



October 4, 2021

Greetings Tahoe Gardeners,

It's been a while since you have heard from the Lake Tahoe Master Gardeners. Our last communication was in December 2020 from Megan. Shortly thereafter Megan accepted a position with the State of California's Service Commission, California Volunteers as a Program Officer. We were sad to see her go and she is greatly missed! During her tenure with LTMG Megan helped start or continued to support many of our programs including Tahoe Friendly Gardens, school gardens, veggie workshops, plant sales, farmer's markets and other outreach programs in collaboration with many community programs. Megan is still a Lake Tahoe Master Gardener, just not the Coordinator.



I'd like to introduce myself as the new Lake Tahoe Master Gardener (LTMG)Coordinator. I have been a LTMG since 2015 when I retired here to South Shore. I officially joined the staff last month. 2021 has been a difficult year with Covid and Caldor. I hope you have managed to cope with all the adversity. Gardening has certainly help me through it all and I hope our shared love for gardening has uplifted you too.

The LTMG are hoping to increase our activities in the Basin as life goes back to normal in 2022. We will conduct more workshops, hold a plant sale and support school programs. Many Master Gardeners are now overwintering many native plants for the sale in June.

Enjoy the Fall colors!
Take care,

Mary Wall
Lake Tahoe Master Gardener Coordinator



[Register Now](#)

Grow Your Own - Garlic Workshop

Tue, Oct 12 | Zoom

High elevation gardening is tricky! Enjoy instruction from an expert who will cover planting, harvesting, river/lake friendly gardening techniques, biology discussions, and information on the history of this group of food crops.

This is the last of the 2021 workshops

Virtual class is FREE. Starter plants available for \$10.

Tips for Winterizing your Garden

Jen Cressy and Mary Wall
Lake Tahoe Master Gardeners

Fall is in full swing. Now is the time to winterize! Here are some tips for putting your garden to sleep in high elevation environments.

- Disconnect and drain all outdoor hoses
- Insulate exposed pipes or faucets
- Seal holes and cracks in exterior walls, foundation and around pipes
- Turn off and drain irrigation systems
- Find your home shut-off valve and shovel regularly throughout the winter
- If you don't have a home shut-off valve, considering installing one



Don't let yourself get disappointed by dead landscape plants in the spring. Dry winter months can damage and kill your plants through dehydration, especially **unestablished** plants **not insulated from exposure** by the snow and **established** lawns, trees, shrubs and flowers in **sunny windy or exposed areas**. No need to water when there is snow covering the ground.

When to water

- Choose a warm winter day with air temperature above 40 degrees F and unfrozen soil.
- Water one to two times per month from November to April.

- It is most critical to water in March and April when the new roots are forming
- Water at mid-day so it can soak in before it freezes.

How to water

- Use a hose-end sprinkler or hose end sprayer with automatic shut off since automatic sprinkler systems are off during the winter. **Do not turn on** your automated irrigation system.
- Remove the hose from the spigot after watering to prevent freeze damage.
- Water slowly so it can soak in.
- To figure out how long to water, put out cups to catch some of the water. Water until you can measure 0.5 to 1" deep in the cups.
- Protect your plant root from freeze-thaw damage with a nice layer of mulch.

For more information read this informative tip

sheet: <http://extension.colostate.edu/docs/pubs/garden/07211.pdf>



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