



# Calaveras County Garden Club

Newsletter

August 2023

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*Welcome to the CCGC Newsletter!*

Hope this newsletter finds you and your families all well and enjoying the summer months. This is the maiden issue of a newsletter that will hopefully develop into a good way to communicate all that is happening in our club. The goal is to bring information to the club members regarding upcoming events and also to keep members abreast of all the wonderful ways the club contributes to the community. As this is a new venture, all input is welcome in what to include in the monthly issues. Some ideas include details about the upcoming meeting with information about the speaker and the subject to be presented. The Hort Report will also be included in the newsletter. Also there will be a section regarding gardening happenings such as plant sales, county fairs, open garden tours, nurseries to visit, etc...

Now a most important concern is what should we name this newsletter? For example the Modesto Garden Club's newsletter is entitled "Over the Garden Gate". Please think about this and at the September meeting we can all submit our best ideas and we can vote on the best one!

## The Hort Report for August 2023

Hi all! Hard to believe but we are already more than halfway through 2023! We had such a beautiful cool spring and early summer but now that we are in July and heading into August, the heat is upon us. So it is important to perform certain tasks to make sure your plants make it through these hot days.

Watering your plants in the morning is preferable to evening as the plants will be able to absorb the water with less evaporation and if the plant happens to get wet, the leaves and flowers will have a chance to dry out lessening sun scald issues. You can water your plants in the evening however the water will rest in the dirt which encourages fungal growth, chances for rotting, and insect activity.

A great way to help the roots of your plants keep cool, retain moisture in the ground, and suppress weeds is to put mulch around your garden beds. There are many types of mulch available. Shredded cedar or redwood bark is an amazing type of mulch that looks great and helps add a finishing look to your beds. This type of mulch can be purchased at your local hardware or big box stores. If you need a lot of bark, you can find it at your local landscape supply company.

Other types of mulch include grass clippings, leaves (lots of oak leaves are available this time of year and especially in the fall), and compost. Just assure that when you are putting the mulch down to keep it away from the very base of your plants because if the mulch is touching any part of the plant it can trap moisture and cause disease and rot.

If you have your plants on a sprinkler system, be vigilant about checking for leaks and for any emitters that may be plugged. If you have plants in pots, check your drainage holes to make sure that they have not been blocked by the plants roots-plenty of plants have drowned when there was insufficient drainage.

You can continue to fertilize your plants, however look forward for some cooler days and choose those days and remember to water deeply before applying any fertilizer.

Deadhead (remove spent blooms) on your blooming plants to include lavender, roses, zinnias, marigolds, etc..

If you want to start a fall garden, August is the time to start planting some cool weather seeds. Outdoors you can start carrots, beets, lettuce, cabbage and turnips. For those who like to start seeds indoors you can start broccoli, kale and green onions.

August is also the time to begin purchasing your spring bulbs. Daffodils, tulips, hyacinth, ranunculus, and crocus are just a few. Sources for buying these bulbs include your local nursery, big box stores, and on line bulb dealers such as John Sheepers, Van Engelen, Inc, and Brecks. Just remember to follow directions for storing and planting for spring success!!!

Good luck with all your gardening and stay cool!

Reminder the next meeting will be held on September 13, 2023 at the Renegade Winery in Mokelumne Hill. Details to follow in the September newsletter.

### Upcoming Events

Angels Camp Certified Farmers Market at the Angels Camp Museum Every Friday evening 5 PM to dusk June 9-September [angelscampbusiness.com](http://angelscampbusiness.com)

Murphys Certified Farmers Market at Murphys Community Park 505 Algiers Street, Downtown Murphys Every Sunday 9 AM to 1 PM, first Sunday in June through last Sunday in October

West Point Farmer's Market at Blue Mountain Center on Main Street. Thursdays 4-7PM July 13<sup>th</sup> through October 12.

Amador County Fair 18621 Sherwood St, Plymouth July 27<sup>th</sup> –July 30<sup>th</sup> 2023. [amadorcountyfair.com](http://amadorcountyfair.com)

Harvest Day at Fair Oaks Horticulture Center  
11549 Fair Oaks Boulevard, Fair Oaks  
Saturday August 5, 2023 8AM-2PM [sacmg.ucanr.edu](http://sacmg.ucanr.edu)  
This is a beautiful demonstration garden and Harvest Day is a gardening festival!!!

And on a final note.....

The deadline for submitting information that a member would like to have posted in this newsletter is the 17<sup>th</sup> of the month prior. For example, for the September 2023 issue, kindly email Diana with the info by August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

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“To plant a garden is to believe in tomorrow”

Audrey Hepburn

Calaveras County Garden Club, Inc.

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