



COLONIAL HEIGHTS GARDEN TOUR

SUNDAY
MAY 4, 2025
10AM - 3PM

Welcome



Welcome to the Colonial Heights Garden Tour! We're delighted to be back for a sixth year of sharing our spaces and our experiences with the community. We invite you to engage your senses and your curiosity as you make your way around the Heights today.

This is a tour for anyone who appreciates beauty, cultivation, and connection. Choose your own adventure from a bouquet of options including drought-tolerant gardens, edible landscapes, native wildflowers, and outdoor retreats that have been tended across decades—each space on the tour demonstrates possibility, resilience, and creativity.

The garden hosts are ready for your questions and conversations, and spring has generously graced our gardens with fresh color and fragrance. What a lucky day to be outside.

Thank you for joining us.

**Colonial Heights
Garden Tour Committee**

At The Park

Vendors

10am-3pm @ Colonial Park

- **Meza:** Arab & Mexican street food
- **Cà Phê Ru:** coffee
- **Root 54:** locally grown produce and plant starts
- **Penny Dreadful Popcorn**
- **Moon Pearl:** neighborhood-made candles
- **Sirens of the Succulent:** succulents, trinkets, home goods, decor
- **Cassidy's Crazy Cans:** succulents potted in repurposed cans
- **Scarlett Craft:** paper crafts and wands
- **SMUD:** sponsor and community partner
- **Eric Guerra:** sponsor and City Councilman

Family-Friendly Activities

10am-3pm: Junior Gardener Activity Book
(Colonial Park)

10am-3pm: Free Plant and Seed Swap
with donations from Cooperative Gardens Commission
(Colonial Park)

11am: Laundry to Landscape Demo (4310 52nd Street)

12pm - 2pm (ish): Live Music
Harpist Andrew Jones (4024 55th St)

Past, Present, Future

The loving stewardship of what is now our neighborhood is nothing new. For thousands of years before the Colonial Investment Company broke ground on the Heights in 1910—before John Muir described the Great Valley of California as "the floweriest piece of world I ever walked"—the Nisenan people summered in Sacramento, collecting acorns into woven, willow granaries.

As you drive, bike, and walk around our neighborhood, take note of the native oaks of Colonial Heights, and wonder what person or creature planted them, and when. Imagine past iterations of the landscape, as compared to now. What past and present damages need acknowledgement and mending? What seeds can we plant today that will bring joy in the future?



Past, Present, Future

COLONIAL HEIGHTS

UPPER STOCKTON ROAD

17 Minutes to 8th and J Streets

3 Minutes from Oak Park

5 Cent Fares—Transfers to All Points

Grand Opening of Colonial Heights

Sacramento's Ideal Subdivision

Wednesday Next, May 11

Ballot for the \$600 Free Lot—No Car Fares—Music and Refreshments

No subdivision was ever opened in this or any other city that had the unique advantage of a magnificent interurban electric line running to it, beside it and through it.

The fine \$600 lot offered as a prize for the best name will be allotted for at 2:30 p. m. by the 50 successful contestants.

Free Car and Auto Service

The Central California Traction Company will run the following free service to Colonial Heights: Car leaves 8th and J Streets, Tuesday, May 10th, every hour from 9 a. m. to 5 p. m.; Wednesday all day, and free autos to drive you over the tract.

Some of Our Many Advantages

Ten Fine Avenues Three Grand Boulevards <small>Beautiful views of the Bluffs. The joys of the country folded in city convenience.</small>	Nine Parks	Building Restrictions <small>No old shabby houses or tenements will be allowed on any of our lots. Nature of the ideal home lot will be maintained.</small>	Free Life Insurance <small>A contract to purchase a lot on Colonial Heights is as good as a LIFE INSURANCE POLICY. However, to enjoy your investment on such a plan, you must die, your estate or heirs will be given a share in the lot until further payment.</small>
Pure Water <small>Water will be piped to every lot from Oak Park artesian wells.</small>	Large Lots <small>Step-down and credit lot facilities by our bonded lot drop with utility lines. Closest schools, churches and public, electric conduct.</small>	Rapid Transit 5c Fares Free Transfers <small>Central California Traction Company's cars run to it and through it the most efficient operation. Cash every 15 minutes.</small>	

