

S l o a t



Locally  
owned since  
1958!

G a r d e n C e n t e r

# Gardener's Notebook

Volume 30, No. 3

News, Advice & Special Offers for Bay Area Gardeners

Fall 2016

## Unique Japanese Maples

*Acer palmatum*

Presenting a collection to delight  
Japanese Maple enthusiasts...  
Three unique dwarf varieties  
suited to smaller gardens,  
containers, shady patios, and decks

**Inside:** Fall perennials, enriching soil, screening plants for privacy, fall fruit tree pruning + winter decorating with plants



## Visit our stores: Thirteen Locations in San Francisco, Marin and Contra Costa

### San Francisco

3rd Avenue between Geary & Clement  
(415) 752-1614

2700 Sloat Blvd.  
46th & Sloat Blvd.  
(415) 566-4415

3237 Pierce Street  
Chestnut & Lombard  
(415) 440-1000  
*Hours: 9 to 6:30*

### Novato

2000 Novato Blvd. at Wilson  
(415) 897-2169

### San Rafael

1580 Lincoln Ave.  
just off Hwy. 101  
(415) 453-3977

### Kentfield (M-F: 8-6:30)

700 Sir Francis Drake Blvd. at Wolfe Grade  
(415) 454-0262

### Mill Valley (M-F: 8 to 6:30)

657 E. Blithedale at Lomita  
(415) 388-0102 (near 101)  
401 Miller Ave. at La Goma  
(415) 388-0365 (near downtown)

### Pleasant Hill

2895 Contra Costa Blvd.  
(925) 939-9000

### Martinez

6740 Alhambra Ave  
(925) 935-9125

### Danville

800 Camino Ramon (in the Rose Garden Center)  
(925) 837-9144

828 Diablo Road at El Cerro  
(925) 743-0288  
*M-Sat hours: 8am to 6:30pm*  
*Sun hours: 8am to 5pm*

### Concord

1555 Kirker Pass Rd.  
(925) 681-0550

### Garden Design Department

401 Miller Ave.,  
Mill Valley (415) 388-3754

*Currently available in Marin & SF only*

### Bulk Soils

828 Diablo Road at El Cerro  
(925) 820-1273  
*(East Bay delivery only)*  
*M-Sat hours: 8am to 4pm*

Visit us on the web: [www.sloatgardens.com](http://www.sloatgardens.com)

Open 7 days per week 8:30am to 6:30pm  
*(or as noted above)*

Fall/Winter hours begin November 6th  
8:30am to 5:30pm, 7 days a week

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# Sloat



Garden Center

420 Coloma Street  
Sausalito, CA 94965-1428

Locally owned since 1958!



We'll help you grow the plants you love!

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## Bay Area Gardening Guide:

Fall

### Plant

☞ Fall is the best time to plant foxglove, Canterbury bells and other biennials. Look to plant cyclamen once the weather cools. Now is an ideal time to plant California poppies, wildflowers, groundcovers and sweet peas.

☞ Fall is for planting! Get shrubs, perennials, vines and trees into the ground this month while the soil is still warm. Winter rains will help establish your plants.

☞ Plant daffodils for vibrant spring blooms. Garlic and onion bulbs can be planted now, too.

Detailed bulb planting info: [www.sloatgardens.com](http://www.sloatgardens.com)

☞ Decorate for fall: We have ornamental kale, mums, pansies, violas, Iceland poppies, snapdragons, stock and ornamental grasses for waves of autumnal color.

☞ Sow seeds for fall vegetables: radishes, beets, carrots, peas and lettuce. We also carry vegetable transplants.



### Fertilize

☞ Top-dress perennial beds, azaleas, camellias, and rhododendrons with Sloat Forest Mulch Plus.

☞ Feed spring blooming shrubs with 0-10-10 fertilizer. Feed citrus with Maxsea.

### Prune/Maintain

☞ Prepare planting beds for winter. Clear weeds and rocks. Add soil amendments.

☞ Divide the roots and rhizomes of perennials such as agapanthus, yarrow and iris.

