

April 2006



University of California

Cooperative Extension

Riverside County

Let's Grow!



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# GARDEN VIEWS

A Master Gardener  
Newsletter



## Leave your Trees Alone!

By Pat Robertson, MG

I hired an arborist a few years ago who told me, "We make no subjective cuts to a tree. Each cut is deliberate." I responded with, "Huh?" At the time, (pre-MG training) I was an adequate gardener, but knew little about pruning trees. I took a good friend's advice and hired a licensed and certified arborist to prune several mature trees in my yard.

I was a little intimidated by this arborist's philosophy, but I accepted his dogma. He climbed up my tall tree limbs with nary a fear of falling. Yes, he had all the correct safety equipment with him and he and his helper worked all day. I must say, I did give him a large check for his services, but it was worth every penny.

Arbor Day—the day we celebrate trees—occurs in March, and every year horticulturists, arborists, master gardeners, and others across the country write thousands of articles on proper tree pruning and trimming. It seems to no avail.

Ten years ago, a doctor at Colorado State University Cooperative Extension, Curtis E. Swift, wrote a fine article, complete

with pictures about the misguided practice of tree topping. (Some people think it's more acceptable to say "pollarding a tree."). I recently drove around the city and found a lot of unsightly weak "pollards". Like Dr. Swift, I took some pictures.

While researching this article, I found more than half a billion links by typing "tree" in an Internet search, but I found nearly a million links searching for "tree topping."

### What is tree topping?

It's the hacking off of a tree's main limbs by cutting off the largest branches indiscriminately. I suppose the logic is that you'll get a neat uniform-sized tree that's easier to maintain. That is so not true. What you get is about five big limb stubs cut to nubbins.

These limbs will produce Medusa-like long, thin, curling and emaciated branches. The branches are also known as "water sprouts" or "suckers," and yes, that is what you should be called if you let a chain-saw toting tree trimmer do that to your tree.

These new sprouts are weakly attached to the limbs are structurally un-

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stable and prone to breaking off. Sometimes corrective pruning can salvage the tree, but the beautiful



*Badly topped jacarandas at a business park.*

graceful natural form of the tree is gone, whacked off like a toe. Besides it being just plain wrong and bad horticulture, there are many reasons to never top a tree:

Topping a tree makes it prone to insects and pathogens. Internal rot may develop, shortening the tree's life. In its weakened condition, the tree may collapse and create a dangerous hazard especially in urban areas.

The tree has been mutilated and is aesthetically displeasing. The natural form of the tree is destroyed. This is especially obvious in deciduous trees when their winter silhouettes should be as beautiful and precious as a Swan Lake ballerina. The tree loses its balance, form, and structural integrity.

On your property, you may have only one tree. However, having only one tree is no different than having a grove. A tree is a living thing. Its xylem, cambium, phloem, and heartwood make up the tree's vascular system. To drastically cut off a major appendage of the tree is savage even though it may be unintended.

Some people may think that hiring a certified arborist is elitist, sort of like how people think of opera. Yes, a certified arborist will probably cost more than your average tree trimmer. So, what do you do if your budget is tight, but you want to take care of your trees so they will have a long healthy life?

Even if you don't use a licensed arborist, you can hire a tree trimmer who will do a decent job.

But I strongly recommend that you get referrals from friends, your regular gardener, or someone at a nursery. Also, you must supervise the trimming at all times.

Tell the trimmer that you do not want to have the tree topped, headed, shortened, or pollarded. Ask for a light pruning to allow more air to flow through the tree. Recently, I've heard of an expression called "lacing" a tree. I don't know if it's an official tree trimming term, but it will evoke a gentle touch to the person with the big chainsaw. It's my experience that when you are only cautiously trimming a tree, you might not even need a chainsaw. Good trimmers can use a pole saw to shape a tree.

Remember, trees can survive fire, snow, gale force winds, and drought. They may not survive a chainsaw. There are many excellent Websites that address tree trimming. Here are a few sites that offer interesting information that is readable and entertaining: [www.arborday.org/treeinfo/treehealth.cfm](http://www.arborday.org/treeinfo/treehealth.cfm), [www.coopext.colostate.edu/tra/plants/topping.html](http://www.coopext.colostate.edu/tra/plants/topping.html), [www.plantamnesty.org](http://www.plantamnesty.org). (If nothing else, check out the pictures in the bad pruning gallery at Plant Amnesty.)



