



Metro Master Gardener™

News July / August 2012



phillipmartin.com

OSU Extension Service Metro Master Gardener™ Program

Serving [Clackamas](#), [Multnomah](#), and [Washington](#) Counties in the metro area since 1976.

Mission Statement

We provide relevant, research-based education and outreach to the public of Clackamas, Multnomah, and Washington Counties about horticulture and household pests. This information promotes sustainable practices that minimize risks to human health and the environment.

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Dear Master Gardeners,

We appreciate your service as Master Gardener volunteers!

Thank you for helping to get the word out to the community with research-based gardening information through the 1000's of hours applied toward 100+ educational activities conducted by the MG program in the tri-county Portland metro region. We are grateful for your service.

OSU/Metro partnership details



You've probably heard about the Metro partnership with the Master Gardener program here in the Portland metro region. For the last several years, Metro has provided considerable financial support for OSU to conduct educational programs including 1-hour workshops, community tabling, and the BYM clinic at the Zoo with Master Gardener volunteers. In total, we reached 5,643 people through the combined effort of OSU and Metro with 135 separate educational events.

New for 2012, Metro is providing direct financial support for the Master Gardener program to help us better serve you as a volunteer in the MG program.

The OSU/Metro partnership is based on three important common goals:

1. Protect human and environmental health.
2. Make useful integrated pest management information truly accessible to the public.
3. Ensure that the information shared is based on scientific research.

As part of the partnership, Metro is providing FREE publications, FREE garden gloves, and \$5-off coupons for distribution to the community. With staff support, we'll also be able to staff our many educational clinics to refresh materials, collect clinic forms, and help you as needed.

In addition, OSU and Metro are trying to track the behavior of area gardeners and have developed the **My healthy lawn and garden pledge** to perform research on the commitments that area gardeners are making to use the least-toxic methods for pest control. This survey tool has been approved for use by Master Gardeners by Gail Langellotto, statewide MG coordinator at OSU and should provide us with valuable information about how to best deliver educational services to the general public about sustainable gardening. You can find the online version of this pledge here: <http://www.oregonmetro.gov/healthygardenpledge>.

We are asking you to help us facilitate the **My healthy lawn and garden pledge** at Master Gardener information clinics as follows:

- Ask all clients at plant clinics if they would like to participate in the healthy lawn and garden pledge.
- Be friendly. Offer or encourage, but do not pressure, persuade, guilt or shame.
- Please try not to pitch it primarily as a means for free gloves - research shows that does not work as well for fostering behavior change.

Also, in terms of procedures with facilitating the pledge,

- Please put the date and location of completed pledges on any blank space on the part with the contact information that we keep (left side of perforation).
- Please put completed pledges into the envelope provided on the pack of the plastic sign holder.

Here is some suggested language that might help you to facilitate the pledge:

- Would you like to make a healthy-garden pledge today? It's a great way to protect your family and community from pesticides. You can also get gardening gloves and a yard sign.

- That's right! You can earn a pair of gardening gloves for your pledge to reduce pesticide use, or gloves plus a yard sign for your pledge to stop using (or continue not using) pesticides.
- Simply check one of the three pledge options, fill out the info below, sign and turn in the pledge. You can keep the right hand portion for future reference. And I'll give you your gloves and sign!
- **After they complete it:** Congratulations! With this pledge you're helping protect the health of your family, pets, rivers and region. Would you like your gloves (and/or) yard sign now? Smaller or larger gloves?
- Thanks so much for your pledge!

Also, if contacts inquire about what is considered a pesticide, or if they ask whether organic products are excluded from the pledge, you can share that the pledge is to "do your best" and if you do end up using a pesticide as a last resort, to use the least-hazardous material possible. Organic products are usually the least-hazardous – but not always – so check the **GrowSmartGrowSafe.org** database or ask a Master Gardener to be sure.

In terms of materials for distribution to the community, we are providing a wooden display rack made of recycled materials containing the following publications:

- *Grow Smart, Grow Safe*
- *Natural Gardening*
- *Native Plants for Pacific Northwest Gardens*
- *It's easy to make your own compost*
- *Grow Green* (leaflet describing Metro/OSU partnership services).



Please set up the display rack according to photo to the right:

Thanks for your help!!

Please let us know if you have any questions.

Weston Miller, OSU Extension Service

Carl Grimm, Metro Natural Gardening



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OPPORTUNITIES FROM JORDIS

503-650-3118 or Jordis.Yost@oregonstate.edu

SUMMER ACTIVITIES



This edition of the newsletter covers activities for July and August. You should have a good idea how many activities you need to participate in to get all your hours completed by October. Remember...you are the driving force behind your own volunteer schedule.

As a reminder, 2012 trainees owe 66 hours.

26 hours Primary Activities- describes Master Gardeners acting as educators on behalf of OSU in clinics, on the phones or in a speaker bureau engagement. These are the metro Master Gardener Program's primary outreach service activities.

40 hours Support Activities- describes Master Gardeners acting in either educational or support roles other than clinics, phones or speakers' bureau and within partnerships established with other agencies, organizations or OMGA Chapters.

If you are having trouble finding enough activities for Primary hours, please continue to do activities in the Support category in order to get your hours completed.