☞ Lightly prune Japanese maples while still in leaf.

☞ Feed the birds! Don't cut back dead flower stalks; allow rudbeckia, sunflowers, and other flowers with seeds and berries to feed the birds in your neighborhood all winter. It's also time to fill your bird feeders for winter. We carry a wide variety of suet flavors, as well as suet feeders.



We have carving and specialty pumpkins, mini-pumpkins and gourds. Don't forget to enter your pumpkin carving in our

**Annual Pumpkin Carving Contest**

Info: [www.sloatgardens.com](http://www.sloatgardens.com)



**Hark!** Starting Thanksgiving weekend, Sloat Garden Center will have premium wreaths, fresh cut Christmas trees, and holiday greens. Stay tuned!

## Three unique Japanese Maples, continued



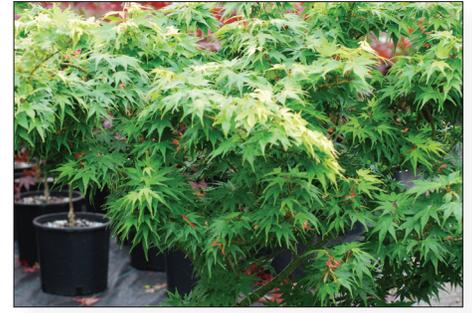
**Acer palmatum 'Ryusen'**

Ryusen means flowing waters, which is apt for this pendulous Japanese Maple that shines in tall containers or as a focal point. New growth is chartreuse before changing to green in summer; followed by bright orange in fall. Can grow up to 10 ft if staked / pruned to shape and size.



**Acer palmatum 'Rhode Island Red'**

This beautiful, compact maple maintains a round shape. New growth is bright red, darkening in summer before turning vivid red and orange in fall. Grows best in part-sun or shade with protection from winds. Reaches approximately 6 x 6 ft tall and wide.



**Acer palmatum 'Mikawa Yatsubusa'**

Multi-branched, upright dwarf habit makes this ideal for Bonsai. Leaves are close together on short stems, giving it an overlapping, sculptured and unique look. Light-green new growth with red tips. Yellow, orange and red for fall color. Grows 6-8 ft tall x 4-6 ft wide.

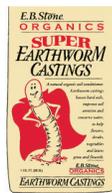
## Humic Acids support soil health

### What are Humic Acids?

Humic Acids are found in heavy concentrations in coal shales and peat bogs. They make many contributions to soil and plant health -- they are a source of energy that feeds soil microbes, and that enhances a plant's root system's ability to absorb needed nutrients. Humic Acids also help make phosphorus and iron more available to plants, plus aid in the translocation of nutrients while stimulating root growth.

### Adding Humic Acids to the soil

Earthworms create Humic Acids in soils as they consume, digest, and excrete organic matter. **E.B. Stone Organic's Super Earthworm Castings** improves the health of clay and sandy soils, both of which are common in Bay Area gardens.



Humic Acids can also be obtained by using **Down to Earth's Granular Humic Acids**. This mixture contains a highly concentrated source of humic acids that are ideal for vegetable gardens.



## On LOCATION at our Pleasant Hill location with Manager Tim Nash

*Packed with fruits, herbs and vegetables, Sloat Garden Center Pleasant Hill is a roomy, plant-and pottery-filled gardening paradise.*

### Q: Can you paint us a picture of the Pleasant Hill store?

**A:** We are known for carrying edibles: fruit, vegetables and herbs in spring and fall. In the spring we carry nothing less than 80 varieties of tomatoes, 30 varieties of peppers, and more. If it's available, we have it, including unusual varieties like dragon fruit, macadamias, and jujubes. We've put a lot of effort into bringing in all sorts of edibles and fruit trees for our gardeners.



The staff here are very seasoned; most of the employees have been working with us for 5 to 30 years. When a customer has a question, there's usually someone on staff who has seen it, done it, or been there. It's a blessing. It's a lot of experience to offer. Steven is a cactus and succulent gardener, he probably knows more about taking care of succulents than anybody I've met. With Ray it's fruit trees. Ryan and Charlie are so much about hot peppers — these guys know everything about them. Generally with the whole staff it's knowledge of edibles. We're all gardeners here.

