

Metro Master Gardener™ News

March 2009



**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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Table of Contents

	<u>Page</u>
Metro Program Update by Weston Miller	2
Opportunities from Jordis	5
Natter's Notes – An Occasional Cherry Pest	7
Notices	9
Horticultural Calendar	10
Mossyrose Gall – Margaret Bayne	11
Get a Grip On Your Garden	13
Sean Hogan Lecture	14
Multnomah County Grapevine	15
Washington County Chapter Chat	15
Clackamas County Chatter	17
Garden Hints	18

Dear Metro Master Gardeners,

My newsletter entry for this month comes in 5 parts:

1. Discussion of online resources that are part of the 2009 Master Gardener training and the Master Gardener Office Information Binder
 2. Some exciting news regarding the MG program in Multnomah County.
 3. Introduction of OSU Extension Programming at the 2009 Better Living Show March 27-29 at the Portland Expo Center.
 4. Description of a new initiative offered by Gail Langellotto and her program assistant Monica Maggio (MG 2008- Beaverton) on Urban Pesticide Reduction.
 5. Preview of our Master Gardener Recertification Event on April 11th at PCC Rock Creek.
1. This year at the MG training in the Metro area, we are making a conscious effort to reduce the amount of paper that we distribute in the program to conserve this precious resource. Rather than distributing many handouts for most of my modules, we have made presentations available online for new and veteran MGs to view at their convenience at home. There is lots of great information available at this password-protected website:
 - <http://oregonstate.edu/instruct/millerwe/>
 - username: mgmetro
 - password: T8Up*a

Another important online resource available for your use is the **Master Gardener Office Information Binder** (an incredible set of documents created by MGs for MGs) at:

<http://extension.oregonstate.edu/mg/metro/training-resources>. This is the resource that explains procedures and protocol for working in the telephone clinics. It is critical that veteran MGs read and understand these procedures as we rely on YOU to train MG interns on how to work in the phone clinics. Therefore, please take the time to review this resource either in paper form or online. This information binder can be found at the MG clinics and can be checked out from office staff at the Extension offices.

2. We have some exciting news to share regarding the Master Gardener Program in the metro area. We (OSU Extension Service) have recently developed a partnership with West Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation District (WMSWCD) that enables us to re-establish a telephone clinic in Multnomah County. The WMSWCD office is located in Montgomery Park in NW Portland (2701 NW Vaughn St Suite 450). This new partnership will go into effect on March 30. Thus, this spring we will again have 3 telephone clinics for Master Gardeners to serve in the metro area.

With this expansion come several challenges that I am asking the entire metro Master Gardener community to help address:

- Direct telephone and internet traffic that comes to existing MG clinics from Multnomah County residents to this new MG office so that our volunteers' time will be well-spent.
- Step up participation among vets at all of our phone clinics to ensure that the new trainees are receiving the support and education that they need to feel comfortable in their role as Master Gardener interns.
- Advertise this renewed service in Multnomah County and remind the general public about our incredible service to the community.

Details on this initiative will develop in the next month and I will keep you posted!

3. Another program that I would like to direct your attention toward is OSU Extension's participation in the 2009 Better Living Show (March 27-29) at the Expo Center in North Portland <http://www.betterlivingshow.org/index.asp>. MG volunteer Carol O'Neil (Aurora-2008) has been instrumental in helping us to participate in this event as sponsors of the educational seminar series that is part of the Better Living Show. Carol has performed the bulk of the work to arrange an incredible line-up of

presenters for the seminar series. Many of these presenters will bring research-based information from OSU about a wider variety of sustainability (and gardening) topics. If you want to learn more about what you can do to be more sustainable in your own life and if you want to learn about what is happening on the cutting edge of the sustainability movement, this is your opportunity. See the list of presentations below:

Admission to the show is free. There is a \$7 fee for parking (\$6 for carpools of 3 or more). You can also access the Expo center via TriMet Max Yellow Line.

Friday 3/27			
1:00 PM	Food System in the Metro Area	Sheila Martin	PSU Institute for Metropolitan Studies
1:00 PM	TBA	Energy Trust	
2:00 PM	Get Dirty! Hands on Mixing Mud to Build Anything	Sukita Crimmel	details
2:00PM	Honey Bees and Colony Collapse Disorder	Ramesh Sagili	OSU Honey Bee Faculty
3:00 PM	Beautiful, Edible, Organic Gardening	Carl Grimm	METRO- details
3:00 PM	Commercial Solar	Jaimes Valdez	City of Portland BES- details
4:00 PM	Sustainable Forest and Making Decisions for Everyday Life	Mike Bondi/OSU	OSU Extension- details
4:00 PM	When Technology Fails	Matthew Stein	Author- details
5:00 PM	Year Round Veggie Gardening	Weston Miller	OSU Extension- details
5:00 PM	Easy Steps to Green Cleaning	Caran Goodall	Metro- details
6:00 PM	Urban Chickens Made Easy	Jon Bake	details
Saturday 3/28			
12:00 PM	Rain gardens	Robert Emanuel	OSU Extension- details
12:00 PM	Make your kid a recycling pro	Cait Goodwin	OSU Sea Grant- details
1:00 pm	Bird Watching/wetlands mitigation	Carrie Butler	Port of Portland- details
1:00 PM	Celebrate Green/greening holidays	Lynn Colwell/daughter	
2:00 PM	Bio-diesel/2students will demo mkg fuel	David Hackleman	OSU Engineering- details
2:00 PM	The Carbon Footprint / New Sustainable Garden	Linda McMahon	OSU Extension
3:00 PM	Energy from Sewage	Hong Liu	OSU Biological Engineering- details
3:00 PM	Living Sustainably/It's Your Choice	Vivane Simon-Brown	OSU Extension- details
4:00 PM	New Profitable Businesses from Waste	Randy White	details
4:00 PM	Composting Toilets	Viviane-Simon-Brown	OSU Extension- details
5:00 PM	The Gort Cloud/author	Rick Seirieeni	Author- details
5:00 PM	Residential Solar	Stuart Green	Solar Oregon- details
6:00 PM	Beauty and the Bug	Paul Sanford	Metro- details
6:00 PM	Growing medicinal herbs/plants	Cara Saunders	details
7:00 PM	Top WIRED Journalist speaks on Green Tech	Alex Madrigal	Author- details
7:00 PM	TBA	Energy Trust	
Sunday 3/29			
12:00 PM	Rain gardens	Robert Emanuel	OSU Extension- details
12:00 PM	Sam Chan - watershed health	Sam Chan	OSU Sea Grant-
1:00 PM	Get Involved/Community Action/Watershed Health	Pat Opdyke and Margot Barnett	OSU Extension
1:00 PM	Top Ten Beneficial Garden Insects KID	Gail Langellotto	OSU Extension
2:00 PM	Green Comes in Many Colors/recycle paint	Jim Quinn	Metro- details
2:00 PM	Natural Pest Control	Gail Langellotto	OSU Extension
3:00 PM	Food Preservation/the basics	Jeanne Brandt	OSU Extension- details
3:00 PM	Residential Solar	Stuart Green	Solar Oregon- details

