



Pollinator Garden Coming Soon

Three-fourths of the world's flowering plants and 35% of food crops require pollinator insects like bees, butterflies, birds and bats to grow. To do our part, the recently cleared area near the Garden Center 2 gate will become the location of a pollinator garden. Once the weather cools, garden center staff and volunteers will begin planning and planting. Stay tuned for more information.

We're Owl About Our Newest Member!

You may not know that an owl house is located on the golf course adjacent to Garden Center 1. The newest resident of this dwelling is a young owl whose feathers were once completely white but have now changed color. Owls are great at controlling pests naturally and are a welcome presence in the garden centers. We hope to see more owls in the future!



Photo courtesy of Dr. Robert Reyes

GO AWAY, GRAY!

Powdery mildew, a common fungal disease that affects various garden plants, is characterized by white/gray powdery spots on plant leaves, stems and sometimes fruit. Here's what you need to know:



- **Identification:** It appears typically on the upper surfaces of leaves, but it can also affect undersides, stems, flower buds and fruit.
- **Host-specific:** The type of powdery mildew on one plant will not spread to a different variety.
- **Symptoms:** Infected plants may show withering and yellowing leaves, premature leaf drop and, for edible plants, less flavor due to impaired photosynthesis.
- **Causes:** Fungi thrive in conditions with high relative humidity at night, low relative humidity during the day and temperatures between 70°F and 80°F (21°C to 27°C). They spread via air, insects and water spray.
- **Treatment:** Early treatment with fungicides like potassium bicarbonate, neem oil, sulfur or copper can be effective. Home remedies such as baking soda and milk may also work when applied correctly. Treat powdery mildew early to prevent it from spreading and causing additional damage.
- **Prevention:** Good garden hygiene, proper plant spacing for air circulation and selecting resistant varieties can help prevent powdery mildew.

Source: Powdery Mildew: Treatment and Control on Plants

Southern California MONTHLY PLANTING GUIDE

By midsummer, you may be knee-deep in tomatoes, beans, zucchini and peppers, making it easy to forget to shop for seeds for your next gardening season. However, July and August are actually the best times to get a start on fall and winter planning. In Southern California, fall and winter rainfall creates ideal conditions for growing veggies and are prime times to grow greens, which often bolt now instead of producing in spring and summer.

Broccoli rabe, golden beets, mustard greens and radishes do well in autumn. Many other crops are great for fall and winter gardening, including parsley, fava beans, carrots, arugula and butter lettuce. Make room for these fall and winter veggies by starting your summer crop harvest.

Also consider winter fruits such as persimmons, pomegranates, crabapples, apples, cherries, raspberries, citrus and strawberries.



IS ABUNDANT PRODUCE A PROBLEM?

If your green thumb has helped provide an overabundance of produce, call the Gleaning Team at **949-268-2387** to harvest donations that go directly back to Village residents. Your donations provide nutritious organic produce to neighbors who may otherwise not have access.



Reminders

1. Please return borrowed tools, wagons and wheelbarrows to their appropriate storage areas. Locks may be removed from individual locked plots to acquire tools housed within.
2. Dispose of all waste/debris in the wagons prior to returning them. Ensure all waste is placed in the appropriate bin.
3. Always turn off your hose/water spigot before leaving the garden.
4. Protect yourself during the hottest part of the day: Drink plenty of water, seek shade when possible and try to garden earlier to avoid peak heat hours.

A Note From Tom McCray

Many thanks everyone who contributed to the success of last month's farmers market. Lead primarily by the members of the

Garden Centers Club, the event raised more than \$3,000 for the Florence Sylvester Meals on Wheels program! We also appreciate all those who donated items from their gardens—without your contributions, this event wouldn't have been possible. Thank you once again, and we look forward to an even bigger event in 2025!