Our customers come from the entire Bay Area. They come from Vacaville to Berkeley to Livermore to Sacramento, and everything in between. We are a destination. Our customers have diverse gar-

dening interests, which is kind of fun...we get a lot of people into all different types of gardening.

### Q: What do you love about gardening?

**A:** The relaxation. It's like playing golf. Your mind just goes elsewhere to the task at hand and you forget about stresses.

### Q: What is your favorite gardening tool?

**A:** The pair of Felco pruners I've had for 20+ years that just keeps going!



The Pleasant Hill Sloat Garden Center crew

## Plant it now! Eight great fall perennials for autumn and beyond

These eight lovely perennials are ideal candidates to spend October and November flourishing in your garden or container. They'll add late season texture, color and interest through fall, winter, and into spring. Plus, now is the right time for planting. Conditions are ripe this month and next to give your plants a healthy start growing in summer warmed soils and (optimistically), future winter rains. Stop by our stores for help choosing combinations that will work in your garden.



**Japanese Anemone**

A low maintenance perennial for bright shade with delicate, nodding white or pink flowers that bloom late summer to fall. Known for its lustrous-green, dense foliage.



**Aster**

Profuse, medium-small, lilac, pink white or deep red-purple flowers with yellow daisy-like centers that bloom late summer to fall. Adapted to most soils but growth is luxuriant in fertile soil.



**Mums**

Hardy perennials that add fall color to containers and yards as summer annuals wane. Ensure a bushy plant with lots of blooms by pinching plants back one or two times in spring.



**Heuchera**

This shade lover is known for huge leaves and a lush habit with slender, wiry stems that bear clusters of bell shaped blossoms. Very attractive to hummingbirds. We carry many varieties to choose from!



**Hakonechloa**

Also known as Japanese forest grass, hakonechloa features clumps of gracefully arching leaves. Spreads slowly by underground runners. Regular water, full sun in cooler climates only.



**Carex testacea**

Carex is a graceful, arching, clump forming grass that's deer resistant. This orange-tinged foliage grass provides a wonderful contrast for bold textured gardens. A favorite!



**Rudbeckia**

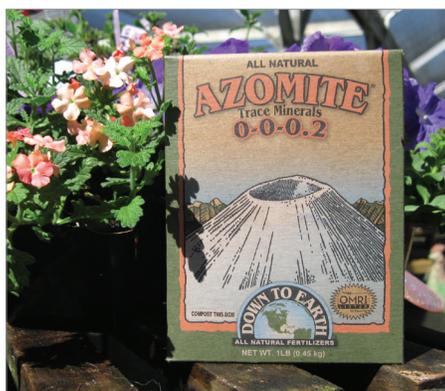
Showy rudbeckia features late summer/fall blooms. A tough plant that's easy to grow and makes delightful cut flowers. Uncut flower heads provide winter interest and food for birds.



**Echinacea**

This robust perennial attracts butterflies and loves full sun. Blooms late summer through fall. Deadhead to extend bloom cycle. Uncut flower heads provide food for birds.

## Azomite brings garden soil to life!



Gardeners know soil isn't just dirt. Soil is a live entity, filled with nutrients and minerals that give life to the plants we love. But over time those minerals and nutrients need to be replenished as they are used to support plant growth. Enter Azomite. Containing over 60 trace minerals, Azomite replaces lost minerals to help plants absorb nutrients from soil.

Azomite is a finely ground, natural trace mineral powder made from montmorillonite clay mined from an ancient mineral-rich volcanic

ash deposit in central Utah. When the volcano erupted, ash settled into a seabed and the combination of seawater, fed by hundreds of rivers, created a mineral-rich formulation that helps plants produce more and larger fruits and vegetables (with improved resistance to disease and root system growth). It can be applied directly or in combination with composts, fertilizers, manures or soil inoculants. A fall application will help minerals seep into the soil over the winter so that they're available for the spring growing season.

