



**Mohave County Master Gardener Program**

101 E. Beale Street, Suite A, Kingman AZ 86401-5808 • 928-753-3788 • Fax: 928-753-1665  
Email: mohavemg@gmail.com <https://extension.arizona.edu/mohave-master-gardener>

## Table of Contents

Bullhead City Master Gardeners .....	1
Kingman Article .....	4
School Garden .....	4
Lake Havasu City Master Garderners.....	5
Calendar of Events.....	7
Photos by Shelley.....	7

## Bullhead City Master Gardeners

Bea Munoz – Coordinator  
Dennis Lesowsky – Co-Coordinator  
Debbie Miler - Scribe

This first quarter of the year, our Bullhead City Master Gardeners have been pretty busy. In January, we had our Home Garden Day which takes place the second Thursday of each month. Despite the smaller than usual attendance for each of the January Garden Days, the less than normal attendees were not without questions. Some brought in photographs of plants in question (looking like they were taken months prior to this event) and some brought in plant samples. On the third Thursday of the month, we had our monthly workshop titled “Pruning in Your Landscape and Rose Planting and Care”. Public attendance and participation was very good. We had a couple of rose bushes that Bea brought in to show how to properly prune a rose bush. Bill also brought in some tree branches to show the proper way to prune a tree. Bill Stillman and Dennis Lesowsky were the presenters for this event:

One of our Master Gardeners attended the annual Tomato Quest and is currently growing some of the seeds and documenting the cultivar’s progress. This

experiment is expected to help improve the success of tomato growers throughout Mohave County.

Four of our Master Gardeners have attended the Hydroponics class to gain knowledge for personal use and share what they have learned. Classes are currently ongoing, and being given by the Mohave Community College in BHC.

A few of our Master Gardeners and local community members have been volunteering their time in the planning and developing of the Bullhead Community Garden which is located on Trane Ave behind the Senior Center. This has been an ongoing project for over two years but finally looks like it will be ready and open to the public this fall. The BHC Master Gardeners are looking forward to having actual hands on gardening classes for our area residents.

Our February Home Garden Day took place on our usual second Thursday of the month. The Home Garden attendance was up this month, as were the plant questions. Our February workshop titled “All About Citrus and Other Fruit Trees for this Area” had a very large group of attendees, having standing room only.

Many of our group also went over to Laughlin Library on February 17 for a presentation on Desert Snakes given by M L Robinson of Nevada Cooperative Extension. His talks are always lively and interesting, and adding the element of lots of live snakes to his talk made it even more so!

In March, we participated in the Home & Garden Show at Anderson Fieldhouse on the rainy weekend of March 15-17. The attendance for



*(BHC continued from page 1)*

this is never very good but those who came were interested in gardening this year, so we were busy in our booth. Giving away seeds helped, but the genuine interest was encouraging. Thanks to Becky for coordinating this, to Izzy for coming from Kingman to help out, and for Bea and others who manned the booth for multiple shifts. We also handed out our programs and advertised our March 21 workshop which is on the important subject of irrigation.

Master Gardener Becky Leisle visits the greenhouse class at the Academy of Building Industries in Fort Mohave every Monday. During her time at the school, Becky provides assistance in a variety of ways. Becky instructs the students on the proper care and propagation of the plants in the hydroponic sets, as well as in the greenhouse and the garden plots. She has arranged and accompanied students on local field trips and has brought guest speakers to the school. Becky also provides important information on plants such as how to read seed packet details, what plants can be planted together, and when to harvest vegetables.

Three Hotline calls were received in February. The first was from a woman in Fort Mohave having issues with her garden. Dennis responded and recommended replenishing the soil and advised on when to plant different things. The second call was a man asking how to grow white grapefruit. Bill sent him paperwork on citrus. The third call was a question regarding termites and palm trees. When palm fronds turn brown, quickly get rid of them. Also, make sure it is termites, not ants. Termites do not have stingers. Ants do.

Some of the Bullhead Master Gardeners will be going up to Kingman to participate in the Dig-It Garden Arbor Day event on Friday, April 26. A group from Bullhead do this each year, and it is always fun to teach the kids a little about planting trees and caring for plants.

## Mohave Master Gardeners at the 2024 Home & Garden Show



### Master Gardener Becky Leisle teaching AOBI students how to garden



---

Issued in furtherance of Cooperative Extension work, acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Dr. Edward C. Martin, Associate Dean & Director, Extension & Economic Development, Division of Agriculture, Life and Veterinary Sciences, and Cooperative Extension, The University of Arizona.

The University of Arizona is an equal opportunity, affirmative action institution. The University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or genetic information in its programs and activities.

Arizona Cooperative Extension will continue to promote diversity and inclusiveness in the entire Arizona Cooperative Extension System (CES). In the CES this includes challenging our leaders, faculty, and staff to fully embrace and highlight their diversity work in their programs and communities, not as a new initiative but as a core part of our normal operating procedures



## Do We Have A Problem Here?

Nancy Sandy, Kingman Area Master Gardener

One of the most important duties of a Master Gardener is to answer questions people have about plants, insects, and their landscapes. It's one of my favorite things to do, because I always learn new and interesting things. A call might be about a single plant, but a home visit almost never is. We almost always get to tour the entire property, make suggestions, express our admiration for beautiful yards, and learn how other gardeners do things.

