



COORDINATOR

news

Hello Melissa,

As we navigate the busy summer season, we want to extend our heartfelt thanks for your dedication and leadership. Many of you have just completed the rewarding process of training new volunteers, and we commend your efforts in nurturing the next generation of UC Master Gardener volunteers. Amidst the summer programming hustle, we also see and acknowledge your commitment to program policies and procedures. Reappointment may not be a highly anticipated program activity but everyone's significant effort is evident by participation in Reappointment Office Hours and progress towards wrapping up our 2023/24 program year. Thank you for your work in communicating and tracking down volunteers, we really appreciate this big effort and look forward to sharing updated program numbers soon. Let's continue to support each other and celebrate the impactful work we do together. Thank you for your passion and hard work!



Warm regards,

Missy Gable
Director

Statewide Office Reorganization Update

Regional Operations Specialist

Interviews for our new Regional Operations Specialist (ROS) positions concluded in July. These roles will be filled by current UC Master Gardener Coordinators, who will now support our program's growth regionally and statewide. Their responsibilities include coordinating professional development opportunities, recruiting and onboarding new coordinators, integrating best practices, program evaluation, supporting DEIJ practices, resolving conflicts, highlighting programs through impact stories, annual reappointment, and building relationships among coordinators and leaders. We are excited to share updates once human resources has approved, and candidates have accepted their new positions!

Statewide Training Specialist

We are excited to announce that our Statewide Training Specialist position is now officially posted and open for recruitment. This is a significant milestone in our reorganization efforts,

and we are eager to move forward in finding the right candidate to support our growing program. As we continue to expand and refine our work, we encourage all coordinators to share this job posting within your networks. Your support in spreading the word is invaluable as we seek to fill this key role that will help us meet the needs of our program. Link to the job posting: [Statewide Training Specialist Position](#)

Thank you for your continued dedication and collaboration during this exciting time of growth!

Congrats! Online Training Specialist



Lauren has stepped into her new role as Online Training Specialist for the UC Master Gardener Program. This promotion recognizes her dedication to advancing her skills in instructional design, highlighted by her recent Certificate in E-Learning Instruction from UC Irvine. Lauren's expertise in online instruction best practices, software, and learning management systems uniquely positions her to excel in this role. She will collaborate with UC ANR Advisors and others to develop online training and continuing education, enhancing accessibility and consistency. Feel free to collaborate or congratulate her at llsnowden@ucanr.edu.



2024 Annual Coordinator Meeting: Connect, Grow, Collaborate

The Annual Coordinator Meeting brings together the diverse talents and experiences of our UC Master Gardener community, fostering connections, professional growth, and collaborative success.

This year's meeting features keynote speaker [Dr. Carolyn Dewa](#) of the UC Davis Department of Public Health (pictured above). Dr. Dewa will join us to provide her signature mental health awareness and early intervention training, *Inquiring Minds*, adapted for the UC Master Gardener Program. *Inquiring Minds* equips learners with the skills and knowledge to comfortably and confidently speak to volunteers and community members about mental health concerns and refer them to appropriate mental health resources.

Visit the [Annual Coordinator Meeting page](#) for more information (including lodging and travel information and an abridged agenda). Please book lodging and secure your hotel room by Aug. 30.

Location:

UC ANR Building (2801 Second Street in Davis, California 95618)

Dates:

Tuesday, Oct. 9, 2024

10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Wednesday, Oct. 10, 2024

8:30 AM - 3:30 PM

Transforming Our Web Presence: What is IWP?

UC ANR's Integrated Web Platform (IWP) project is set to change the way we present our wealth of educational resources and engage with our diverse audiences. The IWP is a comprehensive overhaul of our entire web ecosystem, designed to modernize, organize, and enhance the discoverability of the division's vast array of information. The IWP will apply proven, taxonomy-driven content strategy principles to structure our content, making it easier for users to find what they need. At the heart of the IWP is Drupal, a modern content management system (CMS) widely used by universities and businesses alike. Drupal will enable us to build, publish, and manage dynamic web content more efficiently, supporting the needs of our users and ensuring that our information remains current and accessible.

How can you help? Please take some time to review your websites and pages. As part of the IWP content strategy, not everything should exist on the new site.

