message from the EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

GARDEN INSPIRATIONS & NEW GROWTH

Winter is often thought of as a dormant time...BUT not at The Garden! If you haven’t been to The Garden or even if you have, be sure to take a stroll and admire the new growth and year-round beauty only winter can bring. I promise you will be inspired, and I know you will learn something new.

The new year is a time to set new goals for yourself. Often times they are related to spending more time with friends and family, improving your health and wellness or simply finding more time for yourself. The Garden is here to offer all of that for you in the new year.

Embrace the season, welcome the rain, capture it, reuse it, and find ways to savor each and every day. Consider installing a rain chain or a rain barrel in your home, prepare your landscape for spring or just enjoy the outdoors and take a deep breath of fresh air.

I am so proud of The Garden team of volunteers, staff, docents, members, and Board members that have united themselves to keep The Garden thriving and safe through all of 2021, we have made it; bring on 2022!

Cheers to a healthy 2022!

Jennifer Pillsbury
Executive Director/CEO

Interested in joining a Non-Profit Board of Directors?

We are actively recruiting new members. Looking for areas of expertise in finance, estate planning, construction, legal, fundraising, small business management and marketing to name a few.

Visit TheGarden.org/board for more information.

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 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, tax ID no. 20-4395919.

THE WATER CONSERVATION GARDEN

<table>
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<th>Days</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mondays</td>
<td>CLOSED</td>
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<td>Tuesdays</td>
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<td>Wednesdays</td>
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<td>Thursdays</td>
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The Garden is FREE to the public the 2nd Friday of every month!

GIFT SHOP

Tuesday – Sunday | 10:00am – 4:00pm*
*Thursdays the Gift Shop closes at 6:00pm

ADMISSIONS

Last admission to The Garden is 3:15pm
*Thursdays last admission is 5:15pm

Please note The Garden will be closed:

New Year’s Eve (Closes at 12 noon)
New Year’s Day
Easter Sunday
Memorial Day
Independence Day
Labor Day
Thanksgiving Day
Christmas Eve
Christmas Day

Get Social With Us! #wcgarden | Keep up with the latest on news, events and more!
Correct and regular pruning of your plants is a vital part of gardening. It promotes healthy plants, rejuvenates growth, helps to produce a higher yield of flowers or fruit, aids in desirable shape by directing plant growth, and allows for a certain beauty and aesthetic. Winter pruning stimulates growth while spring pruning usually slows it down. This article showcases some basic pruning information, for more in-depth information keep an eye out for “pruning workshops” we offer at The Garden!

Wintertime pruning in southern California can be confusing because of the mild winters. First, decide when the best time is for pruning your specific plant, remembering not all plants are best pruned in the winter. However, winter pruning is great for summer and fall flowering trees and shrubs, before they begin the current season’s growth.

Pruning is not only for the health of a plant but can be used to direct shaping and style of your landscaping. For instance, “topping” a citrus tree can be used to keep the height low for easy picking.

Once you decide to prune, I have a few helpful hints before you begin.

- Prune safely by using gloves and protective eyewear
- Use sharp and well-maintained pruners or cutting tools
- Start with pruning dead, damaged, diseased and any branches that are girdling others (crossing over or into)
- If a limb is large make several cuts to shorten so splitting and breakage doesn’t occur
- If in doubt call in a professional

For general pruning, sharp angled cuts are best. In most cases you will prune/cut back to the “collar” as shown in the diagrams. Cutting into the collar can damage your plant. Once you have completed removing the dead, damaged, diseased, and girdled branches then you can begin to thin out dense growth to allow sunlight to reach the branches you are keeping.

Not all pruning is equal - flowers, trees, and shrubs all need something specific to their needs.

Annuals, perennials and flowering shrubs usually require pruning (dead heading) immediately after blooming to produce a full abundant continued flower growth.

Woody shrubs typically require a more intense removal of dead undergrowth, while trees require almost exclusively pruning of or on branches.

Writer: Pam Meisner

Credit: Texas AM AgriLife-info, cnps.org-info, Loews.com, https://www.uky.edu/
Ms. Smarty-Plants™

Storytime

Sweet storytime and nature crafts are back every month with Ms. Smarty-Plants™!

9:30AM, 3RD WEDNESDAYS

Look Hoo’s talking!

