

Welcome to Gardening School

National Garden Clubs, Inc. established a series of four courses on gardening in order to develop a greater appreciation of the environment, both natural and manmade, for its members. Course content is established by National Garden Clubs, Inc. (NGC).

The Gardening Schools (GS) are designed to:

- Stimulate interest in the growth of plants
- Provide an understanding of how and why a plant grows.
- Teach soil structure and how to make soil more productive.
- Provide an understanding of plants' reactions to their environment and how to encourage optimum growth.
- Provide an understanding of chemicals used in general horticultural procedures.
- Illustrate methods for rapid propagation.
- Offer plant identification instruction.
- Explore growing techniques for garden plants, vegetables, fruits, houseplants, trees, shrubs and specialized styles of gardening.

Courses may be taken in any order. Each course consists of ten hours of instruction. Open book/open note exams are offered for those wishing to become NGC Accredited Consultants. Garden club members who complete all four courses with a passing grade on every exam within seven years become Gardening Consultants, which is recognized as a special achievement among NGC members... but does not convey professional status.

To remain in Good Standing, every five years Gardening Consultants must continue their education by attending a Refresher or a Gardening School Course – no exam is required. After a Consultant's fourth refresher, the Consultant becomes a Master Consultant. Consultants or Master Consultants may earn refresher credit only once within a calendar year.

So Cal GC website: SoCalGardenClub.com
CGCI website: californiagardenclubs.com
NGC website: gardenclub.org

Lecture Topics by Course

Course 1

Basic Botany
Soils

Techniques for Growing Outdoor Flowers
Plant Propagation
Evolution & Geographic Origins of
Garden Plants

Course 2

Plant Diseases & Garden Pests
Irrigation and Water
Lawn Alternatives & Growing Grass
Growing Fruit
Growing Vegetables
Getting in the Zone—Right Plant, Right
Place

Course 3

Factors that Influence Plant Growth
New Plant Development & Evaluation
Container Gardening Outdoors
Houseplant Basics
Native Trees and Shrubs
Teaching Tour
Planning and Maintaining Shade Gardens

Course 4

Plant Classification & Nomenclature
Outdoor Identification of Plants
Specialized Styles of Gardening
Techniques for Growing Woody
Ornamentals
Pruning Techniques
Non-flowering Plants: Fungi, Grasses,
Mosses, Horsetails, Ferns

NATIONAL GARDEN CLUBS, INC.



California Gardening School Series 27

Course 1 – July 10 - 11, 2025
Course 2 – August 14 - 15, 2025
Course 3 – September 25 - 26, 2025
Course 4 – October 23 - 24, 2025



Sponsored by
Southern California Garden Club
Gail Vanderhorst, President

CGCI Gardening Schools
Greg Pokorski, Chairman

School Venue:

**All Courses held on
Thursdays & Fridays at:
Sepulveda Garden Center**
16633 Magnolia Blvd
Encino, CA 91436

General Information

Chairman: Robin Pokorski
CGCIRobin@gmail.com
Cell: 818-425-3247

Schedule

(Courses are held on Thursdays and Fridays)

8:30 a.m.	Registration (check-in)
8:45 a.m.	Announcements/Introductions
9:00 a.m.	Course begins
3:30 p.m.	Lectures end
4:30 p.m.	End of exam period (exams are optional)

Students must attend all lectures from the beginning and remain until concluded to receive credit.

For more information on Gardening Schools visit the NGC website. Click on:

- Schools, then
- Gardening School

Registration includes complimentary refreshments and lunch, both days. Special dietary requests cannot be accommodated.

Registration with payment **MUST** be received at least two weeks prior to the course start date. There will be no refunds after that date.

Other educational opportunities provided by National Garden Clubs, Inc.:

Flower Show School - designed to accredit judges for Standard Flower Shows

Landscape Design School - designed to train students to recognize good land use

Environmental School - designed to train students to appreciate the natural resources of our Earth

Registration Form

Gardening School

Series 27

Name _____

Address _____

Phone: _____

Cell: _____

Email: _____

Garden _____

Club: _____

District: _____

If taking course as a refresher, include
Last Good Standing Date: _____

Class materials will be sent electronically prior to each class. Hard copies are available for a small fee.

If you are taking the exam or are a Refreshing Consultant, be sure to include your NGC exam/refresher fee of \$5 per course.

Visit SoCalGardenClub.com for a membership application to Southern California Garden Club.

To receive the discount, you must be a member in good standing with SCGC.

Member of Southern California Garden

Club: Check all that apply:

_____	Course 1	July 10-11, 2025	\$70.00
_____	Course 2	August 14-15, 2025	\$70.00
_____	Course 3	Sept 25-26, 2025	\$70.00
_____	Course 4	October 23-24, 2025	\$70.00

OR

_____ All four courses (\$60/course) \$240.00

_____ NGC exam/refresher fee/course:
\$5/course \$ _____

_____ Please provide a hard copy of class materials for an additional \$8/course. \$ _____

Total Registration Fee SCGC Members
\$ _____

Non-Member of Southern Calif. Garden

Club: Check all that apply:

_____	Course 1	July 10-11, 2025	\$85.00
_____	Course 2	August 14-15, 2025	\$85.00
_____	Course 3	Sept 25-26, 2025	\$85.00
_____	Course 4	October 23-24, 2025	\$85.00

_____ All four courses (\$75/course) \$300.00

_____ NGC exam/refresher fee/course:
\$5/course \$ _____

_____ Please provide a hard copy of class materials for an additional \$8/course. \$ _____

Total Registration Fee \$ _____

Make checks payable to:

Southern California Garden Club

Mail Registration Form & check to:

Robin Pokorski, Registrar
512 Newton St
San Fernando, CA 91340