

Metro Master Gardener™ News

September 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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BILL BRADLEY **Goodbye good friend**



Clackamas County Master Gardener of the Year 2010

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Metro Master Gardener Program Update- Weston Miller

As you might already know, there have been some recent changes in office staff and procedures at the Washington County Extension Office.

Recently, I had a chance to sit down with staff chair Patrick Proden, new office manager Sandra Collinger, and some key MGs regarding the transition so that we can make the best of the new situation.



Here are some things that you should know about this transition:

- MGs are both guests and part-in-parcel to the Extension office and it is ***your responsibility*** to always act in a professional and cordial manner.
- Any comments/questions regarding staffing changes should be directed to staff chair Patrick Proden, who is more than happy to discuss the situation with you.
- There will be a distributed model of support among office staff to help Master Gardeners. In other words, all of the office staff should be able to help you with your office needs. Simply step forward at the front counter and politely ask for what you need. The office support staff is happy to help!
- The office soon will be switching to an automated phone system that will direct people to the MG clinic and provide a voice mail box for clinic-related questions when MGs are not on duty.
- Some new procedures have been developed to explain specific details. These procedures are already posted in the phone clinic and will be updated as needed.
- The older computer in the MG office causes considerable problems for both MGs and staff. It will soon be removed and replaced with more counter space for the microscope and other materials.
- We (the MG program) are highly valued by Extension in Washington County and the office staff. The staff wants to help make your job serving the public easier. Ask for help and be kind in the process.

Reminder: Master Gardener Jay Ewing and a team of folks have established a new internet platform to help us reach out to the general public and to existing Master Gardeners. Check it out: <http://www.metromastergardeners.org/>

Also, here are some upcoming educational opportunities:

- **Save the Date: November 13, 2010 for Fall MG Recertification.** This event will be all day at Clackamas Community College. Details about programming coming next month.
- **Metro Natural Gardening Seminars (on-going)**
Ongoing presentations for the general public co-sponsored by OSU Extension Service
<http://www.oregonmetro.gov/index.cfm/go/by.web/id=576>
- **Rain Garden Volunteer Training**
Saturday September 11 in SE Portland sponsored by East Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation District
<http://www.emswcd.org/workshops-events?func=details&did=144>
- **Organic Gardening Certificate Program**
Sponsored by OSU Extension Service and Oregon Tilth
Saturdays September 11 - November 13, 2010
Learn the knowledge and skills of organic gardening, urban agriculture, and ecological landscaping in this comprehensive training.
Special link for reduced tuition (\$350 instead of \$550) for MGs <https://secure.oregonstate.edu/osuext/register/104>

- **The Department of Horticulture at Oregon State University presents....**

Permaculture Design Certification Course

With Andrew Millison and Marisha Auerbach in Portland, OR

Every Saturday: October 2 - December 17, 2010

Attend all 11 Saturdays for a Permaculture Design Certificate,
OR take the 4-day introduction: 10/2, 10/9, 10/16 & 10/23.

***** Offered through the Horticulture Department of Oregon State University, this course presents the Permaculture Design system from a research-based horticultural perspective for folks who are experienced gardeners and plant-lovers. The full course contains all the necessary curriculum to receive an internationally recognized Certificate of Permaculture Design.***

This Saturday course caters to diverse learning styles by blending hands-on skills with discussion, design projects, group exercises, games, and presentations from prominent local experts and practitioners.

You can participate in the entire course to earn a Certificate of Permaculture Design. Alternatively, you may attend the first 4 sessions as an introduction and drop in on any other class or presentation. If you do not attend every session, you can earn the certification by attending the classes that you missed during next year's course.

Permaculture for Master Gardeners highlights horticultural solutions to the issues of our time, from soil improvement, to maximizing landscape productivity, to designing for healthy water management.

Permaculture design is a method of planning that works at all scales from garden to farm and village to city. It is an ethically based holistic design system that uses principles derived from ecosystems, native peoples, and proven strategies to create sustainable settlements and organizations.

Rooted in agriculture and horticulture, permaculture design is interdisciplinary, touching on many subjects including regional planning, ecology, animal husbandry, appropriate technology, architecture, and international development.

Pricing: Please register by Sept.1

\$850: all 11 Saturdays and Permaculture Certification.

\$350: first 4 Saturdays, Introduction to Permaculture?

