

Metro Master Gardener™ News

October 2010



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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Metro Master Gardener Program Update- Weston Miller



Greetings Master Gardeners-

I hope that you are enjoying the Indian Summer weather that we have had toward the end of September. Maybe your tomatoes are finally ripening up too.

In the Metro Master Gardener program office, we are busy these days as fall is MG reporting season (Please report your hours by October 1; see the September newsletter for reporting forms) and we are gearing up for the 2011 Master Gardener Training.

We have recently launched registration for the 2011 MG Training and we want to make sure that you know about some important scheduling/venue changes. Here are the training dates and locations for 2011:

- Beaverton, Tuesdays January 4 - March 15, 2011, First Baptist Church 5755 SW Erickson Ave Beaverton OR 97005
- Oregon City, Thursdays January 6 - March 17, 2011, Museum of the Oregon Territory 3rd floor- 211 Tumwater Drive, Oregon City OR 97045
- SE Portland, Fridays January 7 - March 18, 2011 Multnomah County Headquarters 501 SE Hawthorne Blvd. Portland, OR 97214.

We are excited to have new venues for Oregon City and Portland locations. Notice that we will have class in Oregon City on Thursdays and Portland on Fridays. Thanks to Jordis Yost and Margaret Bayne for finding the location in Clackamas County. This venue will provide plenty of space and plenty of parking as well as a fabulous view of Willamette Falls.

And we'd like to extend a special thank you to MG Marcia McIntyre for her persistence in finding a great venue in Multnomah County, the council chambers of Multnomah County Board of Commissioners! This central location is big (easily accommodating 100+ people) with comfortable seats and a very large screen for slide show display. This venue is easily accessible by public transit and there is lots of on-street parking nearby, particularly on Fridays. There is a paid parking garage across the street from the venue on Hawthorne too.

For 2010 MG trainees (and all others), you are welcome to come to any/all of the classes to refresh your knowledge and get inspired. Please note that if you took the MG training in 2009 or before, we require folks to complete 12 hours of recertification training (and 25 hours of volunteer service) to keep your status as an active MG volunteer. Many of the core MG classes are applicable for recertification. We are looking forward to seeing you at the trainings and will provide detailed schedule in future newsletters.

A note about Ning (the online portal): Many folks signed-up for and participated in this online forum launched in 2010. The Ning service used to be free and now there is a hefty fee for this service. Based on low participation, we have closed the site. We will provide a different online repository for 2011 MG training documents. We will provide details around the time that classes start.

Enjoy the change in seasons and the break from garden work that fall/winter provide.

Be well, Weston



Fall 2010 OSU Master Gardener™ Recertification Training

- When:** Saturday, November 13th 8:30 am to 3:30 pm (No pre-registration necessary)
Where: **Clackamas Community College**, Gregory Forum Building
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 am Welcome and Introductions

8:45 - 10:15 am **Abiotic Plant Problems - How to Diagnose and Remedy**
Jean R. Natter - MG

Why do a plant's leaves turn yellow and fall off? And why do plants die suddenly? Is it a plant heart attack? Or what? Learn about the common abiotic causal agents that mystify so many gardeners.

10:30am - 12:00 pm **OSU/Metro Partnership and Resources**
Weston Miller (OSU) and Carl Grimm (Metro)

Weston and Carl will provide an update about the emerging partnership between Metro and OSU to provide relevant and timely information to the general public about a wide range of natural gardening topics. The goal of this partnership is to leverage the resources and organizational capacity of both agencies to promote the reduced use of toxic garden chemicals by the general public. Learn how this partnership will grow in 2011.

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

1:00 - 2:30 pm - **"Spotted Wing Dryophila: Background, ID, and Now What"**
Jana Lee, Research Entomologist at USDA ARS

Jana Lee will provide up-to-date information on the status of this alarming new pest in our area. Learn about this pest's background, how to identify it, what the homeowner can do as far as monitoring, sanitation and management. Jana will give us an overview on the ongoing research with USDA ARS, OSU, and other cooperative agencies. You'll also learn how Master Gardeners can take part in helping to monitor and report this destructive new pest.

2:45 - 3:30 pm **MG Website Info and Update** Jay Ewing, OSU MG

OPPORTUNITIES FROM JORDIS

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



HOURS DUE

I am sending out one last reminder for MGs to send in volunteer hours. It's exciting to get all the hours totaled and get certificates and badges made. This process takes a bit of time to orchestrate, so I really appreciate getting the reports from you right away. I have already received a good number of them and it is great to see the value of MGs out in the community. Some people report that actually taking the time to report the hours is the 'hardest' part, but it can really be rewarding when they see how those hours quickly add up. You did

the volunteer work and made an impact, now let's let OSU know what metro MGs have been up to.

See the September Metro MG newsletter for hours reporting forms.

RECERTIFICATION

On November 13, we are having our first of two recertification trainings to prepare MGs for volunteer service in the 2011 season. The second will be in April (no date yet). This will fulfill the 12 hours of recertification training required to stay certified for activities in 2011 for many MGs. Another way to recertify is to take four of the 3-hour sessions during winter training. The qualifying sessions will be marked with an asterisk (*) on the schedule when it gets published in an upcoming newsletter. You can also request a recertification test in the spring.

