



Metro Master Gardener™ News

September 2008

OSU Extension Service Metro Master Gardener™ Program

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

Mission Statement

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

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Table of Contents

	<u>Page</u>
Metro Program Update by Weston Miller	2
Veggie Tidbits – Jean Natter	3
Opportunities from Jordis	4
Natter's Notes – Safe Use of the <i>PNW Weed Mgmt Handbook</i>	7
Internet Essentials for MGs	9
Horticultural Calendar	9
MGs Climb to Green Roof Heights	10
Table Grape Field Seminar	13
Mason Bee Wash	14
Blossom End Rot	14
Organic Gardening Certificate Program	15
Attracting Beneficial Insects	16
Multnomah County Grapevine	17
Washington County Chapter Chat	18
Clackamas County Chatter	19

Dear Master Gardeners,

Wow! The summer sure is moving by quickly. First of all, I am proud to report that I took two full weeks of vacation with my wife Katie and son Casey. We took a road trip to visit family and friends in California, which included time spent in Santa Cruz (our former home), the Bay Area, and the Sierra Nevada Mountains. The vacation was great for all of us and much needed, as it has been an intense first year on the job at OSU Extension and first year and a half of fatherhood for me. The highlight of the trip was camping on the American River and spending quality time with my family. I am amazed by Casey's rapid development in locomotion and in language. It seems that he is growing faster than bamboo.



Since my last entry that I wrote in mid-June, there have been many developments in the metro area in the Master Gardener program and in my other duties as Community and Urban Horticulturist for OSU Extension Service. Here are some important updates that you should know about:

1. The partnership with PSU at the Learning Gardens Laboratory (LGL) in SE Portland is now official and we (Multnomah County MGs, Beret, and I) are spending quite a bit of time out at the site getting oriented and starting to take care of business. As I mentioned in the last newsletter, I was awarded a healthy grant from OSU Extension to serve as a start-up package to manage the site. This money is going toward Beret's salary (she is moving from a part-time temporary position to a ¾-time classified position), a 1/2-time laborer, and tools and materials for the site. For me, I am delighted to have an opportunity to get my hands dirty a bit and to have access to a site with incredible potential. At the LGL, there is vast



greenhouse space and more than enough outdoor garden areas and orchards. The entire facility is in varying degrees of disrepair due to years of deferred maintenance, but we are all excited to work with the potential of the site and to smooth over the rough edges through time.

The development of partnerships to help manage the site will be the most important aspect of our work at the LGL. Already, the Multnomah County MGs have stepped up to the challenge and have taken over a high-profile area at the front of the property as demonstration garden. Another exciting partnership is developing with Portland Public Schools (PPS) nutrition services. Our goal with PPS is to put vegetable trimmings from a school kitchen into a worm-composting operation thereby creating a value-added resource that we will use to grow salad greens, radishes, and other quick crops. These crops will then be sold to PPS nutrition services for a reasonable price. The goal of this operation is to involve students in all aspects of this closed-loop system and to make it educational for all involved. We will additionally grow small amounts of crops to coincide with PPS's Harvest of the Month program. For example, we have lemon cucumbers planted to serve as a demonstration of September's veggie- lemon cucumbers. We are starting this partnership on a very small scale in order to build the relationships and the flow of materials and people. If it is successful, we will build capacity over time.

There are also many PSU students that are part of the LGL. Beret and I are in the process of training the key graduate assistants that work at the LGL performing educational programming

with students from Lane Middle School (across the street from the LGL) and help out in the garden. There are also many students at PSU in various capstone classes (inter-disciplinary and culminating undergraduate courses) that come out and participate in garden-based activities and education. Our goal is to channel the abundant human energy that is part of the LGL and direct it toward productive activities at the garden while providing knowledge and skills to the folks who come there. We are also contracting the footprint of actively managed garden space (by 80% or more) and putting large areas of the garden into a long-term cover cropping program to get a handle on some tenacious perennial weeds (field bind weed and quack grass) and to minimize the amount of work it takes to manage the site.

2. The development of the Organic Gardening Certificate Program is also in process and we are getting set to implement this curriculum this fall. I have partnered with Oregon Tilth Organic Education Center staff to develop this new curriculum. The primary goal of this program is to provide research-based information on organic food production and ecological landscaping. Particularly in urban areas, there is tremendous interest in gardening without the use of synthesized chemical fertilizers or pesticides. We will provide participants with the knowledge and skills needed to successfully garden using organic management techniques. Additionally, this new program is quite complimentary to the Master Gardener training as it will involve many opportunities for hands-on and active learning (we received considerable feedback from 2008 MG trainees about the lack of hands-on learning in the MG training).

Students in OSU's Department of Horticulture and PSU's Graduate School of Education can take the 57-hour course for credit. Other members of the public can enroll but not for credit. Everyone will receive the same instruction, but students taking it for a grade will have additional assignments. Registration for the Organic Gardening Certificate Program is moving along swimmingly and many Master Gardeners will be part of the fun.

I am excited about this new program and look forward to providing a truly comprehensive training in this increasingly popular method of gardening and to utilizing OSU and other reliable resources to inform participants about the science and best-practices associated with organic gardening.

3. We've launched a new website using the Drupal format. If you are reading this online, you've probably noticed the changes. Please check it out and provide any feedback and ideas to make it easy for YOU to use.

Be well,

Weston

Veggie Tidbits by Jean Natter

1. Cucumbers become bitter due to a lapse in water supply to the fruit.
2. Zucchini become bitter due to a lapse in water supplied to the fruit.
3. Eggplant become bitter when they remain on the plant too long.
4. Tomatoes and melons often crack while they are still on the vine if they receive a "good watering" after the soil has dried. Evenly moist is the goal.

