

inBLOOM

Winter 2016-17 • theGarden.org

GIFTS FOR GARDENERS
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GARDEN SHOPPE

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LIVING WATERSMART
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OUR MISSION

To educate and inspire through excellent exhibits and programs that promote water conservation and the sustainable use of related natural resources.

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Photographer: rossco (Shutterstock)

MESSAGE FROM THE **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

THE NEW NORMAL, ARE YOU READY?

Prolonged drought! Conserve water! Water but be efficient! Tear out your lawns but water your trees! Getting confused yet?

In response to the prolonged drought and high prices, the water industry has changed from promoting extreme conservation to water-efficient practices. What's the difference? Conservation often simply restricts water use while efficiency allows you to do more with less. Water efficiency is the new normal.

This issue of In Bloom is about what The Garden and other organizations are doing to support efforts by businesses and residents to be more water efficient. The Water Conservation Garden is partnering with the San Diego County Water Authority in leading San Diego into a sustainable landscape and water-use future. Water is a renewable resource and when used in smart ways, it can provide us with all of our needs well into the future.

It is time to accept that dry conditions are natural for our area, that we cannot afford



Elyssa Robertson

to use precious water on high water use landscaping, and that there are better and more efficient ways to use the water we do have. The Garden is a great place to learn about ways to use less water and still be able to have a beautiful, lush landscape. Visit The Garden anytime and look for our numerous classes, workshops, and free weekend tours to learn more.

Elyssa Robertson
Executive Director

 **Join The Water Conservation Garden in committing to Live WaterSmart!**
To learn more visit the www.thegarden.org or www.watersmartsd.org.

Live WaterSmart!



The following are agencies that constitute the Joint Powers Authority (JPA) that owns The Garden and provides major funding:



The Garden is managed by The Friends of The Water Conservation Garden, a nonprofit organization, tax ID no. 20-4395919.

HOURS
The Garden is open daily from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm (except for major holidays). See the "Plan Your Visit" page at www.theGarden.org for more information.
THE GARDEN WILL BE CLOSED ON THE FOLLOWING HOLIDAYS:
Christmas Eve (December 24), Christmas Day (December 25), New Year's Eve (December 31) and New Year's Day (January 1).



Get Social With Us!

Keep up with the latest on news, events and more!



The Garden relies on the generosity of the community to continue to provide conservation education to adults and children throughout San Diego County. The staff and volunteers at The Garden dedicate their efforts to improving the programs and services we provide, as well as enhancing the educational exhibits. These efforts make The Garden a special place for residents to learn and grow, and we ask that in this season of giving you include us in your list of organizations worthy of your support.

To make a tax-deductible donation to The Garden, visit www.theGarden.org/donate.

Second Annual Water-Wise Home Garden Tour



March 25, 2017, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

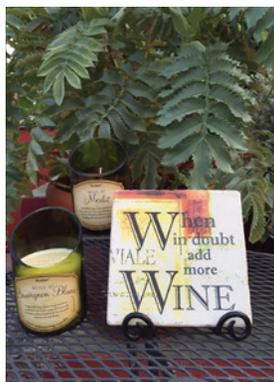


The Garden invites the public to its second annual Water-Wise Home Garden Tour. The tour will highlight five beautiful gardens featuring a wide variety of colorful and low water use plants. The gardens emphasize plants from semi-arid regions of the world including Australia, New Zealand, the Southwestern U.S. and South Africa.

Attendees will have the opportunity to meet the homeowners to get advice, purchase succulent cuttings, bird houses and other handmade garden items, and talk with The Garden's Director of Horticulture, Clayton Tschudy, for advice on how to redesign your landscape using drought-tolerant plants.

All proceeds will benefit The Garden's botanical collection care, exhibit upkeep and conservation education programs. For more information, please visit www.theGarden.org/events/2017gardentour.

The Water Drop Garden Shoppe



The Garden's Water Drop Garden Shoppe has many unique, garden-inspired gifts you won't find anywhere else! Find the perfect gift for the gardener in your life, or find that special item to make your own garden unique. The addition of an outdoor space has enabled The Shoppe to offer more outdoor garden decor and redwood patio furniture. Come visit and discover handmade items from artists in San Diego and beyond. The Water Drop Garden Shoppe is open 7 days a week, from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm.