Reminder: Recertification classes are not counted as volunteer time. 12 hrs. of training are required in order to be eligible to act (volunteer) as a certified MG in the community.

Returning veterans and newly certified trainees will volunteer for 25 hours per year and after the initial flurry of volunteering for 66 hours...this is a very comfortable pace, for sure.

2010 TRAINEES

We are planning to celebrate your completion of hours and introduce you as 'official' MGs while wearing your new permanent orange badges. Please plan on attending the recertification day on Saturday, November 13 at Clackamas Community College, Gregory Forum Building and we can celebrate together.

Come for the day starting at 8:30 am or come at noon to pick up your badges and stay to be congratulated by the general assembly of MGs.

So that I have time to order the badges, I need to have your volunteer hours log sheet into my office **NO LATER than October 8**. Remember that the required number that we need is 66 hours to qualify for a badge. Any hours reported after that will go toward the 2010 season.

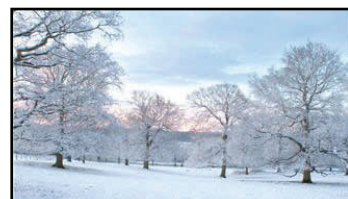
VETERANS

I need your hours reported by October 8th in order to have certificates ready on November 13 at recertification training. I will have appreciation certificates ready to be picked up during lunch break.

It is especially important for MGs working within their chapter to report hours to me because it is the only way that I can track who is active. Having all the hours in one place makes it possible to create the required report to OSU in December. We are proud of our numbers!

FALL and WINTER

Now that you are putting your own garden to rest and thinking about what you are going to do during the fall and winter season, remember the phone offices still need MGs. This season can be a really good time to come in and browse the libraries and discover what home gardeners are up to. Give Joby (Clackamas) 503-632-2165, Gloria (Multnomah) 503-775-4005, Heidi (Washington) 503-774-6888 a call and schedule a shift.



QUIZ CORNER (Results for the September 2010 quiz; questions and image below)

THE QUESTION WAS: Name the 3 items(top; left; and right but ignore the green things
(Image: Jamie Kilgore; Multnomah County; 2009)

THE BONUS QUESTION WAS: How are the three items related?



ANSWER FOR THE IMAGE

Pupal case at the top; cast larval skin of a caterpillar at the center; parasitoid adult fly that emerged from the caterpillar's pupal case shown at the top.
(The green things were the caterpillar's food when it was still alive.)

THE ONE AND ONLY RESPONDENT, THUS GRAND PRIZE WINNER!

Gerald Scwhartz (Washington; 2008) His reasoning was slightly different than mine, but it still fits.
Namely, an example of complete metamorphosis stages: pupa at top; larva at center; adult at front.

And with that, the Quiz Corner closes shop indefinitely because business has been exceedingly slow.

Update: Brown Marmorated Stink Bug (BMSB)

Jean R. Natter



The BMSB was first identified in the eastern US in 2001 and, during 2010, both home gardeners and large-scale growers there have had major problems on fruits and vegetables. Pictures shared among several Oregon entomologists show damage on the fruits of tomatoes and green peppers, also corn (the kernels), along with an image of multiple adults and older nymphs feeding on the trunk of a maple tree.

I won't be at all surprised if the bugs react similarly here, in part because more clients brought the nymphs to the MG offices this year than previously. It's likely only a matter of time. Just how long, no one is ready to say.

In Oregon, BMSB is now found in Portland and Salem. The western half of Multnomah County is perhaps the center of activity for the Metro counties. There, numerous specimens are often present in gardens, sometimes by the hundreds.

Fortunately, BMSB are easily recognized. A down-and-dirty description is this: A shield-shaped bug, a half-inch long, the color a dingy brown, with an obvious white band on each antenna.

A key strategy to limit any pest population is to attack them during their susceptible stage. In this case, destroy them while they're young. Look for obvious egg clusters on leaves, then crush them immediately.

Resources

Natter's Notes in the Metro MG Newsletter, December 2009

An alert from USDA http://www.hgic.umd.edu/content/documents/Stink_Bug_Pest_Alert.pdf

An alert from ODA http://entomology.oregonstate.edu/sites/default/files/brown_Marmorated_Stink_Bug.pdf

Recent info from Rutgers (Feb 2010) - <http://njaes.rutgers.edu/stinkbug/>

Brown Garden Snails

Jean R. Natter

If you think slugs are a scourge, just wait until brown garden snails (BGS) invade your home grounds. These snails live and eat at your plants' expense for at least four years. In irrigated landscapes, BGS thrive, and are active, year-round. Our dry summers won't phase them. They don't need to hide in soil cracks during our dry summer months as do slugs. They'll simply seal up and "wait" until moisture arrives. I did battle with BGS for 30-some years while gardening in Southern California. I was never quite certain as to who was winning.



Figure 1: Adult brown garden snail (BGS); *Cornu aspersum*, formerly *Helix aspersa*

Unfortunately, well-established populations of these nasties are thriving here in Oregon, perhaps in a garden near you.

