



ONGOING:

Armstrong Woods Summer Tours Every Saturday at Noon FREE for members and volunteers, Donations requested for others. Reservations not required. Take a fascinating tour of the largest grove of protected old-growth redwoods in Sonoma County. Learn about the unique characteristics of the coast redwoods, about the other plants and animals that interact with them, and the effects of time on the system. Also learn about the history of the efforts to protect and preserve this very special place. Meet at the visitor center in the entry parking lot. Donations accepted.

Info: 707.869.Eco3 (3263) stewards@mcn.org, www.stewardsofthecoastandredwoods.org

Monthly Docent-led hikes in Willow Creek State Park.

First Saturday of the month at 10:30 a.m., (June – October) Donations accepted. Register by the Friday morning before to receive directions. Bring water and lunch or snack. Hike the 3-mile loop on the Islands in the Sky trail with magnificent coastal views.

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Eco Adventures

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Every Saturday at Noon- Docent led

walks throgh Armstrong Woods

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Willow Creek State park

Info: EM: stewards@mcn.org - 707-869-3263

Regional Parks Trail Maintenance

Workdays: Each workday is scheduled from 9am - 1pm. Tools, cold drinks and gloves are provided by the Regional Parks Department. If you can make any workdays please e-mail me or call at 707-565-3356. John Ryan

October 19 & 20 - Tolay Fall Festival!

at Tolay Lake Regional Park in Petaluma (formerly the Cardoza Pumpkin Farm) over two long weekends - October 12 -14 and 19 - 21, 2007. The Festival will highlight our natural, agricultural and cultural heritage through recreation, farm products, food and fun! Favorite activities will include the giant hay maze, food vendors, live animals, and pumpkins/fall decorative items for sale. In addition, Park Rangers will lead interpretive walks and hayrides, and a new nocturnal animal exhibit will be open along with an authentic Native American village. The Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria will hold basketry and flint knapping demonstrations as well as construct a boat made entirely from Tules, a plant that grows in the freshwater marshes of California. The Environmental Discovery Center of Sonoma County will present 'From Earth To You', a hands-on area involving plants and animals, and an Ecology Program with games & activities.

October 19 - SSU Habitat Hedgerow

Planting Day, 9 - 5 Environmental Technology Center. Join us for all or part of the day. Refreshments provided. What is a hedgerow? A hedgerow is a mixed planting that includes shrubs and trees of different sizes, perennials, wildflowers and grasses, brambles and vines. Our hedgerow will be California native plants, donated by local

nurseries. A hedgerow will provide habitat for beneficial insects and wildlife, shelter the garden from wind, and screen the parking lot. Credit available in some courses. For more information or to sign-up: Frederique Lavoipierre at lavoipie@sonoma.edu. For more information, Frederique Lavoipierre at lavoipie@sonoma.edu

October 27 - Mushroom Cultivation Workshop

10 - 2 at Harmony Farm SupplyJoin with Charmoon and Mia Maltz for an introduction to home mushroom cultivation. Includes kit making, life cycles, basic laboratory techniques, and the role of fungi in the ecosystem. We will also discussing specific strains of fungi for the home garden and the restoration of landscapes affected by pollutants. Near Sebastopol. \$30 donation requested. Register with Harmony Farm 823-9125.

November 8 - "All About Mushrooms"

6:30-9 pm with Santa Rosa Rec & Park A wide ranging presentation with discussions, displays, and a slide show. Includes an overview of wild mushrooms of northern California, how to tell good mushrooms from bad, the amazing facts of mushroom biology, the vital roles that mushrooms play in nature's web of life, common mushrooms of Sonoma County yards and urban areas, growing culinary and medicinal mushrooms at home, basic techniques for mushroom identification, and slide show "Wild Culinary Mushrooms of Northern California". Attendees are invited to bring in mushrooms for identification and discussion. Held at the Finley Center in Santa Rosa. \$30. Info/register: 707-543-3737

Occidental Arts and Ecology Center

Tours

Tours are roughly 1 1/2 hours in duration unless noted otherwise below. We request a \$10 donation per person. We thank you for not bringing dogs on site.

October 21, Garden Tour at 1:00 pm

Tour participants will be introduced to the Center's organic gardens, which preserve thousands of varieties of rare and endangered food, medicinal, and ornamental plants. A suggested donation of \$10 per person is requested. (707) 874-1557 x201.

Garden Volunteer Wednesdays

Please join us in the garden on Wednesdays for Garden Volunteer Day. Drop by between 10:00 am and 4:00 pm most Wednesdays (except the Wednesday before Thanksgiving and the Wednesdays on either side of Christmas). A vegetarian lunch is served at 12:30 - bring a potluck dish to share if you like. Bring a hat, and water (707) 874-1557 x 201 - www.oaec.org
Occidental Arts and Ecology Center
5290 Coleman Valley Road
Occidental, CA 95465

Laguna Learning Center

The Laguna Foundation will soon have a new, unique home for our education, research and restoration programs. The Laguna Learning Center is a community opportunity. www.lagunadesantarosa.org. Find out how you can join the campaign!