Gift Membership

Garden members enjoy many benefits including free classes, free admission to national and international botanical gardens and discounts in The Water Drop Garden Shoppe and at partner nurseries and garden shops throughout San Diego County. The Garden also offers special members-only access to exhibits and events throughout the year. Giving a gift membership is easy and is a gift that will keep on giving! For more information, visit thegarden.org/member.



Third Annual Enchanted Garden Gala

Moonlight Serenade

The Garden hosted its third annual Enchanted Garden Gala on Saturday, October 15 with an evening filled with delicious food and lively entertainment. The Moonlight Serenade theme served to underscore the romance and beauty of The Garden and supported the cause to raise funds to repair the Gazebo Garden, a popular wedding ceremony site.

Red Carpet Reception guests enjoyed specialty cocktails, premium hors d'oeuvres provided by Continental Catering and live entertainment. After the program, attendees enjoyed live music by The Lillian Palmer and Michael Ruhl Swing Band.

The event raised critical funds to support conservation education efforts, and a further \$15,000 towards the Gazebo Garden renovation. We also introduced new friends to The Garden and communicated the importance of our programs and services to sustainability efforts in the San Diego community.

The Board of Directors, Gala Committee, volunteers and staff would like to extend our sincere appreciation to the Gala attendees and the sponsors below for their support of our vital programs and services.



First "Expert Forum" Addressed Effects of Drought and Climate Change on our Local Ecosystem

By Bonnie Scott, Expert Forum Committee Chair

As twilight set in over The Garden's Amphitheater on a late October evening, an intricate, interwoven story unfolded, thanks to a panel of five experts drawn from major San Diego institutions: the Geography Department at SDSU, San Diego Zoo Global, The Natural History Museum, The Watershed Protection Program, and the Audubon Society. Distinctions were drawn between short-term, recurrent droughts and the much longer trajectory of climate change. Of special interest were ways that birds, plants and insects all adapt to changing conditions, adjusting their locations, habitats and food sources, and environmental interdependencies. Our local Mediterranean climate, and especially its associated coastal sage scrub habitat, played a starring role. Ours is one of the most diverse ecological areas in the world, but one too many missing pieces can cause the whole system to diminish, or collapse. Audience participation was vigorous. The Garden thanks its first Forum panelists, Dr. Allen Hope, Ms. Marsha Cook, Dr. John Clark, Dr. Michael Wall, and Dr. Phil Pryde, and to docents, volunteers, and the Expert Forum Committee for enabling this enrichment of our offerings in adult education at The Garden.

Suggested Readings Offered by our Panelists:

Climate Change Impacts in the United States
(www.nca2014.globalchange.gov/report)

Assessment of Climate Change in the South West United States
(<http://www.swcarr.arizona.edu/>) This link has a button to download the PDF.

Rainwater Harvesting for Drylands and Beyond (2 vols.)
by Brad Lancaster

The State of the World's Plants. Kew Gardens.
www.stateoftheworldsplants.com

County Climate Action Plan (forthcoming)
www.sandiegocounty.gov/pds/advance/climateactionplan.html

San Diego Regional Water Quality Website: Project Clean Water Website, www.projectcleanwater.org

Sand County Almanac by Aldo Leopold

The Story of the Salton Sea by William deBuys and Joan Myers

The Song of the Dodo by David Quammen

Tree San Diego Partnership

The Water Conservation Garden is happy to announce a partnership with Tree San Diego on the Parks Plus Project, a community tree-planting effort. A total of 75 trees will be planted in four parks, including Southcrest Park, San Diego's Dorothy Petway Park, Mountain View Park and National City's Kimball Park. These trees will absorb carbon dioxide helping to offset industry emissions, reduce storm water runoff and pollution going into our bays and oceans, and provide shade and beauty for families and children.

As part of the advisory panel for the project, The Garden is contributing horticulture, design, and management expertise to help make Parks Plus a success. The first phase of the project installed 17 new Torrey Pine and Red-flowering Gum trees into Southcrest Park on the 5th of November. The new trees in Southcrest Park were dedicated to the memory of Police Officer Jonathan De Guzman who gave his life in the line of duty to protect our community.