Brown garden snails arrived in Oregon years ago, and were first identified from specimens collected in Eugene. Within a few years, the Oregon Department of Agriculture declared them to be too numerous to eradicate. BGS been chomping their way through Oregon's western counties ever since then.

Nowadays, some places in the Willamette Valley have prodigious numbers. Portland has a healthy population as do numerous other municipalities within the tri-county area. An MG who lives in

Charbonneau told me that returning home at night can be a crunchy trek.



Figure 2: Eggs of BGS, in a southern California garden

Brown garden snails, the technical name currently *Cornu aspersum*, have been through a number of name changes. Prior names were *Cantareus aspersus*, *Helix aspersa*, and *Cryptomphalus aspersus*. During my years in California, I and other besieged gardeners called it *Helix aspersa*. Well, that plus a few other things.



Figure 3: BGS hatchlings, one week old

When full grown, the shell of a mature BGS is nearly spherical, an inch or more in diameter, and is marked with softly defined bands of medium brown speckles. (See Fig 1) The shells I encountered in California were quite sturdy whereas specimens from the Metro area are thin and fragile.

Brown garden snails are mainly nocturnal but can be active during the day, especially following a rain or during one of our frequent misty days. And they're hermaphrodites, just as are slugs. After BGS mate, both individuals can produce 100 or more eggs, deposited in clutches of 30 or so in a shallow soil depression and barely covered with soil. Eggs are spherical, 1/8 inch across, cloudy white and rubbery rather than brittle. (See Fig 2) New hatchlings are the same size. (See Fig 3)



Figure 4: Compare shells: BGS (left) and native *Monadenia*

BGS feed on many plants. Way too many. They're the scourge of nurseries, greenhouses and landscapes, chewing holes along the edges or in the middle of leaves and flowers. They'll eat fruit, too. In California, they could hollow out lemons or oranges if given adequate time.



Figure 5: Compare shells: BGS (left) and native *Monadenia*

"An alert citizenry can help secure our borders from an invasion of pillaging hordes of grazing gastropods," says Robin Rosetta, entomologist at North Willamette Research and Extension Center. So, dispatch BGS whenever you see them!

The easiest and safest management technique is to step on them. (Yes, it's messy, but not nearly as icky as stomping a slug.) Or drop them into slightly soapy water. Then, too, non-toxic slug baits with the active ingredient iron sulfate are also said to be effective against snails.



Figure 6: The garlic snail, *Oxychilus alliarius*, with a very dark body and translucent shell

If you've heard about the predator decollate snail, *Rumina decollata*, cross that option off your list because they're legal only in Arizona, New Mexico, Texas, and the seven southern-most counties of California. The primary reason is that they could damage populations of native snails and slugs.

Our native Pacific sideband snail, *Monadenia fidelis*, resembles BGS but isn't a plant pest. Their very sturdy shells, when compared to that of BGS, are larger, slightly flattened and typically clearly marked with dark bands. (See Figs 4 & 5) Numerous color morphs (variations) exist.

Now and then, clients ask about the garlic snail, also known as blue garlic snail or garlic glass snail, the technical name *Oxychilus alliarius*. (See Fig 6) This is a small exotic snail, the characteristically dark blue-grey body protected by a rather flat, pale, translucent shell a mere half inch across that they drag sideways along the ground. No need for concern here; they feed on algae and plant litter.

A few resources:

1. OSU Extension Garden Hint
http://extension.oregonstate.edu/news/story.php?S_No=806&storyType=garden
2. Snails and Slugs at
<http://oregonstate.edu/dept/nurspest/mollusks.htm>
3. Brown Garden Snail
http://oregonstate.edu/dept/nurspest/brown_garden_snail.htm
4. Snails and Slugs at
<http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/PESTNOTES/pn7427.html>
5. *Monadenia fidelis* Pacific sideband; includes images of several color morphs
http://academic.evergreen.edu/projects/ants/TEC/CBiota/mollusc/key/mon_fid/mon_fid.htm



SOME NEW additions to the MG Files:

- *How to Build Your Own Raised-bed Cloche*, OSU
- *Tuxedo Bug-A New Home-Invading Insect...* U of Idaho
- *Caterpillars of Pacific Northwest Forests and Woodlands-Caterpillar Morphology*
- *Azalea Lace Bug*, OSU
- *Rhododendron Lace-Bug*, WSU
- *Beneficial Insects*, WSU
- *PEST Alert-Green Alder Sawfly*, USDA
- *A New Pest Attacking Healthy Ripening Fruit in Oregon (Spotted Wing Drosophila)...*
- *Mycorrhizae-So, What the Heck Are They Anyway?*
Dr. Linda Chalker-Scott, WSU
- *Understanding and Using Slow-release Fertilizers*, WSU

PLUS....Updated version- *Identification and Habits of Key Ant Pests of Washington (Workers and Winged Reproductives)*-with easier to use key, better diagrams, color photographs, WSU

How To Ripen Green Tomatoes Off the Vine

CORVALLIS, Ore. – As autumn progresses, many green tomatoes will be left on the tomato plant vines, but don't despair. You can ripen "mature green" tomatoes by picking them and storing them off the vine.