\$85: each additional class after taking the introduction

Registration information:

http://hort.oregonstate.edu/Permaculture_for_MGs

For more information, contact:

mgpermaculture@gmail.com

Andrew Millison (541)752-9118 www.beaverstatepermaculture.com

Marisha Auerbach (360) 273-7117 www.herbnwisdom.com

OPPORTUNITIES FROM JORDIS
503-650-3118 or Jordis.Yost@oregonstate.edu

HOURS DUE

Volunteer hours are due October 1, so now is the time to record and clean up those loose ends. I have included a log sheet for reporting but also have an Excel version that I can email to you. You have the choice of recording volunteer hours that are scheduled for after Oct. 1 as predicted hours on this year's form, or save your calendars and report them in 2010.



Remember - Your 'active' status in the MG Program is based on your participation in program activities and recorded/submitted in the form of a volunteer log sheet each year. If we don't receive one, you may be dropped from the active MG list. We should remind you that a paid membership in a Chapter doesn't take the place of submitting volunteer hours. We try to make things easy, but still generate accurate numbers for OSU. You've done the hard work; now let's brag a bit about what we have accomplished.



FALL HOME AND GARDEN SHOW September 30 – October 3 at the Expo Center.

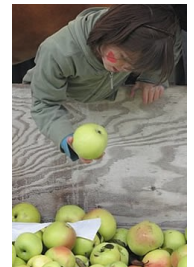
This is one of the most popular garden shows and MG volunteer opportunities. It comes at a great time to capture some of those last remaining volunteer hours for the season. It is a clinic, so hours are educational outreach.

If there is an MG that would like to coordinate this show and receive volunteer hours, please let me know. We wish to express appreciation to Cynthia Marshall who has coordinated this for many years and needs to turn it over to another MG. Thanks, Cynthia!

For now, Jordis will do the scheduling so let me know if you are interested in working a shift (or coordinating). Email and phone information for Jordis is at the top of this page.

PORTLAND APPLE TASTING FESTIVAL (on 50th and SE Stark).

This event goes for two weekends... October 9-10 and October 16-17. Contact Sandra Sue Wallace at 503-968-6202 or saundrasuewallace@gmail.com to schedule. This is a clinic and is held at one of Portland's liveliest nurseries. Good food, good music, great plants! <http://www.portlandnursery.com/events/appletasting.shtml>



RECERTIFICATION

The planned date for the fall recertification training is **November 13** and will be held at Clackamas Community College. Get this date on your calendar and plan to join us for a great day of learning and re-connecting.

This will be the *first* in a series of two recertification Saturdays. We will publish the day's agenda when the date gets closer. The second recertification Saturday is in the spring (no date yet).

Reminder...To recertify, you can attend **both** Saturday recertification classes (12 hrs) **or** attend 4 of the starred classes in the 2011 training series (12 hrs) **or** a take home test.

You can also take a class on one of the Saturdays (6 hrs) and two starred classes (3 hrs ea.). The idea is to have class time add up to 12 hrs.

2010 Master Gardener™ Volunteer Log Sheet Totals

This form is intended for Metro area Master Gardener Program Volunteers only

INTERM MG _____ 1st year of training _____ Would you like a yearly Certificate of Appreciation? YES _____ NO _____

Office Use Only

NAME _____ PHONE _____ COUNTY _____

	VOLUNTEER HOURS			Lbs. of produce donated to food bank	Mileage (for your personal taxes)
	Educational Outreach (clinics/teaching)	Support (Program/Chapter)	Demo Garden		
Subtotals from all Attached Log Sheets					
TOTAL OF ALL VOLUNTEER HOURS (Education Outreach, Support & Demo Garden Combined)					

Interns - 66 Total hours required (33- Educational Outreach, 24- Support, 9- Demo Garden) Veterans - 25 Total hours required (a minimum of 1/2 should be Educational Outreach)

Educational Outreach (clinics/teaching) - Includes activities pre-approved by the Metro MG program staff such as: Clinics (phones, farmer's markets, rose test-garden, and special events like apple tasting, garden shows, etc.); Teaching (10-minute university, speaker's bureau, special interest classes, educational exhibits, youth or senior garden activities, garden advisors for community groups or agencies, writing articles for MG newsletter, community events where an education program is delivered, etc.) *Education activities are those that involve a Master Gardener educating other MGs or the public. It also includes preparation time for these events.*

