On your way! ~ Scott Thiemann

We have 13 new students who will be making the pilgrimage through the plant (and other) kingdom(s)—and all the learning involved along the way—to emerge more knowledgeable and able to take on the worst that the forces of ignorance can throw their way... OK, that’s being a bit melodramatic, but this course will definitely provide the basics to help the plants and issues that will be encountered to be a bit less daunting. Remember: Don’t get overwhelmed by what you are hearing and trying to take in—you have a lifetime of learning ahead.

Attending with the trainees has been a large number of ‘Perennial’ Master Gardeners who are joining in for the 2nd (or more) ‘go round’. Also, a big thanks to the record number of you who helped get us on track the first day of class, discussing volunteer possibilities in the Program, in the Association, in the schools, and the challenges and successes in preparing for the upcoming plant sale! NOT to forget the great food provided! We also want to thank the new mentors.

Another note to those of you who are taking the course for the first time. One of the most useful things that you may want to try out is to check out the links that are given to you in class each week. Although your manual will provide you much useful information; it is helpful to go back to notes after each lecture to see that there is so much more out there that you can research easily on your own. This will become especially useful to you in the plant clinic work that you might do as a volunteer here in the office after the course is over, and, of course, how you can apply this knowledge to your own garden and landscape.

An example given by Rich Little that he mentioned in class taking you to a large picture of that formidable insect that attacks all sorts of fruit as a go-to source was: https://pnwhandbooks.org/insect with (more info at this link): http://spottedwing.org/ Handy, huh? And, fortunately regarding those ugly brown marmorated stinkbugs, no one has reported this insect yet—knock on wood—in Curry County.

One last thought: You are not meant to be a walking encyclopedia. But learning how to use the existing resources will serve you well. OSU has provided us a great place (https://oregonstate.edu/ ) to begin online research. If you can’t find the answer there, you will have many more publications to check out that are provided by one of many other land grant universities where we always can turn first to learn about the latest research available on all sorts of topics.
ANNUAL PLANT SALE

Save the Date....

Saturday, May 9th
9 am - 3 pm

We are still on the Hunt for a volunteer or three to take charge of our Annual Plant Sale

RILEY CREEK GARDEN ~ Ali Mramor

Please get in touch with Ali via email, text or phone call if you’d like to help out: amramor@ccsd.k12.or.us tele. 310-409-3496.

Ali Mramor & Robin’s baby shower

Pistol River Friendship Hall Saturday, February 1, 2:00 pm
{ The time has been moved later to allow master gardeners to attend the tree pruning class in Bandon that morning. }

LUNCH WILL BE SERVED

Ali and Robin are registered at babylis.t.com/baby-ali-robin

**Contact Marna to RSVP call or text 541-698-7709 if you would like to attend. ~ Thank you! **
DIG YOUR LIBRARY ~ Julia Bott
Chetco Community Public Library Annex
402 Alder Street, Brookings
Contact Julia Bott jbott@batnet.com or telephone 650.520.5673

CHETCO COMMUNITY SEED LIBRARY KICK OFF
FEBRUARY 22, 2020 10 AM – 11:30 AM
Chetco Community Public Library,
405 Alder St, Brookings, Oregon

The seeds for the Chetco Seed Library were sown when an inspired Lynette McPherson came home from the National Heirloom Festival in Santa Rosa in fall 2019.

The Chetco Seed Library is an informal group of passionate gardeners who are dedicated to helping residents of our region – Curry and Del Norte Counties – to grow heirloom, non-GMO, non-hybrid, open pollinated seeds. Another goal of the Chetco Seed Library is to grow and share seeds acclimatized to our region. We all know our coast has a variety of microclimates, but the ocean remains our overriding constant.

Strategies to support gardeners include a seed checkout site at the Chetco Community Public Library, seasonal skill building workshops, such as the one on February 22, and a Facebook group. Processes for checkout, recording garden conditions, saving, and sharing have been developed.

Seed availability will change with the seasons. Gardeners will be limited to 6 packets per week (honor system). There will be a small collection box for seed and monetary donations.

Interesting heirloom varieties of your favorite vegetable, and some flowers, will be available at the Chetco Seed Bank for check out starting February 22. We hope to see you on February 22, 10:00 to 11:30 at the Chetco Community Public Library for the kick-off but if you can’t make that date, drop by during library hours and check out a few packets. At the end of the season, we look forward to hearing about your gardening experiences and adding your seeds back to the Chetco Seed Library.

