



UC Riverside Botanic Gardens

University of California



The well-being of our staff, volunteers, Friends, and visitors is our highest priority. As an integral part of UCR, we are following all UCR requirements during the Coronavirus pandemic. The UCR Botanic Gardens are closed through April 30 and all gatherings through the end of May have been cancelled or postponed. Campus updates are posted daily here: <https://ehs.ucr.edu/coronavirus>.

While our gates are closed we still pursue our mission to serve as a destination for engagement in nature, gardens, and conservation. Admin staff are working remotely to keep critical processes going while essential Gardens staff are maintaining our collection, insuring security of facilities, and restoring safety in areas damaged by rain while keeping their physical distance. UCR student workers are all off-work and preparing for spring quarter courses going online.

Thank you all for being a part of the UCR Botanic Gardens community. We will continue to provide updates on the Gardens using eNews, our Facebook and Instagram pages, and our website. We look forward to the day we can reopen and once again welcome you for a rejuvenating visit to our nature oasis in a busy urban environment.

Stay well,

Jodie Holt
Director



STAY-AT-HOME RESOURCES

While you are unable to visit the Gardens for a dose of nature, fresh air, and exercise, we hope you will take this time to enjoy nature in your own yard. As spring approaches this is a good time to tackle yardwork, control weeds that are rampant after all our rains, and prepare your garden and planting beds for our next plant sale.

Did you know that The University of California is one of the nation's land-grant universities (<https://aplu.org>) and UCR is one of the three UC campuses that has an Experiment Station on the campus (<https://ucop.edu>)? That means we are also a part of the UC Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources (<https://ucanr.edu>), home of the UC Cooperative Extension Master Gardener Program (<http://mg.ucanr.edu/>). We treasure the many Riverside County Master Gardeners who are also volunteers in the UCR Botanic Gardens, and we look forward to when they can resume answering all your gardening questions by phone or email or in person while volunteering in the Gardens.

During this time when all Californians have been asked to stay at home, UCANR is promoting its many resources and publications for home gardeners, some of which can be downloaded for free. Visit their catalog at <https://anrcatalog.ucanr.edu> to learn more.



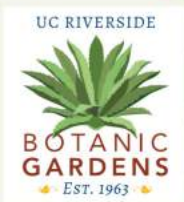
VIRTUAL TOUR OF THE UCR BOTANIC GARDENS

While you can't visit the Gardens in person right now you can take a virtual tour from your own home computer, tablet, or smart phone by opening our interactive GIS app. A description of the app, instructions on its use, and link to open it can be found by visiting our webpage at <https://gardens.ucr.edu> and scrolling to the box at the bottom, where you'll also find a convenient QR code to scan with your phone. We hope you enjoy the beautiful photos of individual specimens as well as the virtual reality 360° imagery of the deserts, CA North Coast, Butterfly Garden, and Bobcat Rocks. As soon as we are able to resume operations we will be adding more specimens and Gardens features to enhance the GIS app.



VIRTUAL VISIT TO OUR NORTH AMERICAN DESERT GARDEN

You can also view our first Interactive Story Map (<https://arcg.is/1n9WGa>) that highlights the North American Desert Garden. This app is an online, abbreviated digital version of the *Deserts of the Southwest* booklet that was originally written by Steve Morgan, Curator Emeritus, and April Gacsi. We are planning to create more Interactive Story Maps of our gardens to enhance your experience whether you are on-site or away from the UCR Botanic Gardens.



Friends of the UCRBG UC Riverside Botanic Gardens UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

This is a difficult time for our community and the Gardens. We rely on memberships, donations, and revenue to support our wonderful staff who maintain the Gardens, provide outreach events for the community, and launch new projects such as our new Native American Plants Garden. If you have the means, please consider supporting the Gardens during these uncertain times. We also welcome new members anytime and encourage you to visit <https://gardens.ucr.edu/friends> to learn about our exciting new member benefits.

[Join or Renew Friends Membership](#)

[Donate](#)

To donate by check, please make your check payable to "UCR Foundation," subject: Botanic Gardens. Mail to UCR Foundation, Attn: Botanic Gardens, PO Box 112, Riverside, CA 92521-0112.

Thank you!



GARDENS CALENDAR UPDATE

While all upcoming events are still tentative, we optimistically plan for a resumption of activities by fall, especially our annual *Fall Garden Market & Plant Sale* and *Art in the*

Gardens. We are also considering a new, later date for *2020 Primavera in the Gardens*. Please check our website for updates.

- June 25 – Friends Annual Meeting & State of the Gardens Address, 6pm-8pm – TENTATIVE
- July 5 & 14 – Volunteer Orientation, BG Entrance, 9am
- July 11 – Twilight Tour, BG Entrance, 6:30pm-8:30pm
- August 2 & 11 – Volunteer Orientation, BG Entrance, 9am
- August 8 – Twilight Tour, BG Entrance, 6pm-8pm
- September 6 & 8 – Volunteer Orientation, BG Entrance, 9am
- October 17 – Fall Garden Market & Plant Sale, 10am-4pm
- November 7 – Art in the Gardens, 10am-3pm

<https://gardens.ucr.edu/calevents.html>



1 Botanic Gardens Drive
Riverside, CA 92507
ucrbg@ucr.edu | 951.784.6962

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