



A Garden Runs Through It

Whether it's a vegetable garden, houseplants or a landscape...

September 2020

UCCE Master Gardener Program, Colusa County

UC Cooperative Extension,
Colusa County

P.O. Box 180
100 Sunrise Blvd., Suite E
Colusa, CA 95932

530-458-0570
glhernandez@ucanr.edu

cecolusa.ucanr.edu

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Upcoming events

[Click here to read our blog.](#)



September

No events scheduled at this time.

Take and Make at Home Kits
Coming soon

If you join our Facebook page you will educational videos in place of in person workshops.

Advice to Grow by ... Ask Us!



UC Master Gardener Mini Conference

We will be streaming LIVE to the UC Master Gardener [YouTube](#) channel and [Facebook](#) page, just pick the platform you prefer. Registration not required, pick and choose what sessions to attend. All sessions are being recorded and posted on [YouTube](#) but we hope you can join in LIVE.

Additional information about the Mini Conference go to the UC Master Gardener Page below.

https://ucanr.edu/sites/2020MGConference/2020_Virtual_Mini_Conference/

<https://www.youtube.com/user/UCMasterGardeners>

<https://www.facebook.com/UCMasterGardeners/>



UC Master Gardener Mini Conference

Sept. 29 - Oct. 1

LIVE

No Registration Required
Open to the Public
All Sessions will be Recorded



UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
Agriculture and Natural Resources



Ornamental Plant of the Month

Brighten the Dog Days of Summer with *Lycoris*

The *Lycoris* (spider lily) originated in the Orient. Photo shows *Lycoris radiata*, which grows well in Zones 8-9 and the best known and easiest to grow. Coral red flowers with a golden sheen bloom prominently late summer into early fall, just when bright color is desired in the “Dog Days of Summer”.

These bulb plants are interesting in their growth pattern. Strap like leaves emerge during the spring and stay green until summer. Leafless flower stalks then break forth late summer to early fall with each stalk bearing a cluster of blooms with narrow, pointed petal-like segments and projecting spidery-looking stamens.

Plant in a sunny site that stays dry during summer dormancy. After the bloom period is over and the stand of *Lycoris* has become dense and crowded, set bulbs approximately 1 ft. apart, keeping the neck (top) of bulb at top or even just above soil level. Water regularly while bulbs are actively growing and again when flowering stalks emerge.

In my garden the flowering bulbs have moved to other areas of the garden by seeds produced by the uncut flowers. I really am thrilled to see the bright groups of color in areas that are dull and null of any color.



Submitted by Bernice Dommer

Edible Plant of the Month

Edible Landscaping with Fall color in mind

NOTHING says Autumn is around the corner, as the sights and smells when we walk or drive around our neighborhoods or countryside. We notice the maples and other deciduous tree leaves turning beautiful orange, gold, rust and brown. Fruit and farm stands with apples, pumpkins, and squash of every sort imaginable. Some people even rush to that certain coffee place which sells a special kind of coffee drink.

Let's start with our Autumn feature in your yard, a tree! Instead of a maple or other ornamental feature, let us go for a persimmon tree. A persimmon would make a beautiful and interesting focal point, especially in late fall when they lose all their leaves, and we end up having a bare tree loaded with beautiful bright orange fruit. There are a couple different types of persimmons; stringent like the heart or acorn shaped "Haciya" or the non-astringent, apple shaped "Fuyu". Haciya needs to be ripened completely (which can be done by placing in a paper bag with a ripe banana) and is great for baking and spooned out like a pudding to be eaten or stored in the freezer. The sweeter Fuyu can be eaten right off the tree like an apple and is great for salads, cereal, smoothies, and baking. Persimmons will keep for months if kept whole, and stored in a cool, dark place, both varieties can be dried as well. If a persimmon does not interest you, how about a citrus, Satsuma plum, pluot or certain types of peaches as a focal point? (remember we need to consider using dormant spray during the winter on peaches to prevent curl).

