



The Marion Garden Gate

Marion County Master Gardener™ Monthly Newsletter • February 2018

Sponsored by The Greenhouse Catalog Inc., makers of Solexx Greenhouses

Notes from Neil



Neil Bell

This week I received a sample of foliage in a plastic bag from a Dallas client who was concerned about their Arborvitae hedge. The sample of foliage was what we often receive from gardeners when they have a problem plant. In other words, it consisted of a bunch of brown, dried-

up leaves from which you could tell nothing about the problem that had caused the demise of this part of the plant. Clearly more information was going to be required.

Arborvitae are ubiquitous in the landscape, of course and are the go-to conifer if a privacy hedge is wanted. In the past, I thought of this plant as a near indestructible component of the garden. But especially in the last few years, I've observed more problems with this plant,



possibly because it is used so commonly and there's just more opportunity for problems to be observed.

The majority of the problems are due to either an excess or lack of water. I used to see problems with excess water more commonly than lack of water, and essentially the excess water was because of drainage problems, which would lead to Phytophthora Root Rot. But the hot summer of 2015 was one of the first occasions where I saw widespread drought stress issues. Most of these hedges do not receive irrigation and generally performed adequately in "normal" summers, but in the fall of 2015 there were many hedges that exhibited a lot of dieback. Since then I've observed this more commonly and the summer of 2017 affected un-irrigated hedges the same way as it was very hot.

In the case of this client they had done what many people do, which is bring us the most dead part of the plant, which is usually unhelpful. So I called and received a bit more detail about the hedge in question. It had been planted by the previous owner as a privacy hedge on part of the perimeter of the property, so it was a mature hedge in the shape of an "L". The plants were receiving water from a soaker hose in the

Inside This Edition

Notes from Neil	1
Webinar Advanced Training Opportunities	2
MCMGA Board Meeting Minutes	3
The Garden in January	4
President's 2017 Annual Report	5
Winter Musings	6
Where There's a Will There's a Why	7
Join Our Members Only Facebook Page	7
February MCMGA Speaker: Square Foot Gardening	8
Upcoming MCMGA Monthly Speakers	9
Visit the Members Page of the New Web Site	10
Tell Us About Your Favorite Gardening Tool	10
Jr. Master Gardener Facilitator Training	10
February and March Workshops	11
Trees and Health	13
Comprehensive Plants & Pollinators Publication	13
Mark Your Calendar	14
2018 Class Schedule and Handouts	14
Marion SWCD Native Plant Sale	14
Volunteers Needed	14
MCMGA Calendar of Events	15

Neil's Notes Continued from Page 1

summer. Several of the plants were showing significant browning in one part of the hedge. After the phone conversation it was still not clear exactly what was affected so I decided to go over there for a look.

On visiting the property, as you can see in the photo, the plants that were showing brown foliage were clustered in the 90 degree angle of the "L". Immediately in front of the affected plants was a mature apple tree. My first impression on seeing that was that the apple tree was causing drought stress on the nearby arborvitae. This would however require that they were not being watered enough to compensate for the competition from the apple. And the other thing was that although the apple tree was quite large, I don't know that it would be sufficient competition for the hedge to cause this much dieback.

This was in the back of my mind as we walked around to the opposite side of the hedge and lo and behold it was completely healthy on the back side. So it became immediately apparent that the dead foliage on the front side of the hedge was not because of any water-related issues, but because of the shade cast by the apple tree in the summer. This was a first for me. The only other time I've seen this was when the owner had sheared one side of the hedge, removing all the foliage (yes, this happens) and because these types of conifers do not produce new growth from old wood, the sheared part remains bare.

The hedge and the apple tree had co-existed for many years, as they were both well established. But the new owner had allowed the watersprouts from the tree to grow up over the last 3 years and these were now casting complete shade during the growing season over the affected part of the hedge. So only the shaded foliage was affected, the rest of the hedge, and the sun-exposed side of the affected plants, were also fine.

Short of visiting the client, problems like this one could really only be diagnosed with good photos which showed both sides of the hedge. The foliage sample that



was brought in really told us nothing. It was a helpful reminder of the value of accurate information for plant problem diagnosis as well, of course, that arborvitae, like most conifers, requires full sun for good growth. 🌞

Webinar Advanced Training Opportunities

Participate in these advanced training opportunities from the comforts of home. The dates and times listed represent the live webinar and are accessible at the links shown. Webinars are recorded and will be available for viewing at a later date at the same link.

