

Metro Master Gardener™ News

February 2010



OSU Extension Service Metro Master Gardener™ Program

Serving [Clackamas](#), [Multnomah](#), and [Washington](#) Counties in the metro area since 1976.

Mission Statement

We provide relevant, research-based education and outreach to the public of Clackamas, Multnomah, and Washington Counties about horticulture and household pests. This information promotes sustainable practices that minimize risks to human health and the environment.

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PROGRAM UPDATE FROM WESTON AND JORDIS

Dear Master Gardeners-

The 2010 Master Gardener training is off to a great start. Welcome to all new trainees. We are excited to have you as part of our educational and service organization. This newsletter is published monthly and provides updates about the Master Gardener Program and Chapter activities in the metro area along with a wealth of information about gardening topics.

New this year, we have launched an invitation-only internet portal through a social networking service called Ning to serve as a repository for course content and increase our capacity to learn and communicate. This site also allows YOU to create content! You can post pictures, videos, and events as well as create and respond to discussion forums and blog posts.

At present there are 395 Metro Master Gardeners (new trainees and veterans) who have registered for this web portal. We sent invitations to new trainees and veteran MGs the week of January 4, 2010. If you are already signed up, thank you...please visit often. If you have not signed up and want to check it out, please email a request to Weston Miller weston.miller@oregonstate.edu with your email address in the body of the text and we will send you an invitation. Hope to see you there....



Save the Date!

April 17, 2010 from 8:30am – 3:30 pm at PCC Rock Creek for MG Recertification Training

All Master Gardeners are invited to this recertification training. Please recall that veteran MGs must complete 12 hours of continuing education each year in order to maintain an active status in our program (this standard applies 2 years after your original MG training... So folks trained in 2008 and before need to plan on acquiring recertification hours by either attending our spring and fall recertification trainings or 12-hours of “*” classes at the yearly MG training. [See schedule](#))

Here are the scheduled speakers for the spring recertification:

Gardens for Healthy Aging

Deborah John, PhD

Asst. Professor, Public Health/Extension Family and Community Health

Gardening is consistently reported as an enjoyable source of physical activity for older adults. Research on health and aging has confirmed the functional fitness and physical health benefits of gardening for this population. The purpose of this presentation is to review the literature related to gardening, health, and fitness, and to examine community-based programs that plan, design, and implement gardens and gardening activities that engage older adults in health-enhancing levels of physical activity. Attendees will have the opportunity to apply learning by designing an ‘engAGEing Garden.’

Plant problem diagnosis: common and not-so-common causes of problems

Neil Bell, Community Horticulturist

OSU Extension Service

In this session we’ll look at some the difficulty in determining the cause of some problems and ways to get sufficient information from your client to solve the problem. Examples will include some common cultural problems as well as some less common pests.

Rain Gardens 101

Candace Stoughton, Sustainable Urban Landscapes - Low Impact Development Specialist
East Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation District

Rain gardens are a great way to add beautiful landscaping to your yard and protect overloaded urban streams at the same time. You will learn how to assess a site to determine the best location and size for a rain garden, calculate impervious surfaces, determine soil suitability, choose appropriate plants, and maintain your new rain garden. You will also receive a comprehensive manual that shows all the steps to constructing a rain garden.

Other Educational Events and Trainings that You Should Know About

- [Insights into Gardening](#)- sponsored by Benton County Master Gardeners on February 6, 2010 in Corvallis
- [Table Grape Pruning Class](#), offered by Yamhill County Master Gardeners Saturday, February 6 from 9am – 12pm in Dayton
- [OSU Small Farms Conference](#), February 27 in Corvallis
- School Garden Coordinator Certificate Training, produced by Growing Gardens Saturday February 13th, 20th, 27th, March 6th and 13th. 9am-4pm
Contact Caitlin Blethen, Youth Grow Manager at (503) 284-8420 or Caitlin@growing-gardens.org to get more information and receive an application

OPPORTUNITIES FROM JORDIS

503-650-3118 or Jordis.Yost@oregonstate.edu

WELCOME 2010 TRAINEES

We want to welcome the 172 new OSU Master Gardener trainees that have started their training and are the Class of 2010. You will be joining 750 active MGs in the Metro area, and together you make up one of the strongest programs in the country. We are proud to have all of you in our numbers and expect that you will bring many new talents to a wonderful group of dedicated gardeners!

You will not be asked to be *educators* as part of your intern time until you are finished with your training and we can pair you up with an MG that has at least one year experience. But there are times when we offer some hands-on 'support' activities that you can participate in before you finish training. There will be a note indicating which opportunities can include new trainees so that you can decide how to plan.

So, for now, read the newsletter for information about your program, gardening tips, chapter news and remember to use it as a resource for what's being offered. We look forward to getting to know each of you better as the classes progress.

FEBRUARY OPPORTUNITIES

This month, the **Yard, Garden, and Patio Show** on Feb 12 – Feb 14 at the Convention Center (glass towers) is a great place to pick up some volunteer hours. We have several things to sign up for with different coordinators and contact numbers.

The MG clinic – This clinic is for *veterans* and is always a popular place to be! Julie Biddle is coordinating this and may already have a full schedule. **Julie Biddle 503-286-6591**

Speaker introduction – This opportunity can be for new trainees or veterans. MGs introduce the many speakers giving presentations at the show. We need you to have a brief training on how to work the lights in the room and for you to make yourself available for a three hour time slot. Call Laura Eyer for questions or to get on the schedule. **Laura Eyer 503-982-3522**

Door Greeters – Master Gardeners greet attendees and hand out maps and schedules. This is for good ‘smilers’ and enthusiastic new trainees or veterans that can stand for a while. Call or email Jordis.

Cashiering (and helpers) at the Remarkable Green Market plant sale during the show. The show gives the MG program a percentage of the sales, so we really work hard at making this activity successful. New trainees and veterans can sign up for this, and training will be on-site before your shift. Shifts will be Friday – Saturday 9:30 – 1:30 or 1:30 – 4:30 or 4:30 - 7:30 - 9. Sunday 9:30 – 1:30 or 1:30 - 5. There will be both cashiers and helpers. Cashiers ring up purchases and take payments. Helpers pull tags and help cashiers. This is really fun and you get to see some great plant material! Call or email Jordis.

