

2018 CALENDAR

LANDSCAPING

Lightly



Dear Friend,

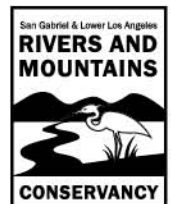
On behalf of the Council for Watershed Health, I am excited to present the 7th edition of our Landscaping Lightly calendar. We create Landscaping Lightly each year to highlight the importance of water saving practices that each person, household and neighborhood can contribute to a more sustainable water future. Lawn and garden irrigation are the single biggest water use for Southern California households. Landscaping Lightly provides tips for using sustainable approaches to residential garden design that reduce water use and waste, create community and establish beautiful gardens that support local wildlife vital to our ecosystem. The unique artwork illustrates how each of us can save and use water efficiently to nurture our native plants, trees and animals that thrive in California's mediterranean climate.

CWH works toward achieving healthier urban environments, ecological health and community well-being through science-based research, education, and community engagement. We hope our calendar inspires you to use the tips and resources to create landscapes and gardens that are both attractive and water efficient.

This 2018 edition of Landscaping Lightly was made possible with generous support from the San Gabriel & Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy, Southern California Edison, and our partners listed below. We wish you a happy New Year and thank you for keeping Southern California beautiful and our watersheds resilient and healthy.

Sincerely,

Wendy Ramallo
Executive Director | Council for Watershed Health





**WORK
WITH WATER
MAKE SURFACES PERMEABLE**

Tips

To minimize the pollution of our rivers and beaches, keep as much rainwater on your property as possible. For a

How-to Guide, List of Rain Barrel Manufacturers, and a Tool Check List, visit www.larainwaterharvesting.org.

Replace concrete with gravel paths and permeable pavement to allow water to soak in. Create depressions filled with vegetation or rain gardens, and redirect your downspouts into these areas.

A great resource for redesigning your landscape to catch rainfall is Rainwater Harvesting for Drylands and Beyond by Brad Lancaster. It is available at www.harvestingrainwater.com.

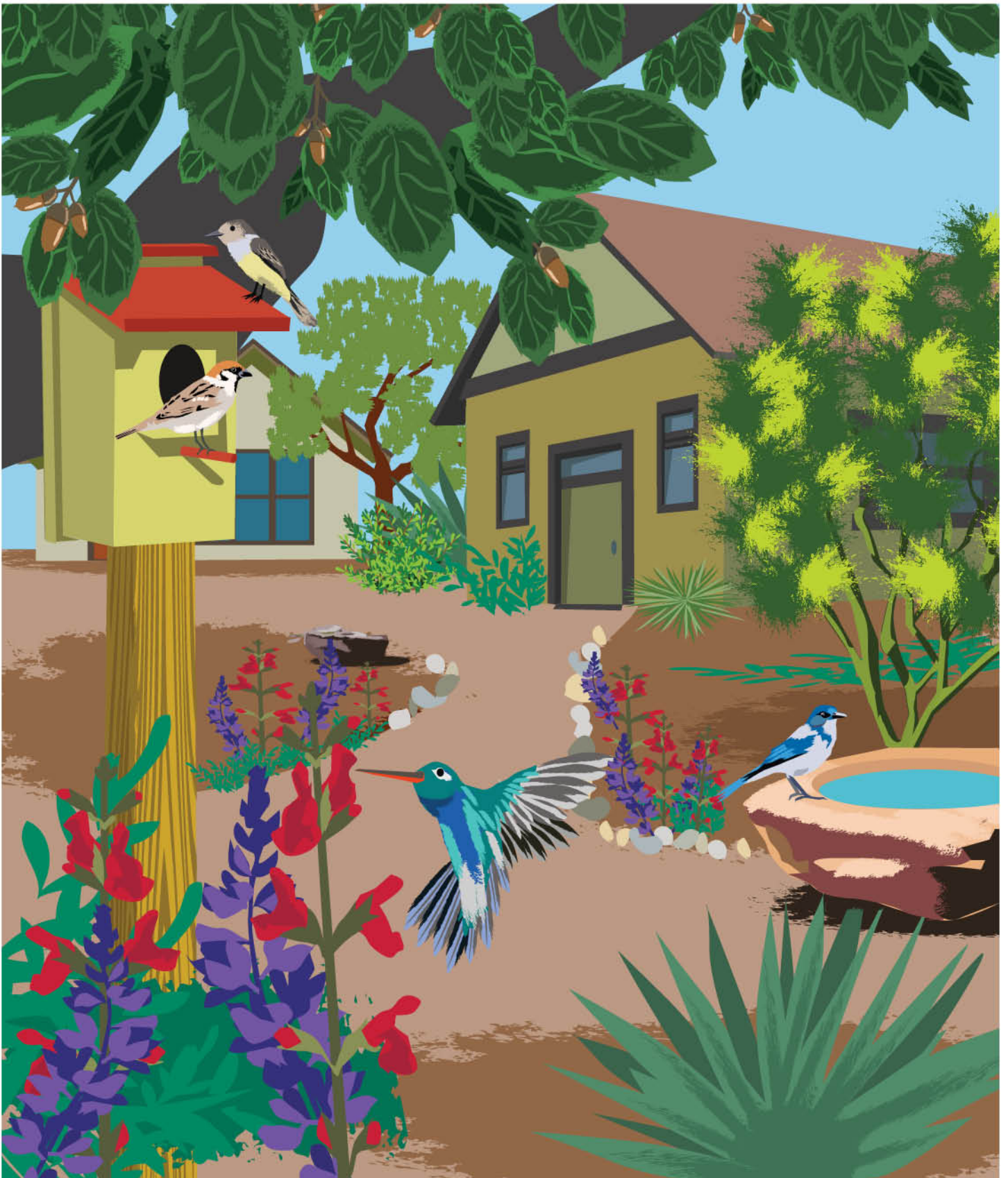
Sweep brick, pavers, and pavement regularly and keep them clear of weeds to maintain maximum permeability.

