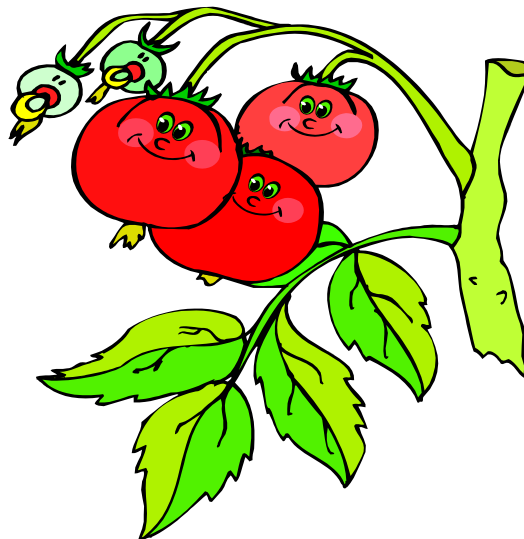


Metro Master Gardener™ News

September 2012



OSU Extension Service Metro Master Gardener™ Program

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

Mission Statement

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

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Dear Master Gardeners,

In my experience as a gardener/landscaper/farmer, late summer is a tough time in terms of morale due to long, hot days, merciless weed pressure, and the endless harvesting associated with this season of plenty. No more cukes, zukes, green beans and tomatoes please! But I sure will miss the bounty of the summer as we move into fall and winter when greens and storage veggies will predominate. As you can tell, I think about veggie gardening a lot!

We hope that you are having a great end of summer and that you are keeping your chin up both in your own garden in terms of keeping up with the water, weeding, and harvesting and also in terms of your volunteer time as a Master Gardener volunteer.



WE APPRECIATE YOUR TIME AND ENERGY toward the Master Gardener program!

Here is some important information regarding our volunteer program:

For 2012 MG Trainees

Thank you for participating in the MG training and volunteer program. We hope that you are having fun serving as a gardening educator in the community! Please let us know if you have any questions, comments, concerns, appreciations, or inspirations about the MG program. We are always happy to hear of your experience as new trainees in the Master Gardener program.

OSU and Metro Partnership

Metro is providing direct financial support for the OSU Master Gardener program to help us better serve you as a volunteer in the MG program. The OSU/Metro partnership is based on three important common goals:

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

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

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

<http://www.oregonmetro.gov/healthygardenpledge>.

Volunteer Hour Reporting

It's that time of year again! All active MGs need to send in their volunteer log sheets by Oct. 1, 2012. We are required to send this data to OSU and want to make sure they and the public know about all the great things OSU Master Gardener volunteers do!

Here is a link to the log sheet for reporting (both Word and Excel versions):

<http://www.metromastergardeners.org/downloads/>.

(Please Note: only use the 2012 Metro MG log sheets to report your hours. We are not using the online reporting system ORS) through the state-wide MG program.

You have the choice for recording volunteer hours that are scheduled after October 1 as predicted hours on this year's form, or save your calendars and report them in 2013.

Yearly Veteran Recertification Requirements

Here are the steps that you need to take to be considered an "active" MG volunteer and maintain the liability insurance for volunteering as an MG provided by OSU:

1. Perform 12 hours of recertification training per year. Recertification can be achieved in the following ways:
 - Attend our two 6 hour trainings on Saturdays in the fall and again in the spring.
 - Attend 4 of the 3 hour '*d classes during our annual intern training.
 - Combination from above totaling 12 hours of classes.
 - The final option is to take a recertification test each year with a passing grade of 80%. (2013 tests will be available early next year)
 - In 2013, some of the monthly speakers at the MG Chapter meetings will meet OSU criteria for recertification and you will be able to report these classes for recertification too. Please stay posted for more details.
2. Volunteer 25 hours, with at least ½ of the hours toward clinic-type (primary) activities.
 - **Primary Activities** – volunteering on behalf of OSU Extension at pre-approved MG Program including: Phone clinics (in office and MG Dx work) and remote clinics at farmer's markets, garden shows, fairs, garden centers, Zoo, Blue lake, etc., Speaker's Bureau, 10-Minute University and Ask an expert.
3. Report volunteer hours to the program office by October 1st per the instructions above.
4. If you completed the MG Intern training in 2012, then you do not need to complete the recertification education requirements per number 1 above.