Lots Are Selling Like Hot Cakes—Make Your Reservations Now

SELLING AGENTS

The following well-known realtors and estate agents have been appointed selling agents for Colonial Heights. They are all "good fellows" and are "wide awake" to the extraordinary possibilities and advantages of this beautiful subdivision:

<small>FUTNER & BATES, 1301 7TH ST. WELLMAN-WULFEL CO., 423 J ST.</small>	<small>FRENCH & JENSEN CO., 1015 G ST. KIRKMAN & HERRERA, 701 J ST. SEEK LINDHARD CO., 517 J ST.</small>	<small>WHEELER, GOTTINGER & HELLER, 800 J ST. ELSTONSON & MELBRAND, 607 J ST. HEES & BOWELL, 510 8TH ST.</small>	<small>BORSTROM-BRYAN CO., 310 8TH ST. BRONKHORST REALTY CO., 423 J ST.</small>
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A Company devoted to the colonization of lands along the line of the Central California Traction Co.

COLONIAL INVESTMENT COMPANY

Office: Central Bank and Trust Co., S. E. Corner Seventh and J Streets.

Colonial Heights was founded in 1910 as Sacramento's ideal subdivision. Now made up of about 700 homes, the diverse neighborhood encompasses the space between Stockton Boulevard, 14th Avenue, 22nd Avenue, and 58th Street.

Mayor's Monarch Pledge

The monarch butterfly is an iconic species whose western populations have **declined by 99%** in recent years.

Through the **National Wildlife Federation's Mayors' Monarch Pledge**, U.S. cities, municipalities, and other communities are committing to **create habitat** for the monarch butterfly and pollinators, and to **educate residents** about how they can make a difference at home and in their community.

Monarch butterfly conservation is so important to our community that the **CHNA voted unanimously to ask the mayor sign the pledge** and lead Sacramento in taking this public, powerful action.

Mayor McCarty has signed the pledge and has committed to engaging Sacramento residents in creating more native pollinator habitat throughout the city.



Pictured: Rosalind White as a beautiful monarch butterfly, posing next to a CA native showy milkweed

Special Thanks

Thank you to everyone who made
this garden tour possible!



Sponsors:



SMUD® **Eric Guerra**
SACRAMENTO CITY COUNCIL

Garden Tour Committee:

Amy Freeman

Heather Olmsted Hamlin

Tori White

Sarah Kerber

~

Lucy White (activity book author)



The annual Garden Tour is a part of the
Colonial Heights Neighborhood Association (CHNA)
events.

Let us know if you'd like to volunteer with CHNA!

5740 14th Ave

Hosts: Kitty and Richard

We were lucky enough to move to this house 6 years ago, and the garden was basically a blank slate. In that time we have used the city rebate program to convert our front lawn to drought-tolerant plants from California and Australia, developed a vegetable garden and small orchard, and continue to develop more areas of our large space to include herb plantings, additional native plants, and cut flower areas. We are plant fiends who want to grow it all while conserving water and recycling as many materials as possible in the garden.

Accessibility: Most of the garden can be viewed from a 3ft wide decomposed granite path that is suitable for walkers and strollers



Address: 3948 57th St

Hosts: Jennifer & John

Xeriscaping Goals

(Un-hosted point of interest)

A xeric environment is one that contains very little moisture. Xeriscaping, therefore, is the intentional design of a garden that will not need irrigation, even in the extreme heat of summer in the Great Valley of California. This xeriscaped front yard was designed and installed by Mantis Gardens. Stop by to oooh and aaah over the diverse array of aloes, mangaves, aeoniums, sedums, agaves, opuntias, rock purslane, and many other cacti and succulents!

Accessibility: This front yard is wheelchair accessible.



