

Metro Master Gardener™ News

November 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 from Weston and Jordis | 2 |
| Draft 2010 Class Schedule | 5 |
| Recertification Information | 6 |
| Natter's Notes – Update: <i>Drosophyllia suzuukii</i> | 8 |
| Quiz Corner | 9 |
| Master Gardener Diagnostician Program | 10 |
| Seed Saving | 11 |
| Internet Essentials for MGs | 12 |
| Horticultural Calendar | 13 |
| Continuing Education Opportunities | 13 |
| Dogwood Sawfly | 14 |
| Multnomah County Chapter Page | 17 |
| Washington County Chapter Page | 18 |
| Clackamas Country Chapter Page | 19 |
| Garden Calendar for October | 20 |

Metro Master Gardener Program Updates from Weston and Jordis

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Greetings Master Gardeners,

This is an update about the Master Gardener program in a new format combining Jordis' and Weston's columns into a cohesive whole. The goal of this change is to keep you well-updated about the Master Gardener program in the Portland metro area.

November 7th Master Gardener Recertification Training

We have arranged an excellent educational program for YOU to attend on November 7th, 2009 at Clackamas Community College (Gregory Forum). The program starts at 8:30am and ends at 3:30pm. Here is the schedule for the day (Please see program flyer and map in this issue):



8:00 -8:45 am- Registration

8:45 – 10:15 am “**Propagating Herbs from Cuttings and Seeds**” – Elizabeth Howley, Clackamas Community College Faculty

10:30 "Applied Common Sense: An introduction to Permaculture and Whole Systems Design" Andrew Millison, Permaculture teacher and Landscape Designer and OSU instructor

Noon – Lunch break- Time to catch up with other MGs, pick up 2009 trainee badges and veteran certificates, look at books (etc) for sale.

12:30 – Introduce 2009 Trainees

12:45 – 2:00 pm – “**The World Inside Your Containers: Media, Fertilizer and Beyond**”– Gail Gredler, Chemeketa Community College Faculty

2:15 – 3:30 pm-“**Two new garden pests, and a new Metro MG pilot program: Master Gardener Diagnostician**”- Jean R. Natter, OSU Master Gardener extraordinaire

2010 Master Gardener Training

Registration for the 2010 Metro Master Gardener Training is open! Master Gardeners are our best form of advertising to attract new people to the program. Please let your friends and communities know about the MG program and encourage them to sign up for the 2010 training.

Here are some relevant links for interested folks: [Registration Materials](#); [Promotional Flyer](#)

Please help us spread the word so that we can continue and enhance this public service!

2009 TRAINEES

Now that fall has arrived and activities in your garden have slowed, it is a great time to go over the process for what to expect next. Your training wrapped up in March and you've done an excellent job of getting in as many hours as you could toward your volunteer obligation.

With your busy lives and love of being in your OWN garden, we are always pleased to see how many of you have completed 66 hrs (and some, even more!)

If you reported your 66 hours to the program office already, your certificates of completion and orange badge will be available to you on November 7 at the Recertification Training at Clackamas Community College.

We have also received some calls and emails from concerned MGs because they didn't get all the hours in so "...now what?" Hopefully you've sent in what hours you have been able to contribute. This step is important for reporting to OSU. The rest of the hours can be volunteered during the 2010 gardening season. We will keep track of your totals and make sure that you get a badge as soon as your 66 hours have been completed.

VETERANS

It is now time for you to be thinking about your recertification training for the 2010 season. The next series of training classes begins the week of January 4th (see schedule in this newsletter issue and look for '*' classes). You may attend the '*' classes with no charge to you, and only need to perform 25 hours of volunteer hours as a MG veteran. This is a great option for those who would like to make up a missed class or re-take a class that went by so fast...you hardly had time to take notes!

Another way to recertify for the 2010 season is to take two recertification trainings...one this fall and the other next spring (April 10, 2010). The November 7th Saturday session (see schedule in this newsletter) is a time for MGs to come and complete the year with fun, educational speakers and to receive completion certificates.

A third option is to request a 'do at home' test in the spring of 2010.

It is important to keep connected to the program and the ever-changing information coming out of research at OSU. You will be glad that you have the best gardening information possible for questions that you will get as MGs and especially for your own garden.

VOLUNTEER HOURS vs. RECERTIFICATION TRAINING

Here is a reminder about what it means to be recertified as an OSU MG. As a new trainee, you have received the latest and most relevant information for you to be able to be garden educators in the community. The time that you spend volunteering as an intern is reported as volunteer hours.

In the years that follow, MGs are required to attend 12 hours of recertification training to make them eligible to volunteer. The 12 hours are not volunteer hours, but rather training that is required to be a volunteer. We noticed on the volunteer hour log sheets a number of MGs are recording the time that they spend recertifying as volunteer hours. This isn't the intention of the recertification process. Your local program has made this education available to you so that you are eligible to be a volunteer staff member representing Oregon State University.

Another advantage of attending recertification training is to stay connected to some of the most knowledgeable and generous people around...Metro MGs!

CLASS COORDINATORS

The 2010 MG training class is filling up and we will soon be in the classroom again. It is a busy and exciting season. To prepare for the upcoming session, we will be offering a class coordinator meeting at the Clackamas County Extension office on Wednesday, December 9 from 10 am to noon. If you were a coordinator last year or want to join as a new coordinator in 2010 for any of the three locations...put this date on your calendar.

SPECIAL THANKS

We have many dedicated and generous volunteers in our program. It is very apparent as the log sheets arrive in the mail that MGs are just amazing in so many ways. We would like to feature a few of these talented folks:

Thanks to LeAnn Locher for her contribution of new Master Gardener promotional materials, particularly a flashy postcard that we are distributing all over town. [2010 MG Recruitment Postcard](#)

Thanks to Jay Ewing for his efforts in creating online resources that will help to streamline the Master Gardener program websites and communications.

Thanks to Heidi Nichols for contributing many hours entering data, program staff support and for covering some of the difficult questions that have come into the Multnomah office.