Volunteer Database Management

About a month ago we sent emails/letters to those MGs who are in our data base but had not turned in any or enough volunteer hours for 2011 and also emails/letters were sent to those MGs who had not completed any or enough recertification hours for 2012. Our goals with these letters were two-fold:

1. Inform volunteers about their status in terms of recertification and yearly volunteer reporting and provide ways that folks can maintain their "active" status with the MG program.
2. Ensure that we have accurate records about our volunteers to pass on to OSU for liability reasons.

If you received one of these letters and have any questions, please contact OSU Administrative Program Specialists, Margaret Bayne. Margaret.bayne@oregonstate.edu, 503-650-3126.

Again, thank you for being part of the Master Gardener program and contributing toward community-based gardening education. We really appreciate your efforts on behalf of OSU Extension Service.

Happy gardening!

Weston



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OPPORTUNITIES FROM JORDIS

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



2012 HOURS DUE

Volunteer hours are due October 1, so now is the time to record and clean up those loose ends. Mail or email to Jean Bremer: 200 Warner-Milne Rd. Oregon City, OR 97045, jean.bremer@oregonstate.edu.

Remember - Your 'active' status in the MG Program is based on your participation in program activities and recorded/submitted form of a volunteer log sheet each year. Just a reminder...a paid membership in a Chapter doesn't take the place of submitting volunteer hours. We have terrific outreach numbers and we are proud to show OSU what the Metro MGs have been up to. (This article first appeared in the newsletter in 2009)



FALL HOME AND GARDEN SHOW

October 4 – 7 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 Primary. October 4 - 7 Th – Fri 11 am to 2 pm, 2 to 5 pm, 5 to 8 pm. Saturday 10 am to 1:30 pm, 1:30 to 5 pm, 5 to 8 pm. Sunday 10 am to 2 pm, 2 to 6 pm. Let Jordis know if you are interested in working a shift.

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

This event goes for two weekends... October 13-14 and October 20-21. Shifts are 10 am to 1 pm and 1 pm to 4 pm. Contact Jordis 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 10** 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. Interns that have completed their hours will be getting their badges at noon!

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). The goal is to get all your recertification training done by the start of the 2013 growing season (around mid-April). So, *just like when you get a driver's license; you get your training before you can drive.*

Submission of volunteer hours and completion of recertification is needed each year whenever you are representing yourself as an OSU Extension Master Gardener at any public event/activity.

We understand that life's challenges such as job changes, family, finances, health issues, etc., may impact your participation in the MG program. A phone call to the MG program office is a perfect way to let us know how we can help. Bottom line is that we hold MG volunteers in very high regard and anything we can do to ease any stress about the process is a high priority.

Natter's Notes

Weeds!

Jean R. Natter

Let's take a look at some management strategies for successful weed control in home gardens and landscapes. You'll find a thorough overview in the PNW Weed Management handbook <http://pnwhandbooks.org/weed/sites/default/files/chapters/pdf/t-homelandscapes.0.pdf>

Several key principles apply to limiting weed populations in gardens and landscapes, among them are these:

- Kill them when they're young.
- None sets seed.
- Annuals will die when cut just below the crown. Use a knife, or any one of various hoes – standard garden hoe, diamond hoe, or one of the scuffle hoes.
- Perennials will re-grow when cut off, even if covered with mulch, or underneath a lasagna garden. Vigorous kinds will lift landscape fabric and polyethylene sheeting.
- To kill perennial weeds, you must starve the roots, an ongoing task which requires persistence for several years.

“Soil seed bank” refers to the numerous dormant seeds stored in the soil. Every time the soil is disturbed, a portion of those seeds germinate because they are then exposed to appropriate temperatures and moisture. Gardeners can make good use of that basic principle when they create a “stale seedbed” before planting a flower or vegetable garden.



Nutgrass: Perennial; ada yellow nutsedge; top resembles a glossy green grass; persistent nutlets at root tips.



Bittercress: Annual; germinates year-round; flings seeds.



Canada thistle: Perennial; notice the beginning of a rhizome.

