

Central Oregon Master Gardeners - Q4 Report 2025



Community Education Outreach:

In 2025 52% of the people registered on Eventbrite attended their class. In 2024, it was 47%. Eventbrite is a user-friendly way to advertise and register for classes.

We are considering an expansion of what we have available under our COMGA website Resources tab with more videos and handouts on routine skills.

Community Education hosted 651 people in 14 Live classes. However, outreach by ZOOM for Spring Seminar had a greater overall impact with 732 Registrations for 8 classes. Spring Seminar allows the registrants up to 30 days to view the webinars they are registered for whether they attended or not. Those webinars are also available to the public on our website the following fall. This is excellent outreach.

Selling the Soil Thermometers and Row Cover have proved welcoming by the students. We teach how these tools help gardeners succeed. This year we sold 295 thermometers, and 304 packages of row covers. The Sales team buys these tools in bulk and sets the price for a modest profit.

Amy Jo Detweiller, OSU MG Program Manager, instituted a new OSU web Evaluation that greatly reduces the TA (teacher's aide) time to support a class. The hand-tallied report we did before was time consuming. Our Webmasters also developed and refined an online report for TAs to input the "COMGA Class Attendance and Sales" data right after class.

Procedure: Inventory

Central Oregon conducts an annual inventory of all community and demonstration gardens, including assets held by volunteers and those stored in other locations. Each area that holds assets completes its inventory either in April, at the start of the gardening season, or in October, at the end of the season. Since our community gardens closed in mid-October, their inventories have now been completed. The inventory details include the dollar value of any new items, the quantity of each item, and its current condition. The results are recorded and updated in Google Docs. The Inventory Committee assists each garden coordinator or asset holder in completing the inventory. The Inventory Committee consists of 3 MG members.

Changing of the Guard

I will be handing over this position to Master Gardener Patty DeGaetano in 2026. Patty has been a Master Gardener since 2023 and brings a wealth of knowledge to the role, supported by her background in law. She is friendly, approachable, and always willing to lend a hand. Patty also attended the Joy of Gardening Conference this year, further expanding her expertise and enthusiasm for the program.

Thank you to OMGA for allowing me this opportunity to represent Central Oregon.
Karen Simonet, COMGA State Representative

Clackamas County Master Gardeners - Q4 Report 2025

Harvest Highlights

Our September Chapter meeting focused on our various Community Gardens and also some presentations by MG's on unusual plants they grew this last year.



Toothache plant by Allen McMillan

Columbia County Demo Garden – donated 900 pounds to the St. Helens Food Bank St. Helens Food Bank Garden – donated 3,100 pounds of produce to the Food Band and the Senior Center

Scappoose Garden – donated 1200 to 1500 pounds of produce to the senior center plus to those folks who come directly to the garden

Rainier Hope Garden – 300 pounds of produce to the Rainier Food Bank, plus fresh cut flowers
Snyder Garden – donated 2,106 to the St. Helens Food Bank.

Salmon Festival in Vernonia



October Chapter meeting presenter was **Christine Ebrahimi**, a botanist and rock gardener. She has lived and gardened in Oregon for most of her life and is particularly interested in trying to grow difficult alpine plants in the impossibly wet Oregon weather. She is also the former president of the Columbia-Willamette and Siskiyou Chapters of the North American Rock Garden Society (NARGS). After receiving a BS in taxonomy at OSU and an MS in Forest Ecology at University of Idaho, she spent 10 years with the USFS and BLM on rare and endangered plant surveys.



Chris gave an excellent presentation, including a hands on build your own rock garden!

by Karen Harte CCMGA Rep

11/7/2025

The “Fall into Gardening” event was held on Oct. 18 with 50-60 people in attendance. Presentations were given on houseplants and hanging baskets, garden fresh foods and the gut microbiome, and fertilizing lawns in fall. Soil pH testing with our new equipment was done on 89 samples for 36 people. Garden questions were also answered.

At the Grow An Extra Row (GAER) Giving & Learning Garden a third workshop for interns was held in September focused on fall cultivation and prep work. Short talks were given on herbs and compost. Produce grown in the GAER garden amounted to 4,059 lbs. with an additional 1,590 lbs. donated from other gardens. All was donated to 2 food pantries in Oregon City. An end of the season lunch was a celebration of this volunteer effort with info shared on lessons learned. A planning meeting for 2026 will be held in early December.

