



# Master Gardener Newsletter



WSU EXTENSION  
Cowlitz County

## REFLECTIONS FROM THE GARDEN

Gary Fredricks

MAY 2023  
304 COWLITZ WAY,  
KELSO, WA 98626

**So many ways to serve!**

*"Someday is not a day of the week." ~ Janet Dailey*

### WSU Extension Office

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### WSU Gardening Websites

[mastergardener.wsu.edu/](http://mastergardener.wsu.edu/)

[gardening.wsu.edu](http://gardening.wsu.edu)

[cowlitz.wsu.edu](http://cowlitz.wsu.edu)

### HortSense Fact Sheets

[hortsense.cahnrs.wsu.edu/](http://hortsense.cahnrs.wsu.edu/)

### PestSense Fact Sheets

[pestsense.cahnrs.wsu.edu/](http://pestsense.cahnrs.wsu.edu/)

### WSU Educational Pubs

<http://pubs.wsu.edu>

### WSU Cowlitz Co. MGs

[extension.wsu.edu/cowlitz/mg/](http://extension.wsu.edu/cowlitz/mg/)

### Master Gardener Foundation

[www.cowlitzcomg.com/](http://www.cowlitzcomg.com/)

*Reasonable accommodations will be made for persons with disabilities and special needs who contact the office at least two weeks prior to the event. Extension programs and employment are available to all without discrimination. Evidence of noncompliance may be reported through your local Extension office.*

Summer has arrived in all its glory, and everyone is busy doing something. Tending the garden, meeting with friends, attending high school graduations, having family members visit, traveling on vacation, hosting garden parties, and just getting winter projects finished. It is a fun season filled with handshakes, hugs, and smiles. The longer days filled with sunshine seem to give everyone that extra time they need to fit everything into an already packed schedule.

As you look ahead to your busy summer, have you set some time out to work on a Master Gardener project? Many of you are already working on a program. Clinics have been held at the office, the weekly Zoom presentations, Farmers Market, Raised Bed program, working with juvenile youth gardens, Earth Day. Ahead of us is the county fair, flower arrangement classes, Leaf Exchange, Tire Recycle, and Gardening with MG. Volunteers have supported the updating of the website, mentoring new gardeners, helping at workshops, and assisting at the plant sale. Garden projects include the Demonstration Garden, Juvenile Detention Garden, Mt. St. Helens Garden and Cougar Cottage Garden. Presentations have been delivered to many public organizations that include the Kelso Garden Club, Home and Garden Show, PUD employees, Wilco, and Celebration of Children. Some volunteers worked to provide additional educational opportunities for Master Gardeners. This is just a sampling of Master Gardener volunteer projects and activities.

There are additional projects that could use your help. You may have an idea for your own project. There is no doubt that each of you is busy and has a full schedule. Yet we all manage to find time for those things that are important to us. If you have not already gotten involved in a Master Garden activity, now is the time. We need your talent, knowledge, and active participation. The expectation is that every member is an active participant in this great organization that serves the needs of our community.

For all the great work that you do, you don't always hear the words **Thank You!** The efforts of this organization have made this a healthier and more sustainable community to live in. For all the time and energy each you have given, it has made a positive difference and it is greatly appreciated.

# Announcements

## **Plant and Insect Clinic is open!**

In-clinic visits, calls, and emails. In office April-Oct: MWF, Nov-March: Wed. only, 10-noon. 360-577-3014 Ext. 1

**All of our workshops-with slides, handouts, and videos:**  
[cowlitzcomg.com/workshops-videos](http://cowlitzcomg.com/workshops-videos)

### **In this issue**

**If you enjoy the MG articles below,  
PLEASE LET THE AUTHOR KNOW!**

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*Log your Volunteer Hours*



[wsu.givepulse.com/group/453100-WSU-Cowlitz-County-Master-Gardeners](http://wsu.givepulse.com/group/453100-WSU-Cowlitz-County-Master-Gardeners)

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## **- Article Opportunity -**

If you specialize in a specific type of gardening, then why not share your knowledge by writing a short article for the newsletter? It's a great way to contribute, and help inspire fellow gardeners. Not to mention that the time spent writing can be turned in as volunteer hours!