Recorded Webinar: Frontiers in Slug & Snail Management, Dr. Rory Mc Donnell.
<https://learn.extension.org/events/3294>

Feb 12, 10:00 a.m. Live Webinar: Hybridization and Tetraploids and Chromosomes, Oh My! Understanding Plant Breeding for Disease Resistance, by Dr. Ryan Contreras. <https://learn.extension.org/events/3287>

Mar 12, 11:00 a.m. Live Webinar: Identifying & Managing the Bronze Birch Borer, by Nicole Sanchez. <https://learn.extension.org/events/3289>

Apr 16, 11:00 a.m. Live Webinar: Powdery mildew: Biology & Management in the Garden, by Dr. Jay Pscheidt. <https://learn.extension.org/events/3290>



MCMGA Board Meeting Minutes

January 18, 2018

Meeting called to order by president Bill Sutkus at 9:10 a.m.

Bill Sutkus

Board Members Attending: Bill

Sutkus, Dale Marande, Joyce Zook, Roberta Bigelow, Margrit Angeloni, Carol Sutkus, Laveryne Gray, Eric Suing, Cyndy Shorter. Absent (excused): Judy O'Neill, Farouk Hussein. Guests: Sherry Hari, Janie Jenne, Hank Burroughs, Bonita Greener, Tobie Habeck, Neil Bell, Jeanne Brown, Pete Petersen, Janet Rogers.

There were no adjustments to the printed agenda. Minutes of the December 11, 2017 board meeting were approved.

Governance

Governance Review - Standing Rules for

Conducting Business: Review of sections which contain changes: A.3 - Disciplinary Action; C - Position Descriptions are now included; D.3 - Budgets; D.4 - Storage of Documents; F-4 Awards/Recognition (composition of committee).

During discussions, it emerged that there were five issues in the Standing Rules that need to be addressed in the future:

- Lobbying
- The \$.14/mile reimbursement plus who should get mileage reimbursement.
- In the title to F4.1, eliminate the MCMGA and say just Marion County Master Gardener....
- The reference to Mini-College should be changed to G2 (Growing Gardeners or whatever it is).
- Under the Communication position description, need more clarity RE SignUp Genius.

ACTION: It was moved/seconded that we adopt the revised Standing Rules as written. Motion carried unanimously.

Governance Review - Bylaws: Emphasis placed upon Article II (Purpose). Article V. There are currently eleven officers (quorum is 8 board members); the OMGA Representative position is rotated among

board members. There are four Corporate officers (, President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer) who meet to set the agenda for the monthly board meeting. Board service cannot exceed four consecutive years for an individual member. Article VI - No Proxy Voting.

President's Annual Report: See page 5.

Treasurer's Report: Roberta presented the Financial Report. She stated that the expense form (required for reimbursements) is online. These forms can be turned in to the Help Desk to be filed in the Treasurer's folder. Fiscal year is July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018. Current available funds: \$64,218.90.

ACTION - It was move/seconded to approve the financial report as presented. Unanimous approval.

Recognition for Service: Gift certificates and kudos were given to the following:

- Tobie Habeck - many years on the board, including president.
- Janet Rogers - past Secretary.
- Pete Petersen - Marion Garden dedication.
- Janie Jenne - Archive organization and documentation.
- Elaine Smith - many years coordinating all aspects of the Help Desk.

Archives Report: Janie explained the process of collecting and organizing past historical data for MCMGA. She has turned over all documents and albums to Victoria. In the future documentation of activities and events will be retained in "the cloud". Photo albums do not have names identified, so long-time MGs are needed to review the albums and identify people if possible.

Operations

Strategic Planning Update: Bill announced that the Strategic Planning committee will submit their proposal to the board 2/1/18, and it will be available to members by end of February.

Practicum Option for the Class of 2018: Garden Committee meets next week and will be considering three possible topics for practicums:

- Basic gardening (methods/techniques)

Board Meeting Minutes Continued from Page 3

- Propagation perennials/shrubs for the plant sale (Research how/if we can).
- Native plant ID in the Marion Garden (out of 139 in Willamette Valley) (Backyard Habitat project).

Other considerations were given by groups who brainstormed: Plant labeling/signage to contain info/history; composting (what weeds?; weed ID; browns, greens, process). There is a deadline of Feb. 19 to announce the practicums to trainees.

ACTION: It was moved/seconded that we adopt a practicum approach for the current trainee class. Passed unanimously.

Committee Chair Appointment:

ACTION: It was moved/seconded that the following be appointed Committee Chairs (unanimous approval):

- Plant Sale Co-Chair: Krista Richey.
- Office Plant Clinic (Help Desk): Dale Marande.
- Community Plant Clinics: Trinity Sheraden.
- Garden Consulting: Gretchen Coppedge and Kathy Outland.
- Speakers Bureau: Tobie Habeck .
- Mentor Coordinator: Bonnie Greener and Mardean King.
- Junior Master Gardener Program: Kelly Noack and Jim Liskey.
- Hospitality for Class and Graduation: Miriam Brand and Pat Bougher.