Address: 3959 57th St

Host; Jenny Welch

Superbloom the Block

This garden has flowers galore. If you like to stop and smell the roses, this will be one of your favorite gardens on the tour, as we have fourteen rose bushes in total: ten big and four small. Besides roses, in spring the poppies and the lupine go crazy in the wildflower bed. There are calandrinias, lavender, and an assortment of other plants. Lastly, in fall my kiwi vines give me tons of kiwis to eat. Enjoy, and have a great time on the garden tour!

Accessibility: Fully accessible front yard.



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Address: 4093 57th St
Hosts: Colton and Christopher

Botanical Tetanus

This garden is the result of thought, planning and lots of work. You can find a variety of plants along with hidden objects (some not so hidden) aged with layers of rust. This garden was designed to invite you in, ask you to explore, and help you to relax, so please do.



Address: 4024 55th St

Hosts: Lisa and Keith

Infinity Gardens at the Bungalow

Welcome to our Infinity Gardens – so named as tending (the gardens), turning (of the seasons), and delighting (in the wonder of nature) are endless endeavors!

When we landed in Colonial Heights in 2018 the Bermuda grass ‘sprawl’ all around the house was devoid of flowers, fruit, and healthy soil. Our first seasons were devoted to rehabilitating the neglected soil, improving drainage, and installing water wise irrigation. We designed the gardens for up-close interaction and enjoyment with stepping stone paths, arbors and raised beds. The gardens continue to evolve as water-wise, pollinator friendly, and nectar-source native California plants replace some of our thirstier friends. Zinnias, cosmos, gomphrena, and other beloved annuals will always have a home here – along with summer vegetables, berries fruit trees, and herbs. Our Monarch Meadow is an officially designated “Monarch Waystation,” with five types of native milkweed and nectar plants thriving throughout the seasons. Every day in the Infinity Gardens amaze as we enjoy a perpetual parade of wildlife. Stroll on over – pause for a bit and take in the wonder of it all!

Accessibility: mostly accessible except for one corner of the backyard.



Harpist Andrew Jones will be playing in the back garden from 12-2pm



Address: 5011 San Francisco Blvd

Hosts: Hans and Emma

California Native Dreamscape

(Un-hosted point of interest)

We moved to Colonial Heights in 2016 and almost immediately went to work taking out the lawn to plant a native Garden. What you see now is the evolution of that project. While we couldn't bear to part with some of the existing non-natives, most of the blooms you see hail from our magnificent California. From the looming yellow Flannel Bush to the drooping blue Ray Hartman and Dark Star ceanothi, to the abundant phacelia and poppies that simply self-sow each year, our wild, crowded front yard is in constant flux, and we enjoy seeing its progress season by season and year by year. We hope you enjoy it as well, during one of its most bombastic times.

Accessibility: Accessible viewing from the sidewalk.



Address: 5200 San Francisco Blvd

Hosts: Heather and Jeff

What Will Happen is Anyone's Guess

(Un-hosted point of interest)

We moved here in the summer of 2016, & inherited a jungle of shrubs, trees, & a pollinator desert of a lawn. I slowly removed & pruned shrubs, replacing them with random bulbs, annuals, & perennials—whatever caught my eye at the nursery. I resisted the advice of my green-thumbed mother, & paid no heed to water or light requirements, or novel ideas such as “soil fertility.”

Enter: March 2020. I channeled all my pandemic grief and anxiety into murdering my lawn. Over the past 5 years, we have added various raised beds (now on our second iteration), garden mounds, and irrigation (my sworn enemy). I developed a minor obsession with native plants & have converted the side parking strip to almost exclusively include California natives, none of them thirsty

& all of them sun-loving. This year there are many self-seeded interlopers as well (looking at you, sweet peas and nasturtiums).

Most of the plants in the raised beds were grown from seed this year, with a few existing perennials and some fillers from the nursery.

Accessibility: Accessible viewing from the sidewalk.



