



**Walter Andersen
Nursery™**

INDEPENDENT & FAMILY-OWNED SINCE 1928!

SAN DIEGO'S GARDEN RESOURCE

Garden Talk

STORE HOURS: San Diego 8am-5pm | Poway 9am-5pm | 7 Days-A-Week

—• IN THIS ISSUE —•

Garlic Planting & Growing Guide	1
Planting A Tree	1
Fall At The Front Door	1
Garden Design Guide	3
To Do List: November	4
Benefits Of Being A Birder	5
Growing Cat Grass	6
The Artsy Side Of Plants	6
Garden Classes	7
Holiday Reminders	7

Fall At The Front Door

By Melanie Potter



Photos: Proven Winners

Want to add some fall color at your front door? There is an abundance of plants displaying fall color. A good rule of thumb to follow when planting a container garden is to use a 'thriller', 'filler' and a 'spiller'; you can also mix up this rule of thumb and perhaps use a thriller and a couple of spillers. Also remember your filler or thriller doesn't have to be a plant, you can place an

[continued p2](#)

A Garlic Planting & Growing Guide

By Botanical Interests



Both stores have many varieties of garlic from which to choose including Silver Rose, Violet Spring, Nootka Rose, Spanish Roja, Musik, Purple Creole, Elephant, Italian Late, and OG Italian.

From mild and mellow, to bold and spicy, garlic is a culinary treasure. Use it raw or cooked to add distinctive flavor.

General Information

Softneck garlic grows in a variety of climates and does not require cold

temperatures to produce a bulb, making it perfect for regions with mild winters although it also grows well in areas with cold winters. They usually have smaller cloves than hardneck varieties, store longer (up to 1 year), and are ideal for braiding.

[continued p2](#)

Think Before Planting A Tree— Have A Plan To Plant

By Delia Juncal & Anne Fege

The saying goes, "right tree, right place, right purpose." Healthy trees are planted in locations where they have:

- Space for their roots and canopy
- Deep, infrequent watering
- Protection from lawnmowers, soccer balls, and vandalism!

To identify where you can plant a tree, start with a sketch or mental map of the site. Include locations of your home, other buildings, pavement, other

[continued p4](#)



We have a wide variety of trees at WAN

Front Door

continued from p1



appropriately sized pumpkin or something else in the container.

Here are suggestions to fill a container. Thrillers like Mums, *Alternanthera* 'Burgundy Threadleaf' or *Coleus* 'Henna' give you a good start with their fall colors. Don't forget grasses like *Pennisetum* 'Fireworks' and *Carex* 'Orange Sedge'. *Colocasia* such as 'Jet Black' or 'Black Magic' offers a thriller plant that will get your container noticed. Fill in with non plant items like a pumpkin, mini scarecrow, gourds, or maize. 'Filler' plant choices include Pansies, Violas, Gazanias, Gaillardias, Impatiens (Accent Orange will work), Begonias, and Heuchera. If you are looking for spillers, look no further than *Lantana* 'Luscious Marmalade' or *Ipomea* 'Ace of Spades' or 'Midnight Lace'. •



Garlic Planting continued from p1



Hardneck garlic has stronger, more complex flavors and produces a tall, edible flower stalk, called a "scape", in spring. Hardneck garlic varieties generally can be stored for 4 to 6 months. Many require a cold period (vernalization) to create a bulb, which is easy in areas with cold winters, but growing it in the south or mild, coastal areas will require a pre-chilling treatment. To chill, place the bulbs in a dark location at 40°F with a relative humidity of 80% for 40 to 45 days before planting.

Family: Alliaceae (formerly Liliaceae) Allium or Onion family, includes onions, garlic, chives, shallots, and leeks.

Native: Most likely Central Asia.

Hardiness: Annual.

General Planting

When to plant outside: In our climate, garlic is planted in fall for harvest in summer. Plant individual cloves beginning in mid-September. In mild climates, garlic can be planted until January. Wait to divide individual cloves until planting, and leave the papery skin intact as much as possible. Plant garlic 2"-3" deep with the pointed side up, 6"-8" apart.

