



Aug. 2022 Calendar

Mon, Aug. 1

Insect Committee (10:00-Noon)
Victory Garden Crew 8:00-

Tues., Aug. 2, 8:30-11:30

Greenhouse Crews
Discovery Garden Workday

Thurs., Aug. 4, 8:00-?

Victory Garden Crew

Mon., Aug. 8, 8:00-?

Victory Garden Crew

Tues., Aug. 9, 8:30-11:30

Greenhouse Crews
Discovery Garden Crew

Wed., Aug. 10, 10:00

Executive Board Meeting, Annex

Thurs., Aug. 11, 8:00-?

Victory Garden Crew

Mon., Aug. 15

Mentor Meeting, Annex 10:00

Insect Committee (10:00-Noon)
Victory Garden Crew

Tues., Aug. 16, 8:30-11:30

Greenhouse Crews
Discovery Garden Workday

Thurs., Aug. 18, 8:00-?

Victory Garden Crew

Tues., Aug. 23, 8:30-11:30

Greenhouse Crews
Discovery Garden Workday

Thurs., Aug. 25, 8:00-?

Victory Garden Crew

Fri., Aug. 26, 10:00-11:30

Dr. Lyles at DG, meet & greet

Tues., Aug. 30, 8:30-11:30

Greenhouse Crews
Discovery Garden Workday

Tues., Sept. 6, 8:30-4:00

Fall Training Class starts!!!

The Prez Sez...

Topics for this month range from weeds to roses. Let's start with the weeds. Looking at the photo of Tansy Ragwort, it's a pretty yellow flower on a tall stalk. Tansy was unintentionally introduced to Oregon in the 1920's. In 40 years it became a pernicious, invasive weed that over the span of two decades cost livestock ranchers in Douglas County upwards of 5 million dollars. The poisonous alkaloid in the plant causes liver damage leading to death of cattle and horses. Sheep and goats are not affected by the plant and are sometimes let into pastures to clear the tansy before cattle grazing.



Photo: Robin Oki

Biological control is managed with cinnabar moth larvae and ragwort flea beetles. Both insects can achieve control within 7 years. From 1970-1990 many pastures were hand-weeded to remove the entire biennial plant. Soon it became much less common to see any sign of tansy and in the past 20 years it has been uncommon to see any widespread growth. However, conditions similar to the year 2005 with a winter drought and warm wet spring have created the conditions for resurgence of the weed.

Shelby Filley, DC Forage and Livestock agent, is helping me collect OSU publications that will be in the Plant Clinic for more in-depth information. (See PNW 175 and ODA position paper "Biological Control of Tansy Ragwort"). While we can help identify this weed for the public, any and all pasture/forage questions should be brought to Shelby's attention.



Photo: Fred Alley

Now for the roses! A word about our MG friend, Patrice Sipos (2015). As we announced last month, we nominated Patrice for the honor of OMGA Master Gardener of the Year. Patrice is so quietly unassuming that when her nomination was announced, she was truly stunned. Patrice served as our Treasurer and then was asked to step into the more advanced level of OMGA Treasurer; all the while working in DCMG educational and outreach capacities to support the educational mission of sustainable gardening practices and the Master Gardener program. Her desire to be of service is reflected by her extensive volunteer work.

Patrice took office as OMGA Board Treasurer in 2019. Relying on her life-long career in accounting, Patrice implemented a series of workshops with the chapter treasurers designed to revamp their finances, auditing and IRS reporting.

This is one of the cliché moments in life when it truly is an honor to be nominated, and no matter the outcome, we are proud to claim her as our "*treasured*" volunteer!

See you in the garden,
Julie

Vice-President's Report

Diana Woodward

Schedule of our upcoming Chapter Meetings:

August

August 25th at 10AM, our Chapter meeting/potluck will be at Cynthia Moyer's home located at:

191 Glenwood Ct., Roseburg, OR

Directions:

From Garden Valley, heading north to the DG from Roseburg, take a right on Fisher Road, before the Roseburg Golf Course.

From Garden Valley heading south away from the DG toward Roseburg, take a left on Fisher Road after the Roseburg Golf Course.

Head 2 miles down Fisher Rd., take a right on Meadowlark. It's only a block long. At the end, turn right onto Glenwood, first house on the left. Their 191 sign is right out front of their driveway, which is long and there are two driveways. When taking a left at the 191 sign it's a circular drive - you can go either way. Parking is at the end of either one. We should have someone there assisting.

September

Our Chapter meeting will be at the Discovery Garden under the pavilion, beginning at 10AM. Bring a dish to share, big potluck after our meeting to welcome our new students.

October

Continuing Education begins again on October 27th at 9:00AM in the Auditorium at the Annex. October and November are going to be about oak trees. Alicia Christenson, DC Forestry Agent, will teach how to inoculate oak logs with Shiitake mushrooms. Everyone will go home with an "infused" log.

