



University of California Cooperative Extension

Master Gardener Program of Riverside County

2980 Washington Street
Riverside, CA 92504
951-955-0170

81077 Indio Blvd., Suite H
Indio, CA 92201

Website

www.ucanr.edu/sites/RiversideMG

Advice to Grow By ... Ask Us!

anrmgriverside@ucanr.edu

951-955-2647

anrmgindio@ucanr.edu

UC Master Gardener Program Mission Statement

"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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Welcome Butterflies!

Garden Views is published bi-monthly by
Riverside County UC Master Gardeners. In this issue:

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Hello, Giant Swallowtail!

Text and Photos Contributed by Ann Platzer, UCCE Master Gardener

The swallowtail family, Papilionidae, is found worldwide and includes more than 500 species. They are generally very large and include the largest butterflies in the world. The **Giant Swallowtail, *Papilio cresphonte***, is the largest butterfly in United States and Canada, with a wing span of 5 ½ inches and epitomizes the beauty, grace and vibrant colors of swallowtails. It flies with slow wing beats and continues to open and close its wings while feeding. Dorsally it can be recognized by the large yellow bands on its dark upper wings and hind wing blue band with several red spots (Photo1).



Photo 1, Dorsal view Giant Swallowtail

Ventrally the wings and body are cream-colored with black veins and borders (Photo 2). These contrasts between the dark wings above and the pale wings below distinguishes it from some of our other swallowtails.



Photo 2, Ventral view Giant Swallowtail

The female lays spherical, 1mm light-green eggs individually on the underside of young citrus leaves such as Navel, Valencia, and Satsuma but rarely on sour lemon trees. Although its California native host plant is the Hop tree, *Ptelea trifoliata*, most of these butterflies use the non-native citrus trees possibly because they are more numerous.



Photo 3, tiny larva hatching from egg case (black arrow)

A tiny larva (Photo: 3) is shown hatching from its 1 mm egg case (arrow). The larva will first eat its egg case before voraciously munching on the leaves. All larvae from the tiny first instar (the growth stage between molts) to mature larvae (Photo 4) are mottled brown with a cream band.



Photo 4, mature larvae looking like bird dung

This protective coloration looks like bird dung which helps the larva hide from would be predators. In addition each larva has an evil smelling, forked, fleshy tentacle, called an **osmeterium**, that pops out from the thorax when a larva is repelled by ants and other predators. This orange red

appendage, called a “snake tongue,” is a bizarre sight to see if you gently touch the front area of the larva.

The **pupae** are shades of tan or brown and resemble a piece of wood (see white arrows pointing to empty pupal cases in Photos 1 and 2). The posterior end of the pupa holds onto a branch by a silk button, while the upper half is suspended by a silk girdle, like telephone linemen use. Pupae hibernate over winter. The adults fly from March to November in Southern California and nectar on such plants as butterfly bush, *Buddleia davidii*, lantana preferably tall *Lantana sp.*, and pentas, *Pentas lanceolata*.

On the Brink of Extinction

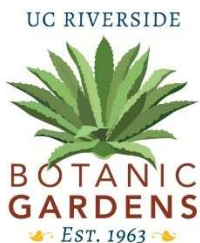
Sadly, the Western Monarch butterfly population has been drastically declining over the last few decades. In 2020 the number of individuals reached the lowest level ever recorded: less than 1% of historic populations. The Riverside-Corona Resource Conservation District is working to reverse these trends, and we need the community's help.

Why the Shocking Decline

- *Loss of Native Milkweed:* Milkweed is the only food source for the Monarch caterpillar, and much of it has been destroyed due to land being converted from habitat to agricultural or urban use.
- *Pesticide Exposure:* Monarchs are weakened and killed unintentionally by toxic weed and insect killers.
- *Drought and Climate Change* impact milkweed growth and habitat availability.
- *Disease:* Many nurseries sell tropical milkweed which does not go dormant in winter. This tropical milkweed can host a parasite called *Ophryocystis elektroscirrha*, or "OE" that weakens and kills Monarchs.
- *Coastal Habitat Loss:* Coastal overwintering sites have been degraded or developed, leaving few trees that provide for quality roosting sites. Monarchs need tall trees like Eucalyptus, Monterey pine, and Cypress to provide filtered sunlight for warmth and protection from wind.

Come to the Rescue!

