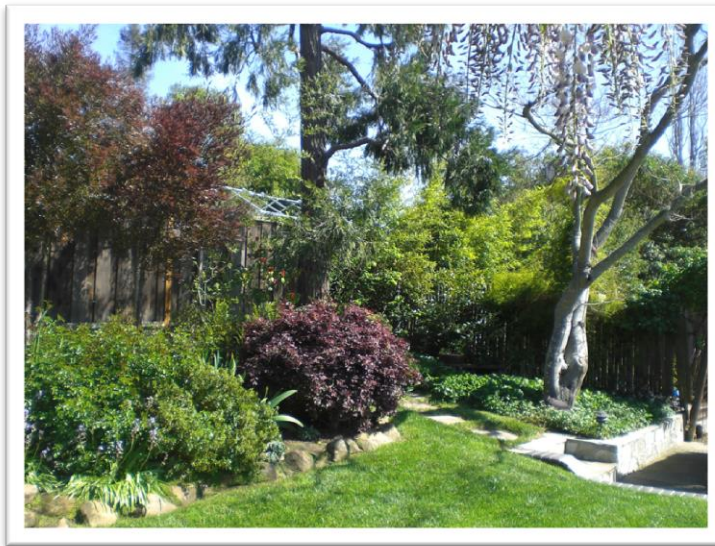


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Adding Artful Beauty
and Value to your Outdoor Spaces



Around the Garden

I hope all of you had a fabulous Independence day with family and friends.

I want to encourage you all to use healthy gardening practices: to be as organic as possible and to cut down on using heavy chemicals, such as insecticides, herbicides, and fungicides that can end up in our waterways: our creeks, rivers and oceans.

IPM or [Integrated Pest Management](#) is all about using

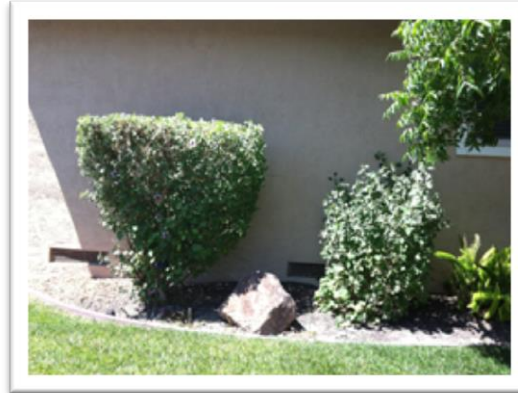
strategies to keep pest management at an acceptable level without the use of pesticides, lowering the impact on our families and pets, helping the environment and not harming wildlife.

When we use these pesticides, we kill off the beneficial bugs as well as the harmful ones and our gardens become out of balance. Actually 98% of the bugs in our gardens are working hard for us by eating the pests we don't want, pollinating plants and providing food for wildlife. Please see this month's video all about this topic.

Visit www.ourwaterourworld.org for any questions you may have and to get a personal response from a "bug expert".

One of my pet peeves is extreme hedging that gardeners do that change a beautiful natural bush into strange unnatural geometric shapes. Many shrubs are beautiful if a little more time is taken for 'natural pruning' as opposed to hedging with power tools.

See these two photos of Lavaterra Bicolor. One has been hedged into almost a triangle and is unsuccessful in my opinion, and the second is left to fill out naturally.



I'm here to help. Please call on me if you have any questions or if you need an update for your spaces. I can also provide specialty pruning for your plants or get your outdoor spaces ready for a special occasion. Please pass on my name to family and friends in need of my services. Thanks and have a great July. Happy gardening.



July Garden Tips

- Pruning Annuals and Perennials by dead-heading, pinching off the spent blooms, keeps new blooms coming all season. Fertilizing will also keep the blooms coming.
- Plant some heat loving annuals for a splash of color in the hot days of summer. Zinnias look their best in temperatures over 90 degrees and will bloom until late September, longer if we have our Indian Summers. Annual Verbena is also a great choice, coming



Video Tip

Pesticide Free Gardening

In this month's video I interview my friend and client, Charli about when and why she stopped spraying in her garden. I like to give my clients natural alternatives whenever possible when planting and maintaining a garden. In this video we review some easy and natural ways to keep pests under control. Enjoy!

in good deep saturated colors.

- Feed Citrus with a citrus food and chelated iron if the leaves are yellowing.
- Control budworm with BT caterpillar killer, as it's safe in the vegetable garden.
- Keep up the vegetable production with a good organic food
- Pick vegetables while they are young. This will give you tender vegetables and keep the flowers and production high throughout the summer months.
- Deep root water and fertilize your roses this month.

Lynda Meikle

Your Garden Coach

Contact: (925) 462-1484

outvisionsdesign.com

Email: outvisions@comcast.net



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Outer Visions Landscape Design
2125 Arroyo Ct
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