



# DOUGLAS COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS NEWSLETTER

Volume 29, Issue 8

August 2014

## August Calendar

Mon., Aug. 4, 10:00 - Noon

Insect Committee

Tues., Aug. 5, 9:00 - Noon

Discovery Garden Crew

Victory Garden Crew

Greenhouse Crew & Sale

Aug. 6-9

Douglas Co. Fair

Tues., Aug. 12, 9:00 - Noon

Discovery Garden Crew

Victory Garden Crew

Greenhouse Crew & Sale

Wed., Aug. 13, 9:00 - 10:30

Executive Board Meeting

Mon., Aug. 18, 10:00 - Noon

Insect Committee

Tues., Aug. 19, 9:00 - Noon

Discovery Garden Crew

Victory Garden Crew

Greenhouse Crew & Sale

Wed., Aug. 20, 10:00 - Noon

Advanced Diagnostics

Herb Garden Crew

Tues., Aug. 26, 9:00 - Noon

Discovery Garden Crew

Victory Garden Crew

Greenhouse Crew & Sale

Thurs., Aug. 28, 10:00 -

Noon Chapter Meeting at

the home of Sharon & Dave

Hopkins, 1073 Hinkle Cr.

Rd., Sutherlin



Photo by Fred Alley

## President's Report

**Fred Alley**

Our DCMG July 31, 2014 meeting was hosted by Dr. Doug and Janet Bitter, 581 Quail Lane, Roseburg. As so many of our Master Gardeners have nice homes and gardens, the Bitters too have a wonderful home and site. The home and the 15 acre site backs onto the South Umpqua, providing a beautiful back drop for our chapter meeting. We were welcomed by a great view of the river from the large back patio, flocks of geese welcomed us by flying right over our meeting, at tree



Photo by Kish Doyle



## OMGA Report

### Rosemary Brinkley

This year's OMGA Mini-College is over. Four of Douglas County Master Gardeners attended the event. I want to thank Larry Sutton and Roger Sawyer for representing us at the OMGA Board Meeting. They both said it was the shortest meeting in history. It could be because they had been to one the month before. Also attending were Diana Williams and Rosemary Brinkley.

Interested in planning a Deer Resistant Garden? Lee Powell, Landscape architect for Garland Nursery, gave an informative talk on plants that would look nice together. Examples for a sunny location would be: Achille 'Paprike', Perovskia atriplicifolia and Euphorbia 'Silver Swan'. For a shady area he suggested Actaea 'Black Negligee', Rhododendron Hy. Noyo Brave, Blechnum spicant and Epimedium hy. Yubae. He gave out a handout with 16 different combinations for deer-resistant plantings. Call Rosemary if you would like a copy.

top level, and the chickens were restless, but quiet. The Bitters purchased the property in 1999, at which time only a garage and apartment existed from the former owner. The Bitters constructed a new house, connecting the existing two story garage/apartment, transforming the house and the property into a wonderful home site. Thank you, Dr. Doug and Janet Bitter for hosting the July Chapter meeting.

Our August meeting will be held in a completely different part of Douglas County. Dave and Sharon Hopkins, who live east of Sutherlin (1073 Hinkle Creek Road), will be hosting



Photo by Kish Doyle

the meeting. I will send, via e-mail, the driving directions to their home the week before the August 28, 2014 10:00 chapter meeting.

The September 25, 2014 Chapter meeting will be held at the Discovery Garden Pavilion. This is a good time to meet the new Board, thank the previous Board members for their service, visit with some of our new members and visit with other Master Gardeners you may not have seen for awhile. This meeting is seen as more of a social gathering than a business meeting.

## OMGA Report (cont.)

Have you heard of Hochbeet Kultur? This class was presented by Marieluise Eager, a German-Trained Horticulturist and Benton County Master Gardener. She gave step by step guidelines to build a high bed(raised bed). It is similar to lasagna gardening. She lines the bottom of the bed with hardware cloth to keep the critters out. The first layer is made of your coarsest materials first - tree and hedge trimmings, bark and bigger wood pieces. If too springy, pack them down by walking on them. Want more info, contact Rosemary, she has the handouts. 541-673-8814 or [mikeandrb@gmail.com](mailto:mikeandrb@gmail.com)

Hope to have more attending from Douglas County next year. It is being held at Linfield College in McMinnville in August.

Thanks to the following Master Gardeners who donated items for the Silent Auction at Mini-College this year. They are Della Neavoll, Karolyn Reicks, Elva Sellens, Sharon and Dave Hopkins and Rosemary Brinkley. The Chapter also donated 3 Gardening Journals. Thanks again!

