



University of California

Agriculture and Natural Resources

UCCE Master Gardener Program

San Mateo & San Francisco Counties

EVENTS

GARDEN EDUCATION CENTER UPDATE



The Garden Education Center (GEC) at the San Mateo Event Center is now a UC Master Gardener experiment for Bermuda grass eradication and soil structure improvement. The soil at the GEC is compacted with little diversity of microbial life which is a perfect situation for weedy plants, including Bermuda grass. To overcome this problem, a diversity of cool season cover crops were chosen to grow over winter: fava beans, crimson clover, berseem clover, Austrian winter peas, common vetch, lupine, daikon radish and phacelia. The cover crops were chosen from

the [California Cover Crop Chart](#) prepared by the Natural Resources Conservation Services (NRCS). These plants will add carbon to feed the soil life, help winter rain move deeper into the soil, outcompete the weeds, break up compaction, support and increase microbial life, and develop worm populations. Prior to sowing the seeds, the GEC land was cleared of mulch, visible Bermuda grass, and graded. The seeds were planted in October 2018, a compost extract was sprinkled over the seeds, and then the seeds were covered with compost. Within days the seeds started germinating and the GEC is now a blanket of green. While the GEC is not currently open to the public, you are welcome to come by and take a look. The Garden Education Center is next to the parking lot for the Jockey Club, enter from So. Delaware Street gate in San Mateo as the GEC borders Saratoga Drive. Stay tuned as our experiment continues.

GARDENING TIPS

Plant Problem Diagnostic Tool

Choose the affected plant from photos displayed, click on the photo, remove any selections that do not apply, click on the plant names, and continue to filter selections to view the results for a possible diagnoses. [Learn more.](#)

Gardening Resources

Select links to access gardening resources, California Backyard Orchard, Integrated Pest Management (IPM), publications, and finding a local Master Gardener program. [Learn more.](#)

YOUTUBE VIDEOS



Cool Season Cover Crops for California Gardens

Learn how to retain nutrients, build soil structure, and reduce diseases by using fall and winter cover crops in California Bay Area gardens. [View Video.](#)

[View videos](#) created by the UC San Mateo/San Francisco Master Gardener Program.

FREE CLASSES & CLINICS



Bare Root Planting

Veterans Memorial Senior Center
1455 Madison Avenue, Gold Star Room
Redwood City, CA
November 3, 2018, 10:00am-12:00pm

Bare root is the best way to plant fruit trees in the home garden, and winter is the time of year. In this class you will learn how to buy bare root fruit trees, prepare for and plant bare root fruit trees, and perform basic fruit tree care and maintenance. [Registration](#) required.



Create Unique Holiday Decorations with Succulents

Fair Oaks Active Adult Gardening Education
2600 Middlefield Road
Redwood City, CA
November 9, 2018, 11:00am-12:00pm

Discover the properties that make succulent plants uniquely suited to creating long-lasting holiday decorations. You'll apply the elements and principles of design taught in the class to create a special holiday decoration. Please bring some succulent cuttings to share and swap with fellow participants, and a small pumpkin, pine cone or other holiday-related items you would like to incorporate into your decoration. No registration required.



Plant Spring Flowering Bulbs in Fall for Carpets of Color in Spring!

Lyngso Garden Materials, Inc.
345 Shoreway Road
San Carlos, CA
November 17, 2018, 10:00am-12:00pm

Come learn about the Hidden World of Bulbs. How do some gardeners paint their garden canvases with colorful bulbs? Tips will be shared for proper selection, planting, and care of bulbs. Come learn why planting them in the fall or the month of November is an ideal planting time to ensure that you will have carpets of color in your garden for the Springtime! [Registration](#) required.



Native Plants in Two Home Landscapes

Lyngso Garden Materials, Inc.
345 Shoreway Road
San Carlos, CA
November 17, 2018, 1:00pm-3:00pm

Two master gardeners whose passions are California native plants will share their experiences planning, planting and establishing near decade-old home landscapes. One is in a riparian setting near San Francisquito Creek and Portola Valley; and the other in the originally oak woodland setting of The Willows of Menlo Park. Specific topics will include plant changes through the seasons, care for optimal habitat use, propagation and basic use of planning resources that are available on line. [Registration](#) required.



San Mateo Arboretum Plant Clinic

San Mateo Central Park, Kohl Pump House
101 9th Avenue
San Mateo, CA
November 4, 2018, 11:00am-2:00pm

From a table stocked with reference materials, the public is assisted with plant and gardening questions. This plant clinic is held on the first Sunday of the month, February-November, but if that date falls on a holiday weekend, the plant clinic is held on the second Sunday. No registration required.

San Francisco 30th Street Plant Clinic

225 30th Street
(between Church/Dolores)
San Francisco, CA
November 10, 2018, 10:00am-12:00pm

Master Gardeners are available to answer your plant and gardening questions, ranging from general information to advice about specific problems. Parking is limited. When you arrive at the Senior Center, take the elevator to the 3rd floor and ask directions to the garden. It is all the way down the hallway and out the back door. No registration required.

[View Entire Calendar of Events](#)

HELPLINE

Ask a UC Master Gardener! Our Helpline assists home gardeners with questions about gardening and pest management. Visit us in two locations from 9:00am-4:00pm on Mondays at Elkus Ranch, 1500 Purisima Creek Road, Half Moon Bay, or on Thursdays at Veterans Memorial Senior Center, 1455 Madison Avenue, Redwood City. You can also contact us at (650) 276-7403 or by [email](#). For more information view our [website](#) or read more about the [Helpline](#).



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