NAN STERMAN
Water Wise

# Nan Sterman

# WaterWise Gardener

## Talks, Presentations, Demonstrations, and Workshops

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## Talks and Presentations (Full descriptions follow)

- Planting Native at Home
- Balboa Park's Botanical Building: A Garden for Another Hundred Years
- What the Site Knew
- Hot Color, Dry Garden, Color-filled & Waterwise: Colorful Plants
- Hot Color, Dry Garden, Color-filled & Waterwise: Design Concepts
- Big, Bold, Colorful Shrubs for Your Waterwise Garden
- Bye-Bye Grass: How-to Remove Your Lawn
- Design a Waterwise Garden; After the Lawn is Gone
- Let's Talk Trash: Gardening Beyond the Bin
- California Dreamin': Gardening in California's Mediterranean Climate
- Re(en)visioning the Garden: Waterwise and Climate Appropriate
- Perfect Pairings: Tasty Succulent And Non-Succulent Plant Combinations
- Garden Gems: The Best Bulbs for California Gardeners
- Don't Plant This! Avoid the Plants You'll Later Regret
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- Make Every Drop Count: Garden Irrigation Basics
- Plant a Jewish Garden

## Gardens Around the World

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- From Sustainability To Stewardship: New Insights From Old English Gardens
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- Spotlight on the Gardens of the Netherlands and Belgium: Much more than tulips!
- The Romantic Gardens of Spain
- South Africa Plant Safari

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- Garden in a Pot: Container Gardening How-to
- Plant It Hot or Plant It Spicy: Grow Herbs at Home
- Plant a Pot of Tea: Homegrown Herbs for Home Made Teas

## Talks for Professional Audiences

- Landscapes as Legacy
- California Dreamin:' What Your Garden Business Needs to Know to Sell to the California Market
- Edible Landscapes for Pros
- Waterwise Plants for Pros
- Low-water Landscapes - Commercial and HOA

# Program Descriptions

## Talks

One-hour PowerPoint presentations, some illustrated with live plants and other materials

### Planting Native at Home

Native plants are what give our gardens a sense of place. These are also the plants best suited to our climate and soils, support native butterflies, bees, birds, and animals of all sorts, use the least water - and are absolutely beautiful.

As climate change progresses, more and more Baja native plants migrating north into our gardens, too. Join Nan Sterman, WaterWise Gardener for this presentation on how to create and care for your own native plant garden, whether you are a beginner or a seasoned green thumb.

### Balboa Park's Botanical Building: A Garden for Another Hundred Years

Balboa Park's Botanical Building is a one of the world's largest lathouses. Thanks to its beauty and majesty, it has served as the Park's centerpiece since its construction for the 1915 Panama California Exposition.

After more than a century of neglect, the building recently underwent an award-winning restoration. Nan Sterman designed the new interior gardens with the theme of "otherworldly," meaning a place to escape the pressures of the "real world" and a place like no other. The new gardens feature a mixture of old plants and new, in a refreshed and innovative presentation that honors the Botanical Building's history, the prior gardens, and their future. These gardens are designed as the framework for the next hundred years. In this presentation, Nan talks about her vision and process, the history of the building, its restoration, and how the new garden and the new plants are grounded in history yet set the stage for the future.

### What the Site Knew: A Southern California Garden Built on Listening

This talk presents a young, two-acre home garden Nan Sterman designed for the dry, sunbaked inland hills of San Diego, about 35 miles north of the border with Mexico. In this arid, Mediterranean climate, Southern California feels less beach town and more rugged west.

Nan walks the audience through the making of a large landscape on steep slopes with compacted subsoil, limited water, and high fire risk — yet delivers the feel of a rural chaparral retreat, enveloped in native plants that blend into the surroundings and support the native fauna. The core of the garden features the bright colors of drought resistant "mixed Mediterranean"

plantings juxtaposed with the owners' goals include growing enough fruits and vegetables to share with the local food bank. Attendees see how a dry creek bed does double-duty as a bioswale, how onsite native rock found new life lining pathways and vernal pools, and why the smartest thing this garden "did" was sit under a blanket of mulch for a year. If you've struggled with a difficult site and wondered how to make it work for you and with nature, this talk is for you.

