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Press Release

For Immediate Release

2010 Real Gardens for Real People Garden Tour Announcement

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(Phoenix – January 14, 2010) The Master Gardener volunteers from the University of Arizona Cooperative Extension, Maricopa County announce the 9th annual **Real Gardens for Real People (RGRP) Tour** to be held on Saturday, March 13, 2010, from 9 – 4 PM.

The public is invited to view the home gardens of certified Master Gardeners in the historic vicinity of the Central Corridor in Phoenix. The 14 mile loop, self-guided tour begins at the [Montessori Center School](#) garden located on N. 19th Ave. between Dunlap and Northern where tickets can be purchased for \$20.00. The gardens are unique and imaginative, using the principles of Master Gardener training to select, place and care for plants in an environmentally responsible manner based on research specific to the low desert. Specific criteria such as low water usage/xeriscape, composting, water harvesting, organic gardening, vegetables/herbs, garden art and water features are used to select the gardens for the tour. Descriptors such as Sensory Garden, Sunny & Shade, Lush & Edible, Garden of Ideas, Collector's Garden, Dolce Verde and Gardener's Muse give visitors the opportunity to choose their favorite. A colorful brochure with a detailed map and information is included in the price of a ticket. A map of the tour is contained on the ticket as well.

Garden experts will be onsite the day of the tour at the various gardens to give talks and answer gardening questions on many different topics, from soil and irrigation basics to attracting wildlife and growing edible treats in your garden. On-line tickets are available at <http://www.maricopamastergardener.com/gardentour>

Tickets will also be on sale at the following locations (click on link for address and contact numbers): [Melrose Pharmacy](#), [Baker Nursery](#), [Southwest Gardener](#), [Boyce Thompson Arboretum](#), [Berridge Nursery](#), [A&P Nurseries](#) (Mesa, Gilbert, Queen Creek), [Harper Nurseries](#) (Mesa, Scottsdale), 7th Ave. Street Fair on March 6, and at the Cooperative Extension Office (listed above) starting in February and at all gardens featured on the tour on March 13.

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