Thanks to Margaret Bayne for her endless 'behind the scenes' contributions of support in the phone offices, maintenance of files, and skilled assessment of volunteer information compiled in a serious 'crunch' time.

Draft 2010 Metro Master Gardener Training Schedule

| Week | Dates | Time | Topic | Instructor | Reading |
|------|------------------------|------|---|------------------------|-------------------|
| 1 | January 5, 7, 8 | AM | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction • Social gardening | Bubl (M), Miller, Yost | |
| | | PM | * Botany for Gardeners | Bubl | Chapter 1 |
| 2 | January 12, 14, 15 | AM | Soils and Compost | Groth | Chapter 2 |
| | | PM | *Organic Gardening for MGs | Miller | Online |
| 3 | January 19, 21, 22 | AM | Ornamental Plant Care and Pruning | Bob Nelson | Chapter 9 |
| | | PM | *Entomology | Natter | Chapter 14 |
| 4 | January 26, 28, 29 | AM | *Understanding Pesticides | Bubl | Chapter 19 |
| | | PM | *Integrated Pest Management (IPM) | Miller | Chapter 20 |
| 5 | February 2, 4, 5 | AM | Small fruits | Strik (Tues) Kaufman | Chapter 11 |
| | | PM | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MG office training • Resource Fair | Bubl, Miller, Yost | Handouts |
| 6 | February 9, 11, 12 | AM | Vegetable Gardening | Miller | Chapter 7 |
| | | PM | *Weeds | Bubl | Chapter 17 |
| 7 | February 16, 18, 19 | AM | Home orchards and fruit tree pruning | Bruce Nelson | Chapter 4 |
| | | PM | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intro to PNW guides | Bubl (M) Miller | Chapter 10 |
| 8 | February 23, 25, 26 | AM | *Household pests | Natter | Handout |
| | | PM | Lawns | Price | Chapter 12 |
| 9 | March 2, 4, 5 | AM | * Vertebrate Pests | Bubl | Chapter 18 |
| | | PM | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plant Propagation • Resource fair | Howley Miller, Yost | Handout |
| 10 | March 9, 11, 12 | AM | *Plant Diseases and Disorders | Natter | Chapter 15 and 16 |
| | | PM | *Plant Identification and outdoor excursion | Harber | Chapter 22 |
| 11 | March 16, 18, 19 | AM | *Diagnostics Clinic | Natter | Chapter 15 and 16 |
| | | PM | Open Book Test Review Volunteer Presentations | Miller, Yost | Take-home review |

Training Locations:

Tuesdays- First Baptist Church 5755 SW Erickson Ave Beaverton 97005
 Thursdays- Mazama Mountaineering Center, 517 SE 43rd Ave Portland 97215
 Fridays- VFW Hall 104 Tumwater Dr. Oregon City 97045

Daily Schedule:

Morning Session 9am – 12 pm
 Lunch- 12pm – 1 pm
 Afternoon Session 1pm – 4 pm

Fall 2009
OSU Master Gardener™
Recertification Training

- When:** Saturday, November 7th 8:30 am to 3:30 pm
(No pre-registration necessary)
- Where:** **Clackamas Community College**, Gregory Forum Bldg. (see map)
- Who:** All OSU Extension Master Gardeners™ in the Portland Metro Program
- Bring:** Your lunch and finger-foods for the 'goodies' table. Coffee and tea provided.

Agenda

Doors open at 7:30 am

8:00 am Registration and gathering

8:30 Welcome and Introductions

8:45 - 10:15 am **"Propagating Herbs from Cuttings"** - Elizabeth Howley, Clackamas Community College, Horticulture Instructor

Often we want to have an abundance of our favorite herb plants, to share with friends, to grow and dry, and just to admire their beauty and the host of beneficial insects they attract. At this session, Elizabeth will demonstrate proven methods of reproducing desirable clones, through the use of cutting techniques. Bring your questions and begin to plan your 2010 Herb Garden! At the end of the session, a fortunate individual will win the flat of cuttings ready to root!

10:30 "Applied Common Sense: An introduction to Permaculture and Whole Systems Design" Andrew Millison, Permaculture teacher and Landscape Designer

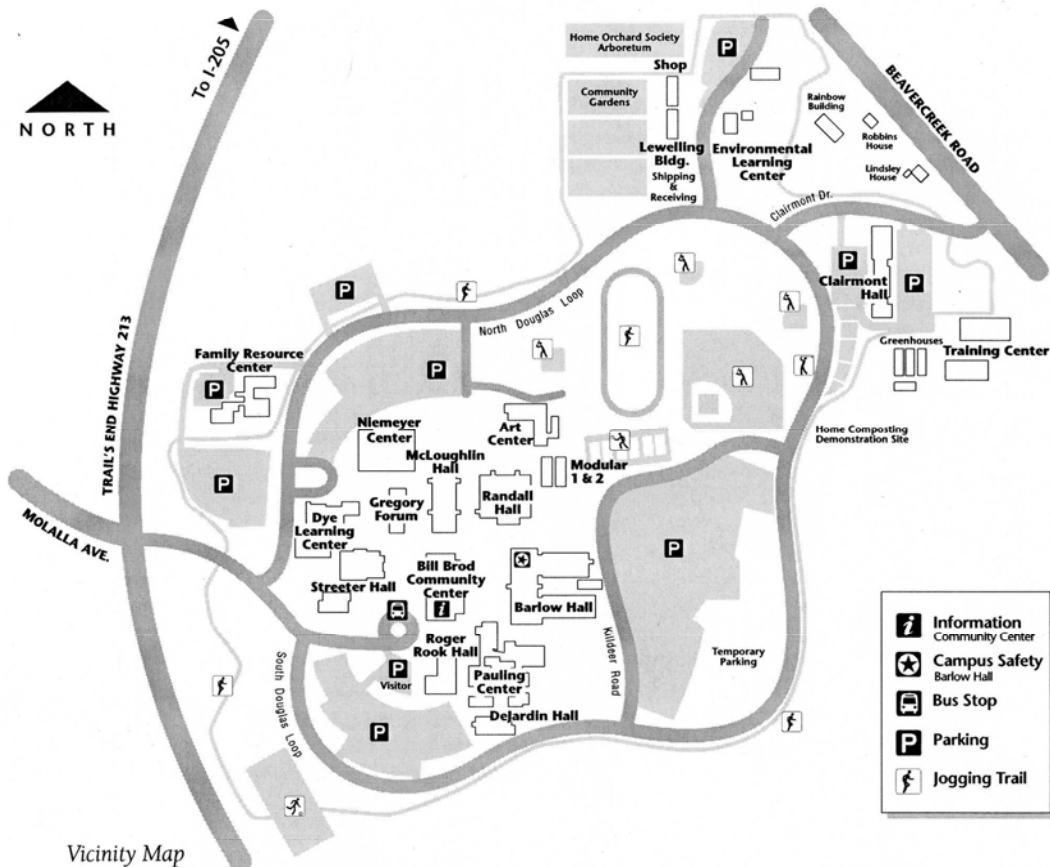
Permaculture is not just a gardening method. It is a design protocol for creating sustainable communities. This talk will introduce the Permaculture design system through its principals and the patterns of nature it emulates. We will look at examples from the single family home to the planned community to the large farm, so each attendee can answer the question: "What is Permaculture?"