The tree planting was preceded by a short ceremony with speakers including Mayor Kevin Faulconer who reaffirmed the SD Climate Action Plan's firm commitment to significantly increased tree canopy coverage for the city, and Park and Recreation Department Director Herman Parker who emphasized the benefits of increasing tree canopy to the local environment and the planet.



San Diego Mayor Kevin Faulconer works with an arborist to plant a tree at Southcrest Community Park. (Paul Sisson/Union Tribune).

Other project partners include Urban Corps of San Diego County, Hunter Industries, and the Cities of San Diego and National City. Funding for this project is provided by California ReLeaf and the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection as part of the California Climate Investments Program.

For more information about Tree San Diego and their efforts, visit www.treesandiego.org and to see native and drought-tolerant trees you can include in your garden, visit The Water Conservation Garden. The Garden is open 7 days a week (excluding major holidays), 9:00 am to 4:00 pm.



Docent Spotlight

Docent Name: Peggy Matarese

Garden Teams: Board of Directors (Vice President), Membership Committee (Chair), Events Committee, and Tour, Gift Shop and Butterfly Habitat Teams.

Volunteer Since: 2013

Favorite Plant in The Garden: Ceanothus - When Peggy first visited The Garden, she was struck by the showiness of this plant in full flower. "It's a NATIVE that looks like a horticulture selection!" she said. Peggy leads tours at The Garden, and has an opportunity to see firsthand, the wonderful way that The Garden helps people discover the beauty of our natural landscape. Peggy was so inspired that she designed her own garden to feature California native plants.

Fun Facts: If you have seen Peggy in action, you might guess that she has had a variety of interesting experiences, including living in Argentina as an exchange student during the government coup, teaching ballroom dance, acquiring her MD at UCSD and Masters in Public Health at Harvard, and serving as a medical doctor in the U.S. Air Force for thirty years, including eight years as a Commander. She serves on the UCSD Alumni and Medical School Boards, and teaches a problem-based seminar for current med students. She is a hands-on gardener, digging and adding new plants to steep hillsides in her beautiful garden.

Favorite Garden Exhibit: Leading tours at The Garden, Peggy loves to spend time at the Backyard Makeover Exhibit. She notes that so many people have small, square and flat yards, and they don't want lawns anymore. She loves to discuss options for replacing thirsty lawns with flowering, low-water plants, adding soil mounds and boulders and other ways to reshape the typical yard into something far more inviting and water smart.

Why Do You Volunteer at The Garden?: Peggy first visited The Garden in 2012. Recently widowed, she heard about the Rancho San Diego Farmers Market and noticed The Garden entrance and signs. She wandered in with a dark heart and left two hours later feeling uplifted. She joined The Garden and soon became a docent. For her, some of the benefits of being a volunteer include working with like-minded people and feeling like she is doing something important with her skills and talents. Peggy says, "Being in The Garden lifts my spirits....We need more places in the environment where we can get nourishment for our souls and get reset."

JANUARY

7 The Lore of the Kumeyaay

NEW

Saturday, January 7 | 10:00am – 11:00am

Native Americans have inhabited San Diego County for at least 10,000 years! Come find out how they lived, their history, spirituality, and daily lifestyle with Jan Tubiolo, long time student of Kumeyaay culture. Jan will display tools and other items important to their lives and lead a tour of the Habitat Garden.

Members Free, Non-members \$5



14 Winter Garden Care: Proper Pruning Practices

NEW

Saturday, January 14 | 10:00am - 12:00 noon

Caring for your landscape in the winter leads to thriving spring gardens! Join Andrea Doonan, landscape designer, arborist, and horticulturist to learn proper maintenance techniques of native, Mediterranean, and desert plants. Participate in a hands-on review of garden care including pruning, soil, integrated pest management, and plant selection.

Members Free, Non-Members \$10



21 Docent Training

Saturday, Jan. 21 | 12:30pm – 4:30pm

28

Saturday, Jan. 28 | 12:30pm – 4:30pm

Contribute to The Garden's success by becoming a Garden docent! There are many ways to get involved and wonderful new people to meet.

To register contact Pam Meisner, Education Director, at pam@thegarden.org or 619-660-0614 x13.



28 How to Hire a Landscape Contractor & Save Money

FREE!

