



master gardener connection

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

September 2026

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Register Now for Cool Plants, Hot Topics

By Extension Master Gardener Z Hudelot

Join the WSU Extension King County Master Gardeners at Bellevue Botanical Garden as we explore how our gardens can and do impact our ecosystems. Discover how we, as gardeners, can help protect our precious Pacific Northwest biodiversity.

Cool Plants, Hot Topics will take place Sunday, September 13. The plant sale will be open from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., and speakers will give presentations between 10 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. If you register online for all three talks, you'll get early entry to the plant sale starting at 9:30 a.m.!

Master Gardener Foundation of King County presents Cool Plants, Hot Topics
Gardening for Change:
Protecting and Ensuring Our Biodiverse Environment





State Officials Confirm First Detection of Emerald Ash Borer in Washington State

The Washington State Department of Agriculture and the United States Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service have confirmed a report of emerald ash borer in Vancouver, Washington.

There are no confirmed cases of emerald ash borer in King County.

Emerald ash borer (*Agrilus planipennis*) is an invasive insect that has proven to be one of the most destructive forest pests in North America. Since its initial detection in the United States two decades ago in Michigan, emerald ash borer has wiped out more than 100 million ash trees throughout the country.

[Learn More](#)

Visit the Annual Bellevue Demonstration Garden Harvest Festival

By Extension Master Gardener Erica Halford

All are welcome at the upcoming Bellevue Demonstration Garden Fall Harvest Festival. It will take place on Saturday, September 19 from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. The event marks the conclusion of the growing season and offers a variety of educational and family-friendly activities.

The festival will feature a WSU Extension King County Master Gardener plant clinic, a fall plant sale, fresh floral bouquets, and a garden flea market. Both the event and parking are free.



[Learn More](#)



PNW Garden Savvy Returns!

By Extension Master Gardener Janile Martin

Well, it has been an interesting gardening season. Only one of my five new dahlia tubers grew. Luckily my roses, zinnias, and cosmos filled in the gaps.

Quick Links

[Become a Master Gardener](#)

[Master Gardener Foundation of Washington State](#)

[GivePulse Login Page](#)

Upcoming Events

[PNW Garden Savvy](#)

I had three volunteer sunflowers that I let grow, and my green beans decided to use them as support. I needed a giant to pick the green beans!

Each summer we learn new lessons.

If, like me, you are a bit tired of dead heading and pulling weeds, we invite you to take a seat and join us for some interesting fall classes.

[Read More](#)

[Growing Groceries](#)

[Education Events for Home Gardeners](#)

Support the Master Gardener Foundation of King County

[Donate Now](#)

Updates from Beacon Hill's Demonstration Garden

By Extension Master Gardeners Amber Wise and Rose Tobin

Greetings from the WSU Extension King County Master Gardener Program's south-side demonstration garden! We've had a productive summer and would like to take this opportunity to update everyone on a few topics, including the garden's name, upcoming work parties, and an end-of-season Harvest Party.



[Read More](#)



Extension Master Gardeners Provide Education & Entertainment at City of Kenmore Play Day

By Extension Master Gardener Carol Johnson

The WSU Extension King County Master Gardener Program had a big presence at the City of Kenmore's Play Day! Extension Master

Gardeners Barb Menzel, Brenna Graves, and Carol Johnson joined Extension Master Gardener Interns Marie Andrews and Katy Kaiser to host a clinic booth at the event, which was organized by the City of Kenmore and held at Kenmore Rhododendron Park.

[Read More](#)

We Don't Have to Have the Answer

By Extension Master Gardener Wesa Anderson

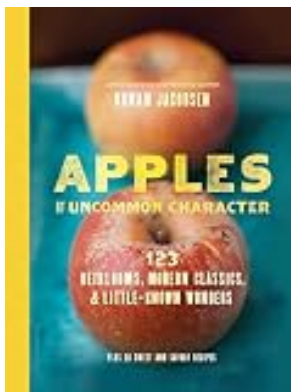
One of the things I love most about being a WSU Extension King County Master Gardener is that we are not expected to know everything. That may

sound strange coming from someone sitting behind an Ask a Master Gardener table, but it is true.

Sometimes someone walks up with a leaf, a photo, a branch in a bag, or a description that starts with, "I don't know what this is, but something is definitely wrong with it." And sometimes, we know exactly what we are looking at. Other times, we don't. And that is okay.



[Read More](#)



Elisabeth C. Miller Library Selection: **Apples of Uncommon Character**

Rowan Jacobsen, the author of Apples of Uncommon Character, lives in Vermont and is fascinated by apples, but

instead of a grower he is primarily an "apple stalker," to use his own term.

