Master Gardener
University of California Cooperative Extension

The Curious Gardener

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In This Issue

UCCE

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Agriculture and Natural Resources

Gardening in Placer County
A Different Kind of Gold

By Laurie Meyerpeter, UC Master Gardener of Placer County

Gold made Placer County but the long term riches came from the land, not the ore. Placer County is steeped in agricultural gold and that gold enriches us as gardeners today.

Placer County elevation climbs from near sea level to the mountains. West Placer County is a low region, a place teeming with migratory waterfowl in the winter and vernal pools ringed with wildflowers in the spring. The clay soil holds water but modern gardeners in places like west Lincoln and west Roseville struggle with drainage issues, while farmers grow rice in those wet soils, just beyond the city limits.

Rivers yielded gold ore, but the land of Placer County has produced botanical riches for thousands of years. Photo by Elaine Kelly Applebaum.

Oaks grow throughout the foothills of most of western Placer County. Redbud pops magenta-pink in the spring, wildflowers fill grasslands, and toyon sparkles with red berries in the winter. Farmers grow fruit trees and mandarins on the foothill slopes. The American River rushes down the American River Canyon, dividing our county from El Dorado County and the Bear River tumbles through the hills, dividing us from Nevada and Yuba Counties. In times past, salmon migrated up small creeks to spawn. As the elevation increases, oak and pine woodlands transition to mixed conifer forests.

Before gold was discovered, native peoples hunted and gathered food in our rich and abundant landscape, tending oaks to make harvesting the acorns easier and managing native plants to encourage better growth for baskets.

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The first non-native farmers and gardeners in Placer County were Theodore Sicard, a Frenchman who settled along the Bear River near present day Sheridan, and his fellow countryman Claude Chana. They planted the first peach and almond trees and grew wheat. With the discovery of gold, Chana left to search for riches, discovered gold in the Auburn Ravine, enough to purchase Sicard's ranch.

The population of the region exploded with the discovery of gold and the influx of gold miners from around the world. Auburn was built on gold, and the river banks yielded gold ore but the real gold came from the earth as men turned to farming. Orchards of pears, plums and other fruit were planted in the foothills. Grain was planted in fields in the Lincoln area and livestock was grazed in the rich pastures.

As the first railroads were built in the region, the town of Lincoln was laid out as an early railroad junction. The Transcontinental Railroad was built over the Sierras in the 1860s to transport goods including foothill fruit, and packing sheds were built along the tracks in communities like Newcastle and Loomis to ship the fruit back east. Canneries were built in communities like Lincoln to process local fruit and vegetables from the region. Towns like Colfax and Rocklin became railroad towns. The large railyard was initially in Rocklin but was moved to Roseville in 1908, where foothill fruit was packed in train cars and cooled with ice from the new ice house at the Roseville railyard before being shipped to the East Coast.

Railyard workers, and laborers in other industries in Roseville, Rocklin, Lincoln, and other towns, built small comfortable homes with tidy yards brimming with flowers in the front and a vegetable garden in the back. Gold mining eventually played out, but Penryn and Rocklin continued to mine granite, and fine clay was mined in Lincoln by the Gladding McBean factory, which turned it into terracotta pipes, pottery, and sculpture.

Above: Back view of Rocklin's 2nd Southern Pacific Depot and Orange Grove. Note orange trees on the left and possible young peach tree in the right foreground. Photograph courtesy of Placer County Museums.

As time passed, pears began to decline from disease and the fruit orchards were replaced with orchards of mandarins, covering our local hills with trees that are laden with golden citrus each fall. Placer County is a unique growing region with winter temperatures cold enough for fruit that needs a winter chill but warm enough for citrus. Sheridan and Western Placer began to grow rice in the clay bottom lands covering areas where vast vernal pools ringed with wildflowers once grew. And housing tracts began to grow in fields where cattle once grazed and where orchards of pears once produced fruit. Nursery products grew as an agricultural product to supply the new rows of homes with plants for their gardens. The smaller homes of railroad workers and laborers began to be replaced with larger homes throughout the region, especially in places like Granite Bay, and vineyards were planted on sunny foothill slopes where native oaks once grew.

Gold and granite and clay. Plums and pears and mandarins. Railroads and fruit packing sheds and ice houses. Housing tracts and nurseries. These are all part of our golden heritage.

