% of survey respondents in Amador County have improved in following pesticide label instructions, and 55% of respondents reduced pesticide applications.

**Data Story Example:** California gains a new and potentially damaging invasive organism every 60 days according to the Center for Invasive Species Research. UC Master Gardener volunteers in Amador County receive ongoing training on new, existing, and threatening invasive pests within California’s ecosystems. Potential impacts include reductions in invasive species introductions, slowed spread of invasives through the county, improved detection systems, decreased management costs, and decreased direct and indirect damage to California’s economic, agricultural, urban, and natural resources. [cont. ...]

As you can see the data being reported back from your evaluation efforts directly connect and support the incredible impacts programs are making across the state. Even more information is included in the quarterly report, based on the workshops or event topics covered.

The statewide office, advisory committee and program evaluation team created impact statements to build a framework for telling the UC Master Gardener Program story. Statewide impact statements will be included in the annual report and will be available to customize with local county data or information. Programs are encouraged to use the data and connect it to how it has changed the lives of attendees at public events, their local communities or projects.

Remember, UC Master Gardener volunteers should not be included on the contact sheets to participate in the survey. If your county has not begun the evaluation process, please start as soon as possible. We are looking forward to having all counties participating by the end of this program year!

**Program evaluation webpage:**  
[mgcoord.ucanr.edu/Administration/ProgramEvaluation/](http://mgcoord.ucanr.edu/Administration/ProgramEvaluation/)

**Questions? Contact:**  
Tamekia Wilkins  
Evaluation Coordinator  
[twilkins@ucanr.edu](mailto:twilkins@ucanr.edu)  
(530) 750-1368

## Volunteer Motivation and Satisfaction Survey

The objective of UC ANR's Strategic Plan Goal 9, *Improve Volunteer Management*, is to significantly increase volunteer satisfaction system wide by December 2020.

Multiple efforts are underway to achieve this goal including an online volunteer engagement training (*coming soon*) as well as an in-person volunteer engagement training to be scheduled in fall/winter 2018. These trainings will support volunteer engagement competencies of staff, academics and academic administrators system wide.

In order to measure an increase in volunteer satisfaction, we are establishing a baseline by surveying 4-H, UC Master Gardener and UC Master Food Preserver volunteers (closes June 30<sup>th</sup>). The survey focuses on two aspects of the volunteer experience, motivation for becoming volunteers with an Extension program and satisfaction as a volunteer.

The survey was created using questions from two industry-standards for evaluation of motivation and satisfaction. The tools are widely used with volunteer-based programs and especially within

Extension. Below is a description of each of these industry-standards with citation for those interested in looking up the original research and or reliability studies.

- **Volunteer Functions Inventory**  
*The Volunteer Functions Inventory is used to examine volunteer's motivation. This survey includes six scales that help us to understand motivating factors (e.g., values, social, enhancement). It was developed by Clary et al. (1998) and has been used by other researchers to assess volunteer motivation, including those in Extension. In these studies the scales were reliable, with Cronbach alpha's equaling .70 or higher.*
- **Volunteer Satisfaction Index**  
*To measure volunteer satisfaction we are using the Volunteer Satisfaction Index, developed by Galindo-Kuhn and Guzley (2001). This index has been widely used and focuses on several factors that examine volunteer's satisfaction, including group integration, organizational support, and participation efficacy.*

## Volunteer Conflict Resolution

UC ANR has improved our volunteer conflict resolution procedures. The updated process uses industry best practices, honors the rights of individuals, and upholds the local authority of the County Director.

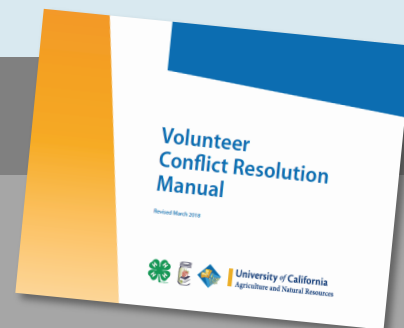
The Conflict Resolution Manual is a shared resource across all volunteer-based statewide programs (4-H, Master Food Preserver, Master Gardener) and is a part of our larger effort to streamline program policies and procedures so statewide program administration has greater clarity

and consistency.

