



Workshop Series
LIVING GREEN
EARTH-FRIENDLY ADVICE FOR HOME & GARDEN

Earth Friendly Gardens and Landscapes for Arizona **Saturday, August 8, 1:30 – 4 p.m., Mesa Main Library, 64 E 1st Street**

The Environmental & Sustainability Division and Mesa Library are presenting a monthly workshop series featuring earth-friendly advice for your home and garden. Join us on **Saturday, August 8** for an entertaining view of **Earth-Friendly Gardens and Landscapes for Arizona**, by popular local author, **Mary Irish**. Her books will be available for purchase and signing. No registration is necessary. Call (480) 644-2207 for more information on our monthly programs.

Course Description

Gardens are your own little patch of the earth that you tend and care for, so why not do it in an earth-friendly way. Learn how to build healthy soils that grow healthy plants, and watch our yard become a magnet for birds, butterflies and other wildlife. Learn how to reduce yard waste - or at least find a good way to reuse it. Learn how plants can help reduce your energy bill and its drain on our earth as well as to minimize or eliminate the need for intensive pest control or fertilization regimens and still have a bountiful garden. And as always in the deserts, learn how to use construct and manage a garden that maximizes available water but keeps consumption at a minimum.

Speaker Bio

Mary Irish was born and raised in Austin, Texas. She received a Bachelor's degree from the University of Texas at Austin and a Masters Degree from Texas A & M University. Mary worked for many years in the field of



horticulture and horticultural communications, specializing in gardens and plants for the Southwest. She served for 11 years as the Director of Public Horticulture at the Desert Botanical Garden in Phoenix, Arizona. In that position she was actively involved in the introduction of new plants into landscapes in the Central Arizona area. She is currently an author, educator and consultant.

Mary has appeared on local gardening programs in both Arizona and Texas. She hosted a weekly radio show on gardening in the Phoenix area and wrote a monthly gardening column for the Arizona Republic. She continues to participate in conferences on horticulture and gardening throughout the Southwest. Her plant interests range widely with agaves and their relatives, but bulbs and desert perennials are currently at the top of the list.

Since 2000 Mary has written and published six books on gardening and plants appropriate for Southwest gardens. She has also written numerous articles on plants and gardening for a variety of local and national magazines.

BOOK TITLES by MARY IRISH

- *Gardening in the Desert*
- *Arizona Gardeners Guide*
- *Perennials for the Southwest*
- *Gardening in the Deserts of Arizona*
- *Trees and Shrubs for the Southwest*
- *Agaves Yuccas and Related Plants: A Gardener's Guide*

*Mary will be
selling and
signing books at
her presentation!*

Learn to live Green.