We are anxiously awaiting the return of our resident barn owls, Hoot and Holla. If nature permits, we will be streaming their activities from inside their owl box in hopes of seeing their baby owlets grow up. The Garden plans to livestream the owls during the duration of their stay with us. Stay tuned for more exciting info!

Why did the Owl say, “Tweet, tweet?”

Because she didn’t give a hoot!

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

¡Bienvenidas!

Ms. Smarty-Plants™

Bilingual Educator

LEILANI MENDOZA SINICIN

Leilani is long-time friend of Ms. Smarty-Plants™ and was a dedicated intern from 2016-2018. Upon graduating from SDSU with a Bachelor of Arts in Sustainability and Minor in International Studies, Leilani taught at “All Friends Nature School” continuing her commitment to children and conservation. We are thrilled to have Leilani return to The Garden.

Baja Fairy Duster
(Calliandra Californica)

One of my favorite features of the Baja Fairy Duster is that it flowers off and on all year! It loves the sun and has lots of nectar for our friendly pollinators like birds and bees. I’m pretty sure the “fairies” really like them, too!
With a goal to raise $100,000, The Water Conservation Garden plans to offer in-person Ms. Smarty-Plants™ Enrichment Experiences* this spring and summer for children. Students learn about our most precious resource, water, and what role we play in Southern California when it comes to water conservation. We need your help to bridge the gap and cover costs that are not funded by fees and grants. Will you help us create a magical moment for a child to remember forever?

*This program was made possible thanks to generous supporters.

**Acts of Kindness makes the heart grow stronger.**

What can you give back to your community this season? Can you plant a tree, donate to a local shelter, or even write a card to a loved one? Make someone’s day with an act of kindness.

#MSPEarthHeros #EarthHero #kindnessmatters
WINTER GROWERS
Saturday, Jan 29, 11am-12pm
Gnosis Nursery teaches about winter growing plants and brings a collection of aloes, dudleya, unique succulents, and Mediterranean plants for sale. Free plant with registration!
$10 Members / $15 Non-Mbr

DINO & ANIMAL PLANTERS
Sunday, Feb 6, 11am-12pm
Make a playful, plant predator with Amber’s Artistry! Wild snacks and story provided. Makes 1 planter. Good for an adult/child pair
$15 Members / $18 Non-Mbr

PROPER PRUNING
Saturday, Jan 29, 12:30-1:30pm
Tour with Certified Arborist, Jose Bedoya of Leaf It To Us, and learn how proper pruning can improve the health of plants, shrubs, and trees.
FREE Members / $8 Non-Mbr

SUCCULENT WREATH
Friday, Feb 11, 1-3pm
Create a heart-shaped succulent wreath to express your love this season, with Master Gardener and artist Muriel King of Muriel's Succulents.
$42 Members / $50 Non-Mbr

THAT'S SWALE
Wednesday, Feb 16, 3-4pm, On Zoom
Learn to slow, spread, and sink water through earthwork applications like swales and basins with Wild Made Design. Sponsored by the County of San Diego.
FREE

PLANTING WATER, GROWING SOIL
Saturday, Mar 12, 10-11:30am
Wild Made Design teaches and demonstrates ways to regenerate landscape and harvest water. Sponsored by the County of San Diego.
FREE includes Garden entry

ART OF NATURE - Sketching with Marjorie Pezzoli
Last Sundays, 11am-12:30pm
Find expression and depth in sketching. Notice the structure of trees, leaves, and even clouds floating by. Let The Garden be your muse.
$10 Members / $15 Non-Mbr

SOULCOLLAGE©
Sunday, Mar 20, 1-2:30pm
Intuitive art process led by Shirla de Magalhães, LMFT. Create a “deck” of cards, journal, and dialogue with the cards to gain personal insights.
$10 Members / $15 Non-Mbr

Details & registration at TheGarden.org
Online Garden Calendar Scan code!
**STORYTIME WITH MS. SMARTY-PLANTS™**
MONTHLY
Jan 19, Feb 16, Mar 16
FREE WITH GARDEN ENTRY

Sweet storytime and nature crafts are back every month with Ms. Smarty-Plants™!