New volunteer conflict resolution resources are posted on the coordinator website at: [mgcoord.ucanr.edu/Administration/VolunteerConflict/](http://mgcoord.ucanr.edu/Administration/VolunteerConflict/).

**Here you'll find:**

- Recorded webinar training
- Volunteer Conflict Resolution Manual
- DOJ offense resources
- Helpful worksheets and templates!



Don't hesitate to reach out for information and support at any stage of conflict resolution. Your feedback on the updated conflict resolution policies is welcome!

**Questions? Contact:**  
Missy Gable  
Statewide Director  
[mjgable@ucanr.edu](mailto:mjgable@ucanr.edu)  
(530) 750-1266

## Quick Tips – New Design and Back in Stock!



## UC IPM UPDATES

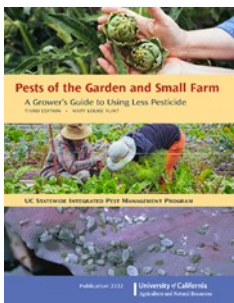
UC IPM is happy to announce the new design of Quick Tips consumer cards. Twelve titles have been reprinted in the new color scheme and are now available to order. There is no need to throw out any of the old editions of Quick Tips as none of the information has significantly changed. Coordinators or designated individuals can use this link to reorder: [ucanr.edu/sites/qtorders/](http://ucanr.edu/sites/qtorders/).

- Bark Beetles
- Bed Bugs
- Cockroaches
- Mosquitoes
- Peach Leaf Curl
- Powdery Mildew
- Rats
- Tree Borers
- Whiteflies
- Parasites of Insect Pests
- What is IPM?
- Landscape Design and Water Quality



*New Quick Tip cards will be redesigned and updated once a card topic runs out of stock.*

### Fresh Off the Press:



UC IPM recently released the third edition of **Pests of the Garden and Small Farm: A Grower's Guide to Using Less Pesticide** by Dr. Mary Louise Flint. This updated edition includes new crops and over 30 new insect, disease, and weed pests not covered in the previous edition. The book has more than 350 color photos and 118 drawings that help make it easier to diagnose problems and find solutions. \$37.00 retail price



If you like using the Landscape Pest Identification Cards, you'll want to pick up a copy of the brand new **Vegetable Pest Identification for Garden and Small Farms** cards by Mary Louise Flint, Andrew Sutherland, and Karey Windbiel-Rojas. The cards are a pocket-sized (3.5" x 5") reference guide full of helpful and colorful photos that make solving pest problems while out in the garden easier. \$25.00 retail price

### UC IPM Resources and Tools Webinar

Watch this fun and engaging webinar about UC IPM's resources and tools, and how you can find them on the UC IPM website: [youtu.be/NikPC9eFSSw](https://youtu.be/NikPC9eFSSw)

### Quick Tips Guessing Contest Results!

Thanks to everyone who took the survey and guessed the titles of the 3 new Quick Tips. UC IPM collected great ideas for potential future Quick Tips, the three new titles are: Carpet Beetles, Mealybugs, and Pantry Pests. If you correctly guessed any of the three titles, congrats! UC IPM will contact you about collecting your fabulous prize, a DiggIt garden tool!

#### Questions? Contact:

Karey Windbiel-Rojas, [kwindbiel@ucanr.edu](mailto:kwindbiel@ucanr.edu)  
Anne Schellman, [aschellman@ucanr.edu](mailto:aschellman@ucanr.edu)

## NEW! Available from the Marketing Store: Blank Note Cards



*Blank note cards are now available to order from the coordinator website. These cards are perfect for saying thank you to donors or volunteers.*

The UC Master Gardener Program offers an unparalleled service to the public, free education and advice on home horticulture. Many times this is made possible because of relationships built with key partners, supporters and dedicated volunteers.