Off to one side of our yard, we could plant pomegranate, keeping as a bush(es) or pruning into small tree(s), or planting a few in a fashion to use as a hedgerow border between you and a neighbor. One of the tastiest varieties of pomegranate is "Wonderful", which are/can be used for juice and jellies and sets fruit rather late in comparison to other varieties.

On the opposite side of your yard, you could plant kiwis on a tall trellis, grapes on a lower trellis, or even a group of raspberries for interest. This could also act as a "border" between you and a neighbor.

Lower areas could be planted with colorful pumpkins, winter squash such as acorn, spaghetti, and/or butternut.

HAPPY FALL!



Submitted by Annelie Lauwerijssen

Recipe of the Month

Stuffed Little Peppers - two ways!

12 baby bell peppers OR 18 jalapeno peppers

Prep the peppers

Slice in half lengthwise, keeping a bit of stem on each half. Remove seeds and membranes.

Lay peppers on their sides on a parchment lined baking sheet.

Filling #1

5 strips bacon, cooked and chopped

1/2 onion, finely chopped and cooked in bacon drippings

1/2 cup grated parmesan cheese

1/2 cup ricotta cheese

1/2 cup bread crumbs, seasoned is best

1/4 cup parsley, chopped

1/2 teaspoon thyme

Gently mix these ingredients.

Mound the filling in the peppers.

Filling #2

8 ounces cream cheese, softened

1 1/2 cups grated sharp cheddar or jalapeno jack cheese

5 strips of bacon, cooked, drained and chopped

2 jalapeno or Fresno peppers, seeded and finely chopped

1 clove of garlic, grated

1/4 cup parsley and/or cilantro, chopped

Blend the ingredients until smooth and soft (You may need a tablespoon of milk).

Taste - you may want to add salt.

Put into a zip top bag, cut off a corner about 1/2 inch across. Squeeze a line of filling into each pepper half.

Do NOT over fill, the filling spreads and will make a mess!

Cook

Bake in a 375 degree oven for 15-20 min. Serve warm or at room temperature.

NOTES:

Serve the cream cheese version without baking them. Top the cream cheese version with some panko or bread crumbs for crunch.

Substitute mild or spicy sausage for the bacon in either filling. Add some grated nutmeg to Filling #2.

Add a little hot sauce or some minced jalapeno pepper to Filling #1.

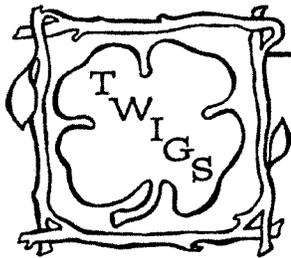
Filling #1 could be used in 4-6 regular bell peppers, left whole, just tops off.

Put them in a small casserole with 1/2-3/4 cup chicken stock or white wine.

or leftover marinara sauce, top with some extra cheese, if you like, and bake, covered, ~45 min until peppers soften.



Submitted by Penny Walgenbach



Cool Tools

GARDENING ACTIVITY #7

Summary:

Participants will review the proper use and care of tools through skits.

Why Do This?

Tools help us do jobs efficiently. It would be an awful lot of work to turn all the soil in a garden with a stick or just with hands! Tools used improperly can hurt people and get broken. If folks have a chance to rehearse the proper use of each tool they will have an easier time remembering proper use in the midst of a gardening project.

Some Helpful Information:

There are different tools that really help out the gardener: A shovel or spade for digging; a hoe for weeding as well as chopping at and smoothing soil. Rakes smooth a wide area and can help collect plant material or rocks. When transplanting, a trowel comes in very handy for digging small holes; a cultivator can remove weeds and aerate the soil. A wheelbarrow is useful for moving soil, compost and mulches from place to place. All these tools are most safely used when some basic rules are followed.

- Walk when carrying tools or using the wheelbarrow.
- Keep tools below shoulder level.
- If an area is crowded wait or move with extra care.
- Clean tools before putting them away.
- Use digging tools like a shovel or spading fork with shoes on.
- Tools on the ground should have blades and points facing down.

