Autumn greetings,

Fall’s rains have seemed to start a little earlier than usual this year, or maybe I just wasn’t ready for summer to be over yet!

I want to thank you for the warm welcome you have given me as the new coordinator of the Master Gardener Program at the OSU Extension Office. Many of you have offered me your wisdom and guidance as I take on this new role, and many more have stepped up in this period of transition to assume leadership of the vital CCMGA projects in our community.

This will be a “mini” edition of the Cultivator; it includes information about the Winterizing your Garden Event, the Fall Nursery Field trip, an update from your State OMGA Representative, the latest news and dates for CCMGA, and the 2020 MG training dates.

As I’m learning the job, and getting to know you all, I really appreciate your feedback. If you have suggestions on the training program, or anything related to the Master Gardener Program, please stop by the OSU Extension Office and let’s chat. I already know lots of you, and hope to meet more as the days go by! If you’d like to stop by and say “hi”, my office hours are generally Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10am-3pm. You can always email or call if you’d like to set up an appointment!

I’m looking forward to working with you all.

Amanda Noyes  
Master Gardener  
Program Coordinator  
503-325-8573  
amanda.noyes@oregonstate.edu

Please send submissions for the December 2019 issue to: amanda.noyes@oregonstate.edu by November 15, 2019

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OSU Extension programs will provide reasonable accommodation to persons with physical or mental disabilities. Contact the Clatsop County Extension Office at 503-325-8573 to request reasonable accommodation.
"Winterizing your Garden"
Sat., Sept 28, 2019
10am – 3pm

Clatsop County Fairgrounds FREE ADMISSION!
(DONATIONS TO CLATSOPO CO FOOD BANK GRATEFULLY ACCEPTED)

Special Guest Speaker

11:00 Rose Marie Nichols McGee – Putting your Garden to Bed, Building a “Compost Pile Growing Garden” for next Spring planting
Author of Bountiful Container & owner of Nichols Garden Nursery in Albany, OR. Book sale/signing will be available.

• PLANT, HOME & GARDEN TREASURES SALE
• MUSHROOM EDUCATION BY FORT STEVENS RANGER DANE OSIS
• MASTER GARDENER PRESENTATIONS/Demonstrations
• SOIL PH TESTING (Bring your soil – 1 cup sufficient)
• GARDEN FUN FOR KIDS – CRAFTS AND LEARNING ACTIVITIES

COME FIND ALL THE “DO’S, DON’TS, AND SHOULD’S FOR FALL/WINTER GARDENS!!

For more information contact:
OSU Extension – Clatsop County Office, 2001 Marine Drive, Rm 210, Astoria OR, 503-325-8573

Oregon State University

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Master Gardeners are people in your community who have received specialized training from Oregon State University. Their goal is to assist you in making your gardening experience a success.

Master Gardeners will provide you with practical research-based information that has been adapted to the unique needs of your county, neighborhood, home and ecosystems.

Let OSU Master Gardeners help you grow the best garden possible!

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Message from Nancy Bouse, Project Leader

The “Winterizing Your Garden” community education event will be held:

**September 28th Saturday, 10:00AM - 3:00PM**

Clatsop County Fairgrounds Exhibit Hall

The Volunteer Set-up is: **September 27th Friday, noon - 5:00PM**

This is a great opportunity for our trainees and experienced master gardeners to get in their end of the season volunteer hours, perhaps learn some new things and work with friends, so please come and help with this great fall event!

Water will be provided to volunteers both days, snacks on Friday, and please bring a dish to share on Saturday for our Volunteer potluck!

We welcome donations for our fundraiser, so if you have plants and/or home & garden treasures, please bring them to the fairgrounds Friday during set up time, or Saturday (early please, before 10:00AM). Plants should have name and care instructions. Thanks!

For those volunteers I have already been in contact with, thanks for your support! I am working on a Volunteer work list for where/when you are scheduled to work, which will be sent by email early in the week of September 23.

Any questions please feel free to contact Project Leader, Nancy Bouse
e-mail: [nancysinthegarden247@yahoo.com](mailto:nancysinthegarden247@yahoo.com) or by phone, (503) 791-8816.
Clatsop County Master Gardener 2020 training dates:

Wednesday, January 8 - Saturday March 14

Classes will be held:

Wednesday evenings 6:00pm - 9:00pm
Saturday mornings 9:00am - 12:00pm

Location:

Astoria Campus of Clatsop Community College
Room to be determined

We have many members of the public interested in the Master Gardener Training Program. I’m working hard to get the best instructors set up for what will hopefully be an engaged and enthusiastic group of Trainees.