Noon - Lunch break - Time to catch up with other MGs, pick up 2009 trainee badges and veteran certificates, look at books (etc) for sale. **Introduce 2009 Trainees**

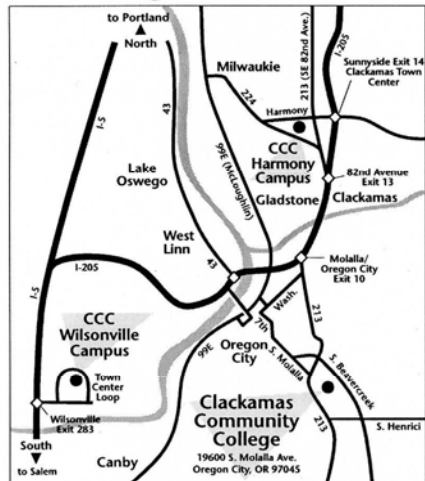
12:45 - 2:00 pm - **"The World Inside Your Containers: Media, Fertilizer and Beyond"**- Gail Gredler
Growing plants in potting soil has many similarities to growing plants in the ground, but there are important differences too. Learn about the components of potting media, different mixes available to gardeners, and how the physical, chemical and biological properties of the mix affect plant growth. We will also look at fertilization and irrigation practices that keep your container plants happy and growing their best year-round.

2:15 - 3:30 pm **"Two new garden pests, and a new Metro MG pilot program: Master Gardener Diagnostician"** Jean R. Natter, OSU MG, Washington County.

Jean will provide up-to-date details about these new pests now widespread in our region: azalea lace bug (*Stephanitis pyrioides*) and the spotted wing fruit fly (*Drosophila suzukii*). You'll also learn about an innovative new Metro MG program designed to advance, and support, the diagnostic process for MGs in the offices.



Vicinity Map



Clackamas Community College Campus Map

Clackamas Community College
19600 South Molalla Avenue
Oregon City, OR 97045-7998

CCC Harmony Campus
7616 S.E. Harmony Road
Milwaukie, OR 97222

CCC Wilsonville Campus
29353 Town Center Loop E
Wilsonville, OR 97070

To reach any college office, call 503-657-6958 and dial the extension you want. (Hearing-impaired TTY/TDD 503-650-6649)

Natter's Notes

Update: *Drosophila suzukii*; Not Your Mother's Fruit Fly Jean R. Natter

As I wrote last month, a new, potentially serious economic agricultural pest of ripening fruits has arrived in Oregon, and may be in a backyard near you. It's *Drosophila suzukii*, very small flies with the common name of spotted wing *Drosophila*, sometimes abbreviated SWD.

Since then, the Metro MG offices have had several calls concerning "wormy" or rotting fruits. And in early October, a client brought raspberries infested with small white "worms" to the Clackamas office, and said that the community garden in Gaston where they were growing, had "lots of little fruit flies." Needless to say, we're now attempting to rear the spotted wing fruit flies from her raspberries.

Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) has confirmed the presence of *Drosophila suzukii* in 13 Oregon counties: Benton, Clackamas, Douglas, Hood River, Lane, Linn, Marion, Multnomah, Polk, Umatilla, Wasco, Washington and Yamhill. Of those, Linn and Wasco Counties have the most recent finds.

By mid-October, confirmed hosts of SWD in Oregon are blackberries, blueberries, cherries, peaches, plums, raspberries, and strawberries, with the most recent additions table grapes, wine grapes, figs and pears. And a recent news release from OSU states "What might be good news for Oregon is that *D. suzukii*, at least in Japan, only lays eggs in apples that are already damaged."



Drosophila suzukii (male); Also called spotted wing *Drosophila* or SWD. G Arakelian, Los Angeles County Agricultural Commissioner

release. "California lost about one-third of its cherry crop from Davis to Modesto. Willamette Valley peach growers were hit hard, especially in the late season, with losses up to 80 percent in some orchards. Crop losses up to 20 percent were seen in Oregon raspberries."

Further, "In early October, two blueberry fields were sampled, and one showed no damage at all while another had approximately 20 percent infestation (sampled and dissected approximately 400 berries at each site)."

Researchers are attempting to determine the details of the insect's life cycle in Oregon, also how to manage this potentially serious pest of fresh fruit. During the interim, the suggestion is to gather all infested fruit, secure it in a heavy plastic bag, then discard in the trash.

At this time, ODA has so many samples of infested fruit to rear out, that they are also accepting reports of the adult male *D. suzukii*. As a result, the MG offices should collect any suspicious fruits, then attempt to rear out the infesting insect, whatever the kind.