November

On November 17th, one week early due to Thanksgiving, Ken Carloni has agreed to share his presentation: "Beyond Acorns: Oaks Keystone Role in the PNW Ecosystems". Oaks are the "keystone" of many PNW savanna and woodland ecosystems. Although they are well known for producing the acorns that sustain so many birds and mammals, they provide a myriad of other functions that dramatically increase the biodiversity of their communities.

December

No meetings this month

January 2023

January 26th Fred Alley the Tool man will share some tool cleaning, restoring and using skills with us about garden tools.

February

February 23rd, Bruce Gravens has agreed to do a class for us on pepper starts for your 2023 garden.





How many of us have had a beautiful plant for many years and after it blooms it dies? How sad that something you cherished could die after blooming! This event led me to the following article.

Recently I was doing some research on one of my succulents, the Paddle Plant (aka Flap Jack). When reading, I was just taken back at the information I had just read. Then I had to do a bit more research on the new word, "Monocarpic". I had only seen this once before and had not quite remembered what it meant.

Monocarpic plants flower once, setting either seeds, pups or offsets, only one time and then die. Polycarpic plants set seeds, pups or offsets many times throughout their lifetime. Now this doesn't mean that Monocarpic plants are annuals. Annuals only live one short season (unless you're a Master Gardener). The Monocarpic plants can live for years before you ever see them set their bloom. You will never know when they will bloom. There has been some talk about trying to stop them from blooming so that they will not die when you see your plant starting to put out that long, flowering shoot. Many have tried to cut it off to save the plant from dying. You can try this and see if it works, but for me, it's just fine to watch the plant's natural living pattern and let it do its beautiful bloom for us to enjoy.

Take the most common succulent, the *Sempervivum* (Hens and Chicks). Most of us have them in our yards or have had them at some time. They take little or no care. Then out of the blue, you notice that one of them seems to be growing quite tall in the middle of the plant. It now has a beautiful cluster of flowers at the end of the plant. The bloom will last for about two weeks and then dies completely back. Remove this plant once it has died back, making room for the new offsets to take over.

With other Monocarpic plants they will either go to seed or leave small pups in their place. Many gardeners remove any pups or offsets from the mother plant before it dies back, giving them more starts of the mother plant.

Now, to tell on myself. About three years ago I was working on hens and chicks and had a whole tray that I had just cleaned up and replaced the soil. They looked so happy - all weed free, fresh soil and ready for our plant show. Then to my amazement or shock, I just killed a whole tray of hens and chicks by cleaning them up! But I did enjoy watching them bloom for the next couple of weeks.

There are many plants that are Monocarpic that you may or may not know about. Here is a short list of some of these plants that you might have in your garden.

- Agave varieties: Victoriana (*Vilmoriniana x gyosiphila*)
- Hens and Chicks (*Sempervivum*)
- Aeonium* hybrids
- Bromeliad (*Aechmea blanchetiana*)
- Paddle Plant (*Kalanchoe luciae*)
- Sinocrassula (Native to China and Taiwan)
- Dunce Cap (*Orostachys*)

Now, if you happen to have any of these plants, enjoy them as they age. Watch for that day that they will bloom. Remember that they will leave you with a new plant to nurture and enjoy for many years.

Clockwise: Paddle Plant, Agave, Dunce Cap, Sinocrassula, and Hens & Chicks



**Oregon State University
Master Gardener™
2022 Fall Training Program**

Douglas County- Roseburg Tuesdays 8:30 AM- 4:00 PM

September 6	AM	Botany	John Panches
	PM	Climate & Weather	Steve Renquist
September 13	AM	Soils/Fertilizer/Compost	Logan Bennett
	PM	Insects	Rich Little
September 20	AM	Pruning Shrubs & Trees	Steve Renquist
	PM	Weed Management	Chris Rusch
September 22*	1:00-3:00	Xeriscape/Herb Garden	Geoff Puryear
September 27	AM	Concurrent Sessions	Master Gardeners
	PM	Berry Crops	Logan Bennett
September 29*	1:00-3:00	Composting/Vermicomposting/ Victory Garden	Ken Hays, Nathan Baily, Carolyn Ruzicka
October 4	AM	Pesticide Safety	Logan Bennett
	PM	Plant ID	Chris Rusch (MG)
October 6*	9-11/12:30-2:30	Vegetative Propagation	Carol Bolt & MG Team
October 11	AM	Vegetable Production	Jim Leet (MG)
	PM	Tree Fruit	Steve Renquist
October 13*	1:00-3:00	Plant Diagnostics	Steve Renquist
October 18	AM	Plant Disease	Jay Pscheidt
	PM	IPM	Gail Langellotto
October 25	AM	Discovery Garden final	MG Team
	PM	Final Exam	Class Coordinators

*Held at Discovery Garden/HLC - 1:00-3:00 (except October 6 where there's a choice of morning or afternoon session).

