



WALTER ANDERSEN NURSERY™

# Garden Talk

SAN DIEGO'S GARDEN RESOURCE

San Diego's Independent Nursery Since 1928™

MAY 2014

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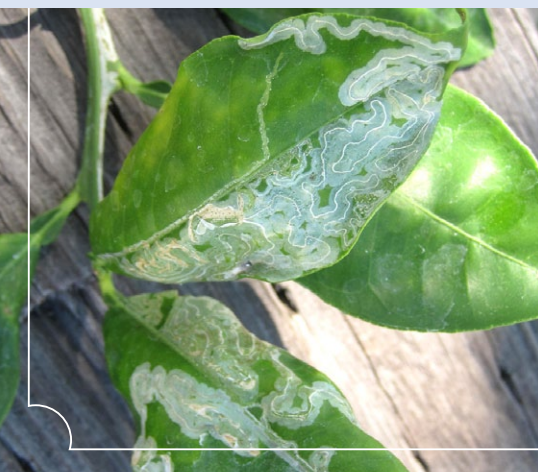
## Citrus Leaf Miner Is Easy To Spot

By Walter Andersen, Jr.

Citrus Leaf Miner is a relatively new insect to our county that arrived from Mexico in about 2000. It comes from a tiny moth that flies mostly at night and lands on the undersides of new growth. The moth lays eggs on the newly emerging leaves which are softer than older leaves. The larvae burrow or mine into the leaf between the cuticle and living tissue

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Citrus Leaf Miner



## Blue Pots Mean Locally-Grown Plants

By Katy Andersen

Walter Andersen Nursery is excited to announce the unveiling of its exclusive new series of locally grown plants. The name of the series is **1st Prize Plants**. They are available in four-inch sized blue and white containers displaying the Walter Andersen Nursery logo.

Available at both locations, you'll find many varieties chosen specifically by our bedding professionals for this program bringing you the best varieties and value. Tomatoes and peppers, favorite culinary herbs such as Basil and Cilantro, and colorful Calibrachoa, just to name a few, will be available with more selections coming in the following months.

The plants are grown for Walter Andersen Nursery by Southland Growers, in El Cajon. The idea behind the project is to encourage and help our customers buy top quality, locally-grown plants. There are a number of great reasons to buy local, some of which include that it significantly reduces the amount of carbon emissions by drastically shortening truck routes;



[Special Savings on p8](#)  
[continued p2](#)

## Good Neighbors Are Worth Planting

By Melanie Potter

There are two kinds of good neighbors. The ones that bring in your trash cans, let you borrow the proverbial cup of sugar, and are quick to silence their barking dogs. The others are quiet, require little attention, and are all about privacy. They are the ones you plant between you and neighbors that help keep relations positive in tight spaces.

I've heard countless people grouse about being able to reach out of their window to shake their neighbor's hand which is a humorous way of realizing that there isn't a lot of personal space

between houses. If homes are that tightly squeezed next to each other, it stands to reason that you can see a whole lot of goings on in neighboring backyards and windows. Therefore, plant hedges, add trees, and embrace vines. These can be the best neighbors you'll ever have.

Before you plant, think about your goals and what restrictions may impede your quest for privacy. "The two biggest concerns I consistently run into are mature size of the plant and root systems. I had a client who had

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## Blue Pots continued from p1

it stimulates our local economy, and reduces the risk of foreign pest and disease introduction to San Diego County gardens. By controlling what Southland grows in our containers we can also make sure that they are the best quality and highest value available for our customers.