Fortunately, males are quite easy to identify. They are about half the size of the more common fruit flies (*D. melanogaster*, also called vinegar flies) that hang around your fruit bowl. But the more dramatic, also easily recognized, characteristic is that each of their two wings has one dark spot. Those small spots make them quite easy to spot in the garden.

So, if any wormy fruits, or complaints thereof, are brought to



A single SWD on a spoiling apple. J.Natter photo

the MG office or if you suspect you may have SWD at your place, verify your suspicions with the designated MG in your county who will help you determine whether we need to rear the larvae until

they are adults. Contact information is in your office.

The MGs to contact are

Washington County: Jean Natter

Multnomah County : Margaret Bayne and Claudia Groth

Clackamas County: Jane Collier and Pat Smith in Clackamas County.

After we confirm the presence of *D. suzukii* is confirmed, Jean will report the find to ODA.

Bottom lines:

It appears that all soft-skinned fruits are likely to be hosts for SWD.

Even though it's the end of the fruit harvest, remain alert to comments about wormy fruits, then ask targeted questions.

If the information sounds as it might fit the damage from SWD, encourage those persons to follow up next year.



Numerous SWD males, a few not. J.R. Natter photo

Important information to record for each such complaint or sample:

Client's name & phone number

Client's address

Kind of fruit(s) affected

Where fruit grew; obtain the address if different than client's residence

Then, too, at a recent update meeting, an OSU Extension entomologist emphasized that the key to detection is "fruit" in the very broadest sense. That is, consider even the fruits of ornamental plants as potential hosts of SWD until proven otherwise.

Oh yes, what about those raspberries brought to the Clackamas office? As it turns out, one of our intrepid MGs – Margaret Bayne, Washington County – braved the elements to visit the community garden where the berries grew, and was able to capture a number of fruit flies with her sweep net, among them a male SWD. ODA now has another pin on their map.

Resources

A New Pest in Town – Drosophila suzukii in the Metro MG newsletter, October 2009.

For official images and further information.

A 6-page Pest Alert from OSU: http://www.nwsmallfruits.org/alerts/2009-09-09_Regional_Pest_Alert-Spotted_Wing_Drosophila.pdf

A 2-page Pest Alert from ODA: See the copy posted in your MG office or go to http://www.oregon.gov/ODA/PLANT/docs/pdf/ippm_alert_d_suzukii.pdf

Pictorial resource from the University of California: http://www.nwsmallfruits.org/alerts/2009-09-09_Regional_Pest_Alert-Spotted_Wing_Drosophila.pdf

QUIZ CORNER

Q: What 's flowering? (Picture taken 10-09-09)



THE PRIZE? The first *five* correct responses *received between* noon Nov. 5 and noon Nov. 15 will be listed in the next newsletter!

Respond to Jean R. Natter (jnatter@aol.com) with "Quiz" in the subject line; or call 503-645-7073.)

ANSWER FOR OCTOBER QUIZ: Little bittercress (*Cardamine* species); soon to bloom and seed in a garden near you!

An older seedling http://uspest.org/pnw/weeds?weeds/id/Little_bittercress--Cardamine_oligosperme--s.i.html

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE WINNERS!

Diane Clevon (Washington; 2006)

Beven Peters (Multnomah; 2000)

Louise Adams (Clackamas County, 2008)

A New Metro MG Pilot Program: Master Gardener Diagnostician

Approximately 40 Metro MGs attended informational sessions during October to learn about a new pilot program for the Metro MGs: the Master Gardener Diagnosticians, MG-Dx for short, or just plain Dx.

The purpose of the MG-Dx pilot program is to recruit enthusiastic MGs who enjoy researching answers for clients' problematic questions. We look forward to working with those MGs who have accepted our challenge to blaze trails by becoming a Metro Master Gardener Diagnostician! They'll help us iron out the kinks during the coming year so that other qualified MGs may become Dx in the future.

The attending MGs were hand-selected for the project because we believe they are well-suited to become an MG-Dx. They have the required skills and personality traits, namely a questioning mind and a desire to learn. They are also self-motivated and persistent in researching answers, and are vets familiar with research-based resources or interns willing to become familiar with them.

So yes, we're including a few interns, six to be more precise. They are just a few of the interns who have shown promise in the office and who meet our requirements – inquisitive MGs who are tenacious in their search for answers.

Here's how the Referral system will work: As is the case now, problematic client cases will be referred to successive MG shifts for a maximum of two days via the Referral Forms in the offices.

On the third day, the office MGs will transfer the Referral information to a closed-membership online forum so that the MG-Dx can begin their

online discussion.

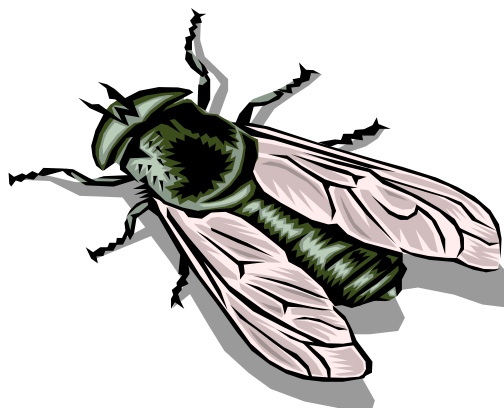
After the case is solved, the client and the originating MGs will be notified of the diagnosis and management, if any.

The MG-Dx program will be officially launched as soon as the MG Guides complete one of several information sessions this month. The Guides will then be able to facilitate the process for other MGs who work in the Metro MG offices.

Also at those sessions, the MG Guides and the MG-Dx will learn how to use the digital camera to be supplied to each Metro MG office. Once the cameras are in place, the office MGs will be able to photograph all samples that pertain to the difficult Referral cases, then send them to the online Forum.

The Metro Master Gardener Diagnostician pilot program is designed and implemented by the Diagnostician Action Team, a sub-group of Weston Miller's Advisory Committee. Its members are Martha Waldemar, Pat Smith, Jean R. Natter and Diane Clevon.

We encourage you to come to Recertification, November 7, at Clackamas College, to learn more about the MG-Dx program.



