



Sandoval County Master Gardener Newsletter



New Mexico State University • Cooperative Extension Service • U.S. Department of Agriculture

Sandoval County

Steve M. Lucero,
County Program Director

Gina Garland
Agriculture and Horticulture
Extension Agent

New Mexico State University is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer and educator.

NMSU and the U.S. Department of Agriculture cooperating.

SCMG Newsletter Submissions

Deadline:
20th of each month

Please submit news, articles, events and photographs to:
Amy Upperman

February 2013

Coordinator's Corner

Dear Master Gardeners,

I want to welcome all 2013 Interns into the Master Gardener Organization. Your success and training as an Intern are paramount to the Sandoval County Master Gardener organization. I want you to really enjoy this year and learn all the horticulture information that we provide in the Training Class and additional education as your time permits.

I want to stress that you need not have to over extend yourself. I want you to become a Master Gardener at the end of September. All you have to do is complete the minimum requirements: Successfully complete the

Master Gardener Training Class and then earn and record your minimum 30 Volunteer credit hours, 10 of which have to be in Hotline approved projects.

The Master Gardener veterans will be seeking your interest and help in their projects this year. Listen and learn from them, but I do recommend that you choose projects that are close to where you live or projects that truly interest you. You will also be tempted to attend several of our interesting Workshops and Advanced Training. Do not worry if you can not fit these optional classes into your schedule. They will be repeated in the next years to

come. Our organization provides variety in education and volunteer opportunities, but it is up to you to manage your schedule. The most important achievement is for you to become a Master Gardener this year and remain with us for several years to come. Education and volunteer service will vary depending on your time. Just remember to complete the minimum. It takes years to truly become a Veteran Master Gardener.

Sandy Liakus,
SCMG Coordinator

Gina's Journal

Hello Master Gardeners!

Although we are still nestled right in the middle of winter, things are getting busier in the Master Gardener world. Training classes are now in full swing, and this month both the Gardening with the Masters and the Southwest Homeowners Gardening Series begin. Yes, all signs point to another exciting and busy year! Think Trees New Mexico is offer-

ing a free Urban Tree Care Workshop on February 9 taught by specialists throughout the country, and the much anticipated state-wide Organic Conference is coming up on February 15 and 16 in Albuquerque. And for those of you who are just dying to get out in the garden, toward the middle to end of the month are actually good times to plant carrots, leeks, parsnips, parsley, peas, onions, kale, and spin-

ach for an early harvest. And if you have a greenhouse, or even a nice sunny room, you can even begin to seed transplants of broccoli, Brussels sprouts, cabbage, cauliflower, tomatoes, peppers, and eggplant, just to name a few! Whatever your plans are for the month, good luck with everything and happy learning!

Gina Garland
Agriculture Extension Agent



Southwest
Yard & Garden:
How-to videos

NMSU
Extension
Cooperative
Service

Caring For Your Garden In February

This **Southwest Yard & Garden: How-to video** discusses:

bare root stock, peat moss, burlap, pruning, dormant season plants, diseased limbs, damaged limbs, tree training, branch collar, rose pruning, miniature rose, hybrid tea rose, cane, climbing rose, shrub rose, Floribunda, herbicide, weed seeds, crabgrass, warm season weeds, dormant oil spray, scale insect, horticultural oil, fungicide [View video](#)

The screenshot shows the NMSU website interface. At the top is the NMSU logo and the text 'New Mexico State University'. Below this is a navigation menu with options: 'Desert Blooms', 'SWY&G Columns', 'Melon Patch', 'Video Series', and 'How-To publications'. Under 'How-To publications' are sub-categories: 'Horticulture', 'Agronomy', and 'Water'. There is a search bar labeled 'Search the SWY&G archives:' with a 'Search' button. At the bottom of the menu is a 'Search NMSU Home' link. To the right of the menu is a video player showing a person in a garden, with a play button overlay. The video player includes a progress bar and a 'YouTube' logo.



Rose Notes from Maryellen Sherman, MG

Hello fellow gardeners.

Today is a beautiful day and it makes one anxious to get outside, but remember it's still winter. Don't think about pulling that mulch away from your rose plants until the end of March. Keep soil moist, but not soggy—watering once a month should be enough. Spray roses with dormant oil this month.

