



University of Nevada
Cooperative Extension



Master Gardeners of Southern Nevada *September 2013* Community Newsletter

This newsletter is prepared by Ann Edmunds, Program Coordinator, edmundsa@unce.unr.edu or 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, at bertschm@unce.unr.edu or 257-5501.

HOME GARDENING HELP LINE

702-257-5555; Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. or LVMasterGardeners@unce.unr.edu

The MG Office is located at University of Nevada Cooperative Extension, 8050 Paradise Road, LV, NV 89123

UPCOMING CLASSES, SEASONAL GARDENING TIPS AND PEST ALERTS – you do NOT need to sign in or log in:

<http://www.facebook.com/MasterGardenersOfSouthernNevada>

<http://www.unce.unr.edu/blogs/southernarea/>

SEPTEMBER EVENTS

Master Gardeners will participate in the following classes/ activities. They are free and open to the public UNLESS INDICATED, but some do require PRE-REGISTRATION. Contact the Master Gardener Help Line at 257-5555 or visit the UNCE websites (above) for updates and details on registration, location, etc.

- **Every Thursday**, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. – “Ask a MG” Information Table – Springs Preserve Farmers Market
- **First and Third Saturday**, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. – “Ask a MG” Information Table – Tivoli Village Farmers Market
- **Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday**, 8 a.m. - noon -- Fruit Available for purchase at Clark County Center for Sustainable Urban Food Production (formerly MG Orchard) – 4600 Horse Dr., NLV 89085 (702-257-5555)
- **September 7**, 9 a.m. -- “Getting Started as a Desert Gardener” by MG Jodi Starkey – Acacia Park (50 Casa del Fuego, Henderson)
- **September 7**, time tbd -- “Growing and Cooking with Herbs” by MG Carolyn Ellsworth -- Choose and Move Festival at Doolittle Community Center (1950 North J Street, LV)
- **September 15**, 2 p.m. – “Vegetable Gardening in Cooler Months” by MG Don Fabbi – West Charleston Library (6301 West Charleston; 702-507-3964)
- **September 17**, 10 a.m. -- “Getting Ready for Cool Season Gardening” by MG Helen Brown -- Family Resource Center UMC (1120 Shadow Lane). REGISTRATION is REQUIRED -- call Amy Runge at 383-2229.
- **September 21**, 8 a.m. to Noon --“Gardening in Small Place –“Native and Desert-Adapted Plants” by Professor ML Robinson – UNCE (8050 Paradise Road, LV). \$25 FEE & REGISTRATION is REQUIRED – contact fagine@unce.unr.edu or 257-5573.
- **September 21**, 9 a.m. -- “Fall Veggies for a Winter Garden” by Master Gardener – Acacia Park (50 Casa del Fuego, Henderson)
- **September 21**, 9 a.m. -- “Getting Ready for Cool Season Gardening” by MG Helen Brown -- CCCSUF (formerly MG Orchard) – 4600 Horse Dr., NLV 89085 (702-257-5555)
- **September 21**, 10 a.m. -- "What Survived the Summer," a walking tour of UNCE Desert Demonstration Gardens by MG Garden Guides -- UNCE (8050 Paradise Road, LV; 702-257-5555)
- **September 26**, 7 p.m. – “Organic Gardening for Roses” by Dr. Angela O’Callaghan, South Valley Rose Society – UNCE (8050 Paradise Road, LV; 702-257-5555)

HOW TO TEST FOR SEED VIABILITY

The Las Vegas Master Gardeners are getting ready to plant our Fall garden, and are checking past-season seeds for viability:

1. You'll need ten seeds from one seed packet, a paper towel, plastic sandwich-sized baggie, and the germination time as listed on seed packet.
2. Fold paper towel in half; sprinkle with water. Place 10 seeds in the middle, then fold paper towel over to cover. Place in a sealed bag and put in a warm spot.
3. Check each day to see if any seeds have sprouted. Keep paper towel moist, but not soggy.
4. At the end of the listed germination time, count how many seeds have sprouted.
5. Percentage viability is number of sprouted seeds x10. For example, 2 seeds sprouted = 20%; 8 seeds sprouted =80%.

COMPOST HAPPENS...IN THE MG COMMUNITY GARDEN!

Visit the MGSN Facebook page for more photos and descriptions on making compost from garden waste.



top photo: damaged or spoiled produce ("greens")
bottom photo: "greens" and "browns" mixed together



top photo: A messy job, but the smaller the pieces, the better!
bottom photo: Almost finished "cooking"



Free UNCE Fact Sheets on Composting:

A Quick Guide to Composting: <http://www.unce.unr.edu/publications/files/ho/2000/fs0017.pdf>

Composting Yard and Vegetable Wastes: <http://www.unce.unr.edu/publications/files/nr/2009/fs0916.pdf>

Creating an Organic Garden in Southern Nevada: <http://www.unce.unr.edu/publications/files/ho/2004/fs0472.pdf>