Community Outreach

Leo Grass

Our garden seems to have 'propagated' youngsters this season. Our first visitors were from Camas Valley School. Our second throng of students came to us from Fullerton IV summer school - they numbered well over one hundred, which set a record for garden tours. When I first learned of their number, I must admit I had an impulse to 'bolt and run', but was reassured by Julie Stanbery, Janet Bitter, and Diana Woodward, that everything would be okay. My special thanks goes out to each of them. I am continually rewarded by the positive influence our garden and the people who tend it have on our community.

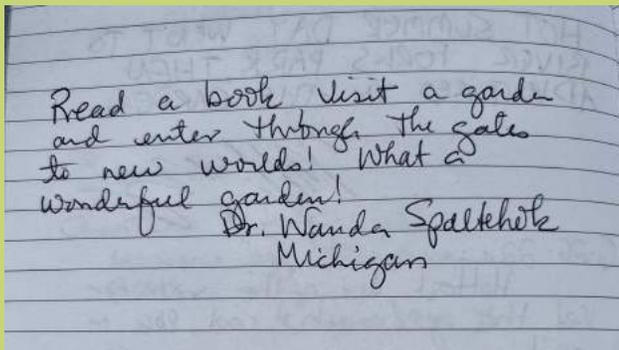


Little Free Library

Children's books have been flying off the shelves of the Little Free Library this summer! Good news is that it means we have lots of people enjoying the DG.

However, my inventory of books is rapidly dwindling. If any of you have children's books that you are interested in donating, please send me an email or text. I am happy to pick them up or meet you somewhere too. Many thank-you's!

Kathy Hart
281-682-9113
kahart2452@aol.com



Treasurer's Report

Dawnetta Loomis

06/29/2022-07/28/2022

INCOME

Contribution	\$1,000
Membership	\$10.00
Soil Testing	\$20.00
Plant Sale Post	\$18.00
Compost Tea	<u>\$233.00</u>

TOTAL INCOME **\$1,281.00**

EXPENSES

Management & General	\$63.29
Discovery Garden	\$106.82
HLC	\$174.96
Utilities	\$167.16
Community Outreach	<u>\$134.03</u>

TOTAL EXPENSES **\$646.26**

Breakdown of our accounts at 07/28/2022

NWCC - Checking	\$942.00
NWCC - Reserve	\$5,010.31
NWCC - MMK Savings	\$68,376.71
NWCC - Waddington Fund	\$71,869.42
NWCC - 6 Month CD	<u>\$17,719.81</u>

Ending Balance **\$163,918.25**



Busy Bees in EZ Access Garden by Fred Alley

Turning Over a “Decomposing Leaf” - Making MG Compost

Logan Bennett & Bruce Gravens

Douglas County Master Gardeners value sustainability and self-sufficiency. A major facet in our operation is the use of potting soil, both for starting seeds, and up-potting the beautiful plants we feature at our annual Plant Sale. In an effort to reduce cost and to use our own resources, we decided to take a swing at making our own potting soil. In our potting soil experiment thus far, we have been able to create a compost that should be sufficient for two-thirds of the operations at the Horticultural Learning Center (HLC). This effort could potentially save the DCMG’s close to one thousand dollars a year.

We started this project by combining a mixture of manure, HLC trimmings, and vineyard waste. Using this mix, we added wood chips at a 1:20 ratio and turned the pile based on temperature thresholds. Since beginning this project in May, we have generated about 20 cubic yards of very acceptable potting soil. We mixed in another 12 yards of manure on July 19th, and now the compost pile will be covered with a tarp made from recycled billboard vinyl. The pile is being covered so that it will cure (finish mineralizing and stabilize existing nutrients) until October. Once it has cured, the MG’s will be able to use part of it to refresh the Victory Garden beds and the rest will be moved to a storage location to be used as potting soil once the current pile of potting soil is consumed.



Master Gardener Ed Barrett planning the pile with Bruce Gravens

Our next pile will be started from scratch. With the July delivery, the MG’s have about 80 yards of manure on hand. We also have about 80 yards of woodchips. However, at a 1:20 ratio, only 3 yards of woodchips are required per 80 yards of manure and other fresh greens. We will be mixing manure with woodchips and

as much green waste as we can get from HLC operations and whatever our Master Gardener community can bring us to create a 50 cubic yard working pile. We will turn this pile every few weeks based upon the compost temperature. The goal is to have ~30 cu. yds. of potting soil ready to go under the tarp in October.

What can you do to help?