- Marion-Polk Food Share: Brad Brenden
- Monthly Membership Meeting: Miriam Brand

Bonnie Greener announced that Mardean King will serve as assistant to the Mentor Coordinator, and Bonnie is just filling in until another Coordinator is recruited.

Plant Sale: Tobie reported that Loghouse Nursery will supply veggies this year rather than Al's. The price for the 5000 veggies we buy has gone up.

ACTION: It was moved/seconded that we increase plant sale budget by \$500 for the vegetable line item. (Motion passed unanimously).

This amount will be recovered by raising the sale price to \$2.75/plant.

Marion Garden: Laveryne announced that the Garden Committee will connect with plot managers on 2/6/18 for practicum topics/projects in Marion Garden.

Membership: Carol reported 125 renewals, with more to come in received mail. Currently there are 43-44 trainees in 2018 class.

OMGA: Salem will host this quarter's meeting (March) in the Extension Building. Laveryne was appointed representative for MCMGA; Jim Liskey, Tobie and others will arrange for refreshments.

President Bill Surkus adjourned the meeting at 11:33 a.m. ☼

Respectfully submitted by Joyce Zook, Secretary

The Garden in January



President's Annual Report for 2017
by Bill Sutkus for MCMGA Board Meeting of 18 January 2018

Neil's annual report, delivered at the graduation event on December 11, 2017, and published in the January 2018 edition of *The Marion Garden Gate* covers many of the details of what MCMGA did in 2017.

Membership Directory listed 226 members, of whom 150 reported hours in the VRS and 133 worked at the Plant Sale:
 Active (report 20 service and 10 continuing education hours) - 112
 Associate (only pay dues) - 82
 Trainees - 32 (39 started class in January and 24 graduated in December)

Members volunteered 20,700 hours (18,025 service hrs and 2675 continuing ed) and recorded 7000 contacts.

Plant Clinic	2700 hrs (15% of total service hrs of 18,025)
Instructor	1875 (10.5%)
Garden -maintenance 4750 hrs and instructor 575	5325 (29.5%)
Fundraiser	3075 (17%)
MG Association	3150 (17.5%)
Others - writing, event planning, mentor, other	1900 (10.5%)
Continuing Education	2675 hrs (13% of total hours of 20,700)

Some highlights from 2017:

- The Marion Garden and workshops:
 - Certain topics (orchard, pruning, berries, backyard habitat, greenhouse) made good workshops both in the Garden and out in the community.
 - Plant markers put in place
 - Greenhouse management became a focus and a potting shed was constructed
- The newly established Communication Committee put in place:
 - our own wonderful webpage, with a Members Only section
 - a process for setting up and marketing workshops
 - a social media presence
 - SignUp Genius for Help Desk scheduling, workshop registration, etc.
- Plant Sale moved to the State Fair grounds, very successfully
- Chemeketa:
 - MCMGA scholarships for 3 students, totaling \$3600
 - planning for Extension's move to Chemeketa, with some sort of MCMGA demo garden presence
- MG Association:
 - major Bylaws revision, including new Board positions, for President Elect and Treasurer Elect as well as for Education to oversee all our education efforts and for Communication to oversee internal and external marketing and communication.
 - major revision of the Standing Rules
 - strategic planning initiated with a hugely successful gathering in October

Challenges:

- Office Plant Clinic (Help Desk) - our signature program. How can we improve it, including the problem of excessive 'down time' when working the Desk?
- Marion Garden - perhaps our major investment. How can we make it more effectively meet our mission to educate and serve the community? How can we manage the required maintenance?
- Plant Sale - our only fund raiser. Can it remain viable as our plant donation sources are changing so radically?
- Communication, both internally (e.g. Can the Members Only page reduce reliance on Neil-mails?) and externally (e.g. Can marketing improve Help Desk and Marion Garden numbers?)
- Planning for Chemeketa -what kind of demo garden, how to maintain it, etc.
- Strategic planning, which is meant to address all these challenges. The enthusiasm over the October retreat was due more to the process than the product. Now we have to deliver the product.

Winter Musings



Bev Loos

When I begin to explore definitions and synonyms for “winter”, I find an array of delicious words and phrases for this fundamental season:

- *A period of inactivity or decay.*
- *Hiemal (occurring in cold temperatures).*
- *Pause (linger for a time).*
- *Shiveringly cold.*

- *Quiescere (Latin for “to rest”).*
- *Suspense (appropriate alternate definition: excitement to an outcome).*

My 4th-grade teacher once described to our class her favorite thing to do on cold winter mornings. She would wrap up in a blanket and take her hot coffee out onto her porch and watch the sun come up. Upon hearing her story I could see the steam rise from her fragrant cup. I saw her wrinkled cheeks turn pink and her breath make a little cloud in the cold crisp air. Her warm blanket was pulled tight around her shoulders as she contemplated the colors in the morning sky. In the dead of winter, this old story has become the embodiment of the season for me.