Swales, rain gardens, and permeable pavers not only provide environmental benefits, they can add beauty and value to your home.

JANUARY 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 New Year's Day	2	3	4	5	6
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14	15 Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday	16	17	18	19	20
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BIRDSCAPING



Tips

With limited natural areas left due to growing urban centers and neighborhoods, birds have restricted habitat.

By providing adequate shelter and nesting sites, "birdscaping" a yard can unite families with resident bird species in their area.

Main threats to California migratory bird species in residential neighborhoods are leaf-blowers, pest control chemicals, windows, tree and shrub trimming and cats. Migratory birds are especially susceptible because they need rest and to forage for food during migration.

Allowing for height in the yard with tall shrubs and trees keeps birds safe and protected, serves as resting area for migratory birds, and keeps them out of reach from cats and other threats.

The best way to attract native birds is to plant native shrubs, wildflowers and trees for roosting, foraging and shelter. To attract and feed hummingbirds, plant yellow, pink or red tubular flowers such as the California Fuchsia and Penstemon species.

Sponsored by



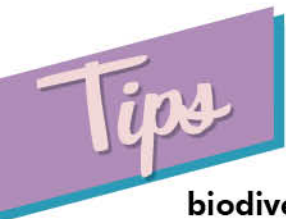
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**PROTECT
YOUR
COMMUNITY**



REMOVE INVASIVE PLANTS



Most plants don't escape our gardens but the handful that do can displace native vegetation and greatly reduce biodiversity.

When purchasing plants at the nursery make sure they are not the invasive type that can spread and cause problems. Visit www.plantright.org and www.cal-ipc.org for more information.

Remove invasive weeds like mustard and thistles (pictured). Also control large, billowy invasive grasses, such as fountain grass and pampas grass; they are highly flammable and can quickly spread fire.

Visit www.cal-ipc.org/landscaping and weedwatch.org for the names and photos of plants that are invasive in your area.

Use a string trimmer (aka weedwacker) to cut invasive weeds to the ground before they flower and produce seed. This may take two or three trimmings in spring and summer each year.

Use a thick layer of mulch (4"-6") to help defend against weeds. Be sure to keep the mulch 4" from the base of any desired plants as this can harbor bacteria and mold that may kill the plant.

MARCH 2018

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Daylight Savings						St. Patrick's Day
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
		First Day of Spring				
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
					Good Friday	Cesar Chavez Day

STAY FIRE SAFE



PROTECT YOUR HOME FROM WILDFIRES

Tips

If you live in a fire hazard area, learn how to create fire resistant structures and maintain a defensible space around your home. Visit www.ucanr.org/sites/SAFElandscapes for more info.