In your soil classes did you talk about having your soil tested? This is a good time to get that done so you can start to 'feed' the soil with the correct products as spring gets closer.

If you ordered bare-root roses they should be

arriving any day. Before you unpack them, fill buckets with water and add a root stimulator, mix it well and then add the roses. The water should be deep enough to completely cover the bare-roots. Soak the roots 1 to 3 days before you plant them in the ground or in pots. Mound the canes with coarse dry mulch to keep the roots from dehydrating or sunburn. Leave the mulch on and keep it moist. You can start to pull the mulch away when the leaves begin to appear in April, and then slowly remove the mulch after the last frost date in your area.

The American Rose

Society has chosen 'Francis Meiland' as the 2013 rose of the year. It is shell pink in color turning to white as it ages, very fragrant and 6-7 ft high and 3 ft wide.

You will soon see a new tag on roses that the ARS recommends—it will be AGRS (The American Garden Rose Selection). In the future, we can expect these roses to be the caliber of 'Knock-Out' in terms of disease resistance and productivity.

If you have a question or comment you would like to pass on feel free to contact Maryellen Sherman.

Your Sandoval County Master Gardener Status

This is my third year as an active member of the SCMG program. When I first began my Internship and after my graduation in 2011, I had many questions about what to file where and when, who to pay, and when and what to do to keep my active status. I am hoping this article will answer all those questions for you, even though all this information can be found in our recently revised Policies.

So, you sign up to become an Intern in the SCMG program, send in your fee and get accepted into the program. The fee you pay covers all the class instruction during the winter-spring sessions, admittance to any and all off-site or advanced classes and workshops, and all class materials. You are also welcome to attend any and all board meetings. You won't have a vote on any of the agenda items, but your voice and opinions are important.

Now comes the fun part -- volunteerism. This is what it's all about, sharing and gathering information with the public about gardening issues. When you complete the class portion of the program, you aren't expected to know everything about gardening in Sandoval County, but you

should have a pretty good base of knowledge as to where to find the answers. I'm still on that very long learning curve myself and I find every time I'm out working with other Interns and Veterans I'm always learning something.

As an Intern, you have earned your ten hours of education requirement once you have completed the training class. You just need to accumulate 30 more hours of volunteer time, before your graduation in the fall. The volunteer forms are sent in by August 31st and you are asked to also include any hours you expect to complete in September on that form. Volunteer Forms are collected early, so we have a tally of who has earned their status as a graduate of the program.

Each year there is an education requirement, a hotline related requirement, plus other volunteer hours and dues (currently \$15.00) to be paid at each graduation date to maintain your active status. For those of you who cannot attend graduation, there is a grace period, up to mid-December, to get your dues paid. With all the various activities offered, it isn't a hardship to collect those 40 hours each year. If you, as an Intern, have some question about some of the

opportunities available, then speak to your Mentor. Upon graduation, you are eligible to vote at annual meetings for board elections and membership business.

Now, we'll have a brief discussion about Leave of Absence status. The hope is that you stay active for many years, but there may be a reason you would want to apply for an LOA. The LOA status requires that you pay your dues each year, and notify the County Agent and the Coordinator in writing with a statement about the reason and the projected length of time you will be inactive. There is the short term LOA lasting one to two years and then a longer LOA lasting up to 5 years. With this LOA status you still have voting rights. Should you decide to get back to active status, all you need to do is to start collecting those volunteer hours and then submit them along with your dues by mid-September. Should you decide that SCMG just isn't a good fit for you, please submit in writing why you would like to resign from the program. Please refer to the SCMG policy regarding LOA's.

SCMG By-Laws and Policies

Gretchen Neiman, SCMG 2011



"Each year there is an education requirement, a hotline related requirement, plus other volunteer hours and dues (currently \$15.00) to be paid at each graduation date to maintain your active status."

March Madness Workday ~ Rio Rancho WaterWise Garden



Come and join us for "**Leaf Lunacy and Litter Cleanup**" on March 14, 2013 from 8:00-11:00AM. This will be our first workday of the year at the garden. Bring gloves, a hat, sunscreen, water, and if you have a rake and/or a rope-handled tub or other large hauling carryall, that would be great. We'll have wheelbarrows available. This will be a workday to do some early spring cleanup in preparation for our "**Irrigation**

Insanity" workdays in April and "**Wacky Weeds**" workday in May. Volunteers will be assigned a specific area of the garden. Contact Sue Trevor to be added to the list for email updates for this and future spring

workdays in the WaterWise Garden.