Veterans do 25 hours, with at least 12 of those as Primary (see above)

FAIRS

Clackamas County Fair is August 14 – 19 (Tuesday – Sunday). The MG booth is located near an entertainment stage and a lovely garden display and plant sale. While the schedule is currently full, there is always a need for substitutes. Call coordinator Maggie Van Fossan 503-786-0422 . Come to the fair and stop by the booth and say hello.



Washington County Fair is July 26 – 29 (Thursday – Sunday). Master Gardeners are located next to the demonstration gardens and really have a lot to brag about. This area of the fairgrounds owes its planning and attractive appearance to the Washington County Master Gardeners and is a popular stop for fairgoers. Call Joanne DeHaan to schedule a shift 503-649-1683 or 503-330-4288 cell.

Oregon State Fair is August 24 –September 3. We typically have the Labor Day week-end shifts (Aug 21 – Sept 2), the other days will be staffed by MGs from around the state. This fair is located in Salem. Call or email Sally Skinner (503-887-4064 sally_skinner@msn.com) and ask for a morning, afternoon, or evening shift on Friday, Saturday or Sunday

- Passes or instructions to get into all the fairs are provided. Get these dates on your calendar before the summer gets away from you.



Crackedpots Art Show at McMenamins Edgefield (Troutdale) is asking for OSU Master Gardeners to staff a garden clinic booth again this year at their big yearly art show and sale. It is Tuesday, July 24 and Wednesday, July 25. Shifts are 10 am to 1 pm...1 to 4 pm...and 4 to 7 pm. <http://crackedpots.org/>
Contact Jordis at 503-650-3118 for more information or to schedule a shift.

Natter's Notes

Tomato abiotic woes

Jean R. Natter



Fig 1. Catfacing occurs during less than optimum temperatures; this case includes a small red addition.

Cracks at stem end, concentric: Concentric splitting has a genetic link without a list of susceptible varieties. I've read that sometimes the pattern of circular splits around the stem end is so specific that a variety can be identified, such as with 'Black from Tula.' Splits are often brown and may, or may not, seal. Excess soil, water, whether from rainfall or irrigation, may open the splits.

Cracks at stem end radiate outwards: Many tomatoes will develop radial cracks when soil moisture levels change from dryish to wet, as



Fig 2. Catfacing begins while fruit is still green but isn't recognized because few gardeners inspect the blossom end at that state.



following rainfall or irrigation. Tomatoes are more susceptible to this type of cracking as they ripen. This is another malady with a genetic link but without a list of susceptible varieties. Growth slows when soil dries and the tomato's skin toughens. When abundant moisture arrives the skin splits. Most often the splits will dry and seal, but sometimes they re-open and may rot (Fig 3).

Cracks or splits on sides: Horizontal cracks anywhere on tomatoes occur due to rapid absorption of water following rainfall or irrigation when the tomato is ripening. All tomatoes are susceptible.

Fig 3. Radial splits are due, in part, to fluctuating levels of soil moisture.

The remedy for radial and side cracks: Mind the old saw of "Maintain evenly moist soil."

Continued on next page...

Tomato cont....

Adventitious roots

Adventitious roots sometimes appear on the tomato stem, most often near the soil surface but sometimes higher up. They may be attributed to humid conditions in the growing area; water-logged soil; weather extremes (an indication of a stressed plant) or damage from the herbicide 2,4-D. Clients may describe adventitious roots as bubbly growths on the stem, small tumors, horns, a disease and even firmly attached bugs.

Fruit doesn't set

Tomatoes grow best with temperatures between 70F and 90F, but can tolerate very brief periods below 55F or above 100F. Blossoms drop when temperatures are below 55F for four consecutive nights, just as an excess of nitrogen fertilizer, nighttime temperatures above 70F, low temperatures below 50F and/or irregular watering.

Leaf roll

Leaves, rolled or curled (physiological roll): Physiological leaf roll of tomato has so many potential causes, the challenge is to differentiate among them and provide the correct response for the client. Leaf roll doesn't affect tomato quality or yield.



Fig 4. Tomatoes develop funky looking leaves and stems from inadvertent herbicide drift; this likely from one of the many home use herbicides that contain 2,4-D.

Physiological leaf roll starts with upward cupping at the leaf margins followed by inward rolling of the leaves. Among the many factors that may contribute to, or cause, leaf roll are these:

- Some varieties are more susceptible than others
- If tomato plants are pruned when the soil is dry
- High-yielding varieties under high fertilization programs
- Wet soil combined with high temperatures
- During the early season, top growth is more vigorous than the root system
- Dry weather when the roots can't keep up with transpiration loss from the leaf.

Realize that physiological leaf roll looks far different than if from herbicide or virus. See "Physiological leaf roll of tomato"

<http://cru.cahe.wsu.edu/CEPublications/PNW616/PNW616.pdf>

Leaves, rolled or curled (herbicide damage, often 2,4-D): More often than not, distorted growth is from inadvertent herbicide damage rather than from virus. Gnarly and tightly rolled leaves and stems is often from 2,4-D, the active ingredient in many home-use herbicides, other times by organic matter contaminated by clopyralid and similar commercial-use chemicals. (Fig 4)

Spray drift often occurs without the gardener recognizing it. A detailed question-and-answer session with the client is required to reveal the history. Sometimes the source is a neighbor, other times a helpful relative or friend. Herbicides travel readily on a breeze as well as spray turbulence.

