

The Monterey Bay Master Gardeners
What's Happening in the MBMG
December 2009



**2010 Garden Tour Coordinators Needed!
New Online FAQs for Hotline Volunteers
Hotline Calendar**

2010 Garden Tour Coordinators Needed

The annual Garden Tour is a main source of income for the MBMG. If we have no coordinators, we have no tour and, consequently, no income. No income means no projects, grants, outreach, Gardening Faire, etc., for 2011. Volunteer now for this important and rewarding job!

From Barbara Schilling, Co-Chair of the 2009 Tour:

Dear Master Gardeners,

As the winter is slowly approaching and you admire the fall colors from a cozy chair in front of your fireplace we are already planning for a fabulous Garden Tour 2010. The turnout and excitement for the 2009 tour was huge and hopefully you were able to be part of it and enjoy some of the fabulous gardens, listen to the lectures, purchase some of the gorgeous plants and check out the sales.

One experience from this year's tour was that starting with preparations early is key and makes volunteering for one of the many tasks enjoyable. This is why we are already proposing that you consider volunteering for the Garden Tour 2010. It is going to be held in the Santa Cruz area.

There are many jobs to choose from. It all starts with the co-chair for the tour, sharing this job with a fellow Master Gardener is fun and a wonderful way to jointly organize the whole event. In this position you are involved in all aspects of the event yet with the help of a great team, you get to sit and watch talented people all around you contribute to this task. The first, most fun part of the job of course is to select the gardens that will be featured on the tour.

PR, ticket design, plant propagation are tasks that should best start early in 2010, coordinators and volunteers for these jobs are needed. Later in the process working on the tour website, organizing ticket sales through nurseries, organizing lectures, coordinating the sales, like arts and book sales or the raffle are jobs that do not require a huge amount of time all at once but are very rewarding. Working with one of the garden owners to get the garden tour ready is another great way to volunteer.

And finally for the day of the tour many volunteers are needed as garden docents - how much fun could this be to tell visitors about one of the gardens - or to staff one of the wonderful sales.

The selection for volunteer tasks is huge and the experience of being part of a successful garden tour is very rewarding. The best part is the process of working with so many talented and engaged people and to see a great event come together.

Sign up now to be part of this great event.

Happy holidays and a great New Year!

New Online FAQs for Hotline Volunteers

First, A BIG HOLLY JOLLY to you all.

Second, I and Advisor/County Director Scott Oneto will be conducting our third ON-LINE training on the FAQ System for Master Gardeners on Wednesday, December 9th at 10:00 a.m. To attend the on-line training just cut and paste this URL into your web browser:

URL: <https://breeze.ucdavis.edu/faq/>

Where it says "Guest" please enter your name and county.

We will send out a reminder email w/ link and login information about the online training on the morning of the training at 8:30 a.m. The training will last for about an hour. You should be able to get Continuing Education Credit for attending.

The FAQ system is a new online system to assist Master Gardener volunteers find answers to hotline/help desk questions. The FAQ system (Frequently Asked Questions) enable volunteers to provide feedback to other FAQ's and the ability to post their own questions with descriptions and photographs. UCCE Master Gardeners can access the FAQ system through the VMS, or through their UC portal.

For additional information and instruction on using the FAQ system, please click (or cut and paste the link into your browser) on the link below. This first link is the FAQ Introductory video. There are a total of six short videos that will guide you through the FAQ system, at the end of each video; there will be a prompt to continue on to the next video. We encourage you to view the videos prior to attending the training.

http://stream.ucanr.org/mastergardener/mg_faq_intro/index.html

For those of you who haven't been or won't be able to attend a training, you may view the recorded training by going to: <https://breeze.ucdavis.edu/p86315355/>

For more information or questions about the FAQ system, please contact myself, Pam Geisel, Statewide Master Gardener Coordinator (pmelam@ucdavis.edu) or James Sigala, Program Representative, UC Statewide Master Gardener Program, at jsigala@ucdavis.edu , (530) 865-1261. This project was made possible by a grant from the Elvenia J. Slosson Endowment and UCANR Communication Services.

Warmest regards,

Pamela Geisel
Statewide Master Gardener Coordinator

Hotline December (current as of Dec 1)				
To sign up for a shift, contact Martye 831-633-6435 or martyel@prodigy.net				
30 Dianne Yost	1	2 Kristi Wolf	3	4 Kristi Wolf
7 Peter Quintanilla	8	9 Need Volunteer	10	11 Melita Israel
14 Dianne Yost	15	16 Paul McCollum	17	18 Melita Israel
21 Joy Hickey	22	23 Jane Godley	24	25 CLOSED
28 CLOSED	29	30 CLOSED	31	Jan 1 CLOSED

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....

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