OPPORTUNITIES FROM JORDIS

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

VOLUNTEER HOURS



Although the summer activities are wrapping up and the fall season is quickly approaching... there are still some great activities planned for volunteer hours. **Remember, we are asking for your hours to be sent in by October 1st.**

If you are not quite finished, don't worry... turn the form in with what you have. Keep scheduling what you can and keep me informed. Let me know if you would like an Excel version of the form emailed to you

If you have some activities planned after September, you can either forecast those hours, or record them on next year's forms. The important thing is to **TURN THEM IN**. We need to hear from you in order to keep you on the active list.

Please don't assume that I know you are active. There are way too many of you! This is especially true with chapter activities. You may have reported activity to them, but I need the hours sent to the program office.

FALL OPPORTUNITIES

Now, how can you complete your commitment for this gardening season? Check into these activities:

- First and foremost...the **phones** in Clackamas (503-659-5309) and Washington Co. (503-774-6888 or heidinichols@comcast.net). A lot has changed since people signed up in the spring. There may be openings where there weren't before.
- **Portland Nursery Apple Tasting** (on 50th and Stark). This event goes for two weekends... October 11-12 and October 18-19. Call Susan Greco to schedule 503-287-9089. This is a clinic and is held at one of Portland's liveliest nurseries. Good food, good music, great plants!
- **Fall Home and Garden Show** – October 2-5 at the Expo Center. Call Cynthia Marshall 503-246-4715. This is a very popular event, so slots are limited. If shifts are full, get on the substitution list.
- **Farmers' Markets** run until at least the second weekend in October, and most go longer. Call to see if there are shifts available.

- Tigard Farmers Market
Carole Watkins 503-639-0058



- Cedar Mill Farmers Market
George Vennes 503-645-2596
- Sherwood Farmers Mkt.
Suzy Wood 503-538-9947
- Milwaukie Farmers Market
Linda O'Toole 503-659-5309
- Lake Oswego Farmers Market
Phyllis McCanna 503-638-6109
Kathy Whitman 503-684-6403
- Hillsboro Farmers Market
Kim Culbertson 503-681-9469
- Oregon City Farmers Market
Janet Weber 503-658-3403

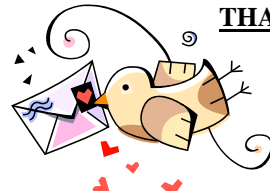


CLASSES FOR 2009

The training classes for 2009 are being planned and applications will be sent out soon. We have a good group of anxious new gardeners ready to step up and be trained as OSU Extension Service Master Gardeners.

We plan to hold classes on Tuesdays at First Baptist Church in Beaverton, a new location for Thursday...21st and NE Schuyler, and Fridays in the VFW Hall in Oregon City.

If you want to help by being a class coordinator, let me know. We will be having a coordinators meeting in December when we have the 2009 class roster finalized.



THANK YOU

I want to acknowledge a very special group of MGs that have been working really hard behind the scenes to make a great program even better. Margaret Bayne, Diane Clevon, Jane Collier, Marcia McIntyre, Pat Smith, Norrene Thompson, and Martha Waldemar make up a special committee that have been working really hard to make the phone offices a more comfortable place to volunteer. Check out their fabulous office procedures handbook. This is just the kind of document that Weston and I would have loved to have put together, but didn't have time for such incredible detail.

More 'big thanks' go to the 2008 MG coordinators that have done an amazing job of putting schedules together and taking care of the MANY details that are required to run a program of over 600 active MGs. The huge amount of information shared with the gardening public is only possible because these people make it happen. These folks take volunteering to an even higher level.

And thanks to ALL MGs that make this program great!

Natter's Notes
Safe Use of the *PNW Weed Management Handbook*
Jean R. Natter



Considerable mystery seems to surround the use of the *PNW Weed Management Handbook* by Master Gardeners. I've even heard comments that there's a conspiracy to keep MGs out of the Weed Handbook.

Well, although that may sound intriguing, not so.

Because the bulk of the *PNW Weed Management Handbook* isn't for home use, MGs use photocopies of the few suitable pages. In the Clackamas office, those pages are on the bookshelf in the green binder labeled PNW Weed Control Handbook; in the Washington County office and at offsite clinics, in the MG Resource binder, following the tab titled either Weeds or Herbicides.

**The bottom line for the *PNW Weed Management Handbook*:
Nearly all the information is for commercial entities.**

Perhaps the most useful portion of those photocopied pages is **the chart titled *Weed Treatments & Times of Application for Home Landscapes***. So, let's decode the methods and materials it lists across the top of the table.

The chart is too large to reproduce here. But as was said, copies are in the office.

To locate the chart online, go to <http://pnwpest.org/pnw/weeds>, then click on the down arrow following the phrase *Introduction, Weed Management Options* near the top of the page. Next, scroll down to *Management – Home Landscapes and Gardens*, and click. Once there, click on the down arrow following the word *Introduction*, then click on *Year-round Weed Management*.

1) Cultivation (soil drying): The footnote to the chart says "Cultivation and complete hand removal every 2 to 3 weeks will starve perennial weeds and eventually cause death in 2 years or more."

The key to success is that by consistently removing the top growth, you starve the root system. So I tell clients this is their new hobby. Also that, if they are persistent, they will win. Then I add that if they stop, even if only for part of a season, the weeds will rapidly recover and the timeline will restart at the beginning.

2) Geo-textiles: Here, a footnote to the chart says "Geo-textiles include spunbonded, woven, and laminated plastic fibers that can be applied anytime. Pointed rhizomes and roots of emerging weeds can penetrate the fabrics (except the laminate)."

Here, the key to success is to exclude all light and thereby stop photosynthesis. That said, notice that polyethylene sheeting is missing from the list; it's a poor choice for various reasons.

3) 2,4-D is an herbicide selective against broadleaf plants. It's in some weed killers used in lawns, and is one of the choices to use against woody plants. In the latter case, it's more effective than is glyphosate.

