WELCOME, MASTER GARDENER TRAINEES. Yamhill County Master Gardeners hope you learn a lot and enjoy your time with us.

MASTER GARDENERS: Sign up NOW for Master Gardener classes you want to attend: space is limited!

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$10 and $25
From your friendly staff
at the Extension Office
in McMinnville
Available NOW

YCMGA COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS:
Community Garden
Linda Mason
Demo Gardens
Gail Price
Education Outreach
Rita Canales
Nancy Woodworth
Newsletter
Donn Callaham
Farmers’ Mkt. Mac.
Tom Canales
Farmers’ Market
Newberg
Peter Steadman
Greenhouse
Linda Coakley
Hospitality
Cat Bowdish
Gail Stoltz
Insect Committee
Jeff Lukehart
Library
Beth Durr
Plant Sale
Susanne Beukema
Pat Fritz
Marilyn MacGregor
Propagation
Pat Fritz
Marilyn MacGregor
Publicity
Tom Canales
Scholarships
Susan Nesbitt
Spring into Garden
Carol Parks
Becky Kärver
Sunshine Committee
Polly Blum
Social Media/Website
Tom Canales
YCMGA Officers listed on back page

https://ycmga.org/ Facebook.com/yamhillcountymastergardeners
Work on rebuilding the fairgrounds Rose Garden began on December 11th with complete removal of all the roses. New roses will fill this empty bed, then next year extend the full length of the strip. Next step is installation of a gravel path through the bed and an arbor at the upper end.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>08-01</td>
<td><strong>YCMGA Board Meeting:</strong> 10 am to about noon. In the Public Works Auditorium next to Extension Office in McMinnville. As always, all Master Gardener trainees and Master Gardeners are invited to attend.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>08-02</td>
<td><strong>First session of 2020 Master Gardener classes:</strong> Introduction by Heather Stoven, OSU Extension. PW Auditorium, 9am to noon. All are invited to attend. This session includes the BREAKFAST POTLUCK, TO WHICH ALL MASTER GARDENERS AND MASTER GARDENER TRAINEES ARE INVITED.</td>
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<tr>
<td>13-01</td>
<td><strong>SIG Committee</strong> meets to begin planning. PW Auditorium, 10am to noon. This meeting will focus on preparation for the “Job Fair” at the end of January.</td>
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<tr>
<td>16-01</td>
<td><strong>[AM] Botany class:</strong> by Heather Stoven, OSU Extension. PW Auditorium, 9am to noon. Meet with mentors (and eat lunch), noon to 1pm. <strong>[PM] Propagation class:</strong> by Norm Jacobs &amp; Mike Anderson. 1pm to 4pm.</td>
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<tr>
<td>18-01</td>
<td><strong>Audit Group meets</strong> at Carol’s house to perform 2019 audit.</td>
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<tr>
<td>23-01</td>
<td><strong>[AM] Soils class:</strong> by Linda Brewer, OSU School of Horticulture, Public Works auditorium. 9am to noon Meet with mentors (and eat lunch), noon to 1pm. <strong>[PM] Organic Vegetables class:</strong> by Weston Miller, OSU Extension Clackamas County. Same location, 1pm to 4pm.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30-01</td>
<td><strong>[AM] Plant Identification class:</strong> by Heather Stoven, OSU Extension, Yamhill County, 9am to noon Eat Lunch, meet with mentors, attend job fair. <strong>[PM] Urban Forestry class:</strong> by Brad Withrow-Robinson, OSU Extension, Benton County, 1pm to 4pm. <strong>YCMGA Job Fair:</strong> Representatives of each committee or activity will introduce and discuss committee functions, answer questions. Noon to 1pm.</td>
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Fact or Fallacy: The use of “Dust mulch”

Linda Chalker-Scott, PhD. of Puyallup Extension, Washington State U. has researched dozens of plant topics. This article is an extremely brief synopsis of her work on various horticultural myths. Condensed by Donn Callaham.

The Premise: A good way to mulch is to turn the top several inches of soil into powder, or “Dust mulch”

A soil management practice now making the rounds on gardening Web sites is “dust mulching.” It is supposed to improve water conservation, and kill weeds and some insect pests.