- *Planting Native Milkweed:* Locally, adult Monarchs lay their eggs on Narrow Leaf Milkweed, *Asclepias fascicularis*. The caterpillars grow rapidly, increasing their weight almost 3,000 times in 10-15 days. The flowers also provide nectar for adult butterflies. Native milkweed will go dormant around Halloween and re-emerge around Valentine's Day. Don't weed it out if it appears dead. Learn more at Steps for Success with Milkweed and Monarchs for Inland Southern California Valleys: https://www.rcrcd.org/files/65eb89ba5/2020_Monarch_Milkweed_for_SoCal.pdf



BUTTERFLY GARDEN NEWS!

UC Master Gardener docents are available in the Butterfly Garden on the first and third Sunday of the month from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm to answer questions about **Gardening for Butterflies** including the life cycle of butterflies and which plants to choose to attract butterflies.



Buckeye



Giant Swallowtail



Gulf Fritillary



Press Release: Monarch Butterfly

Contributed by Diana Ruiz, Public Affairs Manager, Riverside-Corona Resource Conservation District (RCRCD)

Western Monarch butterflies make a spectacular annual migration of up to 1,500 miles to overwinter in forested groves along the coast of California, but even these stalwart travelers need our help in Inland Southern California.

- *Eliminate Pesticides:* Use nontoxic alternatives for pest control.
<https://www.rcrcd.org/files/92cdf50b3/Natural+Pest+Control.pdf>
- *Grow Flowering Plants:* Especially CA natives to provide nectar in early Spring and Fall. Avoid planting tropical milkweed.
- *Track Milkweed and Monarchs:* Please avoid captive rearing and instead collect and post data online at the Western Monarch Milkweed Mapper and iNaturalist websites. Be on the lookout for the four life stages: egg, caterpillar, pupa and adult.



Learn more:

- *Steps for Success with Milkweed and Monarchs for the Inland Southern California Valleys:*
https://www.rcrcd.org/files/65eb89ba5/2020_Monarch_Milkweed_for_SoCal.pdf
- *Plan Your Pollinator Paradise:*
<https://www.rcrcd.org/files/9abe75d28/pollinator+garden+handout+web22.pdf>
- *KFRG radio interview:* RCRCD helps endangered monarch butterflies (audacy.com)
- *KFRGPSA:*
<https://www.facebook.com/RCRCD/videos/3277184345929139/> attached to email.
- *LandUse Learning Center* (flyer and location map) near downtown Riverside, for seeing pollinator garden:
<https://www.rcrcd.org/files/80c9e10c5/llcflyer2023.pdf>
- RCRCD embarked on a Monarch Recovery program in 2019:
<https://www.rcrcd.org/files/cc88913ce/City+Council+Mayor%27s+Monarch+Challenge+Implementation+Report.pdf>

The Monarch Recovery Project wouldn't be successful without broad community engagement, plus state and national support.

Please help us increase Monarch populations: The 2023 Pollinator Week is coming June 19-25: *Pollinator Week Toolkit* / Pollinator.org.

Photo: *Western Monarch butterfly on Narrow Leaf Milkweed, Asclepias fascicularis in a backyard in Jurupa Valley, Calif. (Photo by Jenny Iyer, Riverside-Corona Resource Conservation District)*

Editor's Note: In spring of 2020, RCRCD received a grant from the Wildlife Conservation Board in partnership with the California Association of Resource Conservation Districts, to establish 2 acres of Monarch breeding and foraging habitat. RCRCD staff reached out to UC Master Gardeners of Riverside County to plant almost 2,000 nectar and native milkweed plants over two acres and help manage weeds at the site. Thanks to their efforts, zero herbicides were used in the three years since the project's beginning. Over 70 community members, many of whom are Master Gardeners, were trained to be community scientists and conduct Monarch surveys at the site. Many thanks to the over 130 volunteers who dedicated their time to Monarch conservation. Our data was shared with iNaturalist, Monarch Larval Monitoring Project, and Western Monarch Milkweed Mapper. Thanks to RCRCD Greenbelt Monarch Habitat Site Manager, Michele Felix-Derbarmdiker, and Linda Powell, Master Gardener Coordinator, this Monarch project continues to provide critical foraging and breeding habitat for these butterflies and an educational resource for our entire community. **(Master Gardeners can join the next Lunch and Learn June 22 when Roger Tansey presents, "Creating a Pollinator Garden." See VMS calendar.)**



Lavender Festival 2023

May 5th to July 23rd, 2023
 Select Days | 5-10 pm
 123 Farm

Festival Highlights:

- Capture beautiful sunset photos in the lavender fields
- Taste lavender-inspired food, drinks and desserts
- 100,000 lights illuminate the farm at night
- Listen to live musical performances every night from 6:30 to 9 pm
- Guided tractor tours

www.123farm.com/lavender-festival

Master Gardeners can volunteer for Festival's "Ask a Master Gardener" table on VMS.