# trees & shrubs for privacy

## Screen it out ...

The adage “Good fences make good neighbors” can also be said for plants. Foliage-rich trees and shrubs placed together can create natural barriers to do everything from provide shade, create a private outdoor space, or screen out a nosy neighbor.

These seven plants were chosen for their year-round screening ability and adaptability to Bay Area gardens, patios, and balconies.

Stop in to our stores with questions about how to create a natural privacy screen.



Euonymus Green Spire

One of the best narrow screens. This evergreen plant grows 6-8 ft tall by 1-2 ft wide. Ideal for small gardens, decks, patios and pots. Tolerates sun to shade, dry areas, and salt spray.



Pittosporum tenuifolium

One of our most popular screening plants. Grows about 15-25 ft but can easily be kept trimmed to shape and size. Evergreen, glossy-green foliage. Great for coastal, exposed areas. Grows well in full sun to part-shade. The foliage is loved by flower arrangers.



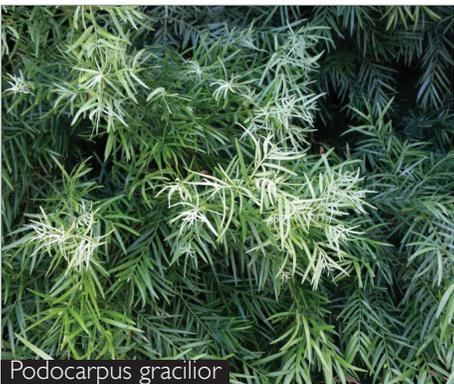
Dodonaea viscosa Purpurea

Grown for its evergreen green/bronze foliage which turns purple in cooler weather. Will reach 15-20 ft high, but can easily be kept trimmed to shape and size. Drought-tolerant once established but best with regular watering and mulch. Fast growing and deer resistant.



Rhamnus alaternus

This Mediterranean native can tolerate heat, drought and wind; best with regular water & mulch. Evergreen with reddish bark and small fragrant flowers followed by small, berry-like fruit. Cut foliage is great for indoor decor. Full sun to part shade. 12 to 15 ft tall.



Podocarpus gracilior

An effective, evergreen screening plant normally used for shade screening, but can also take full sun on the coast. Can be left to grow as a tree, but most often used as an espalier. Looks great in a tropical setting. Drought tolerant once established. Grows to about 20ft +



Thuja Janed Gold

Evergreen, upright, pyramidal conifer with yellow/orange foliage. It will not burn in the summer heat if watered regularly and mulched. Grows about 8 x 4 ft. Less pruning is needed because of its habit.



Ilex Sky Pencil

Great for small areas with its dark, evergreen foliage. Nice upright habit and slow growth make it a good choice for entryways and containers. Grows 6-8 ft high by 2-3 ft wide. This female variety will produce berries if a male variety is nearby.

## Solution: Actinovate stops fire blight and supports houseplants

Fireblight is a common and destructive plant disease that affects fruit trees (apples, pears, crab apples) and plants in the Rosaceae family, especially during drought conditions. Actinovate can be used as a preventative dormant spray of exterior fungal and foliar disease like Fireblight, which is of particular concern to East Bay gardeners.

But Actinovate also does double duty with indoor and outdoor plants. We've found that plants treated with Actinovate are hardier, more vigorous, and can develop a root system that's immune to soil fungi that causes root rot.

*How to use Actinovate on plants:* Choose soil that's rich in organic matter such as **Sloat Organic Potting Soil**. Loosen the root ball and spread roots gently over a small hill of soil placed at the bottom of the container. Apply Actinovate around the roots according to directions.



## How to prune fruit trees and apply dormant spray by Buzz, the Dirt Gardener



*We are fortunate to have the expertise of Buzz Bertolero, the Dirt Gardener, in the Sloat*

*Garden Center family. Buzz regularly offers gardening seminars to Bay Area gardeners. See [www.sloatgardens.com](http://www.sloatgardens.com) for details!*

Your fall 'To Do' List probably doesn't include pruning apricots, cherries, plums and other deciduous fruit trees. But it should. More and more nursery professionals are encouraging the fall pruning of fruit trees.