Address: 4218 55th St

Hosts: Paula & Zevi

Welcome to our quirky, evolving garden oasis! In 2021, we transformed our front and back yards through the city's low-water landscape program, replacing thirsty grass with a tapestry of native, drought-tolerant plants—most of which are still thriving and doing their wild, beautiful thing. A slightly-too-generous dirt delivery sparked an explosion of flower pots this year, adding unexpected bursts of color everywhere. The backyard hosts four keyhole garden beds, a small orchard of trees (maple, pear, lemon, orange, and peach), and a growing collection of odd treasures rescued from Buy Nothing finds and local dump piles. We love enjoying breakfast outdoors on crisp spring mornings, even if the yard's gotten a little overgrown lately.. This garden tour is just the motivation we needed to roll up our sleeves and spend more time outside. Come wander—there's always something blooming, buzzing, or just a little weird to discover.



Address: 4310 52nd St

Hosts: Tori, Geoff, Lucy, and Rosalind

The Plot Thickens

We started stewarding this plot when our young family moved to Colonial Heights in 2019. Since that first summer we've killed the lawn, planted fruit trees & native plants, raised flocks of chickens, hosted monarch butterflies, & and grown edible mushrooms. Features include a *hugelkultur* installation & two DIY greywater irrigation systems.

Laundry-to-landscape demonstration at 11:00 am

Accessibility: three steps and narrow paths prevent full wheelchair access to the backyard.

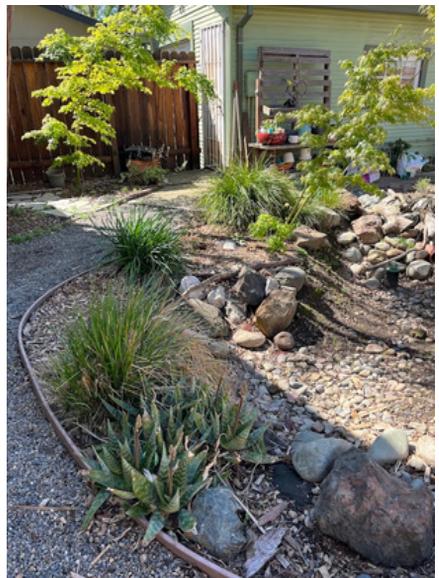


Address: 4336 52nd St

Hosts: Sasha and Johnny

Come explore this DIY backyard, which features both a rain garden and a keyhole garden. The rain garden is designed to collect rainwater from roofs, driveways, and lawns, allowing it to soak into the ground. This reduces erosion, filters pollutants, and helps refill groundwater and local waterways. The keyhole garden is a raised circular bed with a compost basket in the center. As compost breaks down, it feeds the surrounding plants, requires less watering, making it an efficient way to grow food in a small space. Both gardens are easy to maintain and fairly easy DIY projects.

Accessibility: A gravel path surrounds most of the rain garden and may be difficult to navigate for those using wheelchairs, walkers, or for those with other mobility challenges. A paved sidewalk beyond the gravel provides an accessible route to view the rain garden and reach the keyhole garden.



Address: 4323 55th St

Host: Becky

Hardscape, landscape, a great place for a Zen escape

Wind-sewn wildflowers, fragrance from sweet peas, narcissus, mint, lavender, and Mexican marigold fill the air. Drought-tolerant perennials, desert willow, maples, redbud, manzanita, chaste trees and more provide color in the fall, shade in the summer. This garden rocks: winding stone pathways, raised river rock beds, dry riverbed. Insects, beneficial and not, find their way here. Baby, baby, it's a wild world. This garden is NOT a tidy English-style garden.



Address: 5523 20th Ave

Host: Dave

L'Orticello

Thanks for visiting my garden! When I moved here in '95 there was not much other than a few mature trees. My goal was to have screened privacy, flowers for cutting, some fruit trees, birdsong, and Mediterranean plantings and herbs.

~~ In the front area, I replaced the miserable lawn with beds of herbs and rock rose in topiary "green mounds", plumbago trellis, periwinkle bed, and Gravenstein apples.

