



UC DAVIS ARBORETUM REVIEW

FALL PLANT SALES

SATURDAY,
OCTOBER 5

9 AM - 11 AM
Members Only

Open to the Public
11 AM - 1 PM

SUNDAY,
OCTOBER 20

Open to the Public
9 AM - 1 PM

Arboretum Teaching
Nursery
Garrod Drive, UC Davis
arboretum.ucdavis.edu

FALL PLANT SALE FOCUS: THE NEW FRONT YARD

Ellen Zagory, Director of Horticulture

HAVE YOU NOTICED A CHANGE in your neighborhood? In the front yard, instead of lawn, homeowners looking to reduce landscape water use are planting drought-tolerant shrubs, perennials and grasses. This alternative to a mowed lawn can be beautiful and interesting with a minimal amount of care and a significant reduction in watering. A simple design will keep the maintenance low, which is desirable to most homeowners. But which plants are best to use in Central Valley front yards?

I believe that the best and most beautiful plantings result from a combination of plants, mixing non-natives with California native plants. Evergreen Mediterranean plants, like lavender and rosemary, can provide year-round structure while seasonal color perennials come and go. Including as many California natives as possible boosts the odds of attracting and supporting birds and beneficial insects by providing food in the form of nectar and pollen, larval food plants and fruits and seeds. Native shrubs like California lilac (*Ceanothus*), redbuds (*Cercis occidentalis*), and coffeeberry (*Rhamnus californica*) are important floral resources for the early-season native bees as well as for natural enemies of pest insects. Evergreen native grasses like deer grass (*Muhlenbergia rigens*), provide an accent in the planting and shelter for overwintering insects. Herbaceous perennials like goldenrod (*Solidago californica*) and asters bloom in summer and fall, providing much needed late-season pollen and nectar for butterflies and bees. And all gardens need a “hummingbird magnet” in the form of California fuchsia (*Epilobium canum* cultivars) guaranteed to bring those feisty jewels into view.

Before you decide to convert your high-water turf, make a plan and approach the change carefully. Ask yourself if your shade trees might be negatively affected if they get less water. Start small and convert areas a section at a time to make work manageable. Talk to local nurseries and investigate your local chapter of the California Native Plant Society to find out when their sales are and get their list of local retail suppliers. And of course visit the gardens in the Arboretum to get ideas of plants and their combinations that you like, then shop the Friends of the UC Davis Arboretum plant sales in October for hard-to-find varieties.

The most fun of your new front yard will be when your plant choices bring your garden alive with all sorts of flying creatures, providing you with the opportunity to observe firsthand the seasonal cycles of flowers, birds, butterflies and beneficial insects. At the same time, your plot of earth, and that of like-minded neighbors, will help support songbirds and declining pollinator populations while bringing nature home where you can witness it in all its complexity, right outside your door.

PEEK INSIDE AT PAGE 2 to see many of the plants mentioned in Ellen's article above. A large selection of grasses and flowering perennials like these will be available at the Friends of the UC Davis Arboretum's Fall Plant Sales. We hope to see you there!





JAPANESE SILVER GRASS
Miscanthus sinensis
'Morning Light'

Delicate white striped leaves make a fountain of fine-textured foliage topped with golden fingers of flowers. This grass makes a great vertical accent and is especially beautiful backlit by the afternoon sun. Cut back in winter.



KARL FOERSTER FEATHER REED GRASS
Calamagrostis x acutiflora
'Karl Foerster'

A tough and vigorous bloomer over a long season, the flower spikes change from open and delicate wands to warm, tan-colored masses. Cut to ground in winter.



RED BUCKWHEAT
Eriogonum grande
var. rubescens

Silver leaves produce adorable pink "fists" sure to attract butterflies and beneficial insects to your garden. A small to medium sized evergreen plant that dislikes heavy soils, great on a wall or mound.



CALIFORNIA FUCHSIA
Eriogonum grande

Perfect for summer color and drawing hummingbirds to your garden, this tough native has bright orange-red flowers. Cut or mow to the ground in winter.



DEERGRASS
Muhlenbergia
rigens

Like a Fourth of July explosion the long narrow stalks on this grass shoot outwards to make a marvelous "pouf" of form. Only needs cutting every few years.