Correction for March April issue Garden Views: Incorrectly identified as Western Pygmy Blue is the California Hairstreak.



Butterfly Surveys at the Greenbelt Monarch Habitat

9:00 am • March 25, April 14 & 29, May 5 & 27, June 3 & 17, 2023

Interested in helping conserve the Western Monarch butterfly? The butterflies are in decline due to a loss of habitat, specifically native milkweed. Come be a community scientist and gather data on eggs, caterpillars and butterflies. Training will be provided.

Things to bring:

- Water
- Hat
- Sunscreen
- Sturdy shoes
- Smart phone with iNaturalist app
- Kneeling pad (recommended)

Surveys involve stooping, bending and kneeling on the ground. Ability to use a smart phone with the iNaturalist app is helpful but not required.

For more information about Monarchs:

To register:
 email Felix-Derbarmdiker@rcrcd.org
 or call (951) 683-7691 x218
 Please register by the by 3 pm the prior day.

Riverside-Corona Resource Conservation District

Greenbelt Monarch Habitat

A Western Monarch caterpillar eating a native narrowleaf milkweed, *Asclepias fascicularis*.

Explore the Digger Bees and Cuckoo Bees

Contributed by Betty Guida Ingalls, UCCE Master Gardener

Digger, Cuckoo, Sweat, Miner. These are a few of the names of the 1,600 native bees in California. When we think of bees, we usually think of the European Honeybee which was brought to North America during the 1700's. However, our California native bees are different from the Honeybee. Ours lead a solitary life and do not make honey. Their function is solely to pollinate. They are 10th of an inch to ¾ of an inch in size. The only time they are social is when they mate. Seventy percent make their homes in horizontal tunnels in the soil or in cavities in the bark of trees. Digger Bees and Cuckoo bees are just two varieties of the fascinating insects in our gardening world.

Digger Bees

(*Anthophora californica*) Digger bees are important pollinators, docile, and unlikely to sting (photo 1 below). Though generalists in their foraging, they do prefer plants in the mint and daisy families. The female digs a cylindrical underground tunnel to construct her nest. She brings pollen and nectar to her nest in order to make “bee bread” which is stored for when her eggs turn into larvae. The larvae then feed on the “bee bread.” Digger bees hatch only one generation per summer. (Photo 1)



Cuckoo bees

It is undecided if these bees (*Xeromelecta californica*) are pollinators (photo 2 below). Yet they comprise approximately 15% of the world’s bee population. Unlike other bees, who spend their days pollinating, the Cuckoo bee looks for the nests of other bees in which to lay her eggs. She will wait for the other bee to leave her nest, and then the Cuckoo bee will quickly lay its eggs in the original bee’s nest. She may kill the eggs/larvae of the original bee. When the Cuckoo bee’s eggs hatch, they have larvae of the original bee, as well as the bee bread created by the original bee to feed its young. (Photo 2)



Resources

- <https://arboretum.ucdavis.edu/blog/beyond-honey-bee-learn-more-about-california-native-bees>
- <https://ucanr.edu/blogs/blogcore/postdetail.cfm?postnum=51130>
- <https://hortnews.extension.iastate.edu/2009/5-6/diggerbee.html>
- <https://www.recordnet.com/story/lifestyle/home-garden/2016/02/09/what-s-growing-on-celebrating/32552937007/>

Volunteer Kudos



Volunteer: Linda Williams

Project: Palm Springs Animal Shelter (PSAS) Landscape Revitalization Project

Contributed by MG Project Coordinator: Jan Seaman

Knowledge & Experience

Becoming a Master Gardener in 2022, Linda Williams quickly became a key volunteer in the Landscape Revitalization Project for Palm Springs Animal Shelter. Veteran Master Gardeners first toured the facility and realized that before the landscape could be revitalized to its original glory, a great deal of catching up was needed to clear weeds and dead plants and become familiar with the original landscape and irrigation system. Linda Williams joined this team with experience in landscape design. She visualized the design for the Monarch Butterfly Waystation originally proposed by Roger Tansey.

Going Above and Beyond

Linda crafted the design for the Monarch Butterfly Waystation and then created a plant list for the area. She helped select donated plants for specific locations in the garden. With the team of Master Gardeners, she created the Monarch Butterfly Habitat in the beds adjacent to the Smoke trees. The Monarch Butterfly path was identified, and Master Gardeners are currently propagating plants that are butterfly-attracting to be planted in the Fall.