Support (Program/Chapter) - Includes other activities pre-approved by the Metro MG program staff that enhance or support the Master Gardener program. These include: MG Association or Chapter activities or business meetings (1 hour), office/board preparation, training class coordinators, attendance at MG Interest Group (1 hour), NWREC Curation Group, insect/weed collections, or MG fundraising or promotional events, special skills work (office support, website & computer support), etc. Also includes other pre-approved MG activities that support other organizations (e.g. Oregon Food Bank Demo Garden, Rhododendron Garden, Rose Garden & Pittock Mansion). *Support hours are those that directly support the program and follow our educational outreach mission.*

Demo Garden - Includes working at MG demonstration gardens: Extension managed sites (e.g. Hopkins, Learning Garden Lab, and Singer Hill) or Chapter managed sites (e.g. Multnomah Co. at Learning Garden Lab or Washington Co. at Extension Office and fairgrounds).

Services that Do Not Qualify as Educational Outreach or Support - service performed on behalf of another organization that has not been pre-approved by the metro MG program staff, attendance at training classes for your own continuing education, attendance at spring or fall recertification classes or *** MG training classes (see Veteran Recertification section below) or any service or activity where you receive pay.

Lbs. of produce donated to food bank - from your private garden or community garden. Make sure not to double report a group donation such as from a demo garden.
Mileage - Keep track of mileage for your own personal tax records. Check with IRS for deduction rates (hours traveled are not counted as MG volunteer hours).

VETERAN RECERTIFICATION: Certification as a Master Gardener is valid for one year. Recertification is required annually.

List total hours (12 required or take test)

Recertification Classes at MG Training: (Total hours) (6 hours each session) **or** November (6 hours) **or** Test (completed)
(3 hours for each* class)

Attach all log sheets and mail to: MG Volunteer Hours, 200 Warner-Milne Rd., Oregon City, OR 97045 or Fax to 503-655-8636 by OCTOBER 1st

2010 Master Gardener™ Volunteer Log Sheet

This form is intended for metro area Master Gardener Program Volunteers only

VOLUNTEER HOURS							
Date	Project or Activity Description and Location of Activity	Educational Outreach (clinics/teaching)	Support (Program/Chapter)	Demo Garden	Lbs. of produce donated to food bank	Mileage (for your personal taxes)	
Subtotals this page							

Add subtotals from all pages and transfer totals to front page. Thanks!

Attach to front log sheet and mail to: MG Volunteer Hours, 200 Warner-Milne Rd., Oregon City, OR 97045 or Fax to 503-655-8636 by OCTOBER 1st



Please join us as family and friends come together to celebrate the life of

Bill Bradley

Friday, September 10, 2010
11am

Shakespeare Garden in the
Washington Park International Rose Test Gardens
400 SW Kingston, Portland, OR 97201

Many people have asked about donations on behalf of Bill. In lieu of flowers, we suggest a donation toward a memorial bench in Bill's name for the Rose Garden where he volunteered every week for 10 years, led tours, and helped maintain the roses.

Please make checks out to:

Bill Bradley Memorial Bench Fund

send to:

US Bank
12550 NW Cornell Road
Portland, OR 97229

(or drop off at any US Bank location)

Natter's Notes

Herbicide Damage

Jean R. Natter

Now and then, herbicides damage gardens even if its caretakers unwaveringly declare they've never used such products and certainly don't intend to do so. Occasionally a gardener will become irate if you even hint at herbicides.

Several challenges arise while trying to verify herbicide damage. First, some symptoms mimic certain virus diseases. Second, an adequate history may be lacking.

But inadvertent herbicide damage happens. The causal agent may come from a distance, perhaps as vapors on a breeze. Or as someone you know, someone who believed s/he was doing you a favor!

Then, too, accidental overspray can cause havoc. The result is often brought to the MG offices as the aftermath of using RoundUp during the fall to remove weedy growth adjacent to desirable woody or semi-woody specimens. Next year, the new growth at each node is a clutch of stringy, elongated shoots. (See Fig.1) The active ingredient glyphosate traveled to non-target plants on a mild breeze or perhaps just the turbulence of a billowing spray.



