



MASTER GARDENER connection

A JOINT MONTHLY PUBLICATION FROM THE MASTER GARDENERS OF KING COUNTY
AND THE MASTER GARDENER FOUNDATION OF KING COUNTY

AUGUST 2023

Diagnostic Workshop Recap

*...by Sarah Moore, WSU Extension King County
Master Gardener Program Coordinator*

On June 23, the Diagnostic Lab and the Education Leadership Team offered two in-person Diagnostic Workshops at the Bellevue Botanical Garden. The morning and afternoon sessions, presented by Extension Coordinator/Educator Jenny Glass, were well attended and thoughtfully prepared, with three large tables full of specimen plants with health issues caused by fungus, insects and cultural damage.



Some of the key takeaways were:

Ask questions! When confronted with a plant problem, ask:

- What did you see damaged?
- When did you notice the damage and what is its impact?
- What changes have happened in the plant's surroundings?

Asking these questions helps to gather information in a way that is nonthreatening and that focuses on problem solving.

[Read more](#)

Photo: Master Gardeners examine specimens at the Diagnostics Workshop.

Photo credit: MG Marty Byrne



Heat Advisory for Clinics and Demo Gardens

...by Sarah Moore, WSU Extension King County Master Gardener Program Coordinator

This article was written ahead of the weather outlook, but as we anticipate a warmer than usual August with unprecedented wildfire smoke, this is a reminder to prepare for the heat and smoke and to stay healthy.

Please plan ahead for the heat:

- Wear sun hats, sunglasses, bandanas, and other sun-blocking gear.
- Use sunscreen and/or wear clothing guaranteed to block harmful UV rays.
- Ensure that you and other volunteers have access to shade.
- Bring water and remind yourself and others to stay hydrated.
- Plan to take more frequent breaks and check in on each other frequently.

[Read more](#)



Program Priorities: *Nearby Nature*

...by Sarah Moore, WSU Extension King County Master Gardener Program Coordinator

I've been having great conversations with Extension Master Gardeners about the [Nine Program Priorities](#). In general, people report that the information about [Wildfire Preparedness](#) shared in an earlier newsletter was helpful. They feel confident in their knowledge of some or many of the Program Priorities topics but are puzzled by others. In this month's column I will discuss Nearby Nature which many report to be confusing. I will be quoting heavily from the [Program Priority Toolkit](#) – quotes are in italics, my own comments are in regular print.

The Master Gardener Volunteer Program seeks to increase access to plants, green spaces and public landscapes to benefit the health and well-being of all. Given the high population densities of urban areas, nearby nature has the potential to benefit hundreds to thousands of people daily.

[Read more](#)

Finn Hill Demo Garden Celebration with Pat Roome

...by Sharon O'Grady, Extension Master Gardener and Demo Garden Leader

WSU Extension Master Gardener volunteers gathered for a garden party on July 11th to kick off the Finn Hill Demonstration Garden Close-out Caper. Hosts MG Carol



Johnson and MG Sharon O'Grady were delighted to meet so many Master Gardeners from other gardens and clinics who came to view the garden and to honor special guest, MG Emeritus Pat Roome. Fun fact... Pat introduced the Sungold cherry tomato to the United States from England! Only one of her many groundbreaking claims to fame. Pat was happy to receive a Master Gardener T-shirt, "in my favorite color!"

[Read more](#)

Photo: MG Emeritus Pat Roome presented with a Master Gardener T-shirt.

Photo credit: Nora Larson



Joe Jennings Joins the MGFKC Board

The Master Gardener Foundation of King County welcomes Joe Jennings to the Board of Directors. Joe returned to his roots in the Pacific Northwest after retiring from a long career in technology marketing and senior management in the San Francisco Bay area.