If you are interested in the training program, please contact me for an application and more info:
Amanda Noyes
amanda.noyes@oregonstate.edu
503-325-8573
VOLUNTEER HOURS

It’s that time!

Volunteer hours are due October 31st.

Please enter your volunteer and continuing education hours on the VRS as soon as possible. If you need assistance entering your hours please contact Amanda at the Extension Office, and I will be happy to help you.

If you still need hours for recertification or toward graduation, there are options available.

Please email or call Amanda for assistance.

To log your hours in the VRS Volunteer Hours and Continuing Education Reporting System

GO TO:
https://mgvrs.extension.oregonstate.edu/authentication/log_in.php
As State Rep for our chapter I attend quarterly meetings of the Oregon Master Gardener Association. The most recent one was held in Tangent on September 7. The following are some of the fun things being planned and ways you, as CCMGA members, can participate.

Plans for Mini College 2020 are underway. So far it looks like it will be held at the OSU campus in Corvallis, possibly in July. There is a lot of enthusiasm toward making this the best one ever. Plans include having more hands on workshops, fun tours and new speakers. There is also a plan to partner with Master Food Preservers to add variety to the learning experience. Consider helping make this a great event by volunteering on a committee. Help is needed with banquet, tours, bookstore, silent auction, and chapter displays. Committees will be made up of several people so no one will be overwhelmed with trying to “do it all”. Meetings will be held online so there will be little travel.

Since there was no Mini College this year and no silent auction, OMGA has decided to hold a silent auction by circulating a catalog illustrating the items up for bid. Each chapter will donate 3 items to the auction. There is already some really neat stuff lined up. A catalog will go out to each chapter to look through and members will place their bids with the State Rep (me) prior to the November 3rd quarter OMGA meeting in Tillamook. If a CCMGA member wins the bid, I will bring the item back for them from Tillamook. There is also an effort going to set the bidding up online.

OMGA only has two sources of revenue, dues and the annual silent auction. The money raised comes back to the Chapters in the form of grants and scholarships i.e. Extension Educators Grants, Search For Excellence, Karl Carlson Grant as well as the County Wide MG of the Year, County Behind The Scenes, Statewide MG of the Year, Statewide Behind the Scenes and longevity certificates.

OMGA has three positions open on the Executive Board. If you are interested in participating on the state level consider volunteering for one of these: President-Elect, 1st Vice President, or Newsletter Editor.

To volunteer contact ericbolser@hotmail.com

Linda Holmes, State Rep.

Master Gardener Program Quick Stats

In Oregon, there are 4,160 Active Master Gardener Volunteers. A total of 845 individuals joined the Master Gardener Program, as trainees/apprentices. Together, experienced Master Gardeners and trainees volunteered a total of 194,898 hours, in support of OSU Extension Master Gardener Program. Source: https://omga.org/
Let's all go on a field trip to two preeminent nurseries on Saturday October 5. We'll drive you there in the OSU van so you can relax and visit with your fellow MGs. You can always drive yourself, but where's the fun in that? First stop is Joy Creek in Scappoose where Maurice Horn will conduct a tour and lecture. You may remember Maurice's presentation at our Spring Plant Sale. Next stop is McMenamins Grand Lodge in Forest Grove. Lunch is no-host at either of the on-site restaurants or bring a sack lunch and sit on the grass in the park-like setting. Wander the grounds and hotel to enjoy the scenery and see if you can find the 'magic room'. Be sure to check out the chef’s garden behind the main building. Afterwards, we’re off to Blooming Junction for a tour hosted by one of Blooming Junction’s personnel. Blooming Junction is huge and has a low-water garden and a Demonstration garden where you can walk among the mature plants to see what your seedlings and plant starts will look like when they grow up. It's a full day of adventure so come energized!
November 6, 2019
6:00PM
Clatsop Community College
Columbia Hall, Room 219

Please join us:
Wednesday, November 6 at 6:00pm as Speaker Tom Trusewicz discusses bee swarms.

Swarming is the process whereby a new honeybee colony is formed when the queen bee leaves the colony with a large group of worker bees. In the prime swarm, about 60% of the worker bees leave the original hive location with the old queen. This swarm can contain thousands to tens of thousands of bees. It is important for home gardeners to recognize and respond appropriately to bee swarms in order to protect the new colony.