Portland Home and Garden Show February 24 – 28 at the Expo Center. We are staffing a clinic at this show this year partly because the dates are different from the YGP Show and it is possible to do both. The other reason is it is fun and we have a great time doing the Fall Home and Garden Show with the same organizers. We will pair up with MGs from Clark County and WSU. If you are a *veteran* and want to take in this show and spend a few hours talking to gardeners, contact Julie Biddle 503-286-6591. Julie is also scheduling the YGP Show so be sure to let her know which venue you are interested in.

RESOURCE FAIR DATES

During the 2010 MG training, we will offer 2 volunteer resource (job fair) dates. This is different from the previous years (except 2009), so coordinators presenting their projects...please note.

- **February 2, 4 and 5.** New trainees will hear about staffing the hotline phones and OSU educational clinics. We will show some short videos on what to expect and then invite the coordinators of phones, farmers’ market clinics, Rose Garden Clinic and tours, Oregon Zoo to be on hand to answer questions. This week is not intended for information on Chapter activities, see March dates. Check with Jordis if you are not sure when your project should be presented.
- **March 2, 4 and 5.** Trainees will learn about Chapter support activities, Spring Garden Fair, 1860’s Heritage Garden, End of the Oregon Trail Interpretive Center, Hopkins Demonstration Forest, Washington County Demonstration Gardens, Multnomah County Demonstration Garden, Oregon Food Bank, Pittock Mansion, garden tours and other OSU support and hands-on activities. **Coordinators will not actually present this year, but will provide Jordis with a paragraph so an informational flyer can be printed.**
Coordinators – We will not have time allotted for presentations, but rather send Jordis a paragraph describing your project with dates and contact information included.

Since the new trainees are not familiar with the differences between Educational Outreach and Support hours, we are separating the presentation on volunteer activities. Please help us keep that separation timing and make volunteer offerings that are **phone or clinic specific in February** and **approved support / hands-on opportunities in March**. Ask Jordis if you have questions.



Presents
Advanced Fruit Tree Management Class Series
Starting February 13th, 2010



Have Experience with Fruit Trees, But Want To Know More?
Do You Have Pruning Experience, but still feel confused?
Do You Want to Take Your Pruning Knowledge to The Next Level?

Join the staff of Portland Parks and Recreation and OSU Extension for a 10 Class Series on Advanced Fruit Tree Management.

You Will Learn In This Class Series:

Dormant Pruning, Non-Dormant/Summer Pruning, Planting, Pest and Disease Management, Fruit Tree Training, Creating Fruit Tree Form, Fruit Thinning, Fertilization, Harvesting, and Root Stocks.

Cost: \$275 for whole Series or \$35/Class.... Hurry, only 10 spaces available!!

**Class sign up (and wait list) contact Customer Service at Parks and Recreation at 503 823-2525, 1120 SW 5th Ave #1302, Portland, OR 97204
Cancellation must be three days prior to class.**

Or Contact Community Gardens below.

Portland Community Gardens

6437 S.E. Division St.

Portland, OR 97206 e-mail comgardens@ci.portland.or.us

Tel: (503) 823-1612 Fax: (503) 823-4493

Sustaining a healthy park and recreation system to make Portland a great place to live, work and play.

Administration

1120 S.W. 5th Ave., Suite 1302

Portland, OR 97204

Tel: (503) 823-7529 Fax: (503) 823-6007



Oregon Food Bank is currently recruiting new volunteers to teach beginning gardening workshops through the *Seed to Supper* program. The five weeks series is offered to low-income individuals and groups in the fall and spring. Opportunities to teach are available in Washington, Multnomah, Clackamas, and Clark (WA) counties. OFB will provide a thorough training and slides, outlines and handouts for each topic. For more information or to sign up for our next training, please contact Lisa Waugh at lwaugh@oregonfoodbank.org.

Oregon Food Bank is also recruiting Volunteer Mentors for our *Cultivating Community* program, where volunteers work with at-risk youth in the garden to increase the youths' self-esteem and capacity to care for themselves. Volunteers commit to coming to the NE Portland Learning Garden two times a month from April-October. For more information, please contact Lisa Waugh at lwaugh@oregonfoodbank.org.

We are saddened to report the passing of Kim Salem, Extension employee and volunteer. Kim passed away January 21, surrounded by family.

Kim worked for the Extension Service, first for 4-H and then for the Forestry program. The last few years she has been the secretary for Forestry, as well as the lead receptionist and support for the Master Gardener volunteers in Clackamas County.

A service will be held Sunday, January 31, at 1 pm, in the Main Pavilion at the Clackamas County Fairgrounds. There will be a potluck lunch.



Master Gardener Co-chair Openings for Starlight Parade

MG's in the three Metro counties have been marching in the Portland Starlight Parade for the past six years and it's now an established event on the MG calendar complete with payback hours and bragging rights. Whether a costumed participant or a member of the Elite Not Quite Precise Rake Drill Team Unit, we always have a blast with this bunch of pansies and pests. The coordinators for the past three years, Stephanie Scott and Bob Blaedel, need to pass on their co-chair responsibilities to a couple of enthusiastic MG's asap. The parade application has arrived for the June 2010 event and we're ready to start the process rolling if one or two MG's will step forward to oversee the activities. The fun factor is always out the roof but the real value is in the immeasurable amount of exposure and goodwill that is generated with the public. Please consider this opportunity. Contact Stephanie Scott at s.r.scott@comcast.net 503.292.2198 or Bob Blaedel at machinewayback@hotmail.com 503.658.7450 for details. And thanks to all our super creative marchers from years past who made our work so worthwhile!

May 2010 be bigger and better!!!