My favorite wintertime activity is to plan my garden. I surround myself with catalogs from Seed Savers Exchange, Territorial Seeds, Adaptive Seeds, Peace Seedlings and assorted other organic and heirloom seed companies. I flip through the pages of varieties of colorful tomatoes, carrots, corn, peppers, flowers, herbs and dream of sunny days plucking and munching on crisp provisions while futzing around in the garden. In winters past, I would pull out my tattered piece of graph paper on which I had measured and drawn my entire back yard and garden plots to scale. I had tiny measured squares labeled with each appropriate vegetable or herb from the previous garden plan, left over sticky glue still clinging to the backs. I would review my companion plant list and crop rotation requirements and check the Farmer’s Almanac for the best lunar planting dates. I carefully glued the measured cutouts for my vegetable choices to the spaces on my graph paper, adhering to all of the appropriate crop considerations including the future shade cast by each mature plant onto the surrounding ones. It was quite complicated, but the finished plan was something to be proud of. I tediously marked all of the optimum planting times on the days

of the months on my calendar, wrote the check(s), ordered my new seeds, and waited with anticipation for the precious seed packs to arrive in the mail.

In the winter of 2013 I discovered the Mother Earth News Vegetable Garden Planner (<http://gardenplanner.motherearthnews.com/>). Planning my new garden was so easy; I felt like I was cheating...seriously! The most difficult part was transferring the drawing of my back yard and garden from my graph paper to the garden planner. And that wasn’t difficult at all. The rest was just fun. They have kept the basic design from year to year and I only have to redraw the places that I change. The crops drag and drop into the selected plots and adjust to any size or shape desired. Each following year, the program highlights the spots that should not be used again for a particular vegetable for proper crop rotation. There is a tool listing companion plants. Each annual plan is kept for reference. They use my zip code to determine my hardiness zone and appropriate planting and harvesting times, which is compiled to a list. They send regular emails telling me when it is time to plant the next crop. They even adjust the planting dates according to whether my crop is under a cloche or not. There are lots of useful tools, and they continually update with new ones. No more graph paper!

In addition to including planting times in their emails to users, Mother Earth News provides helpful articles, videos and links to sites such as The Big Bug Hunt research project (BigBugHunt.com).

The video highlighted in their most recent email can also be viewed on YouTube under No-Dig Gardening: An Easier Way to Grow, GrowVeg at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QaBMyyrzhzA>. There is a nominal fee for this garden planner, but I would highly recommend this extremely helpful tool to anyone who loves to grow a vegetable garden.

Happy planning and beautiful sunrises to you! ☺

By Bev Loos



Where There's a Will There's a Why



Jane Sommers

My 5th grade math teacher was a story teller. I don't remember his name, but I do remember one story that he told.

When he was a boy, he was watching his mother prepare the Christmas ham. She got out her big roasting pan and then chopped the small end off of the ham before putting it in the pan.

Being a curious lad, he asked her why. She replied "That is how my mother taught me to do it." Not satisfied with her answer, he asked his grandmother the same question, and she answered the same. So then he asked his great grandmother. Her reply was "I didn't have a big enough pan."

In gardening, as with almost every aspect of life, we are given rules and guidelines to help us safely navigate our way. Most of us oblige, honoring the wisdom, I suppose, of our teachers. Life becomes one big litany of rules we must remember. What if we learned why we might do something a certain way, instead of blindly following a rule that may or may not apply to the specific situation?

Rather than always planting our vegetables after Mother's Day, we could understand the relationship between soil temperature, day length, and germination. Instead of always cutting the lawn at 2 ½", we could understand how changing growing conditions might sometimes require a different option. Before trying to remember the rules for pruning the Azaleas so we have flowers next year, we could learn to understand their growth cycle. This understanding could then be transferred to other species and gardens with similar cycles and requirements. Voila, fewer rules to remember!

I purchased a couple of bare root filbert trees a few years ago. The nursery employee asked me if I was going to plant them right away, and when I said yes, he whipped out his pruners and lopped 1/3 off the top of each one. I asked him why and he said "Always prune 1/3 off of bare root trees just before you plant them." I was too stunned to press him for a more expansive answer. Now that I am older and wiser, relatively, I know that you

prune newly planted fruit trees, if necessary, to direct the growth you want. His rash cuts did nothing to direct the growth of my trees in a useful direction; he was just following a rule.