End of the season cleanup has been done at the End of the Trail Pioneer Garden with burlap put down in the vegetable garden. Seeds from veggies and flowers grown there were collected and are sold in the museum gift store.

Two work parties were held at the Sara Hite Rose Garden in Milwaukie.

Planning for the Spring Garden Fair has already begun.

A presentation of ‘Mason, Carpenter, Blood, and Sweat Bees’ was given at the October chapter meeting. Master Gardener volunteers and member longevity awardees were honored. At the November and December meetings there will be talks on ‘Restoring Healthy Habitats in the Clackamas Watershed’ and ‘Growing Culturally Significant Plants.’





Curry County Master Gardeners - Q4 Report 2025

School Gardens Complete Their Fall Activities

The Curry County Master Gardeners Association volunteers are active in school gardens in all three of our county's school districts. Students and volunteers have been busy cleaning beds, planting garlic and cover crops, and laying down straw. As the weather worsens and holidays and associated activities compete for time, most garden activities are taking a break.



(left) Costumes and apple cider pressing were art of the fun at Riley Creek School Garden's Fall Fest.

(right) Praying mantises were the star of the Little Bear Patch garden this fall, with many adults seen on many different days and 6 egg sacks or ootheca (that we could find).



Second Spanish Language Workshop to be Offered on November 15.

This summer, the Curry County Master Gardeners partnered with the [South Coast Equity Coalition](#) to host a hands-on seed starting workshop for the Spanish-speaking community. Participants learned all about soil preparation and how to get started with vegetable gardening.

Our second workshop will focus on fall activities in the garden and techniques for a disease-free garden and preventing and controlling pests, including managing weeds, protection from slugs, and alternatives to chemicals. We are using publication EM9027, *Growing Your Own*, as our class resource.



A Full Slate of Officers Nominated for 2026

As the year ends, we are organizing for 2026. This includes a full slate of officers nominated for 2026 and a draft budget. Elections and budget adoption will occur in mid-November. We are also forming an education committee to guide and coordinate all our various community education efforts. Finally, Paul Maree, EPA, is finalizing our 2026 class and registration opens soon.

Submitted 11/5/25 Julia Bott, OMGA Representative
Curry County Master Gardener Association



Lincoln County Master Gardeners - Q4 Report 2025

As of 11/1/25 LCMGA has fifty-seven officially Certified Master Gardner™ Volunteers. The VRS records show that from 11/01/24 – 10/31/25, LCMGA reported 948 hours of Continuing Education (which doesn't include the 40+ hours of foundational learning each of the Apprentices completed) and contributed 6,930 volunteer service hours.

LCMGA DEMONSTRATION GARDENS

OSU and OCCC are in the process of renegotiating their Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) for the Lincoln County Demonstration Gardens. Garden Leads have been asked to weigh in on priority needs for each garden. These needs include but are not limited to access to water, electricity, restrooms, classroom space, and ADA compliance. The LCMGA Demonstration Garden Steering Committee continues working on specific goals and activities that will occur in the gardens.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH and EDUCATION

LCMGA's new quarterly series titled, "Garden Literacy with LCMGA", is in partnership with the Newport Public Library. More information appears below in the flyer. If you are interested in attending, please preregister via the QR code on the flyer or the following link:<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D44ADA929A0F8C34-58468279-whats>

Lincoln County Master Gardener™ Association

Garden Literacy with LCMGA - a quarterly program at Newport Public Library

What's a Cloche and Why do I Need One?

Learn how to improve your coastal gardening by installing a Cloche!

Join Lincoln County Master Gardener Association's Cathi Block for an informative session on building and using a Cloche

Saturday, November 8

11:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Newport Public Library - McEntee Meeting Room
35 NW Nye St. Newport ~ 541.265.2153

Registration for this program is requested
Use the QR code or contact the Library for registration

Accommodation requests related to a disability should be made by 11/1/2025 to Andrew Roth, 541.574.5462, aroth@newportlibrary.org.

In collaboration with and support of

Oregon State University Extension Master Gardeners

Newport Public Library

OSU Extension Service prohibits discrimination in all its programs, services, activities and materials.