## Hot Color, Dry Garden: Color-filled & Waterwise - Colorful Plants

Color is a favorite part of gardening. Red, purple, orange, green, blue... we want them all! As we weed out too-thirsty plants from our gardens, gardeners worry about losing color. Can a drought tolerant garden be colorful and beautiful? Absolutely!

This talk draws on the plants featured in Nan's book *Hot Color, Dry Garden,* to present a wide palette of standout colored plants that thrive in gardens that need little, if any irrigation.

## Hot Color, Dry Garden: Color-filled & Waterwise - Design Concepts

Designing with color is exciting but it can also be a little intimidating and challenging to know where to start. In this talk, Nan demonstrates all the ways to introduce color into the garden, from plants to architecture, accessories to details. She talks about colors best suited to different climates (yes, the best colors depend on the quality of light, which differs in different climates).

Nan presents ways to combine colors, where to find inspiration for color palettes, and uncommon color combinations that work beautifully in the garden.

All of these concepts are illustrated in gorgeous photos, many from Nan's book *Hot Color, Dry Garden.* By the end of this talk, participants are excited and motivated to introduce more color to their gardens.

## Big, Bold, Colorful Shrubs for Your Waterwise Garden

The options for using beautiful, bold, colorful and flower-filled waterwise shrubs are nearly endless. They add fabulous structure to the garden, along with reliable flowers. With some careful planning, you can have shrubs in bloom in every month of the year – whether or not there's much rain.

In this talk, Nan Sterman talks about the many beautiful bold colorful flowering waterwise shrubs and how to use as visual screens or gorgeous backgrounds, fascinating hillside tapestries or sparkling specimens.

## Bye-Bye Grass: How-to Remove Your Lawn

Turf grasses are the least "green" plant in California gardens. They take more water, more fertilizer, more upkeep, are responsible for more green waste (and therefore more greenhouse gases) than almost any other garden plants. And because we put so many products onto grass, it is a major source of water pollution. Truth is, very few of us actually *use* grass. In this session, participants learn several methods for removing lawns and how to approach its replacement.

## Design a Waterwise Garden; After the Lawn is Gone

Once the lawn is gone, what do you do with the bare space? Many a gardener is overwhelmed by the possibilities. This talk focuses on creating an attractive new garden, based on personal aesthetic, the style of your home and household's needs. We talk about hardscape and infrastructure, plant choices, and irrigation, sustainable features and structures, the pros and cons of doing it yourself or working with a professional.

When held at a garden or nursery, this presentation includes a walk-through and discussion about different plants.

## Let's Talk Trash: Gardening Beyond the Bin

Gardeners are renowned for their dedication to reuse, repurpose, and recycle. In this talk, Southern California gardener and designer Nan Sterman takes the three "R's" to a whole new level. Nan invites you to see garden materials in a whole new way through creative — and sometimes quirky — examples from around the world. You'll be inspired to rethink "trash" and not-so-trash as resources for building beauty and function. From retaining walls and walkways to fences, sheds, even wildlife habitats, discover how imaginative reuse can create beauty, solve garden challenges, save you money, and keep materials out of the waste stream.

## California Dreamin: Gardening in California's Mediterranean Climate

Thanks to California's Mediterranean climate, gardening here is different from anywhere else in America. In this talk, we discuss what it means to live and garden in a Mediterranean climate.

Nan talks about soil, rainfall, plants, and techniques for creating productive and beautiful gardens that thrive in our climate. She also shows examples of gorgeous gardens in many different styles, all done with a Mediterranean plant palette.

## Re(en)visioning The Garden

What does a waterwise garden look like? Many people envision drab, brown gardens, but nothing could be further from the truth. Waterwise gardens are colorful and lush. They can be any style imaginable from Spanish to English, Asian to modern.

This talk is a virtual tour of beautiful, low water, sustainable gardens, big and small, fancy and simple, and done in many styles. We discuss the features and plants that characterize each garden. By the end, participants are inspired to make their own gardens waterwise!

