



## June 2024

Summer in Tahoe kicks off this month! We just finished our "Grow Your Own" collaborative festivals and enjoyed great attendance at all three events. Above, the Master Gardener crew at the Slow Food Truckee Community Garden GYO Festival on June 1.

We are very excited about our first plant sale in several years, which will take place Saturday, June 29 in South Lake Tahoe at the CoWork Tahoe parking lot. Please take a look at the flyer below and read on about some of the plants we will be offering for sale.

Look for us each Tuesday morning at the El Dorado County Certified Farmers' Market in South Lake Tahoe at the American Legion (2740 South Lake Tahoe Blvd.).



The last week in June each year is designated "National Pollinator Week". Pollinator Week is an annual celebration in support of pollinator health, initiated and managed by Pollinator Partnership. It is a time to raise awareness for pollinators and spread the word about what we can do to protect them. *Take a look at this stunning pollinator garden on the right.* Pollinators will highlight the **Gardening Through the Seasons** presentation on Tuesday, June 18 at South Tahoe Public Utilities District (see below).

In July we will welcome the graduating class of 2024. These new UCCE Master Gardeners of Lake Tahoe have completed over 50 hours of classroom and field instruction and are ready to help you. Most of them have already been active participants in this spring's outreach. Congratulations to all of our newest Master Gardeners!

Your feedback is important to us. Please contact me with suggestions and requests!

**Sandy Gainza**

## UPCOMING EVENTS



# PLANT SALE

*UCCE Master Gardeners of Lake Tahoe*

**Saturday, June 29**  
**Cowork Tahoe Parking Lot**  
**3079 Harrison Ave,**  
**South Lake Tahoe, CA.**



**11 a.m. Plant Clinic**

**12 -1:30 p.m. Plant Sale**

*(cash or check only please)*

**Curated selection of Tahoe native and native adapted plants. Come early, plants sell fast!**



UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA  
Agriculture and Natural Resources | UC Master Gardener Program



cowork tahoe

- [Click here to discover UCCE Master Gardener of El Dorado County events.](#)
- [This link will take you to the complete list of UCCE Central Sierra events.](#)
- [Click here to discover UCCE Master Gardener of Placer County events](#)
- [Click here to discover UCCE Master Food Preserver of Central Sierra events.](#)
- [Click here to see a list of University of Nevada Extension events.](#)

**STPUD/Master Gardeners  
present "Gardening Through  
the Seasons" Series**

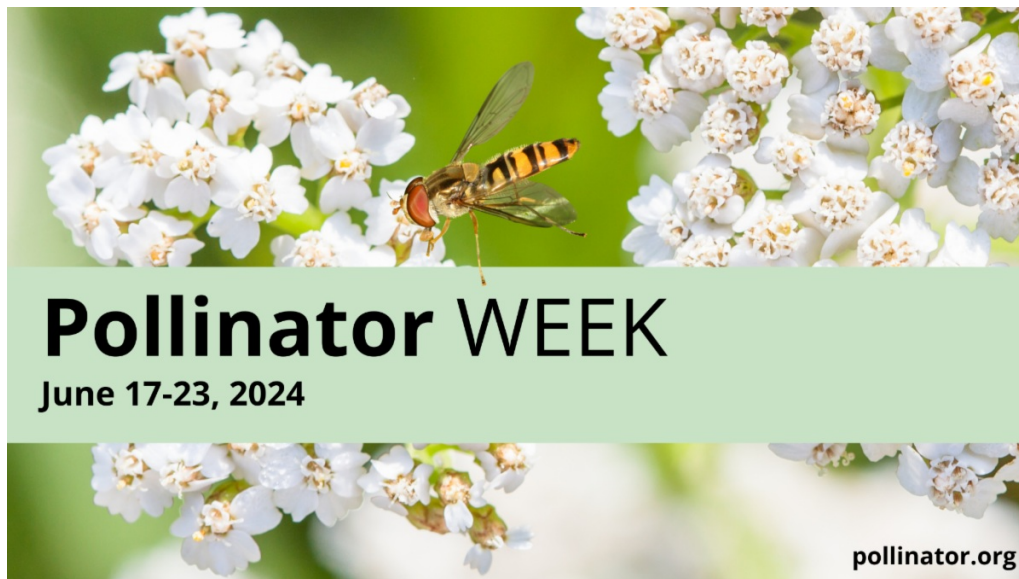
Save the date! The summer workshop for the  
2024 "Gardening Through the Seasons"

series will be held at South Tahoe Public Utilities District office boardroom on **Tuesday, June 18 from 6 to 7:30 pm**. Learn how to design your home landscape for beauty, function and water efficiency during the hot summer months. In honor of National Pollinator Week, plants that attract pollinators will highlight the discussion.



