



UC MASTER GARDENERS OF BUTTE COUNTY

FALL 2025 WORKSHOPS

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED

Register at our website: link.ucanr.edu/buttemg-workshops

SEPTEMBER

Irrigation

Monday, September 8, 10–11:30 am
Demonstration Garden, 25 people

Drip irrigation is arguably the most efficient method of providing water to trees, crops, gardens, and landscapes. The surface drip irrigation system emitter was first developed in Israel, where the dry climate makes water conservation a necessity. This workshop will provide an overview of different options available for drip irrigation systems and how to install them. You will also learn how to troubleshoot and inspect your system, and how to make repairs when needed.

Garden Raised Beds **NEW**

Thursday, September 11, 9–10:30 am
Demonstration Garden, 25 people



Gardeners do less bending and stooping with raised beds, so tasks like weeding, watering, and replanting are much easier on the body. It is also easier to control soil texture, fertility, and tith, and pests can be repelled by adding gopher wiring beneath the beds and copper barriers around their edges. Discover the wide variety of methods and materials for making raised beds, and the best dimensions, spacing, types of soil, and irrigation to use. Also learn about Hügeltkultur, an age-old European method of using woody material and compost to create planting mounds. Toward the end of the workshop, we will tour the Master Gardeners edible garden, which contains examples of several different kinds of raised beds.

Rose Care

Tuesday, September 16, 9:30–11:30 am
Dorothy F. Johnson Center, 30 people
Gwen Quail, Consulting Rosarian from the



Butte Rose Society, will discuss and demonstrate how to keep your roses healthy and happy throughout the seasons of the year. Topics covered will include soil management, planting, fertilizers, watering, integrated pest management, and pruning. Rose varieties, fragrance, propagation guidelines, and exhibiting roses will be discussed as time allows.

Companion Planting

Saturday, September 20, 9–10:30 am
Dorothy F. Johnson Center, 25 people

Companion planting is the practice of arranging plants in proximity to one another so that they attract beneficial insects and pollinators, deter unwanted pests, and offer shelter and food for beneficial insects. Companion plants provide one another with things they need, such as nutrients, shade, and physical support. In this workshop you will learn how to accomplish this in the home vegetable garden, focusing on the potential symbiotic relationships between various vegetable, herb, and flower combinations. We will include time for you to analyze your own garden and consider plant combinations that might work well there.

“Black Gold” Vermiculture

Saturday, September 27, 11 am–1 pm
Dorothy F. Johnson Center, 25 people

We don't mean oil! We mean the beautiful,

rich, nutritious compost you create from kitchen and garden scraps, along with help from the vermiculture community. Worms consume the biomass you provide them, digest it, and then excrete worm castings, or “Black Gold.” This workshop, taught by a Certified Composter, will show you how to start the process and keep the worms happy so they continue to cast off Black Gold for your plants.

OCTOBER

Fruit Tree Care

Saturday, October 4, 10–11:30 am
Demonstration Garden, 25 people

Tom Hansen will explain what to do throughout the year to keep your fruit trees healthy and ensure the best crops. His talk will cover pruning, irrigation, fertilizers, and cultural practices. Learn about the different fruit tree bearing habits and how those habits guide pruning decisions for regular bearing and good fruit size. This workshop will take place in the Demonstration Garden orchard to demonstrate and discuss the best way to prune various fruit trees. There will be plenty of time for questions and answers.

Honeybees

Tuesday, October 7, 10–11:30 am
Bradley 2 at The Social, 50 people

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to keep a hive of honeybees? Humans have been fascinated by the honeybee for a very, very long time: evidence of beekeeping goes back at least 9,000 years, and humans



ABOUT THE WORKSHOPS

- *Workshops are free—registration is required* for all workshops.
- Registration is first come, first served basis.
- Space is limited. Please check workshop descriptions for details.
- Heavy rain cancels outdoor workshops (unless noted); cancelled workshops will be rescheduled.

WORKSHOP LOCATIONS

- *Demonstration Garden and Pat's Barn:* Patrick Ranch, 10381 Midway, between Chico and Durham
- *Bradley 2 at The Social:* 1400 W. 3rd St., Chico
- *Dorothy F. Johnson Center,* 775 E 16th Street, Chico
- *Terry Ashe Recreation Center:* 6626 Skyway, Paradise

QUESTIONS?

Need to cancel?
Want to get on a Workshop Waiting List?
Please email us at: anrmgbutte@ucanr.edu.

WATCH A WORKSHOP

Missed a workshop? Videos of past Zoom workshops can be found on our YouTube channel: tinyurl.com/UCMGBC-youtube



collected honey from wild bees before that. In this class you'll have an opportunity to observe honeybees and learn how to set up your own apiary. Along the way, you'll learn what you can do to help honeybees and pollinators survive and thrive in our current environment. This workshop is designed for those considering beekeeping as a hobby and also those who are interested in learning more about attracting and supporting honeybees and other pollinators.

