



University of California

Agriculture and Natural Resources

Master Gardener Program

University of California Cooperative Extension 2145 Wardrobe Ave. Merced, CA 95341-6445

November 2022 Merced Master Gardeners Public Newsletter

Happy upcoming holidays from the Master Gardeners, no matter what or how you celebrate.

Have gardening questions?
The Helpline Number is 209 385-7403.
The Helpline email is anrmgmerced@ucanr.edu

Master Gardeners will be at the Certified Farmer's Market on 16th and Canal for the final time this year on November 19th. Lots of vendors and maybe free seedlings from the Master Gardeners.

Page 2 has a schedule of Public Educational opportunities for the upcoming year. Check Merced Master Gardeners Facebook page for information.

Don't forget to check frost updates and protect your most delicate plants. Also, check outdoor pots to make sure they are not in standing water from the recent storm.

You are receiving this email because you provided your email address at a Master Gardener Event. If you do not wish to receive email from the Merced Master Gardeners, please let us know.

Happy Gardening!

Leaves are falling. It's time to make leaf mulch, mold, or compost.

Leaves have some nutritional value for plants, although they are not nutritional powerhouses. Instead of putting them in the landfill, use them to mulch your garden now or make leaf mold for next year's use. First, don't use walnut or eucalyptus as they may harm plants. Gather leaves from your trees, such as Mulberry, and shred them using either a lawnmower with a bag, or a leaf vacuum with a bag. You can put them in a garbage can and use a weed eater on them as well. Once they are shredded, spread the leaf mulch as you would any mulch. As the leaves decompose, they will add nutrients to the soil. Put them around the base of perennials to insulate the roots. This works best if the perennials are cut back for the winter. If you want to make leaf mold, then shred the leaves, place in a black plastic bag, poke a few holes in it, and set it in out of the way. Don't let it dry out completely. Check it after 6 months or a year, and you should have materials to use around trees and bushes. This will help the soil retain moisture. You can also use leaves in your compost pile whether you are hot composting or just letting the pile decompose slowly. No matter which method you choose, it's better for the environment than sending all those leaves to the landfill.



Master Gardeners of Merced County

Community Education Workshops – **2023** are scheduled for the second Saturday of each month.

MONTH		WORKSHOP	DAY	LOCA-TION	TIME
January	12	Roses	Thursday	Classroom	7-8:30pm
January	14	Roses	Saturday	Field	10-noon
January	26	Fruit Tree/Grape Pruning*	Thursday	Classroom	7-8:30pm
January	28	Fruit Tree/Grape Pruning*	Saturday	Field	10-noon
February	11	Seed Germination and Plant Propagation	Saturday	Classroom	10-noon
March	11	Bees and other Pollinators*	Saturday	Classroom	10-noon
April	8	Tomatoes and Preserving the Crop	Saturday	Classroom	10-noon
May	13	Lawn Removal - Substitution "natives"*	Saturday	Classroom	10-noon
June	24	Annual and Perennial Herbs	Saturday	Classroom	10-noon
July	8	Houseplants	Saturday	Classroom	10-noon
August	12	Citrus*	Saturday	Classroom	10-noon
September	9	Seed Saving*	Saturday	Classroom	10-noon
October	14	Fall and Winter Veggies	Saturday	Classroom	10-noon
November	11	Leaf Composting & Vermiculture	Saturday	Classroom	10-noon
December	9	Soils	Saturday	Classroom	10-noon

All speakers are encouraged to include comments about climate change, IPM, safety, companion planting, and irrigation in their comments where appropriate.

*Workshops are presented by community experts in their respective fields.



To find out more about the Master Gardeners Program, point your phone's camera at the QR code and follow the link.

Merced Master Gardeners

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