4) Triclopyr is another herbicide selective against broadleaf plants. And it, too, is more effective against woody plants than is glyphosate. Among the home use products are Brush-B-Gone, Cut Vine & Stump Killer, and Lilly Miller's Blackberry & Brush Killer. It's also in some of the weed-and-feed products for lawns. There, the unfortunate part is that triclopyr can be absorbed by tree roots and, thus, may injure trees if applied too close to the drip line.

5) Glyphosate, as you likely know, is a non-selective herbicide and will damage, or kill, any plant it touches. It's the active ingredient in Roundup, Kleen-up and many other products.

6) Dichlobenil has pre-emergent action against herbaceous growth, meaning that it stops seeds from sprouting and it kills the youngest seedlings. Here, the home use product is Casoron. It should be applied just once a year, and only during mid-winter, then either watered in or covered with mulch. The hazard with applying Casoron during warm weather is that it may volatilize and, thus, damage nearby established plants. Then, too, gardeners sometimes mistakenly apply this granular product to flower and vegetable beds, but without reading the label and thinking it was fertilizer.

Key weeds are listed in the left column of the Weed Treatment chart, namely annual weeds, quackgrass, field bindweed (morning glory), blackberry (all), Canada thistle, dandelion (common and false), poison oak, horsetail rush (*Equisetum*); yellow nutsedge, and curly dock.

To see how the chart works, let's take poison oak as an example, then read across the chart to determine the effective methods and/or active ingredients, as well as the critical times to apply each one:

Method or active ingredient	Time of application
cultivation	any time
geotextiles	all
2,4-D	growing season
triclopyr	active growth before leaves turn red
glyphosate	midsummer
dichlobenil	not effective

The bottom line: everything in the chart except dichlobenil is effective against poison oak.

For information about navigating the online version of the PNW Weed Handbook, look in the new Office Procedures binder that's in both MG offices. The information follows Tab G, and is on the page titled *How to Use the PNW Weed Management Handbook*.

There you'll learn how to access the only portion of the online version appropriate for home use; it's in the section titled *Management - Home Landscapes and Gardens*. As you might suspect, the information is the same as on the several photocopied pages.

You'll find considerable additional information about the safe and effective use of herbicides and other pesticides in Chapters 17 and 19 of your MG handbook, *Sustainable Gardening*.

The nonprofit Home Orchard Society's All About Fruit Show, 10-4 Saturday and Sunday, October 11-12, 2008.

- At Alder Creek Middle School, 13801 SE Webster Road, Milwaukie, Oregon (I-205 Exit 13 to Hwy. 224, then west 0.8 mi.).
- TASTE HUNDREDS of fruit varieties; ORDER FAVORITE TREES--ONLY \$10 EACH--to pick up spring 2009; VIEW FRUIT DISPLAYS; BUY HOME-GROWN FRUIT; IDENTIFY YOUR UNKNOWN FRUIT (bring 6 samples of each); FIND fruit exhibits & publications on research, control of fruit diseases & insects; ENTER CONTESTS for Double-Crust Apple-Pie & Largest Tree Fruit (bring Sat. or Sun., judged Sun. noon); ENJOY FRUIT PASTRIES & coffee.
- SPEAKERS: Sat. - 11 am, 12:15 pm, 1:30 pm, 2:45 pm; Sun. - 11 am, 12:15 pm, 1:30 pm.
- New members who join at this show enter FREE, members \$4/person \$8/family, nonmembers \$6/person \$10/family.
- Contacts: Ted Swensen (503) 293-1468, <tlswensen@earthlink.net>; Jerry Shroyer (503) 266-6745, <shroyers@att.net>; <www.homeorchardsociety.org>

Internet Essentials for Master Gardeners

Want to learn more about using computers in the MG offices to serve our clientele? Want to increase your skills in online research? Here's your chance:

**Tuesday, October 21 at
North Willamette Research and Extension Center**



Join MGs Jean Natter, Jan Breckon, and Janette Barbour in a computer training designed to increase your knowledge and skills in MG-related research and communications with internet technology.

The training will be offered in two separate sessions on 10/21:

- **9am – noon**
- **1 pm – 4 pm**

Each participant will have his or her own computer. There are only 20 slots available for each session. Sign up now!

To register, email Jordis at Jordis.yost@oregonstate.edu or call 503-650-3118.

This computer training is sponsored by the Metro Master Gardener Program. There is no charge for active MGs to participate, but donations are welcome.

HORTICULTURAL CALENDAR IN THE METRO AREA

Sept 4	Washington County Meeting - Kaaren Demorest <i>Gardens of the British Isles</i>
Sept 8	Clackamas Chapter Meeting – Finding the Next , New Plant in Your Garden
Sept 9	Multnomah County Meeting – Oregon Tilth
Sept 13	Table Grape Field Seminar – see page 13
Sept 24-25	Advanced Training – Insect Identification – pre-registration ends September 5. See the June newsletter for more information
Oct 18	Attracting Beneficial Insects – see page 16
Oct 21	Internet Essentials for MGs (Computer training for MG Office); 2 different sessions (9 AM to Noon and 1 to 4 PM at NWREC) See page 9
Oct 24	Bee Wash at Jane Collier's – see page 14

MGs Climb to Green Roof Heights

by Diane Cooper, MG Washington County 2002; coopor@msn.com

The OSU MG Special Interest Group “**Green Roofs from Start to Finish**” that I formed in January has fewer than 20 people. Some are Metro MGs, and the rest are engineers, contractors, landscape designers and architects, and an employee of a local water board. We are all interested in tapping into the booming green arena. My goal is to educate these professionals so they can go forth and build or at least recommend green roofs for homeowners. We had two phases to go through to accomplish this goal: education and practice. I decided our labor would be free and the homeowner would pay for materials.