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- Angel, Myron. *History of Placer County*. Thompson and West. 1882.
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- Hanes , Richard and Chet Blackburn. *Our Ecology*. Redbud Chapter CNPS. July 4, 2020. https://chapters.cnps.org/redbud/native-plants/ecology/.
- "Railroad." Roseville Historical Society. https://www.rosevillehistorical.org/railroad.

Important Invasive Species Updates from UC IPM

Adapted from UC Master Gardener Program Statewide Blog, August 3, 2022
by Karey Windbiel-Rojas, Associate Director for Urban & Community IPM

Invasive pest species threaten California's natural environment and can have an impact on public health. Learn to recognize these pests, distinguish them from look-alikes, and how to limit their introduction, spread, and harm.

For any of the pests below, please report a finding to your local County Agricultural Commissioner or to the CDFA Report a Pest Hotline.

Emerald Ash Borer

The emerald ash borer (or EAB) is an invasive insect that has been found for years in numerous states across the country, but until recently had not been found on the West Coast. In June 2022, EAB was detected in Oregon. This insect feeds on all species of ash trees and has the potential to devastate whole communities of trees. UC IPM is working on a new web page to cover EAB, but for the time being, please see the California Department of Food and Agriculture website for information about its biology and national distribution.

Emerald ash borer on a leaf. Photo by Stephen Ausmus, USDA.

Spotted Lanternfly

In California, we've been on the lookout for the spotted lanternfly (SLF) for several years. In July 2022, a truck carrying firewood into California from New Jersey (I know, why?) was inspected at a CDFA Border Inspection Station in Truckee and the wood was found to be carrying egg masses of SLF. The wood was destroyed but this is a significant detection.

Be aware of the danger of moving firewood from place to place within the state and especially across state borders. Firewood can harbor many types of invasive pests including SLF but also invasive shothole borers, gold-spotted oak borers, and other very hard to see invasive insects and diseases.

Adult spotted lanternfly next to adult lady beetle. Egg masses of SLF are to the immediate right of the lady beetle. Photo by Richard Gardner, Bugwood.org.

Jumping worm/crazy worm

The invasive jumping worm (*Amynthas agrestis*) has many common names: Alabama jumpers, Jersey wrigglers, wood eel, crazy worms, snake worms, Asian jumping worm, and crazy snake worms. The jumping worm has been found in Napa and Sonoma Counties. This invasive worm is similar-looking to the common earthworm but thrashes wildly and is said to jump as much as one foot off the ground.

Like other earthworms, jumping worms eat fallen leaves and other natural material on the ground. However, these worms are voracious eaters and eat so much of the soil "litter" layer, they eat the tiny natural organisms in this layer almost clearing the top soil layer of all life. Many plants can't grow or spread without the layer of leaf litter plus this disrupts the ecosystem of the leaf litter.

Invasive earthworm Amynthas agrestis [tentative ID]. Photo by Tom Potterfield. Copyright 2011. Cropped. CC BY-NC-SA 2.0

Read more about this worm in this article by Oregon State University. Check out a video of these worms from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

UC is on the lookout for many other invasive species and are trying to manage the spread around the state. You can subscribe to the UC IPM Home & Garden Pest Newsletter, Pests in the Urban Landscape blog, and social media platforms (@ucipmurban) to ensure you are receiving timely updates and news.

Other useful resources for these invasive pests and many others:

UC IPM Invasive and Exotic Pests web page

Center for Invasive Species Research at UC Riverside

Urban & Community IPM webinars

CDFA Target Pest web page

Nevada County Demonstration Garden News

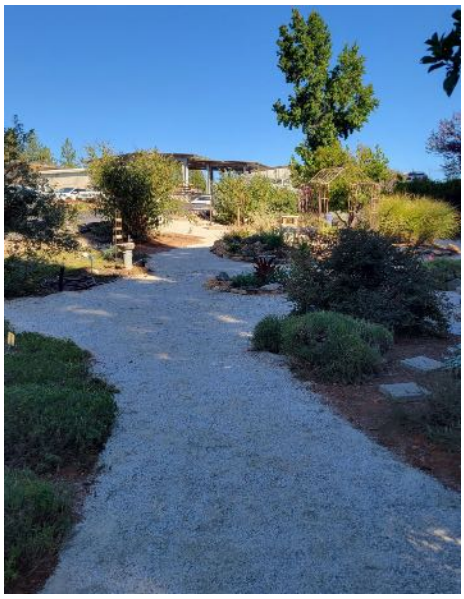
by Ann Wright, UC Master Gardener of Nevada County

As the leaves begin to turn and the temperature cools, the Demonstration Garden has been a hotspot of activity the past several weeks. Some big news is that we now have electricity available at new key locations in the garden.

