



UC Master Gardener Program of Santa Barbara County's quarterly newsletter

# The Santa Barbara County Bounty

## Summer is in Full Swing!

We talk about pollinators, drought, and new resources for home gardeners!

~ Learn With Us ~

### Garden Talks

with UC Master Gardeners

**What:** Discover interesting, useful, research-based gardening tips!

**When:** One Monday each month from 7PM-8PM

- July 12, Vegetable Garden Pests
- Aug. 2, Vertebrate Pests
- Sep. 13, Food Harvest & Storage
- Oct. 4, Home Composting
- Nov. 1, Native Plants
- Dec. 6, Water-Wise Gardening

**Who:** Hosted by UC Master Gardeners Trudy and Janet

**Where:** Online. Register for the next talk at [ucanr.edu/sbmg](http://ucanr.edu/sbmg)

Have home gardening questions?

Ask a UC Master Gardener!

Email: [ansrbmg@ucanr.edu](mailto:ansrbmg@ucanr.edu)

Online: [ucanr.edu/sbmg-help](http://ucanr.edu/sbmg-help)

### Are Your Pruners Dull?

Do you buy new pruners every year or so because they "wear out"?

You can get years of use from your pruners with five simple steps.

UC Master Gardener Janet shows you just how easy this maintenance is in a short video.

[youtube.com/watch?v=QyvhStDT098](https://youtube.com/watch?v=QyvhStDT098)

*Did You Know...That one of every three bites of food we eat is made possible by pollinators?*

### Pollinators are our partners in farming and gardening!

- **Pollinators are animals**—like bees, butterflies, and beetles—that carry pollen between flowers of the same species, fertilizing them. The flowers turn into fruits, nuts, and vegetables like bell peppers and cucumbers.
- **Pollinator Week** happens every June to raise awareness of the critical services they provide...but pollinators work for us year round! [www.pollinator.org](http://www.pollinator.org)
- **Find more "fast facts"** about pollinators here: [www.pollinator.org/pollinator-week/fast-facts](http://www.pollinator.org/pollinator-week/fast-facts)



### Do pollinators need our help?



- **Pollinator populations are struggling** because of many factors: Pesticide misuse, habitat loss, invasive plant introductions, and pests and disease.
- **U.S. beekeepers have lost over 50%** of their honeybee colonies in the last ten years.

### What can we do?

- **Always follow label instructions** when you apply pesticides. This helps pollinators AND people stay safe!
- *Don't know how to read pesticide labels?* This handy how-to is made for you: [Reading Pesticide Labels](#)
- **Use Integrated Pest Management** to beat pests with less chemicals: [ipm.ucanr.edu/what-is-IPM](http://ipm.ucanr.edu/what-is-IPM)
- **Garden for pollinators!** [13 Ways to Make a Garden Pollinator Friendly!](#)
- Get your *free*, region-specific planting guide: [www.pollinator.org/guides](http://www.pollinator.org/guides)

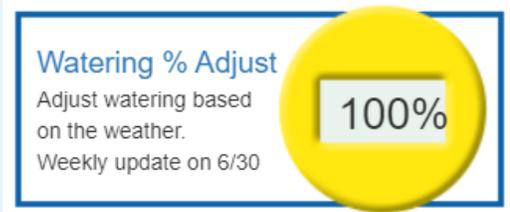


Did you get this from a friend? Sign up for our quarterly newsletter here: <http://ucanr.edu/sbmg-signup>

## Irrigation Tip:

Get weekly recommendations based on local weather!

<http://www.waterwisesb.org/>



**SIGN UP** to get the **Watering % Adjust** texted to your cellphone each week! Text WATERWISE to (855) 510-0241.

## NEW Wildlife Pest ID Tool

[ipm.ucanr.edu/wildlife-pest-identification](http://ipm.ucanr.edu/wildlife-pest-identification)

The link above takes you to an online tool to help you narrow down potential vertebrate pests using signs such as typical damage, tracks, and droppings (scat). The results show you info on identification and biology with links to management options.

–UC IPM, [ipm.ucanr.edu](http://ipm.ucanr.edu)

## About UC Master Gardeners

We're highly trained volunteers, sponsored by the University of California Cooperative Extension. We provide research-based information for home gardeners.

[http://cesantabarbara.ucanr.edu/Master\\_Gardener/](http://cesantabarbara.ucanr.edu/Master_Gardener/)

Facebook:

[facebook.com/sbmastergardeners](https://www.facebook.com/sbmastergardeners)

Instagram: [@sbmastergardeners](https://www.instagram.com/sbmastergardeners)

## Treated Wood is Now Accepted for Disposal at County Transfer Stations

Do you need to unload old decking, railroad ties, fence posts, or other **landscaping features made from treated lumber**? The chemical preservatives in treated lumber (like chromium, arsenic, and copper) make it **unsafe to put in your trash or recycling bin**—but now you can leave it at the South Coast or Santa Ynez Valley Recycling and Transfer Stations!

*“For additional collection sites and more information on treated wood waste disposal, please call (805) 882-3603 or visit [www.LessIsMore.org/TWW](http://www.LessIsMore.org/TWW).”*

*—Less Is More ReView, July 2021*

## Drought? Drat!

On July 8, the State of California extended emergency drought declarations to our county. We join 49 other counties (of 58 total) in the emergency declaration. Home gardeners, agricultural operations, & commercial operations are **asked to voluntarily reduce water use by 15%**. ([Santa Barbara News-Press, July 9, 2021](#))

### *So, what is a gardener to do?*

Sonoma County is in the same (grounded) boat we are. Here's what UC Master Gardeners there have to offer:

1. **Add plants to your garden in the fall or winter**, when temperatures are cooler and new plants can get established with less water.
2. **Apply 2"-3" of mulch around garden trees & plants** to keep water from evaporating out of the soil.
3. **Prioritize mature landscaping plants and fruit trees** when irrigating. One deep irrigation weekly is better than several shallow applications.
4. **Avoid over-fertilizing**. The more plants grow, the more water they need!
5. **Get more tips here:** [Water Saving In Your Landscape](#)

The [UC Master Gardener Program 2019/2020 Impact Report](#) has arrived—and we're highlighted!