4. Urban Pesticide Reduction Program Announcement

Greetings fellow MGs,

The Urban Pesticide Reduction Program (UPRP) is a dynamic new ongoing educational opportunity that will be offered this spring for MGs in the Portland metro area. This program will be a series of 3, 2-hour classes (6 hours overall) that will consist of 4 parts:

- 1) Info on how to perform a home pesticide audit.
- 2) How to read a pesticide label and the proper use, handling and disposal of common residential pesticides.
- 3) The environmental fate of pesticides and effective alternatives to pesticide use.
- 4) Educational training and resources for teaching the above topics to a community group.

These classes will build on the pesticide information from the *Sustainable Gardening* handbook and the MG Recertification Training on April 11th, 2009. MGs interested in the UPRP are strongly encouraged to attend this introduction. After completing the full set of classes, MGs will be expected to give a shortened version of the training to a community group of their choice (neighborhood, church group, garden club, PTA, etc.). The initial 6 class hours will count towards your MG Continuing Education and the time involved in delivering the community classes will count towards your volunteer hours.

We are looking for a small handful of interested, committed MGs in the Portland metro area, specifically in Multnomah and Clackamas Co., who want to help get solid, research-based information into, and hazardous materials out of, our urban community!

Classes will be held after April 15 (specific dates/times/location TBA).

If interested please contact:

Monica Maggio

Project Coordinator, Urban Pesticide Reduction Program OSU Master Gardener Program

monica.maggio@oregonstate.edu

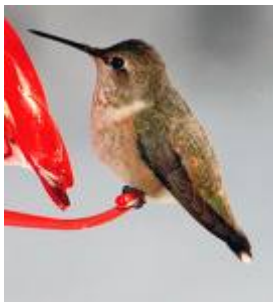
541-224-2864

5. Master Gardener Recertification April 11 at PCC Rock Creek-

- 8:30 – 10:15- Establishing a Vegetable Garden- Instructor TBA
- 10:30 – 12:00 PM- Dr. Ramesh Sigili- Honey Bees and Colony Collapse
- 12:30 – 3:30- Dr. Gail Langellotto (State-wide MG Program Coordinator)
 - Design and Implementation of Conservation Biological Habitat for pollinators and natural enemies
 - Introduction to Urban Pesticide Reduction Program

See you soon!

Weston



Rufous Hummingbird

OPPORTUNITIES FROM JORDIS

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

2009 INTERNS COMPLETE TRAINING

March starts with trainees still in the classroom for several more sessions...and ends with 175+ new Master Gardener Interns out in the community educating and supporting home gardeners.

The new class has had instruction about what's next for them in the volunteer portion of the program. Most new trainees are a little nervous about being a resource, but being with other experienced MGs and having your 'intern' status plainly in view on the badges will make the experience a positive one. The bottom line is, you've been trained to know WHERE to find the answers. The best advice is to jump in and sign up for a variety of things. You will be amazed at how much you know AND how much more you get out of your classroom learning when you apply it!

Remember, we have several ways for you to get involved:

- Volunteer Opportunities packet (check boxes for what you are interested in). These pages are to be turned in before classes end. This information will be very important to the coordinators that are filling the event schedules.
- We give you coordinator names and numbers to call directly for the event you want to help with. Look in the April newsletter.

The best way to complete your hours is to be **proactive**. Call about the events that interest you...get on multiple lists...sign up with a new friend from class and have some fun. There are a lot of exciting and educational events coming up for new trainees and veterans. Watch the newsletter and emails for volunteer opportunities that are in your neighborhood or area of interest. We have something for everyone!

UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES

First and foremost...**phones!** New trainees owe 33 hours in educational activities and can staff the phones when their training ends. Veterans should aim for half of their 25 hours being spent helping the new MGs as they ease into their new role as 'Volunteer Staff' for OSU.

The best way to achieve this is on the phones.

Clackamas Co. contact Joby Duggan. joby@bctonline.com 503-632-2165

Multnomah Co. contact Gloria Bennett. dcleopatra@comcast.net 503-775-4005

Washington Co. contact Heidi Nichols. heidinichols@comcast.net 503-774-6888

Trillium Festival and Native Plant Sale at Tryon Creek State Park- April 4 & 5. This is a clinic and some expertise with native plants may be helpful. Call **Cynthia Marshall** 503-246-4715.

Crystal Springs Rhododendron Garden

Master Gardeners are very active at CSRG this spring. The garden attendance is huge this time of year and it is an exciting place to be. There is an ongoing opportunity that can be somewhat lower key...working at the entrance gate. This is a lovely new building at the garden and is the perfect place for MGs with limited mobility. The garden staff needs help Thursday through Monday. There are two shifts available, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 2 to 6 p.m. This volunteer time can be either educational outreach or support depending on what type of questions you receive. Call **Rose Kress** 503-654-4318 for more details.

