

Marin's 5th Annual Eco Friendly Garden Tour

Saturday, May 14, 2011
10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

This self-guided tour highlights over 20 inspiring gardens that use practices sensitive to our local environment. At each location a professional landscaper, designer or homeowner will be on hand to answer your questions.

Garden Highlights

- Rain gardens, swales and cisterns
- Erosion control measures
- Lawn conversions/replacement
- Permeable walkways
- Edible organic gardens
- Pesticide-free landscapes
- Native or drought tolerant plants
- Vineyard
- Cob bench
- Graywater systems
- Urban chickens



Photo by Michelle Derviss



Reserve Your Place Today!

\$10 per person

Free to children 18 and under

For tickets, visit:

www.brownpapertickets.com

1.800.838.3006

For More Information

415.499.3202

gpurin@co.marin.ca.us

www.mcstoppp.org

Sponsored by

Marin County Stormwater Pollution
Prevention Program

Marin Municipal Water District

North Marin Water District

Marin Independent Journal

Related Event

Register for Sonoma's Eco-Friendly Garden Tour
Saturday, May 21, 2011 — www.savingwaterpartnership.org

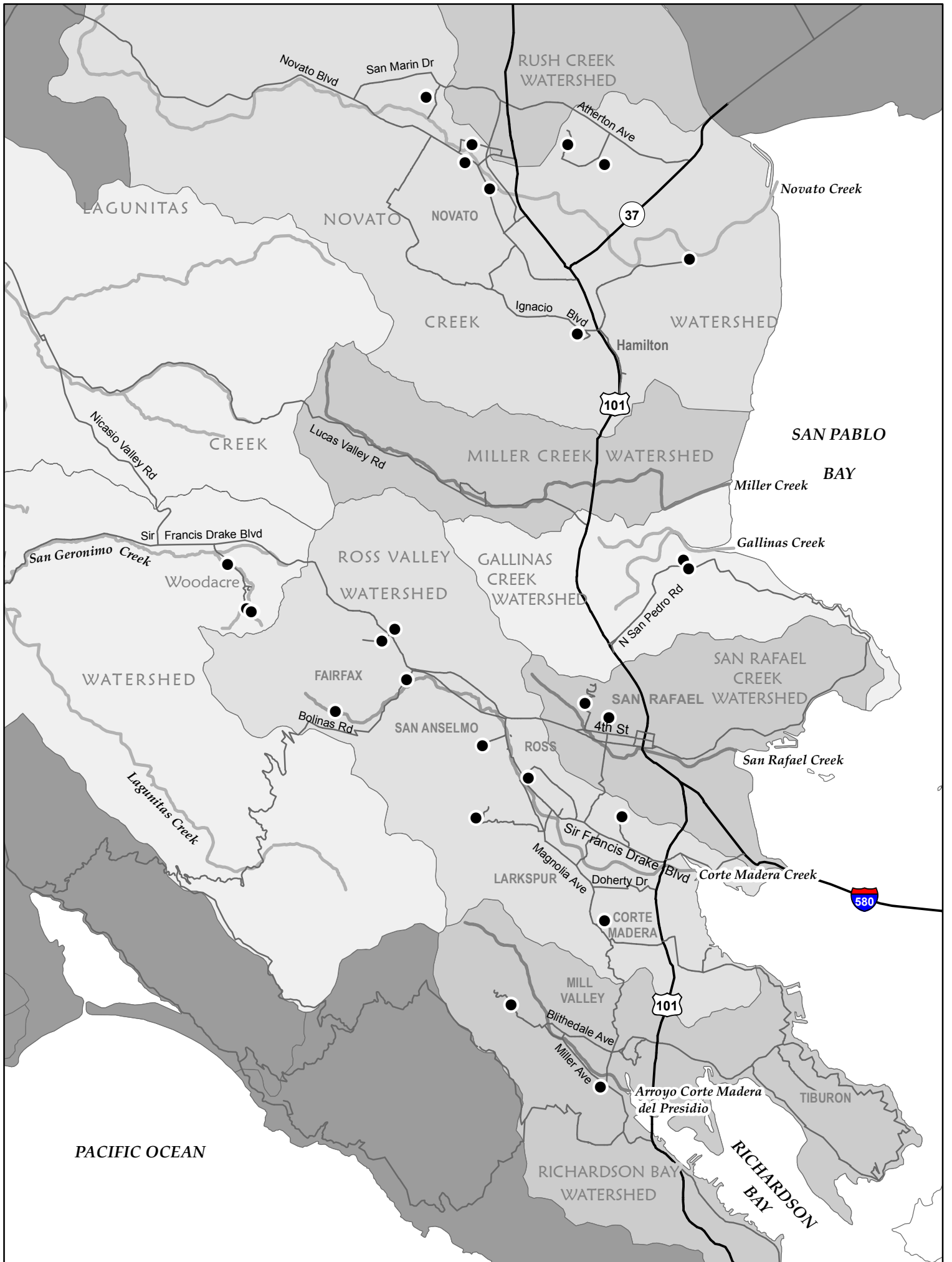
If you are a person with a disability and require accommodations, or if you require materials in alternative formats, please call 415.473.4381 voice/TTY or email: disabilityaccess@co.marin.ca.us