Trusewicz teaches Beginning Bee Keeping at Clatsop Community College and the Oregon State Beekeepers Conference. He is a knowledgeable and popular speaker throughout the Pacific Northwest and will answer questions regarding all things bees.

CONTINUING EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

Brooke Edmunds, a horticulturist at OSU, has created series of research-based videos. This is an easy, enjoyable way to continue your education as a Master Gardener, and to equip you with authoritative answers for clients who call or visit our plant clinics. As OSU-sponsored instruction, these videos meet your annual continuing education requirement of 10 hours. You can find these videos at the address below:

https://www.youtube.com/user/drbrooke77/videos
Forest Health Pest Alert (2019): Spruce aphid in coastal spruce

In spring 2019 there have been reports of spruce aphid damage in Sitka spruce along the Oregon coast. Spruce aphid (Elatobium abietinum) is a non-native insect that has been established on the west coast since the early 1900’s and feeds on sap in needles of primarily spruce. Their populations periodically increase, often as a result of mild winters, and cause spruce needles to turn brown or prematurely shed. Damage is most severe at the start of spring, after the peak of aphid feeding, and is targeted on older needles that are lower in the canopy and more shaded. Tree buds are not damaged by this insect and will open and flush new needles in the same year of damage – even on heavily attacked trees. Aphid populations are largest in spring but decline as the season progresses due to natural enemies, overcrowding and lack of nutritious foliage (nitrogen levels decrease into summer).

Intense damage from this insect can result in shed branches and reduced diameter and height growth but mortality is a risk only after multiple, sequential years of intensive feeding. However, many trees in Oregon have been impacted by drought since 2012, which reduces their ability to produce defensive compounds and makes them more susceptible to damage or mortality from insect outbreaks.

Management options:
1) Wait out this outbreak. Outbreaks from this insect often collapse on their own due to natural enemies, colder winter temperatures, late spring frosts, lack of nutritious host material, etc.
2) Do not to fertilize spruce trees. Aphids prefer nitrogen-rich trees.
3) Smaller trees may be sprayed with water from a high-pressure sprayer or sprayed with a soap water dilution.
4) Insecticide systemic tree injections, soil drenches or external sprays labeled for use against spruce aphid may be effective but chemical treatment is not advised, in most situations, due to prohibitive cost and impacts on non-targets. If treatment is necessary, contact ODF entomologist to discuss monitoring and treatment options.