- fix broken links
- make inactive or delete outdated, redundant, or irrelevant content (including images or other media files)
- make sure that your site has a current owner
- visit the Site Builder Maintenance webpage for more info:
ucanr.edu/sites/sb3help/bestpractices/site-builder-maintenance

Site Builder Cleanup: Office Hours

Stephen Dampier of UC ANR IT has Zoom "office hours" every Tuesday and Thursday from 3-4 p.m. to answer questions from Site Builder editors about cleanup (volunteers are welcome to attend): ucanr.zoom.us/j/97937501529?pwd=Zm1PaGRuc0htcnVZbmZQaGcya3oxQT09



2024 Annual UC Master Gardener Program Reappointment

The UC Master Gardener Program 2024 Reappointment window has now closed! At this stage, we begin:

- notifying volunteers who have not completed reappointment of a forthcoming change in their status
 - from Active or Limited Active to Inactive-Resigned
 - from Active or Limited Active to Honorary
- collecting insurance payments (at a rate of \$6.00 per volunteer)
- preparing to receive an invoice from the statewide office requesting a recharge for insurance payments made on behalf of the county program (at a rate of \$6.00 per volunteer)

Get more tips and resources on reappointment steps, including collecting insurance fees and invoicing, and read the [full blog article](#).



2023-24 Impact Report & Spotlight Stories

Have an inspiring story or project to share? Our biennial Impact Report is your chance to shine a spotlight on the incredible work and achievements of the UC Master Gardener Program. From groundbreaking projects to heartwarming volunteer efforts, this report celebrates the impact we've had in communities across the state during the 2023 and 2024 program years. We're eager to feature your stories and images that capture our program's mission. By sharing your local projects and volunteer activities, we can highlight the significance of our efforts, inspire ongoing support, and engage our community in our mission. **Submit your standout projects here:** ucanr.edu/2024SpotlightStories.

If you have images to share, please send them to Melissa Womack at mgwomack@ucanr.edu.



Congratulations to everyone who participated in UC ANR Giving Day! Together, we raised **\$36,846** to support our mission and the thousands of impactful projects happening in our local communities. UC Master Gardeners were the stars of the event. We were the top-earning statewide group, and every challenge prize was won by a UC Master Gardener county. A special shoutout to the UC Master Gardeners of San Mateo/San Francisco for raising the most funds across all of UC ANR.

Thank you for all your hard work in making this event a success. We're already planning for Giving Tuesday, save the date for Dec. 3. If you didn't participate in Giving Day but are interested in raising funds in the future, please contact Emily Delk, Director of Annual Giving & Donor Stewardship, at eddelk@ucanr.edu.



All Reasonable Effort (A.R.E.) Webinar and Survey

Every year, the UC Master Gardener Program, in collaboration with UC ANR's Affirmative Action team, surveys coordinators and advisors to assess whether our program is compliant with Civil Rights by achieving All Reasonable Effort or "ARE."

All Reasonable Effort ensures we are using at least 3 out of 4 main communication efforts to invite potential clientele to the UC Master Gardener Program:

- Media Media
- Individual Effort
- Promotional Material Effort
- Personal Letter Effort

Please watch the webinar recording [All Reasonable Efforts, July 2024](#), and complete the 3-

minute survey. The deadline for submissions has been extended to August 9. Your participation is mandatory, and vital to the success of our program! If you have any questions, contact Jocelyn Mobley at jmmobley@ucanr.edu.



Tree of Heaven Update

UC Master Gardener volunteers participating in the tree-of-heaven scouting effort are doing an incredible job locating and reporting on tree stands! As of Aug. 1, more than a thousand locations of tree-of-heaven have been reported. Feel free to review and share the data map: [Invasive Species Scouting Tool Public Data \(arcgis.com\)](https://arcgis.com).

Volunteers who contributed 12 or more volunteer hours to this project before June 30 will receive a scouting pin. Participants have received [Step-by-step instructions for entering scouting volunteer hours for the Invasive Species Scout Project](#). The statewide office will run hours reports in August at the conclusion of reappointment and notify staff of pin awardees in your county. Pins will be sent to your UCCE office to be shared with volunteers at an upcoming meeting or recognition event. Our project continues through March 2025 so volunteers will have another opportunity to earn a scouting pin during the 2024/25 program year. Thank you for supporting your volunteers in participating in this impactful project!



