



# Spring Class Schedule 2011

Location: Amphitheater at MBBG, west side of Polliwog Park. Park on N. Peck Ave. off Manhattan Beach Blvd.  
Prior registration: Required for most. Reserve your spot so we'll know you're coming (in case of cancellation) and to ensure we'll have enough handouts.

Contact: Julie Gonella at 310-546-1354 or [Julie@manhattanbeachbotanicalgarden.org](mailto:Julie@manhattanbeachbotanicalgarden.org)

Leave: Your name(s), class request(s), number of people attending and phone # when calling.

## Water Saving Irrigation & Rain Water Harvesting

March 26, 10-11 am

Mike Garcia, Enviroscope

Want to conserve some of that "free" water that pours out of the sky? Learn about rain barrels and water containment systems and see how they can be used to catch rainwater for future use, such as drip irrigation or to feed a waterfall. Also learn about the latest in water conserving irrigation products such as smart Irrigation controllers, environmental sensors, high efficiency rotator sprinklers, and drip irrigation.

## Insects: The Good, the Bad and the Beautiful

April 2, 10-11 am

Gretchen Renshaw-Zwissler, UCLA Instructor

Are you a little squeamish about bugs in your garden, squishing or spraying everything in sight? You may be eliminating insects that turn into beautiful butterflies, or food that could attract colorful birds to your garden. Learn how to identify the good ones and what can be done about the bad ones in an eco-friendly manner. Find out what various insects have to offer and what their purpose is in nature. If you would like to have a specific insect identified, bring it to class in a sealed plastic bag.

## Identifying & Attracting Our Local Wild Birds

April 9, 9:30-11 am

Bob Shanman, Wild Birds Unlimited

Join Bob on a casual bird walk through the Garden. Learn about spring migration and the colorful birds commonly seen such as warblers, orioles, tanagers, goldfinches, grosbeaks and many more. Learn how to identify these birds and attract them to your yard. Bring binoculars.

## Success with Succulents

April 16, 10-11 am-- EARTH DAY AT POLLIWOG

Maria Capaldo, Award-Winning Cactus Cultivator

Patrick Moore, Local Succulent Enthusiast

Ever noticed just about every article about landscaping in Southern California suggests using cacti and succulents? They're perfect for our climate, especially for blending with native plants and grasses to create stunning, yet water wise displays. Maria and Patrick will lead a discussion about how to use these amazing plants in environments ranging from the windowsill to the front yard. A wide variety of samples will be available for sale. All proceeds donated to MBBG.

## Getting Started with Natives

April 23, 10-11 am

Tony Baker, Natural Landscapes

This is a basic beginners class includes a walk through the MBBG where you will learn which natives thrive in your specific situation and find out best times to plant and how to care and maintain a native landscape. There will be plenty of time for questions and answers about how best to get started with natives.

## How to Compost in the Garden

April 30, 10-11 am

Lisa Ryder, City Authorized Instructor

Composting...Nature's way to recycle your trash into a treasure for your garden. Learn how to set up composting and worm bins, and the simple steps to recycling many organic materials such as yard trimmings and food waste, while creating free organic fertilizer. Discounted compost bins and worm bins available to MB residents.

\*\*\*Prior registration NOT required\*\*\*

### Container Gardening with Drought Tolerant Plants

May 7, 10-11 am

Jon Bell, Deep Roots Garden Center

With native plants you can create botanical beauty, restore a little ecological balance, and bring winged friends to your corner of the world, even if you have a small space. Jon will show you a beautiful array of specimens that do well in pots and are available locally.

### Getting Rid of Your Water-Guzzling Lawn

May 14, 10-11 am

Mimi Andersen, Garden Magic

Mike Garcia, Enviroscape

Learn ways to kill your lawn and ready your new space for fall planting. Lessen your dependence on imported water! Be part of the solution: Remove your lawn and discover the aesthetic, economic and environmental benefits that lawn substitutes can bring. Grass substitutes, drought tolerant groundcovers and underground water systems will be part of the discussion.

### Tree Issue Discussion Group

May 21, 10-11 am

Greg Monfette, Certified Arborist & Registered Consulting Arborist

If you have tree questions, this is a great opportunity to discuss your specific concerns with a registered arborist and get some knowledgeable advice on how to solve a variety of problems. This interactive session will include figuring out what's going on and discussions with others to learn ways of resolving a variety of landscaping issues. Bring photos or leaf samples that can help illustrate your problem.

### Sunday Morning Bird Walks at Polliwog Park

Sundays, 8 am (Most Sundays except the 3<sup>rd</sup>

Sunday of each month) on a drop-in basis

Bob Shaman, Wild Birds Unlimited

Weather permitting. Meet Bob on the corner of Manhattan Beach Blvd and Redondo Ave. @ 8:00 for a leisurely walk through Polliwog Park, including the Botanical Garden. Learn to ID birds by sight and sound. Binoculars and walking shoes are recommended. \*\*\*Prior registration NOT required\*\*\*

### Earth Friendly Gardening

Fridays, 9:30-11:30 am on a drop-in basis

Julie Gonella, Gretchen Renshaw, Mimi Andersen MBBG Maintenance Directors provide instruction on proper techniques for weeding, watering, mulching and trimming as well as eco-friendly pest management. Meet other community members who support the Garden and receive a large FREE bag of mulch for your own garden. (Please bring your own bag.) \*\*\*Prior registration NOT required\*\*\*

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\*\*Classes offered by The City of Manhattan Beach  
Call Sona Kalapura at 310-802-5058 to register

### Keeping Our Water Supply Safe and Reliable

March 17, 4:30/5:30 pm

\*\*MB Environmental Task Force Meeting

Ron Wildermuth, West Basin Municipal Water District

Learn about the challenges people in Southern California face regarding our water supply, and the actions the West Basin Municipal Water District is taking in the areas of conservation, education, recycled water, and desalinization to ensure a safe and reliable water supply in the South Bay.

### CPR for Gardens

June 4, 9 am-12 noon

\*\*MB City Hall Council Chambers

Green Gardens Group (G3) & Surfrider Fdn.

Learn about "ocean friendly gardening" which includes applying CPR (conservation, permeability and retention) to our gardens to revive our oceans and watersheds. Topics will include conservation of water and water pollutants, energy and air pollution; increasing landscape permeability; and water retention devices. If you like to swim or surf in the ocean and enjoy fish and other sea life this workshop will show you what you can do around your home to preserve this invaluable resource.



Check out our new educational website at  
[www.mbbgarden.org](http://www.mbbgarden.org)