For more info on spruce aphid:
http://tinyurl.com/ODF-ForestHealth

Questions?
Christine Buhl, PhD
Forest Entomologist | Oregon Department of Forestry
christine.j.buhl@oregon.gov | 503.945.7396
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>EVENT/TIME</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saturday September 21</td>
<td>Alderbrook Learning Garden Work Day 10:00am - 12:00pm</td>
<td>Alderbrook Park, corner of 45th St. and Leif Erikson Dr.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday September 22</td>
<td>Astoria Sunday Market Master Gardener Booth</td>
<td>Downtown Astoria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday September 24</td>
<td>OSU Extension Information line 10:00am - 12:00pm &amp; 1:00pm - 3:00pm</td>
<td>(503) 325-8573 <a href="mailto:ClatsopMG@OregonState.edu">ClatsopMG@OregonState.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday September 24</td>
<td>Alderbrook Learning Garden Work Day 5:00pm - 7:00pm</td>
<td>Alderbrook Park, corner of 45th St. and Leif Erikson Dr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday September 26</td>
<td>OSU Extension Information line 10:00am - 12:00pm &amp; 1:00pm - 3:00pm</td>
<td>(503) 325-8573 <a href="mailto:ClatsopMG@OregonState.edu">ClatsopMG@OregonState.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday September 27</td>
<td>Winterizing Your Garden Set Up 12:00pm - 5:00pm</td>
<td>Clatsop County Fairgrounds</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday September 28</td>
<td>Winterizing Your Garden Fall Event 10:00am - 3:00pm</td>
<td>Clatsop County Fairgrounds</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday September 29</td>
<td>Astoria Sunday Market Master Gardener Booth</td>
<td>Downtown Astoria</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday October 1</td>
<td>OSU Extension Information line 10:00am - 12:00pm &amp; 1:00pm - 3:00pm</td>
<td>(503) 325-8573 <a href="mailto:ClatsopMG@OregonState.edu">ClatsopMG@OregonState.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday October 1</td>
<td>Alderbrook Learning Garden Work Day 5:00pm - 7:00pm</td>
<td>Alderbrook Park, corner of 45th St. and Leif Erikson Dr.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday October 3</td>
<td>OSU Extension Information line 10:00am - 12:00pm &amp; 1:00pm - 3:00pm</td>
<td>(503) 325-8573 <a href="mailto:ClatsopMG@OregonState.edu">ClatsopMG@OregonState.edu</a></td>
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<td>DATE</td>
<td>EVENT/TIME</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday October 5</td>
<td>Nursery Field Trip 8:00am - 5:00pm</td>
<td>Meet at OSU Extension Office Joy Creek Nursery Blooming Junction</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday October 6</td>
<td>Astoria Sunday Market Master Gardener Booth</td>
<td>Downtown Astoria</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday October 8</td>
<td>OSU Extension Information line 10:00am - 12:00pm &amp; 1:00pm - 3:00pm</td>
<td>(503) 325-8573 <a href="mailto:ClatsopMG@OregonState.edu">ClatsopMG@OregonState.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday October 10</td>
<td>OSU Extension Information line 10:00am - 12:00pm &amp; 1:00pm - 3:00pm</td>
<td>(503) 325-8573 <a href="mailto:ClatsopMG@OregonState.edu">ClatsopMG@OregonState.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday October 13</td>
<td>Astoria Sunday Market Master Gardener Booth</td>
<td>Downtown Astoria</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday October 18</td>
<td>CCMGA Board Meeting 1:30pm</td>
<td>OSU Extension Office Conference Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday November 6</td>
<td>CCMGA Membership Meeting: Speaker Tom Trusewicz on Bee Swarms: 6:00pm</td>
<td>Clatsop Community College Columbia Hall, Room 219</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday November 15</td>
<td>CCMGA Board Meeting 1:30pm</td>
<td>OSU Extension Office Conference Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday November 21</td>
<td>CCMGA Graduation Ceremony 6:00pm - 9:00pm</td>
<td>Elks Lodge, 3rd Floor ballroom</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, November 28</td>
<td>Happy Thanksgiving</td>
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Preventive 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. The conservation of biological control agents (predators, parasitoids) should be favored over chemical controls. Use chemical controls only when necessary and only after thoroughly reading the pesticide label. First consider cultural, then physical and biological controls. Choose the least-toxic options (insecticidal soaps, horticultural oils, botanical insecticides, and organic and synthetic pesticides — when used judiciously).

Sustainable gardening
The Oregon State University Extension Service encourages sustainable gardening practices.

October Maintenance and Clean Up
- Recycle disease-free plant material and kitchen vegetable and fruit scraps into compost. Don't compost diseased plants unless you are using the "hot compost" method (120 degrees to 150 degrees Fahrenheit).
- Drain or blow out your irrigation system, insulate valve mechanisms, in preparation of winter.
- Use newspaper or cardboard covered by mulch to discourage winter and spring annual weeds or remove a lawn area for conversion to garden beds. For conversion, work in the paper and mulch as organic matter once the lawn grass has died.
- Harvest sunflower heads; use seed for birdseed or roast for personal use.
- Dig and store potatoes; keep in darkness, moderate humidity, temperature about 40°F. Discard unused potatoes if they sprout. Don't use as seed potatoes for next year.
- Harvest and immediately dry filberts and walnuts; dry at 95 degrees to 100 degrees Fahrenheit.
- Ripen green tomatoes indoors. Check often and discard rotting fruit.
- Harvest and store apples; keep at about 40°F, moderate humidity.
- Place mulch over roots of roses, azaleas, rhododendrons and berries for winter protection.
- Trim or stake bushy herbaceous perennials to prevent wind damage.
- To suppress future pest problems, clean up annual flower beds by removing diseased plant materials, overwintering areas for insect pests; mulch with manure or garden compost to feed the soil and suppress weeds.
- Cover asparagus and rhubarb beds with a mulch of manure or compost.
- Clean, sharpen and oil tools and equipment before storing for winter.
- Store garden supplies and fertilizers in a safe, dry place out of reach of children.
- Prune out dead fruiting canes in raspberries.
- Harvest squash and pumpkins; keep in dry area at 55 degrees to 60 degrees Fahrenheit.
- Spade organic material and lime into garden soil, as indicated by soil test results (if necessary and the weather permits).