For more information, look for Chetco Seed Library on Facebook or contact: Julia Bott, jbott@batnet.com, (650) 520.5673

Lynette McPherson, bhhsgarden@gmail.com, (971) 319-0290

DIG YOUR LIBRARY (Cont.)

Dig Your Library Spring Equinox Celebration
Welcome spring with activities for adults and youth including:
- DYI Worm composting and bin building workshop for families
- Planting activities for younger kids

Chetco Community Public Library, 405 Alder Street, Brookings, OR 97415

Dig Your Library spring, summer and fall gardening sessions have been scheduled. Activities include planting seeds and transplanting starts, harvesting, weeding and caring for the butterfly and pollinator garden. Youth of all ages welcome. Please wear proper shoes.

Spring – Fridays, April 17 thru June 5, 3:30-500 pm
Summer – Fridays, July 10 thru August 14, 3:30-500 pm
Fall – Fridays, Sept. 18 thru October 16, 3:30-500 pm

Chetco Community Public Library Annex, 402 Alder Street, Brookings, OR 97415

For more information: Julia Bott
jbott@batnet.com or 650.520.5673
MEET THE MEMBERS OF THE CLASS OF 2020 — We want to thank the 2020 trainees who took the time to tell us a little more about their backgrounds! We look forward to learning a little bit about the remaining students in future newsletters.

Rhone Stetson
My name is Rhone Stetson, I’m 42 years old. I’ve been gardening most of my life at different points and enjoy it but have no formal training. My wife and I got a house a couple years back and I’m looking to learn how to better maintain my own property and help others in my community as well.

Michelle Arnold
My name is Michelle Arnold, and I’m delighted to be living in Gold Beach and gardening in this wonderful climate. My husband, our 3 cats and I moved from Fairbanks Alaska last spring. I love ornamental shrubs, water gardening and am a new convert to vermiculture. I have lots to learn about gardening here and am grateful to be part of the MG class.

Geri Sanford
My name is Geri Sanford – I’ve lived in Gold Beach with my husband a little over three years. I love flowers and my favorite color is purple; almost all of my flowers are shades of pink or purple. I’m growing lavender, wand flowers, rhododendrons, phlox, tea trees, bottlebrush, beauty berry and spirea among others.
I’m originally from New Rochelle, NY, a suburb of New York City. I lived there through college. After a one-year stopover in Columbus, OH, I lived in Memphis, TN for 20 years. I went to Seattle on vacation and thought it was the most beautiful place I had ever been. I worked for FedEx and was able to transfer to Seattle where I lived for almost 18 years. I love the Oregon Coast. I’m so grateful that I get to live here. :)

Leah Morris
My name is Leah Morris. I moved to Gold Beach about 4 years ago from Asheville, NC with my husband and dog. Gold Beach is a very different climate than I am accustomed to, and I hope to learn about growing a vegetable garden and flowers on the coast. I also hope to get more involved with the community thru the Master Gardeners program. In addition to gardening, I love to hike, bike, run, travel, and be outdoors.
CCMGA – GENERAL MEETING MINUTES-Jan. 21, 2020

Meeting Called to Order 10:02 AM at the OSU Extension classroom

Attending: Mark Stevens, Cathy Appel, Carol Hobbs, Debbie Carroll, Pam Leslie, Mama Williams, Debbie Richter, Alir Mramor, Mary Jacobs, Tim Lyons, Rolland Gerber, Linda Stokes, Ruth Patton, Jeffrie Hall, Lori Phelan, Scott Thiemann, and Julia Bot

Minutes from Nov. 19, 2019 no changes, approved by Tim L. seconded by Mary J.

TREASURER’S REPORT:

Ruth P. handed out the CCMGA financial statement for December, an itemized Category Statement – 2019, & a Profit & Loss Budget Overview that shows potential income & budget for 2020. The last 2 items were done in QuickBooks & she has almost completed the transition from Quicken to QuickBooks. She asked that the budgets for 2020 be checked. There was a discussion about accounting & receipt for “in-kind” donations.

BUSINESS ITEMS:

Mini College: The educational conference will be held this year at OSU July 24th to the 25th. More information will be coming from OOMGA and will be passed on to the membership. A “save the date” flyer was passed around.

