

The Gardener's Pen

OREGON MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION – FALL 2021

UNDERLINED STORIES BELOW ARE AVAILABLE TO READ ONLINE: JUST CLICK

- Amazing accomplishments during pandemic times.
- Our award-winning MG's reach gardeners in innovative ways.

- New methods created to educate gardeners.
- How to stay in touch and grow our programs.

MINI COLLEGE KUDOS: A huge thank you to the leaders and team who created a valuable and successful virtual 2021 OMGA Mini College. Two years of ever-changing plans created an event that wowed attendees. Great job! Want to volunteer for 2022? Contact Chris at crusch@hughes.net.

[Click here for Master Gardener Program News and COVID protocol updates](#)

THE CULTURE OF GARDENING

is a new initiative of the [Master Gardener Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Taskforce](#) (30+ master gardener volunteers from 15 counties across the state, along with seven master gardener program staff and faculty) which explores and shares the voices of gardeners growing plants to connect with their *heritage, culture and identity*. This project of the OSU Extension Master Gardener program tells stories that transcend us, weaving through our communities and identities and include *farming, self care, family celebration, recipes, tools* and more.



Save the Date! November 10, 2021: The Extension MG DEI Task Force is hosting a screening of the film "Gather," at 7 pm on November 10th. A 30-minute panel discussion will follow, featuring **Dr. David Lewis of OSU. REGISTER HERE**

DID YOU KNOW? With your dues, OMGA purchases **Pest Management Handbooks** for each chapter – new ones have just been sent to Plant Clinics around the state.

THIS is what we've been doing this past year. Can you believe it? There has been an explosion of new gardeners, with MG's providing lots of educational opportunities, new projects and online or outdoor events that fulfill our mission.

WELL DONE OREGON MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEERS!

Here are just a few examples from our many industrious chapters and Extension partners. Click on any title to visit the page, or visit another MG to view it with them. Many will fulfill MG's Continuing Education Hours; check with your local coordinator.



WELCOME Dr. Ivory Lyles, Vice Provost of Outreach and Engagement, and Director of the OSU Extension Service. We look forward to working with you!

**Watch the
PREPARE FOR WILDFIRE
WEBINAR**

Garden to table: beginning vegetable gardening course; Plant Problem form, Permaculture Projects within Native Communities; Adapting your garden to changing climate; Healthy Soils; YELLOWHAWK TRIBAL GARDEN; Woodland Roads: Are You ready for the Winter?; BioBlitz at the Inspiration Garden; Junior Master Gardeners; Demonstration Gardens; Master Gardener Webinar Series; PNW Gardening Webinars; Recycle your pots; Gardening "how-to" Compost Workshop; Mycology Workshop; Mycorrhiza; Victory Garden; Native Plants; RILEY CREEK SCHOOL GARDEN; Solve Pest Problems; Ask an Expert; Bee Notes; Podcast: "Gardening: Get Good at It"; 10-Minute University; Seed to Supper Gardening Series; Growing Oregon Gardeners Level-up Series; Gardening in extreme heat, and many more! Check out all the <https://omga.org/chapters/>

What is planned for the 2022 Master Gardener Training Program? Click here for the latest news.

GREAT IDEAS: Chapters have been suffering from a lack of funding this past year as many of their normal fundraising activities have been postponed. Others have done a hybrid system and were still able to “order online and pick up at a safe place” the plants or mason bee supplies the counties were selling. Some other opportunities to fill in the gap: choosing the chapter association as a charity when shopping on [Amazon Smile](#) ; the [BottleDrop Redemption Program](#); [Fred Meyer Rewards](#) and other businesses that have partnered with master gardeners. Applying for [OMGA grants](#) is another opportunity to grow your program.



[2021 State Master Gardeners of the Year](#)

Susan Albright, Washington County and Chris Rusch, Douglas County.

[Behind the Scenes State Master Gardener of the Year:](#)

Sue Ryburn, Washington County. *Click link above to see the winners from each county.*

[2021 Grant Awardees:](#)

[Extension Educator Grant:](#)

Central Gorge: \$500 to purchase a laptop computer to use throughout the Central Gorge programs.

Central Oregon (Deschutes, Crook, and Jefferson): \$500 to create garden signage explaining the benefits of Water Wise Gardening.

[Marje Luce Search for](#)

[Excellence:](#) Benton County:

\$500. In recognition of their work in creating a Zoom version of the Seed to Supper Program.

Polk County: \$500. In recognition of their work creating permanent educational signage at the Inspirational Garden in Independence.

[Karl Carlson Memorial Fund:](#)

Central Gorge: \$132.13. Grant to purchase video equipment for the production of educational vignettes.

Is this your year to get a grant for your chapter? Discuss it with your local board.

A letter from Chris Rusch, OMGA President

Hi everyone! You may ask, what is the purpose of the Oregon Master Gardener Association?

1. To enhance and supplement the OSU Home Horticulture program.
2. To assume responsibility for performing special tasks and engaging in activities related to the enhancement of the MG Program.
3. To award grants to assist MG chapters in their programs.

Now you know!

Our 4th quarter OMGA meeting will be November 5 via Zoom. Please make sure your chapter is represented at this important meeting. As most of you know we are still facing some vacancies on our executive board and other important "heads of committees" positions. Most notable, our president elect, vice president and treasurer positions remain vacant. If we want to remain relevant and viable as an organization, we need to be able to have a strong executive board to keep up with the needs of our organization. Please contact me if you are interested at crusch3837@gmail.com. To find out more about our organization visit our website at: <https://omga.org/>

Contact the editor, Ann Kinkley,
Linn County Master Gardener,
at Gardenerspen@gmail.com.

Master Gardeners who were certified for the 2020 calendar year will maintain their certification in 2021 and into 2022. More info: MG Training Q&A

“Master Gardeners learn sustainable horticulture from Oregon State University and extend this information to local communities by serving as volunteer community educators.”

ONGOING CLASS, second Tuesday of each month: **Level Up, Growing Oregon Gardeners Series.**

OMGATM



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