



Toyon
(heteromeles arbutifolia)



Cleveland Sage
(salvia clevelandii)

January in the Conejo Valley Botanic Garden

December rains followed by some warm sunny days have made many plants in the garden very happy. Even in the short cool days of winter, Conejo Valley Botanic Garden has so much to enjoy. We all envy those folks who have designed their gardens to put on a show every month of the year. Taking a walk in the garden this winter might just give you some ideas on what to add to your home garden for winter interest. Our native sages are showing new growth this month. Cool nights, even a little frost, doesn't slow them down a bit. And we know all of that new healthy growth is just a promise of the flowers to come next spring. So come on in, take a walk, and enjoy a brand new season in the Garden.

Have you seen our new plant sales area at the Kids' Adventure Garden? Michael Jee chose to build four free standing shade structures in the nursery as his Eagle Scout project. What a wonderful improvement to the area. Many thanks to Michael, his friends and family for making this project possible.

JANUARY TALK in the GARDEN

Come Join us on January 9th at the Conejo Community Center for a special presentation conducted by Ventura County Master Gardeners. The speaker will be Tony Hepton. Tony is a Ventura County Master Gardener and one of the most knowledgeable gardeners you will ever meet. He has a Ph.D. from Cornell University majoring in vegetable crops with minors in plant physiology, plant anatomy and morphology. He is currently working with UC Davis on developing a water wise demonstration garden at Conejo Valley Botanic Garden.

Tony's presentation will provide an overview of the current water supplies to S. California and the residential use patterns. Landscaping water use will be reviewed with a simple, practical approach to evaluation of garden activities and future use objectives. New garden design options will be offered which should significantly reduce landscape water use, while meeting all, or almost all, of our gardening dreams.

The program will be from 10 a.m. to 12:00 at the Conejo Community Center located at 1175 Hendrix, just across from the Conejo Valley Botanic Garden front entrance. Park in the upper level parking area. Weather permitting, a docent lead tour of the garden will be offered after the talk, so wear sturdy shoes. There are many benches and tables in the garden, so feel free to bring a sack lunch and relax in a beautiful garden setting. For more information e-mail Tom1374@Verizon.net or go to www.conejogarden.org for updates.

The **CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY** is holding a Native Plant Landscape Symposium at the Camarillo Ranch House Barn on February 20th. This promises to be an outstanding event for anyone interested in developing a sustainable water wise garden. You can see all the details at www.cnpsci.org.

CONEJO VALLEY BOTANIC GARDEN NEEDS YOU!

The Garden is managed and maintained by community volunteers. **Without your help the garden cannot thrive.**

None of the volunteer positions at CVBG has a minimum number of volunteer hours attached. If you can help for a few hours a month great! For more information on any of our volunteer opportunities please send an e-mail to Tom Wade at Tom1374@verizon.net or leave a message at 805 494-7630.

WE CURRENTLY NEED VOLUNTEERS FOR THE FOLLOWING PROJECTS:

Assistant to the Volunteer Coordinator: Help recruit new volunteers and match them with garden jobs they might enjoy.

Adopt A Garden: We have an ongoing need for volunteers to join the teams working in our theme gardens. Days and hours are flexible so give us a call.

Garden Nursery: There is no better way to learn about California native and water wise plants than to join the teams working in the propagation and sales nurseries.

The Kids' Adventure Garden: KAG is open from 11:00 to 3:00 each Sunday. Docents welcome families to the garden, answer questions and ensure everyone is safe and has fun. You will train with an experienced docent. You can sign up for one shift a month or as many as you want. Contact Jean Reiley at 805 374 8255.

Community Outreach and Fundraising: Do you have experience in advertising or fundraising? We need volunteers with ideas on developing community outreach programs and fundraising.

**For information and directions to the garden, visit our web site at
www.conejogarden.org.**



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