Typically, January and February have been the primary months to prune, as this is when the trees are dormant. If it wasn't for the 'Holidays' it probably would have been earlier. Dormancy starts long before the leaves start to turn color and drop. A fruit tree is dormant when the growing cycle concludes and the crop has been harvested; hence, the dormancy period with

some varieties begins as early as August. With the trees now in the early stages of dormancy, you should drastically reduce the amount of water they're receiving and stop all together in mid-November. They don't need the water and the excess moisture could contribute to root rot problems later.

Mild temperatures, dry conditions, and no mud are the primary advantages of pruning in the fall. The biggest negative is that the leaves block your view of the tree's branching structure. You also avoid any problems with diseases, especially with apricots, entering the pruning wound before they callus over.

Peach Leaf Curl and Shot Hole Fungus are perennial problems with peaches, nectarines, and plums but not cherries. Curly leaf on cherries is caused by aphids. These fungal diseases could be a problem next year as we're hopeful for a normal amount of rain. It's now recommended to apply the first application of a copper dormant spray around

Thanksgiving or when fifty percent of the leaves have dropped instead of waiting until next year. The late fall application of **Bonide Copper Fungicide** gets the overwintering fungal spores before the tree's bark covers them over as the temperatures drop. A second application is suggested in February when the buds are in the pink bud / popcorn stage.



Citrus and other evergreen fruits can be thinned and shaped in the fall. A light pruning is suggested and by all means, remove any and all dead wood. Avoid encouraging new growth, especially with an early frost, as it will be susceptible to cold weather damage. Anytime after St. Patrick's Day is when to begin to think about severely pruning them as that's when the danger of frost has passed. Continue a regular watering schedule until the rainy season begins. -- Buzz

Sloat Garden Center carries **Wild Delight Black Oil Sunflower Seed**, a premium

seed selected for its high oil and nutrient content. Black oil seeds are thin shelled and easy for seed eating birds to crack open. The kernels have a high fat content, which is especially valuable to winter birds.



### Four steps to successful tree planting

Fall is the ideal time to plant trees -- the summer warmed soils, and promise of winter rains, will go a long way to get them established.

- 1.) Purchase a healthy, vigorous tree. It's the first step to a successful planting. Our stores are fully stocked with a range of trees now.
- 2.) The planting hole should only be as deep as the root ball, and twice as wide.
- 3.) Prune any dead, broken, or twisted roots. Then, if wind, hot sun or aesthetic aspect are not factors, position your tree so that the majority of the branches are facing away from the afternoon sun. This will help the tree produce more foliage on the "barer side".
- 4.) Staking the tree is the final step.



Visit [www.sloatgardens.com](http://www.sloatgardens.com) for our full run down on fall tree planting

# Create fall and winter sparkle with dramatic plant combinations

*This fall, bring life back to your pots and garden beds using topiaries, blooming color, and bright seasonal pottery.*

## Perfect plants for topiaries

Topiaries are plants that are pruned and maintained in clearly defined shapes to add interest to the garden. They work well as winter decoration plants, focal points, and pot fillers once summer flowers have gone by. Spirals and multi-ball shaped topiaries are nice for flagging an entryway. Cones and globes are ideal for patios and decks due to their smaller size, but they'll also look right at home in formal vegetable gardens.



'Sunshine' Ligustrum

This easy care, tough plant is so versatile we keep finding new places to use it. Features year-round golden foliage in full sun. Deer resistant, heat tolerant. Low water once established/WaterWise. Not pre-shaped.