How to save seeds from your garden favorites

EUGENE, Ore. – Saving seeds is a great way to perpetuate your favorite heirloom varieties and save a bit of money, too, according to Ross Penhallegon, horticulturist with Oregon State University Extension, Lane County.

Not all vegetables grow true the next year, so save seeds only from open-pollinated and self-pollinated varieties, not those labeled "hybrids." Collect seeds from fully mature, ripe fruit of superior plants. Seeds should be completely dry before storing.



Bean, pea and other legume seeds are among the easiest to collect, Penhallegon said. Leave the pods on the plant until they are "rattle dry." Keep an eye on the pods, as some varieties split and scatter the seeds when dry. Pick the dried pods and place them in a well-ventilated area at room temperature. When the pods are completely dry, remove the seeds. Look out for pea weevils, which eat out the center of the seeds.

Lettuce seeds usually save well, but next year's crop may vary a bit from the original. Many herbs dry on the stalk. Stems of dill, anise and other herbs can be cut and hung upside down wrapped in a paper bag or nylon to catch the falling seed.

Cross-pollination can happen with peppers; make sure the hot and sweet varieties are grown well apart if you are saving seeds. Scrape the seeds from a mature, ripe pepper and allow them to dry on a tray at room temperature.

Tomatoes should be fermented prior to removing seed to destroy canker disease organisms. Mash several ripe tomatoes into a clear glass jar and add one or two cups of water. Set the jar in the sun for several days, stirring the mixture daily. As the mixture ferments, debris will float to the top, and most of the viable seeds will sink to the bottom. Drain the mixture, and spread the seeds on a tray to dry in the sun (at 80 to 100 degrees) for four to five days.

It is more difficult to save seed from vine crops such as cucumbers, squash and pumpkins. Without controlled pollination, these crops cross with other varieties with unexpected results. Biennials, such as carrots, beets, and most of the cabbage family, present other problems to the seed saver. It takes space and planning to carry over the plant root from one year to the plant seed head the second year. And problems with cross-pollination occur in many biennials.

Once completely dry, your seeds are ready to store in a cool, dry, dark place. Put each seed type in a labeled, dated envelope and store the seed envelopes in a sealed jar. Moisture can cause the seeds to deteriorate more quickly. To ensure the seeds stay dry and increase seed viability, place a small amount of freshly opened powdered milk or silica gel in the jar beneath the seed packets. Close the jar tightly and store on the kitchen counter until no moisture condenses inside the jar. Then place the jar in the refrigerator until planting time.

For more information, the OSU Extension publication "[Collecting and Storing Seeds from Your Garden](#)" (FS 220) is available online.

By: [Judy Scott](#)

Source: [Ross Penhallegon](#)

Last chance during 2009!

Internet Essentials for Master Gardeners

Join us as we learn about using computers in the MG offices.
We'll explore the internet to locate research-based information.

| Date | Site | 9 to noon | 1 to 4 PM |
|-------------|------------------|--------------|---------------|
| November 14 | PCC, SE Center * | Intermediate | The Next Step |

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

All sessions are hands-on

Intermediate will explore most of the links on the OSU Garden Encyclopedia site
The Next Step will cover search techniques, plus additional useful websites.

***** Everyone has a computer *****

Classes are full. But you can go on the Wait List!



***** Free for active Metro MGs, but donations are welcome *****

Pre-register with Jean Natter; jnatter@aol.com or 503-645-7073

Please provide the following:

1. Your name, plus phone number
2. Date(s) & time of session(s) you will attend
3. What is your computer, a PC or Mac?
4. Put "Class" in the subject line

HORTICULTURAL CALENDAR IN THE METRO AREA

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Nov 5 | Washington County Chapter—Horticultural Therapy—Lynn Wagner |
| Nov 7 | MG Recertification Training—see flyer in this issue |
| Nov 9 | Clackamas Chapter-Sustainability-What it is and how relates to gardening |
| Nov 10 | Multnomah County Chapter—Plants That Deserve More Attention in Portland Area Gardens—Sean Hogan, Co-founder Cistus Nursery 7pm |
| Nov 14 | MG Computer Class see page 12 |
| Dec 3 | Washington County Chapter; Chip Publ “Hot Topics in Vegetables and Other Botanically Interesting Discoveries” |
| Dec 8 | Multnomah County Chapter; 7pm; Annual Winter Greens Gathering |
| Dec 9 | Class Coordinator sign up at Clackamas Extension office 10-noon |
| Dec 14 | Clackamas County Chapter annual book sale |
| Dec 14 | Clackamas County Chapter—Appreciate the Role of Bats—Sally Fisher |
| Jan 5,7,8 | New Training classes begin!! |
| Apr 10 | Spring MG Recertification Training—save the date |

Continuing Education Opportunities for Master Gardeners Winter 2010

If you are looking for ways to increase your knowledge base as a Master Gardener, consider some of these upcoming classes at our local community colleges and opportunities online. Classes can be taken for credit or audited, check websites for further information.

Portland Community College - Rock Creek Campus:

<http://pcc.edu/schedule>

Plant ID conifers. . .

Winter class schedule available online Oct 23

Registration for winter term Nov 25

Classes begin Jan 4

online or call 503-977-4933

Clackamas Community College:

<http://clackamas.edu>

Winter class schedule available online (soon)

Plant ID, Disease ID . . .

Registration for winter term Nov 24

Classes begin Jan 4

OSU Phytophthora Online Course <http://ecampus.oregonstate.edu/phytophthora>

(free for noncredit)

Look Who Came to Dinner

Dogwood sawfly

Jean R. Natter

Dogwood sawflies were first recognized as a potentially serious problem in the Northwest during 2008, when they were reported to be defoliating dogwoods (*Cornus* species) in Whatcom County, WA. According to a List of Species of Concern, the insects were later identified as *Macremphytus tarsatus*. (Source: <http://agr.wa.gov/PlantsInsects/InsectPests/Exotics/SpeciesOfConcern.aspx>)

As it turns out, a group of voracious dogwood sawflies were recently found much closer to our region and in mid-October, were brought to NWREC by personnel from the Portland Parks & Recreation Department for identification, and who reported that the insects were defoliating their dogwood trees.

