This Month’s Master Gardener™ Calendar

January 1 & 2, Thursday & Friday
Extension office closed for the Holiday.

January 6, Tuesday
Mentor Committee Meeting, 9am-1 pm. Everyone welcome, even if you are not yet a mentor. PW Auditorium

January 8, Thursday
First day of the new 2009 Master Gardener training classes. 9am, PW Auditorium

January 14, Wednesday
YCMGA Board Meeting, 1-3 pm PW Auditorium. All members welcome

January 19, Monday
MLK Holiday. Extension Office will be closed.

January 19, Monday
McMinnville Garden Club program: “Beginning Bonsai” presented by Elizabeth Estacio. Noon at the Hillside Manor Activity room in McMinnville

Mark Your Calendars!

2009 Tree and Shrub Sale

February 27 and 28
Friday and Saturday
9 am to 3 pm each day

Volunteers Needed

February 6, Friday
Last day to reserve native plants for the SWCD annual native plant sale. Volunteers needed for this sale. Payback hours available. See page 14
Welcome to 2009—or almost, depending upon when you read this message. I’m looking forward to a great year with continuing enthusiasm from all of our Master Gardeners and some new projects on the horizon. With great leadership and new opportunities, 2009 looks like another banner year in the making. Thank you to all of you who are making it possible to provide education, information, and services in Yamhill County.

My own plans call for some new efforts. I will continue to work on Ecogardening concepts, including new online noncredit classes through OSU’s Ecampus. The first class on WaterWise Plants is complete and I expect to have it tested in the early months of 2009 before it is offered to the public. I have just submitted for publication an article on the history of native plant gardening, which is the result of about 12 years of background research and writing—what a relief to have that done—the peer reviews and editing, however, are still ahead. My next projects will be to work with Weston Miller, Gail Langellotto and others on training for reducing pesticide runoff from home gardens to improve drinking water and fish health. We have submitted one grant proposal for this project and are working on another—the initial work, if funded, would take place in the Clackamas River Watershed, but I will be offering special trainings in Yamhill County as well, once we have the information put together.

Finally, I’m working on impacts of gardening on climate change and have already agreed to give two talks on this topic. Funny how changing times give us opportunities to provide the same messages about environmental gardening techniques, but in a new context—more to come on that as well.

And of course, the new class training is about to begin. We are testing a “blended” program combining classroom and online instruction. Some of the online material and classes will be available for recertification as well as for the new class, so if you are interested in this possibility, contact Deb Zaveson (Debra.Zaveson@oregonstate.edu or 503-434-8916) so she can send you the password to the site once we have that completed. This option will only be open from January through March, so plan accordingly.
The Year in Review: 2008

I usually write the “year in review” in November, but my computer crashed and I am still learning to use this new one. We did move into McMinnville, and that process has also caused a delay in getting new Buggy Bits articles into the Tiller. That is why we have had “reruns” in the last few months.

This year was interesting for the Insect Committee in that we had another “the year of...”. This year it was *Collembola*. These insects are extremely small (about 1 to 2 mm’s) and love to be around moisture, as they feed on molds and other tiny bits of fungi. People were finding them under their sinks, in their mud rooms, laundry rooms, and outside next to the foundations of their houses in tremendously large quantities. One client brought in a jarful that he had collected just by scooping them up in one handful from a flower bed right outside his front door. What causes a population explosion like this is a mystery, although it probably is related to the odd weather patterns we have had the last few years.

The *Collembola*, also called springtails, are an interesting group of insects. They are not truly pests, in that they don’t bite, sting or do any real harm to us or our pets, but in large numbers can become a nuisance. They get their common name from the fact that they have an abdominal appendage that is forked at the end. In the middle of their thorax is a button-like structure (underneath their bodies). The forked appendage is bent forward and it grabs hold of this “button”. This act causes the springtail to be set like a tiny mouse trap. Not to catch anything, mind you, but if it is disturbed, the fork gives way very rapidly, and the *Collembola* “springs” away to safety.