I met two of my group in a PCC Rock Creek class this spring. Taught by Greg Haines, the SE Portland guru of green roofs, we took a field trip in the Hawthorne area to see various green roofs. We ended our course with two sessions building mockups. It was great experience but raised more questions. The only way to answer the questions was to do a real roof. Despite my efforts to advertise our free labor, nobody offered a roof site. We were going to learn on my outbuilding. The roof is 18 feet wide and just over 8 feet from gutter to ridge. Since the outbuilding under it crowds the fence line, I didn't bother to do the other side. For a learning project this is exactly the right size.

“Although well established in Europe, green roofs are still somewhat of a novel idea in the U.S. They are a unique and fun way to introduce people to water conservation and storm water management issues. “

Autumn Bryant,
Tualatin Water and Soil
Conservation District

“It looks like it should be free but it isn't; it's a little bit more involved than just growing a lawn on your roof. But when properly installed it'll outlast any asphalt shingle roof around.”

Bob Blaedel,
Clackamas County MG 2007

Several group members joined me in Corvallis in June to meet OSU grad student Erin Schroll and learn about her project, the experimental green roof station. Standing on a stilted platform, staring at 20+ roofs, some of the group got their first look at a green roof. The questions were good, the give-and-take great, and soon we were contemplating our next step.

For me, that was getting the materials. Had I been a homeowner just looking for a DIY project, I would have given up the first week. My phone calls and emails asking to purchase specific materials met with ignorance, interest, hostility and praise. The waterproof membrane sales representative for the state of Oregon told me his concern was that our group would “screw it all up and ruin the industry for the rest of us.” My proposal to an MG chapter about raising money at my office for materials elicited the comment that they didn't see the applicability of green roofs for homeowners.

I kept on. I started getting suggestions that I try someone else, and that person suggesting I try yet another place. I found a company that would sell me a half-roll of the waterproof membrane, thereby saving me \$500. The same company gave me adhesive for free, saving me \$108. The heat gun to meld the corners of the waterproof membrane is made in Switzerland and available for \$475, or, if you rent one, \$75 per day. I found someone on Craig's List willing to rent it for \$40, but he tried to bail out the day before our project. I picked the gun up from his mother at her church on Friday night. My neighbor bartered felt padding for my future labor in thinning his iris border. The soil mix came from the same vendor that supplied OSU's green roofs, and they

waived the minimum order size so it could be delivered. While I was shopping around at other landscape suppliers, I encountered many people answering the phones who did not know what a green or eco-roof was. I think my main contribution to this project was breaking ground for homeowners to come.

I wish I could say a trip to Home Depot finished the job. But although I did buy roofing nails, a paint roller and extension pole there, the fact that the adhesive required a 3/8" nap sturdy enough for contact adhesive sent me to a paint store. The need for three ladders sent me around to a friend's house. Last but not least, I made a trip to Whole Foods for cookies for the gang.

During all this, brand new Clackamas County MG Bob Blaedel had his hands and mind full. A former roofer, he was in charge of the flashing. We decided to order custom flashing and also order a custom stainless steel drain bar that would go at the lower edge of the roof. Water coming through the perforations would fall into the existing gutter. The first meeting Bob and I had with my classmate Milan lasted nearly two hours, with much drawing, measuring and muttering. Milan and I agreed that our class was completely inadequate when it came to flashing. Now Milan understands how it's done and he is confident he can do it in his business as a contractor.

Bob's detailed drawings and specs got him eight fast bids for the flashing. He chose a company in Vancouver and they cut and shaped brilliant white flashing for my roof. They also cut the stainless steel for us for only \$90, a real bargain. Bob took the steel to a Portland company where the holes were perforated for another \$100. Bob installed metal mesh behind the holes. I love the brushed finish, and the holes and mesh make it look Art Deco to me.

Weeks before my volunteers showed up one July morning, I had my rafters and beams reinforced to double their original strength. Weight is the first consideration when making a green roof. It is easier and cheaper to build a new structure knowing that it has to support the extra weight, than to renovate. Bob and I spent three hours removing shingles from the roof. Milan came by another day to lay some additional plywood and an insulating, fireproof barrier. He hammered the "curb" of stacked 2x4s on the sides and at the ridge, to hold the soil. Bob installed the steel bar, and the rest of us went to work.

The group unrolled, measured and cut the waterproof membrane, the protective felt padding and the landscape fabric. Everyone took a turn on the roof rolling glue on the roof and on the membrane, and then smoothing them together. People mounted stepladders to pound nails on the perimeter. The Oregonian showed up to interview me and take photos. A PR consultant for a regional water district did the same.

Then the group practiced with the heat gun and small strips of the waterproof membrane. Six of us perched on the roof, apprehensively passing the 400-degree gun back and forth. Nearly everyone achieved success with a proper weld. Eric, another classmate of mine, proved a good instructor. The membrane was half again as thick as the material we had used in class, and folding it at the corners was difficult. A few judicious snips with scissors helped, but Bob had to finesse some of the flashing, which wasn't intended to accommodate such bulk.

"One thing that a homeowner can do is to never stop learning. I constantly surprise myself (and others) of what I can accomplish. It never gets too old proving that an idea can be made possible when others say it cannot be done."

Eric Day, construction manager

Three hours after we started, the roof was done, other than the flashing. Everyone left except Bob. We set about the work in a leisurely fashion, with me as a photographer more than anything else. I made up for this sloth the next week with many trips up the ladder with a five-gallon bucket of the special soil blend. It is made

of local pumice, local sterilized dairy manure and local recycled paper byproducts, which are referred to as cellulose and are dark grey rubbery lumps. No telling how long they'll last. It's all an experiment.

I planted some sedum and some thyme for the sake of photos, and sprayed some water up there from the hose. In the fall, when the rain falls intermittently, the rest of the plants will go in. I am feeling experimental, and rather than stick with the recommended sedum, I have some other plants in mind – a short euphorbia, evergreen thyme, ajuga, trailing rosemary. Maybe a few early spring bulbs? How about planting in a pattern?