The most important business item conducted at the July 31st meeting was the election of new Board Members. Bonnie Courter, chair of the Nominating Committee, presented a slate of officers and the following were elected:

Chris Rusch	President
Fred Alley	Vice President
Barbara Robinson	Secretary
Vicki McAlister	Treasurer
Denise Fennell	Membership
Rosemary Brinkley	OMGA Rep
Anne Bacon	OMGA Alternate
Larry Sutton	Past President

Please wish them well when you see them and feel free to attend the August 28th chapter meeting at which time they will be sworn in to their respective officer positions.

Awards Banquet Chair Judy Huntley reminded us again that the Annual Awards Banquet will be held on October 4, 2014, again at the First United Methodist Church on 1771 West Harvard Avenue, Roseburg. The event starts at 5:30PM. This is an excellent opportunity to recognize and thank individuals for the hours and hours of volunteer service they have provided during the last year. The event is entertaining, has good food, and wonderful surprise table settings are raffled off at the end of the event. Related to the Awards Banquet, Awards Chair Betty Ison reminded us that we need to turn in our volunteer time sheets in a timely manner. The awards and recognitions are based upon those time cards, so it is important the time cards be submitted on a regular monthly basis.

Our Continuing Education Program Series resumes in October, so if you have any ideas or suggestions, please feel free to contact me. I'm always open for suggestions.

Lastly, the Alley beans and tomatoes are doing great again this year. 8 foot trellises and a drip irrigation system are key to our success. I even use a 3x3x8 ft high trellis for my scarlet runner beans. Both the tomatoes and beans are at the top of the 8ft structures already. Amazing what a person can do in a small area.

## Plant Clinic

**Chris Rusch**

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The Plant Clinic has been busy this month answering lots of questions from our clients as they begin harvesting their vegetable gardens and enjoying the prolific display of the flowers they planted. The 2014 training team this summer has been Leo Grass, Larry Sutton, Judy Mercer and Chris Rusch. We continue to need veterans to help in the Plant Clinic both in training our new volunteers and keeping up with the work load of assisting our visitors to the Plant Clinic. Please try to volunteer your expertise at least once a month to help out this important outreach program. August and September have lots of openings. Please consider signing up.

We have a new phone system at the OSU Extension Office. If you have not worked in the Plant Clinic for a time, stop by for a

## Hallmark

**Linda Thames**

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At the monthly Membership Meeting in July, my report began on a terribly sad note about the death of our beloved Marjorie Orr. She would've been 89 in August, was a graduate of OSU all those years ago and always an active and supportive member of Extension and of our chapter. This sweet lady will be sorely missed. A memorial service for Marjorie will be held **Thursday, August 7, at 11:00**, at the First United Methodist Church, 1771 W. Harvard Ave. Any questions, please contact Judy Dake at [jgdake@gmail.com](mailto:jgdake@gmail.com), or 541-459-1812. However, I failed to say what a complete privilege it is for me to hold this position of Hallmark in our fine organization. Quite a few of our members

tutorial. It's a terrific improvement to our office. You will find it easy to operate. Another addition to our Clinic Office is a new bulletin board. Thanks to Julie, Denise and Roberta for setting this up. It is great for posting news articles and local events.

The statistics so far for 2014 are 620 visitors to the Plant Clinic. Questions for July were diverse, including orchard maintenance, weed identification and lots of insects. We are hoping to increase our visitor participation for 2014. The plant clinic is a great way to promote our Master Gardener Program and encourage sustainable gardening in Douglas County.



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are going through health crises with such strength and dignity but prefer that I not mention their names. At least they've never given me permission to speak about their situation. In some cases, I'm sure I don't even know the full reason I'm asked to send a card, just that another member wants them to know that others are thinking of them. Some chemotherapy patients send me regular updates on their treatments. No one would think reading that would be uplifting, but some people just have such a positive way of looking at each day, it leaves me in awe.

If you know of a member to whom sending a card would be appreciated, please contact me.

Linda Thames, the Hallmark person  
[linbill2@charter.net](mailto:linbill2@charter.net), 541-673-3978

# Greenhouse News

Maureen Benice



Photo by Maureen Benice

There have been a few changes in the Greenhouse areas in the last few months. The east side of the road's group of two greenhouses at the HLC, where the trees, shrubs, grasses and succulents are grown is called "EAST SIDE GREENHOUSES" (go figure!) and the leader of that group of greenhouses is Gloria Amorde. The greenhouses on the other side of the road are called "WEST SIDE GREENHOUSES". This is where perennial ornamentals, annual ornamentals and veggies are grown. The leaders of that group of greenhouses are: Barbara Robinson, Carol Bolt, Jackie Carpenter, Karolyn Riecks, Maureen Benice and Tasha King and this is called CORE group. Betty Ison is an advisor.