A GREAT LEARNING OPPORTUNITY

GARDENS IN SENIOR LIVING SEMINAR

- WHAT** The *Gardens in Senior Living* seminar focuses on the research, design, programming and maintenance issues pertaining to gardens especially developed for older adult populations. Sponsored by the Friends of the Portland Memory Garden, seminar topics will include research on gardens in senior care settings; garden design elements; administration and maintenance; year-round indoor and outdoor programming for residential environments as well as public gardens for dementia clients and their caregivers; and practical applications.
- WHO** This professional seminar is especially created for these audiences:
Long-term care facility administrators, managers, marketing and recreation planning professionals
Landscape architects and designers
Horticultural therapists
Activity professionals serving older adults
Geriatric educators and researchers
Master Gardeners and those working toward such certification
Other health care professionals who serve the elderly and those with dementia
- WHEN** Friday, April 23, 2010
9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- WHERE** Legacy Good Samaritan Hospital Auditorium
1040 N.W. 22nd Avenue, Building 2
Portland, Oregon 97210
- WHY** To provide greater understanding of the benefits of specialized gardens and horticulture therapy among those who serve older adults, especially those with memory disorders.
- How** The registration fees are:
- | | <u>Postmarked by 3/23</u> | <u>After 3/23</u> |
|---------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|
| Individuals | \$75 | \$90 |
| Groups of 3 or more | \$65 each | \$80 each |
- CONTACTS** For a seminar brochure or more information about *Gardens in Senior Living*, please contact Patty Cassidy at cassidy@comcast.net; 503-239-9174. Alternate contact: Teresia Hazen at thazen@lhs.org; 503-413-6507.



Natter's Notes

December's Cold Damage to Plants

Jean R. Natter

Perhaps you're wondering **what to do for plants which show obvious injury from December's Arctic blast**. If so, **the fail-safe advice is to wait**. Wait until after new growth appears in spring, all the while realizing that growth may be delayed beyond the usual time frame. But when it is time, live parts will sprout, dead won't.

Several words of caution: Don't fertilize in hopes of encouraging growth; fertilizer helps only if your soil lacks adequate nutrients, and that's unlikely in our clays. (Yes, fertilizer will push growth, but that growth occurs at the expense of the tree or shrub's reserves; not a good thing.) Finally, water according to the needs of the plant knowing that a damaged plant needs less water than a healthy one.

At my place, the low temperatures for the first 13 days of December 2009 were below freezing, with a 3-day sequence of 8F, 7F, and 8F just prior to the end of that run. November's relatively warm temperatures contributed to the ensuing damage. As it turns out, plants are most susceptible to cold injury in fall before they have fully acclimated and during spring after they begin deacclimating and begin to grow. We have the latter possibility to look forward to during the next month or so.

Bottom line: Many plants weren't able to withstand the Arctic blast in early December 2009.

Let's look at a few more generalizations that can help us anticipate what might be brought to the MG offices and off-site clinics when spring and its accompanying warmer days arrives. A likely common complaint is that the plant started to grow but, with the first hot spell, either declined or collapsed.

Consider that winter's cold injury to plants occurs under four main scenarios:

When low temperatures fall below the genetic tolerance of a plant, as occurs in gardens specializing in zonal denial. When low temperatures strike following a warm spell, as may occur come spring.

When late cold spells strike after plants begin their normal growth cycle, as is so very common hereabouts when apricots are flowering.

When low temperatures occur before plants complete acclimating, such as during December 2009. That is, they didn't harden off sufficiently to tolerate a low temperature that would otherwise be within their normal range.

More guidelines to keep in mind are that **cold damage is likely to be more severe**

- in younger plants than in older plants;
- in recently plantings than in well-established ones;
- if soil, or potting mix, is dry rather than if it is wet or moist;
- for plants in containers than for the same kind in the ground;
- without an insulating layer of snow.

Let's look at some general categories of cold damage that plants may experience:

Damage to leaves: Most likely, you've already recognized several things.

Many evergreen plants sail through moderately cold weather just fine whereas some acquire off-colors and still others protect themselves by rolling their leaves or allowing them to droop. An off-color – just enough to make the plant look like it's in trouble – is common with some arborvitae and boxwood whereas the red or purple coloration may occur as in azaleas, camellia, ivy, and nandina is insignificant to plant function. (See Figure 1.) Those that exhibit rolled and/or droopy leaves include *Fatsia japonica* and some rhododendrons. (See Figure 2.) Generally, all such states return to normal later in the season.

A more obvious consequence of cold damage is when leaves just plain fall off.

That's what happened to my sasanqua camellias.

One has dropped about a third of its leaves whereas the other has lost even more, probably due to the innate differences of cold tolerance between the cultivars. Another woody shrub at my place – sorry, I don't recall its name right now – is much worse off. It's defoliated; every last leaf is on the ground. It's likely a goner. (Oh well; I may be forced to go shopping!)



Figure 1: Reddening (bronzing) on normally bright green foliage of *Pittosporum* 'Golf Ball.' Due to continued severe cold, this plant later defoliated. Image: Jean R. Natter,

Damage to buds: Flower buds of woody plants are more sensitive to cold than are leaf buds. So it's possible flowering may be reduced or absent even though the plant develops a full complement of leaves. My sasanquas? Every last flower, and flower bud, is dead. Gone. Kaput. What a disappointment for what should have been an extended flowering season!

The same sort of damage may have occurred to some less cold-tolerant rhododendrons. So, if a client wonders why some or all of a shrub's flower buds aren't opening, split several buds vertically. If part or all of the bud's center is brown, cold is the likely culprit.

Damage to stems: Here, the very non-technical "scratch test" comes in handy. You know, when you scrape a small section of bark with a fingernail to see if the underlying cambium is still creamy, or slightly green and healthy. The alternative is tan or brown, the equivalent of damaged or dead.

Damage to bark: In this case, the damage typically begins just above the soil surface, at the root crown. That was the fate of my *Edgeworthia chrysantha* (Chinese paper bush) following the previous December's cold snap. It flowered well, then the leaves started developing but they just never looked good, nor were they as numerous or as large as normal. Overall, a really good example of suffering specimen. Only after I removed it did I recognize a narrow sunken (dead) area at the soil level that extended about a third of the way around the trunk.