Portland Nursery

This spring (April and May) Portland Nursery on SE 90th and Division would like to have Master Gardeners staff a booth in the outside plant area to help customers with information on vegetables and other garden related questions. OSU MGs have a long history of working with this popular nursery. Shifts will be from 10 am to 2 pm and there will be a covered structure to house MGs and their material. Call **Susan Greco** 503-287-9089 for more information.

OSU MG Clinic at the Oregon Zoo

April 1 to October 31

We hope you will be able to join us at the zoo for some of the MG clinics at the Backyard Makeover. It is a great place to volunteer and earn your educational outreach volunteer hours. We will be open every day from April 1 through October 31. If you are at the clinic on a weekend when the Oregon Zoo is doing a special event, e.g. *Elephantastic*, on April 4, please join us for a complimentary lunch in Volunteer headquarters.

We would like to have two veteran MGs at each clinic. Most of the names on the calendar at this time are new trainees from the classes that are now taking place. This will be a good opportunity for you to share your knowledge with them and assist them in their progress as valuable Master Gardeners. We will have an orientation session at the zoo on Tuesday, March 10th at 10:00 AM and repeated on Saturday, March 14th from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM. One of the guest speakers will be Carl Grimm, natural gardening & toxics reduction specialist at Metro's Sustainability Center. If you would like to volunteer, please phone or email Dianne Maurer. She will send you information on the available dates, times and how to access the calendar for scheduling.

Dianne Maurer icdg@comcast.net 503-317-5075 cell
OZG, CCMG
Council Representative for Horticulture

Human Solutions-Daybreak Shelter Network

Position: Garden Coordinator

Contact: Joe Sixta 503-256-2280 or jsixta@humansolutions.org

Length of Commitment: 4-9 hrs per week; 2-3 days per week

Dates needed: March 1, 2009-October 31, 2009

Location of Volunteer Work: Peace Community Garden, 12727 SE Market Portland, OR 97233

Requirements: Knowledge of gardening in the Portland-metro region and must pass background check

Duties: Human Solutions Daybreak Shelter Network is seeking a Garden Coordinator who is interested and able to teach homeless families staying at the shelter how to garden. The Peace Community Garden will open early Spring 2009 and Daybreak will be renting one of the garden plots. Working 2-3 days a week, 2-3 hours each time, the Garden Coordinator will work with kids and adults in the garden and facilitate the planting, cultivating, harvesting and occasional cooking of the fruits and vegetables from the garden.

Families traditionally spend 20-45 days in the shelter before finding stable, affordable housing. During their stay the Garden, Coordinator will engage kids and adults staying in the shelter and hold activities in the garden. It is important that those who are homeless have ways to connect to the community, and a garden is the perfect place. Additionally, many homeless families have a very limited budget, and learning skills that help them to cultivate food will be a great way to supplement both their diet and budget.

Desired Qualifications: It is important that the Garden Coordinator be a social person who enjoys people. It is more important for us that the gardens create opportunities to talk, interact and learn than produce food to be eaten. The Garden Coordinator will likely be working with a number of different children and adults over the course of the season and needs to welcome new families into the garden and provide consistency for garden maintenance.

Compensation: This is an unpaid volunteer position available to one individual or two individuals that wish to work together.

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- Remember...many opportunities start up in the spring, so watch for the **coordinator list in the April newsletter...** and make sure to notify me with any change in your email address.

STARLIGHT PARADE

Are there any music teachers or marching band contacts out there? MGs participate in this high profile Portland landmark parade and want to add a new element this year. Please put your thinking caps on and help locate a marching bass drum and snare drum for the Starlight Parade Master Gardener Drill Team entry the night of May 30th, 2009.

Contact Bob Blaedel at 503.658.7450 or machinewayback@hotmail.com



Natter's Notes

An Occasional Cherry Pest; a Fungus Update

Jean R. Natter

More often than not, questions to the MG phone lines follow predictable trends through the seasons, including the planting and culture of all the various plants we can grow in our gardens.

But now and then, the questions can be challenging.

Take for instance, the handful of **cherry pits** one of the new trainees showed me in February. **Each pit had just one rather sizeable hole**, but all holes were essentially the same, as if made by the same tool – or insect mouth. (See Figure 1)

I suggested that perhaps the holes were due to the handiwork of a scavenger weevil, one that eats the fleshy interiors of seeds after the fruit dropped.



Figure 1: Affected cherry pits

Because the *PNW Insect Management Handbook* didn't say anything about such damage, I contacted the OSU Insect Specialist. **His response: It's the cherry gouger, *Anthonomus consors*.** (As weevils, they're in the Order Coleoptera, Family Curculionidae.)

Also known as the cherry curculio, this quite small weevil specializes on sour cherries and chokecherries. (For info and images of chokecherry, see the OSU Landscape Plant ID web site at <http://oregonstate.edu/dept/ldplants/3plants.htm#prvir>.)

From the limited information I found, the cherry gouger is considered a minor pest of cherries in the Rocky Mountain states.

The cherry curculio's life cycle of the one generation a year is straight-forward. Namely this: the adults over-winter under the affected trees, then feed on the cherry blossoms, thereby aborting fruit set. Later, they feed on the immature cherries, thus pitting the fruits. They insert eggs into the fruit, the larvae hatch and tunnel to the pit, enter, eat the succulent bits inside, then pupate inside the pit. The damaged fruit, ripe or nearly so, drops. The adults hang out until the following year.

Management combines mechanical methods (shake the adults from the tree onto a white sheet; collect and discard), and cultural means (remove and destroy damaged fruit when seen).

Apparently little research has been done with chemical control, likely because the curculio is considered a minor pest, thus, one of minimal importance.

You'll find more information about the cherry curculio in *Garden Insects* (pp. 278-279) and *Pests of the West* (pp. 94-95); both are books in the MG offices.