Dust mulches are created by intensively hoeing the soil surface, creating a finely-textured layer of soil. According to proponents, dust mulching breaks the soil capillarity, reducing the evaporative loss of soil moisture. We’re told that organic mulches aggravate water loss; in other words, no mulch is better for water conservation than organic mulch of any type.

The first error in this thinking is that, in contrast to popular belief, soil moisture does not move up through the soil to replace moisture lost to evaporation. So “breaking soil capillarity” is a fallacy.

“Dust mulch” is detrimental to horticulture because it:

- Does not moderate the temperature of the soil.
- Can heat the soil in hot weather, killing shallow roots.
- Does not heat the soil enough to combat weeds or insects.
- Crop yields suffer from the use of dust mulch.
- Dust mulching significantly aids erosion from all sources.
- Areas that are dust mulched have the highest level of particulate air pollution of any type of agricultural land, including bare soil.

- The purpose of hoeing is only to remove weeds, not break up soil.
- Even 60 years ago dust mulching was shown to reduce plant vitality.
Winter is a good time of year to pay special attention to your houseplants. It is a bit wet and chilly for being outdoors, therefore why not stay indoors to garden?

An inspection of the plants in my office has revealed a particularly pesky critter—brown soft scale. Scale is a pest which can infest hundreds of types of plants: however cyclamen is the host plant in my situation.

Brown soft scale is a common houseplant pest and is pale yellow to brown and up to 3/16” in length. Scale are in the order Homoptera and use their sucking mouthparts to feed on the sap of plants. Closely related to aphids and mealybugs, they also leave honeydew which can be sticky and lead to sooty mold.

Female scale produce crawlers which are the mobile stage of this insect. Upon further molting and development, the female will grow larger and settle in one place on the plant, whereas when the males mature, they will pupate to an ephemeral winged form which will mate and quickly perish (they don’t have mouthparts and don’t feed!).

If you find these pests, diligence may be in order. I have been persistently checking my plants and squishing the scale for some time, which has helped keep the pests in check. However I have not been able to rid the plant of the problem in this way, since scale can easily hide in cracks and crevices. A horticultural oil or soap applied with good coverage could also be a solution to this pest.

The best management tool is to check your plants often for pests: the earlier you catch the problem the easier it will be to handle.

A NOTICE FROM OUR TREASURER...

Lifetime members who renew their YCMGA membership need to check the lifetime member box even if the member is paying the dues. When lifetime members pay the membership fee that amount is considered a contribution instead of dues.
# YCMGA Class Schedule for 2020