Damage from glyphosate, the active ingredient in Kleen-up and various Roundup formulations, is quite different. The newest plant cells become bright yellow and are seen first at the base of expanding leaves.

Continued on next page...

For more about damage from glyphosate and contaminated organic matter, see <http://ncsupdicblog.blogspot.com/2011/04/herbicide-injury-to-tomatoes.html>.

Leaves with yellow or bleached spots: Ever see leaves turn white while hardening seedlings to adapt them to garden conditions? Yep; they were exposed to too much sun for too long.

Similar damage occurs with older plants if they run short of water, even though briefly. This time the white may be only between the veins, because that area is farthest from the supply line (Fig 5). Before the heat hits again, rig temporary shade.



Fig 5. Water stress may only be recognized days after a hot spell triggers the damage; cells at the end of the water supply die.

Tomato rot



Fig 6. Blossom end rot may develop secondary fungal rot.

Rot may be secondary to other damage such as feeding from birds, rats, squirrels or most caterpillars. Today we're considering only abiotic reasons.

Rot, blossom end (BER): A black bottomed tomato has blossom end rot (BER) because the plant's water transport system wasn't able to move calcium to the end of the line (Fig 6). The reason may be low soil calcium but often it's erratic irrigation, or perhaps a hot dry day when transpiration loss exceeds root absorption.



Fig 7. Sunscald may begin on green tomatoes; high spots are damaged by excessively bright sunlight.

Sunscald (sunburn): Sunscald occurs on the uppermost portions of the fruit because of direct exposure to sunlight (It's one of the risks of excessive pruning). Damaged cells are first pale yellow to white, and may progress to grayish-white. Depending upon how far the tomato is in the ripening process, a secondary rot may develop. (Figs 7 & 8) The remedy is prevention; maintain adequate leafy cover for your fruits.



Fig 8. A ripe tomato with sunscald may have a secondary fungus rot.

Yellow shoulders: Fruit shoulders show greenish-yellow to yellow patches and the fruit walls may be coarsely-textured. Heat injury alters the ripening process but not to the point sunscald. See <http://agdev.anr.udel.edu/weeklycropupdate/?p=3457>

Resources

- Disorders of Tomato <http://www.extension.umn.edu/distribution/horticulture/M1274.html>
- Common Tomato Fruit Disorders http://vegetablemdonline.ppath.cornell.edu/NewsArticles/Tom_ComDis.htm
- The Effect of Extreme Temperatures on the Tomato and Pepper Crop http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/crops/facts/info_tomtemp.htm

Internet Essentials for Master Gardeners

(Computer training sponsored by the Metro Master Gardener Program)

Gain Internet skills using Master Gardener Resources on Firefox

Everyone has a computer

Choose one or two 3-hour classes each day

Date	Site	9 to noon	1 to 4 PM
September 22	PCC, SE Center **	MG Referral Forum (Upload Referrals & Images); Search Techniques	PNW Handbooks (Disease; Insect; Weed); Search Techniques
October 13	Clackamas College***	PNW Handbooks (Disease; Insect: Weed); Search Techniques	MG Referral Forum (Upload Referrals & Images); Search Techniques

** PCC, SE Center: 2305 SE 82nd and Division, Portland, OR 97216

*** Clackamas Community College: 19600 Molalla Avenue, Oregon City 97045

Two different classes

- **PNW Handbooks Online; Search Techniques**
- **MG Referral Forum: Upload Referrals & Images**

Pre-register now!
Spaces available on all dates

Pre-register with Jean Natter:

J.R.Natter@aol.com or 503-645-7073

Please provide the following:

1. Date(s) and time of session(s) you will attend
2. Your name, plus phone number email

address



Donation of \$2 per class to cover cost of handouts

Facebook and Twitter

Have you checked us out on Facebook and Twitter? **“Like”** us on Facebook at “Metro Master Gardeners” and **“Follow”** us on Twitter at “@therealdirt” to get the latest Metro Master Gardener information!

Learn what exciting things Master Gardeners are up to, upcoming events, objective timely research-based information and fun gardening facts along with great links for you to check out! Come and join the conversation! We’re waiting to hear from you.

Margaret Bayne



Master Gardeners Make a Difference



Sherry Sheng, Rob Kappa and Sandra Sue Wallace. Photo courtesy of Clackamas county Master Gardener Chapter

Due to the tragic event that unfolded a few weeks ago we have lost one of our outstanding Master Gardeners, Sandra Sue Wallace.

Sandra Sue became a Master Gardener in 2005 and dabbled in many aspects of the program. Her favorite MG activity was talking to clients at the Clackamas County Extension office phone clinic in Oregon City. She was always willing to substitute for MGs when needed.

She especially enjoyed researching client's gardening questions and would get very animated when an unusual plant or insect problem would come in. As a mentor to our new Master Gardener interns, she provided comfort and guidance because of her patience and knowledge.

Sandra Sue received the Green Glove award in 2011 for her dedicated volunteer work with the Clackamas County Master Gardener Chapter.

