

2015 Sierra Mountain Gardening Spring Classes and Workshops.

Educated and experienced botanists, arborists, plant-lovers 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 in the nursery @ [Villager Nursery](#), 10678 Donner Pass Road, Truckee. Pre-registration is requested ([e-mail](#), [facebook](#)) 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 still free of charge. *Some workshops occasionally have materials fees. Registration is required for workshops.*

Since classes are outdoors behind the shop, 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. We post them on [facebook](#) or check check [villagernursery.com](#) for more info.

Spring Seminars and Workshops - (Mar.-Jun. 2015) ... more classes Aug.-Nov.

March 27- Friday 10:00am-12:00pm: Selection, Care and Protection of Trees and Shrubs - Mountain Landscape / Cold Climate Considerations - *Research you can trust and information you can use* from someone who’s 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. By the end of this training session trainees should have some inkling of the magnitude of mountain gardening knowledge that might be accumulated after decades of personal and vicarious experiences (as gardeners and volunteers), educating and training. And be grateful that, every single day, we have the opportunity to learn more of something we are passionate about. Contact Eric with questions: eric@villagernursery.com. **Master Gardener Training.**

The application process is closed for the 2016 training. Please put your name on the [UCCE Master Gardener Training Interest list](#) to be notified when the training process begins again.

April - No Sierra College Intro to Mountain Gardening this spring 2015 - Frankly, we forgot to let the college know we’d do one again. Spring 2016. **Contact Sierra College to sign-up for next spring.** http://www.sccomed.org/index.cfm?method=ClassInfo.ClassInformation&int_class_id=51044
This is a VERY short-course - only the essentials of mountain gardening.

April 18 - Saturday, 10:00-11:30 am: Spring Garden Resurrection. Every winter throws it’s darts. If it’s not the apocalyptic ravages of Sierra cement or rogue plow drivers, it’s mid-winter freeze-drying and voracious mammals. There is much that can be done to salvage wrecked plants. We’ll discuss fertilizers, protections, preventions, nuts, bolts, splints, stakes and masking tape for woody trees and shrubs. 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.

April 25 - Saturday, 10:00-11:30 am: 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 on [Facebook](#) or at <http://www.villagernursery.com/calendar>**
Along with native and plants and drought tolerant landscaping, organic landscaping has been a Villager mission since the mid 1980's.

May 2 – Saturday, 9:30-11:00am: Growing Edible Plants in your Mountain Garden and on your deck, aka: Organic Veggies, Herbs and Berries in Truckee - Growing some vegetables can be a *little* challenging in this climate but we, along with hundreds of friends and clients, have wonderful, productive 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 Villager nursery has all the organic seeds, soils and nutrients available.

May 9 - Saturday, 9:30-11:00 am: Drought Tolerant Landscapes & Gardens - “X”-rated Plants, and Water Aware Gardening – A selection of the time-tested hardiest and most drought tolerant species plus some very simple ways to use a lot less water and grow your plants faster at the same time. Drip irrigation, mulching, timing, fertilization, techniques and more.

May 9-10 - Don’t forget your Mother* (nor the Mother of your children) – Have the kids plant up an herb or cut-flower garden or fill a planter box with her favorite color flowers (and bring her to the free planting days at month’s end).*(*don’t forget Mother Nature nor Mother Earth either*)

May 29th & 30th - Friday & Saturday, 10am - 3pm - 7th Annual Free Planting Days - Free Planting sponsored by Kellogg Garden Products - You buy the plants and pots (*or bring up to 3 pots from home*). We are **THRILLED** to have Gisele and Eileen plus special guests Mike (*out of retirement*) and Duncan (*from the great north woods*), who will plant them up FOR you using premium **Master Nursery Gardener's Gold** potting soils and bio-active, organic **G&B (Gardner&Bloome) Fertilizers**. Come join the fun and create colorful baskets and planters -*Maximum pot size 18” in diameter, no window boxes or barrels please.*

Don’t have the time for one of the Villager’s free Saturday or Wednesday seminars? Organic-gardening specialist and educator with G&B Organics, Gisele Schoniger, will be delighted to answer ANY and ALL compost, mulch, organic landscaping or soil biology questions you can dream of. *FYI: Sunrise: 5:37am, Sunset: 8:20pm today, make the most of it.*

June 2014 - Sorry, no classes in June but we’re here EVERY day to answer ALL your mountain gardening questions.

June 12-17 - Pick up a Villager Garden Gift Card for your favorite teacher to say “Thanks!”

June 20-21 - Bring in Dad and give him a blueberry bush then help plant it or a pick-up a cool book about California Conifers and take him for a hike to try and find them.

July 4 - Saturday, Independence Day - The nursery is more-or-less closed but we’ll be here watering and are happy to help before the parade for an hour or two.

This is also a Villager going-away party for our wonderfully helpful seasonal spring-rush staff.

July 18 - 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. [Sampling](#).

July 25 - Saturday, 10:00-4:00pm- [Lake of the Sky Garden Club](#) 27th Annual Garden Tour – This summer you're invited to discover some of **Truckee's Hidden Gardens** featuring eight home landscapes plus a stop at the TDRPD Rec. Center, for light refreshments. Proceeds fund scholarships to encourage students who study horticulture, forestry or environmental science and grants to local community garden projects. The \$25 tickets will be available at Villager nursery by June 15. Tickets sell out quickly and are seldom available on tour day, so be sure to get your tickets early. Villager Nursery gives folks with a ticket, 20% off on all annual or perennial plant purchases July 25-26.

More Summer and Fall Gardening Classes August-November. Check villagernursery.com or [facebook](#).