Saturday, January 28 | 10:00 am – 12:00 noon

Join Education Director Pam Meisner for an informative, common-sense approach to hiring a landscape professional. You'll learn which questions to ask, how to properly plan, and receive money-saving tips too! Class made possible by the San Diego County Watershed Protection Program.

FREE



FEBRUARY

4 FREE Backyard Composting Workshop

FREE!

Saturday, February 4 | 10:00 am - 12:00 noon

In partnership with the County of San Diego and The Water Conservation Garden, Solana Center for Environmental Innovation presents a **FREE** composting workshop! Learn all about traditional composting and vermicomposting, and how to harvest and use your compost!

FREE with a \$20 fully refundable deposit for attendees.

Register online: www.solanacenter.org/free-wcg-composting-workshop or call (760) 436-7986 ext. 700.



18 Hillside Gardening

Saturday, Feb. 18 | 10:00am - 12:00 noon

Ever wonder how to care for that slope/hillside you have? Join renowned Landscape Designer, Connie Beck, the Holistic Gardener to amaze you with beautiful solutions for hard to plant spaces.

Members Free, Non-Members \$10



CLASSES & EVENTS, WINTER 2016-2017

Pre-registration is REQUIRED for all classes at www.theGarden.org or by calling 619-660-0614 x10



FEBRUARY

19 & 26 Master Composter Course

Five Sundays: Feb. 19 – Mar. 26 (excluding March 12th)
10:00 am - 12:30 pm

Solana Center's Master Composting Course is an in-depth, five-week course that covers the essentials of composting with a combination of hands-on activities and in-classroom learning, and features expert guest speakers and field trips. Preferential registration is given to unincorporated County residents.

Nonrefundable Fee: \$25

Register online: www.solanacenter.org/master-composter-wcg or call (760) 436-7986 ext. 700.



25 Healthy Herbs NEW

Saturday, Feb. 25 | 10am – 12:00 noon

Dr. Shannyn Fowl, Local Natural Medicine Expert, shares garden herbs and how they can impact healthy living in your daily life. This introductory class will teach you how to recognize and prepare local herbs, while enjoying sample teas.

Members Free, Non-Members \$10



UPCOMING EVENTS



Members-Only Moon & Stargazing

Friday, February 3, 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Garden Members at The Wild Grape level (\$100) and above are invited to join local astronomer George Varga to view the Moon, Venus, and possibly Mars, as well as the magnificent Orion Nebula, a number of beautiful Open Clusters, and the Andromeda Galaxy! Enjoy special star-themed cookies, moon pies, Swiss cheese and other out-of-this world refreshments! Space is limited, reserve your spot today at www.theGarden.org/events/stargazing.



Tomatomania

March 11 & 12, 2017, 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Join us for California's largest tomato seedling sale featuring hundreds of heirloom and hybrid tomato varieties, expert advice, and the accessories to grow great-tasting tomatoes in your own backyard.

For more information, visit www.theGarden.org/events/tomatomania-2017.



Water-Wise Home Garden Tour

Saturday, March 25, 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Presented by The Water Conservation Garden
Five homes throughout East County. \$20 pre-paid, \$25 day of tour. Space is limited! To purchase tickets visit www.theGarden.org/events/2017gardentour.

For more information about these events, please visit www.theGarden.org/events.

ONGOING PROGRAMS

FREE Garden Tours

Every Saturday at 10:00 am

FREE Special Access Tour

Every Third Sunday at 10:00 am | Reservation required, call 619-660-0614 x16.

Professional Landscape Design Consultations

Call 619-660-0614 x10 for appointment availability, designer information and reservations.
Members \$60, Non-members \$75

Ms. Smarty-Plants™ School Tours and Assembly Program

To book an educational field trip to The Garden or a school assembly program, contact Jillian at 619-660-0614 x16.

Visit www.theGarden.org for more information about these programs.



Did You Know?

1. An energy-smart clothes washer can save more water in one year than one person drinks in an entire lifetime.
 2. Every time you open the refrigerator door, up to 30 percent of the cold air can escape.
 3. A crack as small as 1/16th of an inch around a window frame can let in as much cold air as leaving the window open three inches.
 4. By recycling one plastic bottle, students can save enough energy to power their computer for 25 minutes.
 5. If you are using recycled paper, there is 99% less water and 50% less energy used in the production than from new raw materials.
 6. The aluminum foil on Hershey's Kisses is recyclable; 133 square miles of it per day are used to wrap the candies.
 7. Glass never wears out — it can be recycled forever.
 8. If every American recycled one-tenth of their newspapers, we would save 25,000,000 trees per year.
6. We throw away 25,000,000 plastic bottles every hour.

