

The Monterey Bay Master Gardeners

What's Happening in the MBMG

March 2010

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Our Water Our World

At the UCCE on January 23rd two representatives of Ecology Action and the Monterey Bay Our Water Our World (OWOW) program put on a lively and knowledgeable presentation that included role playing.

Through a grant from the National Marine Sanctuaries, OWOW has invited the MBMG to join in their purpose of introducing IPM to the general public. It is a third party voice that is not connected to commerce. They describe it as "working in the trenches" because part of the effort is making presentations to passerby at participating gardening centers including Home Depot and OSH.

This coincides with our interests in IPM and will give us additional public presence in both Monterey and Santa Cruz Counties.

You will be trained by attending a "Store Set" where employees of participating stores are trained in ecological gardening practices that protect water quality. The MBMG organization receives \$100 for each store set completed. You can then "Adopt a Store". There are 24 participating stores in the program from Boulder Creek to King City. You can choose how and when you keep up the literature, maintain the Shelf Talkers, etc. at the store. In addition, when a trained MG completes a 4-hour "Less Toxic Gardening Tabling Event" then \$150 is awarded to the MBMG organization.

OWOW's purpose is to protect all watersheds of the Sanctuary from non-point-source pollution caused by pesticide and fertilizer use in urban landscapes. If you are interested in working with OWOW you should become familiar with the watershed(s) that you are serving in your area. The best map I could find is at http://frap.cdf.ca.gov/ims/coastal_shed/viewer.htm (has a watershed viewer-zoom in to see.)

Reference materials are available at www.ourwaterourworld.org

The contacts are employees of Ecology Action located at 211 River St., Santa Cruz, which is open 9-5 Mon-Fri and is on the web at www.ecoact.org.

Sherry Lee Bryan is the Senior Program Specialist, 426-5925 x114, sherry@ecoact.org. Gavin Comstock is a Program Specialist, 426-5925 x147, gavin@ecoact.org.

Give them a call if you want to participate and they will tell you where and when the next training is. You may also contact Denise Weatherwax at dawax@yahoo.com.

Leora Worthington, 2003

Santa Cruz Home & Garden Expo – Volunteer Opportunity

The Santa Cruz Home and Garden Expo is at the Coconut Grove Saturday and Sunday, March 27 and 28, 10 AM to 5 PM. Four of our MGs have signed on to give presentations at the event: Claudia Boulton (Waterwise Lawn Alternatives"), Barbara Gordon ("Urban Agriculture"), Candice McLaren ("Raising Backyard Chickens"), and Alicia Molina ("Sustainability in the Garden"). We need additional volunteers to staff the MBMG Info Booth. MBMG has been offered free booth space so we can have a presence and disseminate information to home gardeners.

Contact Denise Weatherwax (dawax@yahoo.com or 359-1758) to volunteer, and please state a preference of which day & time you prefer. Suggested three-hour shifts are 9:30-12:30, 12-3, and 2:30 to 5:30. The first shift Saturday may be asked to help set up the booth, and the last shift Sunday may need to help pack up and break it down. See the website: <http://www.coconutgrovesantacruz.com/hgexpo/>

San Francisco Flower and Garden Show

The San Francisco Home and Garden Show is scheduled for the San Mateo Convention Center on March 24-28. See the website for more information. <http://www.sfgardenshow.com/> We need four volunteers to staff the Master Gardeners Booth at the SF Flower and Garden Show on Sunday, March 28. The shifts will be from 9:30-1:30 & 1-5. Volunteers will receive one pass each that allows for full admission to the show. However, you will have to pay for parking (\$12.99). Only certified MGs are eligible for volunteering. We will not be responsible for any takedown on Sunday.

Earth Day 2010

Earth Day 2010, is on April 17th from 11am to 4pm - rain or shine - in San Lorenzo Park behind the County building. Earth Day Santa Cruz is a joint project of the County of Santa Cruz, the City of Santa Cruz, Ecology Action, Save Our Shores, local non-profits, and concerned citizens. To volunteer to staff the MBMG Information Booth, contact Denise Weatherwax (dawax@yahoo.com or 359-1758) to volunteer.