## Perfect Pairings: Tasty Succulent And Non-Succulent Plant Combinations

Succulents are the rage and for good reason. They are beautiful, sculptural, fit in nearly every style garden *and* are extremely waterwise. While succulents are beautiful on their own, they are even more striking when paired with non-succulent plants. Together, they offer color, texture, height, and contrast: layers of broad fleshy leaves against feathery leaves, strappy leaves, purple leaves, chartreuse leaves, and more. In this illustrated presentation, Nan will present some tasty combinations of succulents with non-

succulents as she discusses the infrastructure and garden practices that keep "blended" gardens healthy and thriving.

## Garden Gems: The Best Bulbs for California Gardens

Bulbs are the gems of the garden. While tulips, hyacinth, and other temperate climate bulbs fail in our warm, dry California gardens, there is a host of bulbs, from California, South Africa, South America, and other Mediterranean regions, that bloom beautifully from spring through fall.

In this talk, Nan introduces bulbs for nearly year round bloom, talks about how to grow them and how to use them in the garden. Learn where each bulb comes from and see photos of fantastic bulbs growing in the wild where they blanket vast acreages with yellow, pink, purple, white, red, and orange.

## Don't Plant This! Avoid the Plants You'll Later Regret

Ever ask a gardener about the plants they wish they'd *never* planted? Nan talks about a bunch of them that reproduce too freely, swallow up a house in a season, are prone to disease, attract unwanted "visitors" to the garden, invade nearby native habitats, are impossible to train, or will be in the garden forever, whether wanted or not. Be forewarned! Be forearmed! Don't plant this!

## Drip is Hip: Gardeners' Intro to Drip Irrigation

Drip irrigation is hip. More than that, drip irrigation works extremely well and *is the most water efficient irrigation technology*.

Where traditional overhead spray systems *waste half of the water that comes out of a spray head*, drip irrigation puts water directly onto the rootball, where it is needed. It also keeps fertilizers, pesticides, and pollutant-laced runoff out of our waterways.

Old style drip irrigation technology is a maze of parts and pieces that blows apart, falls apart, and otherwise breaks.

In this presentation, Nan demonstrates the best irrigation technologies, their parts and pieces, how they are made, how easy they are to install and maintain, and where to learn more about them. She discusses specific irrigation situations (vegetable gardens vs. ornamental gardens, slopes, mixed plantings, etc.) and how to use drip with them as well.

## Make Every Drop Count: Garden Irrigation Basics

This talk covers everything you've ever wanted to know about plants and irrigation but were unsure how to ask. Nan starts with the basics of water conservation and why is it important, along with an overview of how plants use water, why some need more and some need less. She talks about how plants evolve and adapt to their growing conditions – arid or otherwise - to help you understand how often and how long to water plants growing in your garden.

Nan then turns the focus to irrigation methods and technologies, especially the most effective and most efficient approaches to watering, managing water, capturing rainwater, using graywater, and much more.

### Plant a Jewish Garden

Planting, growing, and harvesting are fundamental to Judaism. Agriculture ties Jews to the seasons and to the land, through holidays and life cycle events. In this presentation, you'll learn about connections between Judaism and fruits, vegetables, herbs, grains, trees, shrubs, and more.

Nan will talk about traditions and practices that easily translate to home gardens. She will discuss how easy it is to grow most, if not all, of the plants mentioned in the Torah and many more that have come to play a role in the traditions of more modern times. Nan will even talk about some ancient traditions that deserve to be revived.

## Gardens Around the World

### California Dreaming: Touring the Golden State's Most Celebrated Gardens

This talk showcases some of California's best known gardens and some best-kept secrets. We start at Filoli, a property of the National Trust for Historic Preservation in Woodside, California where their annual fruit festival features hundreds varieties of apples, pears, grapes and other fruits from Filoli's gentleman's orchard, first planted in the early 1900s and available for tasting. We'll stroll Filoli's elaborate formal gardens as well, including a rare knot garden.

From there we travel south, stopping, at a private garden along the central coast that features an African inspired savannah, grass labyrinth, and ocean view orchards. We make a side trip to visit the colorful and dynamic trial garden of vegetables and flowers at the home of Renee Shepherd, owner of Renee's Garden seed company. In Carmel, we visit Rivermouth, a stunning Bernard Trainor designed grass garden overlooking the mouth of the Carmel River. We continue south, visiting gardens along the way and finishing up at Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden in Claremont, California. Rancho Santa Ana is the state's largest and oldest botanic garden devoted strictly to natives

By the end of our armchair tour, you'll be searching airlines flights and planning your very own tour of Beautiful California Gardens.