Over the past few years, farmer's markets have grown exponentially because people are beginning to taste and appreciate the difference between local produce as opposed to imported

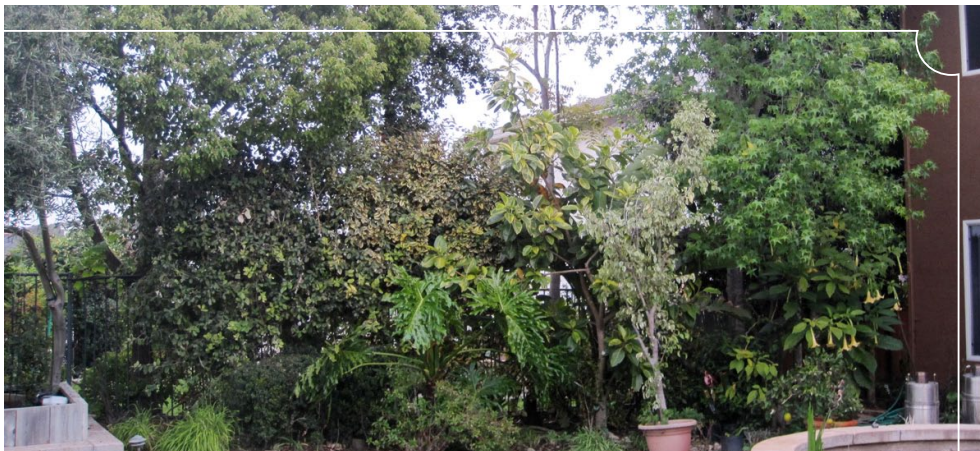
produce. Walter Andersen Nursery's mission is to take that concept one step further to provide gardeners with safely grown local plant starts. Southland is a family-owned wholesale nursery that has been working with Walter Andersen Nursery for years. Tom Laff, the owner of Southland, collaborated with Walter Andersen Nursery to deliver an impressive product close to home without the sacrifice of a higher cost. Does it get any better? With that being said, we are eager to share this new addition with you. •

## Special Savings on p8

Look for the 1st Prize Plants™ label at WAN!



## Good Neighbors continued from p1



A steel fence helps keep a cat on one side and two dogs on the other. Providing privacy and greenery are plants that include *Metrosideros*, *Camphor tree*, *Ficus*, *Philodendron*, *Eugenia*s, and a *Liquidamber tree*.

to remove a mature *Ficus benjamina* that was planted in a lawn area so the frequent shallow lawn watering encouraged the *Ficus* roots to seek surface water and it created issues with the hardscape, drainage and irrigation" said **Michael Waters**, a former Walter Andersen Nursery designer and the founder and lead designer of Waters Wise Landscape Design.

I did some legwork for you and asked former Walter Andersen Nursery landscape designer, **Maryon Kinsella**, what she coaches clients to consider.

- Know what your needs are and what you need the plant to do Also, remember that anything deciduous will lose its leaves during the year and temporarily end the privacy you are trying to create.

- What style is the landscape? Your choice of plants will need to coordinate with that.
- Are there any footings at the base of the fence or wall that make planting close to the wall a challenge?
- Are there any HOA restrictions?
- A tall screen will affect the sun/shade patterns in your neighbor's yard so it might be nice to let them know what you are planning.
- Know how much maintenance you want to do as it will affect your choice of plant.
- How much planting width you have will also determine the kind of plant you use whether it's a shrub or vine. Vines can produce good screening so you

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## TO DO LIST: May



### FERTILIZE

For lawns, use Marathon Fertilizer for Tall Fescue, Scott's Turf Builder or Turf Builder Plus 2 to feed grass and control broadleaf weeds. Feed ornamentals with Gro-Power. Feed vegetables with Gro-Power Tomato and Vegetable Food or Dr. Earth Organic Tomato and Vegetable Food. Feed Citrus, Avocado, and fruit trees with Gro-Power Citrus and Avocado Food. Feed palms and tropicals with Gro-Power Palm Tree and Tropical Food.

### PEST CONTROL

Watch for insects beginning to invade the garden. Pay close attention to Aphids, Whitefly and Scale. Use systemic controls from Bayer for longest control. Watch for slug and snail damage and apply Sluggo or Sluggo Plus as needed.

