

Where Can I Get Central County Gardening Information and Questions Answered?

Here's some ideas to ponder. I thought I'd provide some digital pointers on how to get even more local gardening information and/or answers to your gardening questions.

First, I'm somewhat biased on this topic. Because as a [UC Master Gardener \(MG\)](#), I edit and post every Monday a [blog](#) (e.g., consider a blog to be like a news article, but usually more informal and informative) on what is hopefully a timely and interesting garden item on the web at [HOtT COCO](#). I glean these blogs from the [MG's Help Desk](#) email responses and reading the summaries of questions from other MG sources. Depending upon the time of the year, there are usually about 25 responses per week to emails, drop-ins, and phone calls. Almost all the responses are based upon UC published information and sometimes from other educational institutions. MG responses are based upon science (Integrated Pest Methodology), i.e., no Epsom salt, vinegar, or Pinterest "solutions".

The MG's Help Desk is also complemented by the "[Ask a Master Gardener](#)" (AAMG) tables set up at most of the Farmer's Markets as well as many single-day events and library presentations. (I also volunteer at the AAMG table at [Markham Arboretum](#) Plant Sales [next is September 17 @ 9am-1pm]). In addition to the Farmer's Markets AAMGs, there is also a AAMG table at the MG's Wednesday morning speaker programs at "[Our Garden](#)" (OG) in [Shadelands in Walnut Creek](#). Those programs will run through October. You may have seen Joan Morris' weekly summary of the OG programs in the Sunday Garden section of the East Bay Times. All of these AAMG tables can provide you face-to-face advice on your garden problems or help you in referring your problem to the [MG Help Desk](#).

While the AAMG tables can at times be somewhat limited in their ability to answer some of the more exotic problems, you can email, phone, or drop in to the [MG Help Desk office](#) from 9-12 Monday through Thursday right here in Pleasant Hill. No appointment is necessary.

Last, the MG's are sponsoring a special community event on September 10th at OG, the "[2016 GET DRY Workshop & Plant Sale](#)" where you can buy some water-wise plants, learn about "dry" gardening, get some help from professional garden consultants to design your "dry" garden, as well as bringing all your garden questions and problems to a AAMG table that will be there all day (10am-3pm). Check the [web page](#) out for more details.

Hope that gives you some ideas about how to get local gardening information. This has been primarily limited to mainly MG resources. You also have significant resources in the established commercial retail nurseries. ...And we can always try to answer your gardening questions at the next PHGSC meeting's Q&A.

Note: this page from the "Flower Press" with all the live links will also be available on the PHGSC web site home page... till next time...CHEERS