Many of us have seen comedies where a person steps on the tines of a rake or the blade of a shovel or hoe. The tool handle pops up and smacks the person in the head. Speaking from experience, it really hurts and isn't funny at all! If the tool is rested upright against a fence or put away this won't happen. If it's necessary to lay the tool down, it should only be left blade or tines facing down into the dirt. (Lying this way they can still trip you up, so take care.)

Time:

1 hour

Materials:

several of each:

- shovels, spading forks, trowels, cultivators, rakes, hoes, wheelbarrows and tool cleaning brushes
- one tool-cleaning tub
- copies of the handout instructions

Preparation:

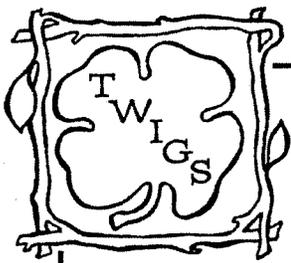
1. Make sure you have all the needed tools.
2. Make up a tool-cleaning tub, a large plastic tub filled with sand and vegetable oil (mix 5:1). Make it large enough so the shovel blade can be scooped into it.
3. Review all the rules and tools so you are sure of what the groups will be doing. Some rules and tools may not be necessary for your garden.

Step by Step:

1. Take out the tools one by one. Name them and talk about how and when they are used. Demonstrate briefly each of the safety rules. Show everyone the cleaning tub and brush. Show them how to brush dirt off and put the tool in and out of the oily sand to clean it further. This applies a coating of oil that protects the metal from rusting.
2. Break into groups, one group per tool.
3. Distribute the tool and rule to each group.
4. Have the group make up a skit that shows the proper use of that tool.
5. Have each of the groups demonstrate while the rest of the groups try to guess what the rule is. Remember ALL these rules are followed with ALL the tools!
6. Remind everyone that if folks forget the rules while in the garden they must remind each other (nicely) to use the tools safely and follow the rules.

Extensions:

- Go to a hardware store together and look at all the tools.
- Have a race where someone tries to rake up weeds with a shovel while another person uses a rake, or fill a wheelbarrow using a hoe and a shovel. This shows the importance of using the right tool for the job.



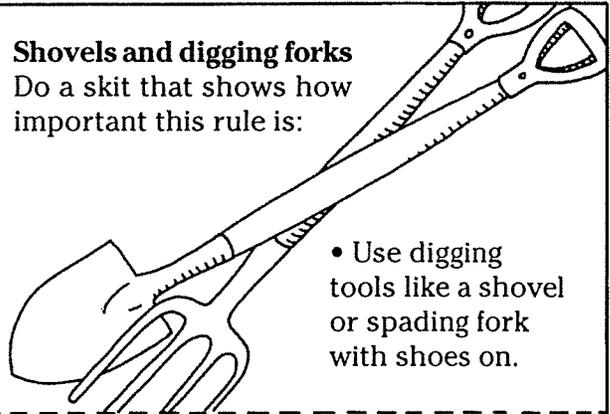
Handout • Gardening Activity #7

COOL TOOLS

Tool Rules:

Shovels and digging forks

Do a skit that shows how important this rule is:

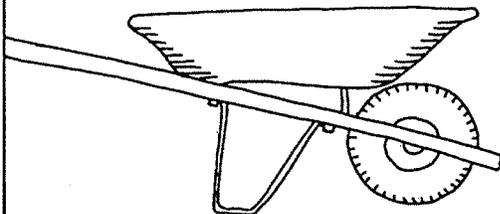


- Use digging tools like a shovel or spading fork with shoes on.

Wheelbarrow

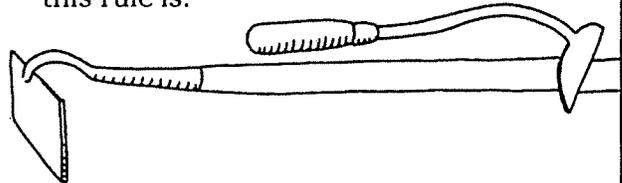
Do a skit that shows how important this rule is:

- Walk when carrying tools or using the wheelbarrow.



