



University of Nevada  
Cooperative Extension



## April 2014 Community Newsletter

This newsletter is prepared by Ann Edmunds, Program Coordinator, [edmundsa@unce.unr.edu](mailto:edmundsa@unce.unr.edu) or 702-257-5587. Earlier newsletters are available online at: <http://www.unce.unr.edu/areas/southern/newsletters/> To UNSUBSCRIBE to this newsletter, please contact Mary Bertsch, Program Assistant, [bertschm@unce.unr.edu](mailto:bertschm@unce.unr.edu) or 702-257-5501.

### HOME GARDENING HELP LINE

702-257-5555; Monday – Friday, 8am-5pm or [LVMasterGardeners@unce.unr.edu](mailto:LVMasterGardeners@unce.unr.edu)

Free gardening advice! Call, email or visit the MGs at UNCE, 8050 Paradise Road, LV 89123

FIND US ON FACEBOOK! <http://www.facebook.com/MasterGardenersOfSouthernNevada>

### APRIL HORTICULTURE EVENTS

The following activities are offered in conjunction with UNCE Horticulture. Some require reservations and/or fees; some are free and open to the public. Updates are posted on Facebook page.

- **March 29 & 30** – “Day with the Experts” -- UNCE faculty Dr. Angela O’Callaghan and Prof. ML Robinson will speak at 9:30am on “Be Careful What You Spray – Safe Use of Pesticides.” Master Gardeners will staff an ‘Ask a MG’ Information table from 8am-1pm. Springs Preserve.  
<http://www.springspreserve.org/apps/event/details.cfm?id=46>
- **April 5, 9-11am** – “Landscape Design with Native Plants in Mind” by Master Gardener Denise McConnell. Free outdoor class offered at Acacia Park, 50 Casa del Fuego in Henderson. Pre-registration requested. See info and online link at: [http://www.cityofhenderson.com/parks/parks/acacia\\_demonstration\\_gardens.php](http://www.cityofhenderson.com/parks/parks/acacia_demonstration_gardens.php)
- **April 12, 9-11am** – “Yes, You Can Grow Fruit Trees in the Desert” by Master Gardener Jeneane Young. Free outdoor class offered at Acacia Park, 50 Casa del Fuego in Henderson. Pre-registration requested. See info and online link at: [http://www.cityofhenderson.com/parks/parks/acacia\\_demonstration\\_gardens.php](http://www.cityofhenderson.com/parks/parks/acacia_demonstration_gardens.php)
- **April 19, 8 a.m. to noon** -- “Gardening in Small Places: Understanding Your Irrigation” by Prof. ML Robinson at UNCE. Pre-registration is required; \$25 fee. Contact Elaine at 702-257-5573 or [fagine@unce.unr.edu](mailto:fagine@unce.unr.edu)
- **April 19, 10am-noon** – “April Garden Tour,” by MG Garden Guides. Meet in Courtyard at UNCE for tour of Demonstration Gardens, 8050 Paradise Road, LV, 89123; 702-257-5555
- **April 19, 9-11am** – “Choosing Plants (Vegetable, Fruit Trees, Herbs and more)” by Master Gardener Linda MacDonald. Free outdoor class offered at Acacia Park, 50 Casa del Fuego in Henderson Pre-registration requested. See info and online link at:  
[http://www.cityofhenderson.com/parks/parks/acacia\\_demonstration\\_gardens.php](http://www.cityofhenderson.com/parks/parks/acacia_demonstration_gardens.php)
- **April 19, 9am -4pm**, Spring Festival – Master Gardeners will offer displays and hands-on demonstrations at Tivoli Village Farmers Market.
- **April 24, 7 pm** -- “Rose Pests and Diseases: The Usual and Rare” by South Valley Rose Society at UNCE. Free and open to public. 702-257-5555.

- **April 25, 3-7 p.m.** – “Ask a MG” info table at the second annual sustainable Earth Day Farmers Market at Town Square. <http://www.mytownsquarelasvegas.com/events-a-programs/details/964-sustainable--a-three-day-guide-to-living-green-in-las-vegas.html>
- **April 26, 9-11am** – “Let it Rot – Composting 101” by Master Gardener Pam Bridges. Free outdoor class offered at Acacia Park, 50 Casa del Fuego in Henderson. Pre-registration requested. See info and online link at: [http://www.cityofhenderson.com/parks/parks/acacia\\_demonstration\\_gardens.php](http://www.cityofhenderson.com/parks/parks/acacia_demonstration_gardens.php)
- **Every Friday, 10am-noon** – Informal Tours of UNCE Demonstration Gardens by MG Garden Guides. Meet at Master Gardener Office at UNCE, 8050 Paradise Road, LV, 89123; 702-257-5555
- **Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays, 8am-noon** – Seasonal produce and free gardening advice at UNCE Research Center & Orchard, 4600 Horse Dr., NLV 89131; 702-257-5555
- **First and Third Saturdays, 8am-1pm** – “Ask a Master Gardener” Information Table at Tivoli Village Farmers Market, 702-257-5555

### NEW PRUNING PUBLICATION: SP-13-13

Excerpts from “Introduction to Pruning:” <https://www.unce.unr.edu/publications/files/ho/2013/sp1313.pdf>

By ML Robinson, Angela O’Callaghan and Jeff Anderson



#### BAD PRUNING

**Topping (trees)** – This is sometimes done to reduce the size of a tree, or to control its growth. Topping is the removal of all large branches from the top of a tree. The branches are cut at the same level, leaving stubs. When trees are cut this way, small weak branches (suckers) tend to grow vigorously at the tips of branches, leaving the tree more likely to be damaged in high winds. A weak tree is more vulnerable to disease and insect damage.

**Shaping into balls and squares (shrubs)** – This is the practice of carving entire shrubs into spheres or cubes to maintain a small shape (Figure 21—at Right). It ignores the graceful lines of most shrubs, which tend to be round. Like topping, this causes a flush of growth at the tips of branches. While flowers appear at these tips, the rest of the branch will have few if any leaves or flowers (Figure 22a – Below, Left), making most of the shrub look dead. These plants tend to be more vulnerable to decay. Also, all the weight is at the end of the branches. This extra weight makes the branches more likely to snap off during wind storms (Figure 22b – Below, Right).



21

22a



22b