The next time you find yourself obediently following a rule in your garden, if you have done so every year without knowing the reason, challenge yourself to find out the why. As Master Gardeners we are tasked with imparting our wisdom to the masses. Wouldn't it be great if we taught the why, as well as the how? 🌱

By Jane Sommers



Join the MCMGA Members Only Facebook Page

As a member of MCMGA you now have the opportunity to join a MCMGA members only "closed facebook group." A "closed group" means that people other than members can see that the group exists, but are not able to see any posts, names, etc., unless they are provided membership to the group by the site administrators (Victoria Binning and Judy O'Neill).

The members only facebook group gives you a fun site where you can post and share interesting gardening articles, photos of your garden or other gardens, and communicate with your MCMGA colleagues about gardening, and upcoming MCMGA events and workshops, etc.

Are you ready to give this a try? Just click or paste <https://www.facebook.com/groups/643219132732735/> into your browser, or search MCMGA Members Group in your facebook search bar.

You will come to a page where you can request membership in the closed facebook group. Your request will go to the group administrators for approval.

Join us! It will be fun! 🌱



Extension Service



Marion County Master Gardeners™ Association

Square Foot Gardening

Speaker: Marcus White

Tuesday, Feb. 20, 7:00pm
Salem Public Library,
Anderson Room

585 Liberty St. SE, Salem, Oregon
Admission: Free

Learn how to plan, build, plant
and care for a compact Square
Foot vegetable garden.

No Weeding!

No Digging!

No Tilling!

No Kidding!

Join us for a fun learning
experience, refreshments and
door prizes.



MCMGA, OSU Extension Service
1320 Capitol St NE, Suite 110
Salem, OR 97301

Master Gardener Help Desk: 503-373-3770
email: marionmg@oregonstate.edu
web: <http://marioncomga.org/>

Oregon State University Extension Service prohibits discrimination in all its programs, services, activities, and materials on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, familial/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, genetic information, veteran's status, reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs). If you or a family member will need accommodations for a disability in order to participate in one or more of our Extension programs, please contact Donita Godwin at 503-373-3775, two weeks prior to the scheduled program.

Oregon State
UNIVERSITY



Marion County Master Gardeners™ Association

Upcoming 2018 Monthly Speakers

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Location: Salem Public Library

Admission: Free

Square Foot Gardening. Marcus White.
Tuesday, February 20. Anderson Room.

Designing with Natives to Invite & Support Biodiversity at Home. Eileen Stark. Tuesday, March 27. Loucks Auditorium.

The Greatest Garden Shows on Earth. Dan Heims.
Tuesday, April 24. Loucks Auditorium.

Witch's Broom - Using Dwarf Conifers in the Landscape.
Sam Pratt. Tuesday, May 22. Loucks Auditorium.

Prairie Plains - What is Happening to Them. Joyce Zook.
Tuesday, September 25. Loucks Auditorium.

Attracting Birds to Your Backyard. Elaine Murphy.
Tuesday, October 23. Loucks Auditorium.

Planting for Pollinators. Lynda Boyer.
Tuesday, November 13. Loucks Auditorium.



MCMGA, OSU Extension Service
1320 Capitol St NE, Suite 110
Salem, OR 97301

Master Gardener Help Desk: 503-373-3770
email: marionmg@oregonstate.edu
web: <http://marioncomga.org/>

Oregon State University Extension Service prohibits discrimination in all its programs, services, activities, and materials on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, familial/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, genetic information, veteran's status, reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs). If you or a family member will need accommodations for a disability in order to participate in one or more of our Extension programs, please contact Donita Godwin at 503-373-3775, two weeks prior to the scheduled program.



Please Visit the MCMGA Members Page of Our New Website

The web team is asking all members to explore the Members page of new web site in the next week or two, as we prepare for our web satisfaction survey.

You will find the Members page at <http://marioncomga.org/members-login/>. The Members page requires a login and password. If you do not remember them, email me at joneill@willamette.edu.

Familiarizing yourself with the site at this time will help the survey gather impactful information and help us develop a site that meets your needs.

While we are talking “web,” we thought you might like to see some web analytic data about the number of people who visited our site in the last 90 days:

- 1,128 people visited the site.
- 194 people visited the registration page for workshops.
- 163 people visited the workshop page.
- 43 people visited the members page. ☺

Tell Us About Your Favorite Gardening Tool?

The newsletter team would like to feature an article about the favorite gardening tool or tools of MCMGA Master Gardeners.

We all have a favorite gardening tool! So, let’s share our finds with our Master Gardener colleagues.

If you would like to be interviewed for the article please email me at joneill@willamette.edu.