**SUNDAYS**
MEMBERS FREE / $12 Non-Mbr

10-10:45am Family Yoga with Robyn Taylor

**TUESDAYS**
MEMBERS FREE / $12 Non-Mbr

10-11am Gentle Flow Yoga with Lisa Griffiths
11:15am-12pm Mindfulness with Ashley Bridgewater

**WEDNESDAYS**
MEMBERS FREE / $12 Non-Mbr

9:15-10am Workout Wednesdays
10-10:45am Family Yoga with Robyn Taylor

**THURSDAYS**
MEMBERS FREE / $12 Non-Mbr

9:15-10:15am Chair Yoga with Jackie Gadd
10:30-11:30am Power Yoga with Katie Nava
5:30-6:30pm *NEW Time Evening Flow Yoga with Lisa Griffiths

**FRIDAYS**
MEMBERS FREE / $12 Non-Mbr

9:15-10:15am Fitness Fridays with Lisa Griffiths
10:30-11:30am Power Yoga with Katie Nava

**FIRST SATURDAYS - MONTHLY**
FREE

9-10am Garden Tour with Volunteer Docent

**LOST LEPRECHAUN SCAVENGER HUNT**
Mar 15-20
FREE WITH GARDEN ENTRY

There's a LOST LEPRECHAUN in The Garden and Ms. Smarty-Plants™ needs YOUR help to find her leprechaun pal. Self-guided scavenger hunt and prizes.

**NATURE THERAPY EXPERIENCE**
MONTHLY
Registration IS Required.
MEMBERS FREE / $12 Non-Mbr

**LANDSCAPE DESIGN CONSULTATIONS**
TheGarden.org/consultations
$70 MEMBERS / $85 Non-Mbr

**SOLANA CENTER**
Rain Barrel Workshop & Free Barrel Distribution with the Solana Center on Saturday, Feb 12
Details at SolanaCenter.org

**THE WATER CONSERVATION GARDEN**
TheGarden.org
12122 Cuyamaca College Dr West • El Cajon, CA 92019

Winter 2022
Donors

$10,000+
Richard Wright
Rosalie Dosik

$1,000 - $2,499
Sally Long
Judy Broselle

$500 - $999
Judy Broselle

September - November 2021

$100 - $499
Bonnie & Nick Sardo
Bradford Monroe
Christopher Burt & Hannah Jones
Janelle & Mike Wallace
Jasmine Kimura
Jennifer & Mark Pillsbury
John & Daiana Wallace
Julie & Stanley Rone
Kathleen & Jon Hedberg
Kathryn Clayton
Kristan Gregg
Leslie Suelter & Jerry Calderon
Mark & Virginia Watton
Marti & Tim Sullivan
Marty Eberhardt & Phil Hastings
Mary Singh
Monica Hagen
Pamela Chu
Patricia Knobloch
Rosemarie & Neal Masters
Sharon Zornes

partners & SUPPORTERS

Hans & Margaret Doe Charitable Trust
The Rice Family Foundation

We would like to thank our Corporate Partners & Nonprofit Affiliates in appreciation for all they do to keep The Garden a beautiful place.
New Members

Let The Garden add a little “magic” to your event!

For more information, visit: TheGarden.org or email Angelina@TheGarden.org

** Please note that The Garden’s current availability for event rentals follow the COVID-19 guidelines and regulations of the CDC’s allowance for gatherings. **
Garden Members - Join or renew your membership today!
Visit TheGarden.org/membership.

Do you own an IRA?
If you are 70 ½ or older you may roll over up to $100,000 from your IRA to charity without paying federal income tax on your gift. To make an IRA rollover gift, simply contact your custodian and request an amount be transferred to The Water Conservation Garden.

Make an IRA gift by contacting us at:
development@thegarden.org or 619-660-0614

This information is not intended as tax, legal or financial advice. Gift results may vary. Consult your personal financial advisor for information specific to your situation.

SAN DIEGO TREE WEEK
April 22-27, 2022
San Diego Tree Week is an initiative that brings neighbors together to plant trees in their community. Businesses, schools, and individuals will come together to celebrate the many benefits of trees. San Diego Tree Week is a great opportunity to grow your own urban forest, learn about the benefits of trees, and help your community!

The Garden is planning exciting events for San Diego Tree Week in the spring. Watch for details at TheGarden.org.

To learn about sponsorship opportunities, please contact development@thegarden.org.

Proudly sponsored by: A Sempra Energy utility