Bark damage on woody trees and shrubs may appear as a several foot-long vertical split that begins at ground level and typically occurs on the sunny side of the trunk during cold, bright days. The bark dries, and either clings to the wood and forms a canker (sunken area) or it begins to lift away from the underlying wood. More often than not, people don't recognize such damage until some years later when they realize the bark has lifted away from the underlying, now dead wood.

Damage to roots: Even though roots are considerably more sensitive to cold than aboveground growth, they normally have an advantage because of the insulation provided by the surrounding soil. That leads us to a useful guideline for gardeners with container-grown plants. Handle them as if they are one or two climate zones more tender than in-ground plantings of the same kind. Either protect them on site, or move them to a protected place.



Figure 2: Rhododendron with cold-induced droopiness. Image: R. Mixon, MG 2006.

Resources to explore:

Winter Injury in Plants (January 2009 Metro MG Newsletter) <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/mg/metro/sites/default/files/Jan09.pdf>

Winter Injury of Landscape Plants in the Pacific Northwest http://ipmnet.org/plant-disease/articles.cfm?article_id=11. (Or see the hardcopy of 2009 *PNW Plant Disease Management Handbook* in each MG office, pages 68-70.)

Landscape Plant Problems (3rd edition. A copy is in each MG office; pages 116 – 118.)

Care of Physically Injured Fruit and Nut Trees (OSU publication: FS 60) <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/catalog/pdf/fs/fs60.pdf>

Abiotic Disorders of Landscape Plants (A copy is in each MG office; pages 133-138 and 175-176.)

Exploring the Complexities of Plant Hardiness (J.C. Raulston & Kim E. Tripp) A thorough discussion of the physiology of plant hardiness. (My thanks to G. Link, MG 2005, who brought this to my attention.) <http://arnoldia.arboretum.harvard.edu/pdf/articles/917.pdf>

QUIZ CORNER

QUESTION: What are the critters?

Hint: Clients sometimes report they have a bazillion of them, or that the ground looks like it's moving.



THE PRIZE? The first five correct responses *received after* noon Feb. 5 will be listed in the next newsletter!
Respond to Jean R. Natter (jrnatter@aol.com with "Quiz" in the subject line; or call 503-645-7073.)

WOULD YOU LIKE TO SUBMIT AN IMAGE FOR A QUIZ?

If so, send it (and the answer) to me at jrnatter@aol.com. Thanks for your help.

VISIT THE METRO MG ONLINE FORUM!

Join the fun!

Read Reference Cases, News Flashes and more.

Post a garden question, answer one, too.

Go to <http://www.metromastergardeners.org/forum/>

Login with your MG office's username & password.

(See the December 2009 newsletter, page 12.)

**** METRO MASTER GARDENERS. GROW!****

Reference Cases from the Metro MG Forum

Preface: This is the first of a continuing series of Reference Cases taken from the Metro MG Online Forum. In time, the Forum will have a searchable database which all Metro MGs can use to locate research-based and locally appropriate information to common questions while in the office, at an off-site clinic, or at home. You can access the forum by using the username and password for your Metro MG Office. (Details in the December 2009 newsletter, page 12.)

This month, let's review how to rehab old apple trees with mossy branches, also how to cope with moss in lawns and on hardscape. The first Reference Case was summarized by Robert "Bob" Falconer, MG 2009.

Question:

I'm trying to rehabilitate some very old apple trees that had been shaded and gotten quite mossy and were producing scabby apples. I am getting them more sun and pruning them down. But what do I do about the moss? Thanks for the help.

Answer:

I am assuming this is a home orchard and not one being restored for commercial purposes. For commercial orchard recommendations, please phone the Washington County Oregon State University Extension office to obtain a referral to the appropriate person. 503-821-1150.

Restoring an old orchard can require a lot of pruning work over several years to repair and open up trees for continued healthy growth and productivity. Understand that this process may take four or five years to complete. Knowing that, some people decide to start over with vigorous young trees especially if the old varieties are prone to scab. Another option would be to "top-work" the existing trees with grafts of newer varieties. The Home Orchard Society (<http://www.homeorchardsociety.org/>) is a good resource for those interested in grafting.

These Oregon State University (OSU) publications have guidelines to restore an old orchard:

1. *Pruning to restore an old, neglected apple tree* (EC 1005)

[http://ir.library.oregonstate.edu/jspui/bitstream/1957/12546/1/](http://ir.library.oregonstate.edu/jspui/bitstream/1957/12546/1/PruningRestoreOldNeglectedAppleTree.pdf)

[PruningRestoreOldNeglectedAppleTree.pdf](http://ir.library.oregonstate.edu/jspui/bitstream/1957/12546/1/PruningRestoreOldNeglectedAppleTree.pdf)

2. *Restore those old fruit trees*

<http://extension.oregonstate.edu/douglas/sites/default/files/documents/hort/Restoreoldappletrees.pdf>

In addition to the pruning, we would suggest you get the orchard soil tested by a professional laboratory and apply their recommendation to restore optimum fertility to the soil. A local resource is A & L Western Agricultural Laboratory, 503-968-9225.

To answer your question about moss on the trees:

Moss and lichen are species of plants that only use the tree as a substrate to live on. Neither plant hurts or parasitizes the tree. So it is okay to just leave them alone.

Finally, about the apple scab. Some apple varieties are more prone to scab than others.

1. The short list of susceptible apples includes 'Red Delicious', 'Rome Beauty', 'Jonathan', 'Winesap', 'Granny Smith', 'Gala', 'Summerred', and 'Jersey Mac'.
2. Apples that have shown good resistance and good quality include 'Akane' (Tokyo Rose), 'Chehalis', 'Liberty', 'Prima', and 'Tydeman Red'.
3. Intermediate resistance: 'Jonagold', 'Macoun', 'Melrose', 'Spartan', 'King'.

Opening up the trees through pruning and increasing the airflow should help. Several other management options include raking up leaves at the end of the season and avoiding overhead irrigation. There are also chemical spray controls. (See EC 631, below.)

