



Advice to Grow by... Ask Us! Master Gardener Program

University of California Cooperative Extension 

UCCE Master Gardeners of Lake Tahoe *Lake Tahoe Horticulture News*

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Sat., May 20th

Day at the Library

Join us at the South Lake Tahoe Library for a day of Growing Food in Tahoe.

10 am- 12 pm:

Growing Asparagus Talk
by Master Gardener Dave Long

May 2017

Coordinator's Corner:

"In the spring, at the end of the day you should smell like dirt." -- Margaret Atwood

Greetings!

I know it has been awhile, but if you are like me you are probably dreaming of getting your hands dirty in the garden. The snow is finally melting, the sun is shining, and we are finally getting a chance to see what shape our gardens are in. Now comes the work (and love).

Oh, what a winter it has been! On April 13th, the National Weather Service office in Sacramento announced that the northern Sierra had achieved its wettest year in recorded history. Well above the values registered back in 1982-83 during one of the strongest El Niño events on record. Wow! All of this weather has taken a toll on our gardens, please take a moment to read the article below about how to address broken shrubs and trees in your garden.

Additionally, this winter has taken quite a toll on all of the plants that the Master Gardeners have been growing for our annual plant sale. We want to give the plants a little longer before we put them in all of your trusting hands. We will be making a few changes to our plant sale this year, please read the plant sale update below.

We are excited to invite you to one of our many *Growing Food in Tahoe* workshops that will be going on for the entire month of May. This is a series of 4 workshops and all participants will get free plants. Workshops will be held in Tahoe City, Truckee, Incline Village and South Lake Tahoe. We hope that you will be able to join us! Also, Gary Romano has been rescheduled for May 20th at the South Lake Tahoe library.

Thanks for taking the time to read! We hope to see you this summer at one of our plant sales, farmers market booths or the Growing Food in Tahoe workshops!

Sincerely,

Megan Suarez-Brand

Growing Food in Lake Tahoe Series

FREE PLANTS!

2 pm - 3 pm:

July & August Growing Food in the Sierra, Author Gary Romano

South Lake Tahoe Library

1000 Rufus Allen Blvd., SLT

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Yes it can be done, and you can get FREE plants!

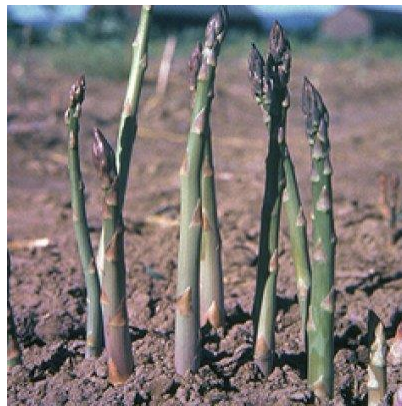
Ever consider growing fruits and vegetables in your garden here in Tahoe?

Join us this May for workshops to learn how food can be grown at the Lake.

Participants receive instruction on cultivation techniques, history and background on the plants being highlighted. Everyone will leave with free plants for their gardens. These are family friendly workshops, with hands-on opportunities to get acquainted with growing vegetables.

This spring our workshops will be focused on potatoes & onions, strawberries, asparagus and tomatoes. A series of 4 workshops will

be hosted around the lake in Incline Village, Truckee, Tahoe City, Stateline and South Lake Tahoe. Visit our website for [specific dates and locations](#).



Annual Plant Sale Changes

The UCCE Master Gardeners of Lake Tahoe 4th annual Plant Sale's format will be a bit different this year. Natives and other perennials need more time to grow out of their overwintering slumber so the Sale will be held in two segments. [Vegetable Plant Sale](#) will be held at Ski Run Farmers Market from 3 pm to 7 pm (or until all plants have been sold) and the

[Natives and Perennials](#) will be sold on Saturday, September 9th from 9 am to 12 pm.



This year's Plant Sale is a joint effort with Sierra House Elementary School. Students will be joining the Master Gardeners at the June 9th Sale with handcrafted student Garden Art offered for a donation to their Gardening Program. The September Sale will be held at the School with tours of their Growing Domes and Native Gardens.

Master Gardeners will be on hand to answer your questions about gardening at Tahoe.

Whether it be growing vegetables, learning which plants attract butterflies and bees, finding out how to keep a garden growing with less water, or learning about various phenology studies that are taking place in our area, you will find a wealth of information.

UCCE Master Gardeners of Lake Tahoe are a dedicated group of locals, trained by University of California Cooperative Extension, sharing their knowledge to meet the horticulture needs of Lake Tahoe Basin gardeners. The Plant Sale supports their programs which include workshops, classes and other events such as Growing Food in Tahoe and the Tahoe Friendly Garden Program.

Broken tree branches getting you down?

By: Bonnie Turnbull, UCCE Master Gardener of Lake Tahoe

What did the melting snow reveal about your landscape?

This year, the snowplows pushed my snowbanks higher and higher--until only the tippy top of my crabapple tree stuck above the snow.

This is how my tree looked once the snow melted away. Do you have broken and split branches? Bent or topped trees?

That exposed inner wood is an invitation for disease and pests to invade your trees and shrubs, so it's not too soon to get out your saw and clippers and do the pruning that will begin the healing process. But you may be like me--unsure where to start? What to save and what to remove?



This terrific reference, [*After the Storm: Caring for your trees*](#) by Montana State University Extension Forestry Specialist Peter Kolb, will show you how to treat various types of injuries. Simply scan the article until you see the illustration that matches your problem and you will feel confident and ready to get started.

Tahoe Friendly Garden Program

The UCCE Master Gardeners of Lake Tahoe are excited to announce a new gardening program. [Tahoe Friendly Garden Program](#) encouraging gardening that practices "right plant in the right place."

It is a non-regulatory, voluntary sign-up program administered by the UCCE Master Gardeners of Lake Tahoe. Our goal is to encourage residents of Lake Tahoe to garden in a manner that strives to fit our local conditions.

The Tahoe Friendly Garden Program encourages gardens that use less water, fertilizer and pesticides, and includes a diversity of plants and landscape options.

Tahoe Friendly Garden Elements into Action... We've created a certification program to:

- Reward Tahoe gardeners for their positive efforts!



- Encourage Tahoe residents and visitors to appreciate native and adapted plants.
- Make gardening fun!
- Keep Tahoe naturally beautiful!

The Tahoe Friendly Garden Certification Program is easy! You are probably already doing many of the techniques. Take the voluntary survey to see if your current gardening practices qualify your yard.

<http://ucanr.edu/tahoefriendlygarden>



Sincerely,

Megan Suarez-Brand, Program Coordinator & UCCE Master Gardener of Lake Tahoe Contributors: Dave Long and Bonnie Turnbull. Thank you to the other UCCE contributors.

The UCCE Master Gardeners of Lake Tahoe strive to meet the horticulture needs of the Lake Tahoe Basin Community, we are pleased to extend research-based information to fellow gardeners on home horticulture. Our Master Gardener volunteers receive training and certification from the University of California Cooperative Extension and provide practical scientific gardening information.

The University of California working in cooperation with County Government and the United States Department of Agriculture.

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