Start a stale seedbed at least several weeks prior to the desired planting date, to allow for at least one cycle of weed removal. The idea is to do all you normally would to set up the planting bed: dig; remove obstructions and weeds; amend the bed; level the soil; then expose to temperatures and moisture sufficient for germination. As soon as you have a good stand of young weeds an inch or so tall, destroy them using your preferred method: hand, hoe, herbicide or flamer.

The earlier you start your stale seedbed, the more germination cycles possible, the fewer weed seeds will be present when you put in your desired crop. Next, seed or transplant your veggies or flowers with minimal disruption of the soil, and deal with any subsequent weeds promptly.

With perennial weeds, choose among these destructive techniques:

1. Dig it out; repeat as needed.
2. Cut it off; repeat as needed.
3. Apply an appropriate herbicide (weed killer) at the prescribed time, then repeat as needed. Other follow up techniques for dealing with re-growth are #1 and #2 above.

Tools which help you limit weeds:

- Hands
- Hoes
- Herbicides: Either contact materials which kill only top growth (fine for annuals and seedling weeds) or systemic products which translocate into roots.
- Mulch, with the understanding that new weeds, in the form of seeds, will continue to arrive on clothing, boots, via birds or as hitchhikers on your landscape service's mower.
- Flamer



Moss: Perennial; never has flowers; compare with pearlwort; thrives with shade, moisture and soil compaction.



Pearlwort: Perennial; differentiate from moss; enlarge image to see flowers and seed pods.



Spotted spurge: Annual; insidious because it looks like soil; an all-green version is easier to spot.

Some trees are known to put up root suckers after they are cut down. Among them are such broadleaf trees as ash, aspen, cottonwood, flowering cherry and poplar. Conifers won't re-sprout, even if the roots remain in the ground.

To limit root sprouting after an unwanted broadleaf tree known to be sprouter is removed:

- Cut it down as soon as the new leaves have fully expanded in spring. (Principle: The tree has expended much of its reserves for the new foliage, thus it will put up fewer sprouts than if cut later in the season.)
- Immediately after the tree is cut off, paint a two inch wide band at the other edge of the stump with an herbicide such as Triclopyr or 2,4-D following label directions.
- Remove new shoots as soon as they're seen or, at the very latest, every two weeks.
- Principle #1: The longer new leaves remain, the more reserves they will generate and send to the roots, the longer your battle.
- Principle #2: The sooner you remove the new greenery, the better your chances of decreasing the roots' reserves, the shorter your struggle.
- Principle #3: Be persistent and you will win; pause for a season and you won't.



Blackberry: Perennial; kill the seedlings or deal with persistent roots.



Willowherb: Annual; Numerous seeds courtesy wholesale grower. The seeds for next year's crop are already wafting into my garden. Weed seedling.



Unknown weed: No ID as yet; can you help? Foul smelling and extremely prickly.

Resources

- Sustainable Gardening
- Weed control for the home vegetable garden
<http://www.gardening.cornell.edu/pests/pdfs/weedcontrol.pdf>
- PNW Weed Management handbook: Excerpt in the office in MG Resources, the tab Weeds Online at <http://pnwhandbooks.org/weed/horticultural/home-garden-and-landscape-management>
Note: Ignore the charts listing "Weed control options for home gardens and orchards" and use the 2011 version which is available in the office in above loose-leaf binder.
- PNW Weed image gallery: Organized by common name. Each weed has one to three images: seedling, flower and mature. <http://uspest.org/pnw/weedimages?weeds.id/index.html>
- Weeds and other unwanted plants <http://imp.ucdavis.edu/PMG/menu.weeds.html>
- Nutgrass (Yellow nutsedge) http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/WEEDS/yellow_nutsedge.html

Internet Essentials for Master Gardeners

(Computer training sponsored by the Metro Master Gardener Program)

Gain Internet skills using Master Gardener Resources on Firefox

Everyone has a computer

Choose one or two 3-hour classes each day

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

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

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

Two different classes

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

Pre-register now!
Spaces available on all dates

Pre-register with Jean Natter:

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

Please provide the following:

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



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

FLOWER SHOW SCHOOL
Sept. 11-13, 2012, 7:30am – 4:00pm
Happy Valley Baptist Church
14095 SE King Road, Happy Valley, OR

Horticulture

Flower Show Procedure

Creative Floral Design

Tuesday – Tuberos Begonia and combination container planted herbs with Marva Lee Perschick.

