



Grow Your Garden with New Way

March – The First Spring Planting Month

The first day of March marks the beginning of your best planting season ever! ...As long as you follow our advice. It's time to get down and dirty and start sticking plants in the ground. People who set aside extra gardening time in spring and again in fall find that their gardens require less maintenance during the cool winter and hot summer months. The best times to do your planting is in March and April and then again during September and October.

During March you can plant most summer annuals and perennials, warm-season and cool-season lawns from seed, some cool-season and most warm-season vegetables, and almost all permanent garden plants, such as trees, shrubs, ground covers and vines. (Wait a month or two to put in tropicals. They'll take off better in warmer weather.) If you've never gardened before you couldn't choose a better time to start, because you'll soon see results. One of the wonderful things about our sunny climate is how quickly it makes the garden grow right before your very eyes.

Quick Tip

Make a Homemade Snail Jail

To protect birds, wild animals and pets from eating slug and snail bait, squash the sides of empty tin cans to leave a 1½ inch space – Just enough room for snails to enter. Dampen the interiors and sprinkle in bait. Place the traps around the garden and tie them in orange trees. Fully enclosed, strong baits can be used safely.

To Fool a Mockingbird

Protect Bean and Corn Sprouts from Birds

Birds, especially mockingbirds, love young bean and sweet corn sprouts. Just slap a green berry basket (the kind that strawberries and cherry tomatoes come in) over each planted seed. After sprouts have touched the top of the baskets, you can safely remove them; by then the birds will have lost interest.

Garden Smart, the Randy Way

How to Foil Dastardly Cutworms

Save the cardboard tube from inside holiday wrapping paper. Cut it into 2-inch sections to make protective collars. When you plant tomatoes, first slip the leaves of each plant gently through a cardboard collar; then anchor the sleeve ½-inch into the soil around the transplant. Cutworms won't climb over.

So there are many fun things to do in the yard and garden. Make sure you introduce your children to the joy of gardening. Give them a little space to putter in and let them see how plants can grow from seed and then flower. They will be thrilled. As they may realize – gardening isn't just a hobby, it is a magnificent journey of discovery!

Happy Gardening and Go Padres!

Arthur Raybold, Vice President of Sales & Marketing at New Way, celebrates his 80th Birthday!

New Way would like to wish a very Happy Birthday to our very own Arthur Raybold, who celebrated his 80th birthday on February 23rd.

After 80 years, Arthur has lived quite an adventurous life. Arthur was born in Providence, Rhode Island and grew up in Mattapoisett, MA. President of his Senior Class at Fairhaven High School, he went on to receive his bachelor's degree in English from Trinity College in Hartford, Conn. and later received his master in education from Columbia University in New York, NY.

He has had a long and vibrant career in business and education which began with a position at Owens Corning Fiberglass. He later began a teaching career at Nantucket High School in Nantucket, Mass. and also taught English at Middlesex School, a private boarding school in Concord, Mass. Additionally, he coached football and squash, and supervised teacher training programs in Worcester, Mass. Eventually, he returned to business as the vice president of marketing and sales for General Coatings Corporation here in San Diego, and then as vice president of marketing and sales for New Way Landscape, where he is today.

Arthur is married with two children and two grandchildren. He also has three beagles- Prefer, Shirley, and Dolly. A San Diego resident for 23 years, he lives with his family in the Mt. Helix area of La Mesa, where he can be seen walking his beagles up and down the hills. An avid traveler, Arthur has been to Hong Kong, Bali, Malaysia, China, Thailand, Singapore, Argentina, Brazil, England, Wales, France and Italy. Also a keen outdoorsman, he enjoys hiking, biking, gardening, and sailing. He has even sailed in such beautiful locations as the Caribbean ocean. Arthur also enjoys opera, theatre, classical music, reading and writing, and has an affinity for writing poetry.

With a strong passion for life, Arthur is a true adventurer who loves to try new things. In January 2011 he rode a bicycle 10,000 feet down Haleakala Crater on Maui with his son and grandson. He also recently purchased concert tickets for Lady Gaga for his wife, Suzanne.

Water Authority Offers Free Commercial Property Irrigation Checkups Through June 1

All water users urged to check for plumbing, irrigation leaks during Fix a Leak Week

March 11, 2011 -

Monday, March 14 marks the start of Fix a Leak Week, and managers and owners of commercial or large residential properties can get help identifying leaks

or other ways to improve their water efficiency through a free irrigation checkup program offered by the San Diego County Water Authority and Bureau of Reclamation.

The free irrigation checkups are available now through June 1 to owners and managers of multifamily, commercial, industrial or public properties, or residential properties of one irrigated acre or more.

The irrigation checkup starts with a site survey conducted by a landscape professional. After the survey, participants receive a report detailing observations and site-specific recommendations to improve water efficiency. Water savings of up to 20 percent often are possible after implementing the recommendations.