**MASTER GARDENER TRAINING SCHEDULE, YAMHILL COUNTY 2020**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>CLASS SUBJECT</th>
<th>INSTRUCTOR</th>
<th>ASSIGNMENT</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>JANUARY 9</td>
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<tr>
<td>9 AM-NOON</td>
<td>Master Gardener Program Introduction &amp; OnLine Module Information Session</td>
<td>Heather Stoven, OSU Extension Yamhill County</td>
<td>Read EM 8749: Being an MG Volunteer</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:00 PM</td>
<td>NO LUNCH BREAK - CLASS END AT NOON</td>
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<tr>
<td>1-4 PM</td>
<td>NO CLASS</td>
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<td>JANUARY 16</td>
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<tr>
<td>9AM-Noon</td>
<td>* Botany</td>
<td>Heather Stoven, OSU Extension Yamhill County</td>
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<td>NOON-12:30 PM</td>
<td>MEET WITH MENTORS</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:30-1 PM</td>
<td>***LUNCH BREAK</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1-4 PM</td>
<td>* Propagation</td>
<td>Norm Jacobs/Mike Anderson Propagation Specialists</td>
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<td>JANUARY 23</td>
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<tr>
<td>9AM-Noon</td>
<td>* Soils</td>
<td>Linda Brewer, OSU Hort. SR. Faculty Research Advisor</td>
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<tr>
<td>NOON-12:30 PM</td>
<td>MEET WITH MENTORS</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:30-1 PM</td>
<td>***LUNCH BREAK</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1-4PM</td>
<td>* Organic Vegetables</td>
<td>Weston Miller, OSU Extension Clackamas County</td>
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<td>JANUARY 30</td>
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<tr>
<td>9AM-Noon</td>
<td>* Plant Identification</td>
<td>Heather Stiven, OSU Extension Yamhill County</td>
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<td>NOON-12:30 PM</td>
<td>MEET WITH MENTORS</td>
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<td>12:30-1 PM</td>
<td>***LUNCH BREAK</td>
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<tr>
<td>1-4 PM</td>
<td>* Urban Forestry</td>
<td>Brad Withrow-Robinson, OSU Extension Benton County</td>
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<td>FEBRUARY 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>9 AM-NOON</td>
<td>* Entomology</td>
<td>Michael O’Loughlin, OSU Master Gardener</td>
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<tr>
<td>NOON-12:30 PM</td>
<td>MEET WITH MENTORS</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:30-1 PM</td>
<td>***LUNCH BREAK</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1-4 PM</td>
<td>* Plant Problem Diagnostics</td>
<td>Brooke Edmunds, Ph.D. Community Horticulture</td>
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<td>FEBRUARY 13</td>
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<tr>
<td>9 AM - NOON</td>
<td>* Vertebrates</td>
<td>Chip Bubl, OSU Extension Columbia County</td>
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<td>12:00 PM</td>
<td>NO LUNCH- CLASS END AT NOON</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ONLINE</strong></td>
<td>**ONLINE MODULE: Integrated Pest Management</td>
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<tr>
<td>FEBRUARY 20</td>
<td>SESSION 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>9 AM - Noon</td>
<td>*Pruning</td>
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<tr>
<td>***LUNCH BREAK ***</td>
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<tr>
<td>NOON-12:30 PM</td>
<td>MEET WITH MENTORS</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:30-1 PM</td>
<td>**Erica Chernoh</td>
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<td>1-4 PM</td>
<td>Lane County Extension</td>
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<td>FEBRUARY 27</td>
<td>SESSION 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>9 AM-NOON</td>
<td>*Plant Diseases</td>
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<tr>
<td>***LUNCH BREAK ***</td>
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<td>NOON-12:30 PM</td>
<td>MEET WITH MENTORS</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:30-1 PM</td>
<td>**Heather Stoven, OSU Extension</td>
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<td>1-4 PM</td>
<td>Yamhill County</td>
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<tr>
<td>MARCH 5</td>
<td>SESSION 9</td>
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<tr>
<td>9AM-NOON</td>
<td>*Lawns</td>
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<tr>
<td>***LUNCH BREAK ***</td>
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<tr>
<td>NOON-12:30 PM</td>
<td>MEET WITH MENTORS</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:30-1 PM</td>
<td>**Michael O’Loughlin</td>
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<td>1-4 PM</td>
<td>OSU Master Gardener</td>
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<tr>
<td>MARCH 12</td>
<td>SESSION 10</td>
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<tr>
<td>9AM-NOON</td>
<td>*Berries</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:00 PM</td>
<td>NO LUNCH BREAK/MENTOR TIME - CLASS END AT NOON</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ONLINE</strong></td>
<td><strong>ONLINE MODULE:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>9AM - Noon</td>
<td>Pesticide Recap and Clinic/Desk Training</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>REQUIRED</strong> for Graduation</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ENCOURAGED</strong> for Recertification</td>
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<tr>
<td>NOON-1 PM</td>
<td>POTLUCK LUNCH</td>
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<tr>
<td>1-4 PM</td>
<td>Hands On Activities and Group Activity</td>
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</table>

* Counts as recertification training for Veteran Master Gardeners

All classes are held at the OSU Extension, Yamhill County/Public Works Auditorium
2050 NE Lafayette Avenue
McMinville, OR 97128
(503) 434-7517

PRACTICUM sessions build/expand on information in the ONLINE module scheduled for that day.