This year the committee also identified quite a few Hobo spiders. Some of these were very large, indicating that they probably were leftovers from last year. Spiders continue to grow throughout their lives by molting the exoskeleton. Most of the large spiders were gathered outside, but a few smaller ones were found in houses.

We also had Seed bug, boxelder bug and ladybug questions, but the *Collembola* were the highlight of the year.

Have a great New Year!!

Passing the Spade and Trowel by Cathy Burdett

Just as our gardens are in a constant state of re-growth and regeneration as we change the pattern of our perennial and annual beds so the YCMGA Executive Board changes to newly nominated leaders as of January 1, 2009.

Some 2008 board members may retain their positions on the board but serve in different assignments. Some 2008 board members may have completed their appointment to the board. We will miss your expertise.

We need to express our thanks and appreciation to the 2008 Yamhill County Executive Board for a job well done. Often the membership is unaware of the commitment and dedication that is involved in being a board member:

- Attendance at board meetings, chapter meetings and events
- Participates in the decision making process of YCMGA
- Participates in YCMGA fund raising activities
- Participates and sometimes coordinates the varied community activities of the association
- Participates and appoints committee chairs
- Arranges for advertising of projects and programs
- Prepares agendas, provides minutes and answers correspondence
- Prepares monthly and yearly budget reports and receives and disburses funds
- Acts as liaison to the Oregon Master Gardener Association
- Submits articles to the Tiller that keep the membership informed
- Many, many duties too numerous to itemize

The 2008 Executive Board performed their duties so efficiently I am sure that many of the members were unaware of the large volume of work that was accomplished on their behalf. YCMGA has benefited because of their effort.

THANK YOU... 2008 YCMGA BOARD MEMBERS
FOR A JOB WELL DONE

A special thanks to Alan Wenner, Pam Dowling, Al Hanks, and David Norman who have admirably completed their board assignments with enthusiasm, common sense decisions, creativity and lots of smiles and Always, Always, Always having YCMGA’s best interests as the paramount consideration. Sorry, Ray—you stay on the Board!!!
The 2008 MG Grads!

Jewell Carnett
Alma Coffell
Laurie Dornon
Peggy Keidel
Linda Lowell
Joan Lusk
Rebecca McShane
Nancy Nunley
Marvin Penrose
Kathy Redford
Susie Smith
Torrey Smith
Judy Zettergren

Early Bird Award Winners (100 or more hours)

Dave Andress
Jeannette Andress
Sally S. Brown
Linda Coakley
Greet De Jongh
Helen Lee
Josie McGill
Dick Petrone
Jim Salter
Marilyn Salter
Laura Tenbroeck
Vicky Wilson

Thank you, 2009 Grads, for your enthusiasm and dedication! Welcome to the ranks of experienced Master Gardeners. We’re looking forward to seeing you all next year!

Congratulations!
Judy Anderson   Anna Ashby
Jean Azlein   Jane Bardolf
Kathleen Bennett   Les Buchholz
RoseMarie Caughran   Syvlia Connor
Doris Crimmins   Doris Cruickshank
Colleen Donovan   Beth Durr
Sylvia Gappa   Janet Gahr
Sharon Gunter   Joyce Hammerschmith
Al Hanks   Doris Hasson
Cindy Kinnaman   Steven Klass
Shelley Olson   Marian Powell
Susan Randall   Marcia Sherry
Janice Sprecher   Bryan Stewart
Dianne Stillion   Alan Wenner

Tried and True! Thank you for your continued dedication, your experience and all you do to keep our organization vital in the community. You are greatly appreciated!

Recertified with Special Hours Awards

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<td>Ray VanBlaricom</td>
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Special Award Winners

These hard working, dedicated individuals received special awards at the Graduation Ceremony in appreciation of their extra efforts in time, for special projects, and/or recognition of awards from other organizations.

