



Garden Notes

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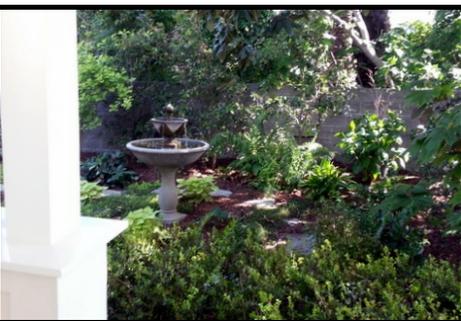
May 2019

Welcome to the Claremont Garden Club newsletter!

🐞 Please send us questions and ideas about gardening!



Garden Tour



MWD Turf Replacement Program is back!

The Waterwise Community Center (4594 San Bernardino St, Montclair) is offering an evening workshop on May 23rd from 6-8pm. This class will show you how to convert your yard to a vibrant and low water landscape. [Registration](#) is free, but required.

Ornamental of the Month

Centranthus ruber



[Valerian](#), or Jupiter's Beard, is a perennial that grows to about 3 ft tall and wide with leaves about 3" long. Masses of tiny flowers appear spring to summer—there are red, pink, and white forms. Deadhead for longer bloom. Sun/light shade, low to regular water. Insects love it and it can self-sow. Cut back to about a foot in late fall.

Edible of the Month

Satureja montana



[Winter savory](#) is an evergreen, perennial plant that grows about one foot tall and two feet wide. In summer it sports small white, pink or lavender flowers. Likes sun and needs good drainage. Small, tough leaves have a [stronger flavor](#) than annual summer savory but both are good with beans, meat, in cheese and egg dishes, and with vegetables. Especially good in the classic Canadian meat pie, tourtière!

Fullerton Arboretum Threatened!

Part of this wonderful resource is being considered as the location for new student housing, which would be a great loss! Read [an article](#) about this, sign [a petition](#), and send [a comment](#). And if you have never visited it, [plan to go!](#)



Two Members of the Onion Family

Three-cornered leek (top, [Allium triquetum](#)) is easy to recognize because the stem is triangular in cross-section and the drooping, bell-shaped flowers have a green stripe on each of the petals.

White garlic (bottom, [Allium neapolitanum](#)) has more open flowers that it holds in an upright vase shape.

Both grow about one foot tall with narrow leaves and bloom in late March through April. They grow from small bulbs and naturalize rapidly. Three-cornered leek takes a good bit of shade; white garlic likes a bit more sun. Both die down in summer.



Favorite Quote

"I cultivate my garden, and my garden cultivates me." Robert Brault



Sedum rupestre "Angelina"

The needle-like leaves of this [stonecrop](#) are bright yellow when they get a lot of sun, and are more yellow-green (as in the photo) when they have more shade. The tiny, yellow flowers appear in spring and summer and face up in a flat umbrella shape—insects love them! Plants spread quickly, forming a 6" tall mat. Cuttings root easily. Very tough with low water needs.

Upcoming events and more

May 10: Garden Club – 6:30-8:30 pm, talk at 7pm, Napier Center, 660 Avery Rd, Claremont. **"Invasive Species: What not to Plant!"**

May 11/12: Geranium Show and **May 18/19: Epiphyllum Show** at the [LA County Arboretum](#)

May 25: Palm, Cycad, Bamboo, Tropicals Show; [San Diego Botanic Garden](#)

Smart Gardening Workshops: 9:30-11 am, free. For dates and locations, see http://dpw.lacounty.gov/epd/sg/wk_schds.cfm

Chino Basin Water District: classes on waterwise landscaping, irrigation; mulch giveaways: <http://www.cbwcd.org/150/Workshop-Descriptions>

Armstrong classes: <http://www.armstronggarden.com/pages/classes>

Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden: www.rsabg.org/upcoming-events

Huntington Library: Free talks, plant sales www.huntington.org/

Did you know?

Botanical Latin: "Ruber" means "red"; "montana" refers to mountains

Plant miscellanea: When a non-native plant (or animal) spreads into the wild and establishes a continuing population, it is said to have "naturalized". Our hills are covered with naturalized mustard.

Things to do in May

General

- ✓ Get your final plantings done before the heat sets in!
- ✓ Plant tropical fruit and flowers
- ✓ Look for "volunteers" and weed out or transplant
- ✓ Keep up with watering, weeding

Pest/disease management

- ✓ Plant herbs in vegetable beds—their smell can confuse pests
- ✓ Keep garden clean; cut off damaged leaves
- ✓ Pick beans only when dry to reduce spread of rust

Edibles

- ✓ Be sure to keep vegetables watered
- ✓ High nitrogen will produce leaves not fruit in beans and tomatoes
- ✓ Plant melons, parsley
- ✓ Pick beans and peas daily; check zucchini daily too and pick young!

Ornamentals

- ✓ Check which of your natives can take summer water and which can't
- ✓ Look for bearded iris to plant in the fall; check out the reblooming types
- ✓ Fertilize and water cymbidiums regularly after bloom
- ✓ Feed, mulch, prune camellias, azaleas
- ✓ Feed roses, plant ones in containers
- ✓ Prune winter-flowering vines and shrubs after bloom

Please send photos and info about plants you've grown, gardens to visit, gardening lore, questions. Sue Schenk, editor

The Metropolitan Water District is not currently offering rebates for turf removal. <http://socialwatersmart.com/index.php/>

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