BLUE GRAMA GRASS
Bouteloua gracilis

This small, very vertical, native grass will delight you in summer with its golden "toothbrushes" massed atop delicate stems. It has a beautiful golden sheen in summer and should be cut to ground in winter.



CASCADE CREEK CALIFORNIA GOLDENROD
Solidago californica
'Cascade Creek'

Golden flowers in late summer and fall will attract native bees and butterflies up close for your inspection. A very low-water plant, great for sunny dry areas. Cut to the ground in winter.



WAYNE RODERICK SEASIDE DAISY
Erigeron
'W.R.'

An attractive small mound of foliage will produce lavender and green daisies from spring to fall. Good for the front of the water-saving landscape.

Kend Linderholm, has, for the last two years, led a popular Arboretum summer event focused on helping homeowners convert their lawns to sustainable landscapes. Find him at our fall plant sales where he will be available to share his experience and answer your questions about creating a "New Front Yard," the focus for this year's fall plant sales.



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

KEND LINDERHOLM, volunteer extraordinaire, wears different hats in the Arboretum depending on the day. Tuesdays he works with a gardening group, Thursday you can find him propagating plants at the nursery, Saturdays he may be a docent leading tours through Shields Oak Grove, or, if there's a plant sale, you'll find Kend donning an orange apron, ready to help customers with their purchases.

Kend's background does not include a formal education in plants. However, as the son of a botany major (his mother) he grew up with a love of and curiosity about plants. But this is not what drove him to volunteer.

"It's the people," explains Kend. "I enjoy speaking with the experienced and incredibly helpful Arboretum staff and enjoy the camaraderie of my fellow workers." Kend continues, "The Arboretum treats us really well. It's a great place to spend time and volunteer."

When Kend is not volunteering in the Arboretum or cycling through its collections on his recumbent tricycle, he enjoys retirement as an artist who creates unique metal and glass sculptures—many of which are on display in his own landscape.

"Two-year-olds love my work!" laughs Kend.

Thank you Kend for your time, effort, and dedication. Everyone at the Arboretum loves your work too!

Are you interested in becoming a volunteer? The Arboretum is offering a new volunteer training session this fall. See the article on page 4.

DONOR SPOTLIGHT

WHAT INSPIRES INDIVIDUALS to donate time, talents and financial support to the Arboretum? Arboretum enthusiasts Dr. Ernest and Mary Ann Lewis describe their motivation in this way: "The Arboretum is, for us, 'The Jewel in the Crown' of the UC Davis campus and the City of Davis. It is a place in which we experience beauty, joy and serenity. We want to do all we possibly can to assure that it is here for future generations."

The involvement of the Lewises is deep and broad. Ernie, retired Associate Dean of Student Affairs and Admissions at the UC Davis Medical School, has served on the board of the Friends of the UC Davis Arboretum for more than 14 years. Together, Ernie and Mary Ann serve on the GATEways Planning Council, established in 2011 to advise on development of the campus-wide GATEways Project led by the Arboretum and Public Garden.

In addition to being loyal annual donors, Ernie and Mary Ann took their giving a step further in 2012 by establishing the Mary Ann & Ernest Lewis Arboretum Endowment to provide on-going general support for the Arboretum. Even more recently, Ernie has helped connect the Arboretum with the EXCElerate Foundation which has awarded the Arboretum a major multi-year grant in support of a Learning by Leading initiative.

Thank you Mary Ann and Ernie for your vision, leadership and generosity!



SHOVEL DRIVE UPDATE

WE DID IT! Thanks to individual donors, the City of Davis, and Whole Foods Market, who sponsored two combination tasting events and shovel drives over the summer, we met our goal of collecting 400 used shovels for a city and campus sculpture project. Throughout October artist Chris Fennell will be on site, at the California Native Plant GATEway Garden, to fabricate the piece.