See you soon at the Rio Rancho WaterWise Garden!



Sue Trevor, Loren Meinz & Connie Walsh—Photos: Clare Trevor

2013 Advanced Class Schedule

All Advanced Classes will be held at the Extension Office, 711 Camino del Pueblo, 1st Floor.

February 18, 2013 9:00 a.m.	Cover Cropping	<i>Dr. John Idowu, Extension Agronomy Specialist at NMSU</i>
March 6, 2013 9:00 a.m.	Wildlife/Pest Control	<i>Dr. Sam Smallidge, Extension Wildlife Specialist and Assistant Professor at NMSU</i>
April 11, 2013 9:00 a.m.	Turf Grass Maintenance	<i>Dr. Bernd Leinauer, Extension Turfgrass Specialist and Professor at NMSU</i>
May 16, 2013 9:00 a.m.	Water	<i>Dr. Bruce Thomson, Professor at University of New Mexico</i>
May 23, 2013 9:00 a.m.	Weed Management	<i>Dr. Jamshid Ashigh, Extension Weed Specialist and Assistant Professor at NMSU</i>

2013 Workshop Schedule

Please register with the Ext. Ofc. for **Fruit Tree Grafting**, due to limited supply of grafting materials.

February 22, 2013 9:00 a.m. @ Haslam's orchard	Fruit Tree Pruning @ 500 Los Arboles Verde Rd. Corrales, NM	<i>Elizabeth Gardner, Veteran Sandoval County Master Gardener</i>
February 27, 2013 9:00 a.m. @ Ext. Ofc.	Fruit Tree Grafting	<i>Joran Viers, Bernalillo County Extension Director, Agriculture Agent</i>
March 20, 2013 9:00 a.m. @ Milagro Winery	Vineyard Pruning and Maintenance	<i>Rex Franklin, Veteran Sandoval County Master Gardener</i>
March 26, 2013 9:00 a.m. @ Extension Office	Composting and Vermicomposting & Herbs	<i>Pat Barger and Stephanie Barger, Veteran Sandoval County Master Gardeners and Bernalillo County Master Composters, and Leah Vesely, Veteran Sandoval Master Gardener</i>



FREE Workshop - Think Trees New Mexico

Are you a community volunteer working to improve tree health and tree care in New Mexico? Do you want to know what common myths about trees and tree care are true, and which are not? Do you want to learn more about how to diagnose tree health problems? Do you want to hear national-caliber speakers discuss these important issues?

Think Trees New Mexico (TTNM) invites you to attend a FREE workshop in Albuquerque on February 9. The classes will be taught by Dr. Linda Chalker-Scott

("The Informed Gardener" webpage: www.theinformedgardener.com; "The Garden Professors" blog: www.gardenprofessors.com) and by Professor James Chatfield (<http://northeast.osu.edu/horticulture>), both of whom will be in town to speak at the Think Trees Urban Tree Care conference. Both of these wonderful educators have agreed to stay over an extra day so that TTNM can provide expert education to the many great volunteers (Master Gardeners, Tree Stewards, etc.) who donate their time to helping our

communities' trees survive and thrive. If you have an interest in tree care and want to hear from leading national speakers, make plans to attend!

Saturday, February 9th, 2013
from 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Albuquerque Garden Center,
10120 Lomas NE (at Los Altos Park)

Limited seating, so register now to save your seat!

To register, please go to: <http://rsvp.nmsu.edu/rsvp/treecare>

Kids & Kows & More—Could Use Your Help



Kids & Kows & More
Santa Ana Star Center,
Rio Rancho
Monday, March 4, 2013
Tuesday, March 5, 2013

Sandoval County Extension hosts Kids, Kows and More (KK&M), a school program that focuses on how everyday agricultural products are made. The Southwest Dairy Farmers, New Mexico State University and Texas A&M University are the sponsors.

The Extension service would appreciate SCMG Volunteer help with the KK&M Program at Santa Ana Star Center and with stuffing goody bags for the 5th graders.