This event is **free**. The address is 1275 Meadowcrest Drive, South Lake Tahoe, CA. Click [HERE](#) for the link to attend virtually.

The final seminar in this series will take place on August 27 (fall). Time and place are the same.



### ***Celebrating our Pollinators!***

The **Pollinator Partnership** provides information for gardeners to learn more about the vital role pollinators play in our lives. To access a free regional guide tailored to the Sierras, please [click here](#). Explore their vast network of pollinator resources, beginning with the section, "[about pollinators](#)."

Nancy Bliss, a Tuolumne County Master Gardener, recently wrote this excellent piece on how to "[Think Like a Pollinator](#)". We would like to share it with you!



### **Master Gardener Jen Cressy's Native Favs!!**

Our biggest Master Gardener fundraiser takes place this month on June 29 from 11 am to 1 pm at Co-Work Tahoe, 3079 Harrison Street, South Lake Tahoe. Mark your calendars because our Plant Sale Coordinator Mary Wall has ordered some of Jen's favorite native plants this year and the selection will not disappoint. Below read about three of them! On the left: another great Tahoe native, the Western columbine (*Aquilegia formosa*). Using native and adapted native plants in your landscape will improve the population of



**Sierra Currant – *Ribes nevadense***

Gardeners in Tahoe praise this perennial shrub for being tough as nails. It can tolerate heavy snow loads, dry to wet well-drained soil, shade and sun – truly adapted to our Tahoe growing conditions. Nothing says spring like a Sierra currant. It is one of the first shrubs to bear its spring green leaves and pendulant pinkish-red flowers that ripen to edible bluish-black berries at summer's end. Currants attract pollinators and birds alike. This is a medium to large shrub so give it room to grow to its full potential.



**Western Bleeding Heart – *Dicentra formosa***

Sourcing this graceful spreading ground cover was a real find. It is native to the western Sierra Nevada slopes and thrives in shade in dry or moist well drained soil, shade, perfect for the understory shade garden. After dying back to the ground each winter, this sweetheart of a bloomer quickly grows to 10-15 inches tall and boasts delicate heart-shaped flowers April through June providing nectar to hummingbirds and butterflies.



**Oregon Sunshine / Woolly Sunflower – *Eriophyllum lanatum***

This plant screams summer with cheerful masses of long lasting bright yellow flowers. Perfect for formal flower beds and wildflower meadows alike. If you have a dry spot in your garden next to a south facing wall where other plants struggle to thrive, this is a plant for you. Woolly sunflower grows to 10 inches in height and dies back in the winter.

## June Tips for Tahoe Gardeners

**Master Gardeners and the [UC Integrated Pest Management website](#) share this June to do list:**

Day length in June is the longest of the year. This means more sun, more heat and less moisture in the air. Adjust your irrigation system accordingly, and pay close attention to the water needs of new plants, and tender vegetable crops. Apply mulch where the soil is thin or bare beneath trees and shrubs.

Check your yellowjacket traps and refresh the bait if needed before the populations get out of hand.

Prune pine terminals only during candling (new shoot growth), late spring to early summer, to retard growth or direct growth in young pines.

Manage weeds using nonchemical methods such as cultivation, hand weeding, or mowing.

Eliminate standing water around your property to reduce mosquito breeding grounds.

(Change your birdbath water daily or every other day.)

Plants adapted to acidic soil, such as rhododendrons, camellia, and azalea may exhibit yellowing between the veins of their leaves. They may need a foliar or soil application of iron and zinc chelate, and a layer of mulch.

Defend your space from fire! Lean: Thin out thick vegetation and eliminate fuel ladders that allow fire to climb up trees. Clean: Mow grasses and trim shrubs. Remove dry resinous, or dead plants and flammable debris. Cut branches back 15 to 20 feet from buildings. Use non-combustible surfaces for walkways, patios and driveways. Green: Landscape using low growing non-woody plants. Check the Master Gardeners of Lake Tahoe [website](#) for more details on creating and maintaining a fire wise home landscape.

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