Wednesday – Contemporary/Abstract Design and Staging. Optional testing morning of Sept. 13 for those working on Flower show Judge credentials.

Cost: \$95.00 for two days, \$50.00 for one day. Lunch, morning and afternoon snacks provided.

Used containers and design necessities for sale, door prizes and silent auction. Selection of creative containers from local Oregon Artisan, Diantha Knott will be on display and available for purchase.

Contact Saly Thompson, 503-538-2774, mgtsat@comcast.net for registration forms, or download form at www.oregongardenclubs.org.

Master Gardeners Shine at Open House

OSU's North Willamette Research and Extension Center in Aurora hosted its annual Community Open House in mid-July. Nearly 250 attended the late afternoon/evening event. Nine learning stations, hay wagon farm tours, free vegetables and berry tasting...plus tractor driving made up the program.

“We were very pleased with the community turn out for our Open House,” said Mike Bondi, NWREC's Director. “In past years, if 50 people showed up, we felt good. Our goal is to increase awareness about agriculture and why it's important to each and every one of us—even those living in town.”



Hay tour at NWREC's Open House.

The Clackamas County Master Gardeners provided information about their programs and common insect pests. The MGs station was very popular with live bugs on display and fun for the kids

We all thank the Clackamas Master Gardeners for your support and participation. It was a great show!

Mike

Michael C. Bondi, Professor of Forestry
Regional Administrator--OSU Extension Service
Clackamas County Extension office, Oregon City and North Willamette Research and Extension Center, Aurora

How to confirm Spotted Wing Drosophila (SWD) from suspect infested fruit

You've more than likely heard about spotted wing drosophila, aka spotted wing fruit fly and SWD. Perhaps you've even experienced the extreme disappointment that comes with finding your own fruits are infested.

When a client asks about worms in their fruit, please provide them with the guidelines below. This procedure is important for everyone who contacts the MG offices as well as for farmers' markets and other off-site clinics.

Rearing information for clients who have worms in their fruit

Please follow this procedure to rear out the insects infesting your fruit.

As soon as adult insects are present, within three weeks or less, please bring the closed rearing container and the contained insects to the closest Master Gardener office to verify whether or not the infestation is due to SWD.

Thank you for your assistance with this project.

How to rear the fruit-infesting insects:

1. Place fruit in a clear jar.
(e.g.: one peach; or up to 12 smaller fruits)
2. Add a quarter section of paper towel, folded into a small wad, at one side of fruit. Use a larger piece for peaches, etc.
(The towel will absorb juice from the spoiling fruit.)
3. Cover the container with a "lid" of paper toweling.
Secure the "lid" with a rubber band.
Set the jar where you will see it every day but not in direct sunlight.
4. Check the jar daily but don't open the lid.
(If fruit is infested, adult flies are often present within 3 weeks.)
5. When you see adult flies, please bring the still-closed rearing jar to the Master Gardener office to verify their identification.