Facts provided by: EPA, Planet Ark, Recycling Revolution, Zero Waste, Point Park University and Boston University

Ms. Smarty-Plants™ Goes NGSS!

(Next Generation Science Standards)

The new Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) is part of the newly mandated California Science Standards. It embraces nature in a big way by placing science and engineering into the statewide learning curriculum for students grades K-12. This is a great stride for outdoor education and connecting children with the world they are part of.



For Education Director, Pam Meisner, a.k.a. Ms. Smarty-Plants™, “NGSS-ifying” her field trips was not so very different from what her and her Education Team do everyday. But to make sure, her Education Team attended training workshops and conferences to fine tune this year’s curriculum, and partnering with many wonderful organizations like San Diego Children & Nature and the 2016 San Diego Science Education Conference.

“With the new NGSS activity, we are seeing deeper involvement from students and a fresh excitement from visiting teachers.” said Ms. Smarty-Plants™

Using magnifying lens, rulers and clipboards, children are guided by their sense of wonder through the Habitat Garden to conduct science investigations and explore the ecosystem. Working in small groups to collectively observe the relationship between plants and pollinators brings students up close to the nature around them in a way that is both exciting and memorable.



Conversations with Ms. Smarty-Plants™

“Kids Say The Darndest Things”

On my way home from The Garden I went to the local grocery store for an organic treat. While walking the aisles I hear a child’s voice, whispering to her mom in a decibel that only a child can whisper in, “Mom, see that lady over there? She’s Ms. Smarty-Plants™. I told her you take really long showers so if she says anything to you tell her you are her Earth Hero, she really likes that!”

- Ms. Smarty-Plants™

For more information about Ms. Smarty Plants™ or to donate to The Garden’s education program, visit theGarden.org/learn/ms-smarty-plants.

Plant Spotlight

The Western Cypresses

California is home to several cypress tree species, all occurring in scattered patches and different habitats. Many of these trees are exceptional garden specimens prized for beauty, adaptability to different conditions, disease resistance, and drought tolerance. The three cypresses listed here are all rare in nature, but are increasingly popular among gardeners. Two of them are native to San Diego County.



Blue Arizona Cypress

Hesperocyparis arizonica var. *glabra*

This cypress is represented locally by an endangered subspecies near Palomar Mountain, but has a widely scattered range and several horticultural selections readily available from nurseries. The blue (*glabra*) variety tends to be narrow and conical in form and can achieve a 40-foot height. Smaller cultivars are available like 'Chaparral' that peaks out at 15-feet. Arizona Cypresses are resistant to Cypress Canker disease and make good substitutes for Monterey Cypress in affected areas.



Tecate Cypress

Hesperocyparis forbesii

Tecate Cypress has a local population on Otay Mountain, a stone's throw from the Water Conservation Garden. This fantastic small garden tree grows fast to 15 to 20 feet, narrow when young and develops a wider canopy with age. Train as a multi-stemmed tree for best results as Tecate Cypress does not maintain a central leader. Appreciated for its beautiful peeling bark and fresh scent, as well as its garden adaptability, this tree is endangered in nature and the sole larval host plant for the rare Thorne's Hairstreak butterfly. We have recently planted a Tecate Cypress into the Native Habitat at the Garden.



Guadalupe Island Cypress

Hesperocyparis guadalupensis

In spite of being endemic to a single island off the coast of Baja, Guadalupe Cypress is an easy cypress for coastal gardens. Up to 60-feet high with a 40-foot wide canopy, this is a dramatic cypress that only needs low irrigation for good results. Surprisingly, it can survive light frosts, and will work from the inland foothills to the coast. While drought tolerant with good drainage, Guadalupe Cypress also grows well in turf.

PARTNERS & SUPPORTERS

San Diego County Embraces WaterSmart Living

Making the most of every drop is always important in semi-arid San Diego County. That's why the San Diego County Water Authority and its 24 member agencies have launched the Live WaterSmart campaign.