Dependable

All of her special interests in butterfly gardening, growing CA natives, and creating native bee habitat gardens are so important to how she works to imagine revitalization of other areas of the three-acre property for Palm Springs Animal Shelter. Many thanks, Linda!

Volunteer Kudos



Name of Volunteer: Julie Weatherford

Project: West County Remote Help Line

Contributed by MG Project Coordinator:

Jane Payne

Knowledge & Experience

As a trainee in 2019/2020 Julie started volunteering in the office working on the Help Line. Since then, she has consistently volunteered at least one or more times per month. Julie has covered over 45 shifts answering Help Line inquiries. She believes that answering inquiries in a *“professional, helpful*

and timely fashion is important” and her emails reflect it. She does an outstanding job of researching questions and sends professional, succinct emails with links to further information or attached pdfs. Although I have a standing offer to help the Help Line volunteers, she has never needed it. She has honed her research skills and hasn't had a question she couldn't answer.

Going Above and Beyond

Julie is the type of volunteer that I would like to clone. Over the past three years she has consistently volunteered, done a great job, and followed every procedure. I've never had to follow up for something or send a reminder. When I asked her what her secret is she said she keeps the latest Help Line Procedures in a folder on her laptop so they are easily accessed. Also, she works on a MAC and has created folders saving links to research-based information on different horticultural topics to help her in answering inquiries.

Dependable

When I became the Project Coordinator, Julie said she would volunteer about once a month, and she has done so. Handling the remote Help Line is her primary volunteer opportunity. When asked why, she said: *“I like the convenience of working from home. I also enjoy the flexibility of when you work the shift, so it fits well in my life. Being a relatively new Master Gardener, I learn so much being on the Help Line. It is a great learning experience. Lastly, it feels really good helping people with their gardening problems.”* I would like to add that working with Julie is a pleasure. Although we were in the same training class, we didn't get to know each other before COVID hit. While working together this year, I have developed a great respect for her. Many thanks, Julie!



Resources for West County Remote Help Line

Contributed by Jane Payne, UCCE Master Gardener, Help Line Project Coordinator

Have you considered working on the Riverside Remote Help Line? Our volunteers like working it because they learn a lot, increase their horticultural knowledge, improve their research skills, and serve the community from the comfort of their homes on a flexible schedule.

When asking veteran Master Gardeners if they have ever considered working the Help Line, overwhelmingly they say that they aren't interested because *"we get the really tough questions."* Although we do get a variety of questions, with some being more difficult, many of our volunteers continue to work on the Help Line because they like being challenged and learning at the same time.

Master Gardeners need to know that although you are working alone and answering emails and voicemails remotely, you are not alone without support. First, any time a volunteer is working and gets stuck on a question, just call me. I can point you to some resources.

So that brings me to the first initiative, which is making answering the Help Line inquiries easier with an **Online Resource Repository**. We all know the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) website is full of research-based information, but sometimes it is difficult to find exactly what you are looking for. Also, as Master Gardeners we pull research-based information from various websites, government (.gov), educational (.edu) and/or industry organizations (.org).

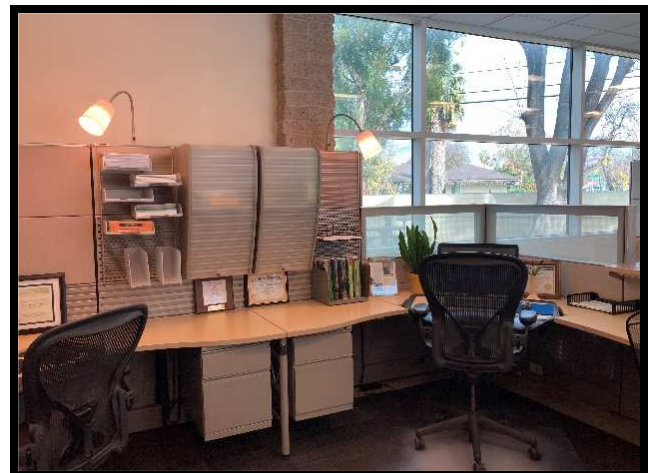
Since I started answering emails and found useful online sources, I began compiling an extensive list. As it turns out, some of the other Help Line volunteers do the same! Therefore, this summer we are compiling all of our favorite online resources into one easily accessible place. Once completed, it will be available to Help Line volunteers and Master Gardeners through VMS.

Another initiative is building a **Knowledge Base**. The goal is to have the best answer to previous questions easily accessible to copy and paste when replying to an email. This would not only make it easier and reduce the time to respond but also ensure the best possible research-based answer.