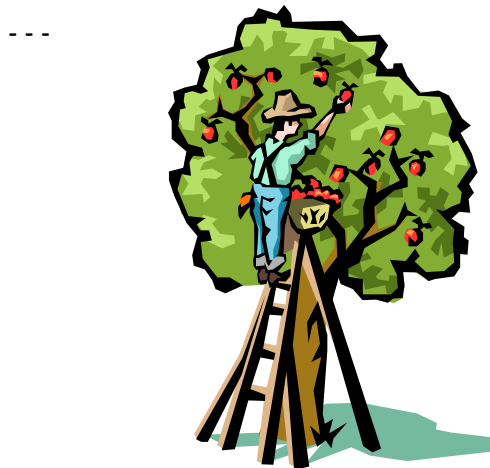
Additional resources that should prove useful:

1. From OSU: *Managing Disease and Insects in Home Gardens* (EC 631) lists materials and timing of spray applications for home use. <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/catalog/pdf/ec/ec631.pdf>

2. A news release from OSU: *How to Control Apple Scab* http://extension.oregonstate.edu/news/story.php?S_No=224&storyType=garde

3. From the Home Orchard Society: *Disease Resistant Apples*

An extensive list of apples as to their resistance or susceptibility to scab and powdery mildew. (Even though the list refers to fireblight, this disease isn't a concern in our region.) http://www.homeorchardsociety.org/ebooks/samples/Disease_Resistant_Apples_Sample.pdf



Question:

What can I use to kill moss on the roof that is safe for plants and nearby streams?

Question:

What can I use to kill moss in my lawn and planting beds?

Answer:

The underlying principle to managing moss is to act before the moss gains a foothold. After moss is present, the most effective tactic is to remove the moss, then repeat as needed. Some people will then prefer to apply a product, be that zinc strips or a commercially available preparation, to extend the interval between the need for moss removal.

Two basic kinds of products exist, one for hardscapes (concrete, decks, and the like), the other for lawns and planting beds. Products for hardscapes will damage plants whereas products for lawns and beds are likely to stain hardscapes.

Moss invades whenever various environmental factors favor its growth, namely moisture and shade. When moss is in a lawn, that usually means the soil is moist to wet and is often compacted; excessive shade is present; and the grass is weak.

Strategy for limiting moss on hardscapes and among plant material:

Avoid excess moisture; increase available light, perhaps by thinning out overhead growth; and remove moss as soon as it's seen.

Strategy for dealing with moss in lawns:

Follow the same guidelines as above, but also include regular fertilization to maintain a thick stand of grass. The so-called shade-tolerant grasses provide minimal to little benefit because all grasses require adequate sunlight to thrive. Consider switching to plantings that are truly tolerant to shade, or encourage a woody-style moss garden. (For the latter, see the resource list below.)

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Products that are to be applied as a liquid will be more effective than are granules. Contrary to popular wisdom, lime won't limit, or get rid of, moss.

References for how-to information:

1. *Lawn and Turf – Moss* (from *PNW Disease Management Handbook*) [http://plant-disease.ippc.orst.edu/dise ..._cor-dID=660](http://plant-disease.ippc.orst.edu/dise..._cor-dID=660)
2. *Controlling Moss in Lawns* (OSU publication FS 55) [http://extension.oregonstate.edu/catalog ..._s/fs55.pdf](http://extension.oregonstate.edu/catalog..._s/fs55.pdf)
3. A discussion of safe moss control on roofs near watersheds: [http://www.portlandonline.com/Bes/index ..._27&c=50367](http://www.portlandonline.com/Bes/index..._27&c=50367)

References for moss biology and management principles:

1. A library of articles, including moss biology; moss control on roofs, sidewalks, lawns & gardens; and encouraging moss. <http://bryophytes.science.oregonstate.edu/page18.htm>
2. *Structural & Turf Demossing* (WSU publication EB 1962) Contains the basic principles of control for mosses, lichens, and algae for professional applicators. [http://cru.cahe.wsu.edu/CEPublications/ ..._eb1962.pdf](http://cru.cahe.wsu.edu/CEPublications/_..._eb1962.pdf)



HORTICULTURAL CALENDAR IN THE METRO AREA

- Feb 4** Washington County Chapter—Peter Benzinger, Dennis 7 Dees Nursery “EcoRoofs”
- Feb 6** Mason Bee Workshop Clackamas Community College—call Pat Smith for details 503-656-3724
- Feb 6** Home Orchard Society fruit tree pruning workshop, HOS Arboretum, Clackamas Community College. Info at www.homeorchardsociety.org
- Feb 8** Clackamas County Chapter—Invasive Plants: Bold, Bad & Beautiful
- Feb 9** Multnomah County Chapter, 7pm, Speaker: Ray Ethel, Broadacres Nursery, ‘Grape Expectations’
- Feb 20** Pruning Workshop at Mike & Jane Collier’s Farm—call for details 503-266-1191
- Feb 20** Home Orchard Society Fruit tree grafting workshop, Rm 118 Clairmont Hall, Clackamas Community College. Info at www.homeorchardsociety.org
- Mar 6** Portland Rose Society pruning demonstration at Dennis’ Seven Dees, Powell Blvd 1:00 —3:00 pm
- Mar 6** Home Orchard Society Fruit propagation fair, Washington County Fairplex. Info at www.homeorchardsociety.org
- Mar 6-7** Oregon Orchid Society 65th annual Show and Sale. Lloyd Center Double Tree Hotel
- Mar 7** Hardy Plant Society - Magnolias w/Roger Gossler of Gossler Farms Nursery, Springfield. Info at www.hardyplantsociety.org
- Mar 9** Multnomah County Chapter, 7pm, Speaker: Tom Fischer, Timer Press, “50 Top Plant Choices for Portland Area Gardens”
- Mar 13** Propagation from Seeds: From Germination to Transplant—Clackamas Community College—call Madeline Forsyth for details 503-465-1113.
- Mar 13** Portland Rose Society pruning demonstration at Dennis’ Seven Dees, Lake Oswego 10:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.
- Mar 27** Portland Rose Society pruning demonstration at Fred Meyers Raleigh Hills 10:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.
- Apr 17** **Spring MG Recertification Training—save the date**
- Apr 13** Multnomah County Chapter, 6pm Welcome Potluck for Intern MGs. 7pm Speaker: Dr. Andy Moldenke, OSU, ‘The Living Soil: Why Insects in the Soil are Important’
- May 1-2** Clackamas County Chapter Spring Fair—Clackamas County Event Center
- May 11** Multnomah County Chapter, 7pm, Speaker: Marc Boucher-Colbert, Urban Agriculture Solutions LLC, ‘Gardening in Small or Inhospitable Spaces’
- May 11** Hardy Plant Society—Rock Roses in the Garden w/David Mason of Hedgerows Nursery, McMinnville. Info at www.hardyplantsociety.org
- Jun 12** Oregon Garden Plant Sale
- Jul 13** Hardy Plant Society—Hardy Arisaemas and Other Aroids with Norm Kalbfleisch of Woodland Way, Portland. Info at www.hardyplantsociety.org
- Aug 10** Hardy Plant Society—A Fanfare of Trumpets: Non-Stop Performers for the Summer Garden w/Maurice Horn of Joy Creek Nursery, Scappoose. Info at www.hardyplantsociety.org

