



The Grand Opening is Coming!
By Sue McDavid
UCCE Master Gardener of El Dorado County

Last-minute preparations are currently ongoing for the grand opening of the Sherwood Demonstration Garden, the crown jewel of the UCCE Master Gardeners of El Dorado County. This event will be held on Saturday, October 3 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., so mark your calendars. There is no entrance fee, parking is free and the garden is open to all. The location is behind the El Dorado Center of Folsom Lake College on Campus Drive in Placerville.

This demonstration garden was the brainchild of Bob Sherwood, a long-time Master Gardener, who envisioned a place for the public to learn about research-based home gardening techniques and practices with outdoor classes and hands-on demonstrations. Bob spent countless hours searching our county for just the right location and in 2009, in cooperation with the El Dorado County Office of Education and Folsom Lake College, El Dorado Center, broke ground on what is now the Sherwood Demonstration Garden. Sadly, Bob died unexpectedly last fall before realizing his dream of a garden open to the public, but the Master Gardener organization pledged to honor his legacy by continuing to work toward a grand opening just as soon as possible. It took a little over a year, but we are proud to announce the opening of our garden to you, the people of El Dorado County, on October 3.

On October 3, you will tour 16 themed gardens: All Stars (this one is under construction and may not be completed in time for the grand opening), Bog, Butterfly, Children's, Cottage, Japanese, Mediterranean, Orchard, Ornamental Grasses, Native, Perennial, Rock, Rose, Shade, Succulent and Vegetable. UCCE Master Gardeners will be available in each garden to answer questions and explain how and why a particular garden was planted, what kind of irrigation is used in each, facts about specific plants chosen, pest management practices, and more. A very limited quantity of plants will be available for sale (no credit cards; cash or checks only) and there will be treasure hunt prizes. Free refreshments will also be available.

UCCE Master Gardeners are very excited to showcase this garden and we hope to see many of you present on October 3. It's going to be fun!

There is no UCCE Master Gardener public education class this Saturday, September 5, 2015; enjoy your Labor Day weekend! Then plan to join Master Gardeners, Paula Bertram and Ola Jane Gow, on Wednesday, September 9th for a free Seed Saving and Journaling class at the Cameron Park Community Center. Learn how easy and economical it is to save your own seeds, and grow unique plants plus those you've always enjoyed in past harvests. Journaling is an important tool for successful gardeners. Keeping records of successes and failures will help you plan and grow better gardens in the future. The three-hour class begins at 9:00 a.m. in the Cameron Park Community Center, 2502 Country Club Drive in Cameron Park.

Master Gardeners are available to answer home gardening questions at local farmers markets, and Tuesday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to noon, by calling [\(530\) 621-5512](tel:5306215512). Walk-ins are welcome at our office, located at 311 Fair Lane in Placerville. For more information about our public education classes and activities, go to our UCCE Master Gardeners of El Dorado County website at <http://ucanr.edu/edmg>. Sign up to receive our online notices and e-newsletter at <http://ucanr.edu/mgenews/>. You can also find us on Facebook.