Optimal Growing Conditions

Soil: Rich, well-drained, and amended with well-rotted compost. Soil pH range of 6.0-7.0 (average for growing most vegetables).

Water: Keep moist but not soggy.

Decrease water as harvest nears to prevent decay of outside layers or "wrappers." In wet climates or poorly drained soils, grow in a raised bed to increase drainage.

Exposure: Full sun is ideal but garlic will also grow in part shade.

Fertilization: After shoots emerge, apply a high-nitrogen fertilizer, such as fish emulsion or blood meal. Apply again about 2 to 3 weeks later.

Special Care: Remove weeds regularly to reduce competition for water and nutrients. In spring, most hardneck garlic will produce a tall stem with a curlicue at the top and a flower bud at the end; however, in mild winter climates, some will not. This flower stalk should be removed to keep the plant's energy focused on bulb growth. Scares can be eaten, and have a milder flavor than the garlic cloves. On occasion, softneck garlic can also produce a scape due to drought or cold stress; the scape should also be removed in this case.

Mulch: Mulch after planting to insulate the soil and conserve water.

Do you have a favorite recipe using a lot of garlic? Share it with us at roseshow@walterandersen.com. •



Garden Design Guide

By Monrovia

Are you intimidated by creating a design for your landscape? Monrovia is here to help with this simple approach that includes seven types of plants. Ranging from trees to groundcovers, these plant types play important roles in the garden.

1) Small Tree

Anchor the garden and provide vertical structure that lifts the eye. Mature heights for these trees can range anywhere from 5' to 20'; choose a tree with a mature size that fits your space. Once you know the size you're looking for, consider what other roles you'd like to see fulfilled in the landscape. Dramatic foliage, prolific spring blooms, evergreen leaves, and unique structure can all be achieved with the right small tree. Japanese maple, redbud, dwarf magnolia, crape myrtle, fig, and small conifers are all great choices for this role.

2) Foundation Shrub

Soften, screen and add structure if you are designing a garden near or around a house. Foundation plants are often shrubs that are planted in repetition or "en masse" to provide privacy or soften and screen the foundation of the home. These plants are essential for adding height and structure to the back of the garden and will often play a big role in plantings away from the house. Evergreen and deciduous shrubs like boxwood, pittosporum, hydrangea, holly, azalea and camellia are all great foundation shrubs.

3) Sculptural Plants

Add enticing visual interest and structure in the garden, and

can act as an intriguing focal point or specimen. They often have a bold architectural element or a unique branching structure (e.g., twisted, weeping, curved) that draws the eye and encourages further admiration of, and interest in, the garden. The right plant can turn a disinterested visitor into a garden enthusiast. The striking structure of yucca, cordyline palms, weeping conifers, upright grasses, and large succulents like aloe makes them great sculptural and specimen plants.

4) Low, Slow Spreaders

These unite the fabric of the garden and are true multi-taskers. Such perennials are essential to a well-designed garden. They soften edges, borders, retaining walls, and pathways; suppress weeds; add color and texture; hide the legs of shrubs and taller perennials; and unify the "fabric" of the garden. These are must-have foreground plants that add to the depth of a landscape. There are many choices, but cranesbill, rosemary, dwarf pittosporum, juniper, low grevillea, sedum, heuchera, and bellflower are all examples of fantastic low-growing perennials that unify and soften the garden.

