

**For Immediate Release:**

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**Contact:**

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## Tour Sustainable Gardens in San José

*Attend the First Bay Friendly Garden Tour in Santa Clara County*

**Event:** This self-guided tour features 13 private home gardens of native plant enthusiasts, wildlife gardeners and urban food growers. You will learn about the individual gardeners' accomplishments and challenges in utilizing natural gardening techniques to create a sustainable home garden fit for the Bay Area.

Registration is required by **May 6, 2011** at [www.BayFriendlyCoalition.org](http://www.BayFriendlyCoalition.org). For more information, email [erin.mcdaniel@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:erin.mcdaniel@sanjoseca.gov) or call 831-345-4375.

**When:** Sunday, May 15 2011  
10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

**Where:** San José – Map of garden locations provided with registration

**Cost:** \$10, *FREE* with new membership

**Background:** Highlights include backyard orchards, kitchen gardens, and drought tolerant replacements for water-thirsty lawns. The tour also features chickens, their beneficial use, and how to care for them. The gardens range from professionally designed postage stamp-sized lots to exuberant one acre do-it-yourself gardens. The tour includes noon time presentations on sustainable landscaping techniques and principles. The guidebook contains several locations at which native plants and vegetables can be purchased on the day of tour.

The principles and practices of Bay-Friendly landscaping and gardening provide tools for home gardeners, landscape professionals, and public agencies to reduce waste, conserve resources and protect the watersheds of the San Francisco Bay. The Bay-Friendly Garden Tour is organized through the Bay-Friendly Landscaping & Gardening Coalition and the City of San José's Environmental Services Department.

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