Membership Dues: Debbie C. – Most members have paid dues. She showed the status of the CCMGA membership from 2017 to 2020 with a chart. As of this date there are 41 certified members in Curry. The retention trend is going up for the certified members. It was decided that badge membership stickers should not be handed out until dues have been paid.

Plant Sale Coordinator Position Update & Plant Sale: Carol H. – Passed out a table created by Debbie C. that describes all the tasks involved with the plant sale. Two members of the new class have stepped up to coordinate the event & Genny Knox has agreed to take on the Sale Publicity. Lori P. has placed a free ad for the Annual Plant Sale in the Oregon Coast Magazine. Carol H. has reserved the HS cafeteria for Saturday May 9th. The 2nd Chance Sale will not happen in Nesika Beach, so Carol H. has proposed a 2nd Chance Sale at Gold Beach HS about one month after the May plant sale. It would be held in the courtyard & greenhouse.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Riley Creek: Ali M. – The modest grant she applied for from Oregon’s Farm to School Grant Program was not awarded putting her position as garden coordinator in limbo. She is applying for another grant & has re-approached All Care & Advantage Health. Ali will be leaving Curry County for Coos Bay one month before her maternity leave in April but will continue to coordinate the program from there until the baby arrives. Because of funding, hiring a temporary substitute for her position won’t be feasible & so the educational program may have to be put on hold. If there is any volunteer who could take over till mid-July (if funding is approved) please contact her. Mary J. is able to help with the program until summer & there are teachers who are willing to take their classes out to the garden.

Ali will be putting out the request for volunteers to help coordinate/shift the Strawberry Festival for the last week of May. The kids have started their Mother’s Day projects, succulents in pots & will be finished before she leaves. Concrete floor funded by the rotary not in yet. September 2020 is the deadline for completion.

MG volunteers will be needed to help maintain the garden until Ali returns. Marna W. suggested putting heavy duty weed cloth on unused beds for spring/summer & Mary J. suggested putting in cover crops & pumpkins to keep the weeds down.

Guest Speaker Eric Feliciano: Eric is a current MG trainee & county employee who came to the meeting to “brainstorm” some potential ideas for video projects for the first Curry County film festival in October. He is interested in the theme of sustainability & would like to document projects in different stages. Films could be short or part of a longer one. Areas of interest: growing food locally, educational programs related to food, managing waste, fisheries, complications, finances & access issues pertinent to sustainability, & the long-term viability of the projects. The members present suggested a number of potential sources & names.

Seed to Supper: Scott T. – The Landos and Sherry Baun are ready to run the program again in Brookings. The classes will start this year in April (1 month earlier). Scott would like to have additional classes in Gold Beach & Port Orford. Riley Creek might be a possible location. Three new trainees are coming from Port Orford this might be able to help with establishing a program there. If new locations are found, committees of approx. 5 people need to be formed to set up the program. There will be an added cost to the CCMGA budget to purchase additional textbooks.

Dig Your Library: Julia B. – Announced that Feb. 22nd will be the official kick off of the Chetco Seed Library. The class schedule for spring, summer & fall is set & Ali Van O. has put on the CCMGA Teamup Calendar. Saturday March 21st, 11 AM to 2 PM will be the “Dig Your Library Spring Equinox Celebration”. It will feature worm composting, making worm bins & planting activities for the younger kids. Friday classes start in April. Her plans for expanding the garden will be scaled down to one additional bed for a “Three Sisters Garden” due to library plans for that area.

ABC Preschool: Sherry Baum & Ruth P. will take over the program from Barb Cary. The kids, ranging in age from 2 to 5, garden in the school’s small garden & create garden themed crafts. They could use another volunteer to help with the very small folks. Mark S. volunteered to help them.

MG Speakers Series: Scott T. – will be happening again this year at the Chetco Community Library 2nd Saturdays during the summer & fall. He hopes to expand the series to the Curry County Library, Gold Beach.

Land & Building Fund: Debbie C. – is continuing to work with Bryan Grummon & County staff to locate a site for a future greenhouse.

PROGRAM ASSISTANT’S REPORT:

Scott Thiemann – Reminded everybody present that there are many ways to be involved with CCMG.

