

Authorship for March 2017 Newsletter: **Steve Tjosvold**

UC Master Gardeners and Watsonville Demonstration Garden

Question: Tell me about the UC Master Gardeners Demonstration Garden and Classes.

Answer: The UC Master Gardeners, consisting of UC-trained volunteers, maintain a quarter acre Demonstration Garden for community educational purposes near the UC Cooperative Extension Office (1430 Freedom Blvd, Suite E, Watsonville). Currently there are vegetables, fruit trees, berries, and ornamentals planted in various raised and ground beds. The Demonstration Garden was established to provide hands-on community education for sustainable gardening practices. UC Master Gardeners “Cultivate Knowledge” by teaching irrigation, composting, integrated pest management (IPM), raised bed planting, pruning, weed management and more.

Question: Are there current workshops planned?

Answer: Yes, upcoming workshops include:

- February 25, 2017 Basics of Rose Care
- March 25, 2017 Chix in the City- Hens in the Hood
- April 22, 2017 Soil Prep for Your Vegetable Garden

All classes are 10 AM to noon. Check for class descriptions and future classes at the UC Master Gardener website: <http://mbmg.ucanr.edu/>

Question: How do you become a Master Gardener?

Answer: To be certified as a UC Master Gardener, applicants must successfully complete a comprehensive training program (over several months) and commit to volunteer their time to the local MG educational program and continue to maintain advanced horticultural and pest management training. The next training for a new crop of Master Gardeners begins in January of 2018. More information is available at:

http://mbmg.ucanr.edu/Learn_To_Be_A_Master_Gardener/