Fig. 1: Rose with distorted spring growth following a fall application of glyphosate, the active ingredient in Roundup, KleenUp and more

Whenever glyphosate is used during the growing season, symptoms are quite different. Here, the youngest tissues of the non-target plant – those at the base of each leaf or leaflet – become yellow. (See Fig. 2)



Fig 2: Tomato, damaged by glyphosate applied during the growing season

Sometimes chemicals volatilize when temperatures rise. Two commonly used broad-leaf weedkillers that can react

in that way are 2,4-D (in some lawn weed formulations and also used effectively against undesirable woody growth) and dichlobenil, the active ingredient in both Casoron & Norosac.

Another, rather obscure cause of herbicide damage, is manures contaminated by agricultural use of certain persistent herbicides, products used against broad-leaf weeds on acreage of turf, grass hay, wheat, pastures and more, all foods for livestock. Damage can be extensive after the animals' composted manures are applied to gardens and landscapes.

The first time I heard about such an incident was during the early 2000s, when the active ingredient clopyralid was legally used by landscape maintenance companies against broad-leaf weeds in home lawns. The potential for toxicity persists in treated grass clippings for a year, even if composted. As a result, in July 2003 the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) restricted clopyralid use in some lawn and turf applications.

In a 2008 report, DEQ stated "Clopyralid may be in finished compost product at parts-per-billion (ppb) levels. Even small amounts of clopyralid can affect sensitive plants in the legume and nightshade families such as tomatoes, beans, eggplant, pea, parsley, petunias, pansies and sunflowers. The potential source of clopyralid can be lawn debris and manure." (See the full story in *DEQ Completes Three-Year Clopyralid Study*; www.deq.state.or.us/lq/pubs/factsheets/sw/ClopyralidStudy.pdf.)

This year, gardeners are faced with similar unintentional damage. My research revealed numerous reports from the UK, Canada, and across the US. This time the active ingredient is aminopyralid, a chemical closely related to clopyralid and with the same effects. You'll find a succinct review at *The Compost Gardener*, <http://www.the-compost-gardener.com/picloram.htm> along with a link to an informative WSU site www.puyallup.wsu.edu/soilmgmt/Clopyralid.htm.

Unfortunately, this contamination is taking its toll in the Portland region, as is revealed in Figures 3 through 6, the images taken August 1. Pay close attention to Fig 6 as, in my mind, the distorted raspberry clinches the diagnosis of aminopyralid damage. It's a perfect match to the image from Whatcom County, <http://whatcom.wsu.edu/ag/aminopyralid/>.



Fig 3: Tomato damaged by aminopyralid



Fig 4: Bean damaged by aminopyralid



Fig 5: Potato damaged by aminopyralid



Fig 6: Raspberry damaged by aminopyralid

QUIZ CORNER

QUESTION: Name the 3 items (top; left; and right but ignore the green things)

Image: Jamie Kilgore (Multnomah County; 2009)

BONUS QUESTION: How are the three items related?



SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

1. Responses accepted only from noon Sept. 5 through Sept. 15.

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

Please include your name, county & year of training.

THE PRIZE? The first five correct responders will be listed in the next newsletter!

ANSWER FOR JULY/AUGUST IMAGE :

The orange stuff on the back sides of the rose leaves was rust, a fungus disease.

THE WINNERS FOR JULY/AUGUST QUIZ!

Penny Bowman (Clackamas; 2010)
 Diane Cleven (Washington; 2006)
 Randi Soot (Washington; 2010)
 Cathi Shikatani (Washington; 2010 online trainee)
 Oh, oh; no 5th MG. (That could have been you!)

Gardeners can take precautions against damage from herbicide contamination of organic matter with a simple bioassay. The gist of it is this: Combine 1-2 parts manure, compost or soil with 1 part commercial potting soil in small pots then seed with 3 pea or beans seeds and grow out the plants. (To my knowledge, only one local gardener has done an assay to verify damage.) *The Compost Gardener*, mentioned above, summarizes the how-to and provides a link to the original document from WSU; www.puyallup.wsu.edu/soilmgmt/Pubs/CloBioassay.pdf.

Gardening is fraught with enough challenges just trying to cope with the vagaries of weather. If you have any doubts, do a bioassay.

Patriot's Day Gardens and Viewpoints Tour

Date: Saturday, September 11, 2010

Time: 11:00 am—3:00 pm



Visit five beautiful
gardens and viewpoints
in and around Sandy.