Now we have a new fun new way to say thank you or to write a quick note to show our appreciation with program branded blank note cards. These

cards are the perfect addition to the UC Master Gardener Program marketing supply inventory, and were inspired by a request from Merced County volunteers.

### **Details:**

3X5" blank card, comes with standard white envelope  
\$15 per pack of 25 cards

To order visit the coordinator website, [mgcoord.ucanr.edu/Marketing/Supplies](http://mgcoord.ucanr.edu/Marketing/Supplies).

## Welcome! New Marketing Assistant

Donna Valadez, Statewide Office



*Donna has worked for the university in several different roles. While her career experience changed over time—one thing was always consistent, a bright smile and natural ability to provide great customer service.*

Donna joined the UC Master Gardener Program statewide office 40% time (16 hours/week) as a Marketing and Communications Assistant. Donna is working closely with Melissa Womack to provide timely information and resources for programs across the state. Donna's experience with the university spans over 11 years. One of her most recent roles was as the program coordinator of Asian American Studies-HART Interdisciplinary Programs. Donna coordinated content on department web pages and supported faculty in course issues including preparation, implementation, planning and scheduling, course evaluation, and ordering.

After taking a small break to focus on her growing family, Donna returned to work at UC Davis Extension as a teaching assistant for the International Youth English and Culture Program. Donna has come full circle in her UC experience and is thrilled to be part of such an incredible team. She loves learning about gardening and is excited to help support the efforts of the UC Master Gardener Program. Look for emails from Donna about reappointment and make sure to welcome her to the team.

Email: [dnavaladez@ucar.edu](mailto:dnavaladez@ucar.edu)

Phone: (530) 750-1200 Main

## COMING SOON! 9.5 Foot Banners for Booth or Outdoor Displays

Booth and outdoor displays can now display larger 9.5 foot banners for higher visibility, with all new graphics that perfectly compliment the 6 foot banner option.

The 9.5 banners were designed to be able to be hung from the back of a shade canopy or 10 foot booth space, and comes with grommets along all four sides for easy hanging.

Banners will be available by the end of July.

### Details:

9.5 x 2.5 ft. horizontal banner with grommets

\$55 each, includes shipping

To order visit the coordinator website, [mgcoord.ucanr.edu/Marketing/Supplies](http://mgcoord.ucanr.edu/Marketing/Supplies).

### Questions? Contact:

Melissa Womack  
Marketing Coordinator  
[mgwomack@ucanr.edu](mailto:mgwomack@ucanr.edu)  
(530) 750-1388



Green Tools



Boots

## Welcome! New Coordinator

Kasey Butler, San Francisco & San Mateo Counties



*Kasey apprenticed at the Center for Agroecology and Sustainable Food Systems (CASFS) where she taught organic farming and gardening practices.*

After graduating from UC Davis with a BS in Community and Regional Development, Kasey Butler moved to San Francisco and began working at CUESA's ferry plaza farmers market coordinating its composting and recycling program. Kasey completed a gardening and composting educator training program with the Garden for the Environment, and eventually ended up in an AmeriCorps position in Santa Clara County. She is passionate about connecting people to where their food comes from and educating about the importance of eating fresh fruits and vegetables. For the past seven years Kasey has worked on organic farms, the last three managing a cut flower operation in Pescadero, Calif.

Kasey loves every stage of growing plants, from starting them as seeds, watching them germinate, planting them in the ground and then eventually harvesting them. She is constantly amazed at a plants resiliency and ability to grow so tall from a tiny seed. And don't worry, she likes people too! That's the other part she loves about gardening – the connection between plants and people and she is thrilled to join the UC Master Gardener community.

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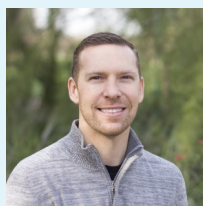
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## Our Mission

*“To extend research based knowledge and information on home horticulture, pest management, and sustainable landscape practices to the residents of California and be guided by our core values and strategic initiatives.”*

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