

Media Release



Cuyamaca College
Water Conservation Garden

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Conservation in Bloom: 18th Annual Spring Garden Festival *Animal Encounters and Plant Sale are highlights of this year's event*

SAN DIEGO, CA—On Saturday, April 9, from 9am-4pm, Cuyamaca College's campus will bloom with activity when the college's [Ornamental Horticulture Department](#) and [The Water Conservation Garden](#) host the 18th annual Spring Garden Festival. The event's theme of "Conservation in Bloom" emphasizes appreciation and stewardship of nature in its many forms, including plants, animals and water, and organizations with expertise in these areas will be on hand throughout the day. Free admission, free parking, and activities for all ages make this event a popular family outing.

"We are so excited to bring the 2011 Spring Garden Festival to the public this year", said Elizabeth Ramos, Events and Marketing Specialist at The Water Conservation Garden. "Several prominent San Diego organizations are joining us to help visitors learn more about wildlife, ecology, and natural resource conservation. And, just in time for spring planting, gardening experts will offer up advice to help people get a good start on their gardens."

A Grand Lawn area hosted by Cuyamaca College's Ornamental Horticulture Department will feature horticulture demonstrations and gardening clubs, plus visiting organizations will offer animal encounters for kids, which include alpacas, tortoises, pygmy goats and a "bug zone". The highly esteemed horticulture department will hold its biggest sale of the year, with a large assortment of ornamental and drought-tolerant plants at great prices to help beautify home landscapes.

At The Water Conservation Garden, adults will appreciate the "Ask the Experts" program where they can get tips on water-smart landscaping, composting, and vegetable gardening. And, people of all ages will want to meet resident barn owls, "Hoot and Holla", and their owlets, viewable during the event through The Garden's live Owlcam, which broadcasts at www.thegarden.org. An owl education program--"Ms. Smarty Plants Gives a Hoot"--will show at 10am in The Garden's amphitheater, and [Project Wildlife](#) will feature live barn owl viewings at their booth from 12-4pm.

Animal Encounters

Owls:

[Water Conservation Garden Project Wildlife](#)

Bug Zone:

[S.D. Natural History Museum The Monarch Program](#)

Alpacas:

[A Simpler Time Alpacas & Mill](#)

Tortoises:

[S.D. Turtle & Tortoise Society](#)

Farm Animals:

[Jamul 4-H](#)

Plants

Cuyamaca College Nursery's biggest plant sale of the year at great prices.

Ask the Designer

Call 619-660-0614 x10 to reserve a professional landscape design consultation. \$20 for 20 minutes.

More

[Novamenco flamenco fusion](#); ethnic dancers; gardening lectures; international food.

www.cuyamaca.edu/springfest

The new activities at the 2011 Spring Garden Festival promise a fun-filled day for the entire family. Free shuttle service transports people to the various attractions. Proceeds from sales items benefit the Cuyamaca College Ornamental Horticulture Program and The Water Conservation Garden. Web links to the programs of each event partner can be found at www.cuyamaca.edu/springfest.

Cuyamaca College is located at 900 Rancho San Diego Parkway, El Cajon, CA 92019.

The 2011 Spring Garden Festival is presented by:



The Spring Garden Festival Committee is grateful for the support of the following major sponsors:



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