Ray VanBlaricom
Alan Wenner
Polly Blum
RoseMarie Caughran
George Migaki
Anna Ashby
Bob Grossmann
Joyce Hammerschmith
Steven Klass

Dave Norman
Bryan Stewart
Cathy Burdett
Janet Gahr
Gail Price
Aileen Smith
Charlotte Earl
Marcia Sherry
Judy Zettergren

Beverly Norman
Patti Gregory
Doris Crimmins
Suzanne Litviak
Pam Dowling
Les Buchholz
Sylvia Connor
Beth Durr
Daryll Alt

All of the 2008 YCMGA Board Members
All of the 2008 Class Mentors

Bouquets of Thanks by Cathy Burdett

The 2008 YCMGA Graduation and Awards event was very well attended by graduates and veterans. How exciting to see so many that had attended the first class with reservations and nervousness grow and develop into confident and assured “official OSU/YCMGA Master Gardeners” and receive their new badges.

However like any large event there was time and energy expended in preparation and planning to make the graduation event a memorable experience. I would like to acknowledge the commitment of the following individuals who contributed their efforts.

Assisting Linda McMahan in presenting awards & certificates
Pam Dowling
Ray VanBlaricom

Making and constantly refilling the coffee & tea urns and supplies
Polly Blum
Pam Dowling

Setting up and Decorating
Marcia Sherry
Judy Zettergren
Kathleen Bennett
Pam Dowling
Ray VanBlaricom
Cathy Burdett

Contributions of the beautiful centerpieces for the food & member tables
Josie McGill
Greet DeJong
Joyce Hammerschmith
Cathy Burdett

THANK YOU!
Graduates & veterans who contributed the delicious food for the event
Polly Blum
Pam Dowling

A successful Master Gardener function always has mouth watering food, delicious desserts, and great conversations with friends. Thank you to everyone who attended and made this graduation special!
Congratulations to the newly elected YCMGA board members for 2009! The new members were officially sworn in at the December 9th meeting before the graduation celebration. These are the people to contact if you have questions, suggestions, comments or ideas concerning your Yamhill County Master Gardener Association.

President: Cathy Burdett
Vice President: Marcia Sherry
Secretary: Suzanne Litviak
Treasurer: Anna Ashby
OMGA Rep.: Kathleen Bennett
OMGA Alt. Rep.: Annely Germaine
Members at Large: Judy Zettergren, Laura TenBroeck
Past President: Ray VanBlaricom
The Golden Trowel Award was started rather recently from our own local chapter of YCMGA as an extra pat on the back to an individual we may otherwise overlook.

At the December awards ceremony, we recognized class of 2007's Patti Gregory. She was one of 5 nominees who singularly received two "nods." Reasons to take note of this real go-getter are:

♦ co-ordinator of the clinics held at Kraemer's, Wilco and Fred Meyer. Successful with 39 out of 40 clinics held.
♦ countless hours spent working with the Newberg High students and their greenhouse
♦ worked closely with Bryan Stewart and MG's contributions to the City of Newberg, including the new kiosk on sustainability
♦ was a regular smiling face at the Farmer's Market
♦ writing great articles for the Tiller
♦ spent lots of time and energy propagating plants for the Plant Sale
♦ was able to log in over 500 hours just this year!
♦ always willing to step in where needed

To quote an anonymous nomination "she serves on various committees, is an officer, shares her knowledge freely and graciously at numerous clinics, and over-extends herself on behalf of the MG program.... on top of that, she does it all with a continual smile... you couldn't find a better "poster child" on behalf of the Master Gardeners."

Congratulations Patti!

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Winter Garden Tips from OSU

- Protect poinsettias from cold, place in sunlight, don't let leaves touch cold windows; fertilize with houseplant fertilizers to maintain leaf color.
- Monitor houseplants for adequate water, fertilizer, humidity. Water and fertilizer requirements generally are less in winter.
- Check stored flower bulbs, fresh vegetables, fruits for rot and fungus problems. Discard any showing signs of rot.
Well, how about that cold snap? I’m wondering how all my plants fared. I expect most of them to do just fine but I am a little concerned about some of the plants I had already potted for the plant sale. I did end up bringing in a couple of plants to the house and garage.