During this 'after Plant Sale' time an inventory of plants has taken place. There is an on-going sale of plants...some ½ price, some full price

and some free. If you want to take advantage of the sale, just show up at the greenhouses on Tuesdays, 9-noon, with money. Lots of good plants still for sale!

Lots of general maintenance, like cleaning and inventorying have been done so that pots, fertilizer, etc. can be purchased. Weeding under the pallets on the West Side greenhouse patio area has been done. The weeds under the pallets have been replaced by chips. Rocks will be put on the slippery pathways between the pallets.

Planning is an on-going project by the CORE group of the West Side greenhouses. Both 'sides' are continually preparing the remaining plants for the 2015 Plant Sale. Crews will be needed for these activities.

# Deer - The Bane of Our Gardens

**Denise Fennell**



As a child my parents always taught me to learn from the mistakes of others. I didn't get this. All I could think of was riding my bike, hanging out with my friends and going to the mall.

It is not until you get older that you understand these wise words. The old cliché "Hindsight is 20/20" is such an understatement. If you are new to the area, or thinking you have a handle on the deer, I must say, think again. For as you will see, tonight the deer 'crawled' under my fence while another hoofed through it, and in 20 minutes destroyed everything I cultivated for the last 6 months. I had planned to pick another 3-4 pounds of green beans in the morning. Now they are being digested by critters I now call vermin.

Therefore I want to allow others to learn from my experience. This is my second year for growing a garden. I knew I had so much to learn so took the Master Gardener's class this past winter and now I have even MORE to learn. I fully realize that to keep deer out you need a mega fence! Some say 6 feet, others 7 feet. I'm going for 8+. Either that, or you must rotate your 'repellents' weekly. This is the damage from 2 adult females in 20 minutes. My apple trees stripped, my broccoli totaled, my beans destroyed, egg plants chewed from 2 feet to 2 inches and tomatoes nibbled like a tasty appetizer and they even ate the peppers! My canning season is officially over. It was like looking at your car when it's been wrecked. You don't really realize how much damage has been done until the initial shock wears off. I thought they had just eaten the bush beans. Then I kept looking and the tally went up.

Total damage:

- 12 Broccoli Plants
- 40 Bush Bean Plants
- 9 Eggplant Plants
- 5 Grafted Apple Trees
- 10 Tomato Plants
- 8 Jalapeño Plants - peppers and all
- 8 Anaheim Chili Plants -chilies and all



Photos by Denise Fennell

Don't let this happen to you. If you have home remedy deer repellents, be sure to change them out every couple of weeks. Deer are very tenacious, and when hungry and tempted by the tender vittles of your lovingly tended garden, your repellents will only deter them for so long. To give you an example, I had 6' fencing, bells hung on the fence so if they touched it, it made noise, white ribbon emulating their tails-up danger sign and the chemical deer fence sprayed around and on the fence itself. This weekend I am installing a mega fence - 8+ feet tall, incredibly sturdy so they can't knock it down, kick it in or crawl under it.

When we moved up here I heard so many people tell me "don't worry in no time at all you'll realize deer are pests." I thought how horrible - never! They didn't realize that I moved up here from the concrete jungle and the only wild life I was exposed to was the occasional dead opossum or raccoon on the side of the road. I was here to embrace all the wildlife. Yeah...that lasted 2 years. Instead of "Oh honey look! The deer are in our yard!" it's more like, "Oh crap! The deer are in our yard - get the gun!"

—<https://www.facebook.com/groups/oregongreenacres/>

—<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Douglas-County-Master-Gardeners/251882398200487>

## Awards Banquet Judy Huntley

Who: All Master Gardeners

What: Annual Awards



Celebration and Banquet

Where: First United Methodist Church  
1771 W. Harvard Avenue  
Roseburg, OR

When: October 4, 2014  
Social 5:30 pm  
Dinner 6:00 pm  
Awards 7:00 pm

Why: Great Food, Fantastic Friendship, and Awesome Door Prizes

We will be having a main dish, salads, breads, and desserts. I will have a sign-up sheet at the August 28th General Meeting.

Help will be needed setting up the tables and decorations on Saturday morning and then we will need a cleanup crew after the celebration is over.