When landscaping, consult with your local fire department to make sure that your plant selection and spacing are fire safe.

Minimize flammable plants from within 30 feet of your house. Maintain individual trees and shrubs to keep them free of dead wood.

Create space between trees and shrubs located within 30-100 feet of your structure (200 feet if your local fire department requires it). Visit firecenter.berkeley.edu resources for more tips.

Regularly clean debris from your roof and gutters to keep blowing embers from igniting structures.

Start a local Fire Safe Council for your community to educate residents on how to protect their homes and neighborhoods from wildfire. Learn more about how you can join the over 100 Fire Safe Councils at www.cafiresafecouncil.org.

APRIL 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Easter Sunday	2	3	4	5	6	7
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15	16	17 Tax Day	18	19	20	21
22 Earth Day	23	24	25	26	27	28
29 First Day of Passover	30				MAR 2018 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	MAY 2018 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

IMPORTANCE OF SHADE



TREES CREATE COMMUNITY

Tips

While many of our neighborhoods contain large areas of concrete and asphalt, planting trees can create shade to combat the "urban hot spot," phenomenon. Trees humidify and cool the air through evapotranspiration. The cumulative effect of large groups of trees in urban neighborhoods creates a cooler, more thermally comfortable micro-climate when compared to areas with less trees.

Plant trees in the late fall or winter when cool weather will help ensure proper establishment.

Plant large trees, such as the California Live Oak in yards for shade to allow community bonding and gatherings outdoors in the summer months.

Plant trees on the edges of the yard so they provide shelter over the sidewalks and relief from the heat for the rest of the neighborhood.

Find a species that works in direct sunlight, such as the Catalina Cherry Tree that attracts birds, insects and butterflies, is drought tolerant and produces fragrant flowers in spring.

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LA LOMA
DEVELOPMENT COMPANY

MAY 2018

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27	28 <i>Memorial Day</i>	29	30	31	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="7">APR 2018</th> <th colspan="7">JUN 2018</th> </tr> <tr> <th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th> <th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td> <td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td> <td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td> </tr> <tr> <td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td> <td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td> </tr> <tr> <td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td> <td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		APR 2018							JUN 2018							S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	1	2	3	4	5	6	7							1	2	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	29	30						24	25	26	27	28	29	30
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BEEES ARE BENEFICIAL



HONEY BEES NEED OUR HELP

Tips

Create spaces for bees. There are over 4,000 species of native bees in North America. Learn about the native bees in your area and help them thrive.

Support your local beekeeper! About one third of all the fruits and vegetables Americans eat is a result of honeybee and native bee pollination. Purchasing honey from local beekeepers supports a local industry and native plant pollination.