Supplies



The completed rearing jar

HORTICULTURAL CALENDAR

FOR THE METRO AREA

- Sept 1-2 American Dahlia Society National Show, Columbia Red Lion Hotel, Portland.
- Sept 4 Washington County Chapter, *"Creating a Year Round Garden"* with Marci Degman.
- Sept 8 Healthy Soil for Healthy Plants, 1:00-2:30pm. Cooper Mountain Nature Park, 18892 SW Kemmer Road, Beaverton, OR 97007,
<http://calendar.oregonmetro.gov/events/index.php?com=detail&eID=6474>.
- Sept 11 Multnomah County Chapter, 7pm. *"The Magic of Ornamental Grasses"*, with Carolyn Kilb, Wind Dancer Garden, 5441 SE Belmont. Plants for sale prior to and following the presentation.
- Sept. 11-13 Flower Show School, 7:30am-4:00pm. Happy Valley Baptist Church, 14095 SE King Road, Happy Valley, OR.
- Sept. 18 Washington County Chapter, 10am-1pm. Tomato Tasting Event at the Demo Garden, Washington County Fair Complex Demo Garden, 882 NE 28th Ave., Hillsboro, OR.
- Sept 22 Internet Essentials for Master Gardeners, 9am-4pm. PCC, SE Center.
- Sept 23 Washington County Chapter, 2-5pm. Rare Plant Garden Tour & MG Potluck Luncheon at Villa Catalana, 11900 S. Criteser Rd., Oregon City.
- Sept 29 Villa Garden Club Fall Plant Sale, 10am to 3pm. Taber Heights Methodist Church, 6161 S.E. Stark, Portland, Oregon.
- Oct 2 Washington County Chapter Chat, *"Dwarf Conifers"* with Susan LaTourette of Creativescaping.
- Oct 4-7 Fall Home and Garden Show, Expo Center, Portland, OR.
- Oct 9 Multnomah County Chapter, 7pm. 5441 SE Belmont, Mary Logalbo, West Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation District, *"Invasive Weeds: Know Your Enemies"*.
- Oct 13 Internet Essentials for Master Gardeners, 9am-4pm. Clackamas Community College.
- Oct 13-14 and Oct 20-21 Portland Apple Tasting Festival, 10am-4pm. Portland Nursery.
- Nov 10 Fall Recertification, Clackamas Community College.



Clackamas County Chatter



SEPTEMBER

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

2012

September Chapter Meeting

Monday, September 10, 2012, 7 p.m.

Milwaukie Center

5440 SE Kellogg Creek Dr., Milwaukie

Grape Expectations

Contrary to common belief, you can grow seedless table grapes in Portland. Broadacres Nursery has been growing 35 varieties in Hubbard, Oregon, for 5 years. The collection has come primarily from New York, Arkansas, and California. Most ripen in September. Broadacres has a cookbook and a trellising guide, "The Taste of Grapes."

Ray Ethell was keeper of the table grape collection at the North Willamette Experiment Station for 16 years. He and his wife, Sandra, have operated Broadacres Nursery for the past 20 years. Their primary crop is wine grape plants. In 2004, Ray decided to go back to table grapes. They planted one acre of seedless table grapes (35 varieties). They introduced a new trellising system for the high-yielding table grapes and developed a cookbook. They have learned from their mistakes, overcome them, and now produce good-quality fruit and plants. They will share their knowledge with our members.

Ray will bring grapes for tasting and will also have some plants to sell prior to the meeting.

Oct 8, 2012 Program

Behind the Scenes at the Oregon Zoo

Learn how the zoo habitats are designed and maintained to provide a beautiful yet healthy and natural environment for the animals which live there. Hear about the Zoo Browse program, the unique gardens throughout the Zoo property, egress concerns, the propagation area, and more. You'll never see the Zoo in quite the same way again.

Mini-College

Our chapter was well represented at the recent Master Gardener Mini-College. Two of our members were presenters (Terri Hoffman and Sherry Sheng), and our Chapter contributed several items for the silent auction, the chief fundraiser for the event. There were many excellent presentations and all participants left with increased knowledge.

Picnic is a Success

The August 13 Picnic was a great success. It was the Chapter's way of saying thank you to all of you. We were pleased to have Paul Miken join us so that we could recognize him as Chapter Master Gardener of the Year and present a scrapbook and tribute book to him. A special thanks to Mary Butler and the excellent picnic coordination committee for organizing the event and providing some fun activities.

MG Program Status

The Metro MG Program office (Westin, Jordis, and Margaret) recently conducted an audit of all Master Gardeners in their database. They found some MGs who lacked either Educational Outreach hours or training recertification requirements as reported in 2011. Letters were sent to these MGs so that they could take corrective action in 2012. These are statewide requirements that are necessary for those MGs who participate in phone clinics or other educational outreach activities. No one is being dropped; this is an attempt to communicate while time remains this year. Please contact the office if you have any questions.

This does not change your status with the Clackamas Chapter. Once you have received MG training, you become a Chapter member and remain a member as long as you keep your dues current. We welcome all Chapter members to our meetings and all support activities. If you received one of the letters and are considering letting your MG Program status lapse, please continue to join us at Chapter activities.

Open Gardens

The Open Garden season continues with several more exciting gardens to visit. The locations are listed on the Chapter Web site. Be sure to take the time to visit as many of these gardens as you can.