*Judiciously pruned jacarandas lining the median on 14th Street in downtown Riverside.*

## The Good Guys

By Cynthia McCabe, MG

While many gardeners recognize and protect both larval and adult ladybugs and lacewings, some are not aware of the plethora of other beneficial insects. One of the most important aspects of integrated

pest management (IPM) involves the identification of an insect since a "kill em' all" approach can result in the proliferation of pests, which can become an ecological nightmare.

A good insect identification handbook complete with photographs of all life stages of common western bugs is a must. (Unfortunately, the good guys don't wear white hats.) Most such tomes also describe the pest damage and location in which these critters are most likely to be found. Because insect classes contain both beneficial insects and pests, appearance and typical habitat are two useful clues for insect identification.

For example, there are many different types of beetles: Japanese, bark, flea, cucumber, and potato beetles to name a destructive few. However, ground beetles, a common sight near potting sheds and compost piles are beneficial predators of pests. A few of the items on the ground beetle's menu include caterpillars, soil maggots, grubs, and most importantly, the eggs and adult stages of snails and slugs. Adult ground beetles are shiny black



Adult Ground Beetle

and can range from pea size to an inch long with knobby heads, small antennae, and long jaws. Although they are frightening in appearance, they do not bite humans or inflict plant damage. One species of western ground beetle may cause mild skin irritation if handled, therefore gloves are recommended if you choose to relocate one.

Another helpful garden assistant that doesn't get much "press" is the damsel bug. An adult damsel bug is dull grey or brown and has an elongated body with jointed legs and angled antennae. The immature nymph stage of this insect has a similar appearance, but is smaller, darker, and may have wing nubs instead of developed wings. Damsel bugs and some pests also have an x-like mark on their backs; however, their long, narrow heads easily identifies the former. To attract damsel bugs to your garden, consider adding ornamental grasses to a flower border.

Remember that beneficial insects outnumber pests and practicing IPM will keep your garden in balance.



Adult Damsel Bug

## That's a Good Question!

By Lucy Heyming, MG

*The Master Gardener Phone Squad answered 65 calls in February and more than 65 calls in March.*

People ask the most interesting questions when I answer the UC Cooperative Extension hot line. Every once in a while, I actually know the answer right off the top of my head, however, many times this is not the case. They often ask things I vaguely know about or haven't even considered. A lot of the time they ask things I never heard about. But, it doesn't worry me, because it is not up to me to know everything. I just need to know where to look or whom to ask. At the extension office there is a big wall of books behind me to guide and inform my answers, and there is a computer with Internet access. In addition, there is Peggy Mauck, Mile Henry, and Tom Shea who are willing to help with answering sticky or difficult questions. After having worked for the hot line for more than a year I have found that the benefit of answering questions is two-fold. 1) The caller gets answers to puzzling problems or help with difficulties; and, 2) I learn a lot.

Recently I learned that you can't plant certain plants under a walnut tree. Until I had a caller who asked for a list of plants that can be planted under one, I did not know this. What I found out is that some members of the walnut family (*Juglandaceae*) produce a chemical called juglone in their tissues. Juglone is an allelopathic substance, which means it affects the growth of other plants. Black walnut (*Juglans nigra*) and butternut (*Juglans cinerea*) have the highest concentration of juglone toxin. Several related trees including English walnut, hickories, and pecans also produce juglone, but in smaller amounts compared to the black walnut. Even if you take the tree out, any leaves, branches, or roots left behind will still be secreting juglone for a long time. The accumulation and depletion of toxins in the soil is affected by factors such as soil type, drainage, aeration, temperature, and microbial action. Soil microorganisms ingest allelochemicals as energy sources, and metabolic decomposition can render the chemicals non-toxic to plants. When soils are well drained and aerated, a healthy population of aerobic microorganisms can accelerate this process.