To get this started, this year I have been pulling from Outlook all of the questions and answers we have handled and combining them in one place. Even though I've captured the knowledge, it's not yet in an easy-to-use format to be useful.

We have a volunteer who is willing to work in the Riverside office on Monday's from 9:00 a.m. to noon. While there she will answer phone calls and meet with walk-in traffic, but her primary responsibility is to start compiling the common questions and answers to put into the Knowledge Base. Before being added to the Knowledge Base, the content will be vetted by more experienced Help Line volunteers. We will see the Knowledge Base continue to grow, and it will be available to the Help Line volunteers and all Master Gardeners in VMS.

Lastly, I will be updating our list of **Subject Matter Experts** whom we can contact should we need more expertise to answer a certain question. If you are willing to share your knowledge, be a Subject Matter Expert or want to learn more about our Remote Help Line, please email or give me a call, Jane Payne, janepayne3@verizon.net 909-455-2253.



Volunteerism: What it Means to Me How you can get Involved

Contributed by Brad Hardison, UCCE Master Gardener



I look forward to serving as the Desert Chair for the UCCE Riverside Master Gardeners for 2023-2024. Part of the planning for next year involves forming a team of Master Gardener volunteers not only willing to volunteer his/her time in our various projects but able to coordinate a project or become an officer of our organization.

I had a wonderful role model in my life who taught me that volunteering and assuming a leadership position was something we should do if we were able to. As a young child, I watched my mother volunteer for leadership positions in the Parent Teacher Association and Homeowner's Association. All done to better community organizations, she felt passionately about our schools and our neighborhood. She went on to realize her impact needed to be broader. So, it was no surprise when she got involved in city government and was appointed to city commissions, eventually running for public office as a councilmember and ultimately as Mayor.

She knew that this work would involve giving her time, and the payback would be measured in the impact and difference she made in her community. I am proud that she instilled in me those values of volunteerism and more importantly becoming a leader.

The Master Gardener Program needs individuals willing to volunteer a bit more time to coordinate or take a leadership role in a project. Let's take the Riverside County Faire and National Date Festival. We traditionally have a booth at the fair that we staff at selected hours. In the past, others in the organization have stepped up to design our booth, purchase the needed supplies, and set up and take down our display. The event runs for two weeks in February, and we can build on what we did before. We are seeking a Coordinator for this task who has some interest and time to be our lead on this project along with other Master Gardeners. I would like to hear from someone willing to assume this role.

Similarly, our program usually staffs a table at various events such as the Wildflower Festival, Garden Day, and Wild Coachella Day to name two. These events attract many members of our community where we do important Master Gardener outreach. We are seeking a person(s) to be our Events Coordinator(s) to think about what we might need for the event and help design our display with a small committee. Many times, it is a simple information table like we have at our Farmer's Markets, or sometimes we might have additional displays or tables highlighting different aspects of our program. If you have an interest or questions on what might be involved, I would like to hear from you.

When it comes to elected officers, our Master Gardeners in the desert are seeking individuals for two positions: Secretary and Chair Elect. Our Secretary takes minutes at our monthly board meetings. As someone who filled in for this role this year, it only takes about one hour per month to format and edit the notes taken during the meeting. It is a great way to get involved without a lot of commitment of time. Please consider putting your name forward in nomination for Secretary.

The Chair Elect is the position in our organization that observes and assists the Chair in preparation for becoming the Chair the following year. For many people the idea of being the Chair can seem daunting and overwhelming. As someone who has chaired

organizations, I can tell you that with strong members in the organization, like we have, the role of being chair is to help guide and direct the organization. A chair should not be someone who takes on more tasks or does “all the work.” The Chair is there as a resource.

I am seeking a Master Gardener to join me as Chair Elect for the Desert for 2023-2024. I will commit to you that I will support you, mentor you, and guide you in whatever way suits your needs. We need someone willing to come forward and agree to serve our organization in this way. The rewards are numerous and something you will remember as part of your legacy in community service.

I look forward to an exciting and rewarding year for UC Master Gardeners of Riverside County in 2023-2024.

**Master Gardeners Celebrate
These New Riverside County
Recognition Awards!
April and May Volunteer Hours 2023**

500 Hours Watering Can Pin

Patricia Clayes
David Frelinger
Michael Hammond
Debby Leuer
Marsha McNamara
Clifford Morrison
Vivian Yturralde

250 Hours Gardeners' Trowel Pin

Judi Newby



**Taking Our School Garden Project Lessons
for a Spin!**

*Contributed by Kim Coons-Leonard, UCCE
Master Gardener*

It's one thing to research and write science-based garden lessons, but what really matters is if they result in engaging, meaningful learning experiences for students.

