



Spring 2010

Celebrating 10 years

## ONGOING EVENTS

### **SAVE THE DATE - Mother's Day Brunch**

Sunday, May 9, 10 am and 1 pm

The Garden will host a delicious Mother's Day Brunch amidst the beauty of 5-acres of water smart plants. There will be two seating times, 10 am and 1 pm. Select vendors will be on hand offering lovely gifts for Mom. Please call 619-660-0614 x10 for more details and to make reservations. Space is limited, so reserve early.

### **Professional Landscape Design Consultations**

Thursday, February 18, 5:30 - 8:30 pm

Wednesday, February 24, 5:30 - 8:30 pm

Thursday, March 4, 5:30 - 8:30 pm

Thursday, March 18, 5:30 - 8:30 pm

Thursday, April 8, 5:30 - 8:30 pm

Thursday, April 22, 5:30 - 8:30 pm

The Water Conservation Garden offers 45-minute landscape design consultation services. A professional landscape designer who focuses on drought tolerant landscapes will meet with you, one-on-one. You will leave with a design plan and a list of suggested plants. Bring a photo of your house and area you want to re-design, the dimensions of the space, and photos of design styles you like. Call for appointment availability, designer information and reservations. Additional dates will be added as needed. *\$60 Members, \$75 Non-Members.*

Call 619-660-0614 x10.

### **Little Sprouts Play Group**

First Tuesday of the Month

Tuesday, February 2, 10:00 - 11:00 am

Tuesday, March 2, 10:00 - 11:00 am

Tuesday, April 6, 10:00 - 11:00 am

Join our education department for a guided play experience designed for toddlers and enjoy social networking with other caregivers. Each session includes an educational topic of interest for the adults, while the Little Sprouts enjoy each other's company in the outdoors along with a special activity. Meet at the main entrance to the Garden. Little Spouts will be canceled in the event of rain. *By reservation only; please call 619-660-6841. \$5 per adult/child couple, \$4 for additional child or adult in the same family group, children under age 1 are free. Minimum of 10 parent/child couples required. Book a date for your play group!*

### **New! Spanish Language Tours-FREE**

The Water Conservation Garden now offers Spanish language tours of the Garden, by reservation only. Please contact Elizabeth Ramos at 619-985-8337. (Donations always appreciated to cover the cost of our Spanish speaking guides.)

## Check Out What's New at the Garden

- Water Smart Pipeline; answering your horticultural questions. Tuesdays 8:30am-12 noon, Thursdays 1:00 pm-4:30 pm Toll Free 866-962-7021.
- We are offering special stimulus pricing for some of our classes! Get two registrations for the price of one (same household only, please) on all classes marked with an \*
- Our online newsletter, now available at [www.thegarden.org/newsletters.html](http://www.thegarden.org/newsletters.html).

### **Ms. Smarty-Plants® and the Magic of Water**

#### **School Assembly**

The Garden offers educational tours of the Garden and school assembly programs presented by our own adventurous Ms. Smarty-Plants! For more information on fees and to book a program, contact Pam Meisner, AKA Ms. Smarty-Plants®, at 619-660-0614 ext. 16.

## FEBRUARY

### **The Protea Species:**

#### **Exotic Options for Drought Tolerant Gardens**

Saturday, February 6, 10 am - noon

Walter Parkola, owner of Blossom Valley Protea, will take you on a morning tour to discuss the protea species exhibited at the Water Conservation Garden. Walter shares the history, characteristics, and care of these unique exotics in the Garden's classroom. A limited number of beautiful, high quality plants will be available for purchase from Blossom Valley Protea's nursery, and Door Prizes will be given away. *\$20 Members \$30 Non-Members. \* Stimulus pricing applies*

### **Ask the Horticulturist Tour-FREE**

Sunday, February 7, 1:30 pm

Enjoy an informative walk through the Garden with David Yetz, professional horticulturist. Bring your questions and Prepare for an interesting tour from the perspective of someone who works in the Garden daily.

### **Proper Pruning Practices**

Saturday, February 13, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Join Certified Arborist and Garden Docent Leah Rottke as she demonstrates the do's and don'ts of pruning. Leah will cover need-to-know basics for pruning both trees and shrubs, and use the Water Conservation Garden as a lab to analyze samples. Learn how to select a professional tree specialist when the project is more than you can handle. *\$20 Members \$30 Non-Members \* Stimulus pricing applies*

### **Meet Nan Sterman, Local Garden Expert and Author**

Have Your Gardening Questions Answered by Nan

Saturday, February 13, 11:00 am - 2:00 pm

Meet Nan Sterman, author of *California Gardener's Guide, Volume II*, as she answers questions about low water-use landscaping, plant selection, water conserving irrigation, landscape design and other garden-related topics. Nan will have signed copies of her books available for sale. Free!