October Planting/Propagation
- Dig and divide rhubarb. (Should be done about every 4 years.)
- Plant garlic for harvesting next summer.
- Propagate chrysanthemums, fuchsias, and geraniums by stem cuttings.
- Save seeds from the vegetable and flower garden. Dry, date, label, and store in a cool and dry location.
- Plant ground covers and shrubs.
- Dig and store geraniums, tuberous begonias, dahlias, and gladiolas.
- Pot and store tulips and daffodils to force into early bloom, indoors, in December and January.
October Pest Monitoring and Management
- Remove and dispose of windfall apples that might be harboring apple maggot or codling moth larvae.
- Rake and destroy diseased leaves (apple, cherry, rose, etc.), or hot compost diseased leaves.
- Spray apple and stone fruit trees at leaf fall to prevent various fungal and bacterial diseases. For more information, see Managing Diseases and Insects in Home Orchards (PDF - EC 631).
- If moles and gophers are a problem, consider traps.
- Control fall-germinating lawn weeds while they are small. Hand weeding and weeding tools are particularly effective at this stage.
- Monitor landscape plants for problems. Don't treat unless a problem is identified.

October Houseplants and Indoor Gardening
- Early October: Reduce water, place in cool area (50-55 degrees Fahrenheit) and increase time in shade or darkness (12-14 hours) to force Christmas cactus to bloom in late December.
- Place hanging pots of fuchsias where they won't freeze. Don't cut back until spring.
- Check/treat houseplants for disease and insects before bringing indoors.

November Planning
- Force spring bulbs for indoor blooms in December.

November Maintenance and cleanup
- Check potatoes in storage and remove any going bad.
- Place a portable cold frame over rows of winter vegetables.
- Place mulch around berries for winter protection.
- Cover rhubarb and asparagus beds with composted manure and straw.
- Rake and compost leaves that are free of diseases and insects. Use mulch to prevent erosion and compaction from rain.
- Renew mulch around perennial flowerbeds after removing weeds.
- Protect tender evergreens from drying wind.
- Tie limbs of upright evergreens to prevent breakage by snow or ice.
- Trim chrysanthemums to 4 to 6 inches after they finish blooming.
- Leave ornamental grasses up in winter to provide texture in the landscape. Cut them back a few inches above the ground in early spring.
- Last chance to plant cover crops for soil building. You can also use a 3- to 4-inch layer of leaves, spread over the garden plot, to eliminate winter weeds, suppress early spring weeds and prevent soil compaction by rain.
- Watch for wet soil and drainage problems in yard during heavy rains. Tiling, ditching and French drains are possible solutions. Consider rain gardens and bioswales as a long-term solution.
- Take cuttings of rhododendrons and camellias for propagation; propagate begonias from leaf cuttings.
- Prune roses (tea and floribunda, but NOT climbers and ramblers) to around 3 feet in height to prevent winter damage.

November Planting/propagation
- Plant a window garden of lettuce, chives and parsley.
- It's a good time to plant trees and shrubs. Consider varieties that supply food and shelter to birds, such as sumac, elderberry, flowering currant and mock orange.
- Western Oregon: Still time to plant spring-flowering bulbs, such as tulips, daffodils, hyacinths and crocuses. Don't delay.
- Western Oregon: Good time to plant garlic for harvest next summer, and to transplant landscape trees and shrubs.

November Pest monitoring and management
- Rake and destroy leaves from fruit trees that were diseased this year. Remove and discard mummified fruit.
- Check firewood for insect infestations. Burn affected wood first and don't store inside.
- Treat peaches four weeks after leaf fall spray for peach leaf curl and shothole diseases.
- Moss appearing in lawn may mean too much shade or poor drainage. Correct site conditions if moss is bothersome.
- Bait garden for slugs during rainy periods. Use traps or phosphate baits, which are pet-safe.
- Monitor landscape plants for problems. Don't treat unless a problem is identified.
- November Houseplants and indoor gardening
- Reduce fertilizer applications.

Trade-name products and services are mentioned as illustrations only. This does not mean that the Oregon State University Extension Service endorses these products and services or intends to discriminate against products and services not mentioned. For additional OSU Extension gardening information, visit: http://extension.oregonstate.edu/gardening
Some of Joanie Chapel's award winning dahlias from her garden tour this Summer.