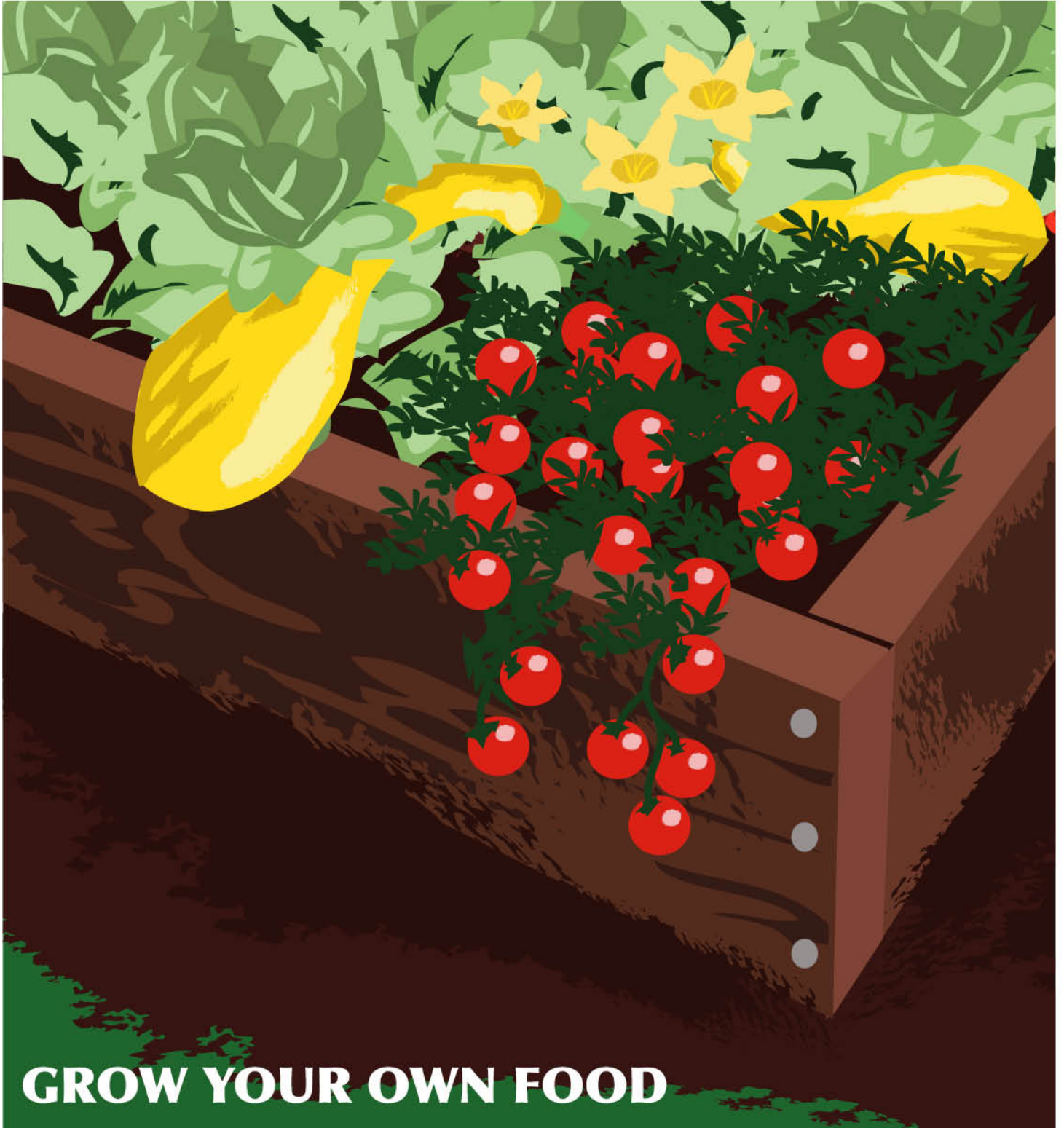
More bees results in more fruits and seeds. Bees pollinate garden plants and wildflowers, too. You can support bees by planting native annual and perennial flowering plants.

Make your yard safe for bees. Avoid using pesticides and never spray blooming flowers when bees are visiting. There are many non-toxic, safe alternatives to pesticides. If you must use a pesticide, only apply when there is no wind and only when temperatures are cooler as bees are less active then.

JUNE 2018

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10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21 <i>Flag Day</i>	22	23
24 <i>Father's Day</i>	25	26	27	28 <i>First Day of Summer</i>	29	30

PLANT EDIBLE LANDSCAPES



GROW YOUR OWN FOOD

Tips

Replace unused lawn with planter beds for growing fresh fruit and vegetables.

Line the bottom and sides of beds with two layers of chicken wire to keep out burrowing rodent and if deer, rabbits, and squirrels share your yard, securely net or fence edible landscapes.

If you live in an apartment or have limited space find a local community garden or try growing vegetables in large glazed clay or plastic pots.

Plant hardy fruit trees requiring less than three-hundred chill hours to ensure a bountiful harvest. Visit www.davewilson.com/homegrown/homeindex1.html for more information.

Contact groups like Food Forward to donate surplus fruits and vegetables and make a tax deductible donation or trade with your neighbors! Visit www.foodforward.org for more information.

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JULY 2018

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INVEST IN TREES



HIRE A CERTIFIED ARBORIST

Tips

Entrust the health and safety of your trees to certified arborists. Pruning or removing trees can be dangerous and should be done only by those trained and equipped to work safely in trees.

Good tree care is an investment that has many benefits that can add significant value to your property. The following link has more great tree care tips: www.isa-arbor.com.

Some trees, especially native oaks, are protected and permits are required for pruning and removal. Check your local ordinances *before* you work in native trees.

With more frequent droughts and new tree pests, good tree care has never been more important than it is today. By hiring a certified arborist you can ensure that your trees will provide benefits for many generations.