### PLANT

Bedding plants for color such as Marigolds, Zinnias, and Petunias. Trees, shrubs, fruit trees, tropicals, and roses.

### LOOK FOR

Roses, Ceanothus, Viburnum, Fuchsias, Wisteria, and Dipladenia. •

## Good Neighbors continued from p2

might consider Pandorea, Bower Vine, Star Jasmine, Bougainvillea, Calliandra (pink powder puff), Passion vine, Orange Flame vine, or Thumbergia.

*Ready to plant and open to suggestions? Here are some recommendations from Maryon:*

### Carolina Laurel Cherry "Bright n' Tight"

This one grows to 10-12', fills in pretty densely and fairly quickly. "I planted 3' tall shrubs and in three years they were 10' tall", said Maryon. They can be hedged well. The downsides are they produce a poisonous berry (though not to birds who love them) which produces litter. So plant them away from a sidewalk or hardscape where the berry would stain, make a mess, and be slippery. They also sprout and you'll find lots of little bushes springing up. If these shrubs are planted against a fence with other plants in front of them, the litter and the spread are not much of a problem.

### Texas Privet

Makes an excellent hedge and can be kept to any height and width with pruning.

### Ficus nitida

Looks similar to Texas privet and has a very formal, Italian look to it. Makes a great 'green wall' effect. This also has berries that drop.

### Podocarpus macrophyllus & henkelii (Fern Pine)

Both of these are usually grown as tall trees but can be kept to size with pruning. They grow quickly and make a dense privacy screen. The leaves are soft and look like bamboo without the mess. The downside to the macrophyllus is the superficial root system it develops as it gets older. There is also a shrub version of macrophylla called 'Maki'. This one takes a long time to grow and needs more water than you'd think to get established.

### Pittosporum "Silver Sheen"

This has an open, airy growth habit. It doesn't provide a dense screen but one that you can see through somewhat. "It does the impossible by giving a privacy screen that still

allows dappled light and air to get through", agreed Michael.

### Purple Hopseed Bush

Adds a bronze color to the garden; it grows fast to 12' and requires occasional water once established.

*David Ross, our green goods buyer and store manager at our Poway location likes Eugenia and Metrosideros.*

### Eugenia myrtifolia 'Monterey Bay Brush Cherry'

Moderately grows to 15 to 20 ft. tall. It has a lush appearance and makes an excellent tall evergreen screen or hedge. New growth remains bronze red over a long season. Creamy white brush-like flowers are followed by rose purple fruit.

### Metrosideros, or New Zealand Christmas Tree

Has bright green or variegated foliage and blooms with crimson flowers that cover the plant. Nectar attracts birds and insects. It's excellent as a mass planting, hedge or specimen plant.

*If you aren't looking to provide a fortress and opt for something that grows to 8', here are suggestions from Maryon.*

### Texas Ranger

Profuse purple blooms.

### Lavatera

Pruned as patio trees. The canopy is full and always in bloom with large purple flowers. It is a shrub so it continues to branch out along the length of the trunk and it is a fast grower so it requires regular pruning to keep the trunk clean.

### Sweet Olive (Osmanthus)

A beautiful shrub that does well in Italian/Mediterranean gardens.

### Muraya exotica

A great shrub for 'green walls' with a white flower that smells like orange blossom.

### Christmas Berry/Toyon

"Christmas Berry/Toyon is an awesome native shrub for a background or privacy screen. Its dark green serrated leaves stay green year round and take less water than most horticultural

[continued p4](#)

## Hotties in the Garden

By Melanie Potter



Every year when they arrive, it's with fanfare and once settled on the tables for sale, they are out of here quicker than you can stop the burn in your mouth they leave.

We're talking about the hottest of the hottest peppers and they are here! Turns out people aren't just buying them to say they are growing the hottest peppers on the planet, they also are eating them. Maybe not straight off the bush, but they are being dried and ground into a searing powder, taking center stage in salsas, taking backstage to chocolate in brownies, or adding mojo to marinades.