Master Gardener, Kay Force, and I took our online grades *TK-8 Pollination* lesson series on the road in March and April, giving them a test drive with students at Valley View Elementary School and Wells Middle School in the Riverside area.



First graders with Kay Force, teacher, and aide observing and recording if a small garden has everything a pollinator needs: shelter, flowering plants, and water.

These lessons represent the School Garden Project's first effort to fully address all three dimensions of California's **Next Generation Science Standards**. These standards not only include first, science content, but second, the application of that content is done through the lens of a science or engineering practice, and third, the science concepts must cross all domains of science. Riverside County Office of Education-STEM included Master Gardeners in their science leadership training on the science standards. This training focused on integrating into instruction *phenomena*, which are observable events in nature, and the science-

engineering practice of developing and revising a **model** of that phenomena.

A kindergartener's final model of the relationship between bees and flowers.



As all teachers will tell you, it's not just the students that learn when you develop and teach a lesson. Here's what **we also** learned.

It was worth it to spend hours finding the perfect grade-level, content specific video on the phenomena of pollination! The opening phenomena videos we found captured student and teacher interest in the topic and helped activate any prior knowledge students had about pollination. Discussion about the observed phenomena also revealed misconceptions about pollination which helped guide our instruction throughout the lesson.

Never rely solely on the text, images, and videos provided in a lesson. Always have realia ready for students to handle and observe closely. Students across all grade levels shared a common misconception which surprised both Kay and me. "Bees get honey from flowers." Fortunately, we brought realia from the garden (or in this case Vons) in the form of lilies which allow for easy observation of all parts of a flower. Students were not able to locate the honey the bees produced, but they did get pollen on their fingers, smelled the flower's alluring scent, and noted something

wet. Could that be the nectar bees drink to make honey back in their hive?

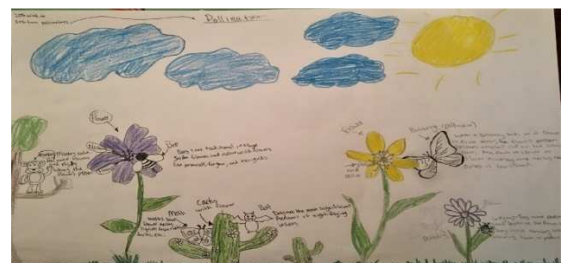


Sixth graders excitedly identify pollinators at work on and around a flowering plant.

Be prepared to adjust the pacing of your lesson. Sometimes a lesson runs a bit longer than you expect. We spotted that with the Grades 2-3 lesson, made an adjustment to skip a section, and moved on. That lesson was revised and reposted on our website to reflect what we learned from its test drive.

Always listen to and respect the classroom teacher's perspective. Developing and revising a model of the phenomena is a new science practice for both teachers and their students. So, we adjusted the opening of each lesson to direct students to draw an initial model reflecting what they think they know about the phenomena of pollination. Importantly we then guided the class through the process, discussing what was observed in the video, then drawing a model, and labeling it all together on chart paper.

A sixth-grade student's final model of the phenomena of Pollination.



Enjoy the teaching experience! There is nothing like the energy of a classroom. Students are excited to meet someone new and learn about science in the garden. Our Master Gardens School Gardens Project is continuing to develop **online lessons** to share with schools across the county. Go to our website, ucanr.edu/sites/RiversideMG/School_Childrens_Youth_Gardens/ for a look!

Please consider volunteering to take our School Garden Project lessons for a spin with a grades TK-8 class in the upcoming school year!



Janet's Jottings

Janet Hartin

Dear UCCE Master Gardeners of Riverside County,

After an extremely rewarding 40-year career with UC Cooperative Extension, I'm looking forward to retiring in just over a year (June 30, 2024). I want to express my deep appreciation to all of you for your volunteerism leading to more climate-ready sustainable landscapes and urban food security for county residents. As you know, the original reason the Master Gardener program was implemented (back in 1972 in Washington State) was to help ensure that objective research-based information was made available to the public, expanding the mission of land-grant universities to individuals who would not otherwise have access. Working with you and getting to know you has been one of the true blessings of my time with UCCE.

A major focus during my final year with UCCE will be to expand the "Trees for Tomorrow" project into Riverside County and other counties throughout the state. The program was piloted and honed over the last three years by UCCE Master Gardeners in San Bernardino County in partnership with the Inland Empire Resource Conservation District and over 30 other community-based partners and agencies. Through the program, over 1,200 trees have been distributed to residents of disadvantaged low-shade communities along with information on their planting and long-term care in English and Spanish. I am grateful to UC ANR Acting AVP Deanne Meyer and UC ANR Statewide Master Gardener Program Director Missy Gables for providing funding for me to develop a "toolkit" to implement the program in other counties.