Over the last three months though, I have had several calls that are troubling me. Seems like everywhere I go, I find Ash trees under attack by witch's broom. Witch's broom can be caused by fungi, viruses, phytoplasmas, or mites. Visual inspections have shown no evidence of mites. I've even looked for them under the microscope, and I'm confident in ruling them out. I've been in touch with Dr. Bindu

at the University of Arizona, and she has requested a sample of the leaves once they emerge this spring. I wonder what she will find. My fear is that the Kingman area is experiencing a viral outbreak that affects mainly ash trees. My hope is that it will be as simple as fungal disease caused by a wet spring. Whatever the cause turns out to be, once a tree shows symptoms of witch's broom, there is no fix beyond pruning out the affected area. In many cases, we have been called because the tree is well past the point that pruning can help.

It will be interesting to see what Bindu can tell us once we get an appropriate sample to her. In the meantime, I'll be on the look out for witch's broom in ash trees.

---

### Manzanita Elementary



## Lake Havasu City Master Gardeners

### Sharon Gomez, Coordinator

The busy season has returned to Havasu after the holiday season. There are numerous activities going on citywide each and every week. These activities bring in a wide variety of out-of-town guests, added to our winter visitors. Sometimes, trying to find a weekend free for a Master Gardener activity can be daunting.

We started January off with our Meet the Master Gardeners program featuring Bob Morris speaking on Making Desert Gardening Easy Through Proper Irrigation. Bob had lots of good information for our residents and hopefully they went away with a better understanding of how to irrigate in our low desert. Then the challenge is for them to put these suggestions into practice.

Our Pruning Seminar at the end of January was a huge success. The Master Gardeners worked with the Lake Havasu City Landscape Crew to give advice on how and when to properly prune trees and shrubs. Craig Geary, Supervisor, gave a very informative demonstration on how to prune a tree. Craig is the ONLY certified arborist in Lake Havasu, and we are always pleased to have him demonstrate his skills. The group then went indoors to the Aquatic Center for a slide show demonstrate on how to prune shrubs, along with examples of how not to prune various trees, palm trees, and shrubs.

The first weekend of February was Winterfest – a street fair down Main Street/McCulloch Blvd. The city enjoyed a HUGE crowd both Saturday and Sunday. The crowds stopped by the Master Gardener booth for answers to their gardening questions. We stayed busy both days with lots of residents/visitors learning better desert gardening.

Then, the following Saturday, we had a huge crowd attend our Citrus Workshop with Glenn Wright. As always, residents and Master Gardeners left with

tons of information on how to grow and maintain citrus in the low desert. After we had cleaned up the room, the Master Gardeners had a chance to discuss citrus with Glenn. He suggested an Advanced Citrus Workshop be offered to the Mohave Master Gardeners. Conveniently, the first week of April, Glenn is the instructor for the Master Gardener Training Class. So, he has tied together the Training Class and Advanced Citrus Workshop over two days since he travels from Yuma.

Our Home Garden Days continue to be on overload with so many residents needing gardening assistance. Of course, most of the questions asked have been, “Why are my plants dying?” and “How to start a veggie garden?” Not just hot weather has contributed to the deaths. As usual, irrigation continues to be an issue for many residents. Bob Morris gave his irrigation workshop in January to try again to impart the correct method for irrigating all plants in the low desert. Unfortunately, we find we give out the information – including printed material to take home – but the residents don’t always make a change and their problems continue. Part of being a Master Gardener is having the patience and fortitude to continue to give out the best information as possible and hope, hope, hope the residents will put that information to good use!

A small group of Master Gardeners spent a couple of hours at the Mohave County Library in Lake Havasu pruning, weeding and all-around landscape clean up. Spring is our major cleanup of the landscape, then we do some touch-up cleaning in the fall. We just wish the patrons would adhere to the “No Smoking” signs! Cigarette butts are bad, but not as bad as the dog poop in the rocks and smeared on the sidewalk! YUCK!