We'd like to extend our appreciation and huge thanks to the Nevada Irrigation District for their assistance and crews to trench for the electrical conduit and re-gravel the area. With the help of a local electrician, power is now available in the pavilion (the outside location where we conduct workshops and other events) and the hoop house, which will now enhance our ability to start and grow plants for our plant sales. NID did a wonderful job putting everything in the garden back in place – once they finished, it was hard to tell they were even there!

With the goal of creating a peaceful garden which the public can view from Main Street, work is underway to revamp the pergola area at the lower end of our garden. The old grasses have been removed and, the old oak tree has been trimmed. Plans are to accent the area with a focal tree or shrubs, and vines that have beauty and interest all three seasons.

More excitement has also arrived in the form of new interpretive signs for the garden areas. The signs are beautiful, informative and ready to be installed soon.



Above left: NID Crews trench for electrical conduit to be laid from top to hoop house. Photo by Denise Ronalter.

Above right: After completion of the project it looked like nothing had been disturbed! Photo by Ann Wright.

Right: Chrissy Freeman and Sandy Irber welcome new signs. Photo by Jan Friend.

BotLat Corner

Winter Food

by Peggy Beltramo, UC Master Gardener of Placer County

For the winter *Curious Gardener*, let's talk about two California native plants that are winter food sources.

Arctostaphylos uva-ursi is commonly referred to as manzanita in California, in reference to its berries—shaped like "little apples." Bearberry is a common name in other parts of the US. Appropriately, the genus name comes from the Greek words *arctos*, meaning bear, and *staphyle*, denoting a bunch of grapes, referring to the berries which cluster in bunches, and are commonly eaten by bears. The specific epithet uses Latin words—*uva* meaning grape and *ursus* meaning bear; thus "bear's grape," also denoting the fruit as bear food. Bearberry, its common name? Yep, it tells the same story. Okay, so you don't have bears in your yard? It is also a food source for game birds, turkeys, deer, and small mammals. And the flowers are attractive to pollinators when in bloom, from winter into spring.

Another late season plant, *Salvia mellifera*, or black sage is a favorite pollinator plant, since it blooms from late winter, through spring and into summer to feed late and early garden visitors. The genus *Salvia* takes its name from the Latin, *salveo*, meaning to save, or heal, while its specific epithet *mellifera* is Latin for honey, referring to its use by bees as a nectar source. It also has historical medicinal uses by Native Americans.

So, there are two more plants to add to your "I Need These" plant list.

Manzanita. Photo by Vernon Smith. Cropped. (CC BY-NC-ND 3.0)

Winter Garden To-dos Include Weeds, Daffodils

by Lexy Martin, UC Master Gardener of Placer County
Originally published in Auburn Journal, Dec. 18, 2021

I admit it. I often write about what I need to be doing in MY garden. What's on my mind? I'm seeing lots of weeds in my new drought-tolerant landscape. I'm thinking I need to be getting the 200 extra daffodil bulbs I accidentally bought into the ground (ordered twice). I'm thinking my raised garden beds, without winter veggies, need care. I'm even starting to think about preparing for my spring garden.

So, here's some advice from my research:

Weeds: When we extracted our lawn to go "native," we needed to add soil to bring it back up to the same level. In my fervor to plant native, we planted a few poppies – beautiful but a big mistake for a small front yard. With the recent rain, I now have some raging baby poppies.

It turns out California poppy plants are aggressive re-seeders. While I love the natural look of poppies, I don't like how they look when they die off, as they look like weeds.

So, I did some research on how to get rid of poppies. (Pulling poppies is not all that easy, as they have a massive tap root.) I learned a lot about getting rid of weeds by looking at the Integrated Pest Management site of UC. Check out the Weed Gallery and Pesticides for Home Users if you too want to control weeds.