### **Plant Propagation Made Easy**

Saturday, February 20, 9:30 am - 12:30 pm

Learn the secrets of the professionals, and get your plants for free. Everything you need to know about how to make new plants from cuttings will be taught by Connie Beck, experienced nursery manager and landscape designer. Learn successful techniques for preparing, storing, and planting seeds. Bring samples of plants and seeds that you wish to propagate. *This class is offered in partnership with Grossmont-Cuyamaca College District's Continuing Education Program. For information and to register, call 619-660-4350, or visit [www.cuyamaca.edu/preview](http://www.cuyamaca.edu/preview). \$25.00. At the Water Conservation Garden.*

### **Special Access Tour-FREE**

Sunday, February 21, 9:30 - 10:30 am

This special tour is offered monthly for individuals who may have difficulty navigating the terrain of the Garden. Explore the Garden from the comfort of the Verbeck Shuttle with David Yetz, Garden Horticulturist. This tour seats 4-5 people. For reservations call 619-660-6841.

### **NEW! Create a Butterfly Garden with California Native Plants**

Tuesday, February 23, 6:30 - 8:30 pm

If you plant it, they will come! Greg Rubin of California's Own Native Landscape Design Company will teach you how to design a butterfly garden using beautiful California native plants. Learn how to create a sustainable habitat to attract butterflies to your yard. *\$20 Members \$30 Non-Members*

### **Tune-up Your Irrigation and Dive into Drip!**

Saturday, February 27, 2:00 - 4:00 pm

Kathleen Eagle, former Director of Ornamental Horticulture at Barona Resort and Casino, teaches you how to tune up your existing irrigation to make it water smart. Kathleen will introduce you to drip irrigation, discuss the pros and cons, share the appropriate applications for drip, and demonstrate how to install a basic drip system. Get tips for retrofitting, setting your irrigation clock, and when and how long to water your landscape. *\$20 Members \$30 Non-Members. \*Stimulus pricing applies.*

## **MARCH**

### **A New California Garden**

Saturday, March 6, 9:00 am - noon

Not sure where to start? Landscape Designer Linda Whitney shares her process for creating an award-winning Water Smart landscape from the ground up. Learn the steps from design and plant selection to irrigation and maintenance principles. Linda will share her experiences through a comprehensive slide show detailing the evolution of her garden. Don't miss this practical and inspirational class! *\$20 Members \$30 Non-Members*

### **Ask the Horticulturist Tour-FREE**

Sunday, March 7, 1:30 pm

Enjoy an informative walk through the Garden with David Yetz, professional horticulturist. Bring your questions and prepare for an interesting tour from the perspective of someone who works in the Garden daily.

### **Bye Bye Grass! Part 1 at San Diego Botanical Garden**

(formerly Quail Botanical Gardens)

230 Quail Dr., Encinitas, CA. 92024,

Monday, March 8, 7:00 - 9:00 pm

Tired of being a slave to your water-thirsty lawn? Join Nan Sterman, gardening expert and host of the PBS show *A Growing Passion*, to learn how to eliminate your lawn for good. Nan will discuss turf removal options, including the pros and cons of chemical and non-chemical methods, and ways to physically remove grass. Learn how to prepare the soil for a new garden, along with lots of creative ideas on what to replace it with, in *Bye Bye Grass Part 2* on Saturday, March 13, 1:00-3:00 pm. *\$45 members \$50 Non-Members*

### **Bye Bye Grass! Part 2-at San Diego Botanical Garden**

(formerly Quail Botanical Gardens)

230 Quail Dr., Encinitas, CA. 92024,

Saturday, March 13, 1:00 - 3:00 pm

Your lawn is gone! What to do next? Find out with Nan Sterman, gardening expert and author of *California Gardener's Guide, Volume II*. Nan will discuss evaluating your irrigation system, deciding what kinds of spaces you need in your garden, and preparing the soil. She will offer creative ideas for beautiful, low water-use plantings. Using San Diego Botanical Garden (formerly Quail Botanical Gardens) as an outdoor classroom, Nan will guide you through living examples of Water Smart landscapes, show you interesting drought tolerant ground covers, and introduce you to a variety of hardscape options. *\$45 members \$50 Non-Members*

### **Designing Landscapes with Native Plants**

Thursday, March 11, 6:30 - 8:30 pm

Discover the variety and beauty of California native plants with Greg Rubin of California's Own Native Landscape Design. Learn the proper care and placement of drought-tolerant natives, and get ideas for designing your own home garden from Greg's stunning slide show of native plant landscapes. Register early, as this fun and inspiring class fills fast! *\$20 Members \$30 Non-Members*

### **NEW! Water Smart Edibles in Your Landscape**

Yes, you CAN grow fruit while conserving water!