We will be interested in a picture of your tool(s), what the tool does well that makes it your favorite, stories about how you got or made the tool, etc. ☺

Jr. Master Gardener Facilitator Training - February 17

Be a Jr. Master Gardener Facilitator! Training to become a facilitator is Saturday, February 17 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the OSU Extension Service Office, 1320 Capitol St NE, Salem OR 97301.

This training provided is free for Master Gardeners and includes workshop supplies and refreshments. Feel free to bring a sack lunch if you would like.

Oregon’s state Junior Master Gardener Coordinator, Kelly Noack, and Oregon’s MCMGA member of the year, Jim Liskey, will train you and cover easy, fun, research-based activities that students complete within Junior Master Gardener and youth garden programs.

Tips and tricks will be shared on how to best manage a classroom and build trust with youth of all ages. We will be sharing a variety of hands-on lessons appropriate for grades K-8.

This training is designed for teachers, garden coordinators, volunteers, and teens 15+ interested in sharing their love for healthy living, vegetables and kids!

Register on Sign-Up Genius at <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/508054fa9aa28a0f58-jrmaster>. Or contact Kelly Noack at kelly.noack@oregonstate.edu or call 503-798-7232 for registration and questions.”

Registration closes at 8:00 am on February 16. ☺

— February and March Workshops —

MCMGA is offering 18 workshops in February and March. Many are taught more than one time. You can see a list of all February and March workshops and register to attend on our web site at <http://marioncomga.org/event-registration/>

Fruit Tree Pruning Basics

Saturday, February 3, 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Pringle Creek Community - Painters Hall

3911 Village Center Dr. SE, Salem

Saturday, February 17, 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Marion Demonstration Garden

3180 Center St NE, Salem

Saturday, February 24, 9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Saturday, February 24, 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Calvary Orchard

1550 Hoffman Rd. NE, Salem



Join OSU Master Gardener Michael Johnson to learn the basics of pruning fruit trees. Learn how to:

- invigorate a fruit tree
- prevent damage to branches
- ensure sunlight reaches all of the tree
- reduce disease and insect damage

Bring pruners and gloves if you want to practice. The workshop will be held rain or shine so dress for the weather.

Pre-registration is required. Register online @ <http://marioncomga.org/event-registration/> ☼

Pruning Blueberries

Saturday, February 3, 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Saturday, March 3, 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Petram Garden

2103 78th Ave. SE, Salem

Saturday, February 24, 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Marion Demonstration Garden

3180 Center St NE, Salem



Learn how to:

- prune and care for your blueberries.
- prepare a bed for planting
- fertilize and when to fertilize.
- select blueberry varieties.

Pre-registration is required. Register online @ <http://marioncomga.org/event-registration/> ☼

Pruning Basics: Fruit Trees, Grapes and Blueberries

Saturday, February 10, 1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Saturday, February 10, 3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Redeemer Lutheran Church

4663 Lancaster Dr. Salem

Learn the basics of pruning fruit trees, grapes, & blueberries:

- when to prune
- what to prune
- how to prune
- tips for chemical free insect & disease management & weed control

Pre-registration is required. Register for your workshop online @ <http://marioncomga.org/event-registration/> ☼

Workshops Continued on Page 12

Workshops Continued from Page 11

Pruning Overgrown Fruit Trees

Saturday, February 10. 9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Saturday, February 17. 9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Bottemiller Garden

4716 Shetland Ct. SE, Salem

(Park on Arabian Ave. SE)



Learn how to shorten the height and prune branches of overgrown/too tall fruit trees to maintain good fruit production.

Pre-registration is required. Register for your workshop online @ <http://marioncomga.org/event-registration/> ☼

Pruning Dwarf Fruit Trees

Saturday, February 10. 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Saturday, February 17. 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Michael Johnson Garden

4758 Adobe St, SE, Salem



Learn how to select, plant and prune dwarf fruit trees.

Dwarf rootstock, trellising and support for very dwarf trees will also be discussed.

Pre-registration is required. Register for your workshop online @ <http://marioncomga.org/event-registration/> ☼

Pruning Hybrid Tea and Shrub Roses

Saturday, February 24, 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Saturday, March 17, 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Marion Demonstration Garden

3180 Center St NE, Salem



Spring pruning improves the health of roses and increases bloom during the summer. Learn pruning techniques that provide better air circulation and help prevent disease. Summer care of roses will also be discussed.

Pre-registration is required. Register online @ <http://marioncomga.org/event-registration/> ☼

Pruning Overgrown Rugosa Roses

Saturday, March 3, 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Marion Demonstration Garden

3180 Center St NE, Salem



Learn how to prune Rugosa roses. Rugosa roses are an excellent choice if you want to create a dense hedge that provides a lot of interest all season, has large fragrant blooms, red fruits in the fall, and requires very little care.