The hottest are the Trinidad Moruga Scorpion Butch T and Bhut Jolokia, which at times are tied or jockey for position at the top of the Scoville Heat Scale. Remember, Scoville units are how hot peppers are ranked according to their pungency. Mellow bell peppers are at the bottom of the scale, measuring zero, while at the top of the scale, you'll find the Trinidad Moruga Scorpion posting an impressive 1.5 to 2 million units. That's blistering hot when you consider a hot habanero chile only registers between 100,000 and 350,000 units.

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## Citrus Leaf Miner continued from p1

in a meandering fashion, making it difficult for most insecticides to reach. Effected foliage often has a silvery sheen. Eventually, the damaged leaves will curl, twist, burn, and just look ugly.

For mature trees, the damage is mostly cosmetic and will have only minor effects on the tree. Citrus Leaf Miner is more of a concern in young citrus trees, usually less than four years old. They produce numerous flushes of new leaves, which are the most vulnerable. It is nearly impossible to control insects already active in the leaves of the plant, so prevention is the best method.

Bayer Advanced has Fruit, Citrus & Vegetable Insect Control that is applied once a year to the soil. This is absorbed by the roots and taken up systemically to all parts of the tree. This product also controls Aphids, Asian Citrus Psyllid, Leafhopper/Sharpshooters, Mealybugs, Scales and Whiteflies.

You may help to reduce the Citrus Leaf Miner problem by using Neem oil spray about every two weeks during this time. Be sure to use this only when the temperature is below 85 degrees or you will risk burning the foliage. Be sure there is sufficient moisture in the soil and do not spray dry plants as that too, will burn the foliage. The oil will kill any moths that happen to be on the plant; also the oil coating discourages the larvae from entering the new leaves. Neem comes as a concentrate or in a read-to-use spray bottle.

During warmer weather it is suggested using Spinosad weekly if the tree is producing new foliage. Spinosad is a certified organic insecticide and is safe to use on your citrus trees up to six times a year. You can spray at seven day intervals if necessary and harvest fruit one day after spraying.

Grapefruit, Lemon, Tangerine and Lime are the favorite host plants; however this insect will feed on other citrus varieties as well. ●

## Mother's Day Gifts Are Plentiful



Mother's Day is May 11 and both stores will have gift ideas that any gardening mom is sure to appreciate. Outside there are lots to choose from and inside you'll find houseplants, blooming color for indoors, books, and gift items. Don't forget apparel—we have hats and gloves.

Stumped and not sure what is the right gift? How about a gift card and let Mom shop for herself! ●

## Hotties

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**Here's a look at some other chiles, some hot, some not so hot:**

**Zavory and Burning Bush are from Burpee, and are a couple I was not familiar with. Zavory is the first ever habanero with a mild heat registering only 100 Scoville units! That's super mild, low on the scale and keeping company with the peppercini and pimento—well under the heat of say a jalapeno which registers between 2,500-8,000 units. Burning Bush will give you the heat you expect from a habanero, tempered with a touch of sweetness. The fruit matures from green to an unusual peach color.**

**Fish is an heirloom. The color of the fruit range from green, orange, brown, white and red, being spicy and hot. What makes this pepper stand out is its wonderful foliage that has stunning white and green mottled leaves.**

**Giant Thai is a hot pepper that turns from green to red when mature and registers 6,000 Scoville heat units.**

**Fresno looks and tastes almost like a jalapeno, but they can be much hotter. Fresno peppers change from green to red as they grow and increase in heat, but they are often harvested and sold green. ●**