Plants that are susceptible to juglone may suffer growth stunting, wilt ("walnut wilt") and death if they are growing close to black walnut or

## MOVING?

Please let us know when you change your address, phone number or email. Contact **Buck Hemenway**, Membership Coordinator, at a meeting or call him at 951-360-8802. He will make sure the information gets changed on the membership roster so you will not miss out on newsletters and emails. Thanks!

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## Garden Views

The *Garden Views* newsletter is published monthly, September through June, by the U.C. Master Gardeners, Cooperative Extension, University of California, Riverside County. All reporters are Master Gardeners or Master Gardeners-in-training.

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<b>Cindy McCabe</b>	<b>Jeri Kuoppamaki</b>
<b>Donna Claypool</b>	<b>Pat Romberg</b>

To simplify information, trade names have been used. No endorsements of name products is intended, nor is criticism implied of similar products which are not mentioned.

butternut. Humans and horses can also be adversely affected by juglone. Horses can react from black walnut chips or sawdust if they are used for bedding material. Both horses and humans can get allergic symptoms if they come too close to walnut trees while pollen is being shed.

What about composting? Walnut leaves can be composted because the toxin breaks down when exposed to air, water, and bacteria. The toxic effect can be degraded in two to four weeks. In soil, breakdown may take up to two months. Black walnut leaves may be composted separately, and the finished compost tested for toxicity by planting tomato seedlings in it. Sawdust mulch, fresh sawdust or chips from street tree prunings from black walnut are not suggested for plants sensitive to juglone, such as blueberry tomato, potato, pea, cabbage, pear, apple, sour cherry, red pine and rhododendron. However, composting the bark for a minimum of six months provides a safe mulch even for plants sensitive to juglone.

Here are some ways to reduce the allelopathic effects of juglone. Regularly clean up all fallen leaves and fruit from the black walnut tree, keeping debris away from desired landscape plants. Compost plant debris to degrade any toxins present in the compost pile and to detoxify the compost. If composting is impractical, do not use any part of the walnut tree as compost or mulch for other plants. Maintain high organic matter levels in the soil because organic matter encourages healthy soil microbial populations that can metabolize toxins. Plant tolerant trees, shrubs, vines, ground covers, flowers and grasses under walnut trees or in areas that might contain walnut roots.

In case **you** ever get asked about walnut trees, following is a list of plants that are adversely affected by juglone and ones that are not:

### Plants That Do Not Grow Within 50 Feet of Drip Line of Black Walnut

#### **Herbaceous Perennials**

Colorado Columbine, *Aquilegia caerulea*

Wild Columbine, *Aquilegia canadensis*

Asparagus, *Asparagus officinalis*

*Chrysanthemum* (some species)

*Baptisia australis*

*Hydrangea* species

*Lilium* species (particularly the Asian hybrids)

Alfalfa, *Medicago sativa*

Buttercup, *Narcissus* 'John Evelyn,' 'Unsurpassable,' 'King Alfred,' and 'Ice Follies'

*Paeonia* (some species)

Rhubarb, *Rheum rhabarbarum*

### **Trees**

Silver Maple, *Acer saccharinum*

European Alder, *Alnus glutinosa*

White Birches, *Betula species*

Northern Hackberry, *Celtis occidentalis*

Apples and Crabapples, *Malus species*

Norway Spruce, *Picea abies*

Mugo Pine, *Pinus mugo*

Red Pine, *Pinus resinosa*

Eastern White Pine, *Pinus strobus*

Basswood, *Tilia heterophylla*

### **Shrubs**

Red Chokeberry, *Aronia arbutifolia*

Mountain Laurels, *Kalmia species*

Privet, *Ligustrum species*

Amur Honeysuckle, *Lonicera maackii*

Brush Cinquefoil, *Potentilla species*

Rhododendrons and Azaleas, (most *Rhododendron species*)

Blackberry, *Rubus allegheniensis*

Lilacs, *Syringa species* and cultivars

Yew, *Taxus species*

Blueberry, *Vaccinium corymbosum*

*Viburnum plicatum tomentosum* 'Mariesii'

### **Annuals and Vegetables Transplants**

Cabbage, *Brassica oleracea capitata*

Peppers, *Capsicum* (some species)