Many Master Gardeners have expressed to us what a joy it was to volunteer with her. She was a great listener and would give you her opinion without any judgment. One MG told us, *"I would always feel better after working with her."* She did not concentrate on the bad stuff in her life or dwell on the negative; instead she focused on the positive.

She would chat with her MG clinic partners about her family, especially her grandchildren. Jordis and I could often hear her and her MG clinic companions laughing when Sandra Sue would share a story or two. She was a talented artist and would design beautiful intricate Japanese embroidery pieces. She would often bring her beloved Corgi to the office and take him for walks during her lunch breaks. Friends have said, if you stopped by her house she loved to show her garden.

Sandra Sue was also the MG Coordinator for Portland Nursery's annual Spring Vegetable Clinic on Division and at their fall Apple Tasting Festival on Stark Street. She emailed us that morning of June 4th to tell us about her fun trip to Seattle with her grandson Nick Juarez and that she would be in on June 18 for her clinic shift to bring in her Portland Nursery log sheets.

She expressed her excitement of an upcoming trip with her grandson to California for a family reunion. She was extremely proud that Nick had just gotten his driver's license! According to a frequent MG clinic partner, Sandra Sue loved to take trips with her grandson! Tragically, Nick was also killed in the same incident.

She often talked about her previous job working for Kaiser in California. She was a state-licensed clinical social worker and held a master's degree in social work from the University of Iowa. She worked in the psychiatric department of a Kaiser Permanente hospital in the San Bernadine, Calif., area until she retired.

As our State Master Coordinator, Gail Langellotto-Rhodaback has expressed; we are *"Heartbroken and utterly stunned by this senseless, senseless tragedy."*

Our condolences go out to her family, friends and her fellow Master Gardeners in the Clackamas County Master Gardener Chapter. We will miss our dedicated volunteer and dear friend. Sandra Sue Wallace made a HUGE difference in her community.

Margaret Bayne



Sandra Sue Wallace and Terri Hoffmann. Photo courtesy of Clackamas County Master Gardener Chapter.

How to prepare for the county fair



EUGENE, Ore. – Summer is the time for county fairs, and it's time to begin planning to enter some of your best produce. This could be your year to win a ribbon.

Ross Penhallegon, an Oregon State University Extension Service horticulturist, has years of experience judging produce at fairs. There are a few things home gardeners should consider to make their efforts more successful, he says.

Get a copy of the fair's exhibitor handbook that has entry rules for fruits and vegetables and the "who, what, when, where and why" of your county fair competition. Also, the OSU Extension Service 4-H program has an online guide to help you learn to grow and prepare produce for exhibits: [Oregon 4-H Horticulture Contest Guide-Vegetables](#)

When it's time to show, you will be asked to submit a group of fruits or vegetables as closely alike as possible in color, shape and size. Uniformity is critical and one of the most difficult criteria to meet. In places like Lake County, produce may not yet have ripened, but uniformity is critical.

Choose produce free of blemishes and unscarred by garden pests. Discard vegetables marred by disease, rough handling or careless cultivation. "But realize," Penhallegon said, "some years, the perfect fruit or vegetable may not be possible to grow. Sometimes any vegetables will be better than no vegetables at all at fair."

Select normal-sized vegetables that are ready to be consumed or cooked, at their best and most flavorful.

"Vegetables and fruits should be what's accepted by industry or what is typically found at grocery stores," Penhallegon said. "Just go look at what is sold in stores and then pick your produce for contests accordingly. The "Contest Guide – Vegetables" is really good for helping people select vegetables for fair."

Choose specimens typical for the variety in shape, color and size. For example, slicing tomatoes are expected to be evenly round; select oblong tomatoes for salsa tomatoes. Save your strange specimens for "weirdest vegetable" contests.

For more information about entering produce for competition, contact local county fair offices or [local county offices of the OSU Extension Service](#).

Author: [Judy Scott](#)

Source: [Ross Penhallegon](#)

This article can be found at <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/gardening/node/2008/print>

MGs Shine in Starlight Parade

OSU Master Gardeners marched in the Rose Festival's Starlight Parade this year and made quite a colorful splash. The onlookers just LOVE MGs and their crazy/wonderful garden-themed costumes. If you haven't done this before, you really need to...it is delightful. The picture above is from 2011, but shows our crew just before the parade. Kele Kai Roberts is on the far left in the grape-suit (husbands matching costume on the right). Kele has coordinated this opportunity for MGs for the last few years and has done a fantastic job. She will be passing the torch on to Seamus 'The Gnome' Ramirez for next year. As Kele leaves this job, we want to give her a huge THANK YOU for doing such a wonderful job!



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29th Annual
Mini College for
Gardeners
July 25-28, 2012

Willamette University
900 State Street
Salem, OR 97301

Presented by
the Oregon
Master Gardener™
Association



OMGA



Online Registration by July 5-2012
www.oregonmastergardeners.org/MiniCollege2012.htm

Oregon State University Extension Service offers educational programs, activities, and materials—without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, age, marital status, and disabled veteran or Vietnam-era veteran status. This publication will be made available in accessible formats upon request. Please call 541-232-1845 for more information. If you have a physical disability that requires special considerations in order for you to attend the Gardener's Mini-College, please notify the conference registrar (Janette Woosley) at: 1-888-488-1666 by July 5, 2012.