SIGN-UP! NEW NATIVE PLANT GARDENING VOLUNTEER TRAINING STARTS THIS FALL

Do you love native plants? Do you want to spend more time outdoors? Consider joining the UC Davis Arboretum and Tree Davis for a new volunteer training focused on native plant gardening! Training will include an introduction to the native plants of this region and basic gardening, tree care, and restoration techniques. Volunteers will play a key role in the installation, establishment, and ongoing care of plantings in the Arboretum's new California Native Plant GATEway Garden and the Putah Creek Parkway (an adjacent City of Davis greenbelt) in the City Arts GATEway.

Volunteers will learn new skills, contribute to an exciting community project, and share fun, food and camaraderie. Trainings will include a combination of instruction and hands-on projects and will be held on Fridays from 9 am to noon starting on October 18th and continuing through the end of the year. For more information or to apply, please contact Roxanne Reynolds at (530) 752-4880 or arboretum@ucdavis.edu.



SUMMER GATEWAYS EVENTS (Gardens, Arts, & The Environment)

Your membership in and gifts to the Friends of the UC Davis Arboretum help fund these and other educational programs for our community. Thank you!



Photo: Kevin Adamski

The Wyatt Deck was the perfect setting for Common House Productions' Summer Theater Festival, co-sponsored by the Friends of the UC Davis Arboretum. From left, actors Skylar Collins, Cody Ganger, Katie Michelle and Steph Hankinson, in a compelling scene from *Love's Labour's Lost*. Common House also performed Oscar Wilde's *The Importance of Being Earnest* in the festival.



Photo: Elaine Fingerett

Young visitors examine the didgeridoo, a eucalyptus trunk hollowed out by termites. Participants at Storytime through the Seasons: Down Under the Eucalyptus, presented by the Arboretum Ambassadors, played a variety of musical instruments and sang Australian songs.



Photo: Katie Herrick

Under the direction of the Davis Shakespeare Ensemble, young actors rehearse a scene from *As You Like It* during the first week of Camp Shakespeare in the Arboretum.



Photo: Daniel Salas

Sold-out audiences delighted at Davis Shakespeare Ensemble's production of *As You Like It* at the Arboretum Gazebo. From left, are actors Richard Chowenhill, Casey Worthington, Gia Battista, Jason Oler, Samia LaVirgne, Hayley Palmer, Tony Dumas, Melanie Marshall, and Sarah Cohen.



FALL 2013 GATEWAYS EVENTS

PLANT SALES

FALL FOCUS: THE NEW FRONT YARD

Saturday, October 5

9-11 am: member sale (join at door); 11 am-1 pm: public sale

Sunday, October 20, 9 am-1 pm

UC Davis Arboretum Teaching Nursery (across from Vet Med)

Replace your lawn or refresh your landscape with attractive, low-water, easy-care, California native plants, as well as a large selection of Arboretum All-Stars.

GUIDED TOURS

WEDNESDAY WALKS WITH WARREN

October 9: Savor the colors of fall

November 13: Exploring oaks from around the world

December 11: Winter wonders of the west side gardens

All walks begin at 12 pm, Gazebo

Join Warren Roberts, the Superintendent Emeritus of the Arboretum and famous storyteller and punster for an always engaging noontime exploration of the UC Davis Arboretum's west-end gardens.

CELEBRATE "OAKTOBER!"

Saturday, October 12, 11 am, Gazebo

It's acorn time in the oak grove again. Explore the Shields Oak Grove in autumn to see signs of how these massive trees prepare for winter.

NATIVES AS THE "NEW FRONT YARD"

Saturday, October 19, 10 am, Buehler Alumni & Visitors Center

California native plants are a great choice for the "new front yard" that features low-water, easy-care plantings. Tour the Mary Wattis Brown Garden of Native Plants, then shop for plants at the Arboretum plant sale on October 20.

NATIVE AMERICAN USES OF CALIFORNIA PLANTS

Saturday, November 9, 11 am, Buehler Alumni & Visitors Center

Enjoy an engaging, family-friendly tour of the Native American Contemplative Garden and discover traditional uses for a variety of California plants.

FAMILY NATURE PROGRAM

STORYTIME THROUGH THE SEASONS: UNDER THE REDWOOD TREE

Sunday, November 3, 1-3 pm, Wyatt Deck

(Rain location: 146 Environmental Horticulture)

Join us for a free, outdoor reading program exploring the cultural and natural world of Native Californians. Enjoy traditional stories, games, and arts. All ages are welcome!