Tickets at:
Mt. Hood Hospice
503-668-5545

Oral Hull Foundation
for the Blind
503-668-6195

Proceeds to benefit

Oral Hull Foundation for the Blind

Mt. Hood Hospice's Pet Peace of Mind Program

Donation: \$10.00 per person

Concession available at Oral Hull Park

The Oregon Trails Iris Society is sponsoring an Iris rhizome sale. It's a great opportunity to get irises for only \$3.00 each!

Saturday, September 11, 2010

9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Iris Sale at Al's Garden Center
on 99E in Woodburn.

All rhizomes \$3 each



The Crystal Springs Rhododendron Garden is very much in need of volunteers. We work on Wednesday mornings from 9:00 am until noon. If volunteers need more hours, we certainly could use some hands. Bring a lunch, your favorite garden tools, a friend or two and come enjoy this beautiful park. A word

of caution though, the city has decided to really make this a true adventure as they are digging up 28th Street. Lots of detour signs. It resembles a maze. The volunteers (if they can get to the park through all the construction) meet in a Quonset hut located inside the park.

Let me know if you need any additional information about the park. Linda

Internet Essentials for Master Gardeners

Learn how to use, 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 3-hour sessions are still open!

We welcome do-overs to refresh personal data banks!

Pre-register with Jean Natter; jnatter@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

(Computer training sponsored by the Metro Master Gardener Program)

HORTICULTURAL CALENDAR IN THE METRO AREA

- Sept 2** Washington County Chapter—NW Cactus and Succulents—James Elfburg
- Sept 11** Farmington Gardens Tomato Festival 9 AM—3 PM
- Sept 11** Oregon Trails Iris Society rhizome sale; Al's Garden Center in Woodburn—9 AM—3 PM
- Sept 13** Clackamas County Chapter—Living with Chickens—Jordis Yost
- Sept 14** Multnomah County Chapter—Uncovering Compost Mysteries—Carl Grimm, Metro
- Sept 18-19** Hardy Plant Society Fall Plant Sale 10 AM—3 PM see HPSO Website for more information.
- Sept 18-19** Portland Rose Society Fall Rose Show-see website for details
- Sept 25** Multnomah Chapter Summer Saturdays at MG Demo Garden and Harvest Plant Sale
- Sept 25** Villa Garden Club Fall Plant Sale—10 AM—3 PM—Tabor Heights Methodist Church, 6161 S.E. Stark, Portland
- Sept 25** Multnomah County Chapter Plant Sale—see chapter page
- 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 7** 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 27** Internet Essentials for Master Gardeners, Clackamas Community College; see page 11 for details
- Nov 8** Clackamas County Chapter—Japanese Garden, Sadafumi Uchiyama, Garden Curator, Portland Japanese Garden
- 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.



MULTNOMAH CHAPTER GRAPEVINE

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

14 Sept. 2010 Chapter Meeting
Mt. Tabor Presbyterian Church 5441
SE Belmont

6:50 Announcements

After the lazy, hazy days of summer...

7pm Speaker: Carl Grimm, Metro.
'Uncovering Compost Mysteries',

Get the dirt on basic and worm composting. Gather great tips on bin selection and set-up, maintenance, troubleshooting, harvesting and use. Learn how to prevent rodents, how to speed composting, and low-maintenance composting alternatives.

Carl Grimm grew up in the gardens of NW Portland Oregon and later Berkeley, California where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in Conservation and Resource Studies. He served 15 years at the San Francisco League of Urban Gardeners where he developed and led the city and county's Home Composting Program. Carl served for over four years in Chicago at Garfield Park Conservatory Alliance as program director. There he developed and led the Chicago Home Composting Program and worked with myriad partners on planning and implementing aspects of Chicago's "green revolution." Carl now serves as an associate planner at Metro, where he manages natural gardening programs and other initiatives aimed at reducing the

***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. Available now! 8 cards for \$10. See images at: <http://metromastergardeners.org/multnomah/> To purchase contact Marilyn Kongsli, (503) 289-8889, or come to the chapter meetings.

