



UC Master Gardener
University of California
Agriculture & Natural Resources

COUNTY BOUNTY

UC Master Gardeners of
Santa Barbara County

August 2026



Picture Courtesy of UCANR



Photo By MG Lisa J

*In a garden, nothing hurries and nothing is wasted.
Every seed is a small promise,
Every bloom proof that patience is rewarded.*
anonymous

Welcome to the August edition of Country Bounty. July's heat has gardeners deadheading lots of flowers and sharpening their shears for summer pruning.

No surprise, August's training focuses on summer pruning and flowers. Thanks for joining us.

Your UC Master Gardeners of Santa Barbara County

Upcoming Summer Classes



Garden Talk

Edible Flowers

Edible flowers have been part of human cuisine and culture for centuries.

- What Flowers are Best
- How to Grow Edibles
- Storage Ideas and More

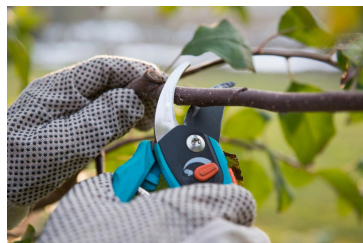
Date: Monday, August 3rd

Time: 7:00 - 8:00 pm

Location: Zoom

Registration Required

[Register Here](#)



Summer Pruning of Fruit Trees & Tool Sharpening

This is such a fun class as master gardeners teach the principles of summer pruning fruit trees. It's so empowering to learn this skill. Naturally, there will be a tool sharpening demo too.

Date: Saturday, Aug 1st

Time: 10:00 - 12:00

Location: Mesa Harmony Garden

Registration Required

[Register Here](#)



Photos Courtesy of Mesa Harmony Garden



Photos Courtesy of UCANR



photos courtesy of MG Lisa J

Mesa Harmony Garden Learning Lab

Exciting news! This month, Russ and the team are expanding MHG learning labs by four sessions. These labs provide an engaging hands-on learning experience where Master Gardeners share their expertise right on the job!

Much of our August focus is on pruning, with an emphasis on Summer pruning of fruit trees given their unique needs. In addition, we will have hands-on pest management and soil-building labs.

Summer Pruning: August 8th and 15th

Integrative Pest Management: August 22nd

Wood Chip Soil Building and Weed

Control: August 29th

Where: Mesa Harmony Gardens

Time: 9:00 am to Noon.

Registration Not Required

Have You Thought or Dreamed About Becoming A Master Gardener? We are accepting applications for our next class.

[Sign Up for Class Info Here](#)

Information and Help Tables

You have questions, and we are here to help find answers.

- DT Farmers Market 8/8 - 9 am- 2 pm
- Alice Keck Park Butterfly Garden - 8/12 & 8/26
- SB Botanic Gardens - 8/8 - 1- 3 pm
- Mesa Harmony Gardens - 8-1, 8/8, 8/15, 8/22, 8/29

Plus... our helpline volunteers love answering questions. Drop them an email at anrmgsb@ucanr.edu or call them at our **new helpline number**, 805-803-1802.

For more info about this program.. [Click Here](#)

The Native Plant Project - Update



To add your support for the native plant project. Click below:

[Yes, Add My Voice For Natives](#)

Photos and story by MG Gene

Last December, 40 volunteers from the Botanic Garden, Friends of State Street, UC Master Gardeners, and the City joined forces to transform the 1200 block of State Street with a diverse mix of regionally appropriate, climate-friendly, and water-wise native plants. AKA **The Native Plants on State Pilot Project**.

Last week, I took a stroll down State Street to check on the various native plants. I'm pleased to report that they are thriving. The groundcover (*Phyla nodiflora*) is spreading nicely, California Lilac (*Ceanothus maritimus*) is in bloom, and there are plenty of busy pollinators among the many native species added. (See a complete plant list [here](#))

In addition to the many different plants, there was a laminated card featuring a QR code. Scanning the QR code directs people to a survey. The results of this survey will help the city assess community interest in expanding the project.

Next time you are down by the Arlington Theater, take a look at the 11 native plant beds brimming with life. Don't forget to [use the QR code](#) to add your voice or use the link to do it now.