We need as much green waste as we can get our hands on! Please consider bringing us as much weed seed free yard/garden waste as you can. If you see a source of green waste, reach out and see how we can get access to it. Think lawn care companies. In the fall, think leaves. We do not need wood or conifer green material, but everything else will be welcome. There is a sign behind the Westside Greenhouse showing you where dump it. If you are not using it, consider bringing it to us.



In progress: potting soil getting ready to go under the tarp



Raw material (woodchips and manure)

FAQ

Will there still be pre-made potting mix? Do I have to use the new potting soil?

- You can still use the pre-made potting mix. The compost being made is optional to use.

Will this effort consume all the woodchips?

- No, very little woodchips will be used in this effort. Woodchips have a C:N ratio of 600:1, so we need very few to make good compost.

Is there concern about weed seeds, diseases, and herbicides?

- The process of composting can help mitigate these concerns. As materials compost, they heat up through microbial activity. This heat can surpass the thermotolerance of many weed seeds and diseases, killing them. However, this is not a cure-all. Some weeds and diseases can survive composting temperatures. That's why the project is doing its best to avoid using contaminated materials. We are also trying to use herbicide-free materials as well.

Resources for learning more about composting:

<https://extension.oregonstate.edu/collection/composting-publications-resources-plans>



In Passing

The sad news of Jeff Haveners' (MG 1998) death leaves us with memories that have and will last for decades to come. Jeff was a talented artist and woodworker. He designed and made the engaging road sign at the entry to the Discovery Garden. I have also planted some exquisite dark red daylilies from his home garden in the Discovery Garden under the corkscrew willow. It's comforting to remember my dear friend in our garden.

Julie Stanbery

On the Calendar



You will see that Bonnie has included the visit from the OSU Vice Provost on our August calendar.

Dr. Ivory Lyles will be in Douglas County, at the Discovery Garden, 10am to 11:30am on Friday August 26, 2022. This rescheduled visit is an opportunity for the Vice Provost to meet our MG chapter members and to get a first hand look at our educational garden complex. Given our current status, I **heartily invite** all interested members to come out for this meet and greet.

Julie Stanbery

Swallowtail caterpillar found in Linda Estep's fennel.





Ask the Tool Man Alley

During the last month I have had two Master Gardeners ask me, **"Can a manual weed cutter with a double serrated edge blade be cleaned and resharpened?"** The answer is absolutely, **Yes!!** Surprisingly, not too many individual, let alone Master

Gardeners, know what a manual weed cutter is, let alone have ever used one. I certainly used several types growing up in northern Wyoming, where it seemed everyone had a garden, surrounded by flood-irrigated pasture/hay/alfalfa fields. This combination was the perfect environment for a manual weed cutter. They were used a long time before the "gas weed whacker". It is rare to see a manual grass cutter being used today, primarily because they have been replaced by the gas weed whacker. For those who do not want a gas weed whacker, don't like the noise, don't want to spend the money for one, and have minor weeds or tall grass, a manual weed cutter can still be purchased at local hardware stores or big box stores. The cost runs from \$29.99 to \$49.00.

The most common names for the manual weed cutter are:

- Manual grass whip
- Swing blade grass cutter
- Weed sling blade cutter
- Golf club weed cutter
- Stirrup weed cutter



Photo 1 is a photo of the two most common manual weed cutters with a steel serrated cutting blade. The one on the left is the "Stirrup Weed Cutter" and the one on the right is the "Golf Club" Weed Cutter".

The double edge serrated blade will quickly eliminate weeds and tall grass as long as you use a standard "golf swing" hand/arm motion, using forward and return strokes. The Stirrup double blade grass cutter does the best job of the two cutters. It features a conventional double edge serrated blade bolted to a wooden handle. The blade is made of tempered steel which makes it

more durable and immune to breaks and bends. The Golf Club Weed Cutter is slightly lighter and is very handy in eliminating weeds and tall grass when you are using the "golf swing" action, allowing the cutting to occur on the forward swing and the back swing. The handle is metal, which also increases the strength of your swing. It is easy and comfortable to use and is better at precise cutting as opposed to the stirrup grass cutter.

Photo 2 shows a Stirrup Double Blade Grass Cutter that was given to me last week, while I was visiting a farm estate sale. The cutter was very rusty and the wood handle was broken. The cutter was left laying alongside a tool shed long ago, discarded and abandoned. To my eyes, I saw a treasure and immediately thought of the two Master Gardeners asking me if a double serrated blade weed cutter can be sharpened. Hence this article.