The plants I have potted for the sale are pretty hardy and I know they froze into gallon size ice cubes. I thought it was better for them to do that than to bring them into the greenhouse where they would get unseasonably warm in the daytime and then freeze at night. I hope I am not wrong and springtime will tell.

I did bring some *Agapanthus* into the house. I left it out last winter and it looked very peaked all summer and didn’t bloom. I dug it up this fall and divided it into two pots. I knew that in pots it definitely would not tolerate being frozen. I’m hoping that by keeping it inside this winter, it will bloom next summer. If it doesn’t, out it goes. I will be sure and tell it what my plans for it are. It helps to talk to your plants once in a while. Just ask my *Cistus*, which won a reprieve last summer!

*Phormiums* are supposed to be sort of on the edge for us if we have a particularly cold winter. I have one big beautiful one in the ground and I think it will be okay but I also have two smaller ones in pots. I decided to bring them into the garage. I must admit that I knew it would get mighty cold in there too. It is probably just as cold in the garage as outside but the garage does protect the plants from a desiccating wind. And yes, the soil did get pretty darned stiff. I sure hope they make it but if they don’t I have a good excuse to visit some nurseries come spring. (I really don’t need much of an excuse.)

Even though I don’t have anything in the greenhouse, I still have to keep an eye on it. Shade cloth must be taken off the greenhouse in the winter just in case there are snow and ice events. The snow and ice will definitely stick to the cloth and the structure and plastic may not be able to carry the weight. I found out the snow also sticks to the greenhouse when there is no cloth on it. After each snow storm we went out and brushed off the snow. It was easy enough to do with our low profile greenhouse but I was concerned about the MG greenhouse at the fairgrounds. We just keep our fingers crossed that it will withstand the weight.

We sure wouldn’t want to lose our greenhouse as we will need it soon after the first of the year when we again begin to start seeds and plants for the spring plant sale. I don’t know if you noticed but the sale this year is nearly a week ahead of last year. It’s just the way the last Saturday in April falls this year. That means we will have to start planting a week earlier to have plants ready for the sale.

The plant committee had its first meeting in November to discuss what plants we will grow from seed and which plants we will buy as plugs from a nursery. Last year was the first year we bought plugs and it sure did make it easier to have some of the plants that are more difficult to grow from seed. Seed catalogues have begun to show up in our mailboxes. They always inspire us to try different plants each year. Some of us on the committee like to try new plants to see if they will work out for the sale.

When thinking about the plant sale, I always want to remind everyone about how important perennials are to the sale. Since they are all donated, they are great money makers. So if you didn’t dig and divide in the fall, think about what you might pot up in the spring. Reading your catalogues and thinking about the coming of spring will get you through the cabin fever days of a cold winter.

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There are two seasonal diversions that can ease the bite of any winter. One is the January thaw. The other is the seed catalogues.

Hal Borland
Growing Farms Workshop Series

Are you in your first to fifth year of farming? Do you need a better base in farm management? Are you ready to expand or start a farm business, but feel you need a better understanding of specialty crop production? This course is for you!

OSU Small Farms Program has designed this workshop to provide beginning farmers with the tools and knowledge to manage both the biological and financial risks of farming. A mix of faculty, experienced farmers, and professionals will present curriculum and resources vital to a sustainable small specialty crop farm.

A resource binder will be provided and participants will walk away with a whole farm plan. In addition, participants will become acquainted with their regional farm community over dinner.

Workshop topics will include:
- Dream It: Can I Do This?
- Do It: Farm Operations
- Manage It: Is This Working?
- Sell It!, Grow It: Prevention, Recognition & Solutions
- Keeping It: Protecting Yourself.