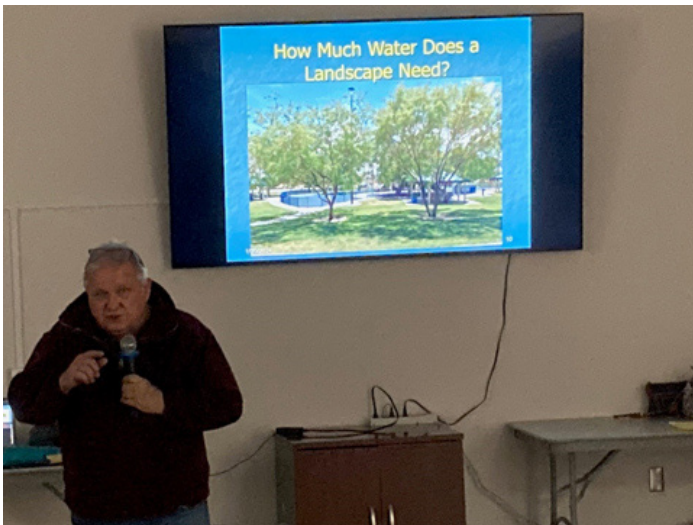


Our phone and email hotline contacts have slowed somewhat. We have had four hotline calls/emails for the first three months of 2024 with topics ranging from citrus fertilization, dying saguaros, and how to develop a Sonoran Desert sanctuary. A couple of home visits had us discussing dying/dead Mexican fan palms and how to protect the remaining palms. Another visit addressed plants appropriate for a home aviary (that was a new one!).

I have so enjoyed our rainy weather in January and February. Hoping for a few more rainy days in March and April to add to our sad rain totals. I'm sure all of you have been working in your garden – just like me! I've been spending some beautiful warm days in my garden doing the usual... pruning, weeding, and fertilizing. Plus, picking my bountiful harvest of tomatoes, zucchini, herbs, and citrus fruit! There is so much calling me in my garden and I'm ready!



**Glenn Wright Citrus Workshop was well attended with eager residents hoping to learn better citrus growing techniques.**



**Bob Morris Irrigation Workshop will help residents save on future water bills through better irrigation techniques.**



**Pruning Workshop and Demonstration. Craig Geary, City of Lake Havasu Landscape Superintendent, demonstrates the proper methods of pruning desert trees.**



# Mohave County Master Gardener Spring 2024 Calendar

## APRIL

- 2<sup>nd</sup> LHC: Home Garden Day, Library 11-1pm
- 3<sup>rd</sup> LHC: Advanced Citrus Workshop w/ Glenn Wright, Library, 3pm
- 9<sup>th</sup> BHC: Bullhead Master Gardener Meeting, 3pm-4:45 pm, MCC Room #201
- 11<sup>th</sup> BHC: Home Garden Day 10am-12pm @ MCC Room #201
- 16<sup>th</sup> LHC: Business Meeting, Library 4pm
- 18<sup>th</sup> BHC: Animals & Insects Prevalent to this area/Guest Speaker Carrie Wostel 2pm-4pm @ MCC Room #201 2pm- 4pm
- 20<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> KNG: Home & Garden Expo at Mohave County Fairgrounds
- 26<sup>th</sup> BHC: Arbor Day assist with tree planting, Dig It Community Garden, in Kingman
- 26<sup>th</sup> KNG: Master Gardeners Monthly Meeting
- 27<sup>th</sup> KNG: Propagation workshop 1:00-3:00pm at the Mohave County Library, Kingman Branch

## MAY

TBA Venomous Critters presentation by Zen Markowski

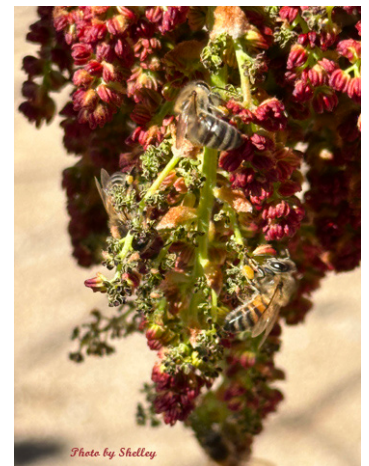
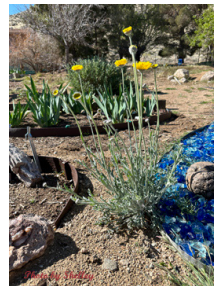
- 7<sup>th</sup> LHC: Home Garden Day, Library 11-1pm
- 9<sup>th</sup> BHC: Home Garden Day 10am-12pm @ MCC Room #201
- 14<sup>th</sup> BHC: Bullhead Master Gardener Meeting, 3pm-4:45pm, MCC Room #201
- 16<sup>th</sup> BHC: Gardening in Small Spaces/Guest Speaker Angela O'Callaghan 2pm-4pm @ MCC Room #201
- 21<sup>st</sup> LHC: Business Meeting, Library 4pm
- 24<sup>th</sup> KNG: Master Gardeners Monthly Meeting

## JUNE

KNG: June Workshop TBA

LHC: No Business Meetings, June through August

- 4<sup>th</sup> LHC: Home Garden Day, Library 11-1pm
- 11<sup>th</sup> BHC: Bullhead Master Gardener Meeting, 3pm-4:45pm, MCC Room #201
- 13<sup>th</sup> BHC: Home Garden Day 10am-12pm @ MCC Room #201
- 20<sup>th</sup> BHC: Pest Control/Guest Speaker Joe Mascarenas 2pm-4pm @ MCC Room #201
- 28<sup>th</sup> KNG: Master Gardeners Monthly Meeting



Spring 2024 Wind & Weeds Assembled by Shelley Lossing, Master Gardener