Checkup applications are available at <http://www.irrigationcheckup.org/> or by calling (866) 883-1332. City of San Diego property owners or managers should call (619) 570-1999, and those within the Helix Water District service area should call (619) 466-0585.

Information on irrigation checkups for single-family homes with less than one irrigated acre is available at http://www.20gallonchallenge.com/programs_residential.html.

Both programs are administered on behalf of the Water Authority by Mission Resource Conservation District, an independent agency that promotes responsible use of land, water and other natural resources.

Water Sense Fix a Leak Week (www.epa.gov/WaterSense/index.html) is sponsored by the Environmental Protection Agency. Fix a Leak Week asks Americans to check their plumbing fixtures and irrigation systems and fix running toilets, dripping faucets, broken irrigation pipes and other household leaks to reduce water waste. The Fix a Leak website provides a handy homeowners guide to finding and fixing leaks (www.epa.gov/WaterSense/water_efficiency/howto.html).

Free Mulch and Compost ...for residents of San Diego

Residents of city of San Diego may self-load up to 2 cubic yards of compost or mulch for free at Miramar Greenery Recycling, located at the Miramar Landfill, at 5165 Convoy Street.

One cubic yard is equal to the size of 6 32-gallon trash cans. Wearing a dust mask while loading and spreading the material is advised. Wood chips can also be purchased at the fee booth, located at the landfill's entrance. For free materials, proof of residency in the city of San Diego is required. Call the Miramar Landfill at 858-492-6100 to confirm availability of compost or mulch on a particular day.

For more information about Miramar Greenery products go to www.sandiego.gov/environmental-services/miramar

Avocados - Did You Know?...

Common Name: Avocado, Alligator Pear (English); Aguacate, Palta (Spanish)

Origin: The avocado probably originated in southern Mexico but was cultivated from the Rio Grande to central Peru before the arrival of Europeans.

Adaptation: Avocados do well in the mild-winter areas of California, Florida and Hawaii. Some hardier varieties can be grown in the cooler parts of northern and inland California and along the Gulf Coast. The northern limits in California is approximately Cape Mendocino and Red Bluff. Avocados do best some distance from ocean influence but are not adapted to the desert interior. West Indian varieties thrive in humid, tropical climates and freeze at or near 32° F. Guatemalan types are native to cool, high-altitude tropics and are hardy 30 - 26° F. Mexican types are native to dry subtropical plateaus and thrive in a Mediterranean climate. They are hardy 24 - 19° F. Avocados need some protection from high winds which may break the branches. There are dwarf forms of avocados suitable for growing in containers. Avocados have been grown in California (Santa Barbara) since 1871. **DESCRIPTION Growth Habit:** The avocado is a dense, evergreen tree, shedding many leaves in early spring. It is fast growing and can with age reach 80 feet, although usually less, and generally branches to form a broad tree. Some cultivars are columnar, others selected for nearly prostrate form. One cultivar makes a good espalier. Growth is in frequent flushes during warm weather in southern regions with only one long flush per year in cooler areas. Injury to branches causes a secretion of dulcitol, a white, powdery sugar, at scars. Roots are coarse and greedy and will raise pavement with age. Grafted plants normally produce fruit within one to two years compared to 8 - 20 years for seedlings.

Foliage: Avocado leaves are alternate, glossy, elliptic and dark green with paler veins. They normally remain on the tree for 2 to 3 years. The leaves of West Indian varieties are scentless, while Guatemalan types are rarely anise-scented and have medicinal use. The leaves of Mexican types have a pronounced anise scent when crushed. The leaves are high in oils and slow to compost and may collect in mounds beneath trees.

Flowers: Avocado flowers appear in January - March before the first seasonal growth, in terminal panicles of 200 - 300 small yellow-green blooms. Each panicle will produce only one to three fruits. The flowers are perfect, but are either receptive to pollen in the morning and shed pollen the following afternoon (type A), or are receptive to pollen in the afternoon, and shed pollen the following morning (type B). About 5% of flowers are defective in form and sterile. Production is best with cross-pollination between types A and B. The flowers attract bees and hoverflies and pollination usually good except during cool weather. Off-season blooms may appear during the year and often set fruit. Some cultivars bloom and set fruit in alternate years.

A Special New Way Thank You...



Kathryn DeJong President and her father, Randy Newhard, CEO/Owner at New Way Landscape & Tree Services, send a personal thank you to all the friends and clients of New Way.

Olivia, Kathryn's twin daughter underwent open heart surgery back in January 2011, for a heart defect repair where many people were asked to donate blood. Due to all the generous donors, Olivia received the blood, platelets, and plasma needed for a successful transfusion! Olivia has since recovered and is doing extremely well!

Kathryn and Randy thank you all again for your prayers, thoughts, and especially donations. "You are all indebted to us always!"

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