GARDENS AT A GLANCE

Some highlights associated with the gardens are noted below.

City	<i>Free of Toxic Pesticides</i>	<i>Name of Watershed</i>	<i>Rainwater Management</i>	<i>Irrigation Method</i>	<i>Native Plants</i>	<i>Compost System</i>	<i>Drought Tolerant</i>	<i>Edibles</i>	<i>Reclaimed materials</i>	<i>Hillside Terracing</i>	<i>First Year on Tour</i>	<i>BFL Graduate Present*</i>	<i>Other Features/ Comments</i>
Mill Valley	X	Richardson Bay	re-directed downspouts	hand water and drip		X	X		X	X			deerproof planting
Mill Valley	X	Richardson Bay	swales, rain barrels and cisterns	smart controller, drip, & micro sprayers		X		X		X	X		hens, bee hives, lawn replacement, bat and owl box
Greenbrae	X	Ross Valley	terracing, permeable hardscapes; abundant mulch, berms and swales	smart controller, on-site weather station, drip irrigation	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	owl/bat/bluebird boxes; bee hive; lawn replacement with ornamentals that attract butterflies, bees, beneficial insects, hummingbirds; backflow prevention device; irrigation system 'sub-meter' to track water use separate from the home
Larkspur	X	Ross Valley		drip	X	X	X				X	X	front yard; ground cover makes it almost impossible for weeds to take root; maximum deer resistance
Kentfield	X	Ross Valley	swales and tanks		X		X	X			X	X	keeping fire safety in mind
Ross	X	Ross Valley	cistern	drip emitters								X	rose garden; visitors can select a free rose; Dan Carney from MMWD shows on-site cistern
San Anselmo	X	Ross Valley		smart controllers				X	X		X	X	featured in "Better Homes and Gardens"
Fairfax	X	Ross Valley	tank, swale	drip	X	X	X	X	X				no lawn; cob bench
Fairfax	X	Ross Valley		smart "clock"	X	X		X		X	X	X	10 am to 1pm learn about "smart clocks"

Fairfax	X	Ross Valley		drip				X	X	X	X	X	artful and permeable walkways	
Fairfax	X	Ross Valley	cistern and rain garden		X								native ferns; blue bird nesting boxes; bee, bird and butterfly sanctuaries; tours led by Manor's Green Team every half hour starting at 10:30	
Woodacre	X	Lagunitas		drip		X	X					X	deer resistant plants	
Woodacre	X	Lagunitas		smart controllers	X	X		X	X			X	lawn conversion; creating defensible space	
Woodacre	X	Lagunitas	tank	smart controller				X				X	gopher solution	
San Rafael	X	San Rafael Creek	swales and berms	smart controller	X	X	X		X			X	low water use and habitat plants	
San Rafael	X	San Rafael Creek	rain garden and dry creek system	sub-surface drip	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	main lawn replaced with vegetable beds, gravel paths, etc.	
San Rafael	X	Gallinas Creek		smart and drip	X		X		X			X	many native plants; pond; Master Gardeners also available with an info table	
San Rafael	X	Gallinas Creek				X		X					bees, owl box, owner has 4 - 5 hives - ask questions about beekeeping; won best of show for their compost at 2010 County Fair	
Novato	X	Novato Creek		drip			X	X				X	soil testing	
Novato	X	Novato Creek	cistern	high efficiency sp	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	chickens, bird/bat boxes, natives/habitat, recycled garden art, plants for sale
Novato	X	Novato Creek	contour infiltration swales	drip	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	pond and waterfall	
Novato	X	Novato Creek		drip	X			X					native and habitat gardens; nest box tours; book signing; plant sale	
Novato	X	Novato Creek		greywater and drip	X		X	X	X			X	greywater specialist present ; art in garden	
Novato	X	Novato Creek		hand watering	X				X			X	front yard is 99% native plants and grasses	
Novato	X	Novato Creek		hand water			X	X	X			X	award winning garden; art features	
Novato	X	Novato Creek	small tank	greywater	X		X		X			X	aquaculture; greywater system	
*The professional landscaper at this garden has taken a Bay-Friendly 20-hour course, sponsored by Marin County Stormwater Pollution Prevention Program and Municipal Water District, on Bay-Friendly landscaping - an approach that nurtures the soil, conserves water and energy, reduces what is sent to a landfill by choosing proper plants and reusing materials, protects water and air quality, and creates wildlife habitat.														