Hoe

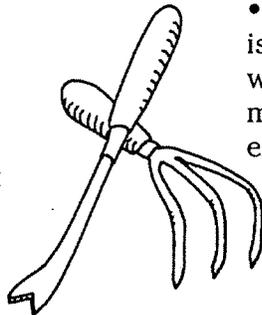
Do a skit that shows how important this rule is:



- Keep them below shoulder level.

Cultivator

Do a skit that shows how important this rule is:

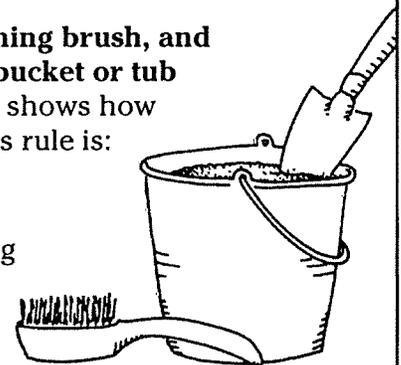


- If the area is crowded wait or move with extra care.

Trowel, cleaning brush, and oily sand in bucket or tub

Do a skit that shows how important this rule is:

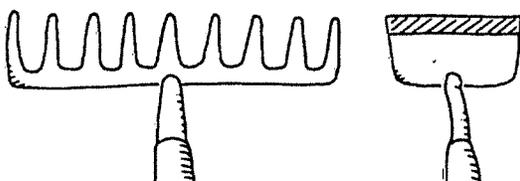
- Clean tools before putting them away.



Hoe and rake

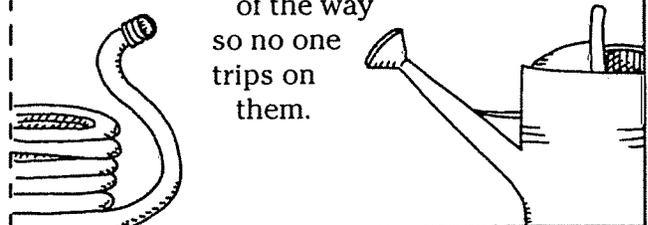
Do a skit that shows how important this rule is:

- Tools on the ground should have blades and points facing down.



Hose/Watering Can

- Make sure the hose is off so water is not wasted. Coil hoses neatly out of the way so no one trips on them.



Simply Stems

Name: _____

Y	S	U	P	P	O	R	T	S	T	W	O	C	W	G
Y	R	N	T	H	S	W	K	R	O	J	Y	M	F	Y
L	A	E	K	L	A	T	S	O	I	C	O	S	W	L
U	C	W	L	O	L	A	D	Z	U	D	J	Z	S	U
V	U	A	W	E	W	Y	R	U	C	C	J	Q	M	B
V	B	T	S	M	C	P	I	R	D	N	P	Q	B	R
N	X	E	T	L	S	M	I	Q	D	O	K	Q	Q	A
H	M	R	E	I	E	Z	T	P	F	J	I	Y	Z	B
N	O	H	M	L	N	E	W	V	N	M	N	D	H	U
C	E	N	Y	E	I	G	A	Z	B	D	F	Y	F	H
U	K	X	O	O	V	B	J	D	F	F	T	L	M	R
X	E	B	I	F	X	V	S	B	K	T	P	I	B	R

VOCABULARY LIST

BOK CHOY
CELERY
CUTTING
FIBER

PHLOEM
RHUBARB
STALK
STEM

STORAGE
SUPPORT
VINES

WATER
WOODY
XYLEM

Seasonal IPM Checklist

The list below reflects possible landscape activities to do during the selected month(s) in your region. You can use the checklist as a guide for IPM activities in your own landscape or provide it to your clients.

