



Into the Garden

The Gardeners' Club
Santa Cruz County,
California

OCTOBER 2023

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At last! Our always stupendous Fall Plant Sale & Swap

Thursday, October 12, 7 p.m.
Aptos Grange, 255 Mar Vista Dr.

Don't miss this wonderful opportunity to get free and bargain-priced plants and paraphernalia for your garden. We have all been industriously dividing perennials, potting up seedlings and extra plants, collecting seeds, bagging bulbs, gleaning surplus harvest, thinning tools, libraries and décor collections—all to make our trade and sale event a rich and rewarding experience. Come choose from a limitless variety of plants, bulbs, perennials, shrubs, seeds, small trees, tools, pots, vases, planters, books, magazines, knick-knacks and anything/everything garden. If you don't have plants to trade, you can buy stuff at **ridiculously low** prices. You are sure to discover something new to try. See the inner last page for more information and to tally what you bring. Don't miss out—see you there. And bring a friend...new members who sign up will get a free plant!



Feathery Plant
(Paul Klee, 1909)



OPEN FARM TOURS

Tour multiple family farms and meet your farming community

Oct 7 & 8

Tour both days for \$20 per carload

Kids activities, Food, U-Picks, workshops, food preservation demos, farm dinners & more

We're celebrating our 10th anniversary of advocating for sustainable family farms



Purchase tickets at



OpenFarmTours.com

Know Your Farmer... Know Your Food

Open Farm Tours is celebrating their 10-year anniversary of building a sustainable, regional food system through relational wealth that connects family farms with community. Meet your farmers and tour 12 family-owned farms on Saturday & Sunday, October 7th – 8th at Open Farm Tours! Learn what is involved in growing our food and get a behind-the-scenes look into our region's vibrant working agricultural landscape. Learn about how important sustainable farming methods are to the health of the Earth and our community. Participating Farms are @prevedellifarms, Terra Sole Nursery, @esperanzacommunityfarms, @iveearthfarm, @beeline_blooms, @seatoskyfarmsantacruz, @thomasfamilyfarmflow, @mariquitafarm, @pajaropastures, Dos Aguilas olive grove, Fruitilicious Farm and @albafarmers. Participate in farm activities like apple juicing, tastings, U-Picks, workshops, demos, farm dinners &

more. Learn about the sustainable agriculture methods used to grow our food and spend a day outside getting to know our farming community. Healthy food, farms and families is what we're all about! Visit <https://www.openfarmtours.com/> to purchase tickets, view all participating farms biographies, farm activity guide & schedule.

SAVE YOUR CLEAN UP UNTIL SPRING!

Are you ready to change the way you clean up your perennial garden in the fall? Changing just a few of the ways we do things can make a huge difference to birds, amphibians, butterflies, moths, bees, and other beneficial insects that overwinter. The first thing: stop removing all the fallen leaves from the landscape. Leaves provide insulation for overwintering forms of butterflies and moths, and camouflage which helps caterpillars survive.

Stop cutting back perennial forbs in the fall. Plants are still hosting life in the winter, despite the browning of leaves. And in the spring, it will be easier to find where you planted your treasures in years past! In addition to butterflies, carpenter and other bees nest in the pith of stems. The bees are further encouraged if gardeners cut the tips of the stems, making it easier to crawl inside. It is best to not cut back these dead stems until late spring, if at all (foliage will grow up around the stems). When you do so, cut back to 12-18 inches and cut the snipped foliage into large chunks and spread around the garden to prevent tossing nesting bees into the compost pile.

Don't trim shrubs—fall is not the time anyway, and large shrubs can host overwintering insects and birds.

Avoid removing downed trees and logs.

When possible, keep downed trees in the landscape. We birdwatchers delight in snags hosting a variety of birds. If it's not possible to leave the entire tree, keep a few logs for bees and other insects to overwinter or nest in.

It might be hard, but you might want to temper eradicating weeds from the landscape. Some weeds are very beneficial to butterflies and bees. Buckeye butterfly larvae feed upon the common plantain. Early-blooming weeds (violets, dandelions) are crucial in the early spring before trees flower.



Fall Plant Sale

CNPS Santa Cruz County 2023 Fall Plant Sale!

Saturday October 14th, 2023

10-2 at the UCSC Arboretum

Get there early for best selection!



Our Fall Plant Sale on Saturday October 14 will be the largest sale to date! More plants and species, including more plants grown from seed collected within Santa Cruz County! This is an exciting development for the Propagation Team, one we hope to pursue further as we work to acquire additional locally sourced propagules (seeds!)