Call: Judy Huntley 541-459-2550

## Treasurer's Report

(as of 7/30/14)

**Vicki McAlister**

### INCOME 6/26/14 - 7/30/14

Contributions/Interest	\$ 101.19
Soil Testing	\$ 95.00
Dues - Membership	\$ 10.00
Compost Tea	\$ 288.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 494.19</b>

### EXPENSES 6/26/14 - 7/30/14

Dues - OMGA	\$ 56.00
Grants/Gifts/Scholarship	— \$ 200.00
Discovery Garden - Various	\$ 280.90
HLC - Greenhouse Supplies/Maint.	\$ 211.95
Plant Sale - Electricity/Plants	\$ 2,555.26
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 2,904.11</b>

### BREAKDOWN OF ACCOUNTS

Checking	\$ 4,315.63
MoneyMarket - Reserves	\$ 7,659.10
Money Market	\$39,094.59
<b>ENDING BALANCE</b>	<b>\$51,069.32</b>

## July 2014

## Chapter Meeting Minutes

**Janet Parkerson**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - The OSU Douglas County Master Gardeners Executive Meeting was called to order at 10:00 am on July 31, 2014 by President Fred Alley. The Minutes of the June 2014 Chapter Meeting were corrected and approved as written.

PRESIDENT FRED ALLEY expressed his appreciation to Master Gardener, Janet Bitter, and her husband, Dr. Doug Bitter, for hosting the meeting at their home and invited Janet to give the members some history that led to her to becoming a Master Gardener. Janet gave a brief overview of their move to Roseburg in 1989, initially living in a small rental home, and in 1999, finding the beautiful property on the river, where they currently live.

HORTICULTURAL AGENT - Steve Renquist announced that the river levels are at the lowest level in 75 years. He warned that water usage restrictions will be implemented very soon. He has been working with growers on a plan when the restriction occurs. He also warned those who are on wells to monitor the water level carefully. If the water gets too low in the well, the motor could burn out.

Steve said the issue of excessive heat is proving to be 5-7% heat units ahead of last year. Heat units are a unit of measurement using the low and high temperatures, calculated in an equation and averaged to provide a heat unit rating for each day during the growing season. Last year, the average heat unit was 20, however this year, Steve feels we will finish with an average closer to 25. Anytime the temperature exceeds 86 degrees, crops and plants draw more water than they need and it is then lost in transpiration. For those interested in monitoring the heat units, they can refer to [www.weather.com](http://www.weather.com), then go to Farming Weather, Heat Unit Calculator.

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR - Ruth Stafford published the new Roster and it is available in the Plant Clinic.

OMGA REPRESENTATIVE - Roger Sawyer attended the OMGA meeting. They are asking for volunteers to run for Treasurer.

Gail Langelletto reported on the 2017 International Conference. They are ready to sign contracts. Advertising will not start until after the 2015 International Conference so as not to impact attendance. As of June, Gail's position has shifted to 90% Horticultural Department and 10% in the classroom.

Funding as an adviser will be paid 85% by the college, leaving 15% that she will have to produce herself.

Roger, Rosemary Brinkley and Diana Williams attended Mini-College. Rosemary thought the classes were great and the entire event was very well organized. They were hoping for an attendance of 260, however fell short by just a few at 256. The Silent Auction was successful and the Garden Journals DCMG donated went for \$35, \$40 and \$45. Roger attended classes on berries and invasive insects. The class provided a lot of information on the marmorated stink bug and the spotted wing Drosophila, two insects that cause damage to berries and cherries in our area. Roger shared new methods and timing of trimming apple trees that have proven to regulate even crop production, eliminating alternating years of good yields. He suggests pruning be done before the trees get leaves. Using scissors, cut the blossoms off of the first spur, then every other off the next spur. This is done after your last spray, making sure there will be no snow for at least 2 weeks.

TREASURER - Vicki McAlister reviewed the Treasurer's Report.

PRESIDENT - Fred Alley announced the next summer Chapter Meeting will be held at the home of Dave and Sharon Hopkins in Sutherlin. Fred asked those who have not signed photo release forms, please do so as soon as possible.

Fred asked Steve Renquist to review the plans for the new article that will appear in the News-Review. Steve Renquist was contacted by Vicki Menard of the News-Review regarding the monthly insert on Gardening. It will run twice a month April through October and once a month the rest of the year in the Saturday edition, beginning August 2nd. The format will be a question and answer style. The questions will originate from the Plant Clinic and from emails sent in by readers. The column is to be 500-600 words. They will use the Master Gardeners/OSU logo. This year's trainers will work together to author the column. They include Chris Rusch, Leo Grass, Bonnie Courter, Larry Sutton and Judy Mercer.