Tomatoes, *Lycopersicon esculentum*

Flowering Tobacco, *Nicotiana glauca*

*Petunia species* and cultivars

Eggplant, *Solanum melongena*

Potato, *Solanum tuberosum*

### **Plants That Are Not Adversely Affected by**

#### **Juglone**

#### **Herbaceous Perennials**

Bugleweed, *Ajuga reptans*

Hollyhock, *Alcea rosea*

American Wood Anemone, *Anemone quinquefolia*

Jack-in-the-Pulpit, *Arisaema triphyllum*

European Wild Ginger, *Asarum europaeum*

*Astilbe species*

Bellflower, *Campanula latifolia*

*Chrysanthemum* (some species)

Glory-of-the-Snow, *Chionodoxa luciliae*

Spring Beauty, *Claytonia virginica*

*Crocus species*

Dutchman's Breeches, *Dicentra cucullaria*

Leopard's-Bane, *Doronicum species*

Crested Wood Fern, *Dryopteris cristata*

Spanish Bluebell, *Endymion hispanicus*

Winter Aconite, *Eranthis hyemalis*

Snowdrop, *Galanthus nivalis*

Sweet Woodruff, *Galium odoratum*

Herb Robert, *Geranium robertianum*

Cranesbill, *Geranium sanguineum*

Grasses (most) *Gramineae* family

Jerusalem Artichoke, *Helianthus tuberosus*

Common Daylily, *Hemerocallis* 'Pluie de Feu'

Coral Bells, *Heuchera x brizoides*

Orange Hawkweed, *Hieracium aurantiacum*

Plantain-lily, *Hosta fortunei* 'Glaucua'

*Hosta lancifolia*

*Hosta marginata*

*Hosta undulata* 'Variegata'

Common Hyacinth, *Hyacinthus Orientalis* 'City of Haarlem'

Virginia Waterleaf, *Hydrophyllum virginianum*

Siberian Iris, *Iris sibirica*

Balm, *Monarda didyma*

Wild Bergamot, *M. fistulosa*

Grape Hyacinth, *Muscari botryoides*

Sweet Cicely, *Myrrhis odorata* 'Yellow Cheerfulness,' 'Geranium,' 'Tete a Tete,' 'Sundial,' and 'February Gold'

Sundrops, *Oenothera fruticosa*

Sensitive Fern, *Onoclea sensibilis*

Cinnamon Fern, *Osmunda cinnamomea*

*Paeonia* (some species)

Summer Phlox, *Phlox paniculata*

Mayapple, *Podophyllum peltatum*

Jacob's-Ladder, *Polemonium reptans*

Great Solomon's-Seal, *Polygonatum commutatum*

Polyanthus Primrose, *Primula x polyantha*

Lungwort, *Pulmonaria species*

Bloodroot, *Sanguinaria canadensis*

Siberian Squill, *Scilla sibirica*

Goldmoss Stonecrop, *Sedum acre*

Showy Sedum, *Sedum spectabile*

Lamb's-Ear, *Stachys byzantina*

Spiderwort, *Tradescantia virginiana*

Nodding Trillium, *Trillium cernuum*

White Wake-Robin, *Trillium grandiflorum*

*Tulipa Darwin* 'White Valcano' and 'Cum Laude,'

Parrot 'Blue Parrot,' Greigii 'Toronto'

Big Merrybells, *Uvularia grandiflora*

Canada Violet, *Viola canadensis*

Horned Violet, *Viola cornuta*

Woolly Blue Violet, *Viola sororia*

#### **Trees**

Japanese Maples, *Acer palmatum* and its cultivars

Southern Catalpa, *Catalpa bignonioides*

Eastern Redbud, *Cercis canadensis*

Canadian Hemlock, *Tsuga canadensis*

### **Vines and Shrubs**

Clematis 'Red Cardinal'

