

Horticulture for Landscapes, Orchards, and Gardens: Fall Classes

We're soon beginning two horticulture classes offered by UC Cooperative Extension that cover horticulture topics most often encountered in the landscape and garden. Participants learn about water conservation, turf and landscape plants, as well as how to grow vegetables and fruits. We emphasize non-chemical alternatives to pesticides. Although for homeowners, these classes have been attended by many in the turf and landscape industry, as well as city and county parks. Representatives from homeowners associations and real estate professionals have also attended to pick up tips on evaluating landscapes, using appropriate terminology to request work from landscape contractors, and evaluating work that is done.

A Horticulture I class will be offered Tuesday nights, 5:30-8:30 p.m., beginning September 1, 2015, and extending 15 weeks. Topics will include plant selection, soil science, landscape design principles, and pest management with an emphasis on organic and integrated (IPM) methods, as well as sessions on vegetable crops, deciduous fruits, and citrus.

A Horticulture II class is planned for Wednesday nights, also 5:30-8:30 p.m., beginning August 26, also for 15 weeks. Topics will be additions to those covered in the introductory class. We're planning field trips and to have guest speakers.

We ask those interested in either class to contact the Cooperative Extension office at cekern@ucdavis.edu or 868-6200, to pre-register to reserve a space and help us track class size. Cost of each 15-week class will be \$75. Our office and meeting location is 1031 S. Mt. Vernon Avenue. You can also register online at this link:

<http://ucanr.edu/survey/survey.cfm?surveynumber=16019>

Return to Chernobyl, Ukraine--November, 2015

In September, 2012, I organized a group visit to Chernobyl, site of a nuclear accident in 1986. The two days in the Chernobyl area and the accompanying days in Kiev were fascinating, so much so I plan to return for an additional visit. If you would like to join me, please send me a note, or call me at 661-868-6220, and I'll send you additional information. Chernobyl is a story of ecosystem recovery. The area is safe to visit and our group felt quite comfortable in Ukraine.

John Karlik

Environmental Horticulture/Environmental Science

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