To test whether green tomatoes are mature enough to ripen off the vine, cut one in half with a knife. If the interior is yellowish and the tissues are jelly-like or sticky, it will probably ripen, says Ross Penhallegon, Oregon State University Extension horticulturist. Mature green tomatoes may also have a pink or reddish tinge on the blossom end.

Tomatoes that are not yet to this mature green stage won't ripen off the vine. Immature green tomatoes have soft seeds that are easily cut through. The pulp is not yet jelly-like. Unripe tomatoes can be used for canning or fresh cooking.

Place mature green tomatoes in thick straw or in shallow box in a room, shed or garage, where the temperature ranges from 55 to 70 degrees. They will ripen over a period of three to four weeks. Place newspaper between rows of tomatoes, or wrap them individually to prevent decay from spreading from fruit to fruit if you are storing in boxes. Sunlight is not needed to ripen tomatoes; they ripen best in the dark.

Tomatoes may suffer from chilling injury at temperatures below 50 degrees if held there for longer than two weeks, or at 41 degrees for longer than 6-8 days. Chilling injury may prevent your green, mature tomatoes from ripening and keep them from developing their full color and flavor. It may also cause them to spoil more rapidly. Remember to store only tomatoes that have not been exposed to frost. Cold damage, including frost and cooler temperatures, is cumulative and may have happened prior to harvest, out in the garden.

Check your stored tomatoes every few days for signs of decay. Dispose of damaged fruit immediately, as rot spread rapidly in storage.

By: [Carol Savonen](#)

Source: [Ross Penhallegon](#)

Autumn is the time to plant next year's garlic

ST. HELENS, Ore. – October is the best month to plant garlic in your garden in most places in Oregon. There are several types of garlic to choose from – non-flowering, top-setting and elephant garlic are among those available from nurseries or stores. Most commercially grown garlic varieties are the non-flowering types, including Silver, California Early, California Late and Creole.

Many home gardeners like to grow top-setting garlic, sometimes also called "hard stem," Italian Silver Skin or Rocambole garlic, which often has darker or purple-tinged skin. It is called top-setting garlic because in the summer after it is planted, it produces bulblets, tiny garlic bulbs, at the end of a tall flowering stalk, in addition to a fat underground bulb of cloves. Some enthusiasts say top-setting or hard stem garlic has a richer, more pungent flavor than non-flowering types. The flower buds of top-setting garlic can be harvested in the spring and sautéed or steamed as a delicious side dish.

Elephant garlic, actually a type of leek, produces large, mild-tasting cloves, usually fewer per bulb than the true garlics. All types of garlic thrive in full sun in well-drained organic soil, and sandy, silty loam is best, says Chip Bubl, garlic expert and agricultural agent at the Columbia County office of the Oregon State University Extension Service in St. Helens. On heavier soil, make raised beds that are two to three feet wide and at least 10 to 12 inches deep. The plants have well-developed root systems that may grow more than three feet deep in well-drained soil. Lime the soil prior to final bed shaping if you haven't done so recently. Before planting garlic cloves, work in a couple tablespoons of 5-10-10 complete fertilizer, bone meal, or fish meal into the soil several inches below where the base of the garlic will rest. Select healthy large cloves, free of disease.

"The larger the clove you plant, the bigger the bulb you will get the following summer," said Bubl.

Plant cloves root side down, two inches deep and two to four inches apart in rows spaced 10 to 14 inches apart. Space elephant garlic cloves about six inches apart. Garlic can be lightly mulched to improve soil structure and reduce weeds. A single 10-foot row should yield about five pounds of the fragrant bulbs. Garlic is rarely damaged by insects.

Fertilize garlic in the early spring by side dressing or broadcasting with blood meal or a synthetic source of nitrogen. Just before the bulbs begin to swell in response to lengthening daylight (usually early-May), fertilize lightly one more time. Keep garlic well weeded, as it cannot stand much competition. As the spring weather dries out, water garlic to a depth of two feet every eight to 10 days. As mid-June approaches, taper off on the watering.

Don't wait for the leaves to start to die back to check for maturity, said Bubl. Sometimes garlic bulbs will be ready to harvest when the leaves are still green. The best way to know if garlic is ready to pull from the ground is to pull one up and cut it open cross-wise. Start checking for mature cloves about late June, he suggested. Harvest garlic when the head is divided into plump cloves and the skin covering the outside of the bulbs is thick, dry and papery. "If left in the ground too long, the bulbs sometimes split apart and become difficult to harvest as intact heads," said Bubl. "The skin may also split, exposing the cloves. Then it doesn't store too well."

Dig, then dry the mature bulbs in a shady, warm, dry and well-ventilated area for a few days. Then remove the tops and roots. Brush dirt off the bulbs. To braid garlic together, harvest it a bit earlier while leaves are green and supple. Avoid bruising the garlic, as it will not store well.

Store bulbs in a dark, dry, well-ventilated place. Protect from high humidity and freezing. According to Bubl, the refrigerator is not the place to store garlic - the cold temperature stimulates sprouting.

Properly stored garlic should last until the next crop is harvested, the following summer. Cloves also can be peeled and frozen or made into pesto with basil and olive oil and frozen. With care and a pinch of luck, you may never have to buy garlic again.