ATTENDANCE IS REQUIRED

**The online module should be completed before attending the practicum session.

***Snacks are provided. Bring a sack lunch. Lunch is held from 12:30 to 1pm each day following mentor time unless otherwise specified.***
All of the major projects at the garden are now complete and we can focus our efforts on growing more and better food for the Food Bank. Last year’s donation to the Food Bank from the garden was close to 14,000 pounds, a little short due to the very cold early spring.

We have now ordered all of the garden seed for 2020 and will use more pelleted seed both for carrots as well as lettuce. The seed on both of these are too small to sow individually and result in thinning (a very difficult task when growing thousands of plants).

When deciding what to grow, we try to find varieties that are nutritious, easy to grow, pest resistant and easy to harvest. We have plenty of elevated raised beds for growing spinach and lettuce and this makes harvesting much easier.

Our planned major crops are going to be: Tomatoes, Onions, Carrots and Squash (summer and winter). We grow many other crops but in significantly smaller quantities.

Early January, we will start growing lettuce and spinach for the Food Bank (an ideal time to beat the aphids that arrive in the spring). We will also grow starts for the "Garden to Table" program. We will germinate under the lights on heat pads and transplant to 3 ½" pots to grow in the greenhouse.

About February 1, they will be transplanted to raised beds. We finish these crops in either late May or early June when the beds are needed for a summer crop. These beds will be covered with floating row covers to provide a little more heat and to keep off any cold weather pests.

Our selections are shown and described below and we purchase the seed from Territorial Seed Company. How many we grow is always a mystery to us as we keep germinating until the germination chamber is full. We will probably do multiple plantings as they are short season crops and usually do better as new plants. Also, “Garden to Table” likes plants for February, March and April planting.

Presently, in the food bank beds, we have broccoli, swiss chard, radishes, kale and garlic growing in abundance for spring and early summer harvest. These will all start growing again sometime in February when the daylight...
increases.

In January or early February, we will plant edible pod peas, beets and carrots. On January 23rd, we will make a Power Point Presentation to the new Master Gardener class. This will focus on our educational efforts, food bank production and volunteer opportunities.

HAPPY, HAPPY, HAPPY NEW YEAR AND HAPPY GARDENING!

Alan Wenner

Rainier Lettuce
A monumental romaine, Rainier produces big, heavy heads over 12 inches tall with a dense interior and super crispy, sweet, thick, apple green leaves. Picture-perfect uniform plants stand very erect and clean. We count this one as prime for both spring and fall planting.

New Garden in McMinnville
Stop by the Community Center in McMinnville, look to your right just before you go up the concrete entrance steps, and you will see this little garden. Planted by the members of a local church, it features 8 roses (still tiny) and extensive signage. All of the signs are in English and Spanish, though there is no Latin for the plant names. It is meant to be a peaceful place, rather than a demonstration garden.
The All-New “Garden to Table” Program—What’s Going On...

Community Care Organization grant

YCMGA Garden to Table project has received a YCCO grant for $6552. The funds will be used to purchase supplies for raised beds and containers (installed at clients’ homes), seeds, starts, and fertilizer for Garden to Table participant use. It also covers administrative costs for YCAP for their Nutrition and Basic Food Preservation portions of the project.

Instructors

The Instructors Committee under the leadership of Gloria Lutz is busy writing a new curriculum for the Garden to Table classes. New instructors and assistants are being identified. There is a special need for both English and Spanish-speaking instructors for the Newberg classes and Spanish in McMinnville.

Marketing/Recruitment

The Marketing/Recruitment Committee under the leadership of Kathleen Brown and Cynthia Norcross will be starting in January to identify hosts, sites and dates for classes. We are tentatively planning to have classes in:

- McMinnville (English and Spanish)
- Newberg (English and Spanish)
- Sheridan (English)
- Possibly at Monrovia Nursery (Spanish).

Providing Garden Space

The Garden Space Committee under the leadership of Shirley Kishiyama is tasked with acquisition of materials, construction and the scheduling and installation of raised beds and containers in home gardens. Most of the YCCO grant will be used to provide funds for this part of the project.