*** **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, contact Jean Edmison (503)771-2486 housejem@aol.com or Sharon Baker

*****The Urban Gardening Fair** takes place at the Learning Garden Laboratory (site of our Demo Garden) on Saturday, September 18th, from 10am to 1pm. This event will be hosted by OSU Extension, Multnomah Chapter Master Gardeners, Portland Parks Community Gardens and PSU. Community members are invited for tours of the Learning Garden, the nearby Brentwood Community Gardens, fresh pressed cider and judging of home grown or community garden grown vegetables, fruit, flowers and herbs. All welcome. For entry guidelines contact Community Gardens at (503) 823-1612 or pkcomgard@portlandoregon.gov

***Following the Urban Gardening Fair, please join in the **Multnomah County Chapter Harvest Celebration** from 1pm to 3pm. We'll be serving up tasty savories made with freshly harvested veggies and herbs. Also, we will be churning up fresh made ice cream. Take time to relax and celebrate the season.

*****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

*****Multnomah Chapter Plant Sale, September 25, 9:00** am till 2:00. It will be held at our Community Demonstration Garden on SE 60th, between Duke and Flavel. More information will follow.

*** **Coming up ...October 12, Chapter Meeting, 7pm Designing Great Small Conifers into Your Garden Speakers: David Leckey, Oregon Small Trees Nursery & Anne Marsh, Marsh and Fear Garden Solutions**

*****Next Board Meeting – Tuesday 7 September 2010 -** 6:30 pm at Jean Edmison's – 7606 S.E. Ellis

*** Dear Trainees and Members,

Since summer finally arrived it seems a shame that fall is just around the corner. Maybe we could extend our gardening time by planting some cool crop edibles along with the usual fall dividing and transplanting activities.

Starting again in September I look forward to greeting you for chapter meetings the second Tuesday of the month at the 6:30 p.m. gathering time. In addition to attending highly educational meetings, you have an opportunity to meet fellow Master Gardeners, discuss garden information and have questions answered, as well as having your voice heard. We'd like to hear your opinions and suggestions as we discuss activities, short and long term projects, and more. I invite you to join a committee or the board. There are many reasons to join us! Connect with our garden community! I hope to see you! **Sharon Baker, President**
*****Thank-you to those of you who shared your gardens this summer.** We appreciate the example of gardens in difficult or unusual situations and those in progress. Thanks for the boldness.

2010 Officers

President - Sharon Baker - 503-284-5189 gazebo@teleport.com

Co Vice-Presidents –

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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 –

September 2, 2010 “NW Cactus and Succulents”
James Elfburg

October 7, 2010 “Editing the Winter Garden”
Nadine Black, Joy Creek Nursery

Monthly Chapter Meeting is at 6:45 p.m.
Presentations are from 7:15 - 8:15 p.m.
CAPITAL Center, 18640 NW Walker Rd (185th & Walker Rd)
Entrance D-1, Room 1411. The public is welcome.
SOCIAL GATHERING at 6:30 p.m. – come early!

ELECTION TIME COMING UP

It's time again to nominate members to serve on the WCMGA Board. The elections will be in November this year so we have started recruiting nominees. The following positions are open: President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Corresponding Secretary and Recording Secretary. These positions serve for one year. Several Director positions are also open, including Publicity, Fund Raising and Chapter Relations; these directors serve for a two year term. Please see the website for job descriptions. If you are interested or know of anyone, contact Bob Falconer (falconer2672@comcast.net) or Barbara Knopp (barbknopp@comcast.net).

NEWS FROM MINI COLLEGE

Announcements were made for our Washington County Chapter awards, including **Lynn Cox** for **Master Gardener of the Year** and **Bill Klug** for **Master Gardener of the Year Behind the Scenes**. Also, nominees for the Oregon State awards were announced, including nominees **Tam Martin** for **OMGA Master Gardener** and **Jean Natter** for **Master Gardener Behind the Scenes**. Congratulations! Washington Co. was awarded 2nd place for our Chapter Display. **Lynn Wagner & Anna Stubbs** created the display, drawing inspiration from the new backyard vignettes at the WC Demonstration Garden. It will be set up at our September Meeting. The 20 items provided by Washington Co. members for the Mini College Silent Auction sold for a total of \$529. Thanks to all who contributed.