The important question to be answered is whether these are, indeed, our native dogwood sawfly, *Macremphytus lovetii* about which very little is known, or a new invasive sawfly pest. So the next step is to rear the larvae to the adult stage, one that's easier for entomologists to identify.



The shed skin of a 2nd instar.

Hosts

Hosts for *M. tarsatus* are ornamental and native dogwoods (*Cornus* species), among them *Cornus sericea*, osier dogwood, and *Cornus racemosa*, gray dogwood.

(Hmm. During fall 2008, a Washington County caller asked about the "white caterpillars" which were destroying her red twig dogwood, *Cornus stolonifera*, but we never saw any samples or images.)

Damage

Hatchlings skeletonize leaf surfaces, beginning on the underside. Older larvae may defoliate trees.

Life cycle

- **Eggs:** If habits are similar to *M. tarsatus*, a recognized pest in the eastern and Midwestern US, 100 or more eggs are laid on the underside of leaves
- **Larvae:** Gregarious hatchlings (larvae which work in groups) eat only the surfaces of leaves

Later larval stages are ferocious eaters, eating all except the midvein.

The 2nd instar (larval stage) is stark white on the upper side, golden on the underside.

The 3rd instar has numerous dark spots on a golden background which soon changes to green.

Final larval length: 25 mm (about an inch)



Dogwood sawfly larva (3rd instar) on the side of a hand



- **Overwintering stage & site:** Larvae in the pre-pupal stage; in rotting wood on the ground or in structures.
- **Adults:** Seldom seen.

Dogwood sawfly larvae; white forms are 2nd instar, spotted yellow are 3rd.

Resources:

Note that, when searching online for information about the dogwood sawfly, you'll find precious little information about *Macremphytus lovetti* and considerable about *M. tarsatus*, the latter native to northeastern US and is known as an occasional pest.

1. Pacific Northwest Nursery Pests (<http://oregonstate.edu/dept/nurspest/index.htm>)

Once there,

- click the topic heading **Insects**,

- on the new page, locate, and click, **dogwood sawfly** in the left rail (the menu at the far left).

(Text on this page identifies the 2008 sawflies found in WA as our native *Macremphytus lovetti*.)

2. *Insects that Feed on Trees & Shrubs* (Johnson & Lyon), pages 126-127, has text and images about *M. tarsatus*. (This book is in all Metro MG offices)

3. Species Page - *Macremphytus tarsatus* at the University of Alberta http://www.entomology.ualberta.ca/searching_species_details.php?c=8&rnd=42074114&s=5895

4. No info about either species in the *PNW Insect Management Handbook*

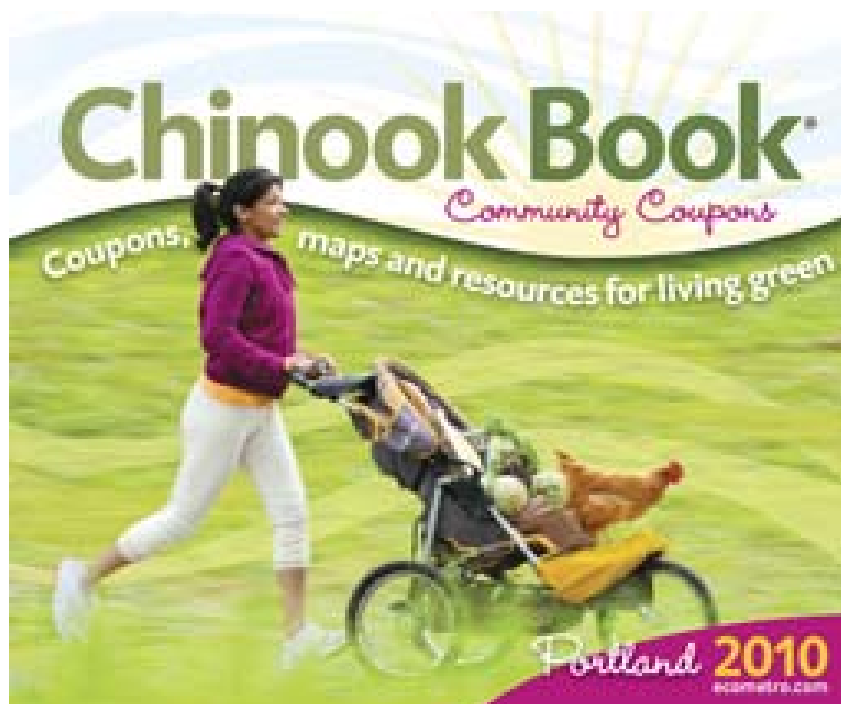
Insights:

- Sawflies belong to the order Hymenoptera (bees, wasps and sawflies) whereas similar-appearing insects – caterpillars – are in the order Lepidoptera (butterflies and moths). Thus, even though *Bacillus thuringiensis* (*Bt*) is an effective, also least-toxic management for caterpillars that are half-grown or less, it doesn't work against sawfly larvae.
- Sawfly larvae look very similar to caterpillars. The key to differentiating the two is to count the pairs of prolegs, the fleshy protrusions on the ventral side (underside). Sawflies have 6 to 8 pair of prolegs, caterpillars have 2 to 5. Margaret Bayne suggests a way you might more easily recall which is which: Sawfly begins with an "s" and have six or more pair of prolegs.
- Established deciduous trees generally survive extensive leaf damage that occurs during summer and/or later in the growing season. That said, home owners are always very concerned whenever they see their trees lose numerous leaves.



Many cool-weather crops thrive in Western Oregon's mild winters. By covering plants with a cold frame or cloche, you can protect them from cold rain and frost and enjoy fresh vegetables throughout the year.