February Daphne, *Daphne mezereum*

*Euonymus* species

Weeping Forsythia, *Forsythia suspensa*

Rose of Sharon, *Hibiscus syriacus*

Tartarian Honeysuckle, *Lonicera tatarica*, and most other *Lonicera* species

Virginia Creeper, *Parthenocissus quinquefolia*

Pinxterbloom, *Rhododendron periclymenoides*

*Rhododendron* 'Gibraltar,' 'Balzac,' and Exbury hybrids

Multiflora Rose, *Rosa multiflora*

Black Raspberry, *Rubus occidentalis*

Arborvitae, *Thuja* species

Koreanspice Viburnum, *Viburnum carlesii*, and most other *Viburnum* species

### **Annuals**

Pot-marigold, *Calendula officinalis* 'Nonstop'

*Begonia*, fibrous cultivars

Morning Glory, *Ipomoea* 'Heavenly Blue'

Pansy *Viola*

*Zinnia* species

### **Vegetables**

Squashes, Melons, Beans, Carrots, Corn

Fruit Trees

Peach, Nectarine, Cherry, Plum

*Prunus* species Pear-*Pyrus* species

Online resources: <http://ohioline.osu.edu/hygfact/1000/1148.html>

[www.uwex.edu/ces/wihort/landscape/Juglone.htm](http://www.uwex.edu/ces/wihort/landscape/Juglone.htm)

[www.ext.vt.edu/pubs/nursery/430-021/430-021.html](http://www.ext.vt.edu/pubs/nursery/430-021/430-021.html)

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## **What's In A Name?**

By **Cynthia McCabe, MG**

The genus *Pelargonium* is much underused these days because its members are often commonly referred to as geraniums. Both geraniums and pelargoniums are members of family *Geraniaceae*, and are closely related to nasturtiums, wood sorrel, and flax. The family *Geraniaceae* includes about 750



global species with several characteristics in common. Each has jointed stems, often with glandular hairs, and flower parts occur in fives or multiples of five—five sepals, five petals, five ovaries, and ten stamens.

The differences between geraniums and pelargoniums are numerous. Pelargoniums have thick, succulent stems, which are frost-tender. Geraniums are frost-hardy. (Several species are native to the Arctic and Antarctic.) Geraniums can die to the ground but return from their roots. Pelargonium leaves have a recognizable scent, however geranium foliage is unscented. Breeders have created a myriad of hybrids from pelargoniums, but geraniums remain largely species-based. Many pelargoniums are propagated from cuttings, while true geraniums are grown exclusively from seed. Hybrid pelargoniums have multiple flower forms and growth habits. These aspects will be covered in a future newsletter, so stay tuned!

## **Plant of the Month: White Alder**

By **Donna Claypool, MG**

Not every native plant is drought tolerant. Native Californian plants also include those of the riparian woodlands; these are water-loving plants that live on the side of rivers or lakes. The white alder, *Alnus rhombifolia*, grows well near our thirsty lawns. In addition to being a lawn tree, it is also used as a background tree or a hedge.

A member of the *Betulaceae* or birch family; this group includes hazels and hornbeams as well as birches and alders. There are four members of the *Alnus* genus that are native to California, but white alder is the only one that is widely cultivated. The white alder grows in Sunset zones 1b-10 and 14-21.

In the wild, the alder is fast growing to 50 to 90 feet tall, and 40 feet wide. It is a valuable tree if you are landscaping a new garden, because it is one of the most rapid growing of any native tree. In just five years, the alder will develop into a good-looking tree of 20 feet or more.

It is an attractive tree with whitish or gray smooth bark and spreading branches that droop at the tips and are well spaced. It has. The leaves are dark green above and a paler shade of green beneath. The toothed leaves are alternately that are two to four inches long.

The white alder is deciduous, but attractive in all seasons. It has both male and female flowers on the same plant and the male catkins and female cones appear in winter. The catkins are like jeweled ornaments; there are clusters of pendulous green-gold flowers in the catkins at the branch tips. The female flowers are smaller and they develop into small woody cones with nutlets. Since it is pollinated by the wind, there is a large amount of pollen that result in numbers of volunteer plants.

The seed germinates easily, and it is easy to handle and plant the seedlings. The white alder does not require a lot of pruning except for general maintenance. It will tolerate removal of limbs if it is planted close together as a hedge. Alders require plenty of moisture and sun, but will tolerate heat and wind if they get enough moisture. The roots contain nitrogen-fixing organisms.