September

- Abiotic Disorders - Prevent or manage damage, such as that caused by aeration deficit, herbicide, salinity, soil pH, sunburn, wind, and too much or little water.
- [Ants](#) - Manage around landscape and building foundations, such as using insecticide baits and trunk barriers.
- [Aphids](#) - On small plants, spray a strong stream of water or apply insecticidal oils and soaps. Look for and conserve [natural enemies](#) such as predaceous bugs, lacewings, lady beetles, and syrphids.
- [Asian citrus psyllid](#) - Look for it and if found where not known to occur report it and other new or [exotic pests](#) to your local county agricultural commissioner.
- [Citrus](#) - Monitor for damage and pests such as leafminer.
- [Clean up](#) mummies and old fruit and nuts in and under trees to avoid harboring pests.
- [Coast redwood dieback](#) - Check for drought-stress related maladies such as abiotic disorders, bark beetles, fungal diseases, and spider mites. [Deep water trees](#) and apply mulch.
- [Codling moth](#) of apple and pear - Bag fruit. Promptly remove infested and dropped fruit. Apply insecticides only if precisely timed.
- [Compost](#) - Turn and keep it moist.
- Cover grapes with netting to [exclude birds](#) and other [vertebrate pests](#).
- Cypress, or Seridium, [canker](#) - Prune dying branches at least 6 inches below any apparent cankers. Irrigate appropriately. Replace severely affected trees.
- Deter [borers](#) - Deep water trees adapted to summer rainfall e.g., fruit and nut trees. Protect trunks and roots from injury and avoid pruning, except for hazardous trees and certain pests and plants that warrant summer pruning. [Paint trunk and scaffolds with white](#) interior latex paint diluted with an equal amount of water.
- [Irrigation](#) - Adjust watering schedules according to the weather and plants' changing need for water. Check systems for leaks and broken emitters and perform maintenance as needed. Consider upgrading the irrigation system to improve its water efficiency.
- [Leaffooted bug](#) - Look for feeding on fruit and nuts such as almonds, pistachios, and pomegranates.
- Oak [gall wasps](#) - Usually do no serious harm to oaks. Control is very difficult.
- [Plant](#) California natives. Select species and cultivars well-adapted to the local site. Water regularly to keep root zone moist, but not soggy.
- [Prune](#) evergreen, summer-flowering shrubs.
- [Root rot](#) - Favored by excessive water and poor drainage. Avoid overirrigation and waterlogged soil.
- [Spider mites](#) - Irrigate adequately, mist leaf undersides daily, reduce dustiness, spray horticultural oil.

Seasonal IPM Checklist



[Yellowjackets](#) - Place out and maintain lure traps or water traps. Trapping is most effective during late winter to early spring.

Gardening Guide

UC Master Gardener Program of Colusa County

Zones 8 and 9

	September	October	November
P L A N T I N G	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cool-Weather annuals like pansies, violas, snapdragons can be transplanted now. Also, transplants of broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, and kale can be planted this month. Direct seed peas, spinach, radishes, lettuce, and carrots. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cool-weather annuals like pansies, violas, snapdragons can be transplanted now. Also, you can direct seed cornflower, nasturtium, poppy, nigella, portulaca and sweet peas. If you don't have a winter garden, consider planting a cover crop to be tilled in next spring. Direct seed peas, spinach, radishes, lettuce, and carrots. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You can still sow seeds of wildflowers this month. Plant California poppy, calendula, clarkia, and sweet peas. In the veggie garden plant seeds for lettuce, mustard, spinach, radishes and peas. If you didn't get your new tree planted last month, it is not too late to take advantage of the fall root growth that will give your new tree a strong start in the spring.
M A I N T E N A N C E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> September is a good time to consider reducing the size of your lawn. It is also a good time to rejuvenate a lawn with over-seeding. Put your spent annual and vegetables (disease-free, of course) in your compost pile. Add compost to the beds that had the annuals and vegetables you are pulling out, before re-planting in those beds. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Put your spent annuals and vegetables (disease-free, of course) in your compost pile. Be sure to deadhead your roses following the October bloom. Add compost to the beds that had the annuals and vegetables you are pulling out, before re-planting in those beds. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In the middle of the month fertilize the veggies and flowers that were planted in October. 
P R E V E N T I O N	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be sure to clear out any weeds that developed in the perennial bed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Check azaleas, gardenias and camellias for leaves yellowing between the veins. Apply chelated iron if this condition is present. Keep your compost bin covered with a plastic tarp when rains begin. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Look at your camellias and remove excess buds to get larger flowers. Clean up all the fallen/falling leaves and other plant debris and dispose of diseased materials.