He stated that the OMG Mini College will be the same weekend as the Curry County Fair, which may cause some scheduling conflicts. [This may not be correct. The Fair site lists the dates as July 29 – August 1, & the Minicollege dates are July 24 – 25, 2020] need to verify dates.

If members have questions about association issues, they need to communicate with Lori P., CCMGA president.

He accidentally ordered the badges that fasten with a pin, for 2019 the class, not the ones with magnets. He is now ordering the “good” ones.

Also he wants the new trainees to write short “bios” about themselves to be put in the Brambles.

Lastly, the presentation on soils and compost included an emphasis on soil health in the 2020 class schedule based on feedback from previous trainees.

OTHER ASSOCIATION PROJECTS/WORKSHOPS/ CLASSES:

Hypertufa & Driftwood Collecting: Pam L. is willing to host the hypertufa & driftwood container making workshop again at her home. March 7th may be the date & the time 11 AM. Driftwood collecting could be on Feb. 15th. Email notices will be sent out.

Gold Beach Library Series: As stated earlier some of last year’s speakers would be willing to give their talks at the library in Gold Beach.

Holiday Bazaar Brookings: Participation in the sale will be decided after the May plant sale. It is a great place to promote CCMG & one of the new class members was recruited at the bazaar.

Fall Class Series at Riley Creek: It will be decided later in the year if the classes will be held again, before the County Fair where they can be promoted. Ali M. said even if she is no longer working for the school that should not stop the classes from happening. Marna W. is willing to be involved with planning.

Summer Party: Location needed for the summer party. The last two years it has been held in Gold Beach & it would be nice if it was in Brookings this year. Post request in the Brambles? Mark S. who lives on Alder Ridge Rd. in Brookings volunteered his home for the summer party held in August. He was thinking August 15th might work.

Holiday Party: Mary J. & Debbie R. have volunteered to be in charge of the holiday party. They have decided to hold it at Pistol River Friendship Hall & be a potluck. Possible dates: December 5th or the 12th. Maybe earlier in the month would be better & could be held on a Sunday. The earlier start time was a success at the last holiday party, 2 PM to 5 PM was proposed. Also, the possibility of having live music at party was considered.

Meeting adjourned 11:39 AM

Submitted by Jeffrie Hall
MASON BEES POLLINATE PLANTS BEFORE HONEY BEES GET BUSY

Author: Kym Pokorny; Source: Brooke Edmunds—CORVALLIS, Ore. April 3, 2015 — The gardening season is young, but mason bees are out for their short but productive foray into the blooms of your backyard.

These solitary native bees — most commonly the blue orchard mason bee (Osmia lignaria) — get busy before honeybees and set to work on early-flowering plants like forsythia, pieris and especially fruit trees.

“Mason bees fill a spot in the season when other pollinators are not out,” said Brooke Edmunds, a horticulturist with Oregon State University’s Extension Service. “They’re really important for fruit trees, especially in cool, wet areas.”

As honeybees continue to struggle for survival, mason bees take on a bigger role in the backyard garden, according to Edmunds. Both serious and casual gardeners welcome these earnest pollinators to get better yields of fruits, vegetables and flowers.

Mason bees are smaller than honeybees, have a bluish hue and are often mistaken for flies. Rarely do you have to worry about being stung because these unaggressive bees live alone and have no hive to protect.

Unlike honeybees that fly up to four miles to find their preferred food, mason bees don’t go much farther than 300 feet. They move in a zigzag pattern, which makes them especially efficient pollinators for small spaces, according to Edmunds.

The single-minded bees live to bring nectar and pollen back to the nest for their larvae that hatch from eggs laid between walls made of mud — another material the female bees must haul back to the nest. Leaving patches of mud close to nesting areas in trees or other wood will help attract them, Edmunds said.

You can also encourage mason bees by creating a garden that includes plants that bloom during their excursions in March to mid- or late May. Consider plants such as crabapples, redbud, flowering currant, elderberry, huckleberry, Oregon grape and lupine. Even the often-dreaded dandelion is a great source of food.

If you want to introduce the bees rather than wait for them to arrive in the garden, she recommends purchasing a nesting house, which contains straws filled with cocoons that hatch in spring. They’re available online or at garden centers.

Alternately, you can drill holes into a solid piece of untreated wood. Make the holes five-sixteenths of an inch in diameter, six inches deep and three-fourths of an inch apart. Insert paper straws with cocoons inside the holes.