President • Frank Wille: 503.342.8699 — Vice President • Will Hughes: 503.887.9380

Secretary • Darlene Reimer: 503.698.4648

Advisory Board • Buzz Oerding: 503.233.6974

OMGA Rep • Terri Hoffman: 503.982.4825

Treasurer • David Smith: 503.656.4613

Advisory Board • Mary Butler: 503.632.1532

OMGA Alt. Rep • Karen King: 503.467.8800

Assist. Treasurer • Seamus Ramirez: 503.342.6229

Advisory Board • Sharon Andrews: 503.577.7493

Newsletter • Kathy Johnson: 503.794.3959

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

September 2012

Speaker Series

Tuesday, Sept. 11, 7:00pm

6:30pm Wind Dancer plants available for sale

Mt. Tabor Presbyterian Church

5441 SE Belmont Street, Portland

Speaker: Carolyn Kolb

Topic: 'The Magic of Ornamental Grasses'



Coming next month...

Tuesday, October 9th, Mary Logalbo from the West Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation District will offer a timely presentation highlighting *'Invasive Weeds: Know Your Enemies'*. You will learn how to identify key, threatening invasives and what we can do about them.

Tuesday, Oct. 9th, 7:00 pm

Speaker: Mary Logalbo
5541 SE Belmont, Portland



Multnomah County Grapevine

In cooperation with the OSU Extension Service Master Gardener Program



The Magic of Ornamental Grasses

Have you ever walked through your winter garden and heard the plants whisper in the wind? Are you mesmerized by form and texture? Do you need a plant that will thrive in harsh conditions? Are you spending too much time catering to high maintenance divas? Explore the many attributes of ornamental grasses that will grace your garden as well as your spirit as Carolyn Kolb from Wind Dancer Garden joins us to discuss the characteristics of grasses that make them so appealing. Choosing the right plant for the right place is possible with just a few simple questions. Since grasses are in their glory now, Carolyn presents the characteristics of each genus with live

plants replete with fall blooms and colors... including the must-have grasses that are just on the market. She shares her expertise in the care and maintenance of grasses - planting, dividing, and cutting back. Whether you are a seasoned grass aficionado or just learning about them, you will appreciate (and maybe even become addicted to) the wonders of ornamental grasses.

Twelve years ago, Carolyn and her husband Larry moved to West Salem and began their ornamental grass nursery, Wind Dancer Garden. A few years earlier, Carolyn was intrigued by a grass she had planted in her backyard that maintained its structure all winter while adding graceful movement

and cover for the birds. She had to know more about this plant family. And, as they say, the rest is history. Now Wind Dancer Garden raises about 100 different varieties of grasses and clumping bamboo. Wind Dancer Garden's display gardens are at their best this month. Their website, www.winddancergarden.com contains their catalog, as well as numerous videos about ornamental grasses. Carolyn is affectionately known as "the grass lady of Oregon".

Carolyn will bring a selection of Wind Dancer plants that will be available for sale at 6:30pm and following her presentation.

Fall Plant Sale Extravaganza!

As Master Gardeners well know, fall is the ideal time to plant. Be sure to check out the wonderful selection of plants for sale at the Multnomah Chapter's Fall Plant Sale & Raffle on Saturday, **October 6th 10am-3pm at Tabor Heights Methodist Church** (6161 SE Stark Street). You can find perennials, shrubs, bulbs, natives, seeds and trees, all at great prices.

Chapter Website—www.metromastergardeners.org/multnomah/

Chapter Email—multmastergardeners@gmail.com

Grapevine Editor—Loma Schilling (503)334-5162, lomaschilling@yahoo.com



Washington County Chapter Chat

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

UPCOMING CHAPTER MEETINGS

Meeting Location & Time: First Baptist Church, 5755 SW Erickson Ave., Beaverton. Social gathering starts at 6:30 p.m., the meeting at 6:45 followed by the program at 7:15. The public is welcome. **Tuesday, September 4,** Marci Degman will speak to **“Creating a Year Round Garden.”** Marci is the **Hillsboro Argus Garden Columnist** and writes **The Aspiring Gardener** blog. Marci will present designing a low maintenance perennial garden, complete with natives and edible plants, that is pleasing to man, wildlife, the environment, and is beautiful in all seasons. To learn more about the program, [Click Here](#).