Pre-registration is required. Register online @ <http://marioncomga.org/event-registration/> ☼

Workshops Continued from Page 12

Pruning Ornamental Shrubs

Saturday, March 10, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Marion Demonstration Garden

3180 Center St NE, Salem



Learn to prune common landscape shrubs.

The workshop will start with a short lecture about identifying flowering characteristics and growth habit. The lecture will occur in the Health Services Building.

After the lecture, we will move to the Demonstration Garden and attendees will participate in a hands-on demonstration of pruning a variety of shrubs.

Bring clean pruners and gloves. Clean your pruners by wiping them with either 10% bleach or 70% ethyl alcohol before the workshop.

Pre-registration is required. Register online @ <http://marioncomga.org/event-registration/> ♻️

Fruit Tree Grafting and Scion Exchange

Saturday, March 31, 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Marion Demonstration Garden

3180 Center St NE, Salem

Learn how to successfully graft a shoot (scion) onto a rootstock, and make your own disease resistant apple tree.

Semi-dwarf root stock will be for sale. There will be many kinds of apple scion wood available to choose from.

Tools and supplies will be provided.

Pre-registration is required. Register online @ <http://marioncomga.org/event-registration/> ♻️



Trees and Health: Growing the Solution - March 2 at 6:00 p.m.



Master Gardeners and the public are invited to attend a presentation by Dr. Kathy Wolf in Salem on Friday, March 2, at 6:00 p.m. in the Louck's Auditorium. Dr. Wolf is an international expert on the ways in which trees influence human behavior and health, and how those benefits can be described economically. Come and learn about exciting new nature and human health research impacting our community, and how local

agencies are promoting trees and health to improve livability in our region.

Free. Preregister online at <<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/trees-and-health-growing-the-solution-featuring-dr-kathy-wolf-in-salem-tickets-42440085438>>

Comprehensive Publication on Plants and Pollinators in Oregon

A very comprehensive publication on plants for pollinators (native and non-native) in Oregon is available. via pdf. This is a must resource for planting native plants. The publication is by the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service. Download your copy at https://plants.usda.gov/pollinators/Plants_for_Pollinators_in_Oregon_PM%2013.pdf

— MCMGA Announcements —

Mark Your Calendar!

2018 Soil School, April 7
Register at <https://wmswcd.org/projects/soil-school/>

2018 Mini College - Growing Gardeners Conference
July 12-14 @ Linfield College

2018 MCMGA Class Schedule and Handouts are available on our website at <http://marioncomga.org/2018-class-materials/>

— MCMGA Monthly —

PLOT MANAGERS

Tuesday, Feb. 6, Noon
MC Health Services Building

BOARD

Thursday, Feb. 15, 9:00 a.m.
OSU Extension Office

MCMGA MONTHLY MEETING

Tuesday, Feb. 20, 7:00 p.m.
Salem Public Library

BUG GROUP

Wednesday, Feb. 21, 10:00 a.m.

KBZY

Tune-In Every Thursday
8:40 a.m. on 1490 AM

GARDEN WORKDAY

Every Tuesday 9:00 a.m. - Noon
Marion Demonstration Garden

MARION POLK FOOD SHARE - FOOD SORT

Thursday, Feb. 27, 1:00 p.m.

Marion SWCD Native Plant Sale

March 10, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Bauman Farms, 12989 Howell Prairie Rd NE, Gervais

A list of plants and prices is available @ <http://marioncomga.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/price-list-2018.pdf>

More information is available @ <https://www.marionswcd.net/nps18/>

Volunteers Needed

Sign-up to volunteer on the MCMGA Member Web Page @ <http://marioncomga.org/members-login/members/>

February Office Plant Clinic Sign-Up

www.signupgenius.com/go/508054fa9aa28a0f58-office2

Jr. Master Gardener Facilitator Training

www.signupgenius.com/go/508054fa9aa28a0f58-jrmaster

Garden Maintenance Team Member

Plant Sale

Plant Clinics

The Garden Gate Newsletter for the Marion County Master Gardener™ Association is produced in cooperation with the OSU Extension Service, and is published and distributed monthly to all of the MCMGA members.