Meet Our New Advisors: Growing Our Commitment to Horticulture

The UC Master Gardener Program is excited to welcome new advisors to our community of practice. Each new advisor has assumed the critical role of supporting the academic integrity of the UC Master Gardener Program within their respective region. The advisor's role entails aligning program activities with local and state horticulture needs, delivering top-notch training, and reviewing the outputs of UC Master Gardener volunteers for accuracy.

Join us in welcoming these fantastic new Advisors to UC ANR and the UC Master Gardener Program:



Haramrit Gil, PhD

Environmental Horticulture Advisor for Fresno, Madera, Tulare and Kings Counties

- Rose breeding
- Heat-tolerant ornamental crops
- California native plants



Scott Oneto

Farm Advisor for Amador, Calaveras, El Dorado, and Tehama Counties (UC Master Gardener Advisor in Amador County)

- Landscape plants
- Weeds
- Natural Resources and Environment

**Scott has been an Advisor for over 25 years and is a long-time friend of the UC Master Gardener Program. Scott has a new appointment with our program in Amador County.*



Mackenzie Patton

Integrated Pest Management Advisor for Amador, Calaveras, El Dorado, and Tehama Counties (Master Gardener Advisor in El Dorado County)

- Integrated pest management systems
- Plant pathology
- Endemic and invasive species



Derrick Robinson

Food Systems, Urban Agriculture, & Environmental Issues Advisor for San Diego County

- Food systems
- Human environmental issues
- Community institutions, health, and social services



UC IPM Statement on Homemade Pesticides

In recent years, the UC Statewide IPM Program has received an influx of questions from UC Master Gardeners and the general public about homemade pesticides. Read through [UC IPM's statement on homemade pesticides on the blog](#). They share a brief description of homemade pesticides, why they are not advised, and what a UC Master Gardener should do when asked about homemade pesticides. If you have any questions about pesticides or would like information about pesticide training for your program, contact the UC IPM Urban Team at ucipm-community@ucanr.edu.

Upcoming Training & Events:

Web: mgcoord.ucanr.edu/Events

UC Master Gardener Social Media Accessibility Webinar

Tuesday, August 19th, 12 - 1 pm

Zoom link: <https://ucanr.zoom.us/j/97769738618>

Invasive Spotted Lanternfly with Dr. Cindy Kron

Thursday, Aug. 29, 12 - 1 pm Register Today: ucanr.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_kA6xAMNCQdy4IMmOtY92bA#

Evaluation- Volunteer Demographic Survey Brown Bag

Tuesday, Sept. 10, 2-3 pm

Zoom link: <https://ucanr.zoom.us/j/93167329625?pwd=5LyuiCl5YanhKXEcCj5pCptY38nTwj.1> Meeting ID: 931 6732 9625

Passcode: 214593

Office Hours:

UC Master Gardener Marketing & Communications Office Hours

Every Tuesday, 11 am -12 pm

Zoom link: ucanr.zoom.us/j/93698902316?pwd=cVpBVDJIS0JSTld1NytmUXNYRzhKQT09

Director Office Hours: Admin and Policy Support with Missy Gable

Every Friday, 9 am - 10 am

<https://ucanr.zoom.us/j/98021015391?pwd=CFAeiJZf5ionWPcVvAbKbADmmdPxoH.1>

IWP Office hours: Website clean up

Every Tuesday and Thursday from 3-4 PM. Zoom meeting:

<https://ucanr.zoom.us/j/97937501529?pwd=Zm1PaGRuc0htcnVZbmZQaGcya3oxQT09>

Recorded Webinars:

Newsletter Best Practices

<https://youtu.be/9uEOfPC2WvU> (Jul. 2024)

All Reasonable Efforts

<https://youtu.be/DV-CDRaZuUw> (Jul. 2024)

submit questions, topic suggestions, a spotlight story, project feature, new staff feature, or feedback, email Statewide Communications Specialist, Barbra Pushies at bpushies@ucanr.edu.

“To extend research-based knowledge and information on home horticulture, pest management, and sustainable landscape practices to the residents of California.”



UC Master Gardener Program | 2801 2nd Street | Davis, CA 95618 US

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