Joe began gardening with his mother when he was young. They planted and cared for a traditional Pacific Northwest garden in a very shady yard at the edge of Bellevue and Redmond. Joe first joined the Master Gardeners in Marin County, California in 2012. After he moved to Seattle, he took the intern training in 2022 and joined the University District Ask-a-Master-Gardener Clinic and the Bellevue Demonstration Garden

[Read more](#)

Mushroom Classes are not CE Approved

...by Sarah Moore, WSU Extension King County Master Gardener Program Coordinator

Mushrooms are fascinating and many gardeners also have a deep interest in them. However, giving advice on them is outside of our scope as WSU Extension Master Gardeners.

The [Master Gardener Program Handbook \(rev. 2020\)](#) states: **"Mushrooms and Foraging: It is our strict policy never to identify mushrooms...for edibility and safety. Instead, we note the ways that mushrooms either cause problems for or assist gardeners. Clients may be referred to their local mycological society for mushroom questions, and they may be advised that something is potentially poisonous or dangerous, but a client should never be advised that something is 'safe.' If in doubt, consult staff."** For

Quick Links



[MGFKC](#)



[King County MG](#)

[Become a Master Gardener](#)

[MGF Washington State](#)

[Record Impacts](#)

this reason, we cannot accept classes on identifying, growing, or foraging for mushrooms as Continuing Education credit.



[GivePulse Login Page](#)

Volunteer hours must be entered monthly.

Staying Smart

[BDG Workshops](#)

[Education Events for the Public and Master Gardeners](#)

[Growing Groceries](#)

Extend your Knowledge:

Japanese Beetles in Washington State

Japanese beetles are already present in southeastern Washington. Learn about plans to control the spread of this destructive, invasive species using quarantine guidelines from the Washington State Department of Agriculture.



[WSU Insider | Japanese beetles could spread across Washington in 20 years](#)

Photo: Japanese beetle (Popillia japonica)

Photo credit: D. Gordon E. Robertson - Own work, CC BY-SA 3.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=8826097>

Get Involved in the New DEI Committee

Are you passionate about Diversity, Equity and Inclusion? The WSU Extension Master Gardener Program in King County is starting a DEI team! The MG DEI committee's mission is to remove barriers to becoming a Master Gardener and to increase the cultural competency of its members to better engage with the diverse population of King County. We are just getting started, but you will hear more about the team in the coming months. If you are interested in becoming involved, please contact king.mg@wsu.edu, with the word DEI in the message line.

Almost Time for 2024 Intern Training

...by Sarah Moore, WSU Extension King County Master Gardener Program Coordinator

As summer heats up and then winds down, in the Program Office we are getting ready to recruit and train our 2024 Intern class! This is a quick reminder that many wonderful Master Gardeners became inspired to join because of conversations they had with people already in the WSU Extension Master Gardener Program. If you have a conversation with someone who seems interested, please encourage them to apply. Applications will be available September 1st on our



[Become A Master Gardener](#) page. Scholarships are available. Gardeners with many different backgrounds and experience levels have completed the training and gone on to become valuable members of the WSU Extension Master Gardener Program in King County. Please help us get the word out.



[Ways to donate to MGFKC](#)



[MG Program Priorities](#)

Nominations for 2023 Outstanding Master Gardener Awards

...by Sarah Moore, WSU Extension King County Master Gardener Program Coordinator

Every October as the gardening season ends, WSU Extension Master Gardeners in King County celebrate our accomplishments with a recognition event. Stay tuned for more details, but for now, we need to hear about the great things Master Gardeners are doing. Nominations for the 2023 Outstanding Master Gardener awards will be accepted now through September 30.

[Read more](#)



What Type of Plant are You?

...by Nora Larson, Program Assistant, WSU Extension King County Master Gardener Program

Building communities is like building a garden. Each plant is unique but fits into a greater whole. When placed in the proper location, a plant will grow. Similarly, when a person is encouraged in an appropriate environment, that person thrives. I am here to cultivate the soil and foundation that enables a Master Gardener to flourish.