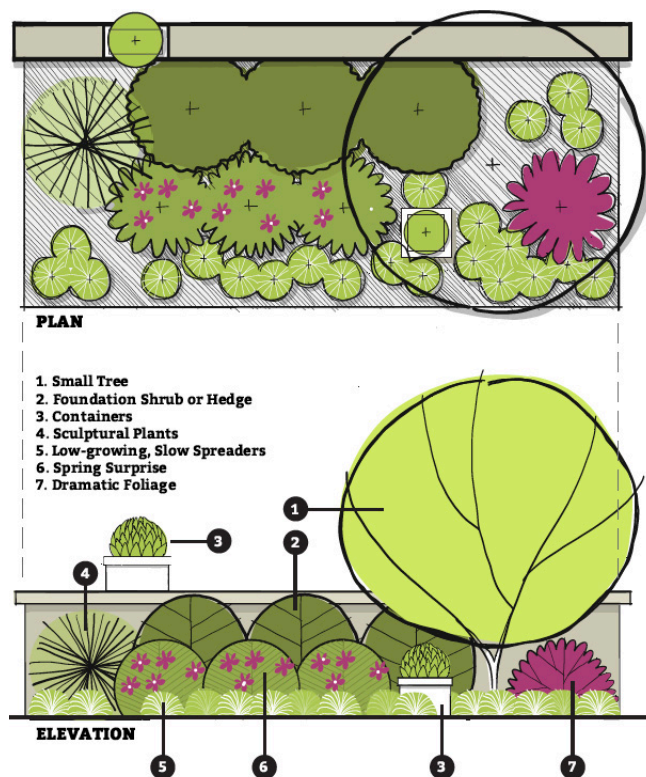
5) Container

A quick way to add all-season drama and architectural interest that can be tucked into the garden or placed at the front and center in an

entryway. Containers add dimension and drama to any space. Plus, they provide all-season architectural interest. Choose containers large enough to hold bold, distinctive plants and you'll be rewarded with a captivating focal point year-round. Choose from boxwoods, juniper, camellias, and dwarf olive for an evergreen topiary that stands the test of time. Or go for a sculptural succulent or palm like agave, aloe, yucca, cordyline or sago in dry, hot climates to make an impact

6) Dramatic Foliage

Make a seasonal impact with shrubs, perennials and trees with dramatic foliage that add texture and color to make an impact through the seasons. Ranging in shades from bright chartreuse to dark purple, these plants are all non-conformists in their color palette. Even better are plants with foliage that turns shades of gold, orange, or red in autumn. This autumnal color change adds excitement to the garden as



Create a "plan" view and an "elevation" view of the same design. It can be easier to visualize when you can see how the plants look in relation to each other and surrounding objects.

"The key is to create contrasts and layers with your plants, allowing them to mingle in exciting ways while maintaining a structure that feels natural."

—Lisa Nunamaker, Paper Garden Workshop



continued p4

To Do List: November



Plant garlic, onions and potatoes

Fertilize

> For lawns, use Marathon Fertilizer for tall fescue, and Bonide DuraTurf Weed & Feed to feed grass and control broadleaf weeds.

> 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 tropics with Gro-Power Palm Tree and Tropical Food. Do not feed Camellias!

> Bermuda Lawn Care: De-thatch and over seed Bermuda lawns with annual Rye.

Plant

> Look for fall bulbs, California natives and drought-tolerant plants.

> Fall color selections include Violas, Pansies, Snapdragons, fragrant Stocks, Poppies, and more.

> Look for Pyracantha, Coton-easter, Camellias, Azaleas, and holiday plants.

> You'll find vegetables as well as potatoes, garlic and onions in mid-November. Looking for more

[continued p5](#)

Planting A Tree continued from p1

trees and landscaping, overhead power lines and underground utilities.

Confirm that you have irrigation for watering the tree, or a plan for manually watering it twice weekly the first year, weekly for the next two years, and monthly as the tree grows.

Dig in the soil to get a sense of whether it is sandy or clay. Trees need to be watered more often in sandy soils.

Measure the area where the tree will be planted, both the length and width to the property lines and structures. If the widest area is less than 25 feet, plant a small tree; if the area is 25 to 50 feet, plant a medium-size tree. If there is a large open area of 50 feet, there will be room for a fully-grown large tree. Trees planted on the south and west side of houses will provide shade from hotter afternoon sun.

Editor's Note: *The folks at Kate Sessions Trees are committed to*

investing in canopy, community and climate action for San Diego. Join 'Kate Sessions Commitment' to grow 100 trees in key neighborhood areas that most need trees and shade.