Or, read the info from the latter at this link:

http://books.google.com/books?id=OBkEO6eiaVqC&pg=PA94&lpq=PA94&dq=anthonomus+consors+pests+of+the+west&source=bl&ots=0Yr4HKuU6A&sig=9GVHDJhCh4WGSsSHUOA vQt6ZFq&hl=en&ei=LTeTSfeyD4KOsQPquqCoCw&sa=X&oi=book_result&resnum=1&ct=res ult

Recall that last month I wrote about a non-damaging fungus found on the leaves of a Clackamas MG's *Cistus*.

At first glance, the small structures fit the description of scale insects – diameter an 1/8-inch or less and could be lifted with a fingernail. (See Figure 2)



Figure 2: Non-damaging fungus on cistus

But other facts weren't appropriate.

The color, surface, and shape didn't match common scale insects closely enough. Then, too, the structures were tightly stuck to the leaf. And when you eventually pried them off, you could see a central circular opening on the underside from which extended fine, short, dry, thread-like strands – in other words, fungal filaments.

After I emailed the history and an image to the OSU Plant Clinic, the Diagnostician replied that it was likely the bird's nest fungus *Cyathus*, then referred me to one of Tom Volk's pages, http://botit.botany.wisc.edu/toms_fungi/may2006.html.

I had already suggested to the MG that she look for the source under her shrubs because I was really curious what she would find.

Well, as suspected, **the culprit is now confirmed as a bird's nest fungus, but not the genus *Cyathus*** shown on the above web site, a genus that has fluted cups and tends to grow in large clusters.

Perhaps the most obvious difference is that the small "nests" at the MG's place aren't fluted. (See Figure 3) They more closely resemble Volk's image of *Crucibulum* on the same web page.



Figure 3: Bird's nest fungus from Clackamas

It matters little as to the precise identity of these petite fungal cups.

As bird's nest fungi, their life cycles are essentially the same. Among other things, they belong to nature's clean-up crew. And, although they're common in local gardens and landscapes, they're typically over looked because of their inconspicuous size and quiet life style on woody debris.

As Volk points out, "The common name 'bird's nest fungus' should be obvious to anyone looking at the small mass of 'eggs' within the small 'nests' or cups of the fruiting bodies. The 'eggs' in the nest contain the basidiospores within them." (Basidiospores are the reproductive units of the fungus; all they need to germinate and grow are the correct environmental conditions – you know, light, temperature, air, moisture and an appropriate substrate which, for bird's nest fungi is bark or wood mulch.)

"When immature," says Volk, "the nest is covered by a brown membrane called an epiphragm, which breaks before the rain can splash out the eggs." (See Figure 4, a bird's nest fungus I found in my garden this past November.)



Figure 4: Bird's nest fungus, some with intact epiphragm. (The pink thing is my index finger.)

Aha! Isn't it fun to be a Master Gardener Volunteer? (Hmm; I wonder how I can work this into my next conversation!)





2009 MG Marching Unit

*For only one night each year the OSU Master Gardener Marching Unit and Drill Team (we carry shrub rakes) emerge from hibernation to strut their stuff through the streets of downtown Portland during the annual Starlight Parade. Entrants come costumed as a favorite insect, plant or in your finest gardening togs. It's worth 6 hours of hilarious payback time, practice is on-site and carpooling is arranged. Hours are about 6 to 10 pm on Saturday, May 30th, 2009. We're also looking for a few MGs to help us out with planning activities, etc. We've garnered awards in 2006 and 2008 and this year we're aiming for the first ever "Going Green" category. Do Master Gardeners know anything about **GREEN**?*

For questions or to sign up please contact Stephanie Scott at (503)292-2198 (s.r.scott@comcast.net) or Bob Blaedel at (503)658-7450 (machinewayback@hotmail.com)

WE'RE ALSO LOOKING FOR A MARCHING BASS DRUM AND SNARE TO ESTABLISH A DRUM LINE FOR THIS YEAR'S EVENT.

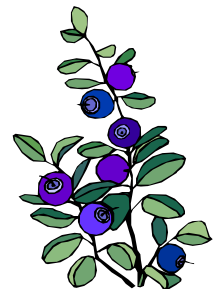
SPRING ROSE PRUNING DEMONSTRATION & WORKSHOP

The OSU Extension Service Washington County Chapter Master Gardeners will conduct their annual rose pruning demonstration and workshop for home gardeners from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday March 7. This rose pruning learning session is free, open to the public, and will be held in their landscape garden at the Capital Center 18640 NW Walker Road in Beaverton. No advance registration required. Optional - bring pruning tools and gloves for active hands on participation. This landscape garden is at the front of the Capital Center Complex building south side entrance D1. The Capital Center Complex is on the corner of 185th & Walker Road. Access to the driveway for the parking lot on the south side of the Capital Center Complex is at the stoplight signal off 185th (just south of Walker Road and also access to Parr Lumber). Call 503-821-1150 during office hours for details.



Dr. Bernadine Strik gave a superlative presentation on small fruits to the Clackamas classes on February 6. Dr. Strik has written several publications on berries and grapes that are available free online at <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/catalog/>.

Click on "Agriculture" and then click on "Berries and Grapes". This will take you to a listing of publications. Also available for sale is her DVD on pruning highbush blueberries.