LCMGA Fall 2025 OCCC Education Series as Promoted through the Fall 2025 Catch the Wave Catalog

The LCMGA classes listed below have been completed and were very well attended:

Apple Talk & Tasting Instructors: MGs Joan Crall & Steve Vogel Friday, September 26, 3:00 – 5:00 pm OSU Extension Service Demo Garden, South Beach OCCC campus.

Winter Cover Crops for the Home Garden Instructors: MGs Carita Edson, Sandy Mathis & Shereen Rowland Saturday, September 27, Noon – 2:00 pm Location: OSU Extension Service Demo Garden, Waldport OCCC campus

Challenges of Coastal Gardening Instructors: MGs Cathi Block and friends Saturday, October 4, 10:00 – Noon Location: OCCC Lincoln City Community Room

Growing Vegetables at the Coast Instructors: MGs Carita Edson and Marlene Shapiro Friday October 10, 1:00 – 2:30 pm Location: Waldport Community Room & OSU Extension Service

The Return of the Attack of the Killer Invasives Instructor: MG Larry King Saturday, October 11, 1:00 – 3:00 pm Location: OSU Extension Service Office, 1211 SE Bay Blvd. Newport, OR

Growing Garlic on the Oregon Coast Instructor: MG Joan Crall Friday October 17, 2:00 – 4:00 pm South Beach OCCC Campus

Creepy Crawlies - Friends or Foes? Instructor: MG Janice Smith Friday, October 24, 2:00 – 3:30 pm South Beach OCCC Campus

The following classes are the last two remaining classes in this Fall's series:

Universal Design in the Home Garden Instructor: MGs Julie Roth-Carter & Martha Mills Samaritan Health Education Center, 740 SW 9th Street, Newport, Oregon November 7 from 10:00–11:30

Invasive Pests: Threats to Oregon Forests, Native Trees and Native Plants Instructor: Dan Stark, Assistant Professor of Practice for the OSU Forestry & Natural Resources Extension Friday, November 7, 1:00 – 2:30 pm North Campus, Lincoln City

Tabling Events-Farmers Markets:



10/12/25 Yachats Farmers Market.
MGs left to right: Carrie Davis, Julie Roth-Carter, Shereen Rowland, and Carita Edson. 38 contacts on a rainy and windy day!



9/28/25 Lincoln City Sunday Market, MGs left to right: Carrie Davis, Meredith Meyer, Cheri Rice, Julie Roth-Carter (took the photo), 71 contacts



9/14/25 Lincoln City Sunday Market MGs left to right: Amy Shoulders, Cheri Rice, Kathy Burke, Ron Woodard, Terry DeJongh (not pictured), and Julie Roth-Carter (took the photo), 25 contacts

LCMGA tabling events are now completed for the year and will resume in the Spring.

KYAQ Radio Spots

Local radio station KYAQ continues airing LCMGA weekly interviews on various gardening topics of interest to our coastal residents.

Children's Programming

Lincoln County School District met with MGs Julie Roth-Carter and Kathy Burke at the Lincoln City Demo Garden to discuss the possibility of having 1st graders meet their science standards by working in the garden and harvesting in the spring. This discussion will include OSU since it involves working with youth.

Head Start discussion with the Lincoln City Demo Garden continues with MGs Wendy Olsob, Terry DeJongh and Julie Roth Carter. Wendy, who has a certificate in Children's Gardening, is creating a plan for the project and then costs to execute the plan will be determined. Head Start has no funds and is looking for funding. Again, since this program involves working with youth, OSU will be involved in the discussion.

PLANT CLINIC

Client questions tapered off as expected for fall. In September only nine questions were submitted to the clinic. MG's Larry King and Daniel Hutchison are preparing a 3-year plan and budget for the Plant clinic. They have also obtained an additional PC Laptop to use in the Plant Clinic. Larry and Daniel are also developing an "Adopt-A-Week" Signup Genius and

an “Adopt-A-Week” zoom overview to help keep the Plant Clinic operational through the winter.