HORTICULTURAL CALENDAR

FOR THE METRO AREA

July 9	Clackamas County Chapter, Garden Tour, Villa Catalina & Rare Plant Research, 4 to 7:30pm
July 10	Multnomah County Chapter, Summer Series 'In the Garden', 7pm. Learning Gardens Laboratory, 6801 SE 60 th , Portland. Jen Aron, Peaceful Gardens, <i>"Year Round Vegetable Bounty: Planning for a Fall and Winter Harvest."</i>
July 14	Washington County Chapter, 10 th Annual WCMGA Potluck Picnic, 3 to 6pm
July 18	NWREC Community Open House 4:00-7:00pm.
July 21	Washington County Chapter, DOG DAYS OF SUMMER Garden Tour, 10am to 4pm
July 25-27	Mini-College on the campus of Willamette College in Salem
Aug 13	Clackamas County Chapter, Chapter Picnic, 7pm
Aug 14	Multnomah County Chapter, Summer Series 'In the Garden', 7pm, Learning Gardens Laboratory, 6801 SE 60 th , Portland. Jean R. Natter, OSU Extension Service Master Gardener, <i>'Beating the Odds: Triumph in the Veggie Garden.'</i>
Sept 1-2	American Dahlia Society National Show, Columbia Red Lion Hotel, Portland
Sept 4	Washington County Chapter, <i>"Creating a Year Round Garden"</i> with Marci Degman
Sept 11	Multnomah County Chapter, 7pm, 5441 SE Belmont, Carolyn Kolb, Wind Dancer Garden, <i>"The Magic of Ornamental Grasses"</i> , plants for sale prior to and following the presentation.
Sept 22	Internet Essentials for Master Gardeners, PCC, SE Center, 9am-4pm
Sept 29	Villa Garden Club Fall Plant Sale, 10am to 3pm. Taber Heights Methodist Church, 6161 S.E. Stark, Portland, Oregon.
Oct 2	Washington County Chapter Chat, "Dwarf Conifers" with Susan LaTourette of Creativescaping
Oct 9	Multnomah County Chapter, 7pm, 5441 SE Belmont, Mary Logalbo, West Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation District, <i>"Invasive Weeds: Know Your Enemies"</i>
Oct 13	Internet Essentials for Master Gardeners, Clackamas Community College, 9am to 4pm
Nov 10	Fall Recertification, Clackamas Community College

July/August 2012

Speaker Series

'In the Garden'

Tuesday, July 10th, 7:00 pm

Community Demonstration
Garden

6801 SE 60th Ave., Portland

Speaker: Jen Aron

'Year Round Vegetable
Bounty: Planning for a Fall
and Winter Harvest'

Multnomah County Grapevine

In cooperation with the OSU Extension Service Master Gardener Program



Photo from the Demo Garden

Speaker Series Goes 'In the Garden' for Summer!

'In the Garden'

Tuesday,
August 14th,
7:00 pm

Master Gardener
extraordinaire,

Jean Natter, guides us in

"Beating the Odds:

Triumph in the Veggie

Garden". Growing a healthy, productive garden requires a bit of planning, combined with a bit of vigilance. Wear your walking shoes, and join us as we tour the garden. Jean will hone in on what critters and diseases are there and, what, if anything, we gardeners should do to bolster the good and deal with the bad in our own gardens. Everyone welcome! Rain or shine!

Tuesday,

Sept. 11th, 7:00 pm

Speaker: Carolyn Kolb

Topic: The Magic of
Ornamental Grasses

Mt. Tabor Presbyterian
Church

5541 SE Belmont, Portland



Join us on Tuesday,
July 10th, 7:00 pm in
the garden at 6801 SE
60th Ave.

Summer is the time to plan and plant your fall and winter garden. Learn how to extend your garden's harvest through the chilly fall and winter months. Jen Aron will discuss how to plan your fall and winter garden, what crops (and specific varieties) will withstand our wet, cold winters, techniques and timing for planting, and simple season extension techniques, such as shade cloth for heat sensitive seeds and cloches to protect vegetables for a long and productive harvest.

Jen Aron has owned and operated *Peaceful Gardens*, a sustainable landscape design business in Portland, since 2007. In addition to her design work, Jen has served as a garden educator since 2009, teaching for OSU Extension, Metro, PSU, Portland Nursery, and the City of Portland. Jen is currently an instructor for the *Beginning Urban Farming Apprenticeship Program*, a seven-month course designed to provide in-depth and comprehensive training in sustainable, small-scale, urban farming methods. Jen is also the garden coordinator for the Better Together Garden at Portland's City Hall, an edible urban garden in the

heart of downtown that grows and donates food for Loaves and Fishes. Jen is passionate about teaching and growing food and loves using plants that attract beneficial insects and pollinators to help keep the garden in balance.