## Good Neighbors

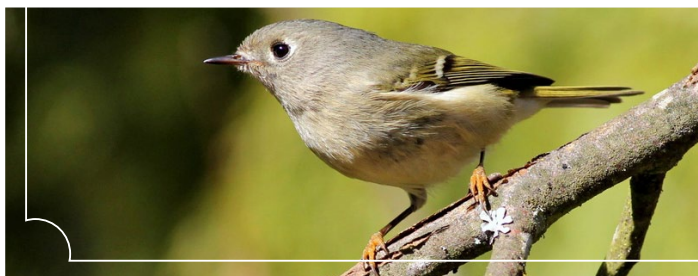
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variety plants. It gets beautiful sprays of delicate, white flowers. Once pollinated, these flowers turn into red berries at Christmas time for seasonal cheer. The red berries are not poisonous to people (unless you eat buckets full) and are food to native birds," said Michael.

*Editor's Note: A big thanks to Maryon and Michael for their assistance in preparing this article. Maryon is the founder of MK Landscape Design, [www.mklandscapedesign.webs.com](http://www.mklandscapedesign.webs.com). Michael is the owner and lead designer of Waters Wise Landscape Design, [www.waterswisedesign.com](http://www.waterswisedesign.com). ●*

## Wild Bird Treats You Can Make At Home

By Old Ben



Watching birds has been a hobby of mine for the past 40 plus years. It brightens my day to see my feathered friends fluttering outside the window, and brings joy and wonder in the spring and summer to see parent birds bring their fledglings to my feeders. Here are some ideas and recipes that I have enjoyed using to attract wild birds to my yard.

## Old Ben's Specials

Prices Valid May 1-31, 2014

### Dried Mealworms

**\$4.99** Reg. \$6.99

### Special Blend

**\$2.99** Reg. \$4.99

### Peanut Nuggets

**\$3.99** Reg. \$5.99

### Health Grit With Dried Mealworms

**\$3.99** Reg. \$5.99

### Oriole Feeder with Food

**\$19.99** Reg. \$25.99

### 5lb. Old Ben's Classic Wild Birdseed

**\$6.49** Reg. \$11.49

### 25lb. Nyjer Seed

**\$29.99** Reg. \$46.99

### Old Ben's Tropical Milkweed Seed Packet

**\$1.99** Reg. \$3.99

*All specials limited to stock on hand. No special orders. Cannot be combined with any other discount or offer.*

### Birdseed Cookies

3/4 cup white flour

1/2 cup water

1 envelope unflavored gelatin

3 tablespoons corn syrup

4 cups Old Ben's Classic Wild Birdseed

Mixing bowl

Wax paper or non-stick spray

Cookie sheet

Cookie cutters

Put all the ingredients in a bowl except birdseed and mix until well combined. Mix in birdseed. Spray your cookie sheet with the non-stick spray or line with wax paper. Spread the birdseed mixture evenly on the cookie sheet. Use the cookie cutters to cut out your desired shapes. Use a straw to make a hole at the top of each cookie. Allow the cookies to harden over night. Once the cookie treats are hard, thread twine through the hole and tie them on tree branches and bushes.

### Easy Peanut Butter Suet

2 cups chunky peanut butter

1 cup lard (usually available in the meat department of your grocery store)

2 cups oats

2 cups cornmeal

1 cup white flour

2 cups Old Ben's Classic Wild Birdseed

2 cups mixed fruits, such as fresh cranberries, orange or apple pieces

Melt the lard and peanut butter together. Add the remaining ingredients and mix well. Fill muffin tins or another mold with the mixture. Store in the freezer until you're ready to use. Place in suet baskets, on platform feeders or fence post.

it well from a window if you bird watch from inside). Amend the soil just as you would for a flower or vegetable garden.

Sprinkle the seeds evenly over the soil, and lightly rake them into the soil. Keep the soil evenly moist, with gentle watering until the seeds begin to sprout. Once the seeds have sprouted, there is not much more that needs to be done. Allow the plants to grow

and reach maturity. Let the plants go to seed and dry on the stem. Birds will harvest these seeds in fall and winter.