Filling Bags – Hour for Hour Extension Office Support SCMG Hours
Thursday Afternoon, February 28, 2013, 1:00 p.m. or
Friday Morning, February 29th, 8:30 a.m.

Help with Sandoval County Agents Needed at

Santa Ana Star Center -
Hour for Hour SCMG
(Teach, present, or help)

Volunteers for the program will meet at Santa Ana Star Center at 8:30 a.m. for orientation.

This year the program is inside! Lunch will be provided.

Please contact Elizabeth Hackett at: sandoval@nmsu.edu or call 867-2582, if you can volunteer filling bags or at the program.

Master Composter Training for 2013



Applications are now being accepted for the Bernalillo County Extension Master Composter training for 2013.

The 30 hour program will be presented on all Wednesday evenings and Saturday mornings in March

2013 at the Bernalillo County Extension Office.

Application and complete program information are available at:

www.nmcomposters.org

For more information, contact: John Zarola, Out-

reach Coordinator, Bernalillo County Extension Master Composters Assn.

**COOPERATIVE
EXTENSION
SERVICE**

**SANDOVAL COUNTY
EXTENSION
SERVICE**

P.O. Box 400
Bernalillo, N.M. 87004

Phone: 505-867-2582

E-mail: sandoval@nmsu.edu

Web: sandovalmastergardeners.org

**Thank you to all who
contributed news items,
articles and volunteer
information for the
SCMG Newsletter**

**SCMG Newsletter
Submissions**

**Deadline:
20th of each month**

Please submit news, articles,
events and photographs to:
Amy Upperman



Sandoval County

Sandoval County Master Gardener Events & Volunteer Opportunities

February 5 Gardening with the Masters
"**Growing Tomatoes**" Speakers: Sam Thompson and Therese Barts
Meadowlark Senior Center, 4330 Meadowlark Lane, SE, Rio Rancho, NM
7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. Free – Offered by the NMSU SCMG
Contact John Zarola

Starting

February 7 Southwest Homeowner Gardening Classes
February 7: **Fruit Trees**- Elizabeth Gardner
February 14: **Vineyard Management**- Rex Franklin
February 21: **Small Fruits and Berries**- Elizabeth Gardner
February 28: **Vegetable Gardens**- Loren Meinz
March 7: **Principles of Xeriscaping**- Darlene Bassett, Cathryne Richards,
and Denise Davis
March 14: **Gardening in Drought Conditions**- John Zarola
March 21: **Composting**- Pat and Stephanie Barger
March 28: **Herbs**- Leah Vesely
Location: Extension Office, 711 Camino del Pueblo Bernalillo, NM

PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Call (505) 867-2582 to reserve your seat!

Mail Check Payable to:

Sandoval County Master Gardeners, P.O. Box 400 Bernalillo, NM 87004

March 5 Gardening with the Masters
"**Introduction to Bee Keeping**" Speaker: Speaker: Chris Behl
Meadowlark Senior Center, 4330 Meadowlark Lane, SE, Rio Rancho, NM
7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. Free – Offered by the NMSU SCMG
Contact John Zarola

WEEKLY

1st & 3rd Thursday Rio Rancho WaterWise Garden—950 Pinetree Rd., Rio Rancho
9:00 -11:00 a.m.
Contact: Sue Trevor

Thursday Meadowlark Rose Garden
Meadowlark Senior Center, 4330 Meadowlark Lane, SE, Rio Rancho
Call for dates and hours. We will work as needed through the winter.
Contact: Carol Marr

MONTHLY

February 6 DeLavy House Garden Maintenance
Sandoval County Historical Society, Edmund Rd., Bernalillo
1st Wednesday of each month. Call for fall/winter hours.
Contact: Charlotte Wilson

February 19 SCMG Board Meeting
Tuesday, 10:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m. (Feb. & Mar. prior to Training Class)
711 Camino del Pueblo (Old County Courthouse) 1st Floor

Sandoval County Master Gardener Program is on Facebook.

<https://www.facebook.com/SCMasterGardeners> — or click image.

Do you have photos of SCMG projects and events? Contact Gina
Garland to have them posted to our Facebook page. ggarland@nmsu.edu