<https://cruzcnps.org/plant-sales/>

Local plants are not only beautiful, they support nature's local ecology. Especially important to the web of life are the insects that they support. Insects are not just great pollinators and food for other animals, but provide high-fat, high-protein food required by baby birds – in the form of caterpillars and other larvae.

The Fall Sale will feature over 140 species of native plants, many of which are new offerings for our Chapter. The Sale will offer many seed grown *Dudleya* (always highly sought after!) as well as a selection of both warm and cool season grasses which bring beauty and texture into any garden space. As always, we will have lots of plants in our most popular genera: *Epilobium*, *Erigeron*, *Diplacus*, *Artemisia*, *Achillea*, *Grindelia*, and my personal Fall favorite *Eriogonum*– eight species busting out in bloom!



Please check the Chapter's website and Facebook group page closer to the Sale date for additional information including the Sale availability list which will be posted a week prior to the Sale date.

Did we mention getting there early is key to the best plant selection?

Gardening with Native Plants and Starting Wildflowers from Seed

October 7, 2023 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM

Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History, 165 Forest Ave., Pacific Grove

UC Master Gardeners of Monterey & Santa Cruz

Join us at the Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History and learn about our amazing and diverse native flora. Many of these species are great additions to home landscapes and you will be able to see many of them in the Museum gardens. Gardening with native plants has so many benefits from supporting pollinators and biodiversity to saving water and sequestering carbon. And fall is a great time to begin to add native plants to your home landscape. In addition, many local species are easily propagated by seed. We'll show you how to start wildflowers from some of the seed we've collected from our Demonstration Garden in Watsonville and you'll go home with seed to sow in your own garden.

Space is limited!

<https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/dc94debc-a036-4eac-99d2-3d8b9a7ad3ff>



Time to plant Perennials!

Annie's says: "Happy and healthy spring gardens are born in fall, and we're here to tell you, fall has arrived! As temps get cooler and the days grow shorter, it sends a message to plants that it is time to slow down the production of leaves and shoots, and focus on what lies below. Beginning just inches down into the soil, plants take advantage of the season's optimal conditions - warm soil temps and stable moisture levels - to promote an extensive new network of roots, that subsequently fosters vigorous new growth once plants sense even a hint of spring. Healthy roots support strong plants, and strong plants offer bounties of blooms! Perennials, which return year after year, are foundation plants in your garden and are especially fond of fall planting. Lucky for you, perennials come in all different sizes, shapes and colors. There's a perfect match for every garden."



<https://www.anniesannuals.com/>



Calflora: the nonprofit wild plant database

What attracts pollinators?

Are you wondering what to plant this fall, and wanting to attract pollinators? Calflora's Planting Guide takes your location's parameters into account to determine which native plants will grow well there.

[Planting Guide](#)



Generate a list of native plants suitable to your location.

How do I create a list of plants suitable to my location? From the [Calflora.org](https://www.calflora.org) home page, select the Planting Guide. Then [choose your location on this map](#) or type your address. Select additional criteria if they apply to your site: whether it's low water, riparian, and/or shady. Click on "More Criteria" to display more options. When you click SEARCH, you'll see a list of suitable native plants for your garden or restoration area. Each plant name is linked to its taxon page, a list of nurseries which sell it, and details of why your location is suitable.

How can I attract pollinators? In your results, the pollinator-attractors have a butterfly symbol. Click on MAP at the top of the page to collapse the map and display more columns, including the butterfly symbols.



<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/Fall-is-Planting-Season--What-Attracts-Pollinators-.html?sid=1101318247526&aid=qWOx9Rg3E20>



IN-STORE EVENT: Nik Sharma, Veg-table

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2023 - 7:00PM



FREE IN-STORE EVENT: Bookshop Santa Cruz is thrilled to welcome staff favorite and acclaimed cookbook author Nik Sharma for a discussion and signing of his new book *Veg-table: Recipes, Techniques, and Plant Science for Big-Flavored, Vegetable-Focused Meals*. Sharma, bestselling author of *The Flavor Equation* and *Season*, presents a fascinating exploration of the unique wonders of more than fifty vegetables through captivating research, stunning photography, and technique-focused recipes.

Sharma will be in conversation with award-winning author (and another super staff fave!) Andrea Nguyen (*Ever-Green Vietnamese*). Sample recipes from *Veg-table* at this event!