My new roof will hold rainwater and let it evaporate back into the sky. The water it can't hold will be clean when it hits the gutter and our streams. The roof will keep my building 20 degrees cooler in the summer; will lower sound inside by 8 decibels, and will attract living creatures. It will erase the building's footprint. Most of all, it will last three times longer than a conventional roof. We know all of this because homes in Europe have had beautiful green roofs for decades.

Members of my group are moving ahead now with plans to invent and patent new methods and materials; design green roof doghouses; build kits for homeowners; and start consulting and design businesses. I will apply to be on the Metro Tour of Natural Delights next year.

September 20 is the date for the next project, an 18 x 18 enclosed sunroom in Terra Linda (Murray Boulevard at Cornell Road). It's not too late to join us!



Volunteer opportunities at Oregon Food Bank's Learning Gardens

Oregon Food Bank is looking for volunteers to teach beginning gardening workshops through the *Seed to Supper* program. The five weeks series is offered to low-income individuals and groups in the fall and spring. OFB will provide a thorough training and slides, outlines and handouts for each topic. Our next *Seed to Supper* instructor trainings are scheduled for Tuesday, September 16th from 6:00-8:30pm or Saturday, September 20th from 2:00-4:30pm. For more information or to sign up for a training, contact Lisa Waugh at

lwaugh@oregonfoodbank.org or 503-439-6510 x 314.

Oregon Food Bank is also encouraging gardeners to donate their extra produce through the Plant A Row program. If you grow vegetables at home, please consider donating your extra produce to a hunger-relief agency in your neighborhood. To find out where to donate your produce, please call Eric Sopkin at 503.282.0555 x 260. If you are interested in volunteering at farmer's markets and other events to spread the word about OFB's Plant A Row program, contact Lisa Waugh at lwaugh@oregonfoodbank.org or 503-439-6510 x314. OFB's Learning Gardens are approved sites for Master Gardeners to earn payback hours!

TABLE GRAPE FIELD SEMINAR

Come Taste'em - Come Learn How To Grow'em

An incredibly rare and unique opportunity to observe and evaluate 38 different varieties of table grapes growing to perfection in the heart of the Willamette Valley. See and learn about a revolutionary trellising system that maximizes yield, conveniently places the fruit for harvest and the plants for pruning. Plus obtain answers to every question you ever had about growing TABLE GRAPES.

Location: Broadacres Nursery, 9993 Broadacres Rd. NE, Hubbard, Oregon

Date and Time: Saturday, September 13, 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Hosts: Ray and Sandra Ethell, owner / operators, Broadacres Nursery

Driving Directions: From Interstate 5: take exit 278 (next exit north of Woodburn); exit onto Ehlen Rd. and proceed west 1.5 miles to Butteville Rd. NE; turn left and proceed south 3.3 miles to Broadacres Rd. NE; turn left on Broadacres Rd. NE and proceed east ½ mile to the vineyard - watch for A-frame signs marking the route.

The seminar will follow this general format:

- A general discussion on care and cultural topics including: Plant Certification, Grafting, Planting & Training, Trellis Systems, Plant Pests, Disease Resistance.
- An open tour - attendees will be able to observe the plants in a vineyard setting and encouraged to taste and evaluate the fruit.
- A group question and answer period will be conducted to cover information to this point.
- A discussion of fruit usage and grape recipes.
- An advanced discussion of care and cultural topics including: Cluster Thinning & Tipping, Plant Energy Sinks & How to Manipulate Them, Advanced Pruning, Trellising and Fruit Placement - a Q&A session to conclude.

Additionally, Lon Rombough, world renowned grape authority and prize winning author of numerous publications, including "*The Grape Grower*," will be on hand to share his vast expertise. Bring all your questions and even table grapes you wish to have identified. All attendees will receive a take-home packet including OSU's Dr. Bernadine Strik's publication - EC 1305 "*Growing Grapes in Your Home Garden*."

Pre-registration is required. A fee of \$10 will be charged and must be made only by check or money order payable to MCMGA. Registration deadline is 5:00 PM Sept. 10. Registration may be made by mail or in person at the Marion County Extension Office, 3180 Center Street NE, Rm 1361, Salem, OR 97301.

Further information, including a flyer, an on-line registration form and a driving map are available at the website: <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/marion/mcmg.php> and are also available from the Marion County Extension office.

Note: Please be patient - operational intricacies may delay the activation of the web page

Master Gardeners from the Marion County Association will be assisting with the seminar.



Nurseryman Ray Ethell standing beside a row of his table grapes at Broadacres - clearly showing a "bumper-crop" and convenient, open fruit placement. Note also the radiating fruiting spurs and how easy they will be to prune during the dormant season.

Save the Date – A Mason Bee Wash

Well, no; we won't wash the bees themselves. But we will wash their cocoons to get rid of the nasty Krombein mites which can seriously injure or kill your bees.

You can wash the your mason bees' cocoons if they nest in straws or the grooved and stacked plastic blocks. And, yes, we'll have advice for folks using drilled wood blocks.

Our special guest will be a Marion County MG who has led several Bee Washes in her own county. And we'll have a brief video or two showing Mason bees emerging from their cocoons. And, of course, we'll all wash bee cocoons.

The date is Friday, October 24, 9 to noon; the place Jane Collier's charming red barn.

Admission is free but reservations are required because space is limited. Call me at 503-645-7073 or email jrnatter@aol.com. It's first come, first served.

The workshop will be co-sponsored by the Clackamas MGs who yearly hold a Mason Bee Workshop to help folks drill their own bee blocks and the NWREC Curation Group composed of MGs from four counties..

The specifics of the wash, including a list of the few supplies you'll need, will be in next month's Metro MG newsletter.