Some plants that are good to include in a birdseed garden are Cosmos, Purple Coneflower, Zinnias, and Coreopsis.

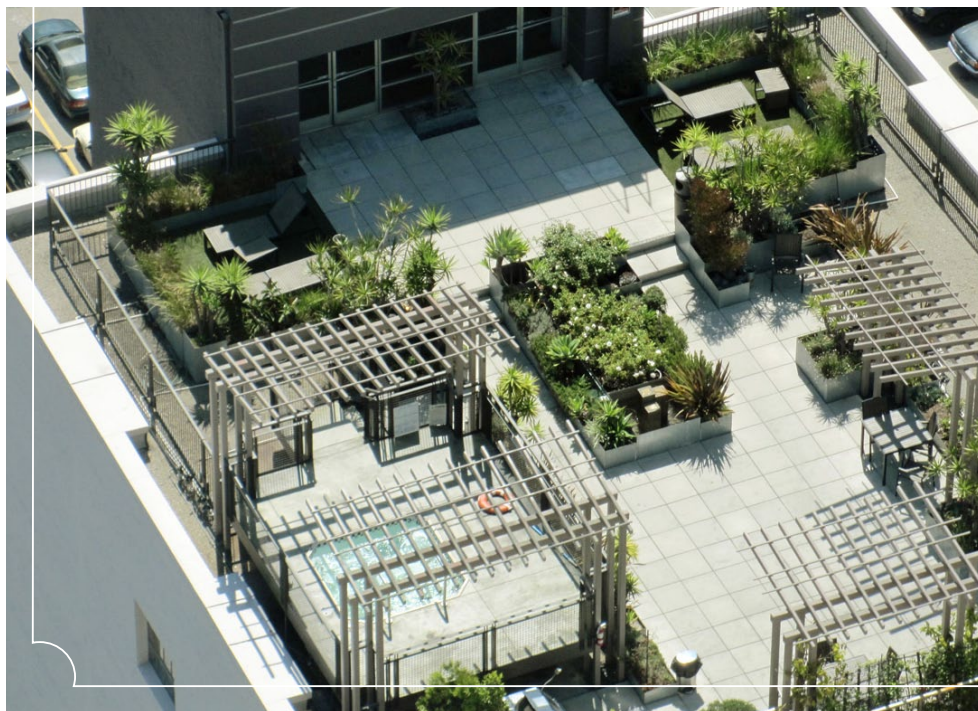
Feeding birds is a wonderfully enjoyable and relaxing activity, and so is making your own bird treats! •

### Birdseed Garden

You can use a couple handfuls of Old Ben's Classic Birdseed to grow your own birdseed garden. Find a nice, sunny spot in your yard (be sure you can see

## Rooftop Gardens

By Melanie Potter



I recently had the opportunity to be on the roof of a 23-story condo building in downtown Los Angeles. After getting my bearings and being reassured that a rogue wind wouldn't take me over the edge, I took a look around. Turns out, there is a lot of gardening going on at the top.

Roof top gardens and outdoor living nooks dotted the scenery. Such an effort makes sense if you are destined to a metropolitan life with mostly concrete and a few planters surrounding your building. Some rooftop gardens are elaborate, others offer just a square of greenery, some seating, a dose of serenity, and a heck of a view.

Rooftop gardens can be a smattering of containers and planters or can cover a large part of the roof with soil, trees, and plants. Here are some things to consider if you are looking to green your rooftop.

### If You Build It, They'll Come

Someone is bound to check up on what you are doing whether it is an inspector or someone from an HOA so investigate what restrictions you must

heed. Can the roof withstand additional weight that a garden or an entertaining area may add? Experienced rooftop gardeners reduce the weight of pots by using lightweight, plastic containers rather than terra cotta or ceramic. You can also use lightweight potting soil and add Styrofoam peanuts for drainage. Or skip the soil and tinker with hydroponics.