PUBLICITY

The newly formed Publicity Committee accomplished the following this Fall:

Website Information for the Newly Created LCMGA Website:

- Unique Visits: Aug 1,581, Sept 4,446
- Number of Visits: Aug 2,107, Sept 7,477
- Pages: Aug 25,334, Sept 7,477
- Hits: Aug 58,728, Sept 149,476
- Bandwidth: Aug 2.77, Sept 8.73

Mailing List Information: the Committee sent out two bulk emails for the 2025 Education Series advertised through OOCC

- First email sent 2025-09-09
- Recipients 811
- Opened 47.72%
- Clicked 5.67%
- Second email Fall Education Series Reminder Sent 2025-09-23
- Recipients 779
- Opened 46.73%
- Clicked 5.65%

The Publicity Committee has also:

- Developed a Publicity 3-year plan and budget
- Set up website to use orcoastmga@gmail as underlying SMTP account
- Set up Canva for Non-Profits
- Discontinued DropBox account and moved all information to Google Drive
- Set up Google Workspace for Non-Profits

STRATEGIC PLANNING MEETING

LCMGA held a strategic planning meeting on September 29, 2025. The 2025 goals of Sustainability and Website Creation were met during 2025. Demonstration Gardens and the Seed Library at the Newport Library will continue as goals for 2026. The newly added goal for 2026 is increasing member involvement across all LCMGA programs. The 2026 LCMGA goals will be

1. Demonstration Gardens
2. Seed Library
3. Increasing Member Involvement

MEMBER APPRECIATION PICNIC



On Saturday September 13th, LCMGA held its annual Volunteer Appreciation picnic at Beverly Beach in Newport. Thirty-five people attended the picnic. A great time was had by all!

Photo 1: MGs Sharon Busby and Renee Patton, Photo 2: MG s Cathi Block and Kathy Burke
Photo 3: MG Natasha Knight

MEMBER HOLIDAY COOKIE EXCHANGE

The LCMGA holiday cookie exchange is scheduled for December 20th from 1-3 at the Samaritan Center for Health Education. Last year's cookie exchange was such a huge success that it will become an annual event.

GRADUATION 2025 APPRENTICE CLASS

The graduating class will consist of 11 new Certified Master Gardeners. Graduation will be November 12th at 4:30 at South Beach OCCC. Graduation will be followed by a potluck.

MASTER GARDENER 2025 RECERTIFICATION

Forty-six Master Gardeners will complete recertification in 2025. Going forward, the Demonstration Garden Steering Committee hours will be counted as Educational Garden Instructor – direct and the Education and Outreach Committee Meeting hours will count as Educational Event Planning – indirect hours.

2026 APPRENTICE PROGRAM

The 2026 MG training classes will be online through Canvas with mandatory live sessions from 5:30-7:30 PM weekly. The classes will run from January 28th through April 15th. The program is requesting 3 scholarships of \$200 each be provided by LCMGA. The cost of the class will increase from \$150 to \$200 for 2026.

Multnomah County Master Gardeners - Q4 Report 2025

Funding from Multnomah County

For the first time in 20 years, Multnomah County included some funding for OSU Extension in their annual budget. While the funds were limited and did not directly benefit the Master Gardener program this year, it demonstrated that county leadership is recognizing the value OSU Extension brings to the community.

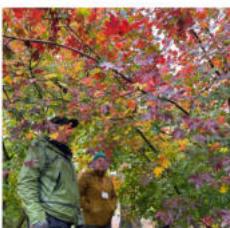
Hands-on Classes and Workshops

MCMGA headed into 4th quarter with three hands-on trainings for Master Gardener volunteers and for the community held in the Demonstration Garden:

- A regenerative gardening workshop focused on restoring soil health through no-till methods, restoring nutrients with compost and cover crops, and ways to diversify plantings.
- A class on native plants taught how to integrate native plants into gardens, start wildflower seeds in pots, and how to propagate from cuttings.
- A fall pruning class taught how plants respond to different types of cuts and methods of pruning for shape and health of the plants.
- Two Webinars:
 - October: Maintaining lichen diversity in an era of global change
 - November: All Things Roses with Master Gardener Volunteer Kimberly Bown.



Produce Donated



At the end of October, the Demonstration Garden donated over 2500 pounds of produce to local food pantries. Still to harvest are parsnips, oca (a South American tuber), kale, collards, beets and kohlrabi. Master Gardener Bette Pierce demonstrated that it's possible to grow large, healthy sweet potatoes in Portland. A 5'x11' bed produced 35 pounds of beautiful potatoes.

Instagram Account Launched

To broaden our reach, MCMGA just launched an Instagram page to share moments in the garden, garden information, and to promote events.