January 21 to March 11, Wednesdays from 4-8:30 pm at the North Willamette Research and Education Center, 15210 NE Miley Rd. in Aurora. Registration fee: $200 per person includes dinner.

Contact: Kristin Pool, (503) 678-1264, ext. 118, email: poolk@onid.orst.edu. More information also available on the Small Farms website at smallfarms.oregonstate.edu

Supported by the Risk Management Agency

Pictures from the McMinnville Santa Claus Parade pictures by Gail Price

The McMinnville Garden Club invited members of the YCMGA to join them to march in the annual McMinnville Santa Claus parade. It was a great way to begin the holiday season.
During one of our mentoring sessions last spring, several of the newer YCMGA members remarked that they would like to have more social events to enable them to meet and mix with more of the veteran MG’s. Because we are an educational focused organization rather than a social organization, we frequently overlook the social needs of the members.

As the Vice President of the Association, it was my duty to plan and organize the general meetings as well as to coordinate other events. In the past, we had attempted to have monthly educational meetings that were open to the public and featured one hour presentations, usually by industry professionals. Several years of doing this with falling attendance showed that this was not a useful endeavor for the presenters as the same 10 members attended most sessions.

In 2008, we came up with several activities with ideas provided by what worked in the past plus input from members as to what we could do. We succeeded very well with planning the activities and this is a recap of what we accomplished and the approximate member and guest attendance at each activity.

June 2008 – A Rose Breeding Presentation at Bailey Nurseries, Inc. in Yamhill, presented by Ping Lim. Approximately 30 members and guests attended this 2 hour lunch session on a gorgeous June day.

July 2008 – Garden tour/Wine and Cheese Tasting Event. David and Beverly Norman hosted this event that included tours of the Salvation Army Community Garden and ended with a tour of the Norman’s Garden with the Wine and Cheese Tasting in their garden. Attended by about 15 members and guests on a gorgeous July day.

July 2008 – Rose Breeding Power Point Presentation by Ping Lim. This event was held at the PWA on a very hot July evening but the PWA is air conditioned and we enjoyed almost two hours of looking at and listening to the very entertaining Ping. This event was attended by about 20 members and guests.

August 2008 – Evening Barbeque at Darryl Alt’s residence. Darryl provided a demonstration on winter gardening and Annely Germaine gave a presentation on Horticultural Therapy for about 20 members and guests on a gorgeous August evening.

September 2008 – Pig Roast at Al Cronks. This is a great event with the pig provided by the association and a potluck dinner provided by members. Annely again was the host of the tomato tasting event that was very successful and interesting. Over 70 members and guests attended this very tasty occasion on a gorgeous September afternoon and evening.

September 2008 – Tour of the Oregon Garden hosted by Anna Ashby. Approximately 10 members joined Anna for the ride to Silverton and the tour of the gardens. These events are supplemented by both the annual retreat in November and the annual Graduation/Awards Potluck Dinner in December. Both of these events are very social and were well attended with over 30 members at the retreat and a full house at the Graduation.

A huge thank you to all of the members that planned, aided, assisted and provided information on all of these very fun and worthwhile activities. The weather was with us and the cooperation was excellent.

In 2009, Marcia Sherry is the newly elected Vice President and will assume the role of Social Secretary. She will be seeking and receiving new ideas for member events as well as asking for assistance in planning and arranging these events.

January is here, with eyes that keenly glow,  
A frost-mailed warrior  
Striding a shadowy steed of snow.  
Edgar Fawcett
During our Mentoring Session # 12 last spring, I was discussing BNI’s contributions to the YCMGA, assuming that everyone knew what BNI stood for. BNI is the abbreviation for Bailey Nurseries, Inc. BNI is a family owned plant nursery grower that started in 1905 just outside of St. Paul, MN. The company is one of the leading producers of high quality ornamental nursery plants in the United States and has over 4000 customers, most of which are high end retail garden centers.