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NOVEMBER CHAPTER MEETINGS**

**OR CONTACT JEAN EDMISON @ (503)771-2486
PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE MULTNOMAH CO. CHAPTER**



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

10 November 2009 Chapter Meeting

Mt. Tabor Presbyterian Church 5441 SE Belmont

6:45pm Gather - 6:50 pm – Announcements

7:00 pm - Topic: Plants That Deserve More Attention in Portland Area Gardens

Speaker: Sean Hogan, co-founder, Cistus Nursery
New varieties and forms, familiar yet misunderstood plants, and just the tragically overlooked. Sean will discuss plants that may have been ignored in local garden designs, but deserve a second look and perhaps, a place in the local horticulture palette.

Sean Hogan is the Portland area's own, plus internationally known, co-founder of Cistus Nursery, <http://cistus.com/>. Sean has traveled internationally to find new plants that will do well in our Willamette Valley climate and add interest to our gardens. His insights on the plants and their adaptability can be found in many magazines and journals, and his most recent book is Trees for All Seasons.

*****Next Board Meeting – Tuesday 3 November 2009 - 6:30 pm at Jean Edmison's – 7606 S.E. Ellis**

*****Coming up... 8 December 2009, Chapter Meeting, 7pm - Annual Winter Greens Gathering:** Gather with fellow chapter members to share a cup o' cheer and create winter arrangements, wreaths and swags.

*****Fundraiser:** As you enjoy the wonder of your garden this summer and into autumn take the time to capture the images. Please submit your favorite garden photos to be considered for an upcoming fundraiser. We are planning on printing a set of high quality color note cards of lovely garden images. So snap away at all the captivating combinations and vibrant vignettes your garden has to offer. Please submit all photos to Marilyn Kongsli: mkongsli@gmail.com (503)289-8889

*****Best Bang for Your Buck! Directory Advertising!** Once again advertising space will be sold in the Mult. Co. Directory. This is a great way to promote your business and get the word out to our many Master Gardeners. Reasonable rates. To place an ad please contact Jean Edmison (503)771-2486.

2010 CHINOOK BOOKS NOW AVAILABLE!!

Loaded with over 400 money saving coupons from local, sustainable businesses. It includes groceries, dining, entertainment, garden, travel and home. Makes a great gift that keeps on giving! ONLY \$20! Contact: Jean Edmison (503) 771-2486 or Robin Case (503)762-3964.

*****We are very much in need of historical information on the Multnomah Chapter's 2008 year, in addition to 2009.** Could you please bring to our meeting photos, clippings, etc. of any Multnomah Chapter event or related activity you, as a Master Gardener, were involved in, during 2008. Contact Velda Altig for more information.

***** The following slate of officers for 2010 was approved at the October meeting:**

President-Sharon Baker
Co-Vice-Presidents-Heidi Nichols and Gloria Bennett
Secretary-Jo Ann Bones
Treasurer-Robin Case
OMGA Representative-Marilyn Kongsli
Junior OMGA Representative-Linda Eggiman

*****Thank you to all who came to our wonderful Plant Sale and then stayed to listen to the Garden Chats!** Our own members presented 25 minute talks on Vietnamese Herbs, Chickens in the City, Propagation, Food Pyramid information, and Managing Slugs. Next year we are hoping to showcase more of our members who have garden-related knowledge they could share! Please let Sharon know what subject you like to talk about.

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 Kongsli – 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

Nov. 5th, 2009 “Horticultural Therapy”

Lynn Wagner, Therapeutic Horticultural Activity Specialist
WCMGA Member

Dec. 3, 2009 “Hot Topics in Vegetables and Other Botanically Interesting Discoveries”

Chip Bubl, Columbia County Extension Service

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.

REMINDER

Annual Chapter dues in the amount of \$25.00 are due and payable no later than December 15th, 2009. Bring your check to the Chapter meeting or contact Donna Yount.

PERENNIAL REMINDER

Now is a good time to divide your hardy perennials suitable for gallon size pots to donate to our Chapter's Plant Sale. Four years ago we collected about 750 plants; last year nearly 2000. Our goal for 2010 is 2500! Thanks to all of you, we are able to fund some of the Chapter's major projects.

Jane Miller will be at the Nov. and Dec. Chapter meetings to collect your donations. Questions, call Jane at 503-590-3598.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

Cathy Mankus was awarded a Certificate of Appreciation for her years of service as data base administrator. We appreciate all your hard work Cathy.

HELP WANTED

Historian & Plant Sale Raffle Chairperson
Contact Barbara Knopp, Donna Yount or Cindy Muir

SEPTEMBER TOMATO TASTING

The Master Gardeners of Washington County held a Tomato Tasting Event at the Demonstration Gardens at the Fair Complex on September 15th. It was a beautiful day to gather and enjoy the tomato harvest and sample over 30 varieties of tomatoes grown by Master Gardeners. Home grown corn was also on the menu and rumor has it that someone ate several ears!

Volunteers and guests voted on their favorites and the winners are:

Cherry: Black Cherry, Sweet Baby Girl, Sun Gold

Winners: Cherokee purple, Sucre touts, 4th of July

Happy 85th birthday to Asta Silverthorne.

| | | |
|--------------------------|---------------|--------------|
| 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 | Alan Strong | 503-690-1882 |
| Dir.#3 Publicity | Lynn Wagner | 503-531-9239 |
| Dir.#4 Fundraising | Anna Stubbs | 503-643-9474 |
| 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 Alan Strong, e-mail coordinator, alan@astrongone.net

Chapter Website: www.wcmga.info



Clackamas County Chatter



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

November Chapter Meeting

Monday, November 9
Milwaukie Center 7:00 p.m.

5440 SE Kellogg Creek Drive, Milwaukie

Sustainability – What Is It and How Does It Relate to Gardening

Rosalyn McKeown, Associate Professor, Portland State University

Portland is known as the most sustainable city in the United States, and Oregon strives for a more sustainable future. What is sustainability? What does sustainability look like globally and locally?

Sustainability is a complex and abstract concept. How can we talk about it in simple and understandable ways, especially through everyday activities like home gardening? Rosalyn will shed light on 'sustainability' in the contemporary, metropolitan context.