Polk County Master Gardeners - Q4 Report 2025

Education & Outreach

This quarter, we continued to expand our community engagement through strong library partnerships and local collaborations. Recent classes covered a range of topics including soil care, tool restoration, food preservation and preparing garden beds for winter. We've also worked closely with local garden clubs to strengthen our community focus and reach new audiences.

Looking ahead, our Education & Outreach team has begun planning for the 2026 season. We've established an Education & Outreach committee to help share responsibilities and streamline planning for future community events.



Demonstration Garden (Inspiration Garden)

Thanks to a generous community donation, we were able to install a new storage shed at the Inspiration Garden this quarter. The additional space enhances our organization and storage capacity, allowing us to better house tools, wheelbarrows, and in-kind donations for the Country Store at our annual plant sale.

The board also approved funding to expand to our irrigation system, which will improve water access to two garden areas that were previously underserved. Looking ahead, we are exploring opportunities to refresh and repurpose several existing garden spaces to maintain the garden's beauty and functionality.





Other highlights

We are thrilled to welcome 15 new trainees to the Master Gardener program for the 2026 year! To support smooth operations, the board approved the purchase of new laptops for both the Treasurer and President, replacing older equipment that had reached the end of its lifespan.

As the year draws to a close, we're planning our 2025 End-of-Year Awards celebration – a chance to come together, recognize our volunteers' incredible contributions, and reflect on another productive and rewarding season.



Tillamook County Master Gardeners - Q4 Report 2025

Tillamook County Master Gardeners elected the following people as new board members in September. They will be sworn in at the annual awards banquet that will be held on December 14, at 1:00pm. The new officers will be attending an officer training on December 2, 2025.

- President: Alice St Clare
- Vice President: Marsielle Ansorge
- Past President: Carla Albright
- Treasurer: Terry McDonald
- Recording Secretary: Darcy Thornes
- Corresponding Secretary: Evelyn Von Feldt
- Historian: Norma Goss
- OMGA Rep: Wendy Kunkel
- OMGA Alternative Rep: Alice Danta
- 2024 Class Rep: Paul Self
- 2025 Class Rep: Will Graveman
- Blast Editor: Carla Albright

The chapter began its regular scheduled board meetings on the second Tuesday of every month during October. During the November board meeting, the plant sale committee will meet earlier to start the planning and preparation for the 2026 plant sale held always on the first week in May.

Also, in October, two free classes were held in conjunction with OSU and were open to master gardeners and the public alike; **Air Bee n Bee** by Leah Puhlman and **Climate Change for Coastal Gardens** by Carla Albright. Even though the day was blustery, the classes were a great success. On November 22, the chapter will have a holiday center piece class offered to both Master Gardeners and the public as well.

TCMGA has formed a Sustainability Committee to encourage current and future master gardeners to pursue leadership roles in the organization.

As fall wanes to winter, the TCMGA Learning Garden has been put to bed. This year there were 47 volunteers working in the garden that put in 1,504 volunteer hours. Proceeds from both the learning garden and member's gardens alike, produced 1306 pounds of food that were donated to the local food banks.

This summer the hoop house at the learning garden had a second cover added. Two of our members, Paul Self and Will Gravemen, have been working hard installing movable shelving that can be disassembled and reconfigured to the needs of the organization. Thank you, Paul, for the design and Will for the labor.

TCMGA will begin 2026 with a bang. Our new Master Gardener training begins Thursday, January 2, 2026.

Wendy Kunkel, OMGA Rep

Washington County Master Gardeners - Q4 Report 2025

During late summer, our Master Gardeners focused on essential maintenance and tidying activities within the Demonstration Gardens. At the Education Garden, located on the Rock Creek campus of Portland Community College, the team encountered challenges with some native plants exhibiting “overly vigorous growth”. They required careful removal to maintain the garden's intended balance and aesthetics.

One example was the wild strawberry, which, while appreciated as an attractive groundcover, began to spread extensively throughout the Insect and Pollinator bed. Its growth started to overtake dwarf conifers and perennials, threatening the diversity of the plantings. Similarly, the Douglas aster—a valuable resource for pollinators during late summer and autumn—became aggressive and disrupted the overall plan of the Pacific Northwest (PNW) hedgerow.