BNI started production in Yamhill County in 1977 and has since increased acreage in Washington and Oregon to about 5000 acres with peak summer employment of about 800 employees on the West Coast. Annual West Coast production now numbers in the millions of trees, shrubs and roses. The company is very supportive of community activities and strives to be a good neighbor.

Jim McConnell, the Propagation Manager at BNI, was in the first Master Gardener class and became involved in supporting the organization in ways that were beneficial to the YCMGA as well as to the company. The first major action was to donate the greenhouse at the Fairgrounds to the association. This greenhouse was soon destroyed and the company replaced this one with a new one that was storm proof.

The company has always contributed plants to the annual Plant Fair and Sale prior to the start of the Tree and Shrub Sale. These donations have steadily increased over the past 10 years and the variety of plants provided has also increased. The company now provides approximately 1000 pots of annual plants for the sale.

When the Tree and Shrub Sale started, 100% of the plants for this sale were donated by BNI and this continued for four years. Last year, we were requested to diversify our plant suppliers due to concern from the local customers of the company.

It is a guesstimate that over the years, the total value of all plants, supplies, greenhouses, labor, materials and transportation provided by BNI is now over $50,000 and growing. BNI has never rejected a request from the Association for appropriate donations.

What does BNI expect to gain from this largesse? Basically, there is no direct reward other than the recognition from the membership that the company is a good neighbor and enthusiastically supports Horticulture Education. Annually, the company receives direct recognition at the Appreciation Luncheon held each March. In the company’s Centennial year of 2005, the YCMGA provided special recognition to the company with a full page color “Thank You” advertisement in the McMinnville News Register.

OSU Winter Garden Tips

- Spread wood ashes evenly on vegetable garden. Use no more than 1.5 lb/100 sq ft/year. Do not use if the soil pH is greater than 7.0 or if potassium levels are excessive.
- Use dormant sprays of lime sulfur or copper fungicide on fruit trees and roses for general disease control.
- Protect new landscape plants from wind: staking, guy wires, windbreaks, site selection.
- **Western Oregon:** Make sure that landscape plants in protected sites receive water regularly during the winter.
- Monitor landscape plants for problems. Do not treat unless a problem is identified.
- Yard sanitation: rake leaves, cut and remove withered stalks of perennial flowers, mulch flowerbeds, hoe or pull winter weeds.
- Check for rodent damage around bases of trees and large shrubs.
- Spray peach trees with lime sulfur or approved fungicides to protect against peach leaf curl. Choose resistant varieties if possible.
- **Western Oregon:** Still time to plant spring-flowering bulbs such as tulips, daffodils, hyacinths, crocuses. Don't delay.
- Avoid mounding mulching materials around the bases of trees and shrubs. The mulch might provide cover for rodents.
- During heavy rains, watch for drainage problems in the yard. Tiling, ditching, and French drains are possible solutions.
Welcome to the 2009 Master Gardener Class

Everyone please welcome the new Master Gardener trainees* for 2009! This group will be the first to experience the new “blended” training, which will combine classroom and online teaching modules.

Ann S. from McMinnville  
Rosemarie A. from Newberg  
Anthony W. from McMinnville  
Orla C. from Lafayette  
Karen S. from McMinnville  
Elaine C. from McMinnville  
Ann-Marie A. from Dayton  
Janet B. from McMinnville  
William J. from Newberg  
Steve G. from Newberg  
Karen H. from Carlton  
Stacey M. from McMinnville  
Randy W. from McMinnville  
David T. from Sheridan  
Ronda A. from Carlton  
Tracey L. from McMinnville  
Jeanne B. from Amity  
Michael H. from Sheridan  
Patty S. from McMinnville  
Kimberly Z. from Newberg  
Dori B. from Newberg

*Signed up as of December 31st

Plant Profile: Crocus by Linda McMahan

Winter inevitably makes me think of spring, or at least the promise of spring, including *Crocus*. This is one of the first plants to bloom each year, and like most bulbs or bulb-like plants, is also WaterWise, thriving with little or no additional water to come back year after year. Although there are about 80 species in the genus, the most popular are the Dutch crocus, cultivars of *Crocus vernus*.