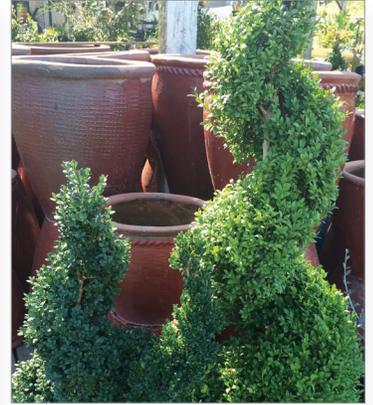
Ligustrum texanum (privet)

An evergreen dense, compact shrub with thick, waxy leaves. Fragrant bee-attracting white flowers in late spring to early summer; followed by blue-black berries. Sun or light shade and water regularly.



Boxwood cones & spirals

Boxwood cones and spirals can easily be thought of as living sculptures; they are a popular edging, hedging and container plant whose shape can be maintained by shearing in spring and fall. Easy to grow, deer-resistant, and drought-tolerant. Extra care will result in better color and vigor. Prefers full sun or light shade. Boxwood looks lovely in containers with annuals spilling out the sides.



## Plus add plants for bright winter color



Primrose

This perennial standby explodes clusters of colorful pink, red, purple, yellow or white blossoms.



Bacopa

Bacopa is a trailing, flowering plant that likes partial shade. Ideal for containers.



Pansies

Slightly fragrant and always colorful pansies are invaluable for their mid-winter bloom.



Cyclamen

Available in shades of white, pink, rose and red. Striking in containers and very long blooms.

## Lightweight pottery

Our large selection of stylish lightweight pottery looks crisp potted up with boxwood spirals, cyclamen, and bacopa spilling over. They're pretty pots and also, pretty easy to move!



## Entertaining this winter?

Welcome guests inside your home with fresh house plants. We love Sanseveria and Spathiphyllum potted in warm, colorful pottery.



## Fall flowers with Juicy Blue pottery

This bold, beautiful, blue pottery will put a shine on your doorstep this fall.



## FALL gardening seminars



Each season we select local gardening experts and designers, as well as our knowledgeable senior staff, to speak in our seminar series. Unless otherwise noted, seminars are free for Rewards Members. \$10 for non-members (membership is free!) and all participants receive a 10% off coupon for redemption at any of our locations. Please call ahead to the seminar location to reserve a seat. Attendance is limited.

### Seminar: Healthy and Beautiful Houseplants

Join us for an informative seminar on houseplants. Our greenhouse gurus will teach you how to use containers and houseplants to decorate, plus you'll receive tips and tricks to keep houseplants thriving.

Saturday, October 8, Pleasant Hill, 10 AM  
 Saturday, October 8, Miller Ave., Mill Valley, 10 AM  
 Sunday, October 9, Novato, 10 AM  
 Sunday, October 9, Sloat Blvd., SF, 10 AM

### Make & Take Workshop: Create a Succulent Pumpkin

This class was such a hit last year, we're bringing it back! Learn how to make a beautiful succulent pumpkin. Create a festive gift for yourself or a friend that can live on after the holidays are over. Fee: \$50 for rewards members, \$60 for non-members

Sunday, October 9, Diablo Rd., Danville, 10 AM (w/Alex Friedman)  
 Sunday, October 9, Concord, 10 AM (w/Dustin Strobel)  
 Sunday, October 9, Pleasant Hill, 10 AM (w/Brad Sheehan)  
 Sunday, October 9, Miller Ave., Mill Valley, 10 AM (w/Jen Strobel)  
 Sunday, October 9, Kentfield, 1 PM (w/Jen)  
 Wednesday, October 12, Sloat Blvd., SF 12 Noon (w/Jen)

### Make & Take Workshop: Carnivorous Plant Potting & Mounting

We are happy to have Kali Lader from Predatory Plants share her carnivorous plant expertise and artistry. Come to our little workshop of horrors and learn all about carnivorous plants! You'll get hands on experience un-potting and mounting your own tropical pitcher plant, and you'll learn how to grow it on your windowsill or patio.