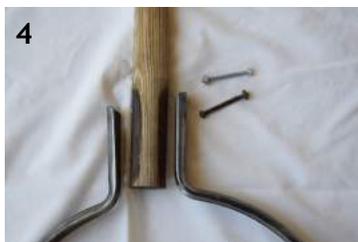


In order to efficiently clean and sharpen the blade, it is best to remove it. Since I had to also replace the wood handle, I completely dismantled the weed cutter. I used a 37-inch long heavy oak shovel handle as a replacement handle. **Photo 3** shows the blade attached to two steel braces connecting the blade to the wood handle. Because this weed cutter had laid on the ground for many years, the entire metal braces were heavily rusted. I had to use a



hack saw to cut off the two bolts connecting the blade to the metal cutting blade and the handle braces. These two bolts can easily be replaced with new bolts, making future sharpening much easier.

Once I had the entire weed cutter disassembled, it was easy to remove all the rust with my bench grinder, using a steel wheel brush. I replaced the wood handle with a used heavier shovel handle. **Photos 4 and 5.** After I cleaned both sides of the cutting blade, I polished both sides of the blade to a high shine. This provided a good clean blade surface edge to sharpen. I ran each side of



the blade over my bench grinder sharpening stone. It only took two passes to create a nice clean sharp edge. **Only sharpen the bottom side of the cutting blade.** Before I reassembled the weed cutter, I finished the wood handle with two coats of boiled linseed oil. The linseed oil restores the quality of the wood and provides a nice smooth finish, followed by three to four light coats of polyurethane. It is best to lightly wipe on the polyurethane. Once dry, rub down the wood handle with #0000 steel wool between each coat of finish. Wipe all metal parts with a fine oil, like 3-in One oil. If you desire, the braces can also be spray painted. It is obviously much easier to paint the braces when the tool is disassembled. The most used original color is dark green. Painted braces are a good choice to reduce future rust accumulation.

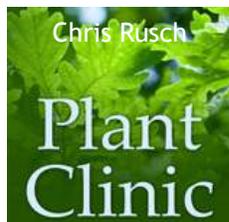
You Are Done! The manual weed cutter is so easy to use and is perfect for those small patches of weeds or tall grass. No wasting time with a noisy gas weed whacker or smell of gas. Just grab the weed cutter, several swings and all is done. Don't forget to clean the weed cutter, as it can get grimy, even after a short use. After cleaning, coating the steel parts with oil, hang the tool in a nice dry location. Don't lay it against a wall, only to result in an unwanted awkwardly bent handle.



Lastly, **Photo 6** shows the completed restored/rebuilt True Temper Deluxe Weed Cutter with a deep, serrated double edge, 14-inch X 2-1/2-inch blade and 37-inch oak handle. It will be donated to the Discovery Garden tool room on Tuesday, July 26. Give it a work-out. If you have a similar manual weed cutter and need advice or assistance, please feel free to contact me.

Happy gardening and continue keep those garden tools clean, sharp, oiled and properly stored.

PS: We are still collecting small garden hand tools to support the OSU/Roseburg School District's "Garden to Table" project for children. I have offered to clean/refurnish small garden tools for the program. I will place a white five-gallon bucket in the Westside Greenhouse and Garden Tool Room, in which you can place your donated garden hand tools.



Well, summer heat arrived to Douglas County! We had temperatures over 100 degrees in South County this week!

The Plant Clinic has been busy in July. We have been helping folks plan their gardens and landscapes by answering a wide range of questions. This includes diagnosing plant problems and identifying insects. We had over 100 visitors this month!

The Plant Clinic is one of our DCMG programs that reach out to our community to help people solve a wide range of gardening and landscape questions. The Plant Clinic training program is a great opportunity for our new members to put their knowledge of sustainable gardening to work. We are lucky to have a terrific Plant Clinic team this summer with Leo Grass, Barbara Horst, Diane Smith-Lewsadder, Doralee Hayden, and Chris Rusch. Many of our new MG's are also helping to fill in vacancies.

We need veterans to help in the Plant Clinic in both continuing to help our new volunteers and keeping up with the workload of assisting our visitors to the Plant Clinic. We have plenty of openings. I realize we all have very busy lives, but, I encourage each of you to take time, look at your calendar and pick just one afternoon each month and give the office a call and sign up. Please try to volunteer your expertise at least once a month to help in this important outreach program. The Plant Clinic is a great way to promote our Master Gardener Program and encourage sustainable gardening in Douglas County. And it lots of FUN!

AUGUST GARDEN CALENDAR

Planning

The optimal time for establishing a new lawn is August through mid-September.



Maintenance and cleanup

- Make compost out of lawn clippings and garden plants that are ready to be recycled. Don't use clippings if the 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 the base of the plant. Remove infested wood before adults emerge (approximately mid-August).
- Monitor garden irrigation closely so crops and ornamentals don't dry out.
- If you want your lawn to stay green, you'll have to water frequently during periods of heat and drought stress. Irrigate 0.25 inches four to six times per week from June through August. 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.

Planting and propagation

- Plant winter cover crops in vacant space in the vegetable garden
- Plant cauliflower, broccoli, Brussels sprouts, spinach, lettuce, turnips and parsnips.
- Check leafy vegetables for caterpillars. Pick off caterpillars as they appear. Use Bt, if necessary.