Shirley needs volunteers to work on the Garden Space Committee to help plan and organize their tasks. Please contact Shirley for more information at (503-730-1478) (sskishiyama@gmail.com). A class teaching commitment is not required to work on the Garden Space Committee.

Mentors

Mentors will work one-on-one with the beginning gardeners after they have finished classes to help them get started with their home or community garden spaces. We anticipate 4-5 home visits during the gardening season. We are hopeful that a successful mentoring program will significantly enhance the long-term sustainability of the Garden to Table program by participants being successful with their initial gardening experiences. This will be a great opportunity to promote good gardening practices while helping to minimize food insecurity for the families.

Please contact any of the Committee Chairpersons or Gene (503-883-9187) ghnderm@gmail.com if you have any questions or are interested in volunteering for the Garden to Table project.

Job Openings for Garden to Table

Garden Space Committee (provides raised beds or containers for class participants)

Mentors (conduct home garden visits to support class participants as they begin gardening)

Instructors and assistants in both English and Spanish.
The fact that Metasequoia (*metasequoia glyptostroboides*) is a deciduous conifer makes it very unique, but it was also believed to be extinct until a single specimen was discovered in China in 1944. In fact, in prehistoric times it was one of the most common trees in the Northern Hemisphere, having existed for at least fifty million years. Once discovered, the seeds were distributed throughout the world; in the U.S. the recipient was the Missouri Botanical Gardens.

The bright green new foliage is feathery and fern-like, darkening in summer. The foliage gives the tree an ethereal look, and as the tree ages it develops deeply fluted bark on a broad trunk. It is a tough tree, with full sun its only major requirement.

Favored planting sites give it access to some water (though it is drought-resistant once mature), non-alkaline soil, and of course full sun.

Now fairly frequently planted (though still difficult to find) Metasequoia is used as a landscape, shade, and street tree. It is not susceptible to any diseases, is resistant to insects, does not object to being transplanted, and is deer-resistant as well!
An herbicide used under the supervision of the Oregon Department of Transportation has caused so many deaths in non-target plants that it is now banned along most roads and rights-of-way in Oregon (the first state to ban this herbicide). Bayer’s Aminocyclopyrachlor (ACP) is actually too effective at killing woody plants. After being sprayed on targeted species, it was found that it travels easily into and with groundwater, killing any plants that the water eventually contacts, by poisoning through the root systems.

This was discovered when, inexplicably, over 2,000 pines near Sisters suddenly began dying, long after the roadsides had been sprayed. The herbicide also stays within the killed trees, so no part of the infected tree or shrub can be ever used for lumber or mulch. Even years later, the dead material will still be contaminated, killing any plants later exposed to it.

Happy New Year and welcome to the new decade! I hope you had a joyous holiday season and winter solstice. Now that 2020 is here, our Master Gardener training season is upon us. I am looking forward to meeting the new trainees and learning of their skills and interests.

Classes start the 9th of January, so feel free to come and participate in the potluck to welcome the class members the first day of class. This year, like last, due to our auditorium schedule, we will have a breakfast potluck starting at 9 am and class will end at noon.

We have a large class this year and will have 27 trainees who will attend our in-person classes with three online trainees joining us in April. I am excited to have such a large class; however we will have a full classroom. We will again ask Certified Master Gardeners to sign up with Carla prior to attending the classes to be sure we have room in the Public Works Auditorium. However, during special events such as potluck or “job fair” days we will not be asking Master Gardeners to register in advance unless you are planning to attend that day’s presentation.

This year should be fun. We have many of our regular instructors as well as a couple of new ones: Erica Chernoh (Lane County Extension) will teach tree fruits, Brad Withrow-Robinson (Forestry in Benton County) will teach Urban Forestry, and Bernadine Strik will be back to teach about berries.

Classes will be every Thursday through March 19th. The schedule is on pages 4 and 5 of this issue of the Grapevine, and on the Yamhill County Extension website below:

https://extension.oregonstate.edu/mg/yamhill/how-become-master-gardener

Please join us on Thursdays this training season to welcome the new class, brush up on your basics and receive continuing education hours!