He credits many professionals for his knowledge, including Tom Burford, author of Apples of North America, who "helped me see the eternal in the apple tree." The author's list of favorite varieties, including some that originated outside North America, is the principal part of this book.

[Read the Book Review](#)

Helpful Links

Browse our gardening tip sheets.

[Garden Tip Sheets](#)

Some tip sheets are available in six languages.

[Translated Tip Sheets](#)

Find our clinic and garden locations:

[Program Map](#)

Gardening Education

Classes presented by Extension Master Gardeners and partners of the Master Gardener Foundation of King County

Find more gardening classes!

Visit our [Education](#) page to find more horticulture and home gardening classes available to the public from our Growing

Need Master Gardener CE?

Extension Master Gardeners can visit our [Volunteer Portal](#) page for a full list of approved content eligible for credit toward

Central Puget Sound: Where Do Native Bees go in the Winter? (Free)

Presented by Steven Clark, Washington Native Plant Society
September 3 at 7 p.m. | Virtual and In Person Options

[Learn more and register here.](#)

Flower Hour: The Dahlia Display

Presented by Roger Walker, Bellevue Botanical Society
September 10 at 5 p.m. | In Person

[Learn more and register here.](#)

PNW Garden Savvy: Growing Unusual Edible Plants in the PNW

Presented by Anna Sczaniecka
September 12 at 9:30 a.m. | Virtual

[Learn more and register here.](#)

Texture and Colorful Favorites of Fall (Free)

Presented by Peggy Campbell, Cascade Water Alliance
September 15 at 7 p.m. | Virtual

[Learn more and register here.](#)

PNW Garden Savvy: Habitat Gardening for Pollinators in a Changing World

Presented by Angela Laws
September 26 at 9:30 a.m. | Virtual

[Learn more and register here.](#)

Seed Saving (Free)

Presented by EMG Colleen Donahue
September 26 at 10 a.m. | In Person

[Learn more and register here.](#)

Events & Coming Attractions

Looking to get your hands dirty alongside WSU Extension King County Master Gardeners and community volunteers? Attend the **Carkeek Demonstration Garden Work Party** on September 9 from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m at 950 NW Carkeek Park Road in Seattle. This will be the final evening work party of 2026. Everyone is welcome. Snacks and opportunities to commune with fellow gardeners will be provided!

Register for **Cool Plants, Hot Topics** at the Bellevue Botanical Garden on September 13 from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. You'll learn how our backyards can protect and enhance PNW biodiversity. Learn more in [the article in this newsletter](#) and register on the [Master Gardener Foundation of King County website](#).

The **King County Iris Society Beardless Iris Sale** will take place on September 19 from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m at the Wells Medina Nursery in Bellevue.

The sale will feature Japanese, Siberian, Pacific Coast, and Spuria iris species. A list of plants for sale will be shared by September 15 on the [King County Iris Society website](#).

Don't miss the annual **Bellevue Demonstration Garden Harvest Festival** on September 19 from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. The event will feature a fall plant sale, market, plant clinic, children's activities, demonstrations, and more! The event and parking are free. [Learn more in the article in this newsletter](#).

The Garden at El Centro de la Raza will host a **Harvest Party** on September 26 at 1 p.m. All are welcome to enjoy light refreshments, sample different tomato varieties, and tour the garden in the company of volunteers. [Learn more in the article in this newsletter](#).

Contributing to Master Gardener Connection

Do you have content you'd like to submit for this newsletter? For more information about the process, or to submit items for consideration, contact Master Gardener Connection Editor Kayah Swanson at kayah.swanson@mgfkc.org.

The deadline to submit is the 15th of each month.

Was this newsletter forwarded to you?
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Email Sign Up

Land Use Acknowledgement for the King County Master Gardener Program

We acknowledge that we are gathered on the sacred lands occupied by the Coast Salish Peoples since time immemorial. We give thanks to the Duwamish, Muckleshoot, Snoqualmie, Stillaguamish, Suquamish, and Tulalip Tribes for sharing their ancestral lands and watersheds with us, and we embrace our responsibility to steward them for future generations. As WSU volunteers, we also recognize that the Morrill Act of 1862 established land-grant institutions by providing each state with "public" and federal lands, which are traced back to the dispossession of Indigenous lands.



Master Gardener Connection is a joint publication from the Master Gardener Foundation of King County, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, and the WSU Extension King County Master Gardener Program to provide research-based education about horticulture and home gardening to the residents of King County. WSU Extension programs and employment are available to all without discrimination. Evidence of noncompliance may be reported through your local WSU Extension office.

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