HORTICULTURAL CALENDAR IN THE METRO AREA

- March 5** Washington County Chapter - Art in the Garden – Nancy Goldman, Hardy Plant Society
- March 7** Home Orchard Society Scion Exchange – Alder Creek Middle School, Milwaukie
- March 9** Clackamas County Chapter, Elizabeth Howley, Making More Plants
- March 10** Multnomah County Chapter, Maurice Horn, Joy Creek Nursery Co-owner, True Grit: My History with ¼-10 Gravel 7pm.
- March 18** Clackamas Chapter special presentation-Sean Hogan, Milwaukie Center
- March 22-26** International Master Gardener Conference – Las Vegas, NV
- March 23** Portland Rose Society Annual Vendor Fair and Fertilizer sale (15-10-10)
- March 28** Clackamas Chapter Soil pH testing – Milwaukee Center
- March 29** Hardy Plant Society Annual Meeting-Sean Hogan speaking on his upcoming book **Trees For All Seasons: Broad leaved evergreens for temperate climates.**
- Apr 2** Washington Country Chapter, Theresa Sprauer, Peonies
- Apr 3-4** Spring Bareroot Fruit Tree Sale – One Green World
- Apr 4** Garden Palooza Plant Sale – Fir Point Farms, Canby
- Apr 10-12** Hardy Plant Society Spring Sale, Portland Expo Center
- Apr 13** Clackamas County Chapter – Plant Swap, Rich Baer, The Role of Roses in Our Region
- Apr 14** Multnomah County Chapter, 6pm Welcome Potluck for Intern MGs, 7pm: Speaker Gail Langelotto, Statewide Coordinator OSU Master Gardener Program, Beneficial Insects in the Garden.
- Apr 18** Earth day Celebration – Oregon Garden, Silverton
- Apr 25** Washington County Chapter – **Three-Buck-Bonanza** plant sale at the Kinton Grange. See chapter page for details
- May 2-3** Clackamas County SPRING GARDEN FAIR – Clackamas County Fairgrounds, Canby
- May 8 – June 7** Schreiner's Iris Gardens open to the public, 3625 Quinaby Rd.N.E., Salem
- May 16** Volunteer orientation for International Rose Test Garden, Washington Park kiosk, 9am (also on May 30 and June 3)
- May 30** Hardy Plant Society Spring meeting-Dan Hinkley speaking on his newest book **Shrubs and Vines for the Explorer's Garden**
- June 4-5** Portland Rose Society's 120th Annual Rose Show-Lloyd Center; see PRS website for details (www.portlandrosesociety.org)
- June 7** Portland's Best Rose Trials – Washington Park, International Rose Test Garden
- August 29,30,31 and September 5,6,7** 2009 Annual Dahlia Festival, Swan Island Dahlias, Canby

Mossyrose Gall by Margaret Bayne

Another sample we had at the November 8th training was the cool looking Mossyrose Gall caused by a Cynipid wasp (Cynipidae family in the Hymenoptera order) called the Mossyrose gall wasp, *Diplolepis rosae*. This is a tiny, about 4 mm, wasp. The head and thorax are black. The female's abdomen is amber to chestnut brown with the last segment black. The male's abdomen is all black, but, since the species consists almost exclusively of parthenogenetic (reproduced asexually) females, males are very rare. You will probably only notice the damage- the gall.



Adult Female



Mossy Rose Gall

Within a few hours of emerging from the gall in the spring, a female will lay her eggs (oviposite) into the meristematic tissue of leaf buds of several different species of *Rosa*. The female will first explore the plant with her antennae by tapping on the surface until she finds a suitable expanding bud. She will then deposit up to 40 eggs into epidermal cells of the plant. There will only be one egg per epidermal cell.



Female preparing to lay eggs

The feeding of the larva somehow causes a growth reaction on the part of the host plant which results in the formation of the gall. Larvae are plump and white and feed inside the gall, pupate, and then chew an exit hole to emerge. This gall becomes a large spherical hairy mass, which can be 25 mm or larger in diameter. The galls are first light green and moss like and later may turn yellow, red or brown.



Gall beginning to form



Mature gall

The galls are most commonly found on the buds at shoot tips or just below on leaflets and petioles. The galls are more common on stressed plants than vigorously growing ones. About 4-8 weeks after oviposition, the gall is full-sized. The larvae feed into October and then the larvae enter diapause (resting stage) and overwinter. Pupation occurs inside the gall chambers in February to March. The adult emerges in the spring to continue the cycle. There is one generation per year.



Gall cut open to show larval chambers



Plump larva

Management involves only cultural controls since no chemical treatment is recommended. Simply cut out the galls when seen and deposit in the trash. Wood-peckers and rodents are able to open the galls and serve as predators.

In Oregon we have a smaller mossy-type gall produced by *D. bassetti* and those galls are not formed on leaves but on stems. Also, *D. rosae* is not typically found on native North American Roses whereas *D. bassetti* is found on all roses.

Sources: online PNW Insect Management Handbook, <http://pnwpest.org/pnw/insects>; Borror et al, *An Introduction to the Study of Insects*; Johnson & Lyon, *Insects that Feed on Trees and Shrubs*; Cranshaw, *Garden Insects of North America*; Ron Russo, *Field Guide to Plant Galls*; "Bedeguar gall wasp *Diplolepis rosae*", <http://hedgerowmobile.com/Diplolepisrosa.html>, (photos); Dr. James Young, Entomologist, OSU; http://zoology.fns.uniba.sk/poznavacka/images/i23_Diplolepis_rosae.jpg (photo.)



Get a Grip on Your Garden; Get a Group

OK. You took the classes, started your payback hours, attended a few chapter meetings, but – shucks! – you didn't end up with what you really wanted when you decided to take the Master Gardener course: a bunch of garden buddies, with whom to visit nurseries, take tours, talk over MG stuff, eat, drink, and laugh.

Looking to have a lot more fun with your MG status? Consider this:

In 2005, dozens of strangers, including us, sat down to learn all we could about gardening. Then serendipity took over: Kerry started chatting with Carol, who happened to be sitting nearby. Over at the next table, Jan started chatting with Hazel. Across the aisle were Abby and Marilyn, with pictures of their gardens to look at. We're not really sure at what point Becky arrived, but, suddenly, we were all giving Carol ideas on landscaping her new yard. One thing led to another, and she invited us for coffee and commentary. Then, of course, we all wanted to share our own gardens and get the benefit of creative input. From that time on, the MG8 (Lynn later rounded us to 8) have been meeting monthly – doing all sorts of things we wouldn't have done on our own, or never would have done at all, without deliberately scheduling them.

Someone will say, "Oh, I've always wanted to do/see that," and we put it on the calendar. We've traveled to Bainbridge in Bloom; attended the Seattle Garden Show; created hypertufa leaves; combined visits to Cistus, Joy Creek and Blue Heron Herbarium with a picnic; spent Super Bowl weekend at the beach; taken a guided tour of the Chinese Garden; had tea at the Heathman; strolled a wildlife garden near Vancouver; marched in the Starlight Parade; and visited numerous private gardens and specialty nurseries. We also spend a lot of time laughing uproariously and sharing plant advice, and we want to heartily recommend that you do the same. It's made the MG program far more alive for us. (And you should see our gardens now!)