House Mouse

House mice are well adapted to living in close contact with humans and thrive where food and shelter are abundant.

They eat and contaminate food supplies and can also transmit disease. Their gnawing activities can damage structures or property. Manage them by cleaning up debris, removing food and shelter, eliminating entryways into buildings, or using traps or baits. High frequency electronic devices aren't effective.



Adult house mouse.

How to detect a house mouse infestation:

- Look for droppings, fresh gnaw marks, and tracks, which indicate areas where mice are active.
- Search behind boxes, in drawers, in garages, or around woodpiles for nests made of finely shredded paper or other fibrous material.
- Check for the musky odor associated with mice.
- Mice are most active at night, but you also can see them during daylight hours.

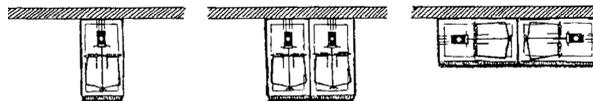
Discourage mice by removing food, water, and shelter and sealing entryways.

- Good housekeeping within buildings reduces shelter and food for house mice.
- Seal all structural cracks and openings larger than ¼ inch. Use wire screen or coarse steel wool that mice can't chew through.
- Ensure all doors, windows, and screens fit tightly.
- Feed pets only the amount of food they will eat at a single feeding.
- Keep all food storage and garbage containers sealed.
- Thin or remove plants next to or climbing up buildings, since house mice are excellent climbers.

For more information about managing pests, visit ipm.ucanr.edu or your local University of California Cooperative Extension office.

Remove mice from your home by trapping.

- Snap traps and glue boards are the safest and most economical traps.
- Place traps in secluded areas along walls, behind objects, in dark corners, and in places where droppings have been found.
- Dispose of dead rodents by burying or placing them in plastic bags and putting them in the garbage. Don't touch mice with your bare hands, and wash hands thoroughly after handling traps.



Set traps so the trigger is next to the wall.
Increase your chance of success by setting two traps.

What about pesticides?

- Avoid using poison baits indoors. Mice can die in hidden places, create bad odors, and be difficult to locate. Seal buildings before baiting outdoors to prevent mice coming indoors to die.
- Baits generally take several days for effective control.
- Place baits in tamper-proof bait stations out of reach of children, pets, and wildlife. All rodent baits are toxic.

The deer mouse, which can carry the deadly hantavirus, has a white underside, more hair on its tail, and is rare in homes.



What you do in your home and landscape affects our water and health.

- Minimize the use of pesticides that pollute our waterways and harm human health.
- Use nonchemical alternatives or less toxic pesticide products whenever possible.
- Read product labels carefully and follow instructions on proper use, storage, and disposal.

Master Gardener activities!



In today's fast paced, social media way of life, fake news has become normal.
This includes fake gardening advice.
UC Master Gardeners use cutting edge, research-based information to help you garden better.
We are practical, connected and trusted.
Advice to Grow By ... Ask Us!

Tomorrow's activities are created by today's dreamers—you can make sure that the UC Master Gardener Program of Colusa County is still working to help future generations through your support.

[Click here to support us.](#)

Science Word of the Month

Abscission—the dropping off of a leaf, fruit, or flower.