Trees should never be topped! Topping stresses trees, facilitates decay in branches, and creates significant hazards that could cause great harm to life and property. For more info visit: www.urbantree.org/incorrectpruning.shtml.

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AUGUST 2018

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TURN BROWN

INTO GOLD



COMPOST GREEN WASTE

Tips

Keep your yard waste on site! Leaves, grass clippings, vegetables, and kitchen waste can be composted and spread in your garden creating healthy soils and supplying food for your plants.

Keep your compost piles working by regularly adding equal amounts of green and brown material. Be sure to add water and turn to aerate every couple of weeks!

In your kitchen, collect fruit, vegetable, and other compostable kitchen waste in an air-tight container to prevent flies and ants.

Two composting bins can be useful, one for early stage material (i.e., fresh kitchen scraps, leaves, and garden clippings) and one for late stage compost (i.e., almost soil).

Consider worm composting, also known as vermiculture. Visit www.wormwoman.com for more information. Also consider a compost tea brewing kit. Compost tea can add beneficial microorganisms back into the soil and help plants suppress disease.

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SEPTEMBER 2018

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AUG 2018 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	OCT 2018 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31					1
2	3 Labor Day	4	5	6	7	8
9 Rosh Hashanah	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18 Yom Kippur	19	20	21	22 First Day of Autumn
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

RECYCLE THE RAIN



SLOW IT, SPREAD IT, SINK IT

Tips

Slow it down, spread it out, and sink it in! Keep stormwater from polluting streams and the ocean by creating areas where rainwater can soak into your landscape.

Swales are u-shaped basins in your landscape that capture rain, preventing it from flowing down streets and picking up pollution. Visit the Council for Watershed Health’s demonstration green street and alley at Elmer Avenue for ideas (tinyurl.com/GreeningElmer).

The first step is to find out if your soils allow water to quickly soak in as you don’t want to create

areas of standing water that will breed mosquitos. Perform a soil infiltration test (tinyurl.com/stormwatercapture).

Be sure to plant your swale with deep-rooted native plants and make sure to apply mulch frequently to build your soil and keep weeds at bay. Once plants have matured, keep them trimmed away from the ground and do your best not to disturb or compact the soils.



OCTOBER 2018

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PUT YOUR NATURE EYES ON BE A CITIZEN SCIENTIST



Tips

Get outside and take pictures of the plants and animals that live all over Los Angeles.

From the Los Angeles River to your yard, local park, or school grounds—there is nature all around us. With your data, we can build a better city that works for humans and wildlife alike.

Grab your smartphone or digital camera and go take pictures. For plants, get pictures of flowers, fruits, leaves, and the whole plant. For animals, try to get in focus close-ups from different angles. Move towards the animal slowly taking pictures as you go.

Take lots of pictures, but only submit the best ones! Send your pictures to the L.A. Nature Map. E-mail them to nature@nhm.org. Or, post them to social media [#natureinLA](https://twitter.com/natureinLA). Or, upload them directly to the map using the free iNaturalist mobile application.

For information on citizen science projects and events visit www.nhm.org/nature/citizen-science.

NOVEMBER 2018

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				Thanksgiving		
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LEAVE YOUR MARK



HELP RESTORE CALIFORNIA'S HABITATS

Tips

Grow beyond your own landscape and take part in habitat restoration volunteer efforts in local parks, open-space, and wildlands.

Non-profits and local community based organizations such as Amigos de los Rios and Mountains Restoration Trust host several weekend restoration events year-round. You can visit www.amigosdelosrios.org or www.mountainstrust.org and sign up for their popular and engaging volunteer opportunities.

The US Forest Service has a number of volunteer restoration opportunities within the Angeles National Forest; for more information visit www.fs.usda.gov/angeles.

Some other groups with current volunteer programs are the Angeles Volunteer Association, Arroyos & Foothills Conservancy, Audubon Society, California Native Plant Society, Sierra Club. Visit their websites for upcoming volunteer opportunities. You can search for additional agencies and organizations at www.volunteermatch.com.

DECEMBER 2018

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30	31	Christmas Day	First Day of Kwanzaa			

BUY LOCALLY NATIVE PLANTS

SUPPORT BIODIVERSITY





Locally native plants are those that occur naturally within a given area and are best adapted to local soil and climate.