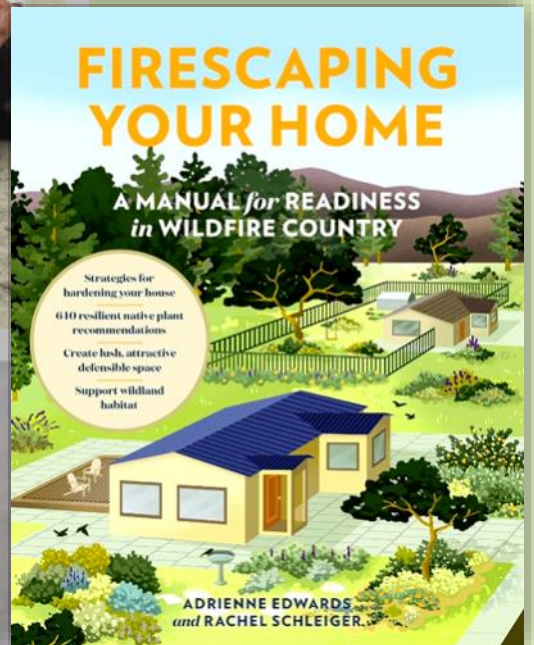
"Groundbreaking, inspiring, delicious; Nik Sharma's *Veg-table* is everything I'd hoped for and more!" —Nigella Lawson



<https://www.bookshop-santa-cruz.com/nik-sharma>

Register for this free event >>>

In *Firescaping Your Home*, ecologists Adrienne Edwards and Rachel Schleiger provide expert guidance and specific recommendations on how to harden homes against fire and create defensible space without sacrificing beauty. In addition to design recommendations and maintenance techniques, the book features an in-depth list of hundreds of native plants that have evolved to coexist with fires. Edwards and Schleiger diligently explore how and why these plants sustain wildlife and are powerful tools for defending homes from wildfires. Approachable and thorough, this is an essential guide to teach homeowners how to protect their property while cultivating a lush and attractive landscape.



Saving Garden Variety Seeds

Oct 11th

4:30PM

Felton Library



**6121 Gushee St.,
Felton**

Continue the returns of your harvest year after year through seed saving! Learn how to save seeds with Karla DeLong of Beeline Blooms during this helpful presentation. You will learn all of these skills to take home to use in your own garden:

- What plants to select seeds from
- How to cure seed heads
- How to process seeds
- Packaging & storage

Presenter Karla DeLong started Beeline Blooms Flower Farm (<http://www.beelineblooms.com/>) in 2022 to bring color and joy back to our mountain community, devastated by the CZU Lightning Complex Fire two years earlier. The farm features several hundred varieties of naturally grown dahlias.



Also—check out the brand new program **Felton Seed Library!** You can donate seeds, take some home, and help our community grow! You can try to allow one plant of each type in your garden to go to seed

in order to start this fall. The Felton Seed Library will be stored in the colorful chest in the lobby. It will accept garden and commercial seeds less than 2 years old; information on types of seeds to save will be available there. Help our neighborhoods blossom with biodiversity! Save seeds for yourself or donate to the Seed Library..



Residential Rainwater Harvesting



Saturday, October 21, 1:00–5:00 p.m.

This workshop is for people who want to build resilience in their gardens with water stored around their home.

We will start with a short talk at 1 pm. Then Golden Love will lead the group in assembling a series of rain barrels along the side of the house. The installation will include the latest techniques for easily installing hose bibs, intake, overflow, and equalizer tubes. Golden will share about the process of routing the overflow from the system into infiltration basins and galleries for in-ground water storage. He will also cover how to plumb the rain barrels into a gravity fed irrigation system to water plants.



Join in the fun of conserving water, saving money, and engaging in protecting our aquifers!

Register to get the address:
<https://residential-rainwater-harvesting-sc.eventbrite.com>

GARDENERS' CLUB BOARD NEWS

The October 23rd Board Meeting will be a POTLUCK at Lise Bixler's home in Bonny Doon, 91 Country Estates Drive. Lise's garden has gone through a growth spurt since the rains, to put it mildly—come see! The garden tour will start at 6 p.m. If you'd like to carpool, contact Cherry Thompson (see contact info back page.) Or email Lise for directions (lisebixler@sbc@sbcglobal.net) - don't depend on cell phones up here. You don't have to be a Board member to attend, but we welcome people who want to participate in the Club doings. And we are desperately in need of help. We need someone to help with contacting



local papers and web sites about our monthly meetings. And we really, really need to fill the Vice President position to help coordinate meetings.