Daffodils: I'm a bit late to plant these. Ideally, these go into the ground by the end of November. I've planted as late as January and they come up, just a bit later than others in the neighborhood. This article provides information on when and how to plant many spring bulbs: https://ucanr.edu/sites/sacmg/Sacramento_Bulb_Planting_Schedule/.

Leave leaves in place as a free mulch. Photo by David Rosen.

Planting bulbs, for me, is such a hopeful activity in the late fall, as I know I'll have great spring color in my garden.

For my raised beds, I'm taking out and storing the hoses. I'm amending my soil because what we put in last year is too dense. My beds need organic compost.

I also found an excellent article that put my mind at rest about other things I might do in my yard now. Ideas like, "If it's brown, cut it down," and "leaf it be" because leaves make excellent free mulch. Read this article: https://arboretum.ucdavis.edu/blog/winter-gardening-northern-california.

When I set about doing research for gardening, my go-to sources include UC Master Gardeners of Placer County, UC Integrated Pest Management, and UC Davis Sustainable Gardening. I also reference my *Placer County 2023 Calendar and Gardening Guide*, which you can order here or purchase from local vendors.

As for preparing for my spring garden, I think I'll take the "leaf it be" advice for now and get back to that in a couple of months.

Happy holidays all!

Unusual Edibles: Aztec Broccoli Anyone?

Article and photo by Julie Lowrie, UC Master Gardener of Placer County

Aztec broccoli or *huauzontle* (wah-zont-lay) from the Aztec language, Nahuatl, means hairy Amaranth. Huauzontle, *Chenopodium nuttalliae*, a native cultivar in Mexico, has been a highly prized and nutritious food staple for Mexico's indigenous peoples for centuries, dating back to the pre-Hispanic Aztec empire where it was used in cultural, religious, and culinary practices. According to one study, *Chenopodium nuttalliae* originated from *Chenopodium quinoa*, known as quinoa, as it made its way from South America into Mexico.

While leaves, branches, flowers, and seeds are all edible, huauzontle is primarily cultivated by indigenous gardeners in Placer County for its leaves and sprigs of florets (flowering branches) which resemble broccolini, for use as an herb or a vegetable in traditional Mexican cuisine, such as huauzontle pancakes or relleno.

Huauzontle is a hardy, drought-resistant perennial, requiring minimal care, and thrives well even in poor soil. The plant can grow up to six feet high with a three foot spread producing red-tinged green leaves and flowering branches during the spring and summer. Huauzontle continues to produce additional florets after initial harvests.

This study showed boiling the leaves and florets for five minutes or less for food preparation reduces oxalic acid levels while retaining an appreciable content of dietary fiber, ascorbic acid, and good antioxidant capacity.

Hotline FAQs

Have gardening questions?
Contact a Master Gardener!

Placer County
530-889-7388
or submit a question electronically

Nevada County
530.273.0919
or submit a question electronically

Which Drought and Heat Tolerant Trees Can I Plant for Shade?

By Laurie McGonagill, UC Master Gardener of Placer County

With the prolonged heat spell in late summer, I've decided to plant a shade tree. Which trees are drought and heat tolerant and grow in full sun? Since the weather stayed unseasonably warm through mid-October, is it too late to plant in winter?

A tree is a long-term investment, so you need to consider several factors. Are there overhead lines? Do you have a large space to fill or a small neighborhood property? Do you want to attract birds and insects? Are you interested in bloom, bark, and other esthetics?

Let's assume you want a deciduous tree. That way you'll have shade in the spring, summer, and early fall, and sun in winter when you want it. Until the tree is established, you'll need to provide regular water (and possibly shade in the hot season) for several years.

Fall color of Chinese pistache. Photo by Pamela Geisel

For medium-sized trees, 20–35 feet, look at Chinese pistache tree (*Pistacia chinensis*), Persian witch hazel (*Parrotia persica*), Chinese fringe tree (*Chionanthus retusus*) or Shantung maple (*Acer truncatum*).

For best root growth, plant in fall to take advantage of rains and still-warm soils. You can plant trees in winter, but it is a bit of a gamble. If the tree is affected by frost, delay planting. Cold ground makes it very hard for a newly planted tree's roots to get purchase, although mulching with three to four inches of wood chips helps moderate the soil temperature. Planting in early spring is a better bet if you can't wait for next fall.

