

The Gardener's Pen

News for all of Oregon's Master Gardener volunteers

Ann Kinkley (Linn County), editor, gardenerspen@gmail.com

24 CLASSES OFFERED!

With more than 20 different presenters. See page 3.

APPLY FOR A SCHOLARSHIP

Send your friend to the conference! See page 3.

PANEL DISCUSSIONS

Seven Master Gardener volunteer panels! See page 3.

Keeping our program funded and robust

Representatives from the OSU Statewide Programs, as well as OSU's President Jayathi Murthy, provided valuable testimony at a hearing in Salem on May 1st in front of the Joint Committee on Education in hopes of gaining support for HB 2408.

This year our advocacy efforts have been focused on **fully-funding the continuing service levels** in OSU Statewide Public Service Programs. Our letter writing campaign this year has been effective and well received by state legislators.

Along with the rest of the nation, Oregon is in a state of uncertainty

with funding. Thirty percent of our state budget comes from the Federal government. Oregon's economic forecast as to where we will be for the next two years will be presented on May 14th and OSU Statewides are hoping to keep things steady as they are right now with no cuts to the continuing service levels.

With all that said, Master Gardener volunteers are encouraged to keep going to your town halls, coffee chats and other public forums with your legislators.

Let them know by calling, emailing and talking to them that you appreciate them listening to the

community on the topics that are important for your district – Extension being one of them.

There will be a big letter writing campaign within the next few weeks that MG volunteers will be asked to participate in. Your **chapter representatives will receive information that they will forward** to all members in their chapters.

Be on the lookout for an email asking each of us to send a letter to let our state legislators know the importance of keeping OSU Statewide Public Service Programs fully funded.

Laura Strom, OMGA Advocacy Rep. and MG from Lincoln County

Presented by the
OMGA Oregon Master Gardener™
Association

the
JOY
of Gardening

2025

OPEN TO
EVERYONE!

PUBLIC
WELCOME!

FRIDAY - SATURDAY
JULY 11 - 12

CH2M HILL ALUMNI CENTER
OSU CAMPUS • CORVALLIS

Keynote Speakers:

Dr. Leslie Madsen

Dr. Brooke Edmunds & LeAnn Locher

Join us for two days of research-based classes,
tours, & panels on all things gardening.

For new and experienced gardeners!

BOOKSTORE • AWARDS • SILENT AUCTION

formerly MINI-COLLEGE

\$80 TWO DAY TICKET BEFORE JUNE 15
\$100 TWO DAY TICKET - AFTER JUNE 15
\$60 ONE DAY TICKET



QUESTIONS?
omga.joyofgardening@gmail.com
omga.org/joy-of-gardening-2025

In collaboration with
and support of



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Dan Blanchard: *A Historical Tour of the OSU Campus Arboretum*

Gail Langellotto: *Tour the Horticulture Science Lab*

James Cassidy: *Soil - What It Is and How It Works*

Andony Melathopolous: *Nectar and Pollen Plants of Oregon (Reloaded)*

Grace Florjancic: *Bring Nature Indoors; Creating a House Plant Home*

Lorelle Sherman: *From Fermentation to Forest Ecology; The Many Applications of Fungi*

Logan Bennett: *Growing and Caring for Fruits and Berries in the Home Orchard*

Paola Sotelo-Cardona: *Harnessing Nature; Effective Biological Control Strategies for Master Gardeners*

Darren Morgan: *Hydrangeas*

Elizabeth Price: *Native and Ornamental Conifers in the Pacific Northwest*

Leah Puhlman: *Greenhouse Gardening 101*

2025 Joy of Gardening KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



Dr. Leslie Madsen: *The Master Gardener Program in 2025 and Beyond*

Dr. Brooke Edmunds and LeAnn Locher: *Garden Future*

and featuring the

Master Gardener of the Year Awards



Master Gardener panel discussions:

- Seed to Supper and Garden to Table Programs
- Garden Future Round Table
- Creating Websites and Managing Social Media Accounts
- Demonstration Gardens Best Practices
- Growing and Belonging
- Recruiting Sponsors and Grants for your Master Gardener Program
- Leadership Discussion on Best Practices for Bylaws
- Policies and Procedures and other topics for Associations

Geoff Puryear: *Drought Tolerant Landscaping*

Barbara Low: *Companion Plant Gardening*

Carole Hardy: *Using Our Gardens as Steppingstones; Restore Garden Ecosystems to Improve Resilience*

Bruce Gravens: *Best Practices for Growing Peppers and Tomatoes from Seed*

Sherry Sheng: *Plant Super Heros*

Fred Alley: *Garden/Yard Tool Renovations; Maintenance, Sharpening and Storage*

Jennifer Gervis: *Understanding Pesticides*

Geoff Puryear: *Growing Herbs in the Home Garden*

Bruce Gravens: *Growing Onions, Leeks, and Shallots from Seed in the Home Garden*

Kenn Parry: *Secrets of Growing Beautiful Lilies Anywhere*

Apply for a scholarship to Send-Your-Friend to the conference: omga.org/awards-and-grants/

Learning more about what we do

The OSU Extension Master Gardener Program

Through a partnership with the Oregon Master Gardener Association, the OSU MG Program works in conjunction with 23 Master Gardener Associations throughout the state of Oregon. These partnerships combine research-based information and practices with real-world and on-the-ground knowledge of gardening in local communities. Each association chapter works in coordination with county Extension staff and supports local programming.



Master Gardener volunteers are

- **Reliable:** our gardening advice and education is science-based.
- **Relevant:** customized information for your area and gardening situation.
- **Reachable:** Call us on the phone, email us a question, or visit with us at markets or gardens in your community.

AND WHAT DOES OMGA DO?

- Partners with OSU Extension to promote and support the MG Program.
- Advocates for funding to deliver the MG Program across Oregon.
- Fosters quality **continuing education** of all Master Gardener volunteers.
- Provides support and guidance for county OMGA chapters.
- Sponsors the *The Gardeners Pen*; holds an annual education conference (The Joy of Gardening); provides grants to chapters and extension staff; celebrates individual and chapter accomplishments with annual awards.
- **Chapter Representatives** attend quarterly Zoom meetings and send updates to their own chapter members regarding advocacy, newsletters, grant deadlines, upcoming statewide events and continuing education.

GOOD THINGS HAPPENING

Find more events here:

<https://extension.oregonstate.edu/events>

May 17 Lincoln Co. 24th Annual Plant Sale - Newport

May 17 Saturdays in the Gardens - Garden Cloche Building and Repair- Bend

June 7 Herbs and Edible Flowers Walk - Eugene

Jun 21 Destination: Inspiration Garden! - Independence

June 21 Linn Co. Garden Tour - Lebanon

July 8 Intruder Alert: Early Detection of Invasive Species - Online



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