NEWS FROM THE BOARD

Good information came out of the membership survey. As a result, some new committees have been formed:
Tim Lanfri (503-590-4354 tim.landri@gmail.com) is chairing the Chapter Meeting Site Committee which is researching new locations for our chapter meetings. Please contact him if you have any ideas of where we might meet.
Carol Ross (503-245-6842 carolross3@comcast.net) is chairing the Field Trip Committee which will be organizing field trips and other outings for us. If you would like to join this group please contact Carol.
A Scholarship Committee has been formed to research the possibility of establishing and administering a scholarship for students majoring in horticulture or other related fields.
We are also working on having a website that is independent of OSU Extension and would give us greater flexibility in appearance and usage. Not a bad start! But for things to happen we will need volunteers, so stay tuned for opportunities coming your way this fall!

TOMATO TASTING

Please join us at the Demo Garden and have fun tasting many home grown tomato varieties and vote for your favorites - **Tuesday, September 28th** 11:00 am to 12:30 pm. The Demonstration Garden is at the Washington County Fair Complex- Clover Leaf Entrance. Directions: www.wcmga.info

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Submit **Chapter Chat** Information and general chapter announcements to **Geri Larkin**, Chapter Chat Editor.
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For address/email changes, contact Alan Strong, e-mail coordinator, info@wcmga.info

Chapter Website: www.wcmga.info



SEPTEMBER

Clackamas County Chatter

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



2010

September Chapter Meeting
Monday, September 13, Milwaukie Center, 5440 SE Kellogg Creek Drive (Come early at 6:30 p.m. to learn about composting with Laura Eyer on a tour of the new composter at the Milwaukie Center).

7:00 p.m. Living with Chickens by Jordis Yost, OSU Master Gardener Program Assistant

Your own backyard can be a source of the best eggs you've ever tasted. Chickens are endearing birds that require just a small amount of time, space and food. Learn the how's and why's of keeping chickens in your backyard, garden or farm. If you've ever considered having a few birds of your own, this "chicken chat" will answer the most asked questions, cover "how-to's" from start to finish, and provide some food-for-thought. When Jordis and her husband, Michael, bought ten acres in the Columbia River Gorge in 1990, one of the first things they did was take the OSU Master Gardener class...and get a few chickens. As the gardens grew and fruit trees were planted, the new poultry companions earned their place in the scheme of things. Now, with 20 years of learning to live with the "girls," Jordis enjoys sharing some practical tips and backyard flock adventures.

Soil pH Testing and 10-Minute University™

Saturday, October 2, 10 a.m. – noon, Milwaukie Center

- 10:00 Planting and Transplanting Tips
- 10:30 Raised Bed Gardening
- 11:00 Pruning Trees and Shrubs
- 11:30 Planning Your Vegetable Garden

October Program

Rain Gardens in the Home Landscape – Why and How by Nikki Cerra, Clackamas County Soil and 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.

Kudos

Green Glove Award: Leah Lane, Speaker's Bureau Coordinator since 2006. Leah receives requests from a variety of organizations and matches them with Master Gardener speakers. In 2009, she collaborated with Sherry Sheng in expanding our rank of speakers and cross-trained more MGs to teach 10-Minute University™ classes.

Featured Committee:

Soil pH Testing committee, Cathy Matern & Maggie Frieske, co-chairs
The Clackamas County Chapter provides free soil pH testing services several times a year. Trained volunteers operate sophisticated testing instruments, meticulously calibrated before use, to determine soil pH. Should the results call for adjustment, a MG interprets the results and offers advice on how to achieve the desired change. *Soil pH Testing*, a 10-Minute University™ handout, provides additional information.

Open Garden Time Change

Nikki Mantei, Time: 3pm to 8pm, September 12; light refreshments
571 NW Wade Street, Estacada, OR 97023