PAST PRESIDENT - Larry Sutton said the contract deadlines for the 2017 International Conference have been extended to August 31, 2014. The tentative date has been set for the week of August 7, 2017.

SECRETARY - Janet Parkerson had nothing to report.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH - Leo Grass was not present.

PLANT CLINIC - Chris Rusch stated the Plant Clinic is in need of sign-ups for the month of August. July had 130 contacts. It was also suggested if you have not volunteered at the Plant Clinic within the last few months, you will want to come in a little early to get trained on the new phone system.

PLANT SALE - Barbara Robinson had nothing to report.

GREENHOUSE - Maureen Benice sent an email asking that no more pots be donated. Most of what they have is not of the type used by the greenhouse. Larry Sutton asked if Master Gardeners could come pick up what they do not want. Maureen said they are in a box in the transplant greenhouse for the taking. If you need to get rid of pots, Liz Akin is starting a nursery in Lookingglass, and Janice Bunyard could also use them.

Presently, work crews are scheduled 9-12 on Tuesdays and 8:00 am at the Westside greenhouse. Chips and gravel have been put down by Ivor Chapman, Gale Robinson, Ray Warren and David Clark. Fred Alley reminded members that an email had been sent by Judy Mercer looking for people interested in the grass clippings from the Courthouse area. This grass is excellent when used for composting.

KRUSE FARMS - Anne Bacon said the information table at Kruse Farms has been keeping busy. They have an urgent need for at least one veteran Master Gardener for August 23. Janet Parkerson volunteered to fill the position. They have openings in September. Anne passed the calendar around for member sign-ups. They have been tracking their efforts, and in July, they had 13 consultations and 67 contacts. Barbara Robinson suggested

they give the contacts and consults a brochure or pamphlet. They will start doing that.

VICTORY GARDEN - Mik Carlson reported 742 pounds of vegetables have been donated from the Victory Garden and 136 pounds of produce has been donated by members for a total of 878 pounds. She encouraged members to raise those numbers by donating their own produce through Master Gardeners. Last year they came just a few pounds short of 5000 pounds and Mik would like to top that this year.

DISCOVERY GARDEN - Julie Stanbery said she just returned from Tucson, Arizona and was amazed at how beautiful the desert was in bloom. Arizona had a lot of rain this winter and is currently experiencing the Monsoon season, causing the desert to explode in color.

Jan Kirchner has volunteered to co-head the Butterfly Garden. Since the big tree was removed, we have actually had butterflies! The Watering Crew is doing a great job. Noel Groshong is working on the pressure problem in the reservoirs and it should be repaired soon.

Julie reminded everyone to wear their badges to any event or when at the Discovery Garden. If any members wish to use the Pavilion, please follow protocol and sign up on the calendar in the Plant Clinic. This will help avoid any conflicts. If there is a conflict, Julie, Steve and Fred are available to help.

Julie commended Mik Carlson for the lovely presentation she gave at the Master Food Preservers meeting. Her talk was very informative.

SIGNAGE - Karen Glatz was not present.

PUBLICITY - Bonnie Courter had nothing to report.

AWARDS - Betty Ison presented swinger bars to Anne Bacon, Ivor Chapman, Bonnie Durick, Sandy Grindle, and Kish Doyle. Betty recommended members check their time cards that have been handed in. Many have been sent back. She reminded members to total their hours both on line items as well as a grand total. Check the binder in the office to

see if your hours have been posted, if not, then go to the box and identify the problem. Roger Sawyer will print a copy of the hours reported and post them in the Plant Clinic. You can also call Pam Barrows with questions.

The Awards Banquet will be held on October 4, 2014 at 5:30 pm at the First United Methodist Church on Harvard Ave. Betty will have sign-up sheets soon.

HALLMARK - Linda Thames reported Marjorie Orr has passed away. Marjorie was a strong supporter of Master Gardeners for many years. She volunteered often and was willing to help with every event. Covie Quick relayed a message saying "Hi" to all and a "thank you" for all the cards and phone calls. She was our second President and charter member, and recently fell and broke her hip. Janice Bunyard's husband, Mike, has been battling cancer.

NEWSLETTER - Jen Bailey reminded members that the deadline for the Newsletter is August 1st. Jen is stepping down as editor of the Newsletter after the September issue. Bonnie Courter has volunteered to take over the position of Newsletter Editor. Fred Alley and Jen Bailey enthusiastically expressed their appreciation to Bonnie for taking on this project.

#### OLD BUSINESS

Kish Doyle reminded everyone that there is a Drop-Box account available for anyone who wants to upload any photographs they have taken of their gardens or the Discovery Garden. She has created a new category called "Members Gardens" for the photos to be uploaded to. Contact Kish to get the directions on how to access the account.