Having a small group has been stunningly educational, too, since each of us, with commitments to family, work and avocations, attends different lectures, classes and events, reads different publications, and does different kinds of volunteer hours. So, when we get together, we update one another with all the new stuff we've learned.

Here's what we're suggesting: Turn to a few people sitting near you, and invite them to see your garden. (Maybe have a couple of pictures handy – everyone will want to look.) Make coffee. Serve treats. Talk and laugh. Then go see their gardens. Who knows? Those true-blue, green-thumbed friends you seek may be just a chat away.

-- The MG8 (Kerry Arkell, Jan Behrs, Hazel Childs, Carol Hamilton, Becky Hurd, Marilyn Kongsli, Abby Seeman, Lynn Weglarz)



Although there's no official uniform for the MG8, nearly all of us show up in blue for the Lilac Festival at the Hulda Klager Lilac Garden in Woodland, WA. L to R: Carol, Marilyn, Kerry, Becky, Jan, Abby, Hazel, Lynn



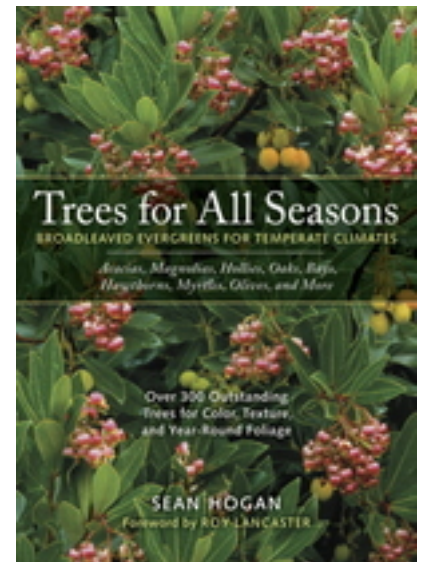


The Clackamas County Master Gardeners are proud to present a special, free program on 'Plants of Year-round Interest' by Sean Hogan at the Milwaukie Center, 7 p.m., on Wednesday, March 18. The program is open to the public and all Master Gardeners are invited.

This program will highlight the research that led to Hogan's recent book on 'Trees for All Seasons: Broadleaved Evergreens for Temperate Climate' (Timber Press, 2008). The book includes more than 300 choice trees that are evergreen, all of them providing many seasons of interest. Hogan emphasizes that 'broadleaf' evergreens are nothing like Christmas trees and, as a group of plants, deserve our attention.

Hogan is one of America's most respected horticulturists, having served as editor of 'FLORA'. This garden bible contains describes over 20,000 plants, many of which are illustrated with colorful photographs. More than sixty writers contributed to the text and the project took five years to complete.

As the owner of Cistus nursery on Sauvie Island, Hogan strongly believes in selecting and breeding only the best forms of plants for the home gardener. Said Hogan, 'the world doesn't need 90 kinds of Ceanothus. We want to hone that number down to 10-12 offerings that are all stellar performers.' This philosophy is evident in the collection of plants for sale at the Cistus Nursery, renowned for its unusual yet climate-appropriate plants for the Pacific Northwest. In recent years, breeding of dahlias, nerines, yuccas, and abutilons have been its focus. Customer can see mature forms of plants in its extensive display garden, including borders with such names as 'Rubidor Corridor', 'Blood-and-Gut Border', 'Better-Red-than-Dead Bed', among others.



Much like Master Gardeners, Hogan is committed to research-based information. He is a frequent speaker at garden shows and events, aiming to popularize the joy of plants through education and outreach.

On March 18, Hogan will have his new book and plants from Cistus nursery for sale.

Please join us for this entertaining and informative talk.





MULTNOMAH CHAPTER GRAPEVINE

Oregon Master Gardener™ Association in cooperation with
OSU Extension Service Master Gardener™ Program
4742 SE 39th Ave. Portland, OR 97206

10 March, 2009 Chapter Meeting

Mt. Tabor Presbyterian Church
5441 SE Belmont
(Parking on the west side)

6:45pm Gather

6:50 pm - Announcements

7:00 pm - True Grit: My History with 1/4-10 Gravel - Maurice Horn, co-owner, Joy Creek Nursery

Drier, warmer summers. Increasing costs of water. Stubborn Northwest clay. What do these have in common? They are factors in the background of experiments conducted in the gardens at Joy Creek Nursery that have resulted in reduced water usage and, ironically, an expanded palette of plants. Maurice Horn will trace the accidental and sometimes humorous development of his ideas for using gravel both as a soil amendment and as a mulch. What began as a small project has developed into a process that also has commercial applications. This is good news for the ecologically minded.

Maurice Horn is co-owner of Joy Creek Nursery, a specialty nursery in Scappoose, OR, featuring a wide variety of ornamental plants including clematis and hydrangeas. Maurice has served on the International Clematis Society council, co-founded and served as Vice President of the Pacific Northwest Clematis Society (now Friends of the Rogerson Clematis Collection), and has been a long-time participant in the Great Plant Picks program at the Elisabeth C. Miller Botanical Garden in Seattle, WA. He has lectured widely throughout the United States on a variety of garden related topics, and regularly contributes to many gardening publications.

Upcoming events:

Coming up... 14, April 2009 Chapter Meeting

6pm Welcome potluck for New Interns.

7pm Speaker: Gail Langellotto,
Statewide coordinator for OSU Master Gardener
Program, Beneficial Insects in the Garden

Next Board Meeting – Tuesday 3 March 2009 -

6:30 pm at Jean Edmison's home – 7606 S.E. Ellis

*Please continue to bring digital photos of Master Gardeners and gardening to the meetings.

***Chinook Books** were such a success that we will have them again, and earlier. Robin Case has volunteered to take care of this fundraiser.