Free Workshop
Climate-Adapted Trees & Care: Selection, Watering, Palm Pests
 Saturday, June 3, 2023 • 10 am - 12.30 pm

Compliments of:

 INLAND URBAN FOREST COUNCIL

Building F
 10 a.m. **Tree Selection**
 Raquel Falco, *Park Supervisor – City of Glendora, Certified Arborist*
 10:45 a.m. **Water Application**
 Dr. Fred Roth, *Retired Professor of Horticulture, Cal Poly, Pomona*
 11:30 a.m. **Palm Pests & Treatment**
 Dr. Hung Doan, *Small Farms & Specialty Crops Advisor, UC Cooperative Extension*

LandUse Learning Center
 11:45 a.m. Join speakers in the garden to get your questions answered.



Open Daily, 8 am to 4 pm
 4500 Glenwood Dr., Riverside, 92501
 For more information, please contact Erin Snyder at (951) 683-7691 ext. 207 or snyder@RCRCD.org.


 Riverside-Corona Resource Conservation District





Riverside-Corona Resource Conservation District

Why is this project so important? California has the lowest per capita tree canopy cover in the United States, a mere 108 square feet per person, disproportionately impacting people of color. Many neighborhoods in both San Bernardino and Riverside Counties have tree canopy cover below 11% (far below the recommended canopy cover of 25% - 40%) and directly linked to extreme heat, high ozone concentrations with high rates of cardiovascular and pulmonary diseases. A major reason for this low canopy cover is the result of fewer trees being planted in disadvantaged communities with low tax bases than in others. Another major reason is due to poor tree species selection and long-term maintenance, resulting in fewer than 40% of urban trees, on average, living beyond 20 years.

An important aspect of the project is its strong bilingual educational component that includes written tree planting and care information and in-person presentations describing the attributes of the climate-resilient tree species offered and tree care tips. Both help ensure that trees reach maturity, maximizing their ecosystem and social benefits. Another key element has been connecting tree recipients with the Master Gardener email and telephone helplines and regular check-ins from project leaders.

Above all else, recruiting Master Gardeners for the project from low-shade communities most in need of trees is vital. Please contact me at jshartin@ucanr.edu if you have recruitment suggestions and/or strategies specifically for this project. I want to hear from you! While I have reached out to several community-based organizations, your insight is needed. In addition, if you'd like to serve on the startup committee for launching the program in Riverside County, please reach out to me, as well.

While funding for trees distributed through the project is always an issue, I believe this won't be an obstacle. There are a growing number of

sources available both now and in the future. I've applied for a large grant with two other partners that would allow us to kickstart this program in Riverside County this winter. We are also expecting a second grant opportunity to arise in the next few months. If this funding doesn't come through there will be other opportunities, including working with local programs and water districts that are interested in partnerships with us. And, continuing to provide bilingual education on tree care for trees already adorning our cities is important and doesn't require grant funding.

In closing, I look forward to implementing this project in FY 2023/24 with you and helping support the many other impactful projects across the county that continue to improve the quality of life for county residents.

With appreciation,

Janet



"Trees for Tomorrow" event by Master Gardeners of San Bernardino County



News from Rosa!

Rosa Olaiz

Welcome to the May June newsletter! It is that time of the year to commit to the UC Master Gardener Program for the

2023-2024 year. Reappointment begins June 1. The Annual Volunteer Agreement and Request for Reappointment, Code of Conduct/Responsibilities and Rights, and Proof of CA Driver's License and Automobile Liability Insurance forms are on your VMS home page. Click on the box on the lower right to access the forms. Reappointment must be completed by June 30 to give the county director time to review. If you need continuing education hours, we have CE recordings on the VMS Home Page and one last live Lunch and Learn. June 22, UC Master Gardener, Roger Tansey will present "Creating a Pollinator Garden."

Annual dues are paid once the new fiscal year begins July 1. An email message will be sent on July 1, 2023 with annual dues payment information. The e-mail will include the link to pay online through a survey and instructions on sending a check to the UCCE office.

UC ANR Giving Day online Fundraiser was held May 18 and 19, 2023. UC Riverside County Master Gardeners and community members donated \$1,775 during the two days; an additional \$590 trickled in after the close of the fundraiser. Riverside County won two challenges, greatest number of Unique Donors and Donation Challenge, which secured an additional \$1000. Several donations were made in memory of Master Gardeners Carolyn Daniels and Janice Rosner. Other donations were designated to the Grow Lab and School/Youth Garden. Thank you for your generosity and supporting the UC Master Gardener Program of Riverside County!