The OSU Extension Service offers a fact sheet about "Garlic for the Home Garden," (FS 138), available on the web at: <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/catalog/html/fs/fs138/> Or, to order a printed copy, call 1-800-561-6719.

By: [Carol Savonen](#)
Source: [Chip Bubl](#)



Schools in session, Fall is here and I am already thinking of the Starlight Parade! Since MGs wear fun garden-themed costumes in the parade, after Halloween is a great time to get discounts on costumes, lights and other material. If you are hoping to keep the costume sustainable...Fall is a great time to start collecting natural material (think leaves, twigs and seed pods, etc).

I am looking forward to those who marched in 2010 to join me again in 2011 with the new trainees. It is really so much FUN!

Have a great harvest – see you next year!

Kele Kaai-Roberts, coordinator for the Rose Festival’s Starlight Parade MG entry

Annual Bee Wash

Co-sponsored Clackamas Chapter & NWREC Curation

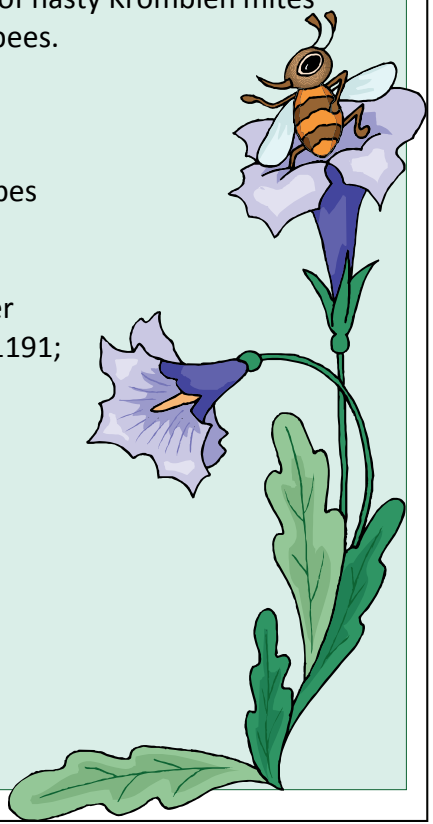
When: Friday, October 15th 9-12

Where: North Willamette Research & Extension Center

Why: To cleanse bee cocoons of nasty Krombien mites which deform and kill mason bees.

- Things you should bring:
 (Plastic is fine) or sieve
 Bees in their house/tubes
 Dishwashing tub

Free, but you must pre-register
 Contact Jane Collier 503-266-1191;
carushill@web-ster.com



LAST CHANCE DURING 2010!

Internet Essentials for Master Gardeners

(Computer training presented by the Metro Master Gardener Program)

Learn how to use credible research-based information from key websites .

Date	Site	9 to noon	1 to 4 PM
October 2	PCC, SE Center ***	Intermediate	The Next Step
October 27	Clackamas Community College*	Intermediate	The Next Step

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

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

Everyone has a computer! (We use PCs, just as in the MG offices)

- **Intermediate:** OSU Garden Encyclopedia links; demo of MG Referral Forum
- **The Next Step:** More websites & search techniques; demo of MG Referral Forum

All sessions are still open!

Each 3-hour session is a complete class

We welcome do-overs to refresh personal data banks!

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

Please provide the following:

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

You'll receive a confirmation, also a reminder about a week prior to the requested session(s)



\$2 requested for handouts; larger donations welcomed

HORTICULTURAL CALENDAR IN THE METRO AREA

- Oct 1** **Volunteer hours are due!**
- Oct 2** Soil pH testing—Milwaukie Center 10 AM— Noon
- Oct 2** Internet Essentials for Master Gardeners, PCC, SE Center; see page 11 for details
- Oct 5** Washington County Chapter—Editing the Winter Garden—Nadine Black, Joy Creek Nursery
- Oct 9-10** Home Orchard Society Fall All About Fruit Show—Washington County Fairplex—see website for details
- Oct 11** Clackamas County Chapter—Rain Gardens in the Home Landscape-Why and How—Nikki Cerra, Conservation Specialist, Clackamas County Soil and Water Conservation
- Oct 12** Multnomah County Chapter—Designing Great Small Conifers Into Your Garden—David Leckey, Oregon Small Trees Nursery & Anne Marsh, Marsh and Fear Garden Solutions
- Oct 15** Bee Wash 9-12 NWREC See page 10 for details
- Oct 27** Internet Essentials for Master Gardeners, Clackamas Community College; see page 11 for details
- Nov 2** Washington County Chapter—How To Build Raised Bed Structures, Bill Wilder, Horticulturist, Portland Nursery
- Nov 8** Clackamas County Chapter—Japanese Garden, Sadafumi Uchiyama, Garden Curator, Portland Japanese Garden
- Nov 9** Multnomah County Chapter—Getting a Grip on Clematis, Linda Buelter, Curator, Rogerson Clematis Collection
- Nov 13** Recertification Class—Clackamas Community College
- Dec 13** Clackamas County Chapter—Plants, Pots, Garden Art: Getting It All Together—Mike Darcy, Host of “In the Garden” on KXL radio.
- Jul 13-15, 2011** Mini College in Newport