Of Interest to Gardeners

Plant Sales - Willowside School

Nursery A program with student involvement to support garden and nursery coordinator positions in the Oak Grove Union School District. Willowside & Hall Rd. Saturdays 9 - 2

Last Sale! November 3

We have a great variety of perennials: roses, geraniums, wisteria, grasses, small Japanese maples, ferns, Alaska blue willows, dawn redwoods, canna lilies as well as some unusual plants, like hornbeam trees. Prices: \$1 - 4" pot, \$3 - 1 gal., \$7-10 - 5 gal. We accept plant containers for reuse. Call Jan Lochner, 823-3265, with questions or donations

October 19 - The Garden Conservancy

is pleased to present the 2007 Ruth Bancroft Horticultural Series seminar: The Influence of South America on California Gardens, Part 2, on Friday, October 19 and Saturday, October 20, 2007 (see attached press release and calendar submission). This seminar series is aimed at professionals and home gardeners and addresses appropriate horticulture and sustainable garden design for the Bay Area. www.gardenconservancy.org/events or contact Betsy Flack, West Coast Program Coordinator, (415) 561-7895, bflack@gardenconservancy.org.

October 21 & 28 - Autumn Roses

OCTOBER 21, Sunday 11-4 "Magical Miniature Roses" - With special tours and demonstrations at 11:00 & 2:00. Come enjoy our collection of over 100 varieties of miniature roses, many of them rare FREE. Nursery, with many wonderful miniature, bush, climbing roses and perennials for sale, OPEN 11-4.

OCTOBER 28, Sunday 11-4 "Hip Rose Gardens!" - With special tours and demonstrations starting at 11:00 & 2:00. ROSE HIPS are the lovely 'seed pods' of the rose plant and can be used for seasonal decorations, in teas and jams, and for garden color all winter long.

Our guest speaker, Roxie Nall, will demonstrate the use of hips and dried material to create holiday wreaths. Materials will be available for a nominal fee for you to create your own. The Russian River Rose Company, 1685 Magnolia Drive, Dry Creek Valley, Healdsburg. (707) 433-7455. www.russian-river-rose.com

October 26 & 27 - 2007 Fall Flower Show and Plant Sale

is "Practically Magic!" from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. the Graton Community Club will present their annual Fall Flower Show and Plant Sale. Proceeds from the sales benefit the club's scholarship and building repair funds.

Nov. 10 Master Gardener Workshop,

Sebastopol Library Looking for an inexpensive, yet thoughtful gift for the holidays? Master Gardeners Pauline Haro and Penny Martin will show you how to create "Gifts from the Garden for under \$1.00" at a free workshop on Sat., Nov. 10 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Sebastopol Library, 7140 Bodega Ave. For more information call 565-2608 or visit the Sonoma County Mater Gardener website at http://groups.ucanr.org/sonomamg/

November 20 - Native Plant Gardening:

how to choose plants from your native plant community for your garden. Dr. Glenn Keator is a renowned botanist, will be elaborating on (and signing) his newest book, Designing California Native Gardens: The Plant Community Approach to Artful, Ecological Gardens. The presentation will focus on understanding plant communities (plants that grow together in the wild) and choosing the appropriate species for your gardens. This practical approach will be immensely helpful as we move away from traditionally water-intense, energy-intense, habitat-sterile gardening into a more sustainable and environmentally friendly relationship to our environment. 7:30 pm Luther Burbank Art and Garden Center, 2050 Yulupa Avenue, Santa Rosa. ALL are welcome to attend. Admissions and refreshments are free.

Farmers Markets:

By Maja Wood: www.about.com:santa rosa

• GUERNEVILLE

Wednesdays, 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. through October 30 In the Town Plaza, Downtown Guerneville 869-8079.

• HEALDSBURG

Saturdays, 9 a.m. to noon; at North and Vine Streets.

Tuesdays 4 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Healdsburg Plaza through November (707) 431-1956

- Special events include kid's craft days, zucchini festival, pumpkin festival and more. Also, great, free music each week

• OCCIDENTAL

Fridays, 4 p.m. to dusk through Oct. 26 In front of Howard's Cafe, downtown Occidental Info: (707) 793-2159

www.occidentalfarmersmarket.com

• PETALUMA

Saturdays, 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. through October 27, Walnut Park, Petaluma Boulevard South and D Street, Petaluma, (707) 762-0344

- Live music and other entertainment
- The first Saturday of each month is Children's Activity Day, free crafts projects for kids.

• SANTA ROSA Year-Round Markets

Wednesdays and Saturdays, 8:30 a.m. to noon at the parking lot of the Veterans Memorial Building, 1351 Maple Ave. And, Saturdays, 9 a.m. to noon at Oakmont Drive and White Oak (707) 538-7023 - Rain or shine.

• SEBASTOPOL

Sundays, 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. through Nov. 25, Sebastopol Plaza at McKinley Street (707) 522-9305

• Live music. This is a nice family outing. If you have young children, bring a change of clothes for them—it seems like all the kids end up in the fountain.

• WINDSOR

Sundays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.; through November. Thursdays, 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.; June 7 through August, Windsor Town Green at Bell Road (707) 433-4595

- Windsor goes all-out on their Farmers' Market. Every other Thursday night, on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month, there's a big musical act on the Town Green. And on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Thursdays, at dusk, there's a movie on the big screen on the Green.