### From Sustainability To Stewardship: New Insights From Old English Gardens

New garden trends still originate in old England! Even in that historic region, resources are becoming more precious. Private gardens and public gardens like Sissinghurst, Great Dixter, RSH Wisley, and Hidcote are among those refocusing on stewardship, far beyond sustainability. They integrate wildflowers and grasses into formal gardens as an acknowledgment that attracting beneficials is as important as beauty. Habitat borders alongside edible gardens attract pollinators to ensure fruit production.

Traditional perennial borders now serve double duty – both as beautiful spaces for people to enjoy as well as places for birds and other animals to find food and shelter. They promote home gardens that survive on rainfall in order to conserve precious potable water, and they plant trees

to ensure that centuries old forests are sustained for the benefit and enjoyment of future generations – human and otherwise.

Feeding people, feeding animals, using resources wisely while maintaining the beauty, history and legacy of English gardening are elements of a new English stewardship beyond sustainability and lessons for us all.

## Beauty & Inspiration: Legacy Gardens of Provence and the French Riviera

A tour of gardens in the south of France is every gardener's dream. If you haven't yet had the opportunity (or if you have and would like to relive that experience), you'll love Nan's illustrated tour of the legacy gardens of Provence and the French Riviera.

This tour takes you to a dozen gardens, starting at La Louve, French designer Nicole de Vesian's fabulous country home and garden. We stop at La Chaboude, designer Philippe Cottet's modern interpretation of a 15th century farmhouse and garden. Further south, we visit Jardin Exotic, the 85 year-old succulent gardens on the cliffs overhanging Monaco, and Lawrence Johnston's Serra de la Madone (where Johnston retreated after selling Hidcote, the garden designed in England).

There are more public gardens, private gardens, historic gardens, and iconic gardens, ending at Monet's Giverny. Though it is not in Provence or the French Riviera, every garden tour to France should include Giverny!

## Spotlight on the Gardens of the Netherlands and Belgium: Much more than tulips!

Join Nan Sterman on a virtual journey to the gardens and landscapes of the Netherlands. You might think of Dutch landscapes as being all about tulips, and there are tulips for sure, but there is much, much more.

We visit fantastic garden vignettes at Appletern, designed by 200 of the best and brightest Dutch designers. Visit a secluded 17th century garden behind a classical canal home in Amsterdam. Watch the goings on at the world's largest flower auction at Aalsmeer (imagine flower filled bumper cars).

Take a side trip to the Keukenhof garden, famous for its over-the-top springtime bulb displays. Visit the operations of a third generation bulb grower, hybridizer, and exporter. And see Floriade, the once-a-decade horticultural and agricultural World's Fair that celebrates plants and displays from across the globe. Experience this breathtaking tour from the comfort of your chair – and without having to go through airport security!

## The Romantic Gardens of Spain

Let Nan take you on a virtual tour of the romantic gardens of Spain's Andalucía region, known for its Mediterranean climate, miles of olive groves, and aromatic citrus. Here, gardens and architecture are fascinating, complex, and inextricably united as a result of thousands of years' occupation by Moors, Romans, and Spaniards.

This talk includes a brief history of the region, then introduces the most beautiful and notable gardens from around the region. We "visit" Cordoba's famous Patio Festival, when dozens of private old world courtyard gardens compete for "best of." The winners open their gates to welcome visitors for just two brief weeks. If you've seen photos of white walled courtyards with pots of overflowing red and pink geraniums hanging from the walls, that's iconic Cordoba.

Nan takes the audience through gardens at the Alcazar de Sevilla, one of the world's *most beautiful* gardens (and one of Nan's top five world-wide garden favorites). The talk includes the gardens and architecture of the famous Alhambra where generations of Sultans added to and embellished the buildings and gardens. Nan includes fabulous private gardens, public gardens, and more – each gorgeous enough to make you check ticket prices for the next flight to Spain.

### South Africa Plant Safari

The flight is long and exhausting, so let Nan take you on a virtual trip to discover the otherworldly plants and gardens of South Africa's Mediterranean Cape region. In this talk, we visit Cape Town's famous Kirstenbosch Garden, whose garden beds are filled with the country's native botanical wonders.

