

## **COUNTY OF YOLO**

Office of the County Administrator

625 Court Street, Room 202 • Woodland, CA 95695 Phone: (530) 666-8042 • Fax: (530) 668-4029 www.yolocounty.org *Chad Rinde* Interim County Administrator

John Fout, Public Information Officer john.fout@yolocounty.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE March 10, 2022 Contact: John Fout john.fout@yolocounty.org

## Winters Community Library Hosts Series of Events on Wildflowers and Pollinators

(Woodland, CA) Yolo County Library was selected from a nationwide pool of applicants as a recipient of the #PlantWildflowers grant – an education and action initiative to highlight pollinator diversity and spark local efforts to support wild pollinators – furnished by HHMI Tangled Bank Studios and PBS Nature. All events will be held in the Teaching Garden at the Winters Community Library, 708 Railroad Avenue, Winters, CA.

Library staff, in partnership with UCCE Master Gardeners, have planned a variety of events for all ages, taking place from March through June.

- **Plant-a-Flower Day:** Saturday, March 19, 10:30 am 1 pm Bilingual storytime in Spanish and English followed by activity stations including wildflower seed planting, seed bomb creation, craft-making, and Q&A with the Master Gardeners
- Plant Sale and Garden Tours: Saturday, April 16, 9 am 1 pm Pollinator plant sales, Master Gardeners Q&A, garden-themed book sale, art show, and guided tours
- **Earth Day Extravaganza:** Friday, April 22, 11am Bilingual storytime in Spanish and English followed by butterfly release party
- World Bee Day: Friday, May 20, 7 pm Bilingual storytime in Spanish and English followed by outdoor screening of the new documentary film, *My Garden of a Thousand Bees*, by world renowned wildlife filmmaker Martin Dohrn
- Fairytale Town Presents, *Pollinators and Decomposers*: Saturday, June 18, 11am Family program about beneficial insects with live bees and bugs!
- **Pollinator Talk and Garden Tours:** Saturday, June 25, 10 am 12 pm Lecture by UCD experts, book display, information tables, and guided tours

"We're excited for this opportunity to highlight the crucial role bees and other pollinators play in the success and health of local ecosystems," said Winters Community Library Branch Supervisor Ashleigh Torres. "Our Teaching Garden is a perfect example of what the #PlantWildflowers Initiative is trying to do—encourage community collaboration to better our environment."

Additionally, free wildflower seed packets tailored for Northern California will be available at all events while supplies last. Stop by the Winters Community Library to pick up a free pollinator-themed takeand-make kit April through June. Themes will change monthly.

A generous grant from the Winters Friends of the Library established the pollinator-friendly garden in 2019, with The Teaching Garden is open to the public during library hours and provides space for events such as workshops led by the Master Gardeners, outdoor library storytimes, and school group activities, as well as quiet reflection. The Teaching Garden has grown out of the work from several community partners, including Yolo County UCCE Master Gardeners, City of Winters, Winters Joint Unified School District, Winters Friends of the Library, and Yolo County Library.

We invite community members to participate in a BioBlitz citizen science project by collecting and recording information about local plants and wildlife using the iNaturalist app. Instructions are available at the library. For those who use the Teaching Garden as their BioBlitz site, they receive an entry to a weekly prize drawing.

For more on the Teaching Garden and event information, visit our website at <u>yolocountylibrary.org/locations/winters/teaching-garden/</u> or connect with Yolo County Library on Facebook at <u>www.facebook.com/yolocountylibrary.org</u> and Instagram at <u>@yolocountylibrary</u>.

###