

2014 High Sierra Mountain Gardening Spring Classes and Workshops.

Educated and experienced botanists, arborists, plantsmen and garden professionals share their knowledge and understanding to help your mountain gardens succeed.

The folks at Villager Nursery have decades (and decades) of personal and vicarious mountain gardening experiences to share. “We’ve killed thousands of plants in our own gardens so that our clients won’t have to”. Before beginning your own experiments in Mountain Gardening, learn from the many trials and triumphs of others.

MOST Seminars are held at Villager Nursery, 10678 Donner Pass Road, Truckee. Pre-registration is requested (call or e-mail) but drop-ins are welcome. *We like to have an idea of the number of attendees for class hand-outs and samples.* Most classes are free of charge. **Some workshops have materials fees. Registration is required for workshops.**

Since classes are outdoors, we may cancel or re-schedule if the weather is unbearable. Dress warmly and please bring loads of questions, pictures, ideas (and samples of plants for identification etc.. after each class). The setting is informal and we wouldn’t keep doing it if we didn’t have fun. We have benches to sit on but you are welcome to bring your own folding chair.

Our ongoing classes run nearly semi-weekly from May-Nov. If you'd like a class schedule, contact info@villagernursery.com or check www.villagernursery.com/calendar for more info.

Spring Seminars and Workshops - (April-June 2014) ... more classes in July-Oct.

April 8- Tuesday 6:00pm-9:00pm: Essentials of Successful Sierra Gardening - Research you can trust and information you can use from someone who has killed 1000’s of plants in order to learn how not to. Mountain Gardening basics from dealing with high Sierra soils, frequent summer frosts, rodents and deer, heavy winter snows and freeze-drying winter droughts. We’ll cover the ten best trees, shrubs, perennials, bulbs and vegetables, natives and wildflowers. Practical and organic gardening practices. Get sound information from someone with degrees in Botany and Horticulture and nearly 40 years of Sierra gardening experience. Contact Eric with questions: eric@villagernursery.com. **Contact Sierra College to sign-up.**

http://www.sccommed.org/index.cfm?method=ClassInfo.ClassInformation&int_class_id=51044

This is a VERY short-course - only the essentials of mountain gardening - for more information please attend Villager Classes.

April 26 - Saturday, 10:00-11:30 am: After Winter Garden Repairs. Every winter throws it’s darts. If it’s not the apocalyptic ravages of Sierra cement or rogue plow drivers, it’s January freeze-drying and voracious mammals. There is much that can be done to salvage wrecked plants. We’ll discuss nuts, bolts, splints, stakes and masking tape to bring your woody trees and shrubs back from crushing winter defeat. Often lawns and groundcovers only need a little TLC to revive with vigor. You have our sympathy and understanding, some plants in some gardens somewhere, suffer every winter.

May 3 – Saturday, 9:30-11:00am: Growing Edible Plants in your Mountain Garden and on your deck, aka: **Organic Veggies, Herbs and Berries in Truckee** - This class will be at the Villager Nursery - Growing vegetables is a little challenging in this climate but the owners and staff along with hundreds of friends and clients, have wonderful gardens every year. Come away from the class with tips, techniques and ideas for a successful cold-climate vegetable garden.

We have specialty tomatoes and grafted selections grown for us in several sizes and the nursery has all the organic seeds, soils and nutrients available.

May 14 – Wednesday, 5:30-7:00pm: (Repeat) Growing Edible Plants in your Mountain Garden and on your deck, aka: **Organic Veggies, Herbs and Berries in Truckee** - This class will be at the Villager Nursery - Hope to see you HERE. - Growing vegetables is a little challenging in this climate but the owners and staff along with hundreds of friends and clients have wonderful gardens every year. Come away from the class with tips, techniques and ideas for successful cold-climate vegetable and berry production.

This is a repeat class for folks who can't make Saturdays. Sunset is at 8:06pm today.

May 21 - Wednesday, 5:30-7:00 pm: Color Pots, Creative Flower Boxes and Hanging Baskets – Decorate your deck, porch or patio with color and texture. There are new hardy plants available every year and we love unique and cool plants. This fun class will give you loads of information as we demonstrate planting and arranging techniques. **-Space is limited - 587-0771**

May 28 - Wednesday, 5:30-7:00 pm: Organic Landscaping Basics – “Dirt First!” Rob and Eric will cover the basics of sustainable gardening. Topics will include soils, soil biology, cultural practices, pest prevention, and natural pest control. We’ll discuss native and drought tolerant plants. We will also cover organic potting soils, bio-active fertilizers, natural soil amendments and of course... MULCH. These two have degrees and advanced study in Botany, Plant Physiology, Ecology, Entomology, Mycology, Microbiology, IPM, Organic Chemistry, Horticulture and much more. **Please pre-register at 587-0771 or online <http://www.villagernursery.com/calendar>**
This has been a declared Villager focus since the early 1980's. Eric is happy to be an EX-California Certified Pesticide Applicator.

May 30th-31st - Friday AND Saturday, 10am - 3pm

6th Annual Free Planting Days

Free Planting - You buy the plants and pots (or bring up to 3 pots from home). Once again we are thrilled to have Mike and Gisele who will plant them for you using premium Master Nursery Gardener's Gold potting soils and bio-active, organic Gardner&Bloome (G&B) Fertilizers. Come join the fun and create colorful baskets and planters to enjoy at home.

-Maximum pot size 18" in diameter, no window boxes or whiskey barrels please.

Don't have the time for one of the Villager's free Saturday or Wednesday seminars? Kellogg Garden Products expert Mike McLain and organic-gardening specialist and educator with G&B Organics, Gisele Schoniger will both be delighted to answer ANY and ALL compost, mulch or organic fertilizer, soil biology questions that you can dream up. *Sunset is at 8:20pm today.*

June 2014 - No classes in June but we're here EVERY day to answer ALL your mountain gardening questions.

July 4 - Friday Open 8-9 & 12-2 The nursery is more-or-less closed but we'll be here watering and are happy to help before and after the parade if needed.

July 12 - Saturday, 9:30-11:00am- Mountain Native Plants, Naturalized Introductions and Wildflower Plantings – Learn to choose the best and easiest native plants for many situations. Protect and enhance your existing native plant populations. Gather some seed collecting tips and ideas for wild berry jellies and jams. Bring samples for identification after the class. We'll also cover a few of the historically important introduced species thriving in Truckee without care for more than a century.

July 26 - Saturday, 10:00-4:00pm- Lake of the Sky Garden Club 26th Annual Garden Tour – the West Shore Garden Tour. This is a fun day that should never be missed. Proceeds fund scholarships to encourage study in horticulture, forestry or environmental science and up to \$6,000 in grants to local community garden projects. Past recipients have included Thunderbird Lodge, Tahoe City Historical Society, Watson Cabin, Gatekeeper's Museum, Girl Scouts, Project MANA, as well as local schools and libraries. Tickets will be available at the Villager on-or-about June 15.

More Summer and Fall Gardening Classes August-November. Check the Villager website or our Facebook page.