For more information on tree selection, refer to this article and for details on planting, click here.

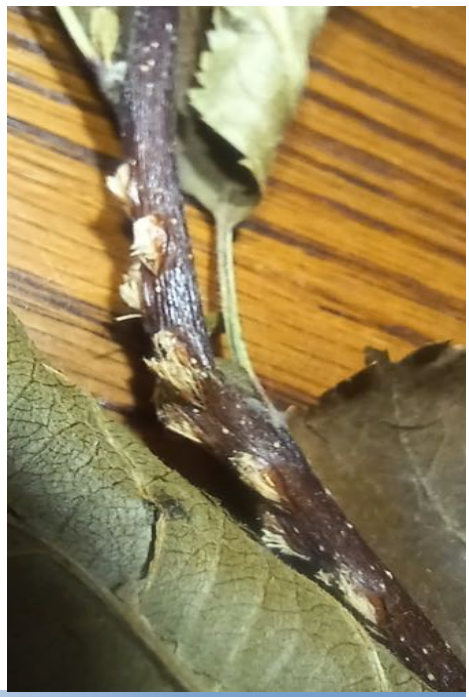
Insect Trivia: The Wonderful World of Cicadas

by Bonnie Bradt, UC Master Gardener of Nevada County

Everyone has heard about cicadas, but there are lots of confusing rumors that as Master Gardeners we'd like to defuse. We are asked about them, as they are found in our area. But just how much damage do they do? Where are they found? How can you tell if you have them? And are they delicious????? Lots of things to learn. So here are some "trivia-l" questions for you, on the subject of cicadas.

1) True or False: Cicadas are most closely related to grasshoppers.
2) True or False: Cicadas are only found in North America and Europe.
3) There are _____ types of cicadas, defined by the amount of time that they spend in "dormancy" waiting to emerge and mate.
4) True or false: The cicadas in Nevada County can do major damage to fruit trees.
5) True or false: Male cicadas are the only ones who "sing".
6) True or false: The cicada song sounds similar to a cricket.
7) Mated female cicadas lay their eggs…
   a) in the soil b) in the water c) on leaves d) in tree branches
8) After eggs hatch, where do the larvae spend their dormancy, before emerging to mate? a) in the soil b) in the water c) on leaves d) in tree branches
9) What is pictured in the photo at right?
10) Can cicadas be eaten by humans?

Answers on next page



Teucrium fruticans
Bush Germander

by Brooke Moeller, UC Master Gardener of Placer County

Have you ever wished for a drought tolerant plant that blooms nearly all year, attracts beneficial insects, has fragrant leaves, and is generally not eaten by deer? That's a big wish list, but bush germander (*Teucrium fruticans*), may just be your 'dream plant'. This evergreen shrub has abundant blue-purple flowers and attracts beneficial insects, like lady beetles and lacewings. Beneficial insects help control unwanted pests like aphids and whiteflies (ick!).

Bush germander, also called tree germander, can grow to four to eight feet tall and wide, making it a good choice for a low, informal hedge. It can get a little 'leggy' but is easy to thin and cut back. Like many drought-tolerant plants, bush germander has fragrant, gray-green leaves with a white underside, which gives it a silvery appearance.

Try combining it with other drought tolerant plants like sage (*Salvia* sp.), tickseed (*Coreopsis verticillata* 'Moonbeam') or yarrow (*Achillea millefolium* 'Moonshine'). This shrub prefers full sun for best flowering results. Once established, it needs very little water. It is not prone to disease problems.

Pick up a lovely bush germander at your next outing to the nursery or plant sale. It will enhance any water-wise landscape and is easy to care for.

Read more about this plant here.

Photo courtesy of Sherrie Althouse.

Cicada Trivia Answers

1) FALSE. Actually, cicadas are most closely related to leafhoppers or froghoppers. They are in a completely different order than grasshoppers and crickets. Cicadas are Order Hemiptera or True Bugs and Grasshoppers, etc. are Order Orthoptera (meaning Straight Wings).

2) FALSE. Cicadas (3,000 species worth) are found on every continent of the globe except Antarctica. Wherever there are trees… mostly deciduous trees.

