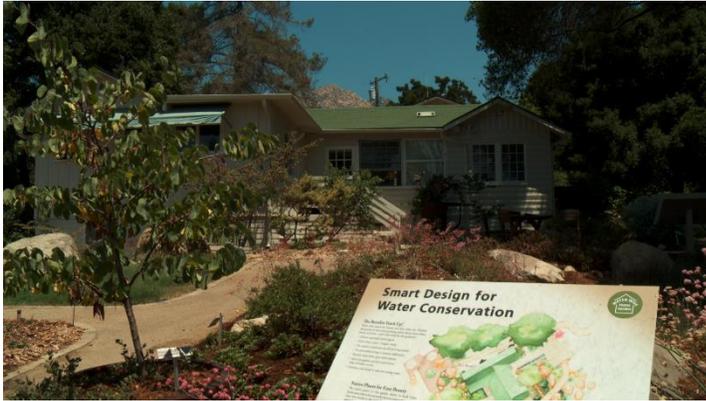


Garden Wise TV Episode 15: Take Your Landscape to the Next Level with Trees (34:08)

Fall has officially arrived, which means it is the perfect time to establish water wise plants! In this episode, host Becky Davis and guests will teach you how to properly water and prune your plants as well as give you some inspiration for remodeling your landscape this fall.



First, we stop by the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden (SBGG) to look around their newly renovated home demonstration garden, originally the caretaker's home. Kim Ture, local landscape architect, explains how the garden's dry creek bed collects water from the house's downspouts and prevents it from entering the storm drain. At the bottom of the creek bed is a rainwater garden which is home to plants that specialize in uptake of storm water and

clear out pollutants. Betsey Collins, SBGG's Director of Horticulture shows us some of the native and water wise plants she chose for the home demonstration garden including the Seaside Daisy and Giant Chalk Dudleya. The home demonstration garden is a great place for waterwise inspiration, so head to the botanic gardens to start learning today or download the Native Plant Booklet for Santa Barbara County [here!](#)

Next, we visit Cathie Pare, Water Resources Specialist with the City of Santa Barbara, who shows us how to effectively water trees during the drought. Methods include in-line drip systems, DIY drip irrigation bucket and using a water probe for deep root watering. While in-line drip systems and drip irrigation buckets can be done by anyone, you will want a professional to perform any deep watering with a probe. Whichever method you choose, it is vital that trees are watered around the edge of the leaf canopy (the drip zone), to ensure water reaches the feeder roots.



Pruning is a vital part to keeping your trees healthy. In this segment, Oscar Carmona, Instructor of the Green Gardener Program and owner of Healing Grounds Nursery, teaches us how to prune trees properly. Oscar recommends hand tools that have been properly maintained for the cleanest possible cut without tearing. Oscar reminds us that leaves store most of the plant's energy therefore never cut more than 20% of the leaf cover on your trees. He recommends starting with problem areas (dying portions), then moving on to managing the tree's size. Avoid tip cuts along the whole tree and instead follow the branch down and cut near side shoots.



Next, learn how to transform your backyard into the space of your dreams with local landscape architect, Billy Goodnick. Watch as Billy helps his clients transform their landscape and cut their water usage. By cutting down on grass and adding tropical-looking plants that fit the existing plant palette, these Santa Barbara residents are on their way to a beautiful new backyard.

Finally in a new segment of, “What Tree Is That?” Randy Baldwin, President of San Marcos Growers, introduces us to the Dragon Tree. This tree was the first measured and documented on the California Big Tree Registry, monitored by Cal Poly San Luis Obispo. The Dragon Tree originates from the Macronesia Islands, and does well in the southern California. Dragon Trees are drought tolerant, low maintenance, and fit well with succulents, making it a great option for Santa Barbara landscapes.



In the wise words of Becky Davis, “remember you are the agent of change, and together we can create beautiful climate appropriate gardens”. Now, you have the tools to create a healthy, water wise garden. Learn more about designing water wise landscapes by visiting WaterWiseSB.org.