



UC MASTER GARDENERS OF BUTTE COUNTY

SPRING 2024 WORKSHOPS

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED

Register at our website: ucanr.edu/sites/bcmg/Workshops

FEBRUARY

Seed Starting

Saturday, February 3,
10-11:30 AM
Pat's Barn, limit 30



Would you like to plant different varieties of summer vegetables than those that are available at the big box stores as starts? Learn to start your own plants from seed, and you can choose any variety you'd like! Our focus will be tomatoes and peppers. You say you don't have a heated greenhouse? Not to worry, as this workshop will also explore options for starting seeds indoors, including the proper lighting and temperature control.

Gardening for a Lifetime

Wednesday, February 7, 1-2:30 PM
Pat's Barn, limit 30

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 with advancing years. 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.

Wildcrafting

Co-sponsored with Paradise Garden Club
Monday, February 12, 1-2:30 PM
Terry Ashe Recreation Center, Paradise,
limit 30

Wildcrafting is the practice of harvesting a plant in its natural habitat. In this workshop, experienced herbalist Jules Pecson of Fiona's Forest will talk about the wildcrafting process, including how native plants are collected in the wild, which plants are most commonly used for medicinal remedies, and how plants are processed into useful health products such as tinctures and salves. This is sure to be an interesting and educational workshop!

Rose Care and Propagation

Co-sponsored with OLLI
Tuesday, February 20,
10-11:30 AM
Bradley 2 at the Social,
limit 55



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.

MARCH

Gardening in the Foothills **NEW**

Co-sponsored with Paradise Garden Club
Monday, March 11, 1-2:30 PM
Terry Ashe Recreation Center, Paradise,
limit 30

This workshop will focus on the specifics of gardening in the foothills, and some of the rewards and challenges that the foothill soils and weather present to gardeners. Topics to be explored include (but are not limited to): design techniques for pest management; water-wise gardening; soil structure, the benefits of bio-char, and how to build living soil; solar impact; planting systems for various landscape types; and plant selection.

"Black Gold" Vermiculture **NEW**

Wednesday, March 20, 1-3 PM
Pat's Barn, limit 30

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.

Propagation

Saturday March 23, 10-11:30 AM
Demonstration Garden (Pat's Barn if it rains), limit 25

ABOUT THE WORKSHOPS

- *Workshops are free—registration is required* for all workshops.
- Registration is on a 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
- *Terry Ashe Recreation Center:* 6626 Skyway, Paradise
- *Other locations:* if not included in the description, registered participants will receive an address via email several days before the workshop.

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

Updated March 12, 2024.

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. You will leave this workshop with several plant cuttings from our Demonstration Garden to start at home. Bring your own garden pruners; materials and techniques will be discussed, and handouts will be provided.

Fruit Tree Care

Wednesday, March 27,
10-11:30 AM
Private residence in
Paradise, limit 15



Tom Hansen will explain what to do throughout the year to keep your fruit trees healthy and ensure the best crops. Tom has more than 50 fruit trees growing at his home and has worked as an orchard manager. His talk will cover pruning, irrigation, fertilizers, and cultural practices.

APRIL

Soil Health

Co-sponsored with OLLI
Wednesday, April 10, 3:30-4:45 PM
Bradley 2 at the Social, limit 55

The 3 Most Important Things You Can Do in Your Garden.

Want healthier plants, more nutritious food, and a waterwise garden? Would you like to learn what healthy soil microbes can do for you, and what you can do for them? These three simple processes are key: no till; no bare soil; and no herbicides, pesticides, or synthetic fertilizers. We'll show you how soil health, plant health, and people's health are all connected.

Fruit Tree Care

Saturday, April 13, 10-11:30 AM
Private residence in Paradise, limit 15
See March 27 for workshop description.

Irrigation

Wednesday, April 17, 10-11:30 AM
Demonstration Garden, limit 25

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.

Succulents

Friday, April 19, 10:30 AM-12:00 PM
Demonstration Garden, limit 25

Succulents do well in our Mediterranean climate because their thick, fleshy leaves retain water during long dry summers. Their striking and unusual appearance makes these plants great choices for ornamental gardens. This workshop focuses on the heat and water requirements of succulents, and covers types that are suitable for planting in the ground and in containers. We will include a tour of our new Succulent Garden and a discussion of the plants featured there.

Native Gardens for the Birds

Wednesday, April 24, 12-1:30 PM
Pat's Barn, limit 30

Don't just plant a native plant garden, create a habitat that supports birds throughout the year. In this workshop we will discuss the bird species you can expect to attract year-round; the best plants for them; and how to arrange different types and sizes of plants in order to provide food, shelter, protection, and nesting sites. Ideally, a bird-friendly garden will be attractive to humans too. This presentation provides plenty of photos of the birds and plants, and will introduce you to a great plant selection tool. We will mention plant suppliers and native plant gardens worth a tour in the Chico area. We'll also show examples of garden layouts pleasing to both birds and humans.



Composting

Friday, April 26, 10-11:30 AM
Demonstration Garden, limit 25

Composting uses leaves, garden waste, and kitchen scraps to create wonderful soil-enriching compost. In this workshop we will discuss the different ways to create compost. Techniques range from simple to complex. We will explain the choices so that you can choose the style that best fits your resources and needs.

MAY

Firewise Gardening

Co-sponsored with OLLI
Thursday, May 2, 3-4:30pm
Bradley 2 at The Social, limit 55

This presentation will cover fire behavior, state guidelines for defensible space and how to create and maintain a defensible space around your home. Consideration will also be given to the characteristics and examples of firewise plants as well as plants that should be avoided in a firewise landscape.

Bee Basics: An Introduction to Our Native Bees

Wednesday, May 8, 10-11:30 AM
Demonstration Garden, limit 25

Most of us can recognize the non-native, ever-present European honey bees in our yards, but many are unaware that there are 1600 species of native bees that can be found in California.

This workshop will introduce you to a number of California native bees including bumblebees, leaf cutting bees, mason bees, and carpenter bees. We will provide resources and information to help you understand the bees' lifespans and their plant and habitat needs, along with ways you can observe and support these valuable pollinators.

Pest Management

Friday, May 17, 10-11:30 AM
Demonstration Garden, limit 25

This interactive class will focus on the basics of Integrated Pest Management (IPM). The purpose of IPM is to solve your own pest problems while minimizing risks to people and the environment. IPM can be used for all pests in your landscape and home.

Weed Identification

Monday, May 20, 10-11:30 AM
Demonstration Garden, limit 25

This fascinating exploration of the clues that weeds can offer about soil problems was presented at our most recent plant sale, and we are offering it again this spring. Using the gardens at Patrick Ranch as a lab, a team of Master Gardeners will show you how to identify common weeds and what their presence might reveal about the health of the soil. Knowing what the presence of particular weeds indicates can help you manage soil more efficiently and with less reliance on herbicides. A discussion of mulch as a way to prevent and control weeds is also included in this workshop.

How Does Your Garden Grow? Adaptations of California Native Plants

Wednesday, May 22, 10-11:30 AM
Demonstration Garden, limit 25

Plants are adapted to the specific conditions of their native environments. These conditions include temperature, available water, soil type, and interactions with other organisms. Adaptations, which are inherited and evolve over time in response to changing conditions, allow the plants to meet their needs. Join Master Gardener Cindy Weiner in exploring the variety of adaptations which allow California natives to succeed in Butte County despite our hot and dry summers.