Disposing of Hazardous Materials

Anne Bacon



Last week while working in the plant clinic we got a call asking about the disposal of pesticides.

I checked the cheat sheet on the wall above the phone and only saw a Lane County resource. I was surprised that there was no Douglas County info, so I did a little research.

I called the Douglas County Department of Environmental Health, and Douglas County does not have any program for disposing hazardous materials.

Lane County does have a program for disposing up to 35 gallons of hazardous materials. You don't have to be a resident of Lane County to use this service, but you do have to schedule an appointment online. Appointments are available on Thursdays and Saturdays.

The volume of material is calculated on the size of the container. For instance, if you have one tablespoon of pesticide in a one gallon container, it will count as a full gallon.

Here's how to schedule an appointment. Go to their website: lanecountyor.gov/waste Click the red box that says "Appointment for Hazardous Waste."

On the next screen click the "Haz Waste" icon.

Then scroll through the list and check at least one box to indicate what type of waste you want to get rid of. Then click the "Next" button.

Choose a date then a time. Then complete the contact information boxes. VERY IMPORTANT: You MUST check the box that says you have 35 gallons or less of material.

I heard from one person that D.C. Co-op would accept empty containers. I called the Co-op to verify and unfortunately, that is not the case. So don't take your stuff there.

Never dispose of hazardous materials down the drain. Keep chemicals in their original containers if possible and remember to read the label.

It's good practice to read labels at least four times:

- When you buy the product
- When you use the product
- When you store the product
- When you dispose of the product

DOUGLAS COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS

Chapter Meeting at home of Dawnetta Loomis
July 28, 2022

(Photos by B.Courter & F.Alley)



Welcome: Dawnetta gave us a brief history of their beautiful place on Indian Bend. She and her husband, Dan, moved here in 2014. Her large, fenced garden is a work in progress, and slugs have been a huge problem this year - this is her third planting. They are providing homemade pizzas made in their indoor pizza oven to go with our potluck dishes.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 10:20. There were 32 in attendance including President Julie Stanbery, Vice-President Diana Woodward, Treasurer Dawnetta Loomis, and Secretary Bonnie Courter.

Agenda Approval: "Laptop" to be added under Old Business.

Minutes Approval: The minutes were approved as posted.

OFFICER REPORTS

Past President - Nancy Fuller: Not present - no report. Nancy was at Mini-College.

Membership - Kay Livermore: Not present (Kay came home from Tucson with Covid). Julie acknowledged the new students who have completed their volunteer hours: Ed Barrett, Patrice Glasscock, T e r e s a Grosenbach, Mary Holmes, Judy Ode, and Linda Witbeck. One student opted out due to family issues.



OMGA - Kish Doyle: Not present - no report. Kish was at Mini-College.

Treasurer - Dawnetta Loomis:

- No major business this month. She's still awaiting signatures for plant sale expenses.
- The CD comes to maturity next month. We will decide at the next Board meeting what to do with it. Probably best to pull it out for 30 days, then roll it over.
- Waddington Fund - just needs a signature from Barbara Zastrow.

Vice-President - Diana Woodward:

The next meeting/potluck will be at Cynthia Moyer's home off Fisher Road. September chapter meeting/potluck will be at the Discovery Garden. Alisha Christiansen will present Continuing Ed at the October meeting on infusing logs with mushrooms, then Ken Carloni will give a talk on oaks in the Umpqua in November. Bruce Gravens will talk peppers in February or March.

Since we didn't budget for speakers for CE, and there will be a cost for inoculating the mushroom logs (under \$50), the Board will okay the funds for this expense.

President - Julie Stanbery:

Julie has had a couple of calls on tansy ragwort recently. It has been under control locally, but seems to be making a comeback. Shelby Filley will review and put together an information packet for the Plant Clinic. Julie brought some tansy to share. Tansy has an alkaloid in it that can cause liver damage in livestock. The cinnabar moth caterpillar feeds on tansy, as does the tansy flea beetle. Tansy doesn't impact sheep or goats.

Julie thanked Fred Alley for helping the SNAP "Farm to School" program by getting hand tools and garden reference books to students to manage community or school gardens. DCMG's are supporting this program. Anyone who has extra hand tools, see Fred or leave them at the HLC.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Black MG Apparel - Ann

Severson: Not present - no report. Julie said if interested in an apron or hat, to let Ann know.



Community Outreach -

Diana Woodward: The Discovery Garden tour for 100 summer school children, aged 9-11 went very well. Leo Grass, Janet Bitter, Diana Woodward and Julie Stanbery divided them up into 4 groups of 25 kids. They were very well behaved.