Creating a Backyard Blooming Meadow and Cottage Garden Look **NEW**

Saturday, October 11, 1-3pm

Bradley 2 at The Social, 50 people

Are you attracted to the cottage garden look, but it seems like a lot of work? Do you have a corner of your yard that feels neglected, and the idea of turning it into a small-scale flowering meadow sounds appealing? Consider planting a wildcrafted flower garden! Flower wildcrafting is a technique of creating a natural-looking garden that incorporates both human propagation activities along with self-propagation by plants, including annuals, bulbs, natives, and perennials. Learn how to envision, plan, plant, maintain, and enjoy a year-round wildcrafted floral garden and blooming meadow. It's fun and easy, especially when allowing Nature to help create your garden tapestry.

Weed Identification and Management **NEW**

Monday, October 13,

1-2:15pm

Terry Ashe Recreation Center, 50 people

This workshop explores the nature of weeds, and why it's important to correctly identify which weeds you are battling. We'll offer tools to help with this, including a hands-on practicum. Primary strategies for weed control are Integrated Pest Management methods; we'll have a quick primer on chemical controls, for when they are needed as a last resort.



Hands On Fruit Tree Pruning **NEW**

Saturday, October 18, 10-11:30 am

Demonstration Garden, 10 people

Join Master Gardener Tom Hansen to assist in the fall pruning of our demonstration orchard. This workshop provides a hands-on chance to prune our fruit trees with expert guidance. Learn how to keep fruit trees the ideal size for your backyard garden so that no ladders are needed for pruning or harvesting. Bring a pair of hand pruners if possible.

Gardening with California Native Plants **NEW**

Tuesday, October 21, 10-11:30 am

Pat's Barn, 30 people

By using native plants, you can transform your

garden into a more natural habitat that is not only beautiful, but also supports local ecosystems, conserves water, and reduces maintenance. In this workshop, you will learn some basic principles about gardening with natives and be introduced to some natives that do well in garden settings. Emphasis is on specific gardening practices that increase biodiversity and ecosystem function. Our local California Native Plant Society Garden Ambassador will provide a resource list and planting guide as part of this workshop.

Is It Ripe? **NEW**

Friday, October 24, 10-11:30 am

Dorothy F. Johnson Center, 30 people

From leafy greens to stone fruits, all the produce we consume has optimal harvest and consumption times. This workshop moves from botany to selection criteria based on plant growth stage, to determine optimum maturity and ripeness of produce. Planting date, days to maturity, and degree days all help predict harvest and fruit maturity. Climacteric fruit continues to ripen after it is picked—how does this affect fruit selection? What clues do touch, sight, and smell offer for when to pick what we love to eat? How long, and under what conditions, can you store produce at its most delicious stage?

Gophers, Moles, and Squirrels

Tuesday, October 28, 10-11:30 am

Demonstration Garden, 25 people

There is nothing peskier than vertebrate pests in your garden. Join us to gain some knowledge about how to deal with these monsters that plague your yard. We will also have a Master Gardener available to show you exactly how to set gopher traps.

NOVEMBER

Propagation

Saturday, November 8, 10-11:30 am

Demonstration Garden, 25 people

Learn the best time to propagate woody perennials and divide plants; how to select and make cuttings; the proper techniques for dividing plants; the best planting mediums to use; and how to plant cuttings and divided plants. Materials and techniques will be discussed and handouts will be provided.

Owls **NEW**

Monday, November 10, 10-11:30 am

Dorothy F. Johnson Center, 30 people

Owls are consummate hunters that prey primarily on small mammals, insects, and other birds, although some specialize in hunting fish. This



workshop will focus on the unique adaptations of owls as a group, then focus on the owls that reside in Butte County. We will also look at their value as providers of natural pest control in your yard and our region.

Landscape Design

PART 1:

Wednesday, November 12, 10-11:30 am

PART 2:

Wednesday, November 19, 10-11:30 am

Pat's Barn, 30 people

Many gardeners start a garden project by selecting plants, then puzzle over what to do with them when they get home. Sound familiar? In this workshop you will learn the steps that professionals use to develop beautiful, cohesive, lower-maintenance planting designs. Hint: buying the plants is the last step. Each workshop participant will have the opportunity to measure and apply the principles for their own site, if desired.



Irrigation

Monday, November 17, 1-2:15 pm

Terry Ashe Recreation Center, 50 people

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DECEMBER

Gardening For a Lifetime

Saturday, December 13, 11am-12:30 pm

Pat's Barn, 30 people

Gardens and gardeners grow and change over time. And though the garden beckons as strongly as ever, tasks such as pulling weeds, pushing wheelbarrows, digging holes, pruning, hauling, and moving heavy objects become increasingly difficult as we get older. But the idea of giving up our passion is unthinkable for most gardeners. To stay healthy and active in the garden, we offer practical advice that will help transform daunting chores into sustainable activities. We will share ideas about plants, labor saving techniques, and tools. Because cultivating good body balance and maintaining strength are important so we can continue to garden, this workshop includes a demonstration of easy yoga positions for gardeners.