Dennis' 7 Dees is a local, family-owned and operated landscaping and garden center business serving Oregon and Washington. They are offering two online landscape guides. Get inspired with garden design tips, plant selection, color palettes, and more! The Modern Landscape is balanced, clean, geometric, and minimal, featuring soft textures against organized lines. Palettes either energize your spirits or create a relaxing vacation more. The Bohemian Landscape is relaxed and organic, drawing inspiration from wild, open prairies where layers of plants flow together providing seamless texture, color, and movement. Two plant palettes for the garden bring the vision to life—one soft and romantic, the other dark and moody. Download at <https://dennis7dees.com/landscape-garden-design-guide/>.

Dennis' 7 Dees

MODERN LANDSCAPE

BALANCED • CLEAN • GEOMETRIC • MINIMAL
SOFT TEXTURES AGAINST ORGANIZED LINES

DESIGN TIPS

- 1. Repetition is key**
 - Plant in rows or grids for balance from all vantage points.
 - Evenly space plants with organic forms to create order.
 - Almost any plant can work in a modern design if it is repeated and uniformly planted.
- 2. Use strong, clean lines next to natural shapes**
 - Balance hard and soft features with steel edging or horizontal fencing.
 - Hardscapes should have straight edges if next to freer elements.
 - Rows of columnar hedge plants provide a modern backdrop for airy trees or grasses.
- 3. Be consistent**
 - Use monochromatic palettes centered around green hues.
 - Vary leaf shapes but keep colors similar, or vice versa.
 - Evergreen plantings provide year-round framework.

LANDSCAPE STYLE GUIDE | DENNIS' 7 DEES

SOFT PLANT PALETTE

FULL • MELLOW • CHIC • COOL

BOHEMIAN LANDSCAPE

LAYERED • ORGANIC • RELAXED • ECLECTIC
NATURE-INSPIRED TEXTURES & PATTERNS

- 1. Opt for natural, organic textures**
 - Use grasses and perennials with tall flower heads to introduce movement.
 - Look for shrubs and trees with open branching habits.
 - Uniformity is not the goal.
- 2. Lean into seasonality**
 - Embrace change—the layered landscape should evolve through the seasons.
 - Deciduous and herbaceous plants are the cornerstone.
 - A few evergreen or hardscape elements anchor the landscape when key plants are dormant.
- 3. Plant high-density in like hues**
 - The color palette should exist on a gradient—avoid harsh contrast.
 - Use narrow-leaved plants with similar textures and flower shapes.
 - Overplant, allowing grasses and perennials to grow together and provide mutual support.

LANDSCAPE STYLE GUIDE | DENNIS' 7 DEES

MOODY PLANT PALETTE

VELVETY • MUTED • MYSTERIOUS



not allowed on the UC Santa Cruz campus (with the exception of service animals).

Harvest Festival Schedule

UCSC HARVEST FESTIVAL
Center for Agroecology
Saturday, Oct.14
11:00 A.M.-3:00 P.M.

UCSC Farm
Farm Road, Santa Cruz

The 2023 Harvest Festival will feature live music, an apple pie baking contest, hands-on gardening workshops, kids' activities, and more! Stay nourished with food from local eateries and connect with students and community members.

\$5 admission / Free admission for kids under 12, UCSC, Hartnell College, and Cabrillo College students with a student ID, Semillas program families, and Friends of the UCSC Farm & Garden members. Please pre-register with credit card or pay cash at the gate.

Bicycling, car pooling, ridesharing, and public transportation are encouraged as parking is limited. If you drive to the

UCSC Harvest Festival
 Saturday, October 14th

PIE CONTEST



Scan QR Code for Entry Form



Can you bake a tasty pie? You are invited to participate in our pie contest! Prizes are awarded for taste and presentation.

11 am - 12:30 pm: Pie Entries Open at Life Lab Kitchen
 12:45: Official Judging Begins
 2:30 pm: Winners Announced (you do not need to be present to win)

Pie Contest Rules

1. The Apple Pie Bake-Off is a nonprofessional baking competition open to Harvest Festival attendees.
2. Contestants are responsible for submitting a written recipe with their pie.
3. Contestants are responsible for supplying all ingredients and cooking the pie prior to bringing it to the contest.
4. All entries in this contest must be homemade.
5. Each contestant's pie will be assigned a number when it is entered. Contestants should verify that the number on the bottom of their container is the same number assigned by the representative.
6. The decision of the judges is final. Pie not used during judging will be returned to the contestant.

event, please plan to park in UCSC Lot #104 (East Remote parking lot) and walk or take a complimentary shuttle to the farm. There will be directional signage to help you get to the correct parking lot and farm entrances.