SCIENCE CAFÉ

SEABED TO BEDSIDE: NEW MEDICINES FROM MARINE ORGANISMS

Wednesday, October 9, 5:15 pm, Wyatt Deck

(Rain location: 146 Environmental Horticulture)

UC Santa Cruz Professor Roger Linington will discuss innovative approaches to finding natural chemicals from marine organisms that serve as starting points for the discovery of new medicines. Co-sponsored by Prof. Jared Shaw and the Chemistry Department, and funded by the National Science Foundation.

ARTS & LETTERS

OPENING NIGHT: READINGS BY THE CREATIVE WRITING FACULTY

Wednesday, October 2, 7 pm, Wyatt Deck

(Rain location: 126 Voorhies Hall)

Award-winning fiction writers and poets from the UC Davis Creative Writing Program read from their work: Joshua Clover, Lucy Corin, Pam Houston, Yiyun Li, Joe Wenderoth, and Alan Williamson. Sponsored by the English Department and the UC Davis Arboretum.

COMMON HOUSE PRODUCTIONS and the Friends of the UC Davis Arboretum present:

PRELUDE TO A KISS BY CRAIG LUCAS

Fridays-Sundays, Oct. 11-13; Oct. 18-20; & Oct. 25-27, 8 pm, Wyatt Deck

This slightly dark, but touching comedy features a whirlwind romance that culminates in a single moment of hesitation on the day of Peter and Rita's wedding.

Tickets: Adults \$12, Students/Seniors (60+) \$10.

For reservations and more information, visit

commonhouseproductions.com.

FOLK MUSIC JAM SESSIONS

Alternate Fridays: October 11 & 25, November 8 & 22, December 6 & 20, 12-1 pm, Wyatt Deck

Folk musicians bring their acoustic instruments and play together informally over the lunch hour. All skill levels are welcome and listeners are invited.

POETRY IN THE GARDEN: CRAWDAD NELSON AND BENNY BIESEK

Thursday, November 7, 12-1 pm, Wyatt Deck

Acclaimed poets Crowdad Nelson and Benjamin Biesek will read from their work.

We extend our sincere gratitude to these donors

BENCH IN MEMORY OF PHILLIP ACTON BARKER

John Barker

IN MEMORY OF DOUGLAS WILSON

Robert Beekman & Judi Kalitzki

GIFTS IN KIND

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The Gifted Gardener
Three Palms Nursery
Whole Foods Market Davis

NATURE'S GALLERY COURT

INSECT TILES
Daniel Feldman

UNRESTRICTED GIFTS

Whole Foods Market Davis

NEW-RENEW MEMBERS:

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VALLEY OAK CIRCLE

Bette & Howard Swarts

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Naomi Ambriz-Spotnitz
Milena Baldis
Bernadette Balics
Cidney Barcellos
Glenn Bartley
Patricia Bateman
JoJeanne Baughn
Linda Baumann
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Margaret Brody
Patricia Brown
Teresa Bunn
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Frank Chan
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Teresa Foley
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Myrtis Hadden
Megan Harns
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Sally Hirst
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Tristan Burgess
Meredith Cenzer
Allison Dedrick
Julio Gomez
Lexi Howard
Becky Lee
Andrew Thron

DEC
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DEADLINE FOR TAX-FREE IRA CHARITABLE GIFT OPPORTUNITY

THE WINDOW OF OPPORTUNITY for making a tax-free distribution of an IRA account is closing soon for seniors. The IRA Charitable Rollover allows individuals 70 ½ or older to give tax-free donations to charity from their traditional IRA account of any amount up to \$100,000. This option is set to expire on December 31, 2013 – so act fast to help a charity of your choice while also reaping potential tax benefits.

If you'd like to consider an IRA Charitable Rollover gift to the UC Davis Arboretum and Public Garden, we encourage you to consult your professional advisor, then please contact Suzanne Ullensvang, Resource Development Manager, at (530) 752-8324 or sullensvang@ucdavis.edu.



