

Master Gardener Monthly Newsletter

April 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



Your local Master Gardeners will be presenting their Spring Garden Market on April 18, and they are growing seedlings and preparing lists of your favorite plants and vegetables specifically for your microclimates. The location will be at the San Mateo Event Center, Sequoia Hall, from 9:00am to 1:00pm. Stockpile your cardboard boxes now to take home your purchases. Sales are cash or check only; free parking.

View our plant [database](#) and [climate zone chart](#).

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

MONARCH MYSTERY CHALLENGE

Western Monarch Mystery Challenge
(February 14th - April 22nd)

Monarch butterflies are facing historically low population numbers. They need your help! Help us look for them and be automatically entered to win a variety of prizes every week!

How To Enter

Step 1
If you see a monarch outside of overwintering groves, take a picture! (don't worry, it can be blurry)

Step 2
Report it to iNaturalist (the app is free!) and include species and location OR email it to monarchmystery@wsu.edu

Step 3
Be automatically entered to win a variety of prizes every week you report a sighting!

Tufts UC SANTA CRUZ
Western State XERCES SOCIETY

@monarchmystery @westernmonarchmystery @gardenmonarchmystery monarchmystery@wsu.edu

A team of researchers from Tufts University, UC Santa Cruz, Washington State University, and the Xerces Society is working on a project to help halt the recent population collapse of the western monarch butterfly (*Danaus plexippus plexippus*). The western monarch overwinters in coastal California and breeds across the West. The researchers know where they overwinter and where they breed in summer, but there is a gap in the spring after they leave the overwintering areas. Less is known about where the monarchs are and what they're up to. Having a better understanding of this gap may be crucial to developing conservation plans to recover western monarchs. The researchers need community volunteers (that's you!) to participate in their Spring 2020

campaign, "Western Monarch Mystery Challenge." They want everyone in California to be on the lookout for monarch butterflies from Valentine's day (February 14th) to Earth Day (April 22nd). Their area of interest is anywhere outside of overwintering. [Read](#) on how to participate.

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 diagnoses. [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



APRIL GARDENING CHECKLIST

Tips to keeping your organic garden healthy in April. [View video.](#)

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

Classes & Clinics

Due to the Coronavirus issue, periodically check our [calendar](#) for the status of April events which cannot be listed at this time



San Mateo Arboretum Plant Clinic

San Mateo Central Park Arboretum Pump House
101 Ninth Avenue
San Mateo, CA
May 3, 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.

San Francisco 30th Street Plant Clinic

225 30th Street (between Church/Dolores)
San Francisco, CA
May 9, 2020, 10:00am-12:00pm

Master Gardeners are available to answer your plant and gardening questions, ranging from general information to advice about specific problems. Parking is limited. When you arrive at the Senior Center, take the elevator to the 3rd floor and ask for directions to the garden. It is all the way down the hallway and out the back door. 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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