

Hello, Lindsey!

Did you know that the most common months for residential fires are November through March? When the weather is cooler, people spend more time indoors, and it should come as no surprise that cooking is the leading cause of house fires in the US.

One of my responsibilities as the Safety Coordinator for UCCE Central Sierra is to keep staff up-to-date on training courses required for the workplace, some of which can also be useful at home.

Recently the UCCE Central Sierra team gathered in Jackson for an annual in-person staff meeting and safety training. Special thanks to the Amador County Fire Protection District crew members who provided fire extinguisher training and a hands-on demonstration for everyone in attendance!

As part of the meeting, staff reviewed safety plans for each of the five offices in the Central Sierra multi-county partnership (Jackson, Placerville, San Andreas, South Lake Tahoe, and Sonora), then inventoried and restocked first aid kits for each location.

Team members participated in a hybrid first aid certification course and the first aid instructor shared candid information about first aid scenarios and the most important items to keep in a first aid kit.

After this year's safety meeting, it's safe to say that Central Sierra staff are better prepared to address urgent situations in both the office and the field, should the need arise.

You too can prepare for the unexpected. Visit the [Red Cross Home Fire Preparedness website](#) for safety tips and a Cooking Fires Fact Sheet.



Angela

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UCCE Central Sierra CLASSES & EVENTS November 2024

November 2, 2024

[Asexual Propagation](#)

Placerville, El Dorado

[Preventing Home Garden Pest Problems](#)

Jackson, Amador

	Open Garden & Tour (El Dorado)	Placerville, El Dorado
	Family Day in the Garden (Tuolumne)	Sonora, Tuolumne
November 7, 2024	Open Garden (Calaveras)	San Andreas, Calaveras
November 13, 2024	Gifts from the Garden & Kitchen	Cameron Park, El Dorado
November 14, 2024	Open Garden (Calaveras)	San Andreas, Calaveras
November 16, 2024	Gifts from the Kitchen	Jackson, Amador
November 19, 2024	4-H New Adult Volunteer Orientation	Online
November 21, 2024	Open Garden (Calaveras)	San Andreas, Calaveras
November 25, 2024	Deadline to apply for Master Food Preserver Training Class	Amador and Calaveras Counties



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Agriculture and Natural Resources

Forest Stewardship

Register now for a White and Black Oak Management webinar
Online Tuesday, December 3, 2024
6:00pm - 8:00pm

Hosted by:
University of California Cooperative Extension
In collaboration with:
Cal Poly Humboldt
UC ANR Post-fire Forest Resilience Program

The Forest Stewardship Program is hosting this special session focusing on white and black oak management with Yana Valachovic, UC ANR Forestry and Natural Resources Advisor; Jeff Stackhouse, UC ANR Livestock and Natural Resources Advisor; and Pascal Berrill, Professor, Department of Forestry, Fire, and Rangeland Management, Cal Poly Humboldt.

Join the webinar to learn more about:

- White & black oak characteristics, habitat, and management challenges;
- Oak recruitment & survivorship; and BMP's using grazing for vegetation management in oak woodlands;
- BMP's for managing black oaks after a wildfire; and
- Rules & regulations to operate under when managing oaks.

Registration is free. Sign up now at:
<https://surveys.ucanr.edu/surveys.cfm?surveyname=43869>

For questions, contact Kim Ingram, kcingram@ucanr.edu, or Nic Dutch, ndutch@ucanr.edu

The Forest Stewardship Education Initiative is a CAJFRI funded project (B646161), awarded July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2022, to Susan Koehn, IPW#2874, University of California Cooperative Extension, to help landowners develop forest management plans.

White and Black Oak Management Webinar

The Forest Stewardship Program is hosting this special session focusing on white and black oak management online Tuesday, December 3, from 6:00 - 8:00 pm.

Learn about characteristics, habitat and management challenges, recruitment and survivorship, BMPs using grazing for vegetation management, and rules & regs.

[Register Now](#)

For more information contact [Kim Ingram](#) or [view the workshop flyer](#).

Be on the Lookout for this New Threat to Our Native Oaks!



In California we love our beautiful native oak lands. Unfortunately, there are many pests, diseases, and abiotic problems that threaten our native oak species.

One of the most recent threats comes from a very tiny beetle called the Mediterranean oak borer (*Xyleborus monographus*). In 2019, several oak trees in Napa County were found to be infested and since that time established populations have been found within other parts of Napa,

Lake, Sonoma, and Sacramento Counties.

The population in Sacramento is suspected to be the result of humans moving infested material from the initial infestation in Napa. To help prevent the spread of this invasive species and other woodboring invasives, do not move firewood far from the source.

For more information please visit:

www.dontmovefirewood.org/pest_pathogen/mediterranean-oak-borer/

Read the rest of this article by [clicking this link to open the document.](#)

November is the busy time of year for the Master Food Preserver hotline!

In the United States, our Thanksgiving holiday is basically devoted to eating as much as possible, and as well as possible, on a single day!

The most common types of food-borne illness may be related to the centerpiece of that meal, the roasted (or smoked, or fried) turkey.

