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## Learning Something New: Ocean Friendly Gardening

by Andrea Swayne

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Photo courtesy of Ocean Friendly Gardens

You know the saying, “You learn something new every day.” This is quite true, I think—even when we just live life passively. Stuff happens, we learn something and hopefully apply it in the future. But the learning I want to talk about, does not happen passively. I’m talking about the kind that you must seek out.

As the mother of a high school senior applying to colleges, recently I have become acutely aware of the high cost of education. Being faced with mind boggling tuition figures got me thinking about other

opportunities for learning that are available without cost and how, all too often, I let them pass me by. I know it’s a bit late to be talking about New Year’s resolutions, but I hadn’t given the subject much thought until now. So here’s mine: I resolve to grab hold of as many free opportunities to learn something new as possible and share them with others—especially if it’s something related to, 1. caring for the environment, or 2. saving money.

The Surfrider Foundation South OC Chapter is launching a program they call Ocean Friendly Gardens (OFG for short) that does both.

Are you interested in learning more about how to create beautiful eye-catching landscapes at your home or business while conserving water and protecting the health of our beaches and ocean water? Then this program is just the ticket.

They have invited the public to attend a free OFG Basics Class at Tree of Life Nursery, 33201 Ortega Highway in San Juan Capistrano on Saturday, February 19 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. and breakfast will be served, courtesy of Surfrider Foundation’s South OC Chapter.


The class will be led by Pamela Berstler of G3 Green Gardens Group, an OFG partner, along with Paul Herzog, National Surfrider Foundation OFG Coordinator and Dana Point resident and

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local chapter Special Events Chair Denise Erkeneff.

Runoff from our neighborhood streets and landscaping are the largest source of water pollution affecting our oceans and waterways. This problem not only fouls the ocean but needlessly wastes precious water. Stop by to learn how simple steps taken in the garden can make a big impact and save money in the long run.

Hope to see you there.

**ON THE WEB:** [Ocean Friendly Gardens](#); [www.surfrider.org/ofg.asp](http://www.surfrider.org/ofg.asp); [Tree of Life Nursery](#); [www.californianativeplants.com](http://www.californianativeplants.com); [Surfrider Foundation South OC Chapter](#), [www.surfrider.org/southorangedcounty](http://www.surfrider.org/southorangedcounty).



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Today's Events

event calendar

February, 2011						
?	<	>	>	>	>	>
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28					

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- [Newport Beat 9:30 PM](#)  
9:30 p.m. Live band at Molly Blooms Irish ...
- [Piano Bar 7:00 PM to 11:00 PM](#)  
7 p.m.–11 p.m. Live piano with Elliot ever...
- [Legal Genie Clinic for... 3:30 PM to 5:30 PM](#)  
\$0 Legal Genie Clinic | Thursdays | 3:30 p.m....
- [Karaoke 9:00 PM](#)  
9 p.m. El Mariachi Restaurant hosts Karaok...
- [Surfrider Foundation S... 7:00 PM to 1:41 PM](#)  
Surfrider SOC's annual holiday party alway...

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