*Crocus* are members of the iris family (Did you guess Iridaceae before you read this?), are native to summer dry or mountainous regions of the world—parts of Europe and Asia. After blooming and setting seed, they spend their late summers and autumn safely dormant below ground. The underground part is technically a corm, a swollen and compact underground stem. The grass-like leaves often have a white stripe running down the middle from base to tip. White, purple, yellow, lavender, even striped, these early bloomers can multiply to create lovely drifts of color, sometimes against the snow.

In Oregon, crocuses seem to be planted mostly in garden beds or borders or in pots. In other parts of the country, they are popular in rock gardens and in lawns. Perhaps in those parts of the country, the grass is slower to grow because mowing is not recommended until at least 4 weeks after blooming ends. With mulch, they can be grown in Zones 3 or 4, but in most of western Oregon, except for higher elevations, mulch is not required for survival.

One species, *Crocus sativus*, is the saffron crocus, native to southern Europe, is a source of spice—anthers of 7000 flowers are required to make 1 dry ounce. No wonder it is so expensive. Most crocuses bloom in the spring, but the saffron crocus and a few others, bloom in the autumn.

They have few diseases, however, they are popular edibles by some of our small creatures like gophers and mice. If this is an issue, planting them in wire cages can help.

One of my current pet theories is that winter is a kind of evangelist, more subtle than Billy Graham, of course, but of the same stuff.

Shirley Ann Grau

Native crocus growing in the Alps in Europe
SWCD Native Plant Sale

Plant Sale Volunteers Needed! Get Payback Hours!

This annual event offers a great opportunity to show off your volunteer spirit. Irma Koyama will be coordinating volunteers (contact info below). Help is needed as follows: Feb. 5-6, 8am-5pm for plant labeling & table set up, Feb. 9-11, 8am-5pm for filling of pre-orders, Feb. 12-14, 8:30am-6pm Sale Days—help with customer orders, Feb. 16-18, 8am-5pm for follow-up orders and clean up. Even helping for a few hours on one day will be appreciated.

Contact Irma Koyama at 503-472-6403 or Yamhillswcd@verizon.net

Native Plant Sale

Proceeds will benefit Miller Woods

Over 50 species of native trees, shrubs, and understory plants will be made available at our 18th Annual Native Plant Sale scheduled for:

Feb. 12 and 13, 9 AM—6 PM, and Feb. 14, 9AM—3 PM, 2009

Great Selection - Low Prices - Good Quality

Bare Root and Container Plants Available

Plants can be reserved by sending us an order form by February 6th.

Order forms and plant descriptions are available at www.YamhillSWCD.org

Order Soon! Quantities are limited. We will process all orders as they are received.
This is of the topiary rabbit that I bought last year from the YCMGA spring plant sale. The rabbit used to belong to Karen and she donated it to the sale since she was moving to Texas. No one wanted it because it was in need of a trim and looked a bit sad so I bought it and he now lives happily on our deck and gets regular trims to keep him looking good.

I guess raised bed gardening is a bit out of the question at this time.

Dave took this awesome photo of the sun trying to break through the snow clouds.

Here is a cute photo of the table on our deck. I guess we won't be dining on it for a while.

The streams in our back garden are still flowing, just a bit slower than usual.

Our efforts at decorating outdoors for Christmas have been a bit difficult. The little lighted deer we put out front is supposed to move but he has frozen and the 5 inches of snow around him has stopped his movement.

This photo is me, Bev Norman, trying to take the snow off the bird food I put out the day before. It is important to feed bird, especially during this bad weather, so I mixed up some bacon fat drippings, oats, grated cheese, bird seed and raisens and put them out in little dishes on top of the wine barrel on our deck. This is our bird buffet.
Nature has undoubtedly mastered the art of winter gardening and even the most experienced gardener can learn from the unrestrained beauty around them.    

Vincent A. Simeone