The alder does have problems. The roots are invasive and may invade sewer pipes. Deep watering to develop deeper roots might help. The tree roots compete for moisture with anything you might want to plant underneath it. The alder is also susceptible to tent caterpillars and borers.

Alder bark was traditionally used in dyeing and tanning. The wood is used for bridges and pilings because it resists underwater rot; the Latin word, *Alnus*, in addition to alder, means boat or ship.

Native Americans found many uses for the white alder. They made a bitter tea from the bark to induce perspiration and purify their blood before ceremonies. They also drank this tea as a curative if they had drunk bad water. Dry-rotted wood was powdered and used as a poultice on burns. This soft wood was used as tinder to start fires. A red dye made from the bark was used to decorate their woven baskets, and the roots were woven to make small baskets. Young alder shoots were used to make arrows



## Citrus Experiment Station Prepares for Centennial

The UCR Citrus Experiment Station will celebrate its 100th anniversary in 2007. A series of special events is planned during the next two years to celebrate the accomplishments of Riverside scientists and how their work has influenced the agricultural industry.

The station opened in February 1907 and has since developed into a comprehensive research university with more than 17,000 students and comprising several colleges, centers, and institutions. While celebrating the past, the centennial will offer an opportunity to look ahead to the next century with new research and education programs.

The kick-off celebration is scheduled for Saturday, April 22. There will be a barbecue and open house from 10 am to 5 pm at UCR Lot 30 (across from Agricultural Operations at MLK and Canyon Crest). Scheduled activities include citrus tasting, tours of the citrus variety collection, a ceremonial tree planting, and tours of some of the agricultural operations. Admission is free. There will be a charge for the barbecue. To find out more about the celebrations contact Carol Lerner at 951.827.5089 or [carol.lerner@ucr.edu](mailto:carol.lerner@ucr.edu).

## Water Quality Tips

Water that runs off your lawn and garden can carry excess fertilizer and pesticide into the storm drain system and is not treated before reaching the Santa Ana and San Jacinto Rivers. This pollutes our drinking water and contaminates waterways making them unsafe for people and wildlife. Follow these simple tips to prevent pollution and protect your health:

### Fertilizer Tips to Prevent Pollution

Read the product label and follow the directions carefully, and use only as directed.

Avoid applying near driveways or gutters.

Never apply fertilizer before a rain.

Store fertilizers and chemicals in a covered area in sealed, waterproof containers.

Take unwanted lawn or garden chemicals to a household hazardous waste collection facility.

Call 951.486.3200.

Use non-toxic products for your garden and lawn whenever possible.

**Pesticide Tips to Prevent Pollution**

Read the product label and follow the directions carefully, and use only as directed.

Spot apply rather than blanketing an entire area.

Don't apply pesticides before a rain.

Take unwanted lawn or garden chemicals to a household hazardous waste collection facility.

Call 951.486.3200.

Use non-toxic products for your garden and lawn whenever possible.

— *These Water Quality Tips are from the San Bernardino County Stormwater Program*  
[www.1800cleanup.org](http://www.1800cleanup.org).

 **MASTER GARDENER CALENDAR** 

**Save That Date !**

**CLASSES**

All classes are held on Wednesdays from 7 to 9 pm at the Stewart's Boathouse in Fairmont Park.

**April 5**, Turf grasses, Mike Henry

**April 19**, Vertebrate Pests, Jared Dever

**May 3**, Diagnosing Plant Problems, Dennis Pittenger

**MEETINGS**

**The Advisory Board** meets once per month, on the second Wednesday at 6:30 pm at the UC Cooperative Extension Office, 21150 Box Springs Road, Moreno Valley. The next meeting will be April 12, and everyone is welcome to attend.

**Garden Views Staff Meeting** --The April 3 meeting will be at the home of Jeri Kuoppamaki, 2830 Anna Street, Riverside, 92506 at 7 pm. Contact Jeri for directions at 951.683.8559.