Multnomah County Chapter
of the
OSU Extension Service Master Gardeners
2010 SPEAKERS SERIES



Free events, all welcome. Presentations start @ 7pm
Mt. Tabor Presbyterian Church, 5441 SE Belmont St., parking on 54th

- January 12 Starting Seeds the Glen Way
Glen Andresen, Metro
- February 9 Grape Expectations
Ray Ethell, Broadacres Nursery, Owner
- March 9 50 Top Plant Choices for Portland Area Gardens
Tom Fischer, Timber Press
- April 13 The Living Soil: why insects in the soil are important
Dr. Andrew Moldenke, OSU, Dept. of Botany & Plant Pathology
- May 11 Edible Gardening in Small and/or Inhospitable Spaces
Marc Boucher-Colbert, Urban Agriculture Solutions, LLC.
- June 8 Honey Bees: their importance and current plight
Ramesh Sagili, Assistant Professor, OSU, Dept. of Horticulture
- September 14 Uncovering Compost Mysteries
Carl Grimm, Metro
- October 12 Designing with Great Small Conifers
David Leckey, Oregon Small Trees Nursery, Owner
Anne Marsh, Marsh and Fear Garden Solutions, Designer
- November 9 Getting a Grip on Clematis
Linda Buetler, Curator: Friends of the Rogerson Clematis Collection



MULTNOMAH CHAPTER GRAPEVINE
Oregon Master Gardener™ Association in cooperation with
OSU Extension Service Master Gardener™ Program

9 February 2009 Chapter Meeting

Mt. Tabor Presbyterian Church 5441 SE Belmont

6:45pm Gather - 6:50 pm – Announcements

7:00 pm - Topic: Grape Expectations,

Speaker: Ray Ethell, Owner, Broadacres Nursery

Contrary to common belief, you can grow Seedless Table Grapes in Portland. Broadacres Nursery has been growing 35 varieties of seedless table grapes in Hubbard Oregon for 5 years. The collection has come primarily from New York, Arkansas, and California. Most ripen in Sept. They even have a cookbook and trellising guide "The Taste of Grapes". The grapes are available for tasting at open houses in September.

Ray Ethell was keeper of the table grape collection at the North Willamette Experiment Station for 16 years. He and his wife Sandra have operated Broadacres Nursery for the last 20 yrs. Their main crop is wine grape plants. In 2004 Ray decided to go back to his roots in table grapes. They planted 1 acre of seedless table grapes [35 varieties]. They introduced a new trellis system for the high yielding table grapes, and developed a cookbook and trellising guide. They have learned how to produce good quality fruit, and plants. They have learned from mistakes and overcome them. Come hear Ray share his tips on successfully growing table grapes.

all photos to Marilyn Kongsli: mkongsli@gmail.com
(503)289-8889

*****IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO CATCH A CHINOOK!**

The 2010 Chinook Books are for sale and loaded with over 400 money saving coupons from local, sustainable businesses. Coupons for groceries, dining, entertainment, garden, travel and home. So catch a Chinook Book and catch some savings! Contact: Jean Edmison (503)771-2486 or Robin Case (503)762-3964.

*****We are very much in need of historical information** please bring to our meeting any photos, clippings, etc. of any Multnomah Chapter event or related activity you, as a Master Gardener, were involved in. Contact Velda Altig for more information.

*****Phones in Multnomah County!** –The office is in Montgomery Park @ NW 27th and Vaughn. Gloria Bennett (503) 775-4005 dcleopatra@comcast.net is managing the calendar. The phone hours are 10am-2pm Monday to Friday. 2 or 4 hour shifts.

*****The Demo Garden** is being planned for 2010. There will be a need for many hands to help starting in March after the training classes are through.

*****Next Board Meeting – Tuesday 2 February 2010**

- 6:30 pm at Jean Edmison's – 7606 S.E. Ellis

*****Coming up... 9, March, 2010, Chapter Meeting**

50 Top Plant Choices for Portland-Area Gardens

Speaker: Tom Fischer, Editor in Chief, Timber Press

***** Capture GARDEN Wonders in Photos!**

As you venture into your garden this month you will see that signs of spring will abound. Don't forget to take the time to grab your camera and capture the images. Then submit your favorite garden photos to be considered for an upcoming fundraiser. We are planning on printing a set of high quality, color, note cards of lovely garden images. So snap away at all the captivating combinations and vibrant vignettes your garden has to offer. Don't delay! Please submit

2010 Officers

President - Sharon Baker - 503-284-5189 gazebo@teleport.com

Co Vice-Presidents –

Gloria Bennett -503-775-4005 dcleopatra@comcast.net

Heidi Nichols heidinichols@comcast.net

Secretary - JoAnn Bones -503-253-3168

bones7247@comcast.net

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OMGA Marilyn Kongsli 503-289-8889 mkongsli@gmail.com

Alternate Deanna St. Martin - 503-232-7720

deannalyell@msn.com

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Velda Altig 503-252-7423 ykaltig@earthlink.net

Grapevine: Lorna Schilling – 503-334-5162

lornaschilling@yahoo.com



Washington County Chapter Chat

Oregon Master Gardener™ Association in cooperation with
OSU Extension Service Master Gardener™ Program

Chapter Website: www.wcmga.info

UPCOMING PROGRAMS –

Feb. 4, 2010 “EcoRoofs”

Peter Benzinger, Dennis 7 Dees Nursery

March 4, 2010 “Hostas”

Thomas Sebright, Sebright Gardens

Monthly Chapter Meeting at 6:45 p.m.