Discovery Garden - Julie Stanbery:

- Fire restrictions are in effect, so use power tools in only in the early morning.
- The diver will be going into the river to clean the pump foot valve.
- Toilet - Julie has a friend who is going to look at it and give his recommendations to fix or replace it.
- The missing ladder was found, but not the post hole digger. Fred Alley replaced it with another one.

- Waddington corner - Sharon Hopkins reported that they've bought the stone for the walkway. The bench is at their house and will be placed once the walkway is finished. They are working on the text for the plaque.

Facebook - Barbara Horst: Not present. Her report:

For July, we had 1,919 follow our page, including 20 new people. 1,434 people were reached by our posts. The most

popular post by far were Fred Alley's photos of what is blooming at the Discovery Garden with 621 likes.



Fair Booth - Chris Rusch: Not present - her report:

Fair week is August 8-12 and Extension will be closed. We have a booth to share information about our program and answer gardening questions. All work is on track and all slots have been filled. If you would like to be an alternate, contact Chris or Diane Smith-Lewsadder. All the information and details will be emailed out to those volunteering after Mini-College. Jack Finney has finished the stands for our sign and they are terrific! Small bags of wildflower seed will be our give-away this year. Each day will have an allotment so all sessions have some to give. If you have any questions, contact Diane as Chris is very busy with Mini-College this week.

Julie Stanbery encouraged everyone to participate in submitting produce, flowers, container plants, etc., to the Fair for display in the Floral Building. August 9 is the deadline to submit.

Fall Training Program - Bonnie Courter: The class starts September 6. Things are coming along well. Our mentor meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 15, at 10:00, at the Annex. Gail Langellotto plans to attend as well. Kish is having her first "meet and greet" with prospective students starting August 1, so hopefully we will have student assignments ready for the mentors at that meeting.



Farmer's Market - Gloria Cettina: She and Mauro have been working at the Umpqua Farmer's Market with the Andino's, learning the ropes. She said it's a lot of fun talking to people about our program and answering their gardening questions.

Fundraising - Nathan Baily: Not present. Keep collecting those bottles.

Greenhouse West - Carol Bolt: They're trying to keep plants alive during this heat wave. They are also seeding for a fall plant sale.

Greenhouse East - Lenore Drake: They have been working on root pruning and cleaning up plants. Logan Bennett, along with Ed Barrett, Bruce Gravens and Bonnie Durick, are working on developing our own composted soil. Bruce found some used billboard signs to cover the pile.

Bonnie Durick reported that they were able to get a lot of free horse manure to add to the mix. The pile is now in the "cooking" stage to get it hot enough to kill weed and other seeds. We need MG's to help provide green materials to start the next batch. Bring herbicide-free green materials you are cleaning out of your yard - grass clippings, leaves, spent plants, etc. We have enough evergreen chips from the tree trimmers, but other yard waste you might want to get rid of, please bring to the HLC and add it to the "green" pile. There will be an article in the Newsletter about this project, so please read all about it!

Also they are looking at having a Master Gardener only fall plant sale. Westside greenhouse is seeding some plants for fall plants such as broccoli, cauliflower, lettuce, cabbage, cilantro and peas. Our planned sale will be these starts, shrubs, grasses, trees, etc., ready for fall planting. The sale will probably be mid-September. More to come on when it will be.

Hallmark - Linda Thames:

Jeff Havener, husband to Kathy Shayler, and who made our Discovery Garden sign, passed away after suffering

a fall. His obituary was in the paper July 24. Linda sent Kathy a card.

She also sent a "thinking of you" card to Jackie Carpenter, who is fighting cancer. Jackie would love to hear from you, so give her a call or send her a card.

Insect Committee - Diana Woodward: They are still organizing insects.

Newsletter - Bonnie Courter: Submissions are due this Saturday, July 30. Also remember the September Newsletter will be the special "Welcome New Students" edition, so if you are a Board member or committee chair, be thinking of writing something to introduce yourself to our new class.

Plant Clinic - Chris Rusch: Not present - her report:

Well summer heat arrived to Douglas County!! We had temps over 100 degrees in South County earlier this week!

The Plant Clinic has been really busy in July. We have been helping folks plan their gardens and landscapes by answering a wide range of questions. This includes diagnosing plant problems and identifying insects. We had over 100 visitors this month!

The Plant Clinic is one of our DCMG programs that reach out to our community to help people solve a wide range of gardening and landscape questions. The Plant Clinic training program is a great opportunity for our new members to put their knowledge of Sustainable Gardening to work. We are lucky to have a terrific Plant Clinic training team this summer with Leo Grass, Barbara Horst, Diane Smith-Lewsadder, Doralee Hayden, and Chris Rusch. We have also had several of our new MG's help out to fill vacancies.