Recognizing that gardens are dynamic and constantly evolving, the adjustments also opened opportunities to introduce new plant selections. Our Master Gardeners are committed to identifying alternative native species that support the garden's ongoing goal of enhancing climate resilience.

The Education Garden's efforts and adaptive approaches were highlighted in OSU Extension's Garden Future Blog. The OSU Extension Statewide Master Gardener Outreach Coordinator shared insights on how the Education Garden exemplifies sustainable gardening practices in the face of a changing climate. The featured blog post discussed the garden's transformation and the vision of the Master Gardeners, who believed that a sunny gravel parking lot could be reimagined as a thriving and diverse demonstration garden.

We were pleased to receive more recognition! The Education Garden was also featured in the American Conifer Society's magazine this summer. As a designated reference garden, the article highlighted the various conifers on their campus. The cherry on top? Next year the ACS will hold their conference in Portland and our Garden will be on the list of recommended tours!

Our second Demonstration Garden, the Learning Garden at the Jenkins Estate, also spent the last bit of summer getting beds cleaned up, planting cover crops, and working on all the maintenance that took second place as we did the “more fun” projects, like our Garden Fair earlier in the summer. A crew of Master Gardeners spread new gravel on paths to make them more stable and prevent weeds – last done 11 years ago - it was time! The Garden also had nighttime visitors and a team worked together to install and improve bunny and deer fencing.

The Pioneer Herb Garden presented a challenge this year as a small clump of mint got away from us...and you know what happens! The mint spread so rapidly that we covered it all for fall and winter to let it die off. Plans are to till any leftovers next spring and replant the bed with the selection of culinary herbs that once resided there and then corral the mint in a container!

We have had a few social events this summer – we had a “how to sharpen your tools” party, a trip to a pumpkin patch, and we will have our last event of this year later this month. The topic will be “put garden tools to bed” and we will spend some time together at the Learning Garden getting our tools cleaned up for the year. (We take a break from this Garden from Late November until mid-February – coming back then, weather permitting!)

We have continued with our classes for both interns and the public. The public classes have been Growing Herbs and one on Growing Natives. Another class that is always popular is Lawn be Gone.

Our intern classes have been on Weed ID, Management and Tools and one on Conifers of the Pacific Northwest – Pine Family.

It has been a great year again and while we all talk about taking a little break while it rains, we will be itching to get back at it at the end of winter!



A Learning Garden radish!

Deb Hansen, Washington County

Yamhill County Master Gardeners - Q4 Report 2025

Board members had their annual planning and budget meeting on October 18th to map out goals for the 2026 year. Planning meetings continue for Garden to Table, Spring Into Gardening, Vigorous Veggie classes and the May Plant Sale.

The annual Fall Awards Program is scheduled for November 16th at the Yamhill Valley Heritage Center. There are 18 new MG graduates and 95 Master Gardeners being recertified. Our awards committee will also be recognizing Carolyn Nyquist as Yamhill County Master Gardener of the Year and Nancy Woodworth as Yamhill County Behind-the-Scenes Master Gardener of the Year for 2025. These awards were announced at the YCMGA ice cream social in June, but will be presented at the program.

Registration is open for the new 2026 MG class and 8 individuals have already signed up.

Members took a field trip to Delbert Hunter Arboretum and Botanical Garden in Dallas on October 20th. The arboretum and botanical garden is situated on 5 acres of undeveloped land at the south end of Dallas City Park. It is dedicated to promotion, awareness, knowledge, and appreciation of Oregon's native trees, shrubs, and wildflowers. The next field trip is scheduled December 12th to Chapul Farms in McMinnville. Chapul Farms utilizes black soldier fly larvae to convert food waste into two valuable products: high protein animal feed and nutrient-rich fertilizer.

The McMinnville Community Garden in 2025 provided 54 spaces for row gardeners. Seventy six YCAP (Yamhill Community Action Partnership) beds yielded almost 6,000 pounds of produce to date and they were expecting approximately another 4000 pounds of broccoli, cauliflower and carrots in October.

The Education committee provided a class on "Plants for Pollinators" taught by Joan McKibbons-Williams on October 23rd. An upcoming Continuing Education class in early December is "Garden Future/Drought Tolerant Plants. Continuing Education topics planned for early 2026 include blueberry pruning, bonsai and rhododendrons,

Cindy Kinnaman, Yamhill Co OMGA Rep