December Preview

Monday, December 14
Appreciate the Role of Bats: Insect-eaters of the Night

Sally Fisher, waste reduction expert, Clark County Solid Waste Program

In this talk, Sally will acquaint us with the types of bats residing in our region, how they live, and how they contribute to a healthy environment. If you want to attract these beneficial flying mammals to your garden, Sally will offer expert advice that's sure to work.

Upcoming Events

Metro MG Re-certification Training

November 7
Registration 8:00
Training 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Clackamas Community College - Gregory Forum

Annual Book Sale

December 14 6:30 p.m.
Master Gardener Meeting
Buy used books and magazines on all gardening topics. Please bring donations to the November meeting.
*Janet Weber 503-358-2821
weberjanet@hotmail.com*

Mini College

July 28-31, 2010



Green Glove Award for October goes to **IRWIN ROGERS** for many years of service as Chapter Treasurer and Membership Chair. Way to go, Irwin!

\$

2010 Chapter Dues Payable Now

Please remit \$12 to Irwin Rogers by check (payable to CCMG) or in cash at a chapter meeting, or mail directly to:
Irwin Rogers
15125 S Macksburg Road
Molalla, OR 97038.

To have your 2008 directory mailed to you, include an additional \$3.

\$

Announcing 2010 Board Members



Membership present at the October meeting elected the following chapter members to next year's Board.

- President Sherry Sheng
- Vice President Larry Huckaba
- Secretary Holly Pederson
- Treasurer Mary Butler
- Asst. Treasurer Trudy O'Donnell
- OMGA Rep Nikki Mantei
- OMGA Alternate Linda O'Toole
- Advisory Board Buzz Oerding
John Hill
Gene Mc Coy

WANTED!

**Plastic "6 pack" trays
And 1 gallon pots!**

Please bring to the November Meeting for the plants Joyce Miller will grow for the Spring Garden Fair Raffle
Joyce Miller

| 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 | | | | |

November Garden Hints

Oregon State University Extension Service encourages sustainable gardening practices. Preventative pest management is emphasized over reactive pest control. Identify and monitor problems before acting, and opt for the least toxic approach that will remedy the problem.

First consider cultural, and then physical controls. The conservation of biological control agents (predators, parasitoids) should be favored over the purchase and release of biological controls. Use chemical controls only when necessary, only after identifying a pest problem, and only after thoroughly reading the pesticide label. Least-toxic choices include insecticidal soaps, horticultural oils, botanical insecticides, organic and synthetic pesticides — when used judiciously.

Recommendations in this calendar are not necessarily applicable to all areas of Oregon. For more information, contact [your local OSU Extension Service office](#).

Planning

Force spring bulbs for indoor blooms in December.

Maintenance and Clean Up

Service lawn mower prior to winter.

- ✦ Check potatoes in storage and remove any going bad.
 - ✦ Place a portable cold frame over rows of winter vegetables.
 - ✦ Place mulch around berries for winter protection.
 - ✦ Cover rhubarb and asparagus beds with composted manure and straw.
 - ✦ Rake and compost leaves that are free of diseases and insects. Use mulches to prevent erosion and compaction from rain.
 - ✦ Protect built-in sprinkler systems: drain the system, insulate the valve mechanisms.
 - ✦ Clean and oil lawnmower, other garden equipment and tools before storing for winter. Drain and store hoses carefully to avoid damage from freezing. Renew mulch around perennial flower beds after removing weeds.
 - ✦ Protect tender evergreens from drying wind.
 - ✦ Tie limbs of upright evergreens to prevent breakage by snow or ice.
 - ✦ Trim chrysanthemums to 4 to 6 inches after they finish blooming.
- Leave ornamental grasses up in winter to provide winter texture in the landscape. Cut them back a few inches above the ground in early spring.
- ✦ **Western Oregon:** Last chance to plant cover crops for soil building. You can also use a 3- to 4-inch layer of leaves, spread over the garden plot, to eliminate winter weeds, suppress early spring weeds and prevent soil compaction by rain.
 - ✦ **Western Oregon:** Watch for wet soil and drainage problems in yard during heavy rains. Tiling, ditching, and French drains are possible solutions. Consider rain gardens and bioswales as a long-term solution.
 - ✦ **Western Oregon:** Take cuttings of rhododendrons and camellias for propagation; propagate begonias from leaf cuttings.

Western Oregon: Prune roses to "knee-high" to prevent winter wind damage.

✦ **Central/eastern Oregon:** Water your newly planted perennials, trees and shrubs every 6 to 8 weeks with a deep soaking to prevent drying out, if there is no snow cover and the ground is warm enough to accept water.

Central/eastern Oregon: Wrap the trunks of young, thin-barked trees (maples, aspen, ash) with paper tree wrap late in the month to prevent sunscald. Remove in April. Wrap new trees 2-3 years in a row until the outer bark has thickened.

Planting/Propagation

✦ Plant window garden of lettuce, chives, parsley.

✦ Good time to plant trees and shrubs. Consider planting shrubs and trees that supply food and shelter to birds; e.g., sumac, elderberry, flowering currant, and mock orange.

✦ **Western Oregon:** Still time to plant spring-flowering bulbs, such as tulips, daffodils, hyacinths, crocuses. Don't delay.

Western Oregon: Good time to plant garlic for harvest next summer, and to transplant landscape trees and shrubs.

Pest Monitoring and Management

✦ Monitor landscape plants for problems. Don't treat unless a problem is identified.

✦ Rake and destroy leaves from fruit trees that were diseased this year. Remove and discard mummified fruit.

✦ Check firewood for insect infestations. Burn affected wood first and don't store inside.

✦ Treat peaches 4 weeks after leaf fall spray for peach leaf curl and shothole diseases.

✦ **Western Oregon:** Moss appearing in lawn may mean too much shade or poor drainage. Correct site conditions if moss is bothersome.

Western Oregon: Bait garden, flower beds for slugs during rainy periods. Use traps or new phosphate baits, which are pet-safe.

Houseplants and Indoor Gardening

Reduce fertilizer applications to houseplants.