If you have an article you'd like to share, please email them to: Alice Slusher: [alslush@gmail.com](mailto:alslush@gmail.com)  
**Articles for May issue due June 20, 2023**

# Meetings & Event

## **Foundation Meeting**

June 13, 2023

10 am- ZOOM



**MASTER  
GARDENER  
CALENDAR**

### **Upcoming Workshops**

**(Tues. 12 pm on Zoom unless otherwise noted)**  
[cowlitzcomg.com/public-events](http://cowlitzcomg.com/public-events)

<b>May</b>		
30	Grow a red tomato in the PNW	Alice S.
<b>June</b>		
6	Native Plants in Landscaping	Wendy Santiago
13	Drip Irrigation	Jerry Winchell
20	Choosing Landscape plants	Tracy Morgan

**Master Garden-  
er**

**Directory**

**On members' page of website**

# Foundation Announcements

## Art Fuller (Master Gardener Foundation of Cowlitz County, President)



Many Thanks to All, We Did it Again!

May is over and the next month's adventure is about to begin. The record-breaking plant sale is finished and was another huge success. The plant sale is our biggest annual fund-raising event led by Cheryl Coddington and Jane Jahrmarkt. This event supports our foundation and funds all we do throughout the year. The sale was successful due to all the volunteer's participation, organization and committee's contributions during the year. Everyone is breathing easier; all the stress is gone and now everyone is catching up on their personal tasks that were put on hold. Once again, the success of our plant sale is directly proportional and dependent on all the great support, time and effort by all our volunteers. Thanks again!

On another note, Volunteers needed!

The Farmers Market at the Cowlitz County Fairgrounds has kicked off for another year of fun on 6 May. This event occurs on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of every month from 6 May until 16 September. We need more volunteers! There are two shifts from 8:30 A.M. – 11:30 A.M. and 11:30 A.M. – 2:30 P.M. The sign-up for this event is on our member's page.



Click on  then . Then scroll down to Farmers Market Fun, pick your time and volunteer for some great fun. At least one of the leads (Phyllis Collins, Roxanne Nakamura or Mike Tolleshaug) will be there every week at the event so sign-up and come on down to join the festivities.

I was there on 20 May. What a great time was had by all meeting and greeting the people that stopped by our booth. Every week there is an adult and youth interaction activity. We had a phenomenal number of visitors, 77 adults and 41 children. We passed out numerous brochures, explained our great program, answered 12 Plant and Insect Clinic questions. This is a huge bonus for our program and all about our mission. The Farmers Market is a fantastic way for our volunteers to interact with the public, educate the public on gardening practices, is a great stepping stone for our program to gain new members, volunteers earn Plant and Insect Clinic hours and not to mention all the fun we have at the same time.



Please sign-up and volunteer to support this great event. It is a win, win situation for everyone!

Thank you for all you do,  
Art Fuller  
Master Gardener Foundation of Cowlitz County, President



# Advanced Education Conference 2023



## All garden enthusiasts invited!



There are 35 classes to choose from, but you'll want to register early to guarantee your first choices.

**50 years and counting!**  
**September 27- 29, 2023**

Marriott Tacoma Downtown

Tacoma, Washington

Choose from [35 classes](#) taught by top-notch instructors

Amazing [tours](#)

Earn CE credits

Be inspired by [keynote speaker](#) Michael Blackstock

Network with like-minded garden enthusiasts

*Register by June 30 and save \$40!*



# MGs reporting: Another Year & May 13, 2023

Another year and “Poof!”—the Plant Sale is over!

We walked into a bare bones Building #13 Monday A.M. Then came 85 tables, signs, banners... Home grow people brought in truckload after truckload of plants (“Looking good guys.”)