Learning continues at our **Community Demonstration Garden**, which is beautiful this time of year and every workday there are opportunities to expand your gardening knowledge. Tasks abound for all interests and abilities. So just drop by, dig in and expand your knowledge! Mondays, Thursdays, and Saturdays, 9:00 am to noon. 6801 SE 60th Ave., Portland. Questions? Contact: mgdemogarden@gmail.com



Washington County Chapter Chat

Oregon Master Gardener™ Association in cooperation with
OSU Extension Service Master Gardener™ Program

UPCOMING CHAPTER MEETINGS & PROGRAMS

Meeting Location & Time - First Baptist Church

5755 SW Erickson Ave., Beaverton, OR 97005.
Social gathering at 6:30 p.m. Meeting at 6:45 p.m.
followed by the program at 7:15. The public is welcome.

Tuesday, September 4, 2012 "Creating a Year Round Garden" with Marci Degman, *Hillsboro Argus* Garden Columnist.

Tuesday, October 2, 2012 "Dwarf Conifers" with Susan LaTourette of Creativescaping.

Washington County Master Gardeners

DOG DAYS of SUMMER Garden Tour 2012

Saturday, July 21 - 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Rain or Shine.
FREE and open to the public.

Visit up to seven gardens in any order, including five members' gardens, a community garden, and our own incredible demonstration garden. All include food production and feature sustainable gardening practices. For full descriptions and locations go to:

<http://www.metromastergardeners.org/washington/washingtontour2012.php>

To help staff an area at the Demo Garden during the tour, contact Rene Breier, Tour Coordinator, at: breierrene@yahoo.com

Orchid Culture Questions

Our May speaker Greg Nielsen is happy to answer any questions on orchid culture or Tillandsias (air plants). Contact him at airplantman@comcast.net or (503)577-0525. He also has some different and rare orchids for sale.

The Book Sale committee needs some new members to help select the books for sale at Recert & Training, and to help at the sales. Contact Karen Brandenburger at: kb97or@aol.com

10th ANNUAL WCMGA POTLUCK PICNIC

Beer, Brats and Bluegrass

Come and enjoy a fun afternoon with your fellow WCMGA members and spouses. The Rose City Bluegrass Band will entertain us.

Where: The Millers – 17745 SW Cooper Mountain Lane, Beaverton, OR

When: Saturday, July 14th, 3:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Eat at 3:30 p.m. sharp. Soft drinks, beer, and brats provided. BYO wine, a large side dish, dessert, or salad to share and eating and serving utensils. See flyer at:

http://www.washingtoncountymastergardeners.org/Picnic_2012.pdf

It's time to think about supporting the WCMGA by becoming a member of the Board of Directors. The following positions are open for 2013 and will be voted on by the membership in the fall. Serving on the board earns support hours.

One-year terms:

Vice President

Treasurer

Recording Secretary

Corresponding Secretary

Two-year terms:

Director #1 Audit committee and business manager

Director # 3 Publicity

Director # 4 Fundraising

Director # 5 Chapter Relations

Alternate OMGA Representative

Position descriptions are available on our website:

<http://www.washingtoncountymastergardeners.org/Job-Descriptions-for-Board-Positions.html>

If you are interested or know someone who you think would be a great candidate, please contact Sandy Japely, 503-644-2637, sjapely@gmail.com or Judy Hale, 503-590-7221, judy.hale@gmail.com

President: Bob Falconer 503-277-8596

Treasurer: Lynn Cox 503-629-9156

Submit Chapter Chat announcements to agc.mary@gmail.com

Chapter Website: www.washingtoncountymastergardeners.org

Vice President: Sandy Japely 503-644-2637

Record Sec: Diane Allen 503-244-8599

Please send any email or address changes to: info@wcmga.info



JULY-AUGUST

Clackamas County Chatter

The Oregon Master Gardener Association in Cooperation with
OSU Extension Service Master Gardener™ Program



2012

July 9 Garden Tour

Villa Catalina & Rare Plant Research
11900 S. Criteser Road, Oregon City
5440 SE Kellogg Creek Drive, Milwaukie
(Intersects S. Central Point Road)

4 p.m. until 7:30 p.m.

(Come anytime during these hours.)

In lieu of a regular Chapter meeting, this month features a tour of Villa Catalina.

This stone house was inspired by a Romanesque church built in 1132 in Spain's Catalonia region. The gardens contain many different styles, including desert, tropical, border, herb, rock, grasses, and Mediterranean. Burt Mostul founded Rare Plant Research in 1987; he and his wife built Villa Catalina in 2008. The nursery began as a hobby and, eventually, grew into a research nursery. Burt seeks out new plants from around the world and develops new hybrids for gardeners. His latest plant passion is rare South African bulbs. He is providing this special opportunity for Chapter members and their friends to tour the gardens. Photos of the garden are available at: www.rareplantresearch.com.

August 13 Chapter Picnic

Milwaukie Center, 7 p.m.

Our annual picnic is a once-a-year opportunity for the Chapter to say thank you to our members and volunteers. Come prepared to indulge in standard picnic fare, as determined by our Picnic Committee. Volunteers to help are still needed.

CCC Award

The Chapter was presented a Distinguished Friend of the College award by Clackamas Community College for our long-term contribution to the scholarship program. Paul Miken received the award from the President of CCC during graduation ceremonies.

