

Cultivate and Protect: Free Permaculture Gardening and Wildfire Preparedness Workshop

Encinitas, CA—Olivenhain Municipal Water District, in partnership with Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District, invites the public to attend a free workshop on permaculture gardening and wildfire safety. This workshop will be held on August 15 at 5:30 p.m. at Elfin Forest Interpretive Center Honoring Susan J. Varty located at 8833 Harmony Grove Road in Escondido.

Josh Robinson of SD Sustainable will discuss methods to reduce outdoor water use through permaculture gardening design. Permaculture gardening mimics nature to garden organically, provides habitat for wildlife, and creates a low-maintenance, water-efficient garden. Participants will learn about designing ecologically functional gardens, food forestry, and discover examples of San Diego ecosystem gardens.

Mark Smith of Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District will discuss wildfire preparedness. Attendees will learn about defensible space, fire prevention landscaping techniques, fire hazards to be aware of, and recommended evacuation protocols.

"Utilizing permaculture gardening techniques promotes water conservation through efficient irrigation and resilient plant choices," said Director Marco San Antonio. "It is also crucial for our customers to learn wildfire protection methods that reduce water use while safeguarding lives and property."

Registration for the workshop is required at www.olivenhain.com/events.

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Located at 8833 Harmony Grove Road in the community of Elfin Forest, Elfin Forest Recreational Reserve provides a wealth of opportunities for recreation, outdoor education, and environmental appreciation. The 784-acre open space reserve was developed by OMWD in partnership with the San Diego County Water Authority and the US Bureau of Land Management.

Olivenhain Municipal Water District is a public agency providing water, wastewater services, recycled water, hydroelectricity, and operation of Elfin Forest Recreational Reserve. Organized in 1959, OMWD currently serves approximately 87,000 customers over 48 square miles in northern San Diego County.

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