Plants from further away can genetically contaminate local populations with less “fit” genes. Even within the same species, the seed source may be from areas that are coastal (moister/cooler) and may not be adapted to your local conditions, especially if it is drier/hotter.

Locally native plants support native wildlife which have evolved together over thousands of years.

Wildlife can’t usually make a living with drought-tolerant plants from other Mediterranean climates.

Ask your native plant nurseries if they have locally sourced native plants for your area (and their seed source) in order to build demand for locally native plants. www.theodorepayne.org has an online plant inventory that lists seed origin so you can buy plants from your local mountains.

JANUARY 2019

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JANUARY - WORK WITH WATER

Brad Lancaster – Rainwater Harvesting
www.harvestingrainwater.com

Chance of Rain, Emily Green's Water & Gardening Blog
www.chanceofrain.com

City of Los Angeles Rain Water Harvesting and Low Impact Development Programs
www.lastormwater.org

Green Gardens Group (G3) Los Angeles – Homeowner Programs
www.greengardensgroup.com/g3-homeowners/

Paver Products and Resources
www.paversearch.com

FEBRUARY - BIRDSCAPING

How To Birdscope Your Yard
www.audubonathome.org/birdstohelp

Plants for Native California Birds
www.laspilitas.com/bird.htm

Search by Zipcode for Birds and Plants
www.audubon.org/native-plants

MARCH - PROTECT YOUR COMMUNITY FROM INVASIVE PLANTS

California Invasive Plant Council
www.cal-ipc.org

Los Angeles County Weed Management Area
www.lacountywma.org

Sustainable Conservation – Invasive Plants and Alternatives
www.plantright.org

APRIL - STAY FIRE SAFE

California Native Plant Society – Fire Safety
www.cnps.org/cnps/conservation/resources.php

Center for Fire Research and Outreach
firecenter.berkeley.edu/resources

County of Los Angeles Fire Department Forestry Division
fire.lacounty.gov/forestry-division/forestry-fuel-modification/

California Fire Safe Council
www.cafiresafecouncil.org

UCCE -Sustainable and Fire Safe Landscapes
www.ucanr.org/sites/SAFElandscapes

MAY - IMPORTANCE OF SHADE

Cool Trees Guidebook: City of Pasadena
www.cityofpasadena.net/WorkArea/DownloadAsset.aspx?id=6442459765

Correlation Between Trees and Community Health
www.treepeople.org/resources/tree-benefits

How to Landscape Using Trees to Create Shade
www.californiagardens.com/Lists/Tree_list.htm

JUNE - BEES ARE BENEFICIAL

American Beekeeping Federation
www.abfnet.org

UC Davis Harry H. Laidlaw Jr. Honey Bee Research Facility
beebiology.ucdavis.edu

The Xerces Society
www.xerces.org

California State Beekeepers Association
www.californiastatebeekeepers.com

JULY - PLANT EDIBLE LANDSCAPES

Edible Landscaping by Rosalind Creasy
www.rosalindcreasy.com

Huntington Library and Botanic Gardens – The Ranch
www.huntington.org

Los Angeles County Arboretum – Events and Classes
www.arboretum.org

Los Angeles Community Garden Council
www.lagardencouncil.org

Los Angeles Master Gardener Training Program
celosangeles.ucdavis.edu

Sunset Western Garden Book of Edibles
www.sunset.com/garden

AUGUST - INVEST IN TREES

ANSI Standards for Tree Care
www.tcia.org/business/ansi-a300-standards

California Urban Forest Council
www.investfromthegroundup.org

International Society of Arboriculture "Find an Arborist"
www.isa-arbor.com

West Coast Arborists
www.westcoastarborists.com

SEPTEMBER - COMPOST GREEN WASTE

CalRecycle
www.calrecycle.ca.gov/organics

EPA – Reduce, Reuse, Recycle
www.epa.gov/osw/conserves/rrr

Los Angeles County Smart Gardening Program
www.ladpw.org/epd/sg

Soil Foodweb
www.soilfoodweb.com/resources.html

Worms Eat My Garbage by Mary Appelhof

OCTOBER - RECYCLE THE RAIN

Elmer Avenue Demonstration Green Street
tinyurl.com/GreeningElmer

Greater Los Angeles County Vector Control District – Mosquito Tips and Assistance
www.glacvcd.org

