

5-9-24, 7:10pm, Experiments with Different Growing Methods for Fruits and Veggies with Mike Wood, Los Angeles 90027

Description = The Southern California Horticultural Society hosts, urban farmer and founder of Huarache Farms, whose mission is to create community through gardening, cooking, and running for mental health. He will describe the different growing techniques he uses to grow leafy vegetables in small spaces and to produce usable soil substrates that can save money, store carbon, and grow healthy produce. Wood grew up in the foothills of the San Gabriel Valley and attended Citrus College to study forestry and plant identification, and it was there that he gained inspiration to start gardening from his chemistry professor David Ryba. He later studied plant science at Cal Poly Pomona where he was introduced to the urban farming movement and to growing food on a small scale. After several years of developing gardening experience and cultivating an interest in water gardening, Wood started spending Sundays at the Atwater Village Farmer's Market as a vegetable vendor, where he has held a farm stand for the last 10 years. After years of trial and error being a vendor at a farmers market, he was motivated to figure out ways to successfully grow vegetables quickly. Huarache Farms is managed by Wood and his wife Mandy on a half acre backyard plot at her childhood home in Sierra Madre. His talk will cover the methods they currently use to grow veggies including outdoor hydroponics, vertical stacking pots, shade houses, wicking beds, outdoor sprouting, mist irrigation, spent mushroom block fruiting/composting, and vermiculture. Wood likes to encourage friends and family to eat more salads and run for mental health. His locally grown produce can be found at the Atwater Village Farmer's Market every Sunday from 9 a.m. -2 p.m. You can learn more about Huarache Farms by visiting their website at [www.huarachefarms.com](http://www.huarachefarms.com).

Cost = Free for SCHS members, \$5 for non-members.

Location = Friendship Auditorium, 3201 Riverside Drive, Los Angeles 90027

For more information = 818-567-1496, [socalhort@gmail.com](mailto:socalhort@gmail.com), <https://socalhort.org/>

Schedule = 7:10pm announcements, 7:15pm plant forum, 7:30pm speaker program