Whatever you end up using, hang houses or containers under eaves or other protected areas where they’ll be protected from wind, rain and sun.

Some people will bring the cocoon-filled houses inside over winter to keep them out of reach of predators. They’ll also spend time removing cocoons and washing off mites or parasites and reinserting them into clean straws.

“There are two schools of thought,” Edmunds said. “Some people want to get into high maintenance and harvest, clean and store cocoons. But that’s not necessary. You can always buy additional cocoons each year. And, of course

BLOOMING HOUSEPLANTS MAKE CHARMING GIFTS

By Kym Pokorny, Source: Brooke Edmunds—CORVALLIS, Ore. — Winter-blooming indoor plants are a welcome way to take the edge off the chill and gloom of winter and many are ready to give as last-minute holiday gifts.

The choices go beyond traditional poinsettias and amaryllis. Colorful African violets, gloxinia, cyclamen, orchids, ornamental peppers and Christmas cactus are blooming and readily available. Dress them up with bows and cellophane or combine a few in a basket with store-bought or garden-harvested moss and some decorations and present them as party gifts or to a plant lover on your list.

Before you buy, though, consider some key care tips, including how to get them home, said Brooke Edmunds, a horticulturist with Oregon State University Extension Service. She advises taking a cardboard box along with you to the store and then covering the plant after getting it into the car.

“You want to keep them protected from drafts and mimic the conditions of being in a warm situation,” she said. “Use something that won’t crush the plant but protects it against cold shock. Avoid putting them in the trunk where it gets colder.”

Once you get them home, check to see if they are badly root bound and need to be repotted up one container size. If so, be sure to use a well-draining potting soil with perlite or peat moss in the mix. If the plant comes wrapped in foil or cellophane, be sure to cut holes in the bottom so water drains through. Most plants will rot if left sitting in water, Edmunds said.

Potted plants are well fertilized before being shipped to stores, so let the recipient know they don’t have to worry about feeding them for several weeks. When it’s time, use a houseplant fertilizer high in phosphorous (the middle number on the label), the element that helps them bloom.

“When it comes to watering, more people overwater than underwater,” Edmunds said. “Check to see if the plant needs water by sticking your finger two inches into the soil. If it’s dry, go ahead and water.”

The foliage of some plants, such as African violets, can be damaged if water gets on the leaves. They also get root rot easily. Avoid that by watering from below. Or carefully water from above, let it drain and then empty the saucer it sits in. Also, steer clear of misting, which can promote foliar disease.

Keep plants away from drafts, in bright light and in temperatures of 70 degrees or above during the day and 55 or above at night.

“It’s a nice idea to write down instructions on a pretty card to include with the plant,” Edmunds suggested.

Don’t be concerned if gloxinia or cyclamen die down after blooming. That’s normal. You can either discard the plant and buy a new one next year or let it go dormant for a few months until foliage reappears. Then grow it like you would any houseplant.

Look for plants — particularly orchids and Christmas cactus — that have some tight buds as well as open flowers in order to extend bloom. Orchids can be difficult to rebloom unless you have a greenhouse or can mimic the warm, moist conditions by regularly misting.

Colorful ornamental peppers may look delicious, but are often sprayed with commercial pesticides and labeled “for ornamental use only.”

There are two types of holiday cactus. One (Rhipsalidopsis) blooms near Easter. The other type is in the Schlumbergera genus and includes many hybrids with different colors. Schlumbergera hybrids and cultivars have distinctly pointed projections on the leaves and bloom near Thanksgiving. S. buckleyi has more rounded, scalloped edges and blooms later, between Christmas and New Year’s.
February 2020 ~ The Brambles

**FEBRUARY GARDENING TIPS**

**Planning**
- Tune up lawn mower and garden equipment before the busy season begins.
- Have soil tested to determine its nutrient needs. For more information, contact your local Extension office for a list of testing laboratories or view Laboratories Serving Oregon: Soil, Water, Plant Tissue, and Feed Analysis (EM 8677).
- Select and store healthy scion wood for grafting fruit and nut trees. Wrap in damp cloth or peat moss and place in plastic bag. Store in cool place.
- Plan an herb bed for cooking and creating an interesting landscape. For example, choose parsley, sage, chives, and lavender. Choose a sunny spot and plant seeds or transplants once the danger of frost has passed (late-April or early-May in the Willamette Valley and central Coast; June or July in eastern and central Oregon).
- Plan to add herbaceous perennial flowers to your flowering landscape this spring. Examples include candytuft, peony, penstemon, and coneflower.