And the most common questions we get are related to safe thawing, cooking times, and stuffing of the bird. We have a guide for this! Download the UC Master Food Preservers of El Dorado County Holiday Food Safety guide [with this link.](#)

TURKEY THAWING CHART		
Weight	Refrigerator	Cold Water
4 - 12 lbs	1 - 3 days	2 - 6 hours
12 - 16 lbs	3 - 4 days	6 - 8 hours
16 - 20 lbs	4 - 5 days	8 - 10 hours
20 - 24 lbs	5 - 6 days	10 - 12 hours

NOTE: DO NOT THAW POULTRY (OR ANY MEAT) AT ROOM TEMPERATURE!



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UC Master Food Preserver Program



Please, don't wash that turkey!

This may seem counter-intuitive or contrary to what you've previously been taught, but times change and so do food handling recommendations.

Washing poultry can lead to Salmonella contamination in the kitchen.

[Learn more by opening this link](#)

Please tell us: Will you wash your turkey this year?

Yes, I still will

No, I've changed my ways

I stopped washing meat a while ago



Family Day in the Garden features free crafts for all ages, including

- Ice Cream Cone Bird Feeders
- Leaf Man Activity/Craft
- Paper Mache Ornaments
- Paper Roll Angel
- Pinecone Reindeer
- Pollinator Pond
- Stamped Ceramic Bird Ornaments
- Wildflower Seed Bombs
- Wood Round Pumpkin Decorations
- and many more.

The Demonstration Garden, located at 251 S. Barretta Street in Sonora (at the Cassina High School Campus) is a project of the UC Master Gardeners of Tuolumne County, whose primary goal is to educate the public about home gardening.

All activities are absolutely free and subject to change

For more information contact the UC Cooperative Extension office in Sonora at 209-533-5695

November is the best month to plant trees and shrubs in the foothills of El Dorado County. It's also time to prune and clean up for fire prevention. Do you still have bulbs chilling in the refrigerator? Get them in the ground. [More November Gardening Tips for this area here](#)

If you are **gardening in South Lake Tahoe**, [add your name to our newsletter and events update list](#) to get the latest information sent to your email inbox. You can [view past newsletters at our website](#). At these higher elevations, it's time to clean and store tools, prep any recirculating water features for winter, and think about wrapping the trees and shrubs susceptible to breakage from heavy setting snow or drying winds.



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Harvest of the Month: Sweet Potatoes

There are three questions that swirl around this odd-looking vegetable:

1. **Are they potatoes?** Sweet potatoes are botanically unrelated to the Irish (or white) potato. The term "sweet potato" is really a misnomer, because it implies that they are potatoes that are sweet, when, in reality, they are as different from potatoes as carrots are.
2. **Is a sweet potato the same as a yam?** Short answer, no. True yams are difficult to find in the US, and are imported from the Caribbean, Asia, and Latin America. The variations in color and shape in grocery stores here in the US generally indicate different varieties of sweet potatoes, and are not technically yams, even though our families may have been calling them that for generations!
3. **With marshmallows or without?** This sweet root vegetable is high in vitamins A, C, beta-carotene, and fiber, and ranks as one of the healthiest vegetables (marshmallows notwithstanding).



Apple Glazed Sweet Potatoes

So easy, just simmer sweet potato slices in juice and serve. 2½ cups unsweetened 100% apple juice ½ teaspoon ground cinnamon ¼ teaspoon salt 2 pounds sweet potatoes (about 4 small potatoes), peeled and thinly sliced Combine apple juice, cinnamon, and salt in a



large skillet.

Get the Recipe

Please vote: With marshmallows or without?

Definitely yes

No thank you



Attention Farmers

Participate in a short online survey for the FRISBE project, which aims to gather farmers' knowledge on climate variability, perceived impacts, and adaptation measures and barriers.

Make your voice heard! The survey is anonymous and can be filled via mobile phone or computer. It is available in English and Spanish and the response time is no more than 10-12 minutes.

Link: <https://forms.office.com/e/yZr0Fzgw1g>

*FRISBE is *Reinforcing Climate Risk Management from Farmers' Behavior and User-Driven Indicators*, a research project led by Sandra Ricart, Prof. at the Polytechnic University of Milan (Italy) and visiting at UCLA, and Prof. Alvar Escriva-Bou, from the University of California Davis, to delve into farmers' expertise and behavior towards changes in climate.

Do you own land in California? Do you have opinions about fire management?

If yes, we want to hear from you!

Researchers from Penn State University are conducting a survey of private landowners in California, funded by the Joint Fire Science Program. This survey investigates landowner views and intentions to use planned burning as a land management practice. You will be asked about your land ownership characteristics, knowledge and experience with wildfire, attitudes toward planned burning, and preferences for programs to support burning.

It takes about 25 – 30 minutes to complete the survey. Your responses are strictly confidential, and participation is voluntary. Thank you very much, your input matters! To take the survey, please visit the study website or scan the QR code.

<https://sites.psu.edu/firesurvey/>



If you have any questions, please contact
Arun Regmi (arun.regmi@psu.edu)

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