Sandra Sue Wallace

We are saddened by the tragic death of Sandra Sue Wallace, one of our valuable chapter members. Sue became a Master Gardener in 2005 and had been a regular volunteer at the phone clinic and at many Chapter events. We extend our condolences to her family.

Executive Board Meeting

The Executive Board meeting will be July 19 at 7 p.m. in Room C-126, Clairmont Hall, CCC.

Green Glove Award

The June recipient of the Green Glove Award was Phil White. Phil is one of those "behind-the-scenes" volunteers who are invaluable to the Chapter. He worked 5+ shifts at Spring Garden Fair, making sure that issues were addressed before becoming problems. He is Irwin Rogers' right-hand man during dues-collection season and is a regular at the Fred Meyer clinic. Congratulations to Phil White, June's Green Glove Award winner.

Open Gardens

Open Garden tour season for Chapter members has begun and will continue for the next several months. Please visit the Chapter Web site (www.cmastergardeners.org) to look at photos from last year and to see the schedule for 2012. This is an excellent opportunity to see what can be done in the garden.

OMGA™ Mini College

July 25-28

Willamette University

It is not too late to sign up for Mini College, OMGA's annual gathering and learning experience. This is a chance to meet Master Gardeners from throughout the State and learn about exciting new gardening ideas. It is close to home this year, making it accessible to everyone. Additional details are available at: oregonmastergardeners.org/MiniCollege2012.

President • Frank Wille: 503.342.6699 — Vice President • Will Hughes: 503.887.9380

Secretary • Darlene Reimer: 503.698.4648

Advisory Board • Buzz Oerding: 503.233.6974

OMGA Rep • Terri Hoffman: 503.982.4825

Treasurer • David Smith: 503.656.4613

Advisory Board • Mary Butler: 503.632.1532

OMGA Alt. Rep • Karen King: 503.467.8800

Assist. Treasurer • Seamus Ramirez: 503.342.6229

Advisory Board • Sharon Andrews: 503.577.7493

Newsletter • Kathy Johnson: 503.794.3959

Web sites: <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/mg/> — <http://www.clackamascountymastergardeners.org/>

July

Maintenance and Clean Up

- Mound soil up around base of potatoes. Gather and eat a few "new" potatoes from each hill, when plants begin to flower.
- Early morning is the best time to water vegetable and flower gardens to reduce evaporation. Water the soil, rather than leaves to reduce disease. Water deeply and infrequently to encourage root growth.
- Hanging baskets of flowers or vegetable plantings need careful attention to watering and feeding during extended periods of hot weather.
- Weed and fertilize rhubarb and asparagus beds. A mulch of compost or rotted cow manure works well as fertilizer. Water deeply to develop crowns for next year.
- Mulch to conserve soil moisture with paper, plastic, sawdust, etc.
- Stake tall-growing flowering plants such as delphinium, hollyhocks, and lupine. Stake tomatoes, as necessary.
- If a green lawn is desired, make sure lawn areas are receiving adequate water (approximately 0.5 to 1.5 inches per week from June through August). Deep watering less often is more effective than frequent shallow watering. Measure your water use by placing an empty tuna can where your irrigation water lands.
- Make compost of lawn clippings and garden plants that are ready to be recycled. Do not use clippings if lawn has been treated with herbicide, including "weed-and-feed" products. Do not compost diseased plants unless you are using the "hot compost" method (120° to 150°F).

Planting/Propagation

- Midsummer plantings of beets, bush beans, carrots, cauliflower, broccoli, lettuce, kale, and peas will provide fall and winter crops.
- Dig spring bulbs when tops have died down; divide and store or replant.

Pest Monitoring and Management

- Control hollyhock rust by sanitation, picking affected leaves, or spraying with a registered fungicide. Read and follow label directions.
- Watch for cutworm damage in garden. (In July, climbing cutworms become a problem and large portions of foliage will begin to disappear on established plants.) Use barriers, remove by hand, use beneficial nematodes when soil temperature is above 55°F, or spray with *Bt-k* according to label directions.
- Late this month, begin to monitor for early and late blight on tomatoes.
- Place traps to catch adult apple maggot flies. You can use pheromone traps to monitor presence of pests.
- July 10: spray filbert trees for filbertworm, as necessary.
- July 10-15: spray peach and prune trees for peach tree borer, and peach twig borer, as necessary.
- July 17-23: third spray for codling moth in apple and pear trees, as necessary.
- Cover blueberry bushes with netting to keep birds from eating all the crop.
- Watch for early and late blight on tomatoes. Correct by pruning for air circulation, picking off affected leaves, and/or treat with approved fungicide.
- Monitor camellias, holly, maple trees for scale insects. Treat if necessary.
- Monitor rhododendrons for adult root weevils. Look for fresh evidence of feeding (notching). Try sticky trap products on plant trunks to trap adult weevils. Manage root weevils with beneficial nematodes (if soil temperature is above 55°F). If root weevils are a consistent problem, consider removing plants and choosing resistant varieties (See <http://cru.cahe.wsu.edu/CEPublications/eb0970e/eb0970e.pdf> for list of rhododendrons exhibiting resistance to adult root weevil feeding.)
- Check leafy vegetables for caterpillars. Pick off caterpillars as they appear. Use *Bt-k*, if necessary.
- Spider mites can become a problem on ornamental plants, vegetables, and fruit plants during hot, dry weather. Watch for dusty-looking foliage, loss of color, presence of tiny mites. Wash infested areas with water or spray with appropriate pesticides.
- Remove cankered limbs from fruit and nut trees for control of diseases such as apple anthracnose and bacterial canker of stone fruit. Sterilize tools before each new cut.
- Continue monitoring raspberry, blackberry, blueberry, cherry and other plants that produce soft fruits and berries for Spotted Wing Drosophila (SWD). If SWD are present, use an integrated and least toxic approach to manage the pests. To learn how to monitor for SWD flies and larval infestations in fruit, visit <http://swd.hort.oregonstate.edu/gardeners>.