MULTNOMAH CHAPTER GRAPEVINE

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

12 Oct. 2010 Chapter Meeting

**Mt. Tabor Presbyterian Church
5441 SE Belmont**

6:50 Announcements

7:00 Designing Great Small Conifers into Your Garden

Speakers: David Leckey, Oregon Small Trees Nursery & Anne Marsh, Marsh and Fear Garden Solutions

Exciting new conifer cultivars provide designers and garden enthusiasts with a whole new palette of textures, shapes, and colors for creating year-around garden interest. As a professional garden designer and current President of the Association of Northwest Landscape Designers, Anne Marsh will show slides of some of these new and unusual conifers being used in Portland gardens, discussing issues such as placement and objective. At the same time, Dave Leckey, a grower of mature small conifers, will discuss and have examples of these same conifers on display. Between Anne and

Dave, the audience will be able to see the plants, learn their characteristics and growing needs, and get ideas on how to successfully place them in garden situations.

Anne Marsh has over 35 years of experience in plant selection and garden design and is the President of the Association of Northwest Landscape Designers (ANLD). Anne's company, Marsh & Fear Garden Solutions was created by Anne and her partner, Gary Fear, about 7 years ago after transforming their own garden in SW Portland. They welcome the public to visit their garden. Open garden dates are available at www.marshfear.com

David Leckey has put his lifelong passion for energy conservation and earth-friendly practices into use in his home and his business, Oregon Small Trees Nursery. The nursery, located west of Wilsonville, specializes in mature, slow-growing, low-maintenance, container-grown conifers and Japanese maples. David has also either written for or been featured numerous times in publications including *Fine Gardening* magazine, *The Oregonian*, and *Digger* magazine.

*** Coming up...November 9, Chapter Meeting, Getting a Grip on Clematis Speaker: Linda Beutler, Curator, Rogerson Clematis Collection

Gardeners are met each spring by a confounding selection of clematis accompanied by a baffling array of pruning "rules". Join Linda Beutler for an evening of illustrated clarification and demystification.

***Next Board Meeting – Tuesday 5th October 2010 - 6:30 pm at Jean Edmison's – 7606 S.E. Ellis

*****Garden Delights Note-cards Available for Purchase** - A stunning array of garden delights have been captured in photographs by Metro Master Gardeners and are featured in 4 different sets of note-cards. Each set contains 4 beautiful garden images (2 cards of each image). Available now! 8 cards for \$10. Images at: <http://metromastergardeners.org/multnomah/> To purchase contact Marilyn Kongsli, (503) 289-8889, or come to the chapter meetings.

*****Entertainment Books for sale now.** They are the same price as last year \$25 & \$5 goes to the MG Chapter. Use your book to try out a new restaurant for half price or many local attractions, events and movies. Use the book a few times and it pays for itself. Talk to your **friends and family** to buy through the chapter. The books may be used the moment you buy them. Evelyn & Bob Clink, 503.777.6771

*** **Our Community Demonstration Garden** has a bounty of vegetables ripening and in need of harvest. Come on over and give a helping hand as we tend the garden, harvest, and donate the bounty to area food banks. It is a lovely time to spend in the garden. Demo garden work days are Mon., Thur., and Sat., 9am to 12noon. 6801 SE 60th. No appointment needed. If you have any questions, contact Jean Edmison (503) 771-2486 housejem@aol.com .

*****Phones in Multnomah County!** –The office is in Montgomery Park @ NW 27th and Vaughn. Gloria Bennett (503) 775-4005 dcleopatra@comcast.net is managing the calendar. The phone hours are 10am-2pm Monday to Friday. 2 or 4 hour shifts.

2010 Officers

President - Sharon Baker - 503-284-5189 gazebo@teleport.com
Vice-President – Heidi Nichols heidinichols@comcast.net
Secretary -JoAnn Bones -503-253-3168 bones7247@comcast.net
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Washington County Chapter Chat

Oregon Master Gardener™ Association in cooperation with

OSU Extension Service Master Gardener™ Program

Chapter Website: www.wcmga.info

UPCOMING PROGRAMS –

MEETING LOCATION & DATE CHANGES!!!

Tuesday, October 5, 2010

“Editing the Winter Garden” Nadine Black, Joy Creek Nursery

Tuesday, November 2, 2010

“How to Build Raised Bed Structures” Bill Wilder, Horticulturist, Portland Nursery

Monthly Chapter Meeting is at 6:45 p.m.

Presentations are from 7:15 - 8:15 p.m.

NEW LOCATION: First Baptist Church 5755 SW Erickson Ave., Beaverton, OR 97005. The site is where the winter Training Classes are held; Erickson Ave. is in Beaverton between Farmington Rd. & Allen Blvd. The public is welcome.

SOCIAL GATHERING at 6:30 p.m. – come early!

NOMINATING COMMITTEE NEEDS YOUR HELP

Elections for the WCMGA Board are coming up in November. Two upcoming vacancies on the Board that do NOT have anyone running for the position are Fundraising Director and Chapter Relations Director. This is a great opportunity to get more involved in WCMGA. You will have mentors to help you. Please contact Bob Falconer (FALCONER2672@comcast.net) or Barb Knopp (barbknopp@comcast.net)

MINI COLLEGE 2011

Mark your calendars! The 2011 Mini College will be in Newport, Oregon on July 13th, 14th, and 15th. This is a change in the location and the dates, as it is earlier in July than previous years. The meeting will be held at the Newport Middle School and the host hotel will be the Best Western of Agate Beach. Organizers are wondering if there is interest in arranging for a group camping site at a nearby Oregon State Park. A reservation for the group site needs to be made in October, so if you think you are interested, let us know at the next Chapter Meeting.