March MBMG Meeting

The March MBMG Meeting will be held at the Hilton Bialek Habitat in Carmel on Saturday March 13. We will begin at 12:30pm with a potluck lunch and a business update. From 1:30-3:00, MG'er Tanja Roos will take the MG's on a private tour of the Habitat. We hope that MG'ers from the 2010 class will join us—it's a great opportunity to meet members from previous years.

The Habitat is holding a free Native Plant Workshop that morning (9am-noon). Registration is on the Habitat website www.carmelhabitat.org.

Good Uses for Your Time and Your Money

Did you know that you can make a donation to the MBMG on the website? There's a link to our PayPal account right on the home page: www.montereybaymastergardeners.org. If you're not able to participate in the Tour or other income-producing activities, you can still help ensure that we have enough money to support our educational mission by contributing cash.

And if you are able to participate, here's a list of the projects currently sanctioned by the MBMG:

Advisory Board: contact, Simon Stapleton; (831) 335 4947; sistapleto@comcast.net

Anzar High School: Maryann McCormick; (831) 333 9579; mmfuschia@gmail.com

Hotline: Martye Lumpkin; (831) 633 6435; martyel@prodigy.net

Masters Garden Tour:

Cynthia Jordan; (831) 426 9673; cynjord@pacbell.net

Bonnie Pond; (831) 768 8275; easystreet43@aol.com

Christina Kriedt; (831) 427 1381; christinakriedt@hotmail.com

Tomina Hutters; (408) 891-5471; mthutters@yahoo.com

Newsletter, *Gardening on the Edge*: Christina Kriedt; (831) 427 1381; christinakriedt@hotmail.com

Newsletter, *What's Happening*: Scott Hoffman; (831) 768-0919; amorticus@hughes.net

Website: Christina Kriedt; (831) 427 1381; christinakriedt@hotmail.com

Beach Garden: Mary Wilson; (831) 393 0193; bluespud@pacbell.net

Cooper-Molera Adobe: Bonnie Gillooly; (831) 624 4678; gillooly@mbay.net

Homeless Garden: Mary Edmund; (831) 475 2633; medmund3@yahoo.com

La Mirada: Carl Voss; (831) 442 0964; CarlFVoss@aol.com

Quail Hollow Ranch: Simon Stapleton; (831) 335 4947; sistapleto@comcast.net

Check with Barbara Schilling whether other projects are approved or if you have an idea for a new project: barbara.schilling@hp.com. For details, read the *2010 Volunteer Brochure* on the website. FYI, the School Garden Consulting position is open.

Also, if you're into high fashion—and who among us isn't—you can purchase a MBMG logo-emblazoned sweatshirt, tee-shirt, hat, mug or other couture items by clicking on the link to Zazzle.com on the home page.

HOTLINE Calendar for March 2010

Hotline March (current as of March 1)				
To sign up for a shift, contact Martye 831-633-6435 or martyel@prodigy.net				
1 Jean Schaaf, T T Gilbert, W Gilbert, G Hannond	2	3 Dianne Yost	4	5 Geri Farasopoulos, T A Kerr, T G Lattig, G Hammond
8 Jean Schaff, TS Dautoff, S Uydess	9	10 Paul McCollum	11	12 Melita Israel, T C Cummings, T Lois Taylor
15 Joy Hickey, T C Rudokas, K Gheen	16	17 Phyllis Hilton	18	19 Melita Israel, T R Vallett, M Franco, E Franco
22 T D Osbourne, T Hiuchman, S Rich	23	24 NEED VOLUNTEER	25	26 CLOSED
29 Darcy Horton, T F Grate	30	31 CLOSED	April 1	2 Geri Farasopoulos, T M Imai

See www.google.com/calendar/embed?src=martyel@prodigy.net for the most up-to-date calendar

Visit www.montereybaymastergardeners.com/calendar for the latest Advanced Training Opps: classes, workshops, events, trainings, demonstrations....Select **MBMG Calendar** ("Choose sub calendar") on the top right of the calendar page.

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