

Let's Grow! Workshop Series at Disneyland Homeschool Day

with renowned horticulturist Darren Butler

Friday, Feb 27, 2009

See below for full announcement. Enrollment, payment, and refund policy appears below announcement.

Attendance at this event is limited to approximately 40 per session and may fill up rapidly. Please enroll early to avoid disappointment. After Feb 15, please inquire about enrollment availability prior to sending payment. Workshops occur within Disneyland and separate purchase of park admission is required.

To contact instructor Darren Butler:

allnet@pobox.com

(818) 271-0963

www.EcoWorkshops.com

To sign up mail payment to:

Darren Butler

PO Box 589

Topanga CA 90290-0589

Be sure to include your email address with payment to receive orientation information for your workshop(s).

Join dynamic speaker and teacher Darren Butler at Disneyland Homeschool Day for special workshop sessions intended to open the minds, imaginations, and hearts of children and adults to the wonders of plants, edible landscaping, and gardening.

Schedule summary:

11:00 - 11:40 AM: How to Eat Your Yard: Edible Landscaping for Kids and Grownups

12:00 - 12:40 AM: Small-Space and Container Gardening for Beauty and Food

1:00 - 1:40 PM: Weird and Wicked Plants

2:30 - 3:10 PM: How to Eat Your Yard: Edible Landscaping for Kids and Grownups (repeat)

3:30 - 4:10 PM: Planting Seeds in a Child's Soul: Fun and Learning through Homeschool Gardening

Tomorrowland, 11:00 - 11:40 AM

How to Eat Your Yard: Edible Landscaping for Kids and Grownups

Want to grow bananas, apples, strawberries, peaches, or even cherimoyas at home? What kinds of plants are in the Tomorrowland edible landscape? How hard are they to grow yourself at home? How can families work together to grow plants that are beautiful and also produce food? Recommended for ages 8 through adult.

New Orleans Square, 12:00 - 12:40 PM

Small-Space and Container Gardening for Beauty and Food

Want to grow food or teach your kids how to garden but don't have land? Or do you have a spot on your patio or front walkway that could use sprucing up with a lovely display of potted plants? Everything from strawberries to tomatoes to cucumbers and even fruit trees can be grown in pots. Learn plant varieties used in pots at New Orleans Square and tips and tricks for producing food and beauty in spaces as small as a windowsill. Recommended for ages 10 through adult.

Haunted Mansion, 1:00 - 1:40 PM**Weird and Wicked Plants**

Creepy, weird, amazing, cool, and sometimes downright evil things that plants do and that have been done with plants. Recommended for ages 10 through adult.

Tomorrowland, 2:30 - 3:10 PM**How to Eat Your Yard: Edible Landscaping for Kids and Grownups**

Repeat of 11 AM session (see above).

Tomorrowland, 3:30 - 4:10 PM**Planting Seeds in a Child's Soul: Fun and Learning through Homeschool Gardening**

The garden offers an unequalled venue for hands-on learning of subjects ranging from many sciences include biology, chemistry, microbiology, chemistry, botany, ecology, and soil science to math, history, arts, crafts, geography, cooking, and many more. Many adults who love nature were introduced to gardening as children. In this workshop for homeschool parents, we'll cover tips for teaching gardening to children, surefire lesson topics and hands-on activities to engage and engender curiosity, and resources for homeschool garden-learning.

Enrollment cost: Early registration postmarked by Feb 23 is \$7 per adult or child, per workshop. Please state clearly with payment which workshop(s) you will be attending. Standard registration after Feb 23 or on the day of is \$9 per adult or child, per workshop. Children younger than recommended ages may attend if accompanied by an adult.

Darren Butler is a Consulting Arborist, Ecological Designer, and Landscape Specialist. His recent projects include designing food forests in residential landscapes, which are forest-like systems that produce food with minimal maintenance once established, and developing ecoliteracy and permaculture courses for children. He has appeared on several episodes of "Weekend Gardening" for a large international television audience as an expert horticulturist and landscaper, on NPR radio, in newspapers, and other media. He has taught Sustainable Landscape Design and Diagnosing Plant Problems for the University of California Master Gardener Program in Los Angeles since 2006, Small-Space Food Gardening and Drought-Tolerant Landscaping at Descanso Botanic Gardens, and worked with the Getty Villa to develop a gardening-related workshop. He holds many landscape- and plant-related certifications and licenses. In 2007 and 2008 he developed curriculum for and taught certification programs in Sustainable Biointensive Gardening and in Edible Landscaping. He currently serves on the statewide Steering Committee for all University of California Master Gardener programs, and is a frequent speaker at events throughout California, including the recent 2008 University of California Master Gardener Conference. He works as a consultant and designer for a broad variety of clients from celebrities to nonprofit organizations, volunteers hundreds of hours per year mostly to promote sustainable practices and help low-income people grow and eat more nutritious food, and has recently acted as horticultural consultant for the Edible Walls project through urbanfarming.org for the homeless in downtown Los Angeles. He has been gardening since childhood, and developing expertise in Southern California gardening since 1996.

To learn more about Darren Butler and his past and upcoming courses, see www.EcoWorkshops.com.

Comments from prior students (note that Disneyland Homeschool Day workshops do not include hands-on activities):

"Your class was as valuable and informative for me as it was for my children. We not only

learned all about plants and gardening but also about the cycle of life, photosynthesis, and how important plants are to our existence. Your class was fun and scientific at the same time."

- Mona, parent

"Darren's classes offer an informative, relaxed, hands-on learning experience for children. He is patient and engaging and able to impart his love & care for the earth to a new generation."

- Lana, parent

"It was very fun, I learned a lot, and I loved the worm thing!"

- Linnea, student

"What I remember most is the time we planted the seeds and it was really cool when I saw the little sprouts that had come up during the week I had been away. I also really liked the worms."

- Katalin, student

"I liked the worms best."

- Eva, student

"I have been profoundly influenced and very inspired by everything you said throughout your lessons. In particular, I've learned and gained so much, especially in such a short period of time! Not only can I use the knowledge I've taken away from your courses in all areas of my garden, but many aspects of my life as well!"

- Ashley G.

"Darren is an outstanding teacher. He integrates real life to gardening. He's down to earth, full of laughs and personality. His enthusiasm is infectious."

- Barbara T.

"I got so much out of this! Packed full of information that was immediately usable to me. I love listening to this guy! He knows so much and is so humble about sharing what he knows. He knocks my socks off."

Sarah S.

Enrollment, payment, and refund policy:

No refunds except for cancellation by the instructor. Workshops to be held rain or shine. Substitute attendance for late cancellations is welcome. If event details change after enrollment has been paid, full refund is available until three days before the event if cancellation is based upon the change(s).

Payment is by check, cash, or money order and should be sent to Darren Butler, PO Box 589, Topanga, CA 90290.