In the meantime, you might be interested in the following:

- Natter's Notes in the Metro MG newsletter, May 2008, tells about Krombein's mites and the details of a bee wash. (Sorry, it's no longer online.)
- Orchard Mason Bees, a leaflet from WSU, is at <http://gardening.wsu.edu/library/inse006/inse006.htm>.
- *The Orchard Mason Bee* (2nd edition; Brian Griffin).
- *Pollination with Mason Bees* (Margriet Dogterom) includes details about washing mason bee cocoons.
- *How to Manage the Blue Orchard Bee* has lots of information about mason bees as well as their natural enemies beyond Krombein mites. The free book-length pdf is at <http://sare.org/publications/bob.htm>.

Facts About Blossom End Rot

Jean R. Natter

Hereabouts, the average home gardener has a long, suspenseful wait for ripe tomatoes. Then, too often, the first harvest results in a nearly unbearable ache when, what you hope will be an extended bounty of summer's special fruits, has blossom end rot (BER).

Many fallacies surround BER in spite of the explanation and suggested management in the *PNW Plant Disease Management Handbook*, online at <http://ipmnet.org/plant-disease/disease.cfm?RecordID=1076>.

As it turns out, blossom end rot (BER) is a physiological problem that's due to one or more of the following factors:

1. Insufficient soil calcium. (But only a professional soil test knows that for certain.)
2. And/or insufficient water to transport existing soil calcium to the far end of the fruit.
3. And/or weather extremes during which the roots can't keep up with the top's demands, a condition which, sorry to say, can occur in spite of thoroughly moist soil.
4. And/or early in the season when the root system isn't yet well-developed.
5. And/or the roots were damaged, perhaps from excess moisture, excess drying, or cultivation.
6. And/or too much nitrogen fertilizer which produced luxuriant plant growth.
7. And/or when the tomato is confined to a container, where the roots are trapped in a relatively small space, and are typically heat-stressed by ambient above-ground temperatures made worse by direct sunlight beating on the container.

The bottom line is that management for BER is entirely cultural, but each gardener must first determine which factors are to blame.

Then, too, even though that handbook doesn't say so, it's worth knowing that calcium applied after the fact during the current growing season won't help.

Organic Gardening Certificate Program



Organic Education Center



Comprehensive Training

Learn the knowledge and skills of organic gardening, urban agriculture, and ecological landscaping. This program is similar in scope and scale to the OSU Extension Service Master Gardener™ Program, with an organic gardening focus. It will utilize a hands-on approach to teach participants about all aspects of growing plants without synthesized chemical fertilizers and pesticides. This 57-hour training was created by OSU Extension, Oregon Tilth, and other program partners to support the groundswell of interest in organic gardening, ecological landscaping, and food security in the Portland metro area.

Course Topics Include:

Soils, compost, plant biology, plant propagation, garden planning/design, year round vegetable gardening, ecological landscapes, ornamental plants, rain gardens, pervious pavement, ecoroofs, entomology, Integrated Pest Management (IPM), and fruit and nut production.

Volunteer Practicum:

Participants will have the opportunity to serve as garden educators by connecting with a variety of local gardening projects and organizations through a 30-hour volunteer practicum after completion of the course.

COST:

\$500 for training and volunteer practicum.

\$750 for training only w/o volunteer practicum.

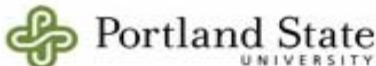
Limited scholarships available.

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

To reserve your space call or email:

ogcp.register@gmail.com 503-360-4185

Oregon State University 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. Please contact the Extension office in advance to make arrangements



WHEN:

Classes will take place during Fall 2008. Dates include:

- Thursday October 2nd from 6-9pm.
- Saturdays October 4th – December 6th (except November 29th) from 9am - 4pm.

WHERE:

- Luscher Farm
- Learning Gardens Laboratory
- PSU Campus
- Tour of Portland rain gardens

Other locations TBA

CERTIFICATE:

All participants that complete 57-hour training will receive an official certificate of completion.



ATTRACTING BENEFICIAL INSECTS AND APPRECIATING BATS

A seminar by the Multnomah Chapter OSU Master Gardener™ Association
in cooperation with Oregon State University Extension Service

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2008

REEDWOOD FRIENDS CHURCH

2901 SE Steele (one light from 28th and Woodstock)
Portland, Oregon

Doors open at 8:00 am
registration, used garden books and plants for sale

9:00---10:00 am “Attract Beneficial Insects with Appropriate Plants, Shelter, and Water Sources,” Paul Sanford, Natural Gardening Educator for Metro

10:00---10:45 am Break for snacks, used garden books and plant sale

10:45---11:45 am “Appreciate the Role of Bats: Insect-eaters of the Night,” Sally Fisher, Waste Reduction Specialist for the Clark County, Washington Solid Waste Program

11:45---Noon, Door Prizes and last chance to **Shop for plants and books**

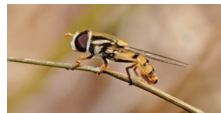
Questions? Call Sharon Baker, 503-284-5189

\$15 per person

Mail reservation forms/checks to:

MULTNOMAH CHAPTER OSU MASTER GARDENERS™

Mail to: 2007 NE 14th Ave.
Portland, Oregon 97212



check/reservation for: Master Gardener yes___no___

Name_____Phone_____

Address_____

E-mail address_____

Please register in advance to accommodate all with material.
Your check stub/copy is your confirmation



MULTNOMAH CHAPTER GRAPEVINE

Oregon Master Gardener™ Association in cooperation with
OSU Extension Service Master Gardener™ Program
4742 SE 39th Ave. Portland, OR 97206

9 September, 2008 Chapter Meeting

Tabor Heights Methodist Church
SE 61st and Stark

6:45pm Gather

6:50 pm – Announcements

7:00pm – Oregon Tilth - "Organic Certification Process"

We will have a vote on changes to the bylaws that affect the election of officers.