#### NEW BUSINESS

NOMINATING COMMITTEE - Bonnie Courter thanked the Nominating Committee members for their efforts. The Nominating Committee presented the individuals nominated to office for next year. A motion to accept the members to office was approved. The following elected officers will take office at the September Chapter Meeting:

President - Chris Rusch  
Vice-President - Fred Alley  
Secretary - Barbara Robinson  
Treasurer - Vicki McAlister  
Membership Director - Denise Fennell  
OMGA Representative - Rosemary Brinkley  
Alternative OMGA Representative - Anne Bacon  
Past President - Larry Sutton

The Nominee for the position of Secretary was changed to Barbara Robinson. A motion was made by Julie Stanbery and seconded by Kish Doyle.

#### SHOW AND TELL

Jen Bailey brought in a homemade moth ball holder. It was made with poly-pipe with holes and slits to be hung on perimeter garden fences in order to deter deer.

Bob Brindley asked for a vote on how to do the Tomato Tasting Contest this year. He encouraged everyone to bring in their favorite tomatoes. Bob also discussed the ollas he is developing. Ollas are un-glazed pots, baked at a low temperature, which are then buried in the ground within 12" of plants. They are filled with water, which then provides continuous watering. He is looking for one or more persons interested in taking over his job of signing up vendors for the Plant Sale as he would possibly become a vendor himself, selling his ollas.

The Wine Tasting has been canceled until the weather cools down. A date will be announced.

Gale Robinson is asking for volunteers to help unload gravel on Tuesday, August 4 at 7:30 am. They will unload all the gravel at that time, so to avoid working in the heat. They need plenty of volunteers.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:46 a.m.

# Master Gardener Standards

## Steve Renquist

In 2012 and 2013, a special task force was charged with developing resources and national standards for Extension Master Gardener Programs. The task force was comprised of state Master Gardener coordinators from across the country, including Oregon MG program leader, Gail Langellotto.

The task force worked throughout 2013 to draft a list of program standards, seeking input from Master Gardener faculty, staff and volunteers throughout the process. These standards were forwarded to the Extension Master Gardener National Committee in late 2013. The Committee approved the standards (with minor edits) in January 2014.

The national standards for Extension Master Gardener Programs in the United States are:

### Our National Standards

Extension Master Gardener programs are networks of land-grant university-trained volunteers, distinguished by the standards listed below. To achieve greater consistency in program management and the volunteer experience across the Cooperative Extension system nationally, state Extension Master Gardener programs will strive to meet these standards and ensure they are reflected in the statewide program.

### Program Structure and Expectation Standards

- has an established statewide organizational system
- establishes state program goals that align to achieve the EMG program mission
- engages in Extension-approved projects and programs designed to educate the public about horticulture and gardening

- is accountable to state Extension leadership and local stakeholders
- shows documented educational impact in local communities that demonstrates behavior change and public value
- follows the Equal Opportunity Guidelines for their state and/or university.

### Volunteer Management and Preparedness Standards

- uses recognized volunteer management practices
- incorporates a system for volunteer leadership and development
- uses an established state training curriculum (A suggested core curriculum includes Botany, Physiology, Soils, Basic Pathology, Entomology, Weeds, IPM, Vegetables, Fruits, Turf, Woody Ornamentals, Herbaceous Ornamentals, Composting, Diagnostics and Troubleshooting, Planting and Maintenance, Introduction to Extension Master Gardener Program, and Record Keeping and Reporting)
- requires a measurement of volunteer competency following completion of state training program
- requires volunteer service hours; 40-hour volunteer service minimum in the initial training year and 20-hour volunteer service minimum in subsequent years
- requires annual continuing education and professional development hours; 10 hours minimum annually in years following initial training
- uses an annual recertification criteria and process

### National Extension Master Gardener Program Standards Adopted

The following information is a review of the meeting that took place in Corvallis on July 11, 2014. The recap of the meeting is from Gail Langellotto.

### Gail's Writing

On July 11, 2014, 17 faculty and staff representing 19 county Master Gardener programs met for an all-day work session in Corvallis, Oregon. While Master Gardener Volunteers were attending Leadership Day classes, we were meeting next door to discuss issues, brainstorm solutions, preview tools, share ideas and network. It was an incredibly productive session, where key decisions were made that impact the Master Gardener Program and the volunteers that we train and serve.

A major focus of our July 11th working group agenda was to consider whether or not Oregon would adopt these new national standards.

