



Upcoming Classes at Orton Botanical Garden - Summer/Fall 2024



June 29, 2024

Propagating Cacti & other High Desert Plants

Orton Botanical Garden's founder and noted authority on high desert flora, **LaMar Orton**, will cover propagation strategies for various cacti (mainly prickly pear and cholla), yuccas, agaves and other desert plants. Class participants will leave with generous cuttings and instructions for hardening and transplanting.

Cost \$35.

6:00 pm-7:30 pm

Register at ortonbotanicalgarden.com

Water Conservation

Andy West, Twin Falls County Extension Educator in Horticulture, will conduct this timely and highly practical class on water conservation for homeowners. The class will consist of three two-hour sessions at the garden. Each session will include both classroom and garden components.

Cost \$25 for all three segments.

July 13, 2024

Part 1 Water Conservation

Topics for this segment include understanding current landscape water usage, our local climate, and soils. It will also consider how soils are different in the landscape and how drought tolerant plants interact with soil.

10:00 am - 12:00 pm

August 10, 2024

Part 2 Water Conservation

Andy will cover such topics such as understanding drought tolerant plants, what species are in Southern Idaho, and the ecosystem that they operate in. Plants in the garden will be explored to show the variety possible in a local yard or garden.

10:00 am - 12:00 pm

September 14, 2024

Part 3 Water Conservation

Class members will learn how to incorporate drought-tolerant plants into their landscape by creating a water conservation landscape design.

10:00 am - 12:00 pm

July 20, 2024

Use of Native Plants by Mormon Settlers

Retired cultural historian Tom Schwartz will conduct a free 90-minute class, looking at the use of native plants by early Mormon settlers. This class will explore a somewhat forgotten aspect of Mormon colonization of the west, how native plants helped Mormon pioneers survive those early harsh winters. Plants like Sego lilies, camas, redroot pigweed, thistles, gooseberries, currants, elderberries, and nettles helped keep settlers alive until they were able to establish sustainable crops through farming and irrigation. Attention will also be given to pioneer use of native plants for medicinal purposes. The class will include a slide presentation followed by a garden tour focusing on edible and medicinal native plants.

Free

7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

September 7, 2024

Intro to Western Artemisias (Sagebrush)

This two-hour class will be conducted by noted Boise botanists Roger Rosentreter and Ann DeBolt. Most Idahoans' familiarity with Artemisias is limited to Big Western Sage. Roger and Ann will introduce other members of the Artemisia family and discuss the variety and importance of Artemisias in our native landscape. They will also discuss the benefits and challenges of incorporating sagebrush in the home landscape.

Cost \$25

10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Garden Photography

***Drew Nash**, a highly regarded staff photographer for the Twin Falls Times News, will present two classes on garden photography.*

September 12, 2024

Drew will present a class on taking effective photographs of desert plants and using a garden setting as a background for portrait photography.

Cost \$45

6:30 pm – 8:00 pm



September 26, 2024

Drew will present a photography class on Smartphone Garden Photography. Thirty minutes will be spent in the garden and thirty minutes in the classroom reviewing photographs and techniques.

Cost \$30

6:30 pm – 7:30 pm



Orton Botanical Garden

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