Fee: \$50 for rewards customers, \$60 for non-members

Saturday, October 22, Kentfield, 10 AM  
 Saturday, October 22, Miller Ave., Mill Valley, 1 PM  
 Sunday, October 23, Sloat Blvd., SF, 10 AM

### Seminar: Winterizing Your Garden w/Buzz Bertolero, The Dirt Gardener

This class answers the question: How should I prepare my garden for winter? We'll cover ant controls, saving flower and vegetable seeds, frost protection, dormant spraying, fertilizing, controlling next year's unwanted vegetation now, and planting seasonal color.

Please join us for this important seminar.

Saturday, November 5, Martinez, 10 AM  
 Saturday, November 5, Danville (Camino Ramon), 2 PM  
 Saturday, November 12, Concord, 10 AM  
 Saturday, November 12, Pleasant Hill, 2 PM  
 Saturday, November 19, Kentfield, 10 AM

### Make & Take Workshop: Tillandsia Designs

Create a beautiful tillandsia arrangement that you can take home and enjoy! You will also learn basic Tillandsia 'air plant' care tips, and how to display them using grapewood or glass. Fee: \$30 for rewards members, \$40 for non-members

Sunday, November 13, Pleasant Hill 10 AM  
 Sunday, November 13, Miller Ave., Mill Valley, 10 AM  
 Sunday, November 13, Sloat Blvd., SF, 10 AM  
 Sunday, November 13, Kentfield, 1:30 PM

### Make & Take Workshop: 2nd Annual Succulent Wreath/Swag Making

This workshop is back by popular demand! This year we're adding the option of creating a succulent / Tillandsia wreath OR table swag. Perfect for holiday decorating!

Fee: \$80 for rewards members, \$90 for non-members

Sunday, November 20, Sloat Blvd., SF 10:30 AM (w/Jen Strobel)  
 Sunday, November 20, Diablo Rd., Danville 10:30 AM (w/ Alex Friedman)  
 Sunday, November 20, Concord, 10:30 AM (w/ Dustin Strobel)  
 Sunday, November 20, Kentfield, 1:30 PM (w/ Jen)

### Make & Take Workshop: Create a Colorful Holiday Container

It's the season to decorate! Create a colorful holiday container to brighten up your entryway or table.

Fee: \$50 for rewards members, \$60 for non-members

Saturday, December 3, Pleasant Hill, 10 AM  
 Sunday, December 4, Danville (Diablo Rd), 10 AM

### Seminar: New Tools, Gadgets & Gardening Must-Haves

Looking for the perfect gift for the gardener that has everything? Join us as we share ideas on the latest tools and trends for the garden.

Saturday, December 10, Pleasant Hill, 10 AM

### Make & Take Workshop: Create a Living Ornament

Create beautiful living terrarium ornaments that are sure to brighten the holidays. This is such a popular class we just had to bring it back around. Makes a great gift for you or someone special.

Fee: \$40 for rewards members, \$50 for non-members

Sunday, December 11, Danville (Diablo Rd), 10 AM (w/ Alex Friedman)  
 Sunday, December 11, Miller Ave., Mill Valley, 10 AM (w/ Jen Strobel)  
 Sunday, December 11, Novato, 10 AM (w/ Leo Grassman)  
 Sunday, December 11, Concord, 10 AM (w/ Dustin Strobel)  
 Sunday, December 11, Kentfield 1:30 PM (w/ Jen)  
 Wednesday, December 14, Sloat Blvd., SF, noon (w/ Jen)

## Squirrel Stopper repels pesky squirrels



In a single afternoon, aggressive squirrels can easily decimate prized heirloom tomatoes, burrow into flower containers, and take over a fully stocked bird feeder.

The way squirrels forage, nest and eat is absolutely infuriating, but we've had success with Messina's Squirrel Stopper, an all natural squirrel repellent.

Squirrel Stopper is a safe and humane way to stop squirrel damage. The formulation creates a sensory boundary that works on smell, taste and feel in order to repel squirrels. It can be applied around your home and garden, plus on birdfeeders and even directly to birdseed (it won't affect birds). Squirrel Stopper is easy to use, dries clear and odor-free, and lasts 30 days regardless of weather.