Eco-Friendly Garden Tour Yearly Comparisons

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Registrations (Paid)	171	144	282	349	274
Onsite Registrations	17	34	48	83	64
TOTAL REGISTRATIONS	188	178	330	432	338
Site Visits	675	1,165	2,532	2,952	1,891
Number of Gardens on Tour	6	15	26	32	28
Evaluations Received	104	107	107	143	85
Liability Waivers Received	175	274	600	629	404
Number of Volunteers	19	30	53	112	93
How did you hear about the Tour:					
College Catalog	76%	26%	N/A	N/A	
Newspaper	5%	23%	N/A	N/A	
Marin IJ			26%	16%	20%
Pacific Sun			4%	8%	7%
MarinScope			5%	4%	5%
Other Papers			2%	6%	5% (Chron)
E-mail		20%	24%	(Chro)	18%
Flier around town		2%	5%	19%	5%
Brochure mailed to house	12%	6%		2%	
Word of Mouth, Family/Friend	7%	19%	31%	26%	26%
Other: Radio (1% in 2010), MG, classes, Facebook, Google, MAGC, Water bill inserts, etc.			4%	18%	14%
Did you learn anything new today?					
A little	55%	37%			
A lot	35%	58%			
No, not really	10%	5%			
Did you learn anything new that will influence you to garden more eco-friendly in the future?					
Yes			80%	80%	73%
No			1%	0%	2%
I already use and know about these things			19%	19%	24%

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Number of gardens visited today: 1-3 4-6 7-10 10 or more					14% 61% 22% 2%
If a larger event were held next Spring, would you attend or recommend to a friend? Yes No Maybe	65% 5% 30%	96% 4%	96% 4%	100%	
When do you prefer the tour be given: Saturday Morning Saturday Afternoon Sunday Morning Sunday Afternoon All day event Doesn't matter	19% 5% 6% 2% 52% 17%	33% 15% 34% 18%			
Have you attended the Tour in the past? Yes No				32% 68%	35% 65%
Would you prefer to register for this event: Online By phone with a credit card Check in the mail Doesn't matter				52% 9% 9% 31%	
Was "Gardens at A Glance" helpful? Yes No Doesn't matter to me				89% 4% 7%	
Did you read any of the intro pages or resource info? Yes No Not yet but I plan to				60% 7% 34%	65% 14% 21%
Was the registration process easy? Yes No				98% 2%	95% 5%

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
How do you feel about receiving Tour Guide and Gardens at A Glance electronically? Liked having them e-mailed Prefer hard copy of Tour Guide Prefer hard copy of Gardens at A Glance					55% 27% 18%
Check what was helpful in Gardens at A Glance: Map Garden Highlights Both of above Document isn't necessary					29% 27% 40% 5%
In Tour Guide, were directions to other nearby Gardens helpful? Yes No					87% 13%
Did you come to the Tour with at least one other person today? Yes No				45% 55%	

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011*
Did you use www.rideshare.us to get here today? Yes No				0% 100%	
Zip Codes of those who turned in evaluations: San Rafael Corte Madera/Larkspur Fairfax/San Anselmo/Ross/Greenbrae/Kent. Mill Valley Novato Sausalito Inverness/Woodacre/Nicasio/Bolinas/San Geronimo/Lagunitas, Pt. Reyes Tiburon/Belvedere Outside Marin/Other	22% 8% 17% 16% 17% 5% 5% 2% 9%	20% 9% 16% 15% 14% 5% 4% 5% 12%	29% 7% 14% 6% 26% 1% 3% 4% 11%	29% 4% 17% 11% 15% 3% 6% 0% 15%	33% 8% 18% 15% 17% 4% 3% 1% 15%

* Taken from Registration Information & based on number of tickets requested