Presentations are from 7:15 - 8:15 p.m.

CAPITAL Center, 18640 NW Walker Rd (185th & Walker Rd)

Room 1411, Entrance D-1 The public is welcome.

SOCIAL GATHERING at 6:30 p.m. – come early!

CHAIR FOR PLANT SALE RAFFLE

A chairperson is needed for the raffle in conjunction with the 2010 WCMGA Plant Sale on **April 24th**. Duties include obtaining cash donations & items from members, organizing items and selling tickets during the plant sale. It is a good opportunity for creativity, support hours and raising money for the Chapter. Barbara Knopp will help you, so contact her at barbknopp@comcast.net or see her at Chapter Meetings or the Training Classes.

FAIRPLEX DEMO GARDEN

Work at the fairgrounds continues to progress with winterizing and, as weather permits, finishing up the green house assembly and turning compost. The winter work schedule will be Wednesday mornings at 9:00 a.m. beginning January 6th until Training Classes are finished in March, at which point the weekly workday returns to Tuesdays. For questions or additional information, please call Joanne DeHaan at 503-649-1683.

.GOT PLANTS?

The Plant Sale crew needs your donations! Time is running out to divide Spring and Summer perennials for the April Plant Sale! We need plants suitable for gallon size pots. To help reduce transplant shock and ensure satisfied customers, the last week of March is the absolute cut-off time to dig and divide plants. For more information call Jane Miller at 503-590-3598.

PRUNING DEMONSTRATION

The winter pruning demo & workshop sponsored by WCMGA and Tualatin Valley Garden Club will be **Saturday, February 13th**, 9 a.m. to 12:00. This free event will provide hands-on training to correctly prune fruit trees, grapes, blueberries, rhododendrons and other ornamentals as well as garden tool maintenance. The new location this year is at Dave Russell's home: 3850 SW Minter Bridge Road, Hillsboro, OR 97123.

ROSE PRUNING DEMONSTRATION

The free annual rose pruning demo & workshop at the Capital Center Landscape Garden is **Saturday, February 20th** from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00. Bring pruning tools for active hands-on participation: 18640 NW Walker Road, entrance D -1.

INFORMATION ON PRUNING DEMOS: 503-821-1150

RECERTIFICATION DAY

Vets mark your calendars for **Saturday, April 17th** from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. for Recertification Classes at PCC Rock Creek Campus.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

The January Golden Trowel Award was presented to Lynn Wagner (2004). Lynn has been instrumental in all kinds of good publicity for Chapter events as well as huge contributions to the Fairplex Children's Garden and Mini College display board. Thanks, Lynn, for all you do.

President	Lynn Cox	503-629-9156
Vice President	Tim Lanfri	503-590-4354
Recording Secretary	Jackie Keil	503-531-3884
Corresponding Secretary	Geri Larkin	503-671-9307
Treasurer	Donna Yount	503-746-6198
OMGA Rep	Ken Keudell	503-292-6519
Alternate Rep	Joanne DeHaan	503-649-1683
Dir.#1 Business	Bill Klug	503-681-0143
Dir.#2 Program	Vern Vanderzanden	503-357-6109
Dir.#3 Publicity	Lynn Wagner	503-531-9239
Dir.#4 Fundraising	Anna Stubbs	503-643-9474
Dir.#5 Chapter Relations	Barbara Knopp	503-641-0429
Editor:	Geri Larkin	503-671-9307

Submit Chapter Chat Announcements to **Geri Larkin**, Chapter Chat Editor, by the 11th each month. Phone **503-671-9307** or e-mail **Geri Larkin [geralyn.dan@gmail.com]**.

Submit general chapter announcements to Alan Strong, e-mail coordinator, info@wcmga.info

Chapter Website: www.wcmga.info



Clackamas County Chatter



January 2010 A chapter newsletter for the Oregon Master Gardener™ Association in cooperation with OSU Extension Service Master Gardener™ Program

February Chapter Meeting

Monday, February 8
Milwaukie Center 7:00 p.m.
5440 SE Kellogg Creek Drive
Milwaukie
Invasive Plants:
Bold, Bad & Beautiful

Renee Harber will enlighten us about commonly occurring invasive ornamentals in our area, what makes a plant invasive, how to deal with them if you've got them, and how plants get on Oregon's Noxious Weed listing

Renee teaches classes on plant identification, weed identification, and Practicum, and occasionally Horticulture Computer applications, greenhouse crops, & propagation. She earned a doctorate in Horticulture from OSU, where she studied how plants survive environmental stress. Renee went through the OSU MG program in 2000. She used to create the gardening crossword puzzles for the Oregonian's Home & Garden section.

March Chapter Meeting

Monday, March 8
Milwaukie Center 7:00 p.m.
5440 SE Kellogg Creek Drive
Milwaukie
Daphne and Their Relatives

David Palmer's talk will cover a range of the species and hybrids showing habitats and origins, culture and propagation, as well as highlighting some of the Daphne's close relatives.