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

Field Trip Announcement

September 23, 2012, 2pm-5pm

Rare Plant Research Garden Tour & MG Potluck Luncheon at Villa Catalana, 11900 S. Criteser Rd., Oregon City (Intersects S. Central Point Rd.)
Burt Mostul started Rare Plant Research, www.rareplantresearch.com in 1987, which evolved from a hobby to a research nursery, with unique plants from around the world. He also develops new hybrids for gardeners.

Burt will conduct a tour of the nursery for us from 3-5pm on the grounds of his home, Villa Catalana, built in the style of a 12th century, Romanesque church, in Catalonia, Spain.

Bring a dish to share, for our luncheon, from 2-3pm before the tour. Cutlery, plates, cups provided. Bring your beverage, ice chest on site. Spouses are welcome. RSVP by Sept. 15th.

Joann Caruthers: 503-625-1793, JoanElois@aol.com or Jan Jackman: 571-228-6176, janjackman@comcast.net.

Tomato Tasting Event at the Demo Garden

September 18th

10:00 am – 1:00 pm

All MG’s and the Public are invited to this annual Tomato Tasting event at the Demo Garden. Join us for Tomato Tasting and Live Music by Wade Kirtley and friends. Come, enjoy the music and vote for your favorite tomatoes.

You are welcome to bring 3 or 4 **CLEAN, UNSLICED** samples of your homegrown favorite tomatoes to share. Bring your tomatoes from 9-10 am. Extra tomatoes are donated to the local Food Bank. This event is held in cooperation with the Tualatin Valley Garden Club.

Washington County Fair Complex Demo Garden, 882 NE 28th Ave (Cloverleaf Entrance) off 28th St., Hillsboro, OR.



Something to Think About

Member of the Washington County Master Gardeners: Your Board has discussed whether to change the format of our member meeting to: Program first-break-Chapter business. This would allow guests and the speaker to leave if they didn’t want to sit through our business meeting first.

We can always keep our present format: Chapter business-break-Program if that is what is wanted.

I will call for a show of hands at the next meeting to see what the chapter wants to do. Door prizes will continue to be at the end of the meeting. Happy summer... Bob Falconer, President, Washington County Master Gardeners 2012

Mini College Reimbursement

This is just a reminder that money is set aside in our 2012 budget for Mini College reimbursement. Submit receipts and reimbursement check request form. If you have questions please contact Bill Klug: 503-681-0143, billklug@frontier.com

President: Bob Falconer 503-277-8596

Treasurer: Lynn Cox 503-629-9156

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

Chapter Website: www.washingtoncountymastergardeners.org

Vice President: Sandy Japely 503-644-2637

Recording Secretary: Diane Allen 503-244-8599

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

September Gardening Calendar

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

Maintenance and Clean Up

- Dampwood termites begin flying late this month. Make sure your home is free of wet wood or places where wood and soil are in contact.
- 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 iris.
- 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.

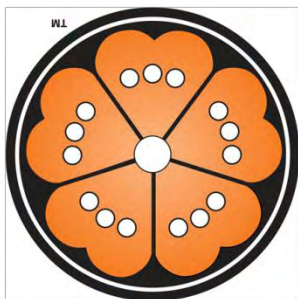
Pest Monitoring and Management

- 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.
- Continue monitoring late-season soft fruits and berries for Spotted Wing Drosophila (SWD). If SWD are present, use an integrated and least toxic approach to manage the pests. To learn how to monitor for SWD flies and larval infestations in fruit, visit <http://swd.hort.oregonstate.edu/gardeners>.
- **Coastal and western valleys:** spray susceptible varieties of potatoes and tomatoes for early and late blight.
- Identify problems before acting, and opt for the least toxic approach. Cultural, physical and biological controls are the cornerstones of a sustainable pest management program. Use chemical controls only after you identify a pest problem and carefully read the pesticide label. Least-toxic choices are insecticidal soaps, horticultural oils, botanical insecticides and organic and synthetic pesticides. These recommendations might not apply to all areas of Oregon. For more information, contact [your local OSU Extension Service office](#).

Houseplants and Indoor Gardening

- Clean houseplants, check for insects, and repot and fertilize if necessary; then bring them indoors.

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