Next, we head to the bush to see plants California gardeners grow in their gardens – but we see them in their native habitats. *Aloe, Echeveria*, and other succulents, Protea, cone bushes, a rainbow of blooming spring bulbs, and so many more amazing, exotic, unusual plants.

There's a stop in the ancient Quivertree Forest, a stop at the native bulb fields in the north, and various gorgeous private, public, and botanical gardens along the way, from desert to coast, river to mountain top. If you aren't already growing South African plants in your garden, you'll want to plant some after this talk!0

### International Inspirations: Highlights from Gardens Around the World

Do you love to travel, or are you more of an armchair traveler? Whatever your preferred way to see the world, this presentation will thrill you with images of the world's most beautiful and inspiring gardens.

Every year, Nan leads a garden tour to somewhere in the world to see gardens, visit farms, native habitats, nurseries and so much more. She'll show you amazing, beautiful, imaginative, awe inspiring images shot in gardens she's seen from England to South Africa, Costa Rica to Spain and some from the US, too. Enjoy this spirited trip while you gather ideas and inspirations for your garden as well!

## Edible Gardening

### Cultivate Flavor – Grow Your Own Fresh Herbs and Spices

Say goodbye to the bland, store-bought spices gathering dust in the hidden corners of your pantry and instead embrace the explosion of flavors from fresh homegrown herbs and spices. From their pungent punches to grassy notes, resinous richness, and peppery delights, fresh herbs and spices turn an everyday dish into a delicious masterpiece.

The good news is that many herbs and spices thrive year-round in pots on your patio or as permanent plants in your garden. In this captivating talk, Nan Sterman shares the secrets to growing your own garden herbs and spices. Discover how to "spice up" your garden with trees, shrubs, grasses, and more — a feast for your eyes that also tantalizes your taste buds.

## Incredible! Edible, Waterwise, and Beautiful (Presentation with optional demonstration)

It's ironic that as gardeners grow more interested in raising their own vegetables, we are all facing the reality of limited water supplies. Growing food and saving water sound like they work against each other, but in home gardens, that isn't the case!

This talk covers:

- The most water efficient ways to grow traditional; vegetables, herbs, and fruits.
- Low-water vegetables, herbs and fruits to grow, some familiar and some a surprise.
- How to integrate low-water edibles to beautify your garden.

Edible, beautiful, and water-wise -- what more could a gardener ask for!

## Raise Your Vegetables In Bed

Grow more per square foot, with less water, less back stress, fewer pest problems and an extended growing season, even in the worst soil in the world! How? By growing vegetables in a raised bed. Nan presents different examples of raised beds, including a time-proven method for easy-on-the-back (and easy for small children) wooden raised beds.

The talk includes construction diagrams for building these favorite raised beds, a 90 second time-lapse video demo that shows how to build beds, and some tips and tricks Nan has learned in her years of raised bed gardening

## Growing, Cooking, and Eating the Mediterranean Way (Presentation with optional cooking demonstration)

We've long heard that the Mediterranean diet reduces the risk of heart disease, incidents of cancer, Parkinson's and Alzheimer's disease. What is the Mediterranean diet? It's a plant-based diet where olive oil replaces butter, spices and herbs replace salt, and red wine is encouraged as is enjoying meals with family and friends. It includes many familiar edibles and some less familiar ones too, but all are delicious and easy to grow.

In this presentation, Nan talks about growing and cooking Mediterranean favorites, drawing on a rich history of cookbooks that have inspired the current fascination with ingredients like garbanzo and fava beans, pomegranate, eggplant, cilantro, tomato, peppers, oregano, bay, artichokes, saffron, rosemary, and more. Nan will talk about common Mediterranean spices, how to cook with each of these edibles and share many of her favorite recipes, too.

### Landscaping with Herbs

Once you've grown your own herbs, you'll never be satisfied with the dried green stuff that markets sell in bottles and plastic bags. Homegrown herbs are pungent, sweet, grassy, tangy, and aromatic, in ways that are lost in dried herbs. Fortunate for us, most of the traditional herbs and many less common herbs are all easy to grow in warm, dry summer gardens. And, these herbs are beautiful.