August

Reminders of key garden chores, such as fertilizing, pest control, planting, and maintenance for this month. Recommendations are not necessarily applicable to all areas of Oregon. For more info, contact [your local OSU Extension Service office](#).

Planning

- Dampwood termites begin flying late this month. Make sure your home is free of wet wood or places where wood and soil are in contact.
- Optimal time for establishing a new lawn is August through Mid-September.

Maintenance and Clean Up

- Make compost of lawn clippings and garden plants that are ready to be recycled. Don't use clippings if lawn has been treated with herbicide, including "weed-and-feed" products. Don't compost diseased plants unless you are using the "hot compost" method (120° to 150°F).
- Fertilize cucumbers, summer squash, and broccoli to maintain production while you continue harvesting.
- Clean and fertilize strawberry beds.
- Use mulch to protect ornamentals and garden plants from hot weather damage. If needed, provide temporary shade, especially for recent plantings.
- Camellias need deep watering to develop flower buds for next spring.
- Prune raspberries, boysenberries, and other caneberries after harvest. Check raspberries for holes made by crown borers, near the soil line, at base of plant. Remove infested wood before adults emerge (approximately mid-August).
- Monitor garden irrigation closely so crops and ornamentals don't dry out.
- If a green lawn is desired, make sure lawn areas are receiving adequate water (approximately 0.5 to 1.5 inches per week from June through August). Deep watering less often is more effective than frequent shallow watering. Measure your water use by placing an empty tuna can where your irrigation water lands.
- **Western Oregon:** Prune out dead fruiting canes in trailing blackberry and train new primocanes prior to end of month
- **High elevations, central and eastern Oregon:** Prune away excess vegetation and new blossoms on tomatoes after mid-August. Concentrate on ripening set fruit.
- Prune cherry trees before fall rains begin to allow callusing in dry weather. This will minimize the spread of bacterial canker.

Planting/Propagation

- Plant winter cover crops in vacant space in the vegetable garden
- Plant winter kale, Brussels sprouts, turnips, parsnips, parsley, and Chinese cabbage.
- **Western Oregon:** Mid-summer planting of peas; use enation-virus-resistant varieties, plant fall crops of cabbage, cauliflower, and broccoli.
- **Oregon coast:** Plant spinach.
- **Western valleys, Portland, Roseburg, Medford:** Plant cauliflower, broccoli, Brussels sprouts, spinach, turnips, and parsnips.
- **Columbia and Snake River valleys, Ontario:** Plant Chinese cabbage, and endive.

Pest Monitoring and Management

- Check apple maggot traps; spray tree if needed.
- Control yellowjackets and wasps with traps and lures as necessary. Keep in mind they are beneficial insects and help control pest insects in the home garden.
- First week: If necessary, spray for walnut husk fly.
- First week: If necessary second spray for peach tree borer and/or peach twig borer.
- First week: If necessary, second spray of filbert trees for filbertworm.
- Check for root weevils in ornamental shrubs and flowers; codling moth and spider mite in apple trees; scale insects in camellias, holly and maples. Treat as necessary.
- Watch for corn earworm on early corn. Treat as needed.
- Control caterpillars on leafy vegetables, as needed, with *Bt-k*, or by hand picking and removal.
- For mite control on ornamentals and most vegetables, hose off foliage, spray with approved miticide if necessary.
- Remove cankered limbs from fruit and nut trees for control of diseases such as apple anthracnose and bacterial canker of stone fruit. Sterilize tools before each new cut.
- Continue monitoring peaches, plums, prunes, figs, fall-bearing raspberries and strawberries, and other plants that produce soft fruits and berries for Spotted Wing Drosophila (SWD). If SWD are present, use an integrated and least toxic approach to manage the pests. To learn how to monitor for SWD flies and larval infestations in fruit, visit <http://swd.hort.oregonstate.edu/gardeners>.
- **Willamette Valley:** Corn may need protection from earworm. Spray new silks with appropriate pesticides if necessary.
- **East of Cascades:** Check for tomato hornworm. Remove them if found.
- **Coastal and western valleys:** Spray potatoes and tomatoes for early and late blight.
- Identify problems before acting, and opt for the least toxic approach. Cultural, physical and biological controls are the cornerstones of a sustainable pest management program. Use chemical controls only after you identify a pest problem and carefully read the pesticide label. Least-toxic choices are insecticidal soaps, horticultural oils, botanical insecticides and organic and synthetic pesticides. These recommendations might not apply to all areas of Oregon. For more information, contact [your local OSU Extension Service office](#).