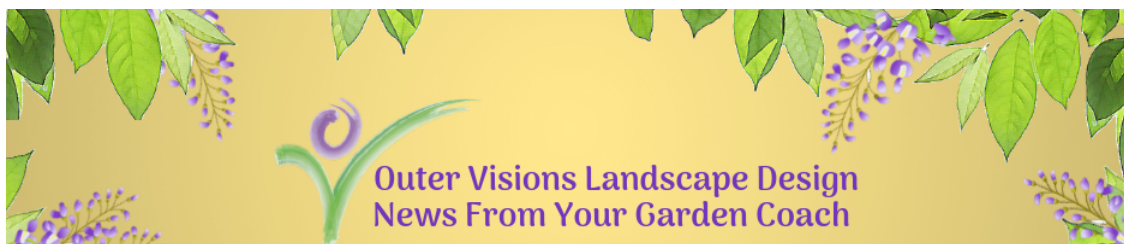
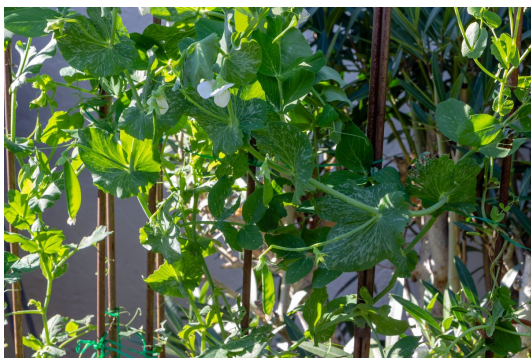


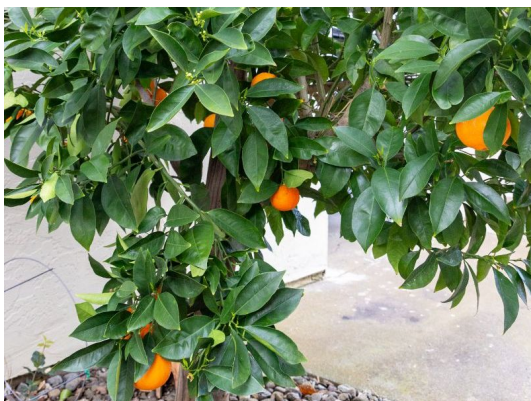
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Hi all and happy spring! Spring starts this Wednesday and as much as we have needed all the rain this winter, I'm sure happy the sun is out again and the temp's are rising.

My small vegetable patch is producing a good harvest now that the sun is out. I am picking my favorite Sugar Snap Peas every couple of days to add to my stir fries. The Broccoli is ready to pick and my Chard and Spinach will be ready soon. I hope you all can plant and enjoy your own fresh, organic home gardens. It doesn't take much work and it is so rewarding and tasty!



Citrus trees and shrubs are profuse this season and I am enjoying great oranges from my dwarf Orange Tree. You don't need a heap of space if you purchase dwarf rootstock, so I'm getting the most delicious Vitamin C ever!



TRANSFORMATION

In my January newsletter I included some pics of the process of removing a front lawn and regrading, reusing the homeowners large but awkwardly placed boulders and very flat and uninteresting landscaping.

I added onto the existing pathways to create an entrance from the street and framed it with two stone pillars for curb appeal. I then used that same stone on the fireplace chimney to break up all the brick on the house. Berms (mounds) were installed for some more interest and a 3-sized basalt column water feature close to the front entrance to greet guests on the way to the front door. Here is a before and after image to show you the changes. This is newly installed, I know in a season or 2 it will be amazing. (Click on the images to see them larger)



Please feel free to call me if you want me to take a walk through your own garden spaces to see what we could update.

I plan on going on a hike in Sunol soon and getting my nature fix.

Thanks for taking the time to read this and enjoy the sun!

-Lynda

March Tips and To Do's

- Feed Fuchsias with a fertilizer, 0-10-10 ratio.
- To restore a lawn after winter rains, can aerate and/or thatch then fertilize with a high nitrogen feed to restore nutrients again.
- Control snails and slugs. They love the tender new growth of a variety of plants in your garden. A great natural way to rid these hungry critters is to pour

out some beer in a low flat dish. The smell attracts them, they crawl in and drown! OR SLUGGO is a good choice for use around pets.

- Feed Azaleas, Camellias, and Rhododendrons with a high nitrogen acid fertilizer and Ironite after blooms are done.
- Feed citrus with a good citrus food from your local nursery. Add a little chelated iron if still yellow.
- Combat Citrus Leaf miner organically. You will see shallow tunnels running throughout the leaves, this is caused by the feeding larvae. Hang traps, purchased from a nursery, in your citrus to catch the flying adults before they lay eggs. This will help reduce damage to the new growth in all your citrus.
- Feed fruit trees and berries with a good all-purpose fertilizer, such as 12-12-12 ratio, and a super phosphate such as 0-20-0, to increase fruit production.
- It is good to add to your existing layer of mulch in your gardens. I tend to like a dark black micro bark that can be purchased in bulk or in bags. A deep 2"-3" layer is advised, as this helps keep weeds to a minimum, helps keep in the moisture in the heat of summer, and lastly when it does break down eventually, it helps keep our heavy soils loose and light. One word of caution, when adding your mulch keep a little away from the crown of each plant. They need to breathe just like we do, so don't crowd them.
- Now is the time to work some aluminum sulfate into your soil around your Hydrangeas if you want that intense blue. There are several brands on the market at your local nurseries.
- Plant Dahlias this year!! They can be purchased now as tubers, looking like a sweet potato. There are many varieties coming in many colors to choose from. Plant Dahlias in a sunny spot, add plenty of compost and plant deep (6"). You will be rewarded with a spectacular display from summer into fall.
- Don't forget to water your plants under eaves. They don't get the water when it rains, your irrigation is turned off, so they will dry out if not hand watered!
- You can start annual Morning Glories from seed this month. They will produce large blooms in blues, purples or pink and are a stunning old-fashioned garden flower.

[Download To Do List](#)

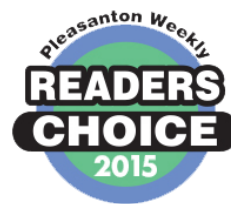


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