Connie & Mardell then dumped the whole greenhouse (5,000 healthy, sturdy plants)... they did the impossible job. Wow! Building #13 turned green! Plants were delivered, inspected, placed, and primped.

The MG Pre-sale—I’d call it a frenzy feeding. They know good stuff when they see it!

Sat A.M. oh my—maybe 100 people waiting for the door to open was what some described as breathtaking!

Sunday A.M. the building was just another empty building. The last tables returned and the padlock clicked on another year. Yes we earned \$19,803, but, what I take home are memories of what you all did to make it possible. (The hours, the expertise, the dedication, the friendship) Thank you all for another success story with friends like you.



Thanks Again,  
Jerry Winchell

# MGs reporting: Greenhouse Triumph

Greenhouse Triumph—shared by Trisha B.

We had finished watering on a Sunday and noticed the fans and many of the grow lights weren't on.

Thought we'd tried everything; the GFCI buttons, checked the main panel, looked at the timers, tried unplugging and moving the cords around. Poor Mardell came in to help.

Then Dara thought, *'maybe we'd inadvertently gotten water into one of the plugs where it went into the light'*.

She dried it out and TA DA, fixed it.



# MGs reporting: Earth Day



## Earth Day Report—Lori Martinson

It was a beautiful day for the Earth Day Celebration at Lake Sacajawea.  
There was a steady stream of people all day--526 in all!  
Many families were interested in starting their own worm bin.  
Our volunteers did a great job working with the kids!

### Thank you, volunteers!

Marsha Tisdale  
Terry York  
Patricia Bosh  
Heather Cardoso  
Dara Reynolds  
Cheryl Grindle- Spain  
Anne Seymour



# MGs reporting: Moss Ball Class

Moss Ball (Kokedama) class for MGs only? Trisha Bonapace

Is anyone interested in making their own moss ball, (kokedama)?

The nicest ones are a tallish plant and maybe something else that droops down for a hanging ball in a patio, or a flowering plant, used as a center piece on a dining room table.

I have a lot of extra moss, twine and other items we could do an informal class with. You would need your own plant, and some peat moss.

Let me know, we'll see how many people we have, and pick a date and place.

Trisha B



# MGs reporting: Proposal for Master Gardeners

## Proposal for Master Gardeners taking over Fostering Mason Bees — by Billie Bevers

Take over approximately 40 locations within 4 counties. The process involves delivery (or they pick up at the demo garden) bees, boxes, and nesting material in early spring, and pickup of cocoons, boxes, and nesting material in June. The bees should be stored in a shed or other cool place until fall harvest. Once the harvest is completed, the bees should be refrigerated until spring when the process starts again.

### What we will do:

Donate to the master gardeners 5,000 mason bees\* for spring delivery.  
Donate to the master gardeners all necessary boxes and nesting material\* for spring delivery.  
Give the master gardeners list of foster names, locations, and bee data.  
Notify the foster list of change in process.  
Donate non frost-free refrigerator space for mason bees for 2 years.  
Introduce master gardeners to wholesale connection for selling extra bees\*\*.  
Be “on call” for advice, assistance, and consulting.  
Be available for trainings and talks.



We will continue to be Fern and Rosemary and to maintain our own bees and live up to our previous obligations.

### Monetary information and statistics based on past 3 years.

Estimated Number of Bees (minus our property):

2020 – 7500  
2021 – 14,000  
2022 - 6,100



\*\*Wholesale sale for extra bees is 15¢/bees

WSU – Bee Talks savings

2021 - \$360  
2022 - \$392  
2023 - \$310

\*Donations to Master Gardeners. Amounts are estimated based on this year. Prices are wholesale.

5,000 cocoons @.75 - \$3,750  
Boxes with inserts, 53 mediums @\$50 - \$2,650





# MG Reporting: Potting up salvaged collectors plants



No meeting in May



# OUR LOVE FOR GARDENING IS UNBEETABLE

BioFloraGlobal

## Cowlitz County Master Gardener 2023 Foundation Board