Many of the national standards are things that we already do (or try to do) in Oregon. The key parts of the standards that impact Oregon's Master Gardener Programs are:

- requires volunteer service hours; 40-hour volunteer service minimum in the initial training year and 20-hour volunteer service minimum in subsequent years, and
- requires annual continuing education and professional development hours; 10 hours minimum annually in years following initial training

There was some concern on the part of the representatives from the southern Oregon counties (Jackson, Josephine, Douglas, Curry) that the re-certification requirements might: cause them to lose volunteers, require them to 'de-badge' volunteers, or cause dismay with their local MG Association.

Others thought that adopting the standards would: provide much-needed structure and guidance on recertification at the local level, ensure the quality of volunteer education and of the program.

The national standards were eventually adopted, by consensus decision.

### What Does This Mean for Current Volunteers and County Programs?

What does this mean? Does it mean that programs will be 'de-certified' or that individuals will be kicked out of the Master Gardener Program if they have not met the minimum re certification standards (10 hours of continuing education and 20 hours of volunteer service)? No! But it does mean that programs now have specific guidance on and guidelines for Master Gardener re-certification.

Over the next 3-5 years, the Oregon Master Gardener Program (at state and county levels) will work to implement the new standards by:

- 1) informing Master Gardener volunteers that the national standards have been adopted in Oregon, as well as the reasons for the development of national standards, and the reasons that Oregon has moved to adopt these standards.
- 2) adjusting re-certification requirements at the local level, as needed, setting a 3-5 year timeline as a goal to reach compliance with the standards.
- 3) training new Master Gardener volunteers (e.g. 'trainees') about the re-certification requirements. Over time, as more volunteers are trained under the 'new' standards, it will increasingly become the norm.
- 4) working to offer flexible options for re-certification education hours (e.g. a take home test, online modules, etc.). We

currently have [a few online options available for re-certification hours](#), and will work to develop more in the coming years. We will also work to develop assessment-based re-certification options.

5) understand that life happens, and sometimes a volunteer may need to put their MG status 'on hold'. Be flexible, where needed.

Over the past 7 years that I've worked in the Master Gardener Program, I've realized that change rarely comes quickly or easily. I'm excited about the adoption of the national standards and am hopeful that they will indeed provide much-needed structure and guidance on re-certification at the local level and that they will help ensure the quality of volunteer education and of the program. But, I recognize that there may be some 'growing pains' ~ particularly where re-certification is concerned. Our intention is to roll out the new standards in a way that is gradual (over 3-5 years) and well supported (e.g. offering more options for re-certification credit hours) ~ in an effort to continue to offer high quality educational programs to our volunteers and advice that is reliable (science based), relevant (can be customized to anyone's gardening situation) and reachable (find us online, in the office, on the phone, in your community).

#### A Few Closing Thoughts From Steve

There were differences of opinion about the national standards rollout, but after extensive discussion all the county coordinators agreed that consistent minimum standards will be good for the Extension Master Gardener program nationwide. You may notice that our county already has much higher requirements

for our volunteer service at 60 hours versus 40 hours for the new minimum standards. It will always be acceptable at the county level to have higher volunteer time standards if desired.

The core topics listed for the winter training program at the national level coincide with the topics we teach in our training program very closely. This will not be an issue for us locally.

We also know that there will always be some dissent on how local programs handle the question of re-certification from year to year with the volunteers. As Gail commented, we will gradually, over 3-5 years, ask volunteers to choose one of several ways to re-certify. The simplest way will be to attend at least 10 hours of continuing education (winter training or designated classes before monthly meetings), and give 20 hours of volunteer time to the organization during the year.

Whether you support this idea or not, this does help to keep volunteers up-to-date technically by taking classes, and actively by being connected to groups and activities within our chapter.

We are an inclusive organization and don't intend to be bouncing people out of our chapter who want to be a part of the Douglas County Master Gardeners. However, moving forward we would like to have active members of our chapter who are prepared to interact with the public on occasion, and help carry the workload of a successful chapter so it doesn't all fall on just a few volunteers. I think these national standards can be beneficial to our local chapter over time.

# Western Oregon Gardening Calendar for August from OSU Extension

Douglas County Master Gardeners Recommendations in this calendar are not necessarily applicable to all areas of Oregon. For more information, contact your local Extension office at <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/find-us>

## Planning

- Damp wood termites begin flying late this month. Make sure your home is free of wet wood or places where wood and soil are in contact.
- Optimal time for establishing a new lawn is August through mid-September.