If you humor me, imagine you are a plant. What plant would you be? Do you form networks or do you prefer independence? Do you need lots of fertilization such as inspiration? Or are you able to create nourishment from nothing? Do you like sunny days or do you prefer the rain?

[Read more](#)



Find out about the WSU Extension Master Gardener Program in King County, how to become a Master Gardener, a list of speakers and the Puget Sound Tip Sheets.

<https://extension.wsu.edu/king/gardening/>

For **MG-only** information, log into the "KCMGs, Only" area.



Discover the many ways contributions help the King County Master Gardener program operate public gardens, diagnostic plant clinics for the public and offer low-cost classes and workshops to the public.

<https://www.mgfkf.org/>

For **MG-only** documents, Foundation policies and clinic resources, log into the Foundation "Members Area". See the MGFKC May 23 email for the password.

Preparing for Recertification

...by Sarah Moore, WSU Extension King County Master Gardener Program Coordinator

Happy August! Please remember to record your Service and Continuing Education hours in GivePulse as soon as possible after each activity or at least monthly. Entering your hours regularly will help you to assess how close you are to completing the required hours for recertification by November 30.

If you have questions about your activities, please contact the Program Office at king.mg@wsu.edu for guidance. If you need help accessing or using GivePulse, our GivePulse Help Team is available to assist you at systemhelp@kingmg.org.

Of Interest to You

Tip Sheets for KC

Browse tip sheets about Puget Sound Gardening

[Garden Tip Sheets](#)

WHERE am I?

Find King County Master Gardener clinic and garden locations using the [MGFKC map](#)

Sign up to receive the Master Gardener Connection

Join us!

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!



Sept. 27-30, 2023
Marriott Tacoma Downtown
Tacoma, WA

- Choose from 35 classes taught by top-notch instructors
- Earn CE credits
- Be inspired by our keynote speaker
- Network with like-minded garden enthusiasts
- Celebrate 50 years of the Extension Master Gardener Program



www.mastergardener.wsu.edu

KEYNOTE



Michael D. Blackstock
Writer and visual artist

<https://mglearns.mastergardenerfoundation.org/>



WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION



MASTER GARDENER
FOUNDATION
OF WASHINGTON STATE

WSU Extension programs and employment are available to all without discrimination. Evidence of noncompliance may be reported through your local Extension office.

Continuing Education Opportunities

What Counts as CE?

Classes that will improve a volunteer's knowledge and skill base for performing work as a horticultural advisor and serving as a resource on issues of sustainable gardening for home gardeners.



Staying Smart! ***Education Opportunities***

Master Gardeners can earn Continuing Education credit from a wide selection

of online classes, webinars, and online workshops. Check out the offerings on the MGF Education page: <https://mgfkc.org/education/>

Growing Groceries Classes

Growing Groceries classes are finished for the season. Please visit the [Growing Groceries](#) page for information and registration for future classes.

Bellevue Demonstration Garden Workshops

Workshops are online Saturdays, 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Registration is required. For information and details, please visit the [Bellevue Demonstration Garden Workshops](#) page.

August 12: Bringing Tomatoes to Harvest, presented by Extension Master Gardener Marcia Dillon.

August 26: Winter Gardening, presented by Patrick Kennedy, Molbak's Landscape & Horticultural Consultant.

San Juan County WSU Master Gardener Annual Workshop Series

October 17 – 26: Annual Gardening Workshop, a lecture series consisting of eight one-hour presentations on Zoom with additional time for questions and discussion. Visit gardenworkshop.org for more information and registration.

WSU Master Gardener Online Workshops

Tuesdays in August at 12:00 p.m. WSU Master Gardeners present **free** weekly online programs. *No need to register, just pop in.*

Connection information (To attend you must have a Zoom account, sign up for one at zoom.us), then join from

Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS, or Android:

<https://wsu.zoom.us/j/7756056320?pwd=RzVxbTI0dXpyUjJjSDdsWnJuTXdydz09>

Meeting ID: 775 605 6320

Password: 12345

Phone Call: +1 253 215 8782, 775 605 6320#

For help, call Gary Fredricks at garyf@wsu.edu or 360-577-3014 Ext. 3.