Please bring a reusable water bottle to save plastic and stay hydrated! Pets are

- 11am — Gates open!
- 11am — Workshop - Choosing the Right Fruit Tree (Hay Barn)
- 11:15am-12:15pm — Live music (Farm stage)
- 12:30pm — Apple pie contest entries due (Life Lab Outdoor Kitchen)
- 12:45pm-1:45pm — Live music (Farm stage)
- 1pm — Workshop - Starting a Native Wildflower Garden (Hay Barn)
- 1pm — Apple pie contest judging begins (Life Lab Outdoor Kitchen)
- 1:30pm-2pm — Storytelling (FoodWhat?! Tent)
- 2pm — Apple pie contest winner announced (Farm stage)
- 2:15-3:15pm — Live music (Farm stage)
- 3:30pm — Event ends

The Harvest Festival is presented by the UC Santa Cruz Center for Agroecology, the Food Systems Working Group, Measure 43 and Life Lab.

Contact agroecology@ucsc.edu for more information or to request accommodations.

Instructions & Tally Sheet for Plant Swap and Sale

Don't miss this wonderful opportunity to get free and bargain-priced plants and paraphernalia for your garden. Come choose from a limitless variety of plants, bulbs, perennials, shrubs, seeds, small trees, tools, pots, vases, planters, books, magazines, surplus harvest, knick-knacks and anything/everything garden. If you don't have plants to trade, you can buy stuff at ridiculously low prices. You are sure to discover something new to try.

You can take plants home by either by paying cash with cash or check, or by bringing plants and other items for trade tickets to use instead of cash. Fill out this form before the meeting if you are going to trade. This is what you'll get for what you bring:

- 2", 3" & 4" pots: 1 ticket each
- 6" pot or 6-pack: 1.5 ticket each
- 1 gallon pot: 2 tickets each
- 2 gallon pot: 3 tickets each

Miscellaneous items are priced at the meeting.

Label your plants with their common or botanical names, and put your name



on them in case purchasers have questions.

Please don't bring loose, dirty plants that would make a mess, or plants you wouldn't be proud to put your name on.

We appreciate all of you who come early to help set up – it's a lot of work! And if you can, plan on staying to help with clean-up.

We'll start accepting plants at 6:40 p.m. The purchase prices are:

- 2", 3", or 4" pots: 2 tickets or \$1 each
- 6" pot or 6-pack: 3 tickets, or \$1.50 each
- 1 gallon pot: 4 tickets or \$2.00 each
- 2 gallon pot: 6 ticket or \$3.00 each

When there are multiples of the same plant available, please take only one until other members have had a chance to buy one. If there are multiples left over, then you can grab them! Plants that don't get sold or given away go home with the person who brought them.

Good luck, and have fun!

Please complete this form at home and bring it with you to the meeting.

Number of 2, 3 or 4" pots: _____ X 1 = _____ tickets

Number of 6" pots or 6-packs: _____ X 1.5 = _____ tickets (round up to whole number)

Number of 1-gal. pots: _____ X 2 = _____ tickets

Number of 2-gal. pots: _____ X 3 = _____ tickets

Miscellaneous items (to be priced at meeting): _____ tickets

TOTAL TICKETS: _____





The Gardeners' Club

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Membership Suzanne Caron 609-6230

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Newsletter Writer/Editor Lise Bixler, 457-2089

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Plant Table Lupe Allen, 247-2705

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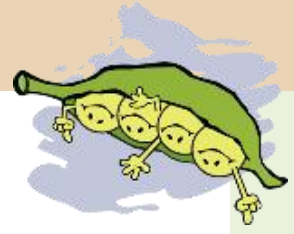
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It's easy-peasy to join our club!

Dues are \$15 per calendar year. Make check to "The Gardeners' Club" and mail to P.O. Box 3025, Ben Lomond, CA 95005. Meetings are held at 7:00 p.m. on the 2nd Thursday of each month at the Aptos Grange, 2555 Mar Vista Dr., Aptos

Our front page logo is graciously shared with us by artist Lisa Zador. Order a print or see more of her work at her Etsy shop www.etsy.com/shop/curiousprintpattern.