Living WaterSmart means that we stay focused on everyday actions that make the best use of our precious water supplies. We do that by washing full loads of laundry and dishes, looking for and fixing leaks and overspray in irrigation systems, and replacing lawns with climate-appropriate plants. The Water Authority offers plenty of resources to help, including free water-use checkups for homes and businesses that offer customized advice about actions that will yield water savings. Details about all of the water-saving resources are at WaterSmartSD.org.



Become a Member for Great Benefits!

Membership at The Garden comes with a host of benefits including free classes, free admission to national and international botanical gardens and discounts in The Garden's Water Drop Garden Shoppe and at partner nurseries and garden shops. **To become a member, call 619-660-0614 x 14 or visit www.theGarden.org/member.**

GREAT MEMBER BENEFITS

Garden members now receive a 10-20% discount on all purchases at the following partner businesses. A current membership card must be presented at the time of purchase.

- **Anderson's La Costa** — Encinitas (andersonlacostanursery.com)
- **Barrels & Branches Nursery** — Encinitas (barrelsandbranches.com)
- **Cuyamaca College Dept. of Ornamental Horticulture Nursery** — El Cajon, (cuyamaca.edu/academics/departments/oh/) **NEW**
- **El Plantio** — Escondido (ElPlantioNursery.com)
- **Gardens by the Sea** — Leucadia (gardensbytheseanursery.com)
- **Hunter's Nursery** — Lemon Grove (huntersnursery.com)
- **Kniffing's Discount Nursery** — El Cajon (kniffingnursery.com)
- **The Madd Potter** — Encinitas (maddpotter.com)
- **Mission Hills Nursery** — San Diego (missionhillsnursery.com)
- **My Rustic Garden** — La Mesa (myrusticgarden.com)
- **Rancho San Diego Nursery** — El Cajon (ranchosandiegonursery.com)
- **Rancho Valhalla Nursery** — El Cajon (ranchovalhallanursery.com)

Garden Partner Spotlight

In each issue, *InBloom* highlights a local business that supports The Garden. We encourage Garden patrons to consider these wonderful establishments when working on their next garden project.



Anderson's La Costa Nursery And Design Center

400 La Costa Ave. Encinitas, CA 92024
Open Daily 8:30 am – 5:00 pm
andersonslacosta@gmail.com
www.andersonslacostanursery.com
(760) 753-3153

Anderson's La Costa Nursery is located just off Old HWY 101 in Encinitas.

This charming nursery has been a coastal favorite since 1954. Marc and Mariah Smith purchased the nursery a little over two years ago and have completely redesigned the nursery into a wonderful park-like setting with creative vignettes throughout the property. Along with their design staff and Horticulturist/Nursery Manager, Steven Froess, they have given great attention to plant selection for both coastal and inland areas. The nursery has numerous species not seen in other nurseries, including an excellent collection of Australian and South African Natives, unusual citrus and a newly expanded California Native section. The nursery also carries a large selection of colorful pottery, iron work, fountains, and a house-like structure containing a unique selection of garden art.

The staff is very knowledgeable to make your shopping a pleasure and if you're looking for help with your garden, the nursery has four landscape designers to assist you.

This nursery is a joy for the avid and weekend gardener to visit and is well worth the trip along the coast. You'll make it a regular visit for many years to come.

Don't forget to show your Garden membership card, it will save you an extra 10% on your entire purchase!

New Members Aug 2016 - Oct 2016

Heidi Acosta
Frank Aguirre
Richard Agundez Jr.
Heidi Allingham
Fetin Ayadi-Morales and Yazmeen Morales
Steve Baldwin
Nicole and Dave Beckstrand
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Juli Wilson

Donors Aug 2016 - Oct 2016

\$1,000 and Above

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The Water Conservation Garden would like to thank our Corporate Partners and Non-Profit Affiliates. The Garden appreciates all that these organizations do to keep The Garden a beautiful place!

Backflow Services
Baldwin & Sons
Barona Band of Mission Indians
Best Best & Krieger LLP
Bob's Crane
California American Water
Carollo Engineers
City of Encinitas
City of San Diego
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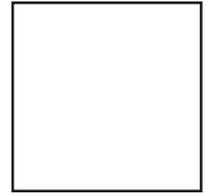


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