Send submissions, pictures, feedback, and comments to:
gardengateneeds@gmail.com

March Garden Gate Submission Deadline is February 22

— MCMGA February Calendar of Events —

Thursday, Feb. 1	Maintenance Day	Demonstration Garden	9:00 AM Noon
Thursday, Feb. 1	Radio Segment on Gardening	KBZY 1490	8:45 AM - 9:00 AM
Saturday, Feb. 3	Fruit Tree Pruning Basics	Pringle Creek Community	1:00 PM - 3:00 PM
Saturday, Feb. 3	Pruning Blueberries	Petram Garden	1:00 PM - 3:00 PM
Sunday, Feb. 4	Salem Hardy Plant Society Meeting	Mission Mill Dye House	3:00 PM
Monday, Feb. 5	Master Gardener Class	Unitarian Universalist Congregation	9:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Tuesday, Feb. 6	Work Day in the Garden	Demonstration Garden	9:00 AM-Noon
Tuesday, Feb. 6	Plot Managers Meeting	MC Health Services Building	Noon - 1:00 PM
Thursday, Feb. 8	Radio Segment on Gardening	KBZY 1490	8:45 AM - 9:00 AM
Thursday, Feb. 8	Maintenance Day	Demonstration Garden	9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Saturday, Feb. 10	Pruning Overgrown Fruit Trees	Bottemiller Garden	9:00 AM - 10:00 AM
Saturday, Feb. 10	Pruning Dwarf Fruit Trees	Michael Johnson Garden	11:00 AM - 12:30 PM
Saturday, Feb. 10	Pruning Basics: Fruit Trees, Grapes, Blueberries	Redeemer Lutheran Church	1:00 PM - 2:30 PM
Saturday, Feb. 10	Pruning Basics: Fruit Trees, Grapes, Blueberries	Redeemer Lutheran Church	3:00 PM - 4:30 PM
Monday, Feb. 12	Master Gardener Class	Unitarian Universalist Congregation	9:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Tuesday, Feb. 13	Work Day in the Garden	Demonstration Garden	9:00 AM - Noon
Thursday, Feb. 15	Radio Segment on Gardening	KBZY 1490	8:45 AM - 9:00 AM
Thursday, Feb. 15	Maintenance Day	Demonstration Garden	9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Thursday, Feb. 15	MCMGA Board Meeting	OSU Extension Office	9:00 AM - 11:00 AM
Saturday, Feb. 17	Pruning Overgrown Fruit Trees	Bottemiller Garden	9:00 AM - 10:30 AM
Saturday, Feb. 17	Pruning Dwarf Fruit Trees	Michael Johnson Garden	11:00 AM - 12:30 PM
Saturday, Feb. 17	Fruit Tree Pruning Basics	Demonstration Garden	1:00 PM - 3:00 PM
Monday, Feb. 19	Master Gardener Class	Unitarian Universalist Congregation	9:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Tuesday, Feb. 20	Work Day in the Garden	Demonstration Garden	9:00 AM - Noon
Tuesday, Feb. 20	Monthly Meeting - "Square Foot Gardening"	Salem Library-Anderson Room	7:00 PM
Wednesday, Feb. 21	Bug Group Meeting	Carol's House	10:00 AM - Noon
Thursday, Feb. 22	Radio Segment on Gardening	KBZY 1490	8:45 AM - 9:00 AM
Thursday, Feb. 22	Maintenance Day	Demonstration Garden	9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Saturday, Feb. 24	Fruit Tree Pruning Basics	Calvary Orchard	9:00 AM - 10:30 AM
Saturday, Feb. 24	Pruning Hybrid Tea & Shrub Roses	Demonstration Garden	9:30 AM - 11:30 AM
Saturday, Feb. 24	Fruit Tree Pruning Basics	Calvary Orchard	11:00 AM - 12:30 PM
Saturday, Feb. 24	Pruning Blueberries	Demonstration Garden	1:00 PM - 3:00 PM
Monday, Feb. 26	Master Gardener Class	Unitarian Universalist Church	9:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Tuesday, Feb. 27	Work Day in the Garden	Demonstration Garden	9:00 AM - Noon
Tuesday, Feb. 27	MCMGA Marion Polk Food Share - Food Sort	Marion Polk Food Share	1:00 PM - 3:00 PM
Thursday, Mar. 1	Radio Segment on Gardening	KBZY 1490	8:45 AM - 9:00 AM
Thursday, Mar. 1	Maintenance Day	Demonstration Garden	9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Saturday, Mar. 3	Pruning Overgrown Rugosa Shrub Roses	Demonstration Garden	9:30 AM - 11:30 AM
Saturday, Mar. 3	Pruning Blueberries	Petram Garden	1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

1320 Capitol St. NE, Suite 110
Salem, Oregon 97301
503-373-3770



Thanks to our Garden Gate sponsor!

The Greenhouse Catalog at
3740 Brooklake Rd . NE
Keizer, OR 97303



Oregon State University Extension Service prohibits discrimination in all its programs, services, activities, and materials on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, familial/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, genetic information, veteran's status, reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.)