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

**April 1**, 9 am to 5 pm and April 2, 9 am to 3 pm, UC Riverside Botanic Gardens Plant Sale, Master Gardener volunteers are needed to staff the information table

**April 8**, 8:45 to 11 am, Victoria Avenue Forever- Rose planting. Meet at the Lewis Garden, corner of Jane and Victoria. Bring clippers and gloves, and wear long sleeved shirt. For more info, Jenny Humphreys, 951-275-1990 or email, [jennysgardens@aol.com](mailto:jennysgardens@aol.com).

**April 22**, 10 am to 5 pm, UCR Citrus Experiment Station 100th Anniversary Kickoff Barbecue and Open House, UCR Lot 30 (across from Agricultural Operations at MLK and Canyon Crest Drives). Master Gardener volunteers are needed to staff an information table. Info: Carol Lerner 951-827-5089.

**April 22**, 10 am, Camp Emerson School--Maria Shriver Day. Master Gardener volunteers are needed for an information booth. Emerson Elementary School, 4660 Ottawa Street. Contact Angelia Carey at 951.347.4686.

**April 29**, 1 to 6 pm and April 30, 10 am to 4 pm, Riverside Community Flower Show and Garden Tour. Master Gardener volunteers are needed to staff an information table at flower show and to be docents at the garden tour locations. Show is at Riverside Elks Lodge, 6166 Brockton Avenue, Riverside. Contact Lois Bennett at 784-2428 for information about the show or Earlene Ketchmun at 951-685-6617 for docent information.

**April 29**, 8:45 to 11 am, Victoria Avenue Forever - Rose planting. Meet at the Hal Snyder's house, 6475 Victoria Avenue. Bring clippers and gloves. For more info, Jenny Humphreys, 951-275-1990 or email, jennysgardens@aol.com.

**April 29**, 10:30 am to 12 noon, Eastern Municipal Water District, California Friendly Landscaping Grand Opening. Two Master Gardener volunteers are needed to staff an information table. Watermill at Adeline's Farms, 32463 Spun Cotton Drive, Winchester. For information call Peter Odencrans 951.928-3777, ext. 4219 or email him at odencransp@emwd.org.

May 6, 10 am to 4 pm, Riverside County Regional Medical Center—2006 Spring Garden Tour. Docents are needed for each garden. Pre-tour April 22 at 9 am. Contact Sally Peerbolt at 951.354.2684.

**Phone Squad:** Monday through Friday from 9 am to 12 noon.  
Call Phone Squad Coordinator Barbara Lauck to volunteer, 951-849-6265.

Volunteers are needed to help complete the Japanese Gardens being planted at White Park, in downtown Riverside that will commemorate the 50 years of sisterhood with the city of Sendai, Japan. Call 951 785-4227 for information.

## **GARDENING EVENTS**

**April 1 and 2** – UCR Botanic Gardens 33rd Annual Spring Plant Sale. Members' sale on Saturday from 9 am to noon. 951.784.6962. Public sale Saturday from 12 noon to 5 pm and Sunday from 9 am to 3 pm.

**April 22 and 23**, Fullerton Arboretum. Green Scene Plant and Garden Sale, 125 exhibitors selling specialty plants and garden accessories. A special Members Only preview sale will be held on Saturday, from 9 am to 10 am. Regular show hours will be 10 am to 4 pm both days. Admission is \$6 for adults; children under 12 are free. A special two-day pass will be available this year for \$10. Parking is free for the event, 1900 Associated Road at Yorba Linda Boulevard in Fullerton.

**April 22**, 8 am to 4 pm Western Municipal Water District. Waterwise Plant Sale, 450 Alessandro Blvd (parking lot)

**April 29**, 1:00 – 6 pm and April 30, 10 am to 4 pm, Riverside Community Flower Show And Garden Tour, Riverside Elks Lodge 6166 Brockton Ave, Riverside. Contact Lois Bennett at 951-784-2428 for information.

**May 6**, 9 to 10:30 am – Composting Workshop and 10:45 am to 12 noon - Vermicomposting workshop, Riverside County Waste Management Department, at Landscapes Southern California Style, 450 Alessandro Blvd, Free (composting units available to Riverside County residents for \$35). For information, call 951-486-3200.

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