Master Gardener program shines!

OSU Extension Service Master Gardeners are ramping up for another successful training in Clackamas County beginning in January. But before a new crop of gardeners join the ‘growing’ group of volunteers, it’s time to take a look at the impact the metro Master Gardener Program has had in the community.

In 2009, Clackamas, Washington and Multnomah County Master Gardeners donated over 40,000 hours of volunteer time. That is equal to 19 full time employees...in one year! And if those statistics aren’t amazing enough, the number of people that OSU metro Master Gardeners helped with gardening questions and community outreach, was well over 31,500. That total is equal to everyone who lives in Clackamas, Molalla and Estacada!

The OSU Extension Service Master Gardeners can be proud of their accomplishments in the gardening community. Being able to reach into the community with OSU research-based information is what makes this program shine!

-Jordis Yost, Coordinator
Metro Master Gardener Program

Tree School announces 20th year program

Tree School will celebrate its 20th year on March 20, 2010 at Clackamas Community College. This nationally recognized woodland owner education program will offer 68 classes, including 36 new classes. The event attracts about 550 participants each year.

The focus this year is to offer classes that interest teens as well as adults. Five new classes have been added as a response to a survey of past teen attendees: Why Not Knots, Careers in Forestry, GPS Skills, Basic Forest Measurement, and a Landscape Forest Management computer class.

Ever mindful of the current slump in timber prices, classes for economic insight have also been organized:

- Marketing Opportunities and the Oregon Woodland Co-op
- Non-timber Forest Products
- Log & Timber Values in the PNW
- Finding Local Markets for Local Lumber

From Slash to Art will be a special wood art display and demonstration in the Exhibit Area. Several local artists who do incredible work in wood turning and carving will be present to share their talents and products.

Catalogs will be mailed in early January. Contact the Tree School Registrar, Cheryl Keithan, at the OSU Extension Service if you would like to be added to the mailing list to receive a catalog.

-Merrily Enquist, Coordinator
Tree School
Join us for a night of pirate adventure!

The Clackamas County Extension Service offers educational programs, activities, and materials without discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, age, marital status, disability, and disabled veteran or Vietnam-era veteran status. OSU Extension Service is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Reasonable accommodations will be provided to those with physical or mental disabilities in order to attend Extension programs.

The Clackamas County 4-H Ambassador Team’s annual dinner will be February 20 in the 4-H Building at the Clackamas County Fairgrounds. Join us for a fantastic theme dinner, games, and entertainment. Tickets are available at the Extension office for $10 each.

- Wendy Hein, Extension Agent
4-H Youth Development

Extension FOCUSES on future

With the creation of the new Extension and 4-H Service District this past year in Clackamas County, the faculty and staff have set upon a course of developing a strategic plan to guide programs and activities for the coming years. The new District provides stable funding each year that allows a very different and forward thinking strategy that has not been possible in the past.

During the past several months more than 15 community focus groups—including over 150 participants—have been convened from the traditional program areas Extension now supports in the county. The community focus groups identified concerns, needs, and challenges where the Extension Service, our education programs, and our applied research should be used to make a difference in people’s lives.

Another dozen focus groups are still planned for the next two months. We expect to have the strategic planning process completed by the summer.

Mike Bondi, Extension Agent & Staff Chair
Forestry & Christmas Trees

4-H Youth, volunteers and friends recognized

In November 2009, the Clackamas County 4-H program recognized over 250 youth, adults, and local businesses for their accomplishments and contributions.

2009 Friends of 4-H
Geren’s Farm Supply
Burns Feed Store
Union Mills Feed Store
Canby Starbucks
Karen and Dave Haring
Caroline Erland

2009 College Scholarship Winners
Katherine Nichols
Laurie Koch
Alexandra Kazmierowicz
Jolene Heintz
Coralie MacWilliams
Megan Holden

What’s Happening!

Master Gardener Training begins in Clackamas County 1/8/10 - 3/19/10, VFW Hall, 104 Tumwater Drive, Oregon City. Contact: Jordis Yost (503) 650-3126.

Community Forestry Day, January 9, 8:30am - 4:30pm, Hopkins Demonstration Forest, Beavercreek. Contact Tim DeLano (503) 632-2150.

4-H Horse Enrollment Deadline (to participate in Horse Fair), and Early Bird Enrollment for non-horse 4-H Clubs, January 15 for both (price increases $5 after this date). Contact: Wendy Hein (503) 650-3122.

4-H Horse Bowl and Public Speaking Contests, January 23, 8:00am - 4:00pm, Clackamas County Fairgrounds, Canby. Contact: Wendy Hein (503) 650-3122.

Forest Tax Planning Update, January 27, 7:00 - 9:00pm, location to be determined. Contact: Mike Bondi (503) 655-8631.

Tree Planting Workshop Session 1, February 3, 7:00 - 9:00pm, location to be determined. Contact: Mike Bondi (503) 655-8631.

Christmas Tree Acquaintance Class, February 5, 1:00 - 4:30pm, location to be determined. Contact: Mike Bondi (503) 655-8631.

Tree Planting Workshop, Session 2, February 6, 8:30am - noon, location to be determined. Contact: Mike Bondi (503) 655-8631.

Community Forestry Day, February 13, 9:00-noon, 1:00-4:00 pm. Hopkins Demonstration Forest, Beavercreek. Contact: Tim DeLano (503) 632-2150.