Adult cicada, probably a wide-headed or woodland cicada.
Photo by Jack Kelly Clark

3) Two. There are two different types of cicadas based on the periods of dormancy they undergo before emergence to mate. The first is called "annual" and on the average, these insects come out yearly, to find a mate. The second type is called "periodic" and those are the cicadas that are so famously reported in histories of the insect world. The periodic cicadas emerge from dormancy once every 13 or 17 years. These broods are carefully studied by entomologists who plot carefully the timing of their emergence and wait for them to come out. They emerge from the ground under trees, by the millions, and crawl up the trees, shed their skins and then mate, lay their eggs and die. To be followed in 13 or 17 years by the emergence of their offspring. Nevada County only has the annual type of cicada. Periodic cicadas in the USA are found back East.

4) FALSE. In general, cicadas do not do major damage to the trees they inhabit, here. Both adults and nymphs have sucking mouthparts and enjoy sucking the sap from tree branches, but while they may creep some people out, cicadas are not dangerous. They don't chew through crops, they are not poisonous, they don't sting or bite and they are not known to carry disease. The numbers we have here are not the millions that are present in the emergence broods they have back East.

5) TRUE, mostly. In almost all cicada species, it is the males who sing to attract a mate. But there are a few Asian species where both sexes sing.

6) FALSE. The cicada songs, in general, sound much more like a rattlesnake than the lovely cricket melodies that we are used to hearing. A tiny little tree-dwelling rattlesnake. It's a dry crackling hissing noise that is often so loud is can be heard a very long way away.

Continued on next page

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7) Mated females make slits in tree branches and lay their eggs right under the surface. The eggs incubate in the branch and then emerge as nymphs a month or two later.

8) After the eggs hatch and the nymphs emerge, they drop onto the ground and burrow into the soil, where they incubate through the winter until the next year, when most will come up and shed their skins, become adults and mate.

9) The photo is of a series of cicada emergence holes from the small branch of a plum tree in Nevada County. You can see that mom cicada makes slits and lays her eggs in a fairly regular pattern as she walks down the branch. And they all hatch at the same time, leaving this pattern in their wake.

10) Cicadas were eaten in ancient Greece and modern China. Especially the juicy nymphs. They are also eaten in Malaysia, Burma, North America, and central Africa, as well as the Balochistan region of Pakistan. Females are supposed to be meatier and there are YouTube videos that will teach you how to prepare them. They are considered a novelty food item even here in the USA especially during a 13 or 17 year emergence when millions of them are available. Nope, I've never tried them!!!

References

- Simon, Chris and John R. Cooley. *Advances in the Evolution and Ecology of Thirteen- and Seventeen-year periodical cicadas, Annual Review of Entomology*. Vol. 67: pp. 457–482. 2022.
- Milne, Lorus and Margery Milne. *The Audubon Society Field Guide to North American Insects and Spiders*. Alfred A Knopf. 1992.

Gophers: Eating Machines

by Jan Birdsall, UC Master Gardener of Placer County

California has five different species of pocket gophers, the most widespread is *Thomomys bottae*. Its physical description is here. Within a short period of time, gophers can ruin a garden without you even realizing it. Not only do they mostly feed below ground both night and day, sometimes pulling down whole plants, they also gnaw on roots, strip bark on trees and damage flexible plastic watering systems.

It is critical to detect a gopher's presence early in order to minimize damage to your plantings. Their year-round underground burrowing in the pursuit of food leaves unsightly fan shaped mounds of excavated soil in lawns and gardens. In non-irrigated fields gophers can breed once a year but if irrigated they can produce up to three litters per year, each litter with approximately five to six offspring.

Characteristic crescent-shaped mound and plugged burrow opening of a pocket gopher, Thomomys sp. Photo by Jack Kelly Clark.

A homeowner can consider installing two feet of hardware cloth or ¾" or less poultry wire fencing as a below ground boundary. Detailed information is contained in this UC IPM article under *Management: Exclusion*. When planting individual bushes and trees, gardeners can use a homemade or commercial gopher wire basket. Likewise, when constructing flower or vegetable garden beds use the same cloth/wire to line the bottom and sides. Residential control measures include poison baiting and trapping, or both. Refer to instructions in the same article under *Trapping*. Application of these measures are applied to their active main tunneling system.