In this talk, Nan discusses how to grow garden herbs for year round harvest and cooking. She discusses how herbs are used in different dishes, and how to grow them in the garden as trees, shrubs, groundcovers, and more. Nan illustrates how these plants are more than tasty; they are beautiful additions to every home garden.

## Hands-on Workshops and Demonstrations

### Garden Transformation Workshop: Create Your Own Waterwise Eden (Three sessions)

Transforming a garden from lawn (or weeds) to waterwise takes some planning, some knowledge, and some trial and error. Whether you do it yourself, or work with a professional, it's hard to know where to start and what to do. This three-part series empowers participants by providing the basics to choose either direction.

Session One focuses on lawn removal (see "Bye-Bye Grass").

Session Two kicks off with a virtual tour of beautiful, low water and sustainable landscapes. We keep those inspiring images in mind as we discuss planning the new garden: ways to use the space, soils, irrigation and hardscape, structures, the process of design and construction, etc.

Session Three is about low water plants, both edible and ornamental, design concepts and long-term care. Participants prepare their own palette of waterwise plants and a plan of action for creating their own Waterwise Eden.

### Five-Minute Garden Design (excellent for a nursery setting)

On a beautiful Saturday you head to the nursery, ready to replace your thirsty, high maintenance garden. Once you arrive, you park your car and step through the entry, then you stop. Overwhelmed. Not sure what to look at or which plants to choose....

In this class, Nan demonstrates how to make beautiful combinations of water-wise plants in five minutes (okay, maybe 10 minutes). Some combos are based on color schemes; others are themes such as native plants, succulents, edibles, and so on. In the process, Nan talks about:

- How to shop for plants in a nursery
- Where to look for a nursery's waterwise selections
- What to prepare before shopping

- What low-water plants look like and what makes them low water
- How to read plant labels

## Sprout! Start Your Vegetable Garden From Seeds

Seeds are magical little things – pieces of dried out "wood" that, when watered, suddenly come alive to make tall redwoods, bright red poppies, even delicious tomatoes and eggplant. Starting from seed allows gardeners to try varieties of plants seldom seen in the nursery – especially herbs and vegetables.

This presentation covers everything a hoping-for-green-thumb needs to raise a summer full of vegetables, fruits, and herbs, including seed starting secrets Nan's developed from years of starting her own garden from seed and testing seeds for Organic Gardening Magazine.

In the hands-on workshop, participants take home hundreds of dollars' worth of seeded plants that will produce several hundred dollars more worth of vegetables. They also gain the knowledge to produce that same value every year.

## From Sticks to Stems: Propagate Plants from Cuttings

Starting new plants from cuttings is truly amazing. Lop off a branch, stick it into some potting soil and soon it's an entire plant! And truthfully, it is almost that easy after participants know some of the tricks that propagators use. Once they see and understand the process, they can propagate almost anything, from the shrubs coveted in a neighbor's garden to that new perennial on sale at the nursery (though not if it is a patented variety).

This demonstration covers some of the basics making and potting cuttings, how to care for them, and how to transplant them once they are ready to go!

## Garden in a Pot: Container Gardening How-to

Not everyone has room for an entire garden, but everyone has room for a container garden.

Container gardens are just like gardens in the ground, just smaller. They have exactly the same requirements – light, water, and soil. In this demonstration, Nan discusses the best uses for different types of containers and how to match plants to pots and pots to plants. She'll demonstrate container-planting methods, how to combine plants, how to find the right spot for container gardens, and so on. She'll share some of her best tips for making container gardens instant successes. Focus can be on edibles or ornamentals, depending on the audience.

## Plant It Hot or Plant It Spicy: Grow Herbs at Home

Do you like hot or do you like spicy? Either way, it's easy to grow the herbs you like to use in your favorite recipes. Homegrown herbs taste totally different from the dry herbs sold in the market. In this hands-on workshop, Nan Sterman introduces you to a host of fresh familiar and specialty herbs, from bay to oregano, myrtle to lavender. You'll plant your own pots too, one hot, one spicy, to take home and grow in your garden. If you love to cook and you like to garden, this workshop is made for you. In fact, once you go fresh, you might never go back.