If you attended one of your workshops, you will receive an email from mgevaluation@ucanr.edu. Your input gives us the tools we need to grow and improve our program. *Thank you!*

Safety Note #50

PORTABLE FIRE EXTINGUISHER BASICS



Photograph Courtesy of South Coast REC

<http://safety.ucanr.org>.

Information available from the U.S. Fire Administration indicates nationwide there are approximately 1.8 million fires annually that cause an average of 4,200 deaths and 24,900 injuries. More than 100 people die from fires in California each year. Becoming familiar with the use a portable fire extinguisher may prevent or reduce fire-related death, injuries, and damage. California Code of Regulations (CCR) Title 8, Section 6151 addresses portable fire extinguishers.

Video E-053 Fire Extinguishers is available from the ANR Environmental Health and Safety Library at

Four Types of Fires

1. **Class A.** Fires in ordinary combustible materials such as wood, cloth, paper, rubber, and many plastics.
2. **Class B.** Fires in flammable or combustible liquids, gases, greases, and some rubber and plastic materials.
3. **Class C.** Fires that involve energized electrical equipment where the electrical nonconductivity of the extinguishing media is important.
4. **Class D.** Fires in combustible metals such as magnesium, titanium, zirconium, and potassium.

Portable Fire Extinguisher Use and Requirements

- Portable fire extinguisher use is limited to those Agriculture and Natural Resources (ANR) employees that voluntarily agree to use them.
- ANR employees are not authorized to fight structure fires -- immediately call 911.
- Never use a portable fire extinguisher on a fire that is beyond its capacity (i.e., a structure fire).
- Always use the properly rated portable fire extinguisher for the type of fire. For example, an ABC rated portable fire extinguisher may be used on Class A, Class B, or Class C fires.
- The acronym "PASS" is used to remember the steps for deploying a portable fire extinguisher as follows:
 - P – Pull the pin.
 - A – Aim the extinguisher nozzle toward the base of the flames.
 - S – Squeeze the trigger while holding the extinguisher canister upright.
 - S – Sweep the extinguisher from side to side, causing the fire area to be covered.
- Always use a portable fire extinguisher while you are located between an escape route and the fire.
- Never attempt to use a portable fire extinguisher if the fire has spread beyond its starting point.
- Always leave the fire area whenever: 1. the escape route becomes threatened; 2. the portable fire extinguisher becomes depleted; or 3. the fire becomes uncontrollable.
- All portable fire extinguishers shall be inspected monthly and undergo an annual maintenance inspection.
- ANR employees that volunteer to use portable fire extinguishers shall receive annual portable fire extinguisher training.

Garden Club of Colusa County activities

Don't know at this time.

Did a friend send you this newsletter?

- You can get your own newsletter sent directly to your inbox by [clicking here](#).



Additional Links

- Integrated Pest Management ipm.ucanr.edu
- UC Davis Arboretum arboretum.ucdavis.edu
- Invasive Plants www.cal-ipc.org
- Plant Right www.plantright.org
- Save Our Water saveourwater.com
- California Garden Web cagardenweb.ucanr.edu
- McConnell Arboretum and Botanical Gardens turtlebay.org
- UCANR Colusa County cecolusa.ucanr.edu
- UC Master Gardener Program (statewide) mg.ucanr.edu
- California Backyard Orchard homeorchard.ucanr.edu
- ANR publications anrcatalog.ucanr.edu

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University policy is intended to be consistent with the provisions of applicable State and Federal laws.

Inquiries regarding the University's equal employment opportunity policies may be directed to: John I. Sims, Affirmative Action Compliance Officer and Title IX Officer, University of California, Agriculture and Natural Resources, 2801 Second Street, Davis, CA 95618, (530) 750-1397. Email: jsims@ucanr.edu. Website: http://ucanr.edu/sites/anrstaff/Diversity/Affirmative_Action/.

This policy statement supersedes the UC ANR Nondiscrimination and Affirmative Action Policy Statement for University of California Publications Regarding Program Practices dated July 2013.