Asian Jumping Worms: A new Discovery?


Many of us are seeing articles on what some are calling a "new discovery," Asian Jumping Worms. We Riverside County Master Gardeners know this is not a new discovery! Joyce Allen reported spotting them in her yard and wrote an article for *Garden Views*, January February 2021. She researched and even contacted three UCANR entomologists who at that time did not know them. Here is a snippet from her article. You can find the whole article on VMS, *Newsletters*, January February 2021. GR

Asian Jumping Worms -The Bad Guys

Contributed by Joyce Allen, West County UCCE Master Gardener

How did I meet these bad guys? I'm glad you asked. I found them in the habitat we made for my tortoise house. One morning I raised the clay water tray and saw a mass of jumping, writhing worms on the damp soil. Several days later as they increased and continued jumping, I went to my computer and did some research. They matched the description I found about the jumping worms. As I read about their infestation across the country, I saw repeatedly that they were not reported in California and the definitive presence of this pest in California is not known.

Where did I get the jumping worms? I am still unsure. This is one possibility. I believe there is a good chance they came from the tortoise. She was found wandering on a street near the canyon of our neighborhood.

UC Master Gardener Program of Riverside County			
UCCE Riverside County Director		Rita Clemons	
UCCE Riverside MG Program Director		Janet Hartin	
Volunteer Services Coordinator		Rosa Olaiz	
West County Advisory Board		Desert Advisory Board	
Chair	Dave Brandtman	Chair	Jim Thompson
Chair Elect	Melody Knox	Chair Elect	Brad Hardison
Past Chair	Darrilyn Erickson	Past Chair	Smoky Zeidel
Secretary	Judi Newby	Secretary	Open
Treasurer	Jonathan Crook	Treasurer	Jim Huberty
AVS Project	Mike Horak	Coachella Valley Preserve Docents	Marcia Stone
Community Gardens	Thurman Howard	Coachella Valley Preserve Docents	Linda Williams
Diverse Community Projects	Thurman Howard	Composting	Rita Kraus
Equipment & Inventory	Debbie Leuer	Composting	Dee Kongsлие
Gold Miners	Thurman Howard	Continuing Education	Pat Clayes
Grow Lab	Adrian Ceja	CREATE	Barbara Kay Levin
Grow Lab	Steven Moreno	CREATE	Vivian Yturalde
Help Line	Jane Payne	Desert Home Gardening Class	Smoky Zeidel
Home Gardening Class	Linda Powell	Event Tables	Open
Home Gardening Class	Georgia Renne	Farmers Markets	Gail Nottberg
Mentoring Program	Alba Good	Farmers Markets	Mike Richardson
Membership	Sharon Sharpe	Help Line	Ralph Thompson
MG Logo Merchandise	Jennifer Hopper	Job Descriptions	Patty Reed
Newsletter	Georgia Renne	Job Descriptions	Marcia Stone
Parliamentarian	Cindy Peterson	Membership	Cynthia Morris-Sotelo
Public Relations eBlast	Susan Cline	Mentoring Program	Barbara Kay-Levin
Public Relations Social Media	Pam Elias	Moorten's Botanical Gardens Docents	Cesar Lopez Barreras
RCRCD Monarch Habitat	Linda Powell	Moorten's Botanical Gardens Propagation	Barbara Kay-Levin
School Gardens	Kim Coons-Leonard	Parliamentarian	Brad Hardison
School Gardens	Brad Hardison	New Projects	Marcia Stone
School Gardens	Kathy Steckman	Newsletter	Georgia Renne
Social Recognition	Yvonne Wilczynski	Palm Springs Animal Shelter	Jan Seaman
Speaker's Bureau	Heather Vuyancih	Parliamentarian	Brad Hardison
Tours	Linda Carpenter	Publicity-eBlast	Jim Thompson
Training Class	Jill Hishmeh	Publicity-Social Media	Jim Thompson
UCR Botanic Gardens Liaison	Yvonne Wilczynski	Raices Cultura's Tierra de Raices	Cesar Lopez Barreras
Website (Countywide)	Ralph Thompson	School Gardens	Brad Hardison
		School Gardens	Jax Patterson
		Social Events/Recognition	Kathy Miller
		Speaker's Bureau	Gail Nottberg
		Training Class	Jim Thompson
		Website	Ralph Thompson