Tidbits from Mini-College

- President's Note:* This, my third or fourth attendance, was once again a very positive experience as I bonded with members of our Chapter, met many other Master Gardeners, and learned a ton!
- ▶ Effective trap for spotted wing drosophila, *Drosophila suzukii* – Place 2 inches of apple cider vinegar plus one small drop of non-fragrant liquid soap in a red or black soft-drink cup and punch 3/16-inch holes on the lid. Set the cup in the fruiting zone. (Amy Dreves, OSU Entomologist)
 - ▶ Help honey bee colonies rear bees during the winter by growing late-summer flowering plants. (Ramesh Sagili, OSU researcher)
 - ▶ OSU Extension Service will celebrate its centennial in 2011. In Oregon, 3,700 Master Gardeners account for about half of Extension Service volunteers. (OSU Extension Service Director, Scott Reed)
 - ▶ In the U.S., one third of daily potable water use is for garden irrigation. (David Sandrock, ex-OSU faculty)
 - ▶ Baby birds need a high-protein diet; insects and invertebrates from our garden are good sources. (Jason O'Brien, OSU Master Naturalist Program Manager)
 - ▶ A new *Sustainable Gardening* handbook will come out in 2012, including chapters on Sustainable Gardening, Invasive Plants, and Sustainable Landscaping. (Gail Langellotto, Statewide MG Program Coordinator)
 - ▶ Corn gluten meal (10-0-0) is 80% effective as a pre-emergent when applied at 20lb/1000 sq ft. Household vinegar (5%) kills tops of small weeds but doesn't kill the roots. (Jeff Gillman, author, *The Truth About Organic Gardening*)
 - ▶ A sustainable landscape is made over time through a decision-making process that uses as few resources as possible, considers least toxic/intrusive methods, and creates the desired effect for the land. (Weston Miller, Metro Extension Agent)
 - ▶ When you click on "Master Gardeners" on Google, the Clackamas County MG site comes up fourth overall! (Scott Reed)

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

SEPTEMBER 2010 MG NEWSLETTER

Agriculture, 4-H Youth, Family & Community Development, Forestry and extension Sea Grant Programs. Oregon State University, United States Department of Agriculture, and Oregon counties cooperating. The Extension Service offers its programs and materials equally to all people.

September 2010

Garden hints from your OSU Extension Agent

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 Extension office (<http://www.extension.oregonstate.edu/locations.php>).

Maintenance and Clean Up

- 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).
- Harvest winter squash when the "ground spot" changes from white to a cream or gold color.
- Pick and store winter squash, mulch carrot, parsnip, and beets for winter harvesting.
- Protect tomatoes and/or pick green tomatoes and ripen indoors if frost threatens.
- Reduce water on trees, shrubs, and vines east of Cascades to harden them off for winter.
- Stake tall flowers to keep them from blowing over in fall winds.
- Dig, clean, and store tuberous begonias if frost threatens.
- Harvest potatoes when the tops die down. Store them in a dark location.
- Optimal time for establishing a new lawn is August through Mid-September.
- Aerate lawns.

- **Early-September:** Apply 1 lb. nitrogen per 1,000 sq. ft. to lawns. Reduce risks of run-off into local waterways by not fertilizing just prior to rain, and not over-irrigating so that water runs off of lawn and onto sidewalk or street.

- **Willamette Valley:** Stop irrigating your lawn after Labor Day to suppress European crane fly populations.

Planting/Propagation

- Divide peonies and irises.
 - Plant or transplant woody ornamentals and mature herbaceous perennials. Fall planting of trees, shrubs and perennials can encourage healthy root growth over the winter.
 - Plant daffodils, tulips, and crocus for spring bloom. Work calcium and phosphorus into the soil below the bulbs at planting time. Remember when purchasing bulbs, the size of the bulb is directly correlated to the size of the flower yet to come in spring.
 - **Western Oregon:** Plant winter cover of annual rye or winter peas in vegetable garden.
- ### Pest Monitoring and Management
- Apply parasitic nematodes to moist soil beneath rhododendrons and azaleas that show root weevil damage (notched leaves).
 - Control slugs, as necessary. Least toxic management options for slugs include barriers and traps. Baits are also available for slug control; iron phosphate baits are safe to use around pets. Read and follow all label directions prior to using baits, or any other chemical control.
 - Monitor trailing berries for leaf and cane spot. Treat if necessary.
 - As necessary, apply copper spray for peach and cherry trees.
 - Spray for juniper twig blight, as necessary, after pruning away dead and infected twigs.
 - **Coastal and western valleys:** Spray susceptible varieties of potatoes and tomatoes for early and late blight
- ### Houseplants and Indoor Gardening
- Clean houseplants, check for insects, and report and fertilize if necessary; then bring them indoors.

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Trade-name products and services are mentioned as illustrations only. This does not mean that the Oregon State University Extension Service endorses any particular product, brand name, or service. The Extension Service and its staff intend to discriminate against no products and services not mentioned.

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