### Plant a Pot of Tea: Homegrown Herbs for Home Made Teas

If your image of making tea starts with a white paper mesh bags filled with mysterious dried leaves, this workshop will blow your mind. Green, black, and white teas are all versions of dried and cured leaves of *Camellia sinensis*, which are a little too thirsty for San Diego gardens. But that's not the case for herb teas. Our climate is great for growing lemon verbena, mint, cardamom, pineapple sage, lavender, hyssop, and many more herbs you can use to blend your very own teas, dried or fresh. In this hands-on workshop, Nan Sterman demonstrates a host of herbs that are super easy in a pot or in the ground and all of which make great teas. Get ready to get dirty while you plant a pot of tea.

## Talks for Professional Audiences

### Landscapes as Legacy

Landscape architects and landscape designers often focus on the near term – paying the bills (important), finishing the job (also important). Equally important is thinking about the long term. These professionals bear an enormous responsibility for shaping both the environment and the way people think about and interact with the environment, not just today but for decades if not centuries to come.

In this presentation, Nan presents a selection of historical and contemporary projects in the public realm whose influences inspire change and connection. Using these examples, Nan encourages the audience to consider not only their personal legacies, but the long-term legacies of the projects they create.

### California Dreamin': What You Needs to Know to Sell in the California Market

California's garden market is huge, but it can also be confusing. California's climate, seasons, soils, plants and gardening needs are very different from the rest of the country.

California native, garden writer, designer and author Nan Sterman describes how people garden in California as compared to the rest of the country. She talks about the challenges California gardener's face and how those challenges translate to opportunities for businesses. She also talks about ways to adapt products and services to meet California's enormous garden market.

### Edible Landscapes for Pros

Edibles are on everyone's radar, but they can be a challenge for professional landscape designers and landscape contractors to include in landscapes. Which are attractive enough to use as landscape elements? What is the best way to use them? How do we factor in our clients' needs and preferences? These issues come up in terms of edible landscape plants. When it comes to vegetable gardens, though, there is an entirely different set of considerations, all of which are gaining importance as clients ask for gardens to feed their families.

### Waterwise Plants for Pros

The public's demand for beautiful, easy care, low water plants is absolutely exploding. For professionals, keeping up with the demand can be challenging. This talk presents a large, but not

overwhelming plant palette customized to meet these criteria. Nan covers how to use these plants in the landscape, what to combine them with, their culture, and their care.

## Low-water Landscapes – Commercial and HOA

As our resources dwindle and people become more aware of how *little* time, money, and resources low-water landscapes require, more and more commercial property owners, agencies, and HOAs are interested in making that conversion. Ready to respond?

This talk presents three beautiful, well done, low-water landscapes – two commercial and one large scale residential. Participants hear about the designers' intent, the installers challenges, and the maintenance companies' methods of handling these properties successfully, skillfully, and beautifully.

## Nan Sterman speaks to audiences such as:

- The Northwest Flower and Garden Show
- Rancho La Puerta
- The Water Conservation Garden
- Los Angeles County Arboretum
- San Diego Botanical Garden
- Las Virgenes Water District
- Otay Water District
- County of San Diego Planning Department
- California Landscape Contractors Association
- Urban Land Institute
- Sharp Hospital Women's Conference
- Water Conservation Garden Park, St. George, Utah
- San Diego Natural History Museum
- The Gardens on Spring Creek
- The San Diego Spring/Fall Home Garden Show
- Mediterranean Garden Society
- American Horticultural Society
- Master Gardeners
- Garden Clubs
- Horticultural Societies
- California Center for Sustainable Energy
- Cuyamaca College Sustainability Symposium
- Direct Gardening Association
- Everde Growers
- Business Lunch and Learns
- The Scripps Research Institute
- KPBS Public TV/Radio
- San Diego Flower and Plant Association
- Alaska Botanic Garden
- Pacific Horticulture
- Land and Water Summit/The International Xeriscape and Water Conservation Conference
- Paper Garden Workshop

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## Booking Information

Prices for talks, workshops, and demonstrations vary based on the topic, the nature of your group, size of the audience, and travel required. For more information, please email hello@WaterWiseGardener.com.

**Nan's schedule fills months in advance • Please book your event today**