WORKSHOPS

Mason Bee Workshop

MG ONLY
February 6 9a.m.—noon
Clackamas Community College
Horticulture Bldg., Room 117
Pat Smith: 503-656-3724



Pruning Workshop

February 20 10 a.m.—12:30 p.m.
MG ONLY
Mike and Jane Collier's farm
Jan Collier: 503-266-1191

Propagation from Seeds

Germination to Transplant
March 13 9:30 a.m.—11:30 a.m.
with Elizabeth Howley
MG ONLY \$5 for supplies
Clackamas Community College
Horticulture Bldg. Room 117
Madeline Forsyth: 503-465-1113

KUDOS

Green Glove Award

Mary Butler, for service as Treasurer and for contribution to events such as picnic and potluck.

Thank You

Janet Weber for a successful book sale.

Plant Donations Needed

Your plant donations are needed for Spring Garden Fair raffle! Drop them off at the April Plant/Seed Swap. Contact Nikki for more information: 503-577-4494.

FEATURED COMMITTEE

10 Minute University™

10-Minute University™ is a trademarked program initiated by the Clackamas County Chapter in 2005. Although the original goal was to offer short, 10-minute classes during the Spring Garden Fair (SGF), the program has grown to benefit a growing audience. In 2009, 10-Minute University™ served 958 clients. In addition to the SGF, venues included the Oregon City Farmer's Market, Milwaukie Center, meetings of garden clubs and service clubs.

In 2010 new venues will include the Better Living Show and Garden Discovery Day. Committee members are: Sharon Wiley, Frank Wille, Holly Pederson, Ann Upton, Sherry Holley, Bill Bradley, Rick Mishaga, Dot Carson, and Sherry Sheng.

Garden Discovery Day

Free Event—Open to the Public
March 6 9 a.m.—noon

Featuring Weston Miller, '10-Minute University' classes, "Ask the Expert" garden clinic, soil pH testing, attracting Mason Bees, pruning trees and shrubs, growing betties, raised beds, and children's activities.

Extra Row Project

February 6, 11:45 a.m. at the Extension Office, 200 Warner-Milne Rd., Oregon City. Attend the first meeting to learn more about this project to grow food for area food banks. Contact Pam Garten kidderpam@aol.com or 503-504-9440

Clackamas County Chapter Officers

President	Sherry Sheng	503-655-1822		Advisory Board	John Hill	503-653-9524
Vice President	Larry Huckaba	503-631-8866			John Hill	503-653-9524
Secretary	Holly Pederson	503-701-5816			Gene McCoy	503-631-8059
Treasurer	Mary Butler	503-632-1532		Newsletter	Kathy Johnson	503-794-3959
Asst. Treasurer	Trudy O'Donnell	503-636-1697		Websites	http://extension.oregonstate.edu/mg/metro/	
OMGA Rep	Nikki Mantei	503-577-4494			http://www.clackamascountymastergardeners.org/	
OMGA Alternate Rep	Linda O'Toole	503-659-5309				

February

Oregon State University Extension Service encourages sustainable gardening practices. Preventative pest management is emphasized over reactive pest control. Identify and monitor problems before acting, and opt for the least toxic approach that will remedy the problem.

First consider cultural, and then physical controls. The conservation of biological control agents (predators, parasitoids) should be favored over the purchase and release of biological controls. Use chemical controls only when necessary, only after identifying a pest problem, and only after thoroughly reading the pesticide label. Least-toxic choices include insecticidal soaps, horticultural oils, botanical insecticides, organic and synthetic pesticides — when used judiciously.

Recommendations in this calendar are not necessarily applicable to all areas of Oregon. For more information, contact [your local OSU Extension Service office](#).

Planning

- ✦ Tune up lawn mower and garden equipment before the busy season begins. Have soil test performed on garden plot to determine nutrient needs. Contact your local Extension office for a list of testing laboratories or view [EM 8677](#) online.
- ✦ Select and store healthy scion wood for grafting fruit and nut trees. Wrap in damp cloth or peat moss and place in plastic bag. Store in cool place.
- ✦ Plan an herb bed, for cooking and for interest in the landscape. Among the choices are parsley, sage, chives, and lavender. Choose a sunny spot for the herb bed, and plant seeds or transplants after danger of frost has passed (late April-early May in the Willamette Valley and Central Coast; June-July in Eastern and Central Oregon). Plan to add herbaceous perennial flowers to your flowering landscape this spring. Examples include candytuft, peony, penstemon, coneflower.

Maintenance and Clean Up

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

Planting/Propagation

- ✦ Plant windowsill container gardens of carrots, lettuce, or parsley.
- ✦ Plan to add herbaceous perennial flowers to your flowering landscape this spring: astilbe, candytuft, peony, and anemone.

Good time to plant fruit trees and deciduous shrubs. Replace varieties of ornamental plants that are susceptible to disease with [resistant cultivars](#).

- ✦ Plant asparagus if the ground is warm enough.
- ✦ Plant seed flats of cole crops (cabbage, cauliflower, broccoli, and Brussels sprouts), indoors or in greenhouse.
- ✦ **Western Oregon:** Where soil is dry enough and workable, plant garden peas and sweet peas. Suggested varieties of garden peas include: Corvallis, Dark Green Perfection, Green Arrow, Oregon Sugar Pod, Snappy, Knight, Sugar Snap, Oregon Trail, and Oregon Sugar Pod II.

Western Oregon: Good time to plant new roses.

Pest Monitoring and Management

- ✦ Monitor landscape plants for problems. Don't treat unless a problem is identified.
- ✦ Use delayed-dormant sprays of lime sulfur for fruit and deciduous trees and shrubs.
- ✦ Remove cankered limbs from fruit and nut trees for control of diseases such as apple anthracnose, bacterial canker of stone fruit and eastern filbert blight. Sterilize tools before each new cut.
- ✦ Control moles and gophers with traps.

✦ **Western Oregon:** Elm leaf beetles and box-elder bugs are emerging from hibernation and may be seen indoors. They are not harmful, but can be a nuisance. Remove them with a vacuum or broom and dustpan.

Western Oregon: Monitor for European crane fly and treat lawns if damage has been verified.

Houseplants and Indoor Gardening

- ✦ Pasteurize soil for starting seedlings in pots or flats, or use clean, sterile commercial mixes.

Central Oregon: Gather branches of quince, forsythia, and flowering cherries; bring indoors to force early bloom.