Saturday, March 13, 10:00 am-noon

Join Garden Horticulturist David Yetz for an informative and delicious exploration of fruit that can be grown in a water conserving landscape. You'll be introduced to a variety of interesting edibles, enjoy a few samples, and see some of these plants growing in the Garden. Dave will discuss proper planting, drip irrigation and maintenance of these desirable plants that contribute more than just beauty to your landscape. *\$20 Members \$30 Non-Members \*Stimulus pricing applies*

## **NEW! Square Foot Gardening Growing Vegetables the Organic Way**

Saturday, March 13, 2:00 - 4:00 pm

Kathleen Eagle, former Director of Ornamental Horticulture at Barona Resort and Casino, will reintroduce you to Square Foot Gardening; a great way to make the most of your available gardening space while growing delicious, organic produce in your own backyard. Barona's horticulture team maintains a chef's garden for the resort's restaurants that mimics this intensive method of food production. Details for building a raised vegetable bed will be included. Square Foot Gardening is a great way to involve the whole family in growing healthy favorites in a limited space. *\$20 Members \$30 Non-Members*

*\* Stimulus pricing applies*

## **Water Smart Plant Fair**

Saturday, March 20, 9:00 am-3:00 pm

Join us at the Water Smart Plant Fair where vendors from throughout southern California will be selling drought tolerant plants perfectly suited to your San Diego garden. The bounty of choices will include native plants, water smart perennials, succulents, trees, shrubs, herbs, and more. Visit our "Ask the Experts" areas to get information from landscape designers, Master Composters, and other plant and gardening specialists who will help you cultivate your green thumb! Entries and information for San Diego County's Seventh-Annual California Friendly® Landscape Contest will be available. The Water Conservation Garden is the backdrop for this event where full-sized examples of plants you wish to purchase can be viewed in our landscape. Don't miss this water smart plant extravaganza! Program details can be viewed at [www.thegarden.org](http://www.thegarden.org).

## **Special Access Tour - FREE**

Sunday, March 21, 9:30 - 10:30 am

This special tour is offered monthly for individuals who may have difficulty navigating the terrain of the Garden. Explore the Garden from the comfort of the Verbeck Shuttle with David Yetz, Garden Horticulturist. This tour seats 4-5 people. For reservations call 619-660-6841.

## **Hillside Gardening**

Tuesday March, 30, 6:30 - 8:30 pm

Landscape Designer Connie Beck will show you how to make the most of gardening on a slope! Topics include erosion control, proper plant choices, terracing, and retaining walls. A colorful slideshow of several San Diego hillside gardens will reveal the creative possibilities unique to this style of gardening. *This class is offered in partnership with Grossmont-Cuyamaca College District's Continuing Education Program. For information and to register, call 619-660-4350, or visit [www.cuyamaca.edu/preview](http://www.cuyamaca.edu/preview). \$25.00. At the Water Conservation Garden.*

# **APRIL**

## **Toss the Turf: Less Water, Less Grass, More Fun!**

Saturday, April 3, 10:00 am - noon

Join Vickie Driver for a short course in turf removal. Get tips for evaluating soil and tuning up your irrigation system, as well as creative ideas for a beautiful, low-water-use landscape in lieu of a lawn. *\$20.00 members \$30.00 non-members*

*\* Stimulus pricing applies*

## **Ask the Horticulturist Tour**

Sunday, April 4, 1:30 pm

Enjoy an informative walk through the Garden with David Yetz, professional horticulturist. Bring your questions and prepare for an interesting tour from the perspective of someone who works in the Garden daily.