Not to worry, being forewarned and forearmed will win out against the gopher!

References:

- *Pocket Gophers*. The National Wildlife Federation. N.d. https://www.nwf.org/Educational-Resources/Wildlife-Guide/Mammals/Pocket-Gophers
- Bidwell, Terrence. *Controlling Pocket Gophers*. Oklahoma State University Extension, I.d.: NREM-9001, February 2017. https://extension.okstate.edu/fact-sheets/controlling-pocket-gophers.html

Workshop and Events Calendar

Always check our websites for the most up to date event information.

Nevada County: ncmg.ucanr.org

Placer County: pcmg.ucanr.org

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Placer County https://www.facebook.com/PlacerCountyMasterGardeners
Nevada County https://www.facebook.com/UCCEmastergardeners.nevadacounty/

December

December 10
10:30 am to 11:30 am
Orchid-Mania: How to Buy and Care for Orchids
Loomis Library, 6050 Library Drive
Or Attend via Zoom, pre-register in advance by clicking here

January

January 14
10:30 am to 11:30 am
Top 10 Tips for Backyard Orchards
Loomis Library, 6050 Library Drive

January 21
10:00 am to noon
Roses for a Changing Climate
Roseville Utility Exploration Center, 1501 Pleasant Grove Blvd., Roseville
Pre-register here

SAVE THE DATE:

Saturday March 11, 2023
2:00 to 3:30 pm.

A very special live, in-person program by Jennifer Jewell, Northern California author and podcast host of *Cultivating Place: Conversations on Natural History and the Human Impulse to Garden*.

Offered jointly by Master Gardeners of Nevada County and Redbud Chapter of California Native Plant Society.

Peace Lutheran Church, 828 W. Main St., Grass Valley.

February

Nevada County Master Gardener workshops for February are pending. Please check our website after the first of the year for updated information.

February 11
10:30 am to 11:30 am
Improving Water Efficiency in Your Garden
Loomis Library, 6050 Library Drive

February 18
10:00 am to noon
Tomato Mastery: The Art & Science of Growing Delicious Tomatoes
Roseville Utility Exploration Center, 1501 Pleasant Grove Blvd., Roseville
Pre-register here

March

March 11
10:30 am to 11:30 am
Attracting Pollinators to Your Garden
Loomis Library, 6050 Library Drive

Watch recordings of past workshops

Master Gardeners of **Nevada County** here

Master Gardeners of **Placer County** here

Visit our Nevada County Demonstration Garden

Hours: When NID is open, M-F 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, generally open Saturday mornings, 8:00 am to noon, and when we have events.

The garden features 1.5 acres with several targeted growing areas, including:

- Foothill Mediterranean Garden
- Cottage Garden
- Rock Garden
- Raised Bed Gardens
- Hoop House
- Orchard
- Oak Habitat and Native Plant Meadow
- Evergreen Edge
- Compost area

Location: 1036 West Main Street Grass Valley

Titled ***Garden Trends: Tips For Enhancing Your Space***, this year's guide covers a range of topics including dwarf fruit trees, bird-friendly gardens, social front yards, lawn replacement, hot weather tolerant vegetables and even hugelkultur! This is a great resource for both beginner and seasoned home gardeners.

Check this website for purchasing information.

About Master Gardeners

Our mission as University of California Master Gardener volunteers is to extend research-based gardening and composting information to the public through various educational outreach methods. We strive to present accurate, impartial information to local gardeners so they have the knowledge to make informed gardening decisions in regard to plant choices, soil fertility, pest management, irrigation practices, and more.

The Master Gardener volunteer program was started in the early 1970s at the Washington State University. Farm Advisors became overwhelmed by all the incoming calls from home gardeners and homesteaders so they trained volunteers to answer these questions and the "Master Gardener Program" was born. The first University of California Master Gardener programs began in 1980 in Sacramento and Riverside counties. The Nevada County and Placer County Master Gardener Programs began soon thereafter in 1983.

40 Years Growing Strong in Placer and Nevada Counties

Production Information

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Donna Olson, Content Coordination
Elaine Kelly Applebaum, Production
UC Master Gardeners of Placer County

Have a Gardening Question?

Call our Hotline

Nevada County Residents
530.273.0919

Placer County Residents
530.889.7388

Master Composter Rotline
530.889.7399

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