August 1: Summer Care of Your Lawn, presented by WSU Extension Coordinator, Gary Fredricks.

August 8: Extending your Garden Season, presented by Extension Master Gardener Carolyn Winchell.

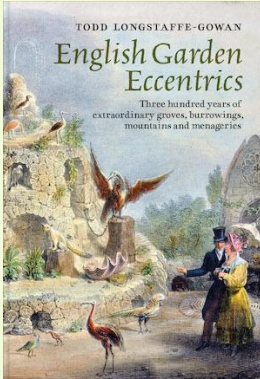
August 15: Controlling the Worst Noxious Weeds, presented by Extension Master Gardener and Cowlitz County Noxious Weed Coordinator, Jennifer Mendoza.

August 22: Tending the Garden – Harvesting Hints, presented by Extension Master Gardener Art Fuller.

August 29: Saving Seeds, presented by Extension Master Gardener Alice

WSU Master Gardener Advanced Education Conference

September 27 – 30, 2023 at the Marriott Tacoma Downtown in Tacoma, Washington. Registration opened May 1st. Find more information at <https://mglearns.mastergardenerfoundation.org/>.



Elisabeth C. Miller Library Selection

English Garden Eccentrics: Three Hundred Years of Extraordinary Groves, Burrowings, Mountains and Menageries

Every garden tells a story about its creator. And what stories could be more fascinating than those of quirky English garden-makers with a flair for fantastic landscapes?

English Garden Eccentrics: Three Hundred Years of Extraordinary Groves, Burrowings, Mountains and Menageries by Todd Longstaffe-Gowan was published by Paul Mellon Centre in June 2022. Priscilla Grundy, a volunteer in the archives of the Miller Library, reviewed the book.

[Read more](#)

Two Upcoming Plant Sales



King County Iris Society, Bearded Iris Rhizome Sale on Saturday, August 19, 2023, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Wells Medina Nursery, 8300 NE 24th Street Medina, WA 98039.

This sale will feature many varieties of unusual, hard-to-find and newer introductions of bearded iris, most of which are unavailable locally. The rhizomes will be freshly dug and will reestablish quickly. Reasonable prices. Experts will be on hand to provide growing information.



Eastside Fuchsia Society, Fuchsia Show and Plant Sale on Saturday, August 19, 2023, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street, Bellevue, WA 98005.

This sale features fuchsias, daylilies and other plants. Bring your questions for our experts. There will be a free Fuchsia Garden walk and talk at 10:00 a.m. and noon. Meet at the Aaron Educational Center.



Events and Coming Attractions

MGFKC Board Meeting on Thursday, August 10, from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. online Zoom meeting. Information and details at

<https://kingcounty.mastergardenerfoundation.org/board/>.

Zoom Meeting

-<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88172076722>

Meeting ID: 881 7207 6722

One tap mobile - +12532158782,,88172076722#

Dial in - +1 253 215 8782 Meeting ID: 881 7207 6722

Contributing to The Connection

Do you have an event or CE opportunity to share? An article of interest to Master Gardeners? Deadline for announcements or article submissions is the 15th of the month prior to publication (ex: May 15 for the June edition). For more information or to submit items for consideration, please contact us at communicate@mgfkc.org. All published photos have the photographer's permission or are sourced from free-to-use sites.

WAIT! Don't unsubscribe from all mailings if you are an active Master Gardener!

If you wish to unsubscribe, be selective and identify the email lists you wish to receive. **All active Master Gardeners in King County are expected to subscribe to the current year's "KC Master Gardeners" Email List** to continue receiving information about Program activities, updates and recertification notices. Other email lists are optional.



The Master Gardener Connection is a joint publication from the King County Master Gardener Foundation, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, and the WSU Extension Master Gardener program in King County to provide research-based education about urban horticulture to the residents of King County.



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