UC DAVIS BECOMES SMOKE & TOBACCO FREE THIS JANUARY

FOR A HEALTHIER COMMUNITY AND CLEANER ENVIRONMENT, on January 1, 2014, UC Davis joins all UC campuses and medical centers, and more than 750 other U.S. universities, in becoming smoke and tobacco-free. This means that the use of cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, and "e-cigarette" nicotine products is prohibited indoors and out, including streets, parking lots, residential units on university property, and, of course, throughout the UC Davis Arboretum.

For more information about this policy as well as quitting resources, visit: breathefree.ucdavis.edu.

We strive to acknowledge your gifts accurately. Please notify us of any corrections.



Emily Griswold, director of GATEways horticulture and teaching gardens, and project manager for the California Native Plant GATEway Garden located in the Arboretum's City-Arts GATEway.

ACTIVITY IN THE ARBORETUM'S EAST END

NOW THRU NOVEMBER: California Native Plant GATEway Garden construction began on August 7 and is currently scheduled for completion in mid-November.

MID-SEPTEMBER: Davis Commons green parking lot retrofit and new Arboretum entry path completed.

OCTOBER: Chris Fennell, renowned recycled materials sculptor, begins creating a vine-inspired gateway made from community-donated shovel heads on site at the California Native Plant GATEway Garden.



ANIMAL SCIENCE GATEWAY GARDEN

DON'T MISS the Animal Science GATEway Garden just because the gate is closed! It pushes right open to give visitors a closer glimpse of the animals, and, once the interpretive signage is installed, an educational look at the UC Davis Animal Science Department.

Amidst the sustainable plantings from California and the southwest, take note of the farm equipment re-purposed by creative Animal Science crew members—a bench crafted using old wagon wheels, a seating area fashioned from a squeeze chute, planters made from concrete irrigation pipes and a hay feeder that now serves as a picnic table.

COMING THIS FALL, under the large valley oak at the center of the garden, you will find a teaching and event deck milled from the wood of campus-grown trees removed for health or safety reasons.



OPEN AGAIN! Over the summer much of this collection was closed for the installation of an irrigation system funded with help from campus as well as a grant from the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services. With the upgrade, this collection's watering will be controlled and monitored

by the campus's central irrigation system—a high-tech tool able to determine the amount of irrigation needed based on weather conditions. In other words, the sprinklers will not automatically run if it is raining and our visitors will no longer be subject to quick showers when visiting this area!

UC DAVIS ARBORETUM REVIEW

University of California (AM39)
One Shields Avenue
Davis, California 95616
(530) 752-4880
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FROM THE DIRECTOR



Dear Friends,

Fall is in the air and we are feeling the vitality from our students as they arrive on campus for the start of a new school year.

To kick off the season we are hosting our Friends of the UC Davis Arboretum fall plant sale fundraisers on October 5th and 20th. With the reduction of water use becoming ever more important, our focus is on helping you create “The New Front Yard.” At these sales we will provide our customers with a variety of plants great for replacing lawns or sprucing up existing landscaping, including California natives and a large selection of Arboretum All-Stars (see pages 1-2).

I’m also thrilled and proud to let you know that, thanks to our members and other supportive community participants including the City of Davis and Whole Foods Market, we achieved our goal of collecting 400 used shovels for the vine-inspired sculpture that will mark a new entrance to our campus and serve as an important City Arts GATEway connection.

Because there is so much energy and support for our Arboretum, you may have noticed detours popping up as we make improvements and expand our outdoor education areas. Your patience with this construction is greatly appreciated. For updates on these larger projects, as well as their timelines for completion, see page 7.

As we expand our physical offerings, we also seek to expand our volunteer programs. For that reason we are recruiting a new volunteer group specifically for the new California Native Plant GATEway Garden in the City Arts GATEway. If you have an interest in California native plants or just like working outdoors, I hope you will consider this great opportunity for a specialized, hands-on education (see page 4).

Lastly, please join me in thanking dedicated donors Ernie and Mary Ann Lewis for their generosity of time, support and experience, as well as devoted volunteer Kend Linderholm (see Donor and Volunteer Spotlights on page 3).

Whether you visit for a stroll, a plant sale or GATEways event, I look forward to seeing you in the garden.

Kathleen

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