DIG UP & DONATE

Now is a good time to divide your hardy perennials for the Spring Plant Sale. Look at your gardens and think about donations suitable for gallon size pots. Spring and summer bloomers are the best sellers. We also need gallon-size pots (6”).

This is the major fundraiser of the year for the WCMG Chapter. **IT IS UP TO YOU!!** Your donations are what will make it successful and provide the funds for some of the Chapter’s projects and activities. Jane Miller will be at the October, November, and December Chapter Meetings to collect your donations. Questions, call Jane at 503-590-3598.

MG VOLUNTEER HOURS

Volunteer hours for 2010 are due **October 1st**, so now is the time to record and clean up those log sheets. Mail to Jordis at 200 Warner-Milne Rd., Oregon City, OR 97045.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

Certificates were given for our Washington Co. Chapter awards to **Lynn Cox** for **MG of the Year** and **Bill Klug** for **MG of the Year Behind the Scenes** and to our **Nominees** for Oregon State awards **Tam Martin** for **OMGA MG** and **Jean Natter** for **MG Behind the Scenes**. Congratulations! A big **Thank you** to the Awards Committee for their time and effort: **Anna Stubbs** - chair, **Barbara Knopp** and **Carol Ross**.

Thank you to those who donated to the Bill Bradley Memorial Fund.

President	Lynn Cox	503-629-9156
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Dir.#5 Chapter Relations	Barbara Knopp	503-641-0429
Editor:	Gerri Larkin	503-671-9307

Submit **Chapter Chat** information and general chapter announcements to **Geri Larkin**, Chapter Chat Editor.

Phone **503-671-9307** or e-mail: geralyn.dan@gmail.com

For address/email changes, contact Alan Strong, e-mail coordinator, info@wcmga.info

Chapter Website: www.wcmga.info



OCTOBER

Clackamas County Chatter

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



2010

October Chapter Meeting

Monday, October 11, Milwaukie Center,
5440 SE Kellogg Creek Dr.

6:00 p.m. Plant and Seed Swap

Bring plants and seeds, labeled with names and cultural requirements. No weeds or invasives! Bring your own bags or containers to take home new plants.

7:00 p.m. Rain Gardens in the Home Landscape – Why and How by Nikki Cerra, Clackamas County Soil & Water Conservation

Nikki will provide us the “know how” plus tips to build our own rain gardens, including pervious pavers and wildlife corridors. Nikki is well-trained in guiding home gardeners through the steps necessary to produce an esthetically-pleasing, sustainable garden that benefits the gardener, his/her neighbors and the surrounding urban ecosystem.

Nikki is a conservation specialist with Clackamas County. She has both Masters of Landscape Architecture and B.S. in Environmental Geography degrees.

Kudos

Green Glove Award: Sharon Andrews, Chapter photographer

Sharon joined the Master Gardener program in 2009 and quickly jumped into Chapter service. She volunteered her photography expertise to document Chapter events and meetings through photographs. Through interest in using technology, she developed a Facebook page to publicize the 26th Annual Spring Garden Fair. This summer, she expanded her service to the OMGA by serving as the official photographer at its Mini-College.

November Program

Portland Japanese Garden: Past, Present, and Future by Sada Uchiyama

Garden Curator Nobuo Matsunaga, the Japanese Ambassador to the United States, proclaimed the Portland Japanese Garden “the most beautiful and authentic Japanese garden in the world outside Japan.” Find out what distinguishes it from other gardens.

Featured Committee

End of the Oregon Trail Pioneer Garden; Nikki Mantei, Chair

This is a fun place to work! In addition to hands-on gardening, you may meet visitors from all over the world!

The Garden was started in 1992 and 1993 by Erica Calkins and James Dalton. It was planted with heirloom roses and vegetables. After initial development, funds fell short. The vegetable gardens were plowed up, and roses lost their identification tags.

In 2004, Clackamas County Master Gardeners were asked to assist. A dedicated group of MG volunteers – led by Jean Erickson – reestablished the vegetable garden, planted several heirloom fruit trees and grapes, and rejuvenated the rose garden.

Today, the Garden showcases many varieties of fruits, vegetables and flowers of the 1860’s when pioneers made their way west. Master Gardeners harvest and package seeds to sell at the Visitor Center. Proceeds augment Chapter funding for tools and seeds to maintain this Garden.

Tidbits from Chapter Planning

President’s Note: This summer, I enlisted help from dozens of members in finding solutions to several challenges we face. From the “Communications” work group came the following ideas. I invite your comments and participation.

Our brand: We think of ourselves as “trained volunteers and a trusted source of sustainable gardening information.” In working with clients, we want to be “approachable and accessible.” We have credibility because we are backed by “a support structure of OSU expertise & research-based information.”