Go to <https://katestrees.org/> for more tree information along with planting suggestions. •



Photo: Doreen Wynja

Garden Design Guide continued from p3

temperatures dip and flowers fade. Look to shrubs like dwarf crape myrtle, fringe flower, and nandina for dramatic foliage from spring through autumn.

7) Spring Surprise

Celebrate a new growing season by planting gardens rich in spring colors. Plants that bloom early in spring offer a visual celebration of a new growing season, as well as nectar for emerging pollinators. If you choose your plants wisely, your garden will burst to life at the first sign of spring. Forsythia, wisteria, camellia, azalea and hellebore offer a tried-and-true prolific spring bloom. Don't overlook bulbs such as

daffodils, freesias and ranunculus. Planting trees like redbud, magnolia, cherry and plum is also a great way to add more spring excitement to the garden.

Landscape designer and educator, Lisa Nunamaker of Paper Garden Workshop, explained what is important when visualizing your garden. "The key is to create contrasts and layers with your plants, allowing them to mingle in exciting ways while maintaining a structure that feels natural". •



To Do List: November

continued from p4



Pomegranate trees to arrive soon

edibles to plant? How about caneberries, strawberries, kiwi, asparagus, and olives?

> Look for potted bare root trees to arrive—Pomegranates and Figs. We don't have an arrival date so call the store to check. It should be mid to late November.

Pest Control

> This month start dormant spraying with Liqui-Cop and Oil Spray. The wetter the winter, the more crucial dormant spraying becomes!

> Clean up all foliage from beneath deciduous fruit trees and roses. •

— Ask Old Ben —

Ask Old Ben questions about birds, show him your bird photos, or share your birding experiences at askoldben@aol.com

Old Ben: Benefits Of Being A Birder

By Old Ben



Birding is Popular. There are more than 50 million birders in the United States and millions more around the world, making it one of the most popular and rapidly growing hobbies. Birding is easy for all ages to enjoy; it is a popular family activity.

Birding is Educational. Birders observe new species, they not only learn about different birds, but they also learn about migration, bird behavior, food preferences, courtship and bird territories.

Birding is Versatile. Birding is a hobby that works well with other pastimes, including:

> **Photography:** Many birders photograph the birds they see to help identify them or just to enjoy their observations.

> **Gardening:** Avid birders are frequently experienced gardeners who plant trees, shrubs, and flowers specifically to provide food and shelter that will attract birds.

> **Travel:** Enthusiastic birders will travel to festivals, conferences and fantastic birding destinations to keep adding new species to their list of birds they'd like to observe.

> **Woodworking:** Anyone who enjoys wood projects can also enjoy building bird houses and nesting boxes.

> **Hiking:** Hikers have opportunities to see species of birds that do not usually visit backyards, including rare species, and birds of prey

> **Pets:** Wild birds are great pets that can be nurtured and enjoyed without



requiring veterinary care, indoor accommodations or behavioral training.

Birding is Good Exercise. Great exercise for all fitness levels. Seeing many different types of birds may require long hikes and walks over uneven and hard terrain while carrying a field bag with guides, binoculars, scopes, and other equipment. Backyard birders get great exercise from hefting large bags of seed, cleaning feeders and gardening.

Birding is Inexpensive. All it takes to get started is good eyesight, a simple field guide and an interest in watching birds. Even birders who would like a field bag, binoculars and other supplies can find options for small budgets.

Birding is Challenging. Some bird species such as sharp-shinned hawks and cooper's hawks or the difference between species of gulls, can be very hard to identify. These types of challenges urge birders to continually improve their hobby, leading to even more fun.

Birding is Fun. For an enthusiastic birder, nothing is more exciting than spotting a new or rare bird, or learning to distinguish birds through their personalities. Fresh air along a birding trail can be invigorating. By nurturing wild birds through conservation efforts and personal birding practices, birders can feel a sense of pride and accomplishment in enjoying one of the most popular hobbies in the world. •

The Artsy Side Of Plants

By Melanie Potter



White Birch tree

Flowers, trees and other plants are often the subject of an artistic piece but sometimes they can be art all by themselves. A recent trip to Lake Tahoe and Carson City found such subjects. At first, I thought the dark markings on the White Birch tree were etched into the bark but nature did that and made it look like mountains had been etched onto the trunk. How cool is this crimson-colored Virginia Creeper? It was eye catching all on its own but when I downloaded the photo, the rough texture of the wall stood



Virginia Creeper

Cat Grass: Growing Healthful Kitty Greens

By Botanical Interests

You may have noticed that cats are naturally drawn to eating greens, even when you give them a chef-worthy dinner. Why?

