



University of Nevada  
Cooperative Extension

April 2016

## Community Connection

### TOMATOES-TIME TO THINK

As the weather starts to become more like spring, it is time to think about tomatoes. When they are sweet, smooth, succulent and tangy, these vegetables, which are fruits, can be ambrosia. But when they come from a supermarket, they are often grainy, dry, and flavorless. Fortunately, we can grow our own, and encourage other people to grow their own, which they will want to share with us.

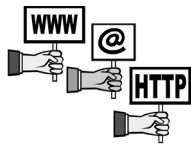
Tomatoes grow best when they get full sun, ample water, rich soil, and not too much heat. They succeed in pots or in a garden, but sometimes they develop disorders that break your heart. These can be particular problems in the desert.

Sometimes flowers appear, but do not result in tomato fruits. The flowers drop off. There is more than one reason why such an awful thing can happen.

If the plant produces flowers, but the temperature exceeds 85°F, or drops below 55°F, the plant becomes stressed. If the stress is extreme, it cannot support flowers, much less fruit.

Another cause is incorrect watering. A plant watered too little will not be able to maintain flowers or fruit. Too much water, however, is just as devastating. In a heavy clay soil with poor drainage, the roots may drown and not perform necessary functions. As a result, the plant cannot maintain flowers. Read [more!](#)

### GET YOUR COOPERATIVE EXTENSION FIX



Cooperative Extension has several social media platforms that offer up-to-date information regarding classes, workshops, seminars, etc.

Like/visit the Cooperative Extension Southern Area [Facebook](#) page. Several times a week information is posted about upcoming events, health & nutrition information and 4-H club updates.

Follow the University of Nevada Cooperative Extension [Twitter](#) account. Get fast, timely tweets each week!

You will find a plethora of how-to videos on our [YouTube](#) site.

And last but not least is the Southern Area [Blog](#).



#### ON BACK

Understanding your irrigation  
The magic of books

#### COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

**Who we are:** We are the outreach college of the University of Nevada, Reno. We design and deliver community programs to residents of Nevada with other agencies and volunteers.

**What we do:** We learn about the needs of our community and develop programs to meet them. We teach classes, hold workshops, sponsor seminars related to those needs and provide online information.

**What we offer:** Education, training and instruction in: Health & Nutrition; Children, Youth & Families; and Water, Horticulture, Economics & Environment.

*Hope you are enjoying this shorter newsletter format!*

**Cooperative Extension  
Southern Area office locations  
and phone numbers:**

**Clark 702-222-3130**

8050 Paradise Road  
Las Vegas, 89123

**Northeast Clark 702-397-2604**

1897 N. Moapa Valley Blvd.  
P.O. Box 126,  
Logandale, 89021

**Southern Clark 702-299-1333**

55 Civic Way  
Laughlin, 89029

**Southern Nye 775-7274-5532**

1651 E. Calvada Blvd  
Pahrump, 89048

**Northern Nye/Esmeralda  
775-482-6794**

P.O. Box 231  
#1 Frankie St., Old Courthouse  
Tonopah, 89049

**Lincoln 775-726-3109**

P.O. Box 728  
360 Lincoln St.  
Caliente, 89008

**Eureka 775-237-5326**

P.O. Box 613  
701 S. Main St.  
Eureka, 89316

**White Pine 775-293-6599**

950 Campton St.  
Ely, 89301

**Cooperative Extension's mission:**

*Discover:* by assessing community needs; understanding emerging issues; *Develop:* science-based programs to help resolve the needs of community residents; *Disseminate:* through evidence-based educational programs; classes and publications; *Preserve:* by publishing findings via curriculum and fact sheets and demonstrate knowledge to strengthen the social, economic and environmental well-being of people.

## MASTER GARDENERS READY TO ASSIST

If you're wondering what to plant this spring season, the Master Gardeners of Southern Nevada can help you decide.

Master Gardeners are University of Nevada Cooperative Extension trained volunteers who assist the community by answering gardening-related questions and concerns, teaching classes, speaking at community events and working on various community projects.

Lonnie Baker, Master Gardener and chairperson for the home gardening help line, has been volunteering at Cooperative Extension for over four years.

"The help-desk is the first connection the community makes to find out about gardening and problems with their plants," stated Baker.

"How do I plant, when do I plant and what can I plant?" said Baker, are the typical types of questions Master Gardeners receive. "Horticulturally, we provide research-based, unbiased information." Read [more!](#)



## THE MAGIC OF BOOKS

### How to read with children!



There's magic in children's books. They bring fun and wonder. They build dreams. They help children learn about the world and themselves. Reading together draws you closer. Here are some ways to read with your children:

Before reading the book... Pick stories with action and interest. Read the book first yourself. Knowing the story will help you know what comes next. Choose a regular story time. Bedtime, nap or quiet times are great. Find a cozy, quiet place to read the story. Call it your reading spot.

Keep the reading time short enough to leave them wanting more later. Look for ways during the day to add to the messages in the story. Have fun reading the story. Give your children the best present of all—your time. More reading tips [here!](#)

## APRIL GARDENING EVENTS

Join Larry Kaplan, South Valley Rose Society Yearbook editor, for a pictorial review of this year's rose show highlights. Enjoy reliving the show and the roses in all of their beauty.

Enjoy also the photographic section of the show and some tips on photographing your roses. The meetings are free and open to the public. Read [more!](#)

With the spring season upon us, it's time to start thinking of our landscapes again...including the often neglected irrigation. As your plants grow, and your landscape changes, your irrigation needs change, too.

No one type of irrigation is good for all plants. When you have a variety of plants in your landscape, you need a varied irrigation to accommodate those plants.

Hint... there is more than one type of drip irrigation. Read [more!](#)



*Professor ML Robinson's  
irrigation workshop.*