**Maintenance and Clean Up**
- Repair winter damage to trees and shrubs.
- Make a cold frame or hotbed to start early vegetables or flowers.
- Fertilize rhubarb with manure or a complete fertilizer.
- Incorporate cover crops or other organic matter into soil.
- Prune and train grapes; make cuttings.
- Prune fruit trees and blueberries.
- Western Oregon: Prune deciduous summer-blooming shrubs and trees; wait until April in high elevations of Eastern and Central Oregon.
- Western Oregon: Prune and train trailing blackberries (if not done the prior August); prune back raspberries.
- Western Oregon: Prune fall-bearing raspberries (in late-February or early-March).
- Western Oregon: Prune clematis, Virginia creeper, and other vining ornamentals.

**Planting/Propagation**
- Plant windowsill container gardens of carrots, lettuce, or parsley.
- Plan to add herbaceous perennial flowers this spring: astilbe, candytuft, peony, and anemone.
- Good time to plant fruit trees and deciduous shrubs. Replace varieties of ornamental plants that are susceptible to disease with resistant cultivars.
- Plant asparagus if the ground is warm enough.
- Plant seed flats of cole crops (cabbage, cauliflower, broccoli, and Brussels sprouts), indoors or in a greenhouse.
- Western Oregon: Where soil is dry enough and workable, plant garden peas and sweet peas. Suggested varieties of garden peas include: Corvallis, Dark Green Perfection, Green Arrow, Oregon Sugar Pod, Snappy, Knight, Sugar Snap, Oregon Trail, and Oregon Sugar Pod II.
- Western Oregon: Good time to plant new roses.

**Pest Monitoring and Management**
- Monitor landscape plants for problems. Don't treat unless a problem is identified.
- Use delayed-dormant sprays of lime sulfur for fruit and deciduous trees and shrubs.
- Remove cankered limbs from fruit and nut trees for control of diseases such as apple anthracnose, bacterial canker of stone fruit and Eastern filbert blight. Sterilize tools before each new cut.
- Control moles and gophers with traps.
- Western Oregon: Elm leaf beetles and box-elder bugs are emerging from hibernation and may be seen indoors. They are not harmful, but can be a nuisance. Remove them with a vacuum or broom and dustpan.
- Western Oregon: Monitor for European crane fly and treat lawns if damage has been verified.

**Houseplants and Indoor Gardening**
- Pasteurize soil for starting seedlings in pots or flats, or use clean sterile commercial mixes.
- Central Oregon: Gather branches of quince, forsythia, and flowering cherries; bring indoors to force early bloom.
HOMEMADE PLANTING MEDIUM
SETTING SEEDS ON THE RIGHT PATH

By Kym Pokorny; Source: Brooke Edmunds -- CORVALLIS, Ore. – While you’re battling the winter blues, make your own seed-starting mix and plan for the gardening days ahead. For information about starting seeds, see Extension’s publication Propagating Plants from Seeds.

Home gardeners can start vegetable and flower seedlings indoors from four to 12 weeks before the last average spring frost in their area, which means it’s time to get started. Making homemade planting medium can be more economical than buying a sterile mix at the store, said Brooke Edmunds, a horticulturist with OSU’s Extension Service.

A good germinating mix must be fine and uniform, yet well-aerated, loose and free of pests, diseases and weed seeds. It also should be low in fertility and total soluble salts, yet capable of holding and moving moisture.

Soil straight from your backyard just won’t do the job. Typical backyard soil is too compacted, full of weed seeds and it is not pasteurized, causing seedling diseases and death. Native soil often does not drain as well as seedling mixes. And it can develop a crust that prevents seedlings from pushing through.

Edmund’s recipe for a good basic pasteurized medium for growing seedlings is a mixture:

1/3 pasteurized soil or compost, 1/3 sand, vermiculite or perlite,
1/3 coconut coir or peat moss.