Publicity: We need to emphasize the points listed above when publicizing Chapter educational offerings and the Spring Garden Fair. A broader message about the Fair may include the following points: showcases local nurseries & artists; partners with school and community groups; boosts the Canby Fairgrounds and the local economy; funds horticultural scholarships and the Master Gardener program; etc.

For written reports on these planning meetings, go to www.metromaster-gardeners.org/Clackamas/members

Bee Wash

(Date Correction)

Friday, October 15th, 9 a.m. - noon

North Willamette Research & Extension Center
Learn how to rid bees of mites, wash their houses and get them ready for use next season. Pre-registration required; space limited to 30. Contact Jane Collier, 503-266-1191

President • Sherry Sheng: 503-655-1822 — Vice President • Larry Huckaba: 503-631-8866

Secretary • Holly Pederson: 503-701-5816 Advisory Board • Buzz Oerding: 503-233-6974 OMGA Rep • Nikki Mantei: 503-577-4494

Treasurer • Mary Butler: 503-632-1532 Advisory Board • John Hill: 503-653-9524 OMGA Alt. Rep • Linda O’Toole: 503-659-5309

Asst. Treasurer • Trudy O’Dornell: 503-636-1697 Advisory Board • Gene Mc Coy: 503-631-8059 Newsletter • Kathy Johnson: 503-794-3959

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

October Gardening Calendar

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

✦ If needed, improve soil drainage needs of lawns before rain begins.

Register to become an OSU Master Gardener volunteer with [your local Extension office](#). For more information, check [online](#).

Maintenance and Clean Up

✦ Drain or blow out your irrigation system, insulate valve mechanisms, in preparation of winter.

✦ Recycle disease-free plant material and kitchen vegetable and fruit scraps into compost. Don't compost diseased plants unless you are using the "hot compost" method (120° to 150°F).

✦ Use newspaper or cardboard covered by mulch to discourage winter and spring annual weeds or remove a lawn area for conversion to garden beds. For conversion, work in the paper and mulch as organic matter once the lawn grass has died.

✦ Clean and paint greenhouses and cold frames for plant storage and winter growth.

✦ Harvest sunflower heads; use seed for birdseed or roast for personal use.

✦ Dig and store potatoes; keep in darkness, moderate humidity, temperature about 40°F. Discard unused potatoes if they sprout. Don't use as seed potatoes for next year.

✦ Harvest and immediately dry filberts and walnuts; dry at 95° to 100°F.

✦ Ripen green tomatoes indoors. Check often and discard rotting fruit.

✦ Harvest and store apples; keep at about 40°F, moderate humidity.

✦ Place mulch over roots of roses, azaleas, rhododendrons and berries for winter protection.

✦ Trim or stake bushy herbaceous perennials to prevent wind damage.

✦ To suppress future pest problems, clean up annual flower beds by removing diseased plant materials, overwintering areas for insect pests; mulch with manure or garden compost to feed the soil and suppress weeds.

✦ Cover asparagus and rhubarb beds with a mulch of manure or compost.

✦ Clean, sharpen and oil tools and equipment before storing for winter.

✦ Store garden supplies and fertilizers in a safe, dry place out of reach of children.

Prune out dead fruiting canes in raspberries.

Western Oregon: Train and prune primocanes of raspberry

✦ **Western Oregon:** Harvest squash and pumpkins; keep in dry area at 55° to 60°F.

✦ **Western Oregon:** If necessary (as indicated by soil test results) and if weather permits, spade organic material and lime into garden soil.

Central/eastern Oregon: Prune evergreens.

Planting/Propagation

- ✦ Dig and divide rhubarb. (Should be done about every 4 years.)
 - ✦ Plant garlic for harvesting next summer.
 - ✦ Propagate chrysanthemums, fuchsias, geraniums by stem cuttings.
 - ✦ Save seeds from the vegetable and flower garden. Dry, date, label, and store in a cool and dry location.
 - ✦ Plant ground covers and shrubs.
 - ✦ Dig and store geraniums, tuberous begonias, dahlias, gladiolas.
- Pot and store tulips and daffodils to force into early bloom, indoors, in December and January.

Pest Monitoring and Management

- ✦ Monitor landscape plants for problems. Don't treat unless a problem is identified.
- ✦ Remove and dispose of windfall apples that might be harboring apple maggot or codling moth larvae.
- ✦ Rake and destroy diseased leaves (apple, cherry, rose, etc.), or hot compost diseased leaves. Spray apple and stone fruit trees at leaf fall to prevent various fungal and bacterial diseases. Obtain a copy of [*Managing Diseases and Insects in Home Orchards*](#) (EC 631) from your local Extension office.
- ✦ If moles and gophers are a problem, consider traps.

Western Oregon: Control fall-germinating lawn weeds while they are small. Hand weeding and weeding tools are particularly effective at this stage.

Houseplants and Indoor Gardening

- ✦ Early October: Reduce water, place in cool area (50-55⁰F) and increase time in shade or darkness (12-14 hours) to force Christmas cactus to bloom in late December.
- ✦ Place hanging pots of fuchsias where they won't freeze. Don't cut back until spring.

Western Oregon: Check/treat houseplants for disease and insects before bringing indoors.