Upcoming events:

October 14 - Dr. Greta Binford, Assistant Professor of Biology, Lewis & Clark College
"The Diversity of Spiders Around the World and Here at Home"

Next Board Meeting – 2 September, 2008 - 6:30 pm at Jean Edmison's home – 7606 S.E. Ellis

The chapter now owns a Dell laptop and an InFocus projector. We are looking forward to great programs with this equipment. Welcome to the 21st century everyone.

Entertainment Books 2009 are selling & useable RIGHT NOW. Cost is \$20 with \$4 of that going to our MG Treasury. The books will be available at Sept, Oct & Nov meetings. Or call Bob & Evelyn Clink at 503.777.6771.

Chinook Books will be available for \$20 with \$10 going to the chapter.

Plant Sale with Fall Seminar

If you divide anything this summer, keep some for the plant sale. We are hoping for a number of gallon pots although any size plants will be appreciated. Maybe you could save seeds also? Call Joyce Hemmerling with any questions. Also, if you don't have room in your yard, Joyce has volunteered her yard space.

Attracting beneficial insects is more than just planting from lists. Our Fall seminar will feature **Paul Sanford** from Metro who will

talk about the shelter and water sources that also attract beneficial insects. Next what do you know about bats? You can read information online or in books. However, **Sally Fisher** from the Clark County, Washington Solid Waste Program has knowledge in depth and can answer your questions or correct misconceptions about these insect-eaters of the night. Please mark your calendar and see the registration form in this newsletter. **The seminar is Saturday, October 18 at Reedwood Friends Church, 8:00 a.m. until noon.** Plants and used garden books will be for sale, too.

When you clean out your bookcases, please remember that our chapter sells used garden books. Sharon Baker collects these books all year round. Bring them to a chapter meeting or contact Sharon at 503-284-5189. We do not sell cookbooks and magazines will be given away at chapter meetings or taken to the classes for new trainees.

Also, A Chapter member, Janet Hinrichs, died recently. (We were notified by Carol Barrett alderx@q.com)

2007 Officers

President – Jean Edmison - 503-771-2486

Vice President – Sharon Baker - 503-284-5189

President Elect – vacant

Secretary – LindaRose Allaway – 503-255-5553

Treasurer – Claudia Groth - 503-235-0889

Past President – Patrick Adams - 503-287-9071

OMGA Rep. – Louise Kasper - 503-282-4277

OMGA Rep. – Joyce Hemmerling - 503-331-0824

Historian – vacant

Grapevine – Loma Schilling – 503-293-2445



Washington County Chapter Chat

Oregon Master Gardener™ Association in cooperation with

OSU Extension Service Master Gardener™ Program

UPCOMING PROGRAMS – MARK YOUR CALENDAR

September 4th Chapter Meeting: Kaaren Demorest
Gardens of the British Isles

October 2nd Chapter Meeting: Patrick Petersen,
Horticultural Specialist Marion Ag Service
Soil Amendments and Fertilizers
Presentations are from 7-8 PM at the CAPITAL CENTER,
18640 NW Walker Rd (185th & Walker Rd), Rm 1411. The public is welcome.

Mini College

President Keudell attended Mini College and encourages all MGs to consider attending next year.

Demo Garden

The Demo Garden at the Fair Grounds is looking really good. If you have not seen it for several months or never seen it, come and enjoy it with us any Tuesday morning, from 9 to 12. If you get there by 11:30 you will be treated to a cup of coffee and a sweet.

Ken

CHAPTER POSITIONS AVAILABLE

Please give consideration to becoming a Board Member or volunteering for other Chapter positions for 2009. Would you like to be a Newsletter Editor for “Real Dirt”? Chapter Chat needs an editor. Do you have an interest in being our Historian? We also need someone for Secretary and someone for Treasurer. These positions are rewarding and challenging and give you the opportunity to help make things happen in the Washington County Master Gardener programs.

Please contact Ken Keudell if you would like a job description. You can call Ken at 503-292-6519 or send him an email at keudellkennethk@msn.com

President	Ken Keudell	503-292-6519
Vice President	Alan Strong	503-690-1882
Recording Secretary	Gini Lang	503-407-6422
Corresponding Secretary	Barbara Bixler	503-646-9627
Treasurer	Larry Schick	503-524-2494
OMGA Rep	David Rullman	503-292-1603
Alternate Rep	Jerry Knott	503-292-1939
Dir.#1 Audit	Larry Schick	503-524-2494
Dir.#2 Program	Fred Dorr	503-645-1665
Dir.#3 Publicity	Sylvia Butler	503-246-8725
Dir.#4 Planning	Alan Strong	503-690-1882
Dir.#5 Chapter Relations	Anna Stubbs	503-643-9474
Editor:	Gini Lang	503-407-6422

Submit Chapter Chat Announcements to Gini Lang, Chapter Chat Editor, by the 11th each month. Phone 503-407-6422 or e-mail Gini Lang [Lang2044@comcast.net].

Submit general chapter announcements to Cathy Mankus, e-mail coordinator, cathy@cathymankus.com

Chapter Website: <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/washington/mg/mgchap/index.php>



Clackamas County Chatter



September 2008

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

September Chapter Meeting

Monday, September 8
Milwaukie Center 7:00 p.m.

5440 SE Kellogg Creek Drive, Milwaukie

Finding the next, new plant in your garden -- by Larry Finley, TerraNova

Where are the new varieties of plants for our gardens and how are they discovered? Once a plant is found and identified, it must go through a series of rigorous tests in the laboratory and in the field to prove itself. Larry Finley will talk about the search for new plants for the home garden and the efforts involved in bringing to market some of the popular performers of recent years. He will also disclose some of the most spectacular failures.

Larry has more than eighteen years combined experience in landscape design, maintenance, nursery production, and sales. His own nursery, Best In Plants, grows and sells a variety of rare plants at several local farmer markets.