***Demo Garden** - Anyone interested can help work or look on Mondays from 9am until noon or Fridays after 1pm. Another way to help would be to save seeds. The garden is on SE 60th between Duke and Flavel.

Questions should be directed to Jean or Sharon.

*When you start digging this spring, please remember to **save plants** for the **Fall Plant Sale** on 3 October, 2009.

Call Joyce Hemmerling with any questions.

***We have an office with phones in Multnomah County!** – starting 30th March. It is in the Montgomery Park building. Gloria Bennett 503-775-4005 or dcleopatra@comcast.net is managing the calendar. The phone hours are 10am-2pm Monday to Friday at this time and you can do 2 or 4 hour shifts.

***Eastmoreland II Garden Club** invites Multnomah County Master Gardeners to join them at a tea celebrating their 60th Anniversary on Wednesday March 18, 2009 from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm at Sellwood Smile Station, 8210 S. E. 13th Avenue, Portland. **RSVP by March 12, 2009** to Barbara Beck 503-775-9236 or bjbeck@pacifier.com or Jean Edmison 503-771-2486 or Housejem@aol.com.

2009 Officers

President – Jean Edmison - 503-771-2486

Vice President – Sharon Baker - 503-284-5189

Secretary – Jo Ann Bones – 503-253-3168

Treasurer – Robin Case – 503-762-3964

Past President – Patrick Adams – 503-287-9071

OMGA Sr. Rep. – Joyce Hemmerling - 503-331-0824

OMGA Rep. – Marilyn Kongslie – 503-289-8889

Historians – Velda Altig, Claudia Groth and Jim Colahan

Grapevine – Lorna Schilling – 503-334-5162



Washington County Chapter Chat

Oregon Master Gardener™ Association in cooperation with

OSU Extension Service Master Gardener™ Program

Chapter Website: www.wcmga.info

UPCOMING PROGRAMS –

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

SOCIAL GATHERING at 6:30 pm

March 5th, 6:45 p.m. Chapter Meeting: “Art in the Garden” – Nancy Goldman, Hardy Plant Society

April 2nd, “Peonies” – Theresa Sprauer, Brooks Gardens

Remember Potluck at 6:00 p.m. April 2nd

Presentations are from 7:15 - 8:15 p.m. at the CAPITAL Center, 18640 NW Walker Rd (185th & Walker Rd), Rm 1411. The public is welcome.

FAIRGROUND DEMO GARDEN

The Washington County Fairground Demonstration Garden renovation is coming right along. There has been a work party every Wednesday this winter making the necessary changes to get ready for the new area that will provide the edible landscape ideas for patios and small back yards. New large storage shed has been completed and primed. The water source has been moved so we will be trenching in two weeks to provide the irrigation we will need for the new beds. The compost layers are at a standstill until our irrigation system is finished. We will soon have all the small debris picked up from the manufactured home demolition and will be ready to install more gravel in the center. Come visit us often and watch things come together.

Joanne DeHaan

PLANT SALE RAFFLE APRIL 25TH

Last year the raffle was a successful and fun part of the annual plant sale. We could not have done this without your help so I am asking for help again this year in the form of raffle items or cash to purchase items. Some suggestions include yard art, pots, tools, gloves, books, birdhouses etc. See Barb Knopp at Chapter Mtg. or Contact Barb with your questions & donations, email barbknopp@comcast.net or call (503) 641- 0429.

THREE-BUCK-BONANZA PLANT SALE

Five miles west of Washington Square at Kinton Grange, 19015 SW Scholls Ferry Road, Beaverton 97007

Saturday April 25th 8:30 – 3:00

Most perennials \$3.00/gallon. We’re also offering small shrubs, ferns, natives, bare-root trees, dollar-a-pot table, yard art and great raffle items.

REMINDER: Our success depends on your donations! April 2nd is the cutoff time for dividing your perennials for our chapter’s major fundraising event. We need good quality, gallon-size perennials in categories such as: spring and summer-blooming, water-wise (new offering!), shade, native, ferns and butterfly/hummingbird attracting. Please bring your plants to the March or April Chapter meetings for pick up. Questions? Call Jane Miller 503-590-3598 or Cindy Muir 503-245-3922. Thanks so much!

The Plant Sale Crew

FUTURE PRESENTATION

May 7, 2009 “Heirloom Vegetables”

Michael Stucky, Millennium Farms

President	Ken Keudell	503-292-6519
Vice President	Lynn Cox	503-629-9156
Recording Secretary	Jackie Keil	503-531-3884
Corresponding Secretary	Gini Lang	503-407-6422
Treasurer	Donna Yount	503-746-6198
OMGA Rep	David Rullman	503-292-1603
Alternate Rep	Jerry Knott	503-292-1939
Dir.#1 Business	Bill Klug	503-681-0143
Dir.#2 Program	Fred Dorr	503-645-1665
Dir.#3 Publicity	Lynn Wagner	503-531-9239
Dir.#4 Fundraising	Anna Stubbs	503-649-9474
Dir.#5 Chapter Relations	Barbara Knopp	503-641-0429
Editor:	Gini Lang	503-407-6422

Submit Chapter Chat Announcements to Gini Lang, Chapter Chat Editor, by the 11th each month. Phone 503-407-6422 or e-mail Gini Lang [lang2044@comcast.net].

Submit general chapter announcements to Cathy Mankus, e-mail coordinator, cathy@cathymankus.com

Chapter Website: www.wcmga.info



Clackamas County Chatter



March 2009 A chapter newsletter for the Oregon Master Gardener Association in cooperation with OSU Extension Service Master Gardener™ Program

March Chapter Meeting

Monday, March 9

Milwaukie Center

5440 SE Kellogg Creek Drive, Milwaukie

6:00 p.m. Potluck for New MGs

Veterans! Please bring food to share with 10-12 others, serving utensil, and own plate and utensils. Plan to arrive BEFORE 6:00 if possible.

7:00 p.m. Making More Plants

by Elizabeth Howley

Propagation from seeds or cuttings allow us to garden on a budget.