~~ In the center area around the house is a lavender bed, with the compost station beyond the partition fence, on the east side; a shaded woodland-planting area on the west side; and two larger beds (currently in transition to more kitchen-garden plantings) beyond the patio.

~~ The far back area is the newest garden, with roses and peonies (and eventually with blooming herbs filling in between). Leading to the new garden are citrus trees with naturalized Spring bulbs and herbs.

The best gardening advice I've ever heard is to figure out what you can grow and grow lots of that! It's been my guiding principle ever since.



Address: 4434 54th St

Hosts: Scott and Laura

Backyard Living

When we first acquired our home in 2016, the yard was a blank slate with two established trees, weedy grass, and a large dirt pile. Inspired by a vision of a tranquil retreat, our aim was to fashion an outdoor space that felt like a natural extension of our home. The transformation has been a labor of love and a lesson in letting go and letting the yard speak to us.

We have tried to create year-round interest by emphasizing foliage colors and textures. You will find velvety gray-green lamb's ear, red-tinged cuphea, a deep purple smoke bush, coral bells in shades of peach and red, a golden pineapple sage, and other foliage-forward plants. Our rose garden has several notable varieties. This spring, you will find several perennials in bloom, such as sea lavender, penstemon, and sages. We hope visitors will enjoy the space as much as we do.

Accessibility: There is a long hard dirt path from the front to the backyard, but there are no hardscaped paths in the backyard. It is mostly lawn.



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Address: 4509 54th St

Host: Khaled

My garden is a charming and relaxing space that I would like to share with neighbors.



Address: 5210 22nd Ave

Host: Maeve

My goal with the garden is to provide a supportive space for pollinators and natives while allowing for the joy of growing food for my family and flowers for our table. Substantial plantings of sages, grasses, and other native plants occupy our front and the central portion of the back garden. Around them, we grow classic Sacramento crops - tomatoes, peppers, and melons. I find a particular happiness in growing plants that my young daughter can harvest herself like peas, cherry tomatoes, and carrots. Flowers are strewn throughout wherever a splash of color feels right. I employ fully organic techniques with minimal pesticides or other chemical treatments, relying on natural processes to support the plants.

The garden is my happy space, a forever to-do list, and an endless source of inspiration.



Upcoming Events



Colonial Heights Neighborhood Association

CHNA Monthly Meetings

Second Thursday of the month,
6:30 PM – 8:00 PM @ Luigi's Pizza

Colonial Heights Adult Kickball League

Wednesdays starting April 2025
Games in Colonial Park @ 6 and 7pm



Keep up with what's happening in the
neighborhood:

www.Colonial-Heights.org
(Sign up for our monthly newsletter!)



@ColonialHeightsNeighborhood



@CHNA_CA

Thanks to our Sponsor, Vendors, & Neighborhood Partners



Meza Arab & Mexican Street Food
@mezacalifornia

Root 64 Farm
4971 64th St, Sacramento
@root64sacramento



Cà Phê Ru
@ca_phe_ru

MoonPearl Candles



Penny Dreadful Popcorn
@penny_dreadful_popcorn



Succulent Sirens
5440 14th Ave

My-Topia
bouquetsbyandree@gmail.com

Cassidy's Crazy Cans

Scarlett Crafts

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS:



SMUD[®]



2025 Garden Tour Map



****Front yard only***

- | | |
|------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. 5740 14th Ave | 8. 4218 55th St |
| 2. 3948 57th St (un-hosted)* | 9. 4310 52nd St |
| 3. 3959 57th St * | 10. 4336 52nd St |
| 4. 4093 57th St | 11. 4323 55th St |
| 5. 4024 55th St | 12. 5523 20th Ave |
| 6. 5011 San Francisco Blvd (un-hosted) * | 13. 4434 54th St |
| 7. 5200 San Francisco Blvd (un-hosted) * | 14. 4509 54th St |
| | 15. 5210 22nd Ave |



Tour headquarters, vendors, food

Please enjoy the gardens in any order you choose

Public restrooms available in Colonial Park