How We Helped: January, 2019
A Quick Review of Master Gardener intakes for the month

We had three questions about apple trees: which to plant, when to dormant spray, and how to prune. Two clients asked how to eradicate blackberries. Of course there was a question about moss in the lawn.

Oddly, there were several questions about yellowing on shrubs, which was determined to be due to a lack of water the previous summer. So easy to forget to water shrubs in hot weather!

We also had requests to measure the pH of soil samples - five of them, and all turned out to be in the 6.0 to 7.0 range. A client asked when to plant pinot noir, and another asked for information all about lavenders. A surprising number of questions for January; we'll see what next month brings.

Susan Burdell
HEATHER REPORT: MG’s have sent in their evaluations of the graduation/banquet, and the reaction was enthusiastic. Heather will try to reserve it for November 14, 2020, a Saturday. This is because the decision was made to hold the event at midday on a Saturday, to avoid the horrors of night-time driving.

To attract more trainees and improve retention and graduation rates, Heather proposes reducing required hours for trainees. Instead of the current 65 that are required, it would be 28 on clinics/desk, and 28 “other” hours. Availability of online-only classes will also be publicized: these cost more, but do not require volunteer hours.

PLANT SALE: We are reminded to buy Plant Sale gift certificates. Good news: the Fairgrounds will still store the boxes this year for the Plant Sale, as they have in the past.

SEED-TO-SUPPER is now extinct. (See explanation in November Secretary’s notes). The name of the program is now “Garden to Table.” YCAP is building the nutrition and Food Preservation parts of the program, and mentors will be needed.

EDUCATION/OUTREACH: Our participation in the Newberg Camelia Festival used to be free, but will now cost $50. That is okay; we decided it is worth the cost.

MCMINNVILLE COMMUNITY GARDEN will not have a “Children’s’ Garden” any more. (See explanation in November Secretary’s notes). Instead, there will be Family Gardens. Also, there will be a push for people to earn hours in the garden BEFORE OCTOBER. There are no jobs available for those who procrastinate.

OMGA will be held on Thursday, July 23rd, in Corvallis. Chair people are still needed for:

- Workshops
- Raffle
- Send-a-Friend
- Silent Auction
- Fri. Banquet

NEEDED: President-elect & Vice-president. YCMGA must also decide whether or not we want to have a display and/or sell merchandise at the 2020 mini-college.

WHAT TO CALL Master Gardeners? (See October Secretary’s notes for the reason for this question). We will no longer refer to anyone as a “Veteran Master Gardener.” Instead, we will use the term “Certified Master Gardener.”

MENTORING: There will be a “Job Fair” for trainees on January 30th, during class time. Anyone planning to attend any classes needs to register with Carla to avoid exceeding the legal limit on bodies in the auditorium.

SPRING INTO GARDENING is now being organized. However, Bailey’s Nursery used to contribute $1000 per year to the event, but has changed that to $200 per year, so we need to find some more contributors.

GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN: Several meetings ago the question was brought up as to how to honor MG’s who have died. This brought up many questions; how they should be honored, how far back in history we should go, what would define an “active” volunteer, and more. Nancy and Polly promised to do research, bringing suggestions to the January Board of Directors meeting. The awards committee is now the Awards/Memorial Committee.

MISCELLANEOUS: Tom, Donn, and Terry volunteered to find a safe way to get MG’s across Lafayette for classes. We solved the problem by coordinating with the Parks and Rec. Dept. and Mac. Public Works, and will have adequate crossing paraphernalia in place on time.

We need some new people to operate the Spring into Gardening raffle this year.

Sue is happily planning the new rose garden, hoping to have it established this spring.
Michael O’Loughlin received an award for “Ask an Expert” “Question of the Year”.
Anna Ashby received an award for “Ask an Expert” Expert of the Year.
Andony Melathoupolos (middle) received the Faculty Outstanding Performer Award.

On the far left: Dr. Bill Braunworth Jr., Horticulture Dept. head
On far right, Dr. Ramesh Sagili, Associate Professor of Apiculture.