## Maintenance and Clean Up

- Make compost of lawn clippings and garden plants that are ready to be recycled. Don't use clippings if lawn has been treated with herbicide, including "weed-and-feed" products. Don't compost diseased plants unless you are using the "hot compost" method (120 degrees to 150 degrees Fahrenheit).
- Fertilize cucumbers, summer squash and broccoli to maintain production while you continue harvesting.
- Clean and fertilize strawberry beds.
- Use mulch to protect ornamentals and garden plants from hot weather damage. If needed, provide temporary shade, especially for recent plantings.
- Camellias need deep watering to develop flower buds for next spring.
- Prune raspberries, boysenberries and other cane berries after harvest. Check raspberries for holes made by crown borers, near the soil line, at base of plant. Remove infested wood before adults emerge (approximately mid-August).
- Monitor garden irrigation closely so crops and ornamentals don't dry out.
- If a green lawn is desired, make sure lawn areas are receiving adequate water (approximately 0.5 to 1.5 inches per week from June through August). Deep watering less often is more effective than frequent shallow watering. Measure your water use by placing an empty tuna can where your irrigation water lands.
- Prune cherry trees before fall rains begin to allow callusing in dry weather. This will minimize the spread of bacterial canker.
- Western Oregon: Prune out dead fruiting canes in trailing blackberry and train new primo canes prior to end of month.

## Planting/Propagation

- Plant winter cover crops in vacant space in the vegetable garden.
- Plant winter kale, Brussels sprouts, turnips, parsnips, parsley, and Chinese cabbage.

- Western Oregon: Mid-summer planting of peas; use enation-virus-resistant varieties; plant fall crops of cabbage, cauliflower, and broccoli.
- WesternValleys,Portland,Roseburg,Medford:

Plant cauliflower, broccoli, Brussels sprouts, spinach, turnips and parsnips.

#### Pest Monitoring and Management

- Continue monitoring peaches,plums,prunes, figs, fall-bearing raspberries and strawberries, and other plants that produce soft fruits and berries for Spotted Wing Drosophila (SWD). If SWD are present, use an integrated and least toxic approach to manage the pests. To learn how to monitor for SWD flies and larval infestations in fruit, visit: <http://bit.ly/SWDmonitor>
- Check apple maggot traps; spray tree if needed.
- Control yellow jackets and wasps with traps and lures as necessary. Keep in mind they are beneficial insects and help control pest insects in the home garden.
- First week: If necessary, spray for walnut husk fly.
- First week: If necessary, second spray for peach tree borer and/or peach twig borer.
- First week: If necessary, second spray of filbert trees for filbert worm.
- Check for root weevils in ornamental shrubs and flowers; codling moth and spider mite in apple trees; scale insects in camellias, holly, maples. Treat as necessary.
- Watch for corn ear worm on early corn. Treat as needed.
- Check leafy vegetables for caterpillars. Pick off caterpillars as they appear. Use Bt-k, if necessary.
- For mite control on ornamentals and most vegetables, hose off foliage, spray with approved miticide if necessary.
- Remove cankered limbs from fruit and nut trees for control of diseases such as apple anthracnose and bacterial canker of stone fruit. Sterilize tools before each new cut.
- WillametteValley: Corn may need protection from ear worm. Spray new silks with appropriate pesticides if necessary.
- East of Cascades: Check for tomato hornworm. Remove them if found.
- Coastal andWesternValleys: Spray potatoes and tomatoes for early and late blight.

For additional OSU Extension gardening information, visit: <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/gardening>

# Douglas County Master Gardeners

Newsletter: The deadline for the September 2014 Newsletter is August 30. Mail submissions to Bonnie Courter: [rbcourter@gmail.com](mailto:rbcourter@gmail.com)

Website: [www.extension.oregonstate.edu/douglas/douglas-county-oregon-master-gardeners](http://www.extension.oregonstate.edu/douglas/douglas-county-oregon-master-gardeners)

Facebook Page: [www.facebook.com/pages/Douglas-County-Master-Gardeners/251882398200487](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Douglas-County-Master-Gardeners/251882398200487)

Horticulture Agent: [www.extension.oregonstate.edu/douglas/horticulture](http://www.extension.oregonstate.edu/douglas/horticulture),  
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OSU Douglas County Extension Service: [www.extension.oregonstate.edu/douglas](http://www.extension.oregonstate.edu/douglas)

OSU Gardening Information: [www.extension.oregonstate.edu/gardening](http://www.extension.oregonstate.edu/gardening)

OSU Master Gardeners Program: [www.extension.oregonstate.edu/mg](http://www.extension.oregonstate.edu/mg)

Oregon Master Gardeners Association (OMGA): [www.oregonmastergardeners.org](http://www.oregonmastergardeners.org)



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