“Many people just use this combination which seems to work well, too,” she said:

1 / 2 peat moss and
1 / 2 perlite, vermiculite or sand

To pasteurize a small quantity of soil or compost in an oven, put the slightly moist soil or compost in a heat-resistant container or pan. Cover with a lid or foil. Place in a 250-degree oven; check the temperature periodically using a candy or meat thermometer. When the mix reaches 180 degrees, cook for an additional 30 minutes. Avoid overheating it, as the structure of the soil may be damaged, rendering it useless as a seedling soil ingredient.

Then, mix pasteurized soil or compost with the peat moss. Add sand, vermiculite or perlite. These ingredients are available at most nurseries and garden stores.

Another task to complete before the start of seed-sowing is to clean your pots, trays and flats. After washing, rinse the containers in a Solution of 1 part chlorine bleach to 9 parts water to kill remaining plant disease microorganisms that could weaken or kill your tender young seedlings.

HOW TO FIND OUT WHAT’S GOING ON

Contact Lori Phelan, find us on Facebook: Curry County Master Gardeners-OSU Extension

THE BRAMLES NEWSLETTER

Emailed to active members and on www: http://extension.oregonstate.edu.curry
Editor, Cathe Barter at umpqua bart@gmail.com

BOARD MEETINGS are monthly 3rd Tuesday from 10 am to noon
OSU Extension (Gold Beach)
2930 Ellensburg Avenue, Gold Beach, meeting room
(No Meetings in August or December)

Visit these sites to volunteer:

GOLD BEACH HIGH SCHOOL GREENHOUSE
29316 Ellensburg (at the read of school)
Contact Carol Hobbs, 541-251-2422 Mailhobbs@yahoo.com
*Annual Plant Sale Project* spoken here

RILEY CREEK GARDEN
94350 6th Street, Gold Beach
Contact Ali Mraror amramor@ccsd.k12.or.us

DIG YOUR LIBRARY ~ Julia Bott
Chetco Community Public Library Annex
402 Alder Street, Brookings
Contact Julia Bott jbott@batnet.com or telephone 650.520.5673

ABC PRESCHOOL
543 Hemlock St, Brookings
Contact Sherry Baum & Ruth Patton

SHOP AND GIVE BACK TO CCMGA!

CCMGA has completed two “REWARD” program applications! This is your chance to give to our non-profit organization through your daily purchases.

The 1st rewards program is smile.amazon.com. If you have an Amazon account and purchase products from Amazon, connecting your account to Smile.amazon is easy. Go to smile.amazon.com and log in to your account. You will be asked which charity/non-profit you would like to support. You will find MANY Master Gardener Associations, so PLEASE select Master Gardener Association, Gold Beach, Oregon. It is on page three or four of their list of Master Gardener Assoc. Then make your purchases...it is that simple. Amazon smile will donate .05% of your qualified purchase to CCMGA by direct deposit.

The 2nd rewards program is with Fred Meyer. Using this reward program is as easy as linking your Fred Meyer Rewards card with Curry County Master Gardener Assn., Gold Beach, OR. Set up a new account or sign into your existing account at fredmeyer.com, click on the ‘Fred Meyer Community Rewards’ link at the bottom of the page, type in ‘Curry County Master Gardener Assn.’ or the number ‘85441’, choose our organization, and click on ‘Enroll.’ Information about both the programs is available online at each business; check it out!
February 2020—The Brambles

Have you seen the Curry County Master Gardeners website? Extension.oregonstate.edu/curry/mg
The Brambles is usually posted there by the second of the month.

The last Monday of the month is the cut-off date for submitting articles for the Brambles. Email them to Cathe Barter umpqua.bart@gmail.com

This is your newsletter, if you have something to share please send it in. We will make every effort to include it.

Thanks to all of you who generously contributed to this edition of the Brambles. All submissions are gladly considered.

CCMGA Officers for 2020

President ............ Lori Phelan
Vice President........ Julia Bott
Secretary............... Jeffrie Hall
Treasurer.............. Ruth Patton
OMG State Rep....... Jeffrie Hall
Newsletter Editor..... Cathe Barter
Historian............... Cathe Barter
Past President....... Lori Phelan
OSU Program Asst... Scott Thiemann

1 - 800-356-3986

To contact officers, leave a message at the Extension office 1-800-356-3986

Curry County Master Gardeners Association
monthly meetings 3rd Tuesday, 10 am to noon in Gold Beach, OR

www.facebook.com/OSUExtCurryMG

Curry County Master Gardeners Association
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