October Chapter Meeting Preview

The story your garden tells -- by Tom Fischer, Timber Press

Former Editor of *Horticulture* magazine and author of more than 130 garden-related articles and book reviews, Tom Fisher would like to tell you how to create the garden of your dreams.

Also in October --

Pre-meeting Plant/Seed Swap

'Tis the season to be harvesting those seeds and thinking about what needs to be divided in your garden. More info to follow.

Nikki Mantei @ ndparks@att.net

Congratulations

...to the Clackamas County Master Gardeners who brought home the gold from this year's mini-college!

Pat Smith, Oregon State Master Gardener of the Year.

Class of 1990, Pat has always been active and involved in the educational aspects of the Master Gardeners' program. Some of his many contributions include co-founding the multi-county curation group for insects, spiders and weeds; starting the Master Gardener clinic at the Oregon City Farmer's Market; serving as Chapter President in 2001, Advisory Board and Executive Board from 2002-2004; and chairing the Spring Garden Fair Set up and Breakdown Committee for the last 6 years.

Pat has also been active in other chapter activities such as the Tomato Workshop, Mason Bee Workshop, and Pruning Workshop. He served as Training Coordinator for 18 years. He is currently a member of the Chapter's Nomination Committee as well as the Clackamas County Friends of Extension Committee. Pat received the Clackamas County Master Gardener of the Year Award in 1994 and the Chapter Green Glove Award.

Rodger Sanman, Clackamas County Master Gardener of the Year

Class of 2001, Rodger has chaired several Chapter committees and Spring Garden Fair committees. He's participated in both the Tomato and Pruning workshops. In 2004, he served as Chapter Vice President and in 2005 as Chapter President. Rodger

launched and maintains the Clackamas County Master Gardener website. He currently serves as co-chair for the Spring Garden Fair; works with Clackamas Parks and Recreation District to develop a demonstration garden, native plant garden, and greenhouse at one of their parks; and serves on the Chapter Advisory Board, Executive Board, and Clackamas County Friends of Extension Committee.

Irwin Rogers, Clackamas County Master Gardener of the Year

Class of 2002, Irwin has served as a member of the Executive Board, Training Coordinator, Chapter Assistant Treasurer and Board Member. From 2004 to 2005 he was the Chapter Treasurer and Board Member. He managed membership and dues from 2004 to 2007. In 2008 he chaired the newly formed Membership Committee.

Irwin supported the Spring Garden Fair as a member of the parking team and liaison with the Fairgrounds personnel for many years.

Kemp Cushman, Behind the Scenes

Class of 1992, Kemp served as Chapter OMGA representative in 1994 and 1997, chaired the Awards Committee in 2001 and served on the committee from 2005 to 2007, chaired the Spring Garden Fair Raffle Committee and assisted with Vendor Sales Committee, and served on the Training Committee since 1993. Kemp received the Clackamas County Master Gardener of the Year in 1997 and the Chapter's Green Glove Award in 1997.

Thank you, Gentlemen!

Clackamas County Chapter Officers

President	Bill Bradley	503-624-8435
Vice Pres.	Rick Mishaga	503-557-4491
Secretary	Cheryl Borden	503-723-4257
Treasurer	Kathy Long	503-632-0131
Asst. Treas.	Mary Butler...	503-632-1532
OMGA Reps	Denise Dwan	503-632-3035
OMGA alt.	Sherry Sheng,	503-655-1822

Advisory Board Rodger Sanman 503-659-3212

Dale Eggers 503-557-3152

Martha Waldemar 503-698-2519

Holly Pederson 503-701-3816

Newsletter

Websites:

<http://extension.oregonstate.edu/clackamas/homeHort/homeHort.php>

www.clackamascountymastergardeners.org

SEPTEMBER ²⁰⁰⁸

Garden hints from your OSU Extension agent

- Apply parasitic nematodes to soil beneath rhododendrons and azaleas that show root weevil damage (notched leaves).
- Harvest winter squash when the "ground spot" changes from white to a cream or gold color.
- Plant lawns until October 15 in western Oregon.
- Plant or transplant woody ornamentals and mature herbaceous perennials.
- Plant garden cover crops as garden is harvested. Spread manure or compost over unplanted garden areas.
- Pick and store winter squash; mulch carrot, parsnip, and beet rows for winter harvesting.
- Spray holly for leaf and twig blight, blueberries for stem canker as needed.
- Reduce water on trees, shrubs, and vines east of the Cascades to harden them off for winter.
- Divide peonies and iris.
- Plant daffodils, tulips, and crocus for spring bloom. Work calcium and phosphorus into the soil below the bulbs at planting time.
- Clean houseplants, check for insects, and repot if necessary; then bring them indoors.
- Protect tomatoes and/or pick green tomatoes and ripen indoors if frost threatens.
- Use stakes to support tall flowers and to keep them from blowing over in fall winds.
- Bait for slugs with traps or iron phosphate products that are safe for use around pets.
- Dig, clean, and store tuberous begonias if frost threatens.
- Harvest potatoes when the tops die down. Store them in a dark location.
- Prepare compost pile for recycling vegetation from garden and deciduous trees. Do not compost diseased or insect-infested plant material.
- **Western Oregon:** plant winter cover of annual rye or winter peas.
- Copper spray for peach and cherry trees.
- Monitor trailing berries for leaf and cane spot. Treat if necessary.
- Spray for juniper twig blight after pruning away dead and infected twigs.
- Monitor arborvitae for Berckmann's blight. Spray if necessary.
- Coastal and western valleys: spray potatoes and tomatoes for early and late blight.

Oregon State University Extension Service encourages sustainable gardening practices. Always identify and monitor problems before acting. First consider cultural controls, then physical, biological, and chemical controls (which include insecticidal soaps, horticultural oils, botanical insecticides, organic and synthetic pesticides). Always consider the least toxic approach first.

All recommendations in this calendar are not necessarily applicable to all areas of Oregon. For more information, contact your county office of the OSU Extension Service.

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