

# Master Gardener Monthly Newsletter

## February 2020



**UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA**  
Agriculture and Natural Resources

**UC Master Gardener Program**  
San Mateo and San Francisco Counties

## Events

### SPRING GARDEN MARKET - APRIL 18, 2020



Gardener program!

Your local Master Gardeners will be presenting their Spring Garden Market in April, and we're getting ready by prepping the greenhouses, ordering seeds and potting soil, setting up heating pads, and preparing lists of your favorite plants and vegetables specifically for your microclimates. The location will be at the San Mateo Event Center from 9:00am to 1:00pm. In future newsletters we will provide a link to documents describing plants for sale. Stockpile your cardboard boxes now to take home your purchases.

You can [support future events](#) like the Spring Garden Market by donating to the UCCE Master

## Gardening Tips & Tricks

### PLANT PROBLEM DIAGNOSTIC TOOL

Choose the affected plant from photos displayed, click on the photo, remove any selections that do not apply, click on the plant names, and continue to filter selections to view the results for a possible diagnosis. [Learn more.](#)

### GARDENING RESOURCES

Select links to access gardening resources, California Backyard Orchard, Integrated Pest Management (IPM), publications, and finding a local Master Gardener program. [Learn more.](#)

### ARBORETUM ALL-STARS

Do you need help picking plants for your sustainable home garden? Selecting from the "Arboretum All-Stars" list is an easy way to start making "green" choices for your great looking garden. Arboretum All-Stars are top plants recommended by the horticultural staff of the UC Davis Arboretum. They thrive in California's Mediterranean climate and have qualities that make them great choices for sustainable home gardens. Use a [searchable plant database](#) to pick the perfect All-Star for your garden conditions. For more information, view their [website](#).

## Videos



### FEBRUARY GARDENING CHECKLIST

February is the precursor to spring, and it's a good time to start planning and prepping your garden. Learn ten tips to help your organic garden get ready for spring. [View video.](#)

[View videos](#) created by the UC Master Gardeners of San Mateo and San Francisco Counties.

## Classes & Clinics



### Winter Fruit Tree Pruning

Veterans Memorial Senior Center  
1455 Madison Avenue  
Redwood City, CA  
February 1, 2020, 10:00am-12:00pm

In this class you will learn how to prune deciduous fruit trees, maximize tree health and fruit production, and identify dead, damaged and dying wood. [Registration required.](#)



### The Science and Art of Succulents

Half Moon Bay Library  
620 Correas Street  
Half Moon Bay, CA  
February 8, 2020, 10:00am-12:00pm

This presentation will examine succulents in nature and in cultivation; explore the science of growing succulents including planting location, soil mixes and amendments, water, light, repotting and propagation, diseases and pests, and horticultural forms and oddities; encourage sustainable gardening practices; analyze the characteristics of some of the more common succulent genera including Sedum, Euphorbia, Aeonium, Echeveria, Cotyledon, Crassula, Kalanchoe, Agave, and Haworthia; and provide examples of garden design, container gardening, and creative ways to display succulents. [Registration required.](#)



### Creating Year-Round Interest in a Native Garden

San Mateo Central Park Arboretum  
101 Ninth Avenue  
San Mateo, CA  
February 9, 2020, 1:00pm-2:30pm

Even with summer-dormant plants you can have a garden that is inviting at any time of the year. With careful planning and planting, you can have year-round color and texture in your garden while conserving water and providing habitat for local birds and pollinators. No registration required.



### Winter Rose Care and Pruning

Hassett Ace Hardware  
282 Woodside Plaza  
Redwood City, CA  
February 15, 2020, 10:00am-12:00pm

Learn how to shape your rose bushes to encourage beautiful, profuse flowering with winter pruning and winter proper care. Bring pruning shears to learn how to sharpen them. This class covers equipment safety in the garden and principles of pruning as well as demonstrating rose care techniques. No registration required.



### Bare-root Fruit Trees Selection and Planting

Lyngso Garden Materials, Inc.



### Home Composting Workshop

345 Shoreway Road  
San Carlos, CA  
February 15, 2020, 10:00am-12:00pm

The best time to plant a fruit tree was 20 years ago. The second best time is now. Fruit trees can be a beautiful and rewarding addition to your landscape. Whether you are planning on a single tree or a full home orchard, this workshop will cover how to select trees that can succeed and produce well in your San Francisco/Peninsula microclimate. There will also be discussion of soil preparation and planting, pruning, disease prevention and pest management of your new trees in their first year. By the end of this beginning class, participants should have the confidence to select and plant fruit trees. [Registration required](#) (event posted 2-3 weeks prior to the event).



**Irrigation for Home Gardeners**  
Veterans Memorial Senior Center  
1455 Madison Avenue  
Redwood City, CA  
March 7, 2020, 10:00am-12:00pm

Did you ever look at your irrigation system and wonder what a particular part is called and what it does? This class will demystify what is needed for an irrigation system to function properly. Please bring your irrigation questions! In this class you will learn about irrigation system components and their functions, and tricks of the trade. [Registration required](#).

Gardening Education Center  
San Mateo Event Center  
2495 South Delaware Street  
San Mateo, CA  
February 22, 2020, 12:00pm-2:00pm

Learn how easy and fun it is to recycle your fruit and vegetable scraps, leaves, and plant trimmings into compost in this free workshop. These workshops teach many composting options, including three-bin, vermiculture and grasscycling, suitable for those with or without a backyard. Apartment dwellers welcome! Compost provides valuable nutrients for your garden soil, helps retain moisture, which saves water, prevents erosion, loosens clay and compacted soils for better drainage, and suppresses weeds. It is rewarding to know you are turning what some consider waste into precious organic material for your garden. Receive a \$30 coupon toward composting supplies, plus a bag of compost starter mix. [Registration required](#).



**San Mateo Arboretum Plant Clinic**  
San Mateo Central Park Arboretum Pump House  
101 Ninth Avenue  
San Mateo, CA  
February 9, 2020, 11:00am-2:00pm

From a table stocked with reference materials, we help members of the public with their plant and gardening questions. When we are unable to answer a question, it is submitted to our Helpline with client contact information. This plant clinic is held at the Arboretum Pump House on the first Sunday of each month from February to November. If that date falls on a holiday weekend, the plant clinic is held on the second Sunday. No registration required.

[View Prior Monthly Newsletters](#) -- [View All Calendar of Events](#)

## Advice to Grow By... Ask A Master Gardener

Ask a UC Master Gardener! Our Helpline assists home gardeners with questions about gardening and pest management. Visit us in three locations at (1) Elkus Ranch, 1500 Purisima Creek Road in Half Moon Bay, from 9:00am to 4:00pm on Mondays; (2) Veterans Memorial Senior Center, 1455 Madison Avenue in Redwood City, from 9:00am to 4:00pm on Thursdays, and (3) at the San Francisco Botanical Garden Library, 1199 9th Avenue in San Francisco, from 10:30am to 2:00pm on Wednesdays. You can also contact us at (650) 276-7403 or by [email](#). For more information view our [website](#) or read more about the [Helpline](#).



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