Although plant propagation is a useful tool, many gardeners lack the knowledge and expertise to make the most of it.

That will change with this program. Elizabeth Howley, an expert on this topic, will show us the basics in propagation and offer tips for success. If you want to learn more about seeds, Elizabeth will cover how to save seeds, when to start, choosing the best medium for germination, and the effect of light and temperature on germination. If you are interested in taking cuttings, Elizabeth will talk about the best time to take them and tools needed.

If you want to gain additional, hands-on experience, come to the Propagation Workshop on April 4, at Clackamas Community College. See Upcoming Events for more information.

March Events

Soil pH Testing

March 28 10-12, Milwaukie Center

For directions on how take a soil sample, visit the Clackamas County Master Gardeners website listed at the bottom of this newsletter.

10-Minute University

March 28 10-12, Milwaukie Center

These timely classes come just when the soil warms up and a new gardening season begins. Topics are:

- Growing vegetables in small spaces
- Container planting
- Growing berries



April Meeting Preview

Monday, April 13

6:30 p.m. Plant/Seed Swap

Bring your labeled packaged seed and potted plants and Share the Love!

Also remember to bring your plant donations for the Spring Garden Fair

7:00 p.m. The Role of Roses in Our Region

Learn about the pioneering "Mother of the Rose Society" Georgiana Pittock. Rich Baer, rose photographer and consulting rosarian, will share 55 years of experience.

Upcoming Events

Propagation Workshop

April 4 10-12

Clackamas Community College

Learn from Elizabeth Howley, CCC faculty, how to propagate from seed and cutting through hands-on exercise. Workshop is \$6 and includes planted seed and cutting trays to take home. To register, contact Madeline Forsyth at 503-465-1113.

Tomato Workshop

April 18 10-12

Clackamas Community College

Learn from MGs Bill Bradley, Bob Woods, and Sherry Holley tomato culture including seed, transplants, staking/support, disease management, watering, pruning, and fertilizing. Workshop is \$5 and includes a 5' tomato cage to take home. To register, contact Sherry Holley at 503-652-8016.

February Green Glove Award went to

JEAN ERICKSON

for leading volunteer activities at the Heritage Garden at the End of the Oregon Trail

A big **THANK YOU** Jean!

Reminder: If you'd like to host an
* * * * **open garden** * * * *

this year, contact Dot Carson at 503-638-0913 to get on the calendar.

Clackamas County Chapter Officers

President	Bill Bradley	503-624-8435	Advisory Board	John Hill	503-653-9524
Vice President	Rick Mishaga	503-557-4491		Dale Eggers	503-557-3152
Secretary	Cheryl Borden	503-723-4257		Martha Waldemar	503-698-2519
Treasurer	Mary Butler	503-632-1532	Newsletter	Holly Pederson	503-701-5816
Asst. Treasurer	Trudy O'Donnell	503-636-1697	Websites	http://extension.oregonstate.edu/mg/metro/	
OMGA Rep	Denise Dwan	503-632-3035		http://www.clackamascountymastergardeners.org	
OMGA Alternate Rep	Nikki Mantei	503 577-4494			

March 2009

Garden hints from your OSU Extension Agent

- *Western Oregon:* If soil is dry enough, begin vegetable garden soil preparation and plant coolseason crops (peas, lettuce, cabbage, onions, kale, chard).
- *Central Oregon:* Plant seed flats of cole crops (cabbage, cauliflower, broccoli, Brussels sprouts).
- *Central Oregon:* Plant chard.
- Divide hosta, daylilies, and mums.
- Plan and plant an edible landscape or flower bed.
- If you lack in-ground gardening space, plan a container garden: grow radishes, carrots, lettuce, and tomatoes during the warm season.
- Fertilize evergreen shrubs and trees.
- Monitor landscape plants for problems. Do not treat unless a problem is identified.
- If necessary, treat crowns of raspberry plants with registered insecticides to control raspberry cane borer.
- *Western Oregon:* Plant berry crops (strawberries, raspberries, blueberries, blackberries, currants, gooseberries, and other berry-producing crop plants). See OSU Extension publications for varieties.
- *Western Oregon:* Fertilize caneberries (broadcast or band a complete fertilizer or manure).
- Prune gooseberries and currants; fertilize with manure or a complete fertilizer.
- Spray trees and shrubs for webworms and leafrollers, if present.
- *Western Oregon:* Take geraniums, begonias, and fuchsias from storage. Water and fertilize. Cut back if necessary. Move outdoors next month.
- Fertilize rhododendrons, camellias, and azaleas with acid-type fertilizer.
- Spray to control leaf and twig fungus diseases in sycamore, hawthorn, and willow trees.
- Use stored scion wood to graft fruit and ornamental trees.
- Treat lawns for European crane fly if damage has been confirmed.
- Spread compost over garden and landscape areas.
- *Western Oregon:* Best time of year to thatch and renovate lawns.
- Plan the vegetable garden carefully for spring, summer, and fall vegetables that can be eaten fresh or preserved.
- Learn to identify the predatory insects that can help to keep aphids and other pests under control.
- Protect new plant growth from slugs. Use bait or traps.
- Prune spring-flowering shrubs after blossoms fade.
- Trim or shear heather when bloom period is finished.
- Start tuberous begonias indoors.
- Plant insectary plants to attract beneficial insects to the garden.
- Do not compost grass clippings from lawns where weed-and-feed products or herbicides have been used.

Oregon State University Extension Service encourages sustainable gardening practices. Always identify and monitor problems before acting. First consider cultural controls; then physical, biological, and chemical controls (which include insecticidal soaps, horticultural oils, botanical insecticides, organic and synthetic pesticides). Always consider the least toxic approach first.

All recommendations in this calendar are not necessarily applicable to all areas of Oregon. For more information, contact your local office of the OSU Extension Service.

Trade-name products and services are mentioned as illustrations only. This does not mean that the Oregon State University Extension Service endorses these products and services or intends to discriminate against products and services not mentioned.

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Gardening information online—<http://extension.oregonstate.edu/gardening>