## **Water Smart Landscape:**

### **Beautiful Landscape on a Low-Water Budget**

Saturday, April 10, 10:00 am - noon

Landscape Designer Jan Tubiolo takes the mystery out of Water Smart landscaping. Learn seven principles of low water landscaping, and discuss plant selection and planting techniques. This workshop includes a classroom lecture and an interpretive tour of the Water Conservation Garden. *\$20 Members \$30 Non-Members \* Stimulus pricing applies*

## **Home Compost Workshop**

Saturday, April 10, 10:00 am - noon

Learn the basics of composting, using worms to compost, and how to save water in the landscape with compost and mulch. Workshop will be held at the Garden's compost demonstration exhibit. Master Composter Whitney Dueñez will answer your questions and teach you the basics of turning yard and kitchen waste into garden gold. Register early as this workshop is limited to 20 participants. *\$10 Members \$15 Non-Members*

## **Trees in the Water Conserving Landscape**

Saturday, April 17, 10:30 am - 12:30 pm

Join local Certified Arborist Leah Rottke for a crash course on trees. Leah will guide you through the basics; tree selection, planting do's and don'ts, watering new trees, maintaining established trees, and tree species best adapted to our arid climate. Class includes a tour and lively discussion of trees at the Water Conservation Garden. *\$20 Member \$30 Non-Members \* Stimulus pricing applies*

## **Special Access Tour - FREE**

Sunday, April 18, 9:30 - 10:30 am

This special tour is offered monthly for individuals who may have difficulty navigating the terrain of the Garden. Explore the Garden from the comfort of the Verbeck Shuttle with David Yetz, Garden Horticulturist. This tour seats 4-5 people. For reservations call 619-660-6841.

## **17<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Garden Festival**

Saturday, April 24, 9:00 am-4:00 pm

Join the Water Conservation Garden, Cuyamaca College's Ornamental Horticulture Department, and the Heritage of the Americas Museum as we celebrate spring and our green future. "Conservation in Bloom" is our event's theme, and our Conservation Courtyard will feature tips on green living from experts. The college will host its biggest plant sale of the year, and Eric Runningpath and the Intertribal Dancers will perform at the Museum. Ask the Designers, the Water Smart Plaza, and live entertainment will be featured at the Garden. Children's activities and horticultural information will be part of the fun throughout the day. For program details, please visit [www.thegarden.org](http://www.thegarden.org).



# FRIENDS OF THE GARDEN

## MEMBERSHIP ENROLLMENT

Please make checks payable to the Friends of the Water Conservation Garden and send your enrollment with payment to The Water Conservation Garden, 12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West, El Cajon, CA 92019. You can also join at [www.thegarden.org](http://www.thegarden.org). For more information, call 619-660-0614 x10.

I would like to register at the level indicated:

- Student \$20
- Basic \$40
- Supporting \$60
- Sustaining \$120
- Patron \$250
- Benefactor \$500
- Conservationist \$1000

I would like to support the Garden with an additional donation of \$\_\_\_\_\_.

I am interested in becoming a Docent or Volunteer

\_\_\_\_\_ Name

\_\_\_\_\_ Address

\_\_\_\_\_ City/State/Zip Code

\_\_\_\_\_ Telephone Number

\_\_\_\_\_ Email Address

**Benefits**

**Student**  
Free Newsletters  
Free Garden Admission

**Basic**  
Same as above, plus  
Gift shop: 10% Discount  
Classes/Events: Free or discounted admission

**Supporting**  
Same as above, plus  
Facility rentals: 10% Discount, up to \$25 annually

**Sustaining**  
Same as above, plus  
Facility rentals: 10% Discount, up to \$50 annually

**Patron**  
Same as above, plus  
Engraved brick paver in garden pathway  
Facility rentals: 10% Discount, up to \$125 annually

**Benefactor**  
Same as above, plus  
Engraved brick paver in garden plaza  
Facility rentals: 20% Discount, up to \$250 annually

**Conservationist**  
Same as above, plus  
Facility rentals: 30% Discount, up to \$500 annually  
Posting on Garden Web Site  
Individual Consultation with Director of Horticulture

### Our Mission Statement:

“Promoting water conservation in the southern California landscape through excellent exhibits and programs that educate and inspire the public.”

Open 7 days a week from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. Docent Tours; Sat. 10:30 am and Sun. 1:30pm.

**Summer Hours:** Tuesday-Sunday 9:00am to 4:00pm, Wednesday 9:00am to 7:00pm.

♻️ Printed on recycled paper

Conservation Champions (Metropolitan Water District of Southern CA; Cox Conserves/We Stand 4; Saturn of San Diego)

Sweetwater Authority  
San Diego County Water Authority  
Olay Water District  
Helix Water District  
Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District  
City of San Diego

### MEMBER AGENCIES

AT CUYAMACA COLLEGE  
Phone 619/660.0614  
Fax 619/660.1687  
[www.thegarden.org](http://www.thegarden.org)



The Water Conservation Garden