- Cat grass is high in fiber and helps cats digest their food more efficiently and even helps prevent the build-up of hairballs.
- It supplies chlorophyll, vitamins, and trace minerals—all things cats need to be healthy.
- It can help ease their upset stomach from hairballs or something they have eaten.

Why grow your own cat grass versus “regular” grass?

- Lawn grass is harder to digest than the tender wheat, barley, or oats in special cat grass mixes.
- Lawns are often treated with fertilizers, herbicides, and pesticides that can be harmful if ingested.
- Growing your own cat grass indoors allows you to monitor your

out. Finally in Carson City, there was a beautiful oak tree on the grounds of the state capitol building. Capturing the photo while standing underneath the tree highlighted its beautiful canopy. Show us your artsy plant photos at roseshow@walterandersen.com. •



Oak tree



cat's greens intake, making sure they aren't eating too much, too fast. Especially when cats don't have regular access to greens, they get excited to have some salad!

- Cat grass is a safe alternative to house plants, which can make them sick. It satisfies the natural need cats have to graze.

How to Grow Cat Grass

- 1) Choose a container that is heavy enough so your cat won't knock it over.
- 2) Fill the clean container with moistened potting soil or seed-starting mix up to 1" from the top.
- 3) Scatter cat grass seeds about 1/4" apart and cover with up to 1/2" of potting soil or seed-starting mix.
- 4) Water seeded area and cover with plastic wrap to keep the moisture in. Keep seeds moist until they sprout.
- 5) Remove the plastic wrap once seeds sprout and place the sprouted container of grass in a sunny window or under a grow light and water regularly.
- 6) Once seedlings are 2" tall (about 10 to 14 days), you can offer the container of greens to your feline friend. If your cat is really excited about the greens and seems to be overeating, let kitty graze the greens for only a few minutes at a time.
- 7) Sow a new batch of seeds every two weeks for a continuous supply. •

Holiday Reminders



Wed Nov 24

Poway store closes at 3pm

Thu Nov 25

Thanksgiving

Both stores closed



Fri Dec 24

Christmas Eve

Poway store closes at 2pm

Sat Dec 25

Christmas

Both stores closed



Fri Dec 31

New Year's Eve

Poway store closes at 2pm

Sat Jan 1

New Year's Day

Both stores closed



Garden Classes: November

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 <https://www.walterandersen.com/classes-events/>.

SAN DIEGO | 9:00AM

11/6

Fall Bed Prep
with Jim

11/13

Bonsai Basics
with Richard

11/20

Native Plants
with Olivia

11/27

Thanksgiving Weekend
No Class

POWAY | 9:30AM

11/6

All About Composting
with Tyler Trimble

11/13

Permaculture: Creating
A Food Forest
with Steven Atkinson

11/20

Houseplant Care & Culture
with Ted

11/27

Thanksgiving Weekend
No Class

Visit Our 2 Locations



**Walter Andersen
Nursery™**

INDEPENDENT & FAMILY-OWNED SINCE 1928!

SAN DIEGO'S GARDEN RESOURCE

GardenTalk

SAN DIEGO

3642 Enterprise Street
San Diego, California 92110

619-224-8271

Open 8am-5pm | 7 Days-A-Week

POWAY

12755 Danielson Court
Poway, California 92064

858-513-4900

Open 9am-5pm | 7 Days-A-Week

Visit Us Online



walterandersen.com



[facebook](https://www.facebook.com/walterandersennursery)



[instagram](https://www.instagram.com/walterandersennursery)



[youtube](https://www.youtube.com/walterandersennursery)



[shop](https://www.walterandersen.com/shop)