Central Coastal Low Impact Development Initiative
centralcoastlidi.org

NOVEMBER - CITIZEN SCIENCE

iNaturalist app - California Academy of Sciences
www.inaturalist.org

eBird App - Cornell Lab of Ornithology and National Audubon Society
ebird.org/content/ebird

Nature Map of L.A.
www.nhm.org/nature/map

Citizen Science at Natural History Museum of LA County
www.nhm.org/nature/citizen-science

DECEMBER - LEAVE YOUR MARK

Native California plant and nature volunteer programs and opportunities:

Resource Conservation District of the Santa Monica Mtns
www.rcdsmm.org

Friends of the Ballona Wetlands
www.ballonafriends.org/volunteer.html

Friends of the Los Angeles River
www.folar.org/action

JANUARY 2019 - BUY LOCALLY NATIVE

Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden
www.rsabg.org

Theodore Payne Foundation
www.theodorepayne.org

Native Seed Resources Coalition
<http://www.watershedhealth.org/programsandprojects/native-seedsresources.aspx>

California Native Plant Society
www.cnps.org

California Native Plants for the Garden and Reimagining the California Lawn by C. Bornstein, D. Fross, B. O'Brien
www.cachumapress.com

Care and Maintenance of Southern California Native Plant Gardens by B. Landis, E. Mackey, B. O'Brien
www.cnps.org/store.php

Weeding Wild Suburbia
www.weedingwildsuburbia.com

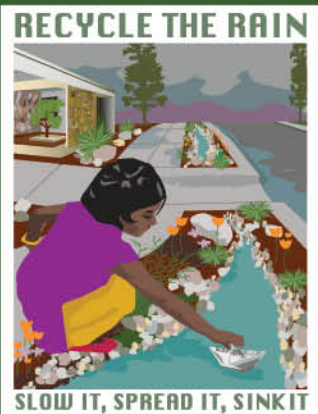
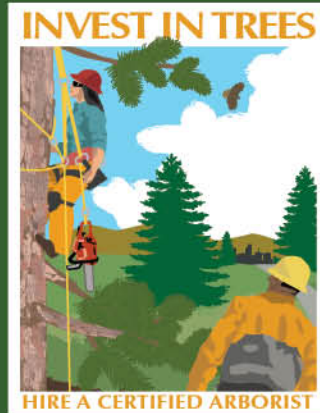
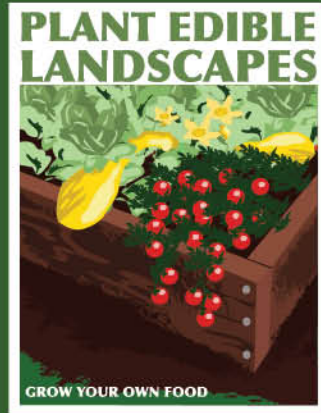
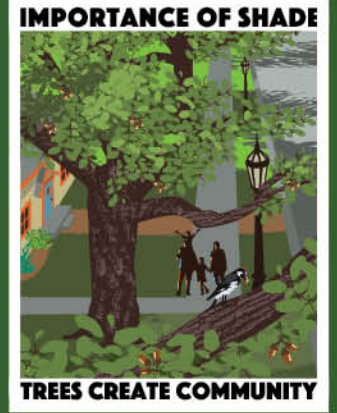
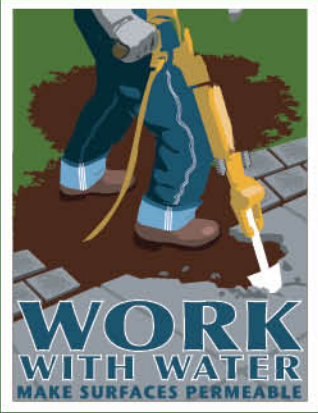
Edward Lum



ARTIST PROFILE

Ed Lum is a talented illustrator and painter whose work is reminiscent of early 20th Century travel posters and the Works Progress Administration (WPA) art of the 1930's. He was born in 1966, is a fourth generation Chinese-American, and works out of his studio at the historic Monterey Trailer Park in Los Angeles.

Check out www.funkyjunkfarms.com to see more of his work. Contact Ed: Edlum711@yahoo.com.



To print this calendar and pass it onto a friend, visit www.landscapinglightly.com.
 Questions and correspondence can be sent to info@watershedhealth.org.