### Water, Water Everywhere, but Not on a Roof

Before you plant anything, think about how you'll get water to the roof and off the roof. Plants in containers dry out more quickly than those in the ground and on a rooftop, you may not have shade to impede them drying out.

### What Goes Up Must Come Down

Once you've planted your garden or containers they will thrive and grow. They may grow large enough to require pruning or trimming. Or, they may not thrive and die. Everything that is no longer in the pot has to come off the roof, so think about what you want to plant and be sure it is something that will be low maintenance. There will be things

you don't want to see accidentally leave the roof, like furniture, lighting, or containers. Make sure everything is secure from the wind. It's better to stage taller plants with windbreaks versus lining them up tightly. Also, water will need to drain thoroughly. You'll want to avoid standing water and blocked drainage holes.

### Need Ideas?

Search the internet for not only photos and ideas, but blogs and articles giving firsthand advice. You may want to work with a designer who can give you plant suggestions based upon what you would like to achieve with a rooftop garden. Some gardeners who make the leap from a large home and yard in the suburbs to a small condo in a busy city may just relish space for flowers and edibles. You might be the kind of person who enjoys the outdoors and would like a comfortable place to spend time outside but doesn't want to get the hands too grubby, which makes container plants an ideal match. Or, you may be looking for additional entertaining space and seek larger plants that can provide shade or architectural elements.

Good choices include succulents, cactus, patio trees that stay small, and ornamental grasses. Whatever your goals, just know that there will be an abundance of plants that will fit them. ●

**MAY 24 & 25, 2014**

15TH ANNUAL

POWAY

ROSE

SHOW



**HOURS** May 24 from 1–5pm | May 25 from 9am–4pm

**REGISTRATION** May 24 from 8am–10:30am

**JUDGING** May 24 from 11am–1pm

**PREP CLASS** May 17 at 9:30am

**LOCATION** 12755 Danielson Court in Poway | 858-513-4900

HOSTED BY   
WALTER ANDERSEN  
NURSERY

ACCREDITED JUDGE SUPPORT/SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE E.C.R.S.

## Garden Classes

MAY

Saturday classes are **FREE** and last about an hour. Complimentary coffee is served. During inclement weather, classes are held indoors in San Diego and on the covered, heated patio in Poway. Topics are subject to change. See the full schedule at [www.walterandersen.com/calendar/](http://www.walterandersen.com/calendar/).

## SAN DIEGO | 9:00AM

5/3

Cactus & Succulents  
Rule the Day!

5/10

Successful Gardening Indoors

5/17

Composting: How, Why,  
When, Where?

5/24

Pet "Safer" Gardens

5/31

Tropical Plants in Our  
Paradise

## POWAY | 9:30AM

5/3

Summer Veggies

5/10

Cymbidium Repotting  
with Walter

5/17

2 Classes: Lawns with Richard  
Wright, & Rose Show Prep

5/25

Rose Show  
No Class Scheduled

5/31

Rose Care & Culture with  
David Ross

## Spring Brings Visitors



We had some visitors recently make a pit stop in one of the ponds at our Poway store. Not a bad way to spend the afternoon, we think!

## Hot Summer Color



Sticks on Fire and Orange Kangaroo Paw at our San Diego store can make for some hot summer and year-round color!

## In-Store Special

Valid May 1-31, 2014

MAY 2014

No Coupon Needed



1st Prize Plants™  
INTRODUCTORY PRICE

**\$2.49**

Color & Vegetables | Reg. Price \$2.99

No additional discounts. No special orders. Hedge Fund\$ certificates do apply.



WALTER ANDERSEN  
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San Diego's Independent Nursery Since 1928™



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## Visit Our 2 Locations

## SAN DIEGO

3642 Enterprise Street  
San Diego, California 92110  
{619} 224-8271

## POWAY

12755 Danielson Court  
Poway, California 92064  
{858} 513-4900