We need veterans to help in the Plant Clinic both in continuing to help our new volunteers and keeping up with the work load of assisting our visitors to the Plant Clinic. We have plenty of openings. I realize we all

have very busy lives, but I encourage each of you to take time, look at your calendar and pick just one afternoon each month and give the office a call and sign up. The Plant Clinic is where we give service as part of our Master Gardener obligation to our community. Please try to volunteer your expertise at least once a month to help out in this important outreach program. The Plant Clinic is a great way to promote our Master Gardener Program and encourage sustainable gardening in Douglas County. And it lots of FUN!!

Publicity - Cheryl Caplan:

Cheryl was recently “busted” by the OSU “style-guide” people, for not using their logo correctly.

Bookmarks are coming to hand out at the Fair. They’re black and white on colored card stock, showing our programs. The cost was \$197 total through ESD. \$265 was spent for the Fair booth. These costs were not in the budget. We will probably need \$500 for the rest of the year to cover printing costs. **Bonnie Courter made a motion that we put aside \$500 for community outreach printing needs for the rest of the year, including Fall Training Class. Fred Alley seconded the motion. Discussion ensued. A vote was taken and it passed unanimously.**

Cheryl also has talked with the soil testing team about putting out a PSA in the fall to the public about our soil testing program.

Soils - Patrice Glasscock: They are in the new lab and it’s working well. Patrice is training a new person, Gloria Cettina. They still need a 55 gallon plastic drum to store water, attaching a spigot to it. Fred Alley saw one at Heartwood Resources. Diana Woodward also has one.

Swinger Bars - Kay Livermore: Not present - no report.

Victory Garden - Carolyn Ruzicka: Not present. Her report:



This past week in the Victory Garden we harvested a total of 536 pounds of produce, which we delivered to UCAN (now known as Feeding Umpqua). A great work crew showed up early Tuesday morning to harvest in record time zucchini, yellow squash, patty pan squash, one cucumber (the first of the year!), Swiss chard and rhubarb. We also took in two crates of onions which had been drying in Punched’ Palace. The Walla Walla onions were also harvested and laid out to dry, to be taken in at a later date.

Starting next week, the Victory Garden will start working two days a week to better harvest the produce. We will be working Mondays and Thursdays. We take

excess home garden produce for Master Gardeners to UCAN. The produce needs to be dropped off on the mornings of our work days between 8:00 and 9:00 AM, as our volunteers do exceptional work and harvest in record time so we can finish before it warms up.

Steve’s Minute: Steve shared some pointers on how to deal with plant stress due to extreme weather. Plants do well up to 86-88 degrees, but when it gets into the 90’s, plants use up all their energy to shut down, not transpiring as much as they should. If plants are wilting, don’t necessarily keep adding water, rather provide shade for them. Stakes around his tomato plants are



then covered with shade cloth. If using white frost cloth directly over plants, that will capture heat, so the cloth needs to be suspended to allow air to circulate around the plants. He saw lots of codling moth in the early part of the season, but they've disappeared in July. Follow the lures, - if not trapping any, don't spray. Come late August and into September they may come back, so be aware.

OLD BUSINESS: Laptop. Anne Bacon donated a laptop for us. We will need \$125 to load the 4 programs onto it. **Toni Rudolph moved that we set aside \$125 for the programs. Maureen Benice seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.**

NEW BUSINESS: Vote new term of officers:

Slate of Nominees for Executive Board

President - Julie Stanbery
Vice-President - Diana Woodward
Treasurer - Dawnetta Loomis
Membership - Kay Livermore
OMGA Rep - Barbie Hamby
OMGA Alt Rep - Patrice Sipos
Secretary - Bonnie Courter

Fred Alley made a motion to accept this slate of officers. Toni Rudolph seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. The new officers will be installed at the August Chapter meeting.

SHOW AND TELL

Julie Stanbery brought her beautiful Kamora pink hydrangea blooms to share. The variety is supposed to be compact, but it's become rather leggy. Steve said to avoid pruning it, and use less fertilizer and water which stimulates leggy growth.



ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 11:30.

Respectfully submitted,
Bonnie Courter, Secretary

Fred's Fav's



Douglas County Master Gardeners

Newsletter: E-mail submissions to Bonnie Courter: rbcourter@gmail.com

Website: www.douglascountymg.org

Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/pages/Douglas-County-Master-Gardeners/251882398200487

OSU Douglas County Extension Service: www.extension.oregonstate.edu/douglas

OSU Gardening Information: www.extension.oregonstate.edu/gardening

OSU Master Gardeners Program: www.extension.oregonstate.edu/mg

Oregon Master Gardeners Association (OMGA): www.oregonmastergardeners.org



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you to attend an event, please notify the office at 541-672-4461 no later than 2 weeks prior to event date. This publication will be made available in an accessible alternative format upon request. Please contact Bonnie Courter, rbcourter@gmail.com.

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