



Clackamas County Chatter



SEPTEMBER

The Oregon Master Gardener Association in Cooperation with
OSU Extension Service Master Gardener™ Program

2010

September Chapter Meeting

Monday, September 13, Milwaukie Center, 5440 SE Kellogg Creek Drive (Come early at 6:30 p.m. to learn about composting with Laura Eyer on a tour of the new composter at the Milwaukie Center).

7:00 p.m. Living with Chickens by Jordis Yost, OSU Master Gardener Program Assistant

Your own backyard can be a source of the best eggs you've ever tasted. Chickens are endearing birds that require just a small amount of time, space and food. Learn the how's and why's of keeping chickens in your backyard, garden or farm. If you've ever considered having a few birds of your own, this "chicken chat" will answer the most asked questions, cover "how-to's" from start to finish, and provide some food-for-thought. When Jordis and her husband, Michael, bought ten acres in the Columbia River Gorge in 1990, one of the first things they did was take the OSU Master Gardener class...and get a few chickens. As the gardens grew and fruit trees were planted, the new poultry companions earned their place in the scheme of things. Now, with 20 years of learning to live with the "girls," Jordis enjoys sharing some practical tips and backyard flock adventures.

Soil pH Testing and 10-Minute University™

Saturday, October 2, 10 a.m. – noon, Milwaukie Center

- 10:00 Planting and Transplanting Tips
- 10:30 Raised Bed Gardening
- 11:00 Pruning Trees and Shrubs
- 11:30 Planning Your Vegetable Garden

October Program

Rain Gardens in the Home Landscape – Why and How by Nikki Cerra, Clackamas County Soil and Water Conservation
Nikki will provide us the "know how" plus tips to build our own rain gardens, including pervious pavers and wildlife corridors. Nikki is well-trained in guiding home gardeners through the steps necessary to produce an esthetically-pleasing, sustainable garden that benefits the gardener, his/her neighbors and the surrounding urban ecosystem.

Kudos

Green Glove Award: Leah Lane, Speaker's Bureau Coordinator since 2006. Leah receives requests from a variety of organizations and matches them with Master Gardener speakers. In 2009, she collaborated with Sherry Sheng in expanding our rank of speakers and cross-trained more MGs to teach 10-Minute University™ classes.

Featured Committee:

Soil pH Testing committee, Cathy Matern & Maggie Frieske, co-chairs
The Clackamas County Chapter provides free soil pH testing services several times a year. Trained volunteers operate sophisticated testing instruments, meticulously calibrated before use, to determine soil pH. Should the results call for adjustment, a MG interprets the results and offers advice on how to achieve the desired change. *Soil pH Testing*, a 10-Minute University™ handout, provides additional information.

Open Garden Time Change

Nikki Mantei, Time: 3pm to 8pm, September 12; light refreshments
571 NW Wade Street, Estacada, OR 97023

Tidbits from Mini-College

President's Note: This, my third or fourth attendance, was once again a very positive experience as I bonded with members of our Chapter, met many other Master Gardeners, and learned a ton!

- ▶ Effective trap for spotted wing drosophila, *Drosophila suzukii* – Place 2 inches of apple cider vinegar plus one small drop of non-fragrant liquid soap in a red or black soft-drink cup and punch 3/16-inch holes on the lid. Set the cup in the fruiting zone. (Amy Dreves, OSU Entomologist)
- ▶ Help honey bee colonies rear bees during the winter by growing late-summer flowering plants. (Ramesh Sagili, OSU researcher)
- ▶ OSU Extension Service will celebrate its centennial in 2011. In Oregon, 3,700 Master Gardeners account for about half of Extension Service volunteers. (OSU Extension Service Director, Scott Reed)
- ▶ In the U.S., one third of daily potable water use is for garden irrigation. (David Sandrock, ex-OSU faculty)
- ▶ Baby birds need a high-protein diet; insects and invertebrates from our garden are good sources. (Jason O'Brien, OSU Master Naturalist Program Manager)
- ▶ A new *Sustainable Gardening* handbook will come out in 2012, including chapters on Sustainable Gardening, Invasive Plants, and Sustainable Landscaping. (Gail Langellotto, Statewide MG Program Coordinator)
- ▶ Corn gluten meal (10-0-0) is 80% effective as a pre-emergent when applied at 20lb/1000 sq ft. Household vinegar (5%) kills tops of small weeds but doesn't kill the roots. (Jeff Gillman, author, *The Truth About Organic Gardening*)
- ▶ A sustainable landscape is made over time through a decision-making process that uses as few resources as possible, considers least toxic/intrusive methods, and creates the desired effect for the land. (Weston Miller, Metro Extension Agent)
- ▶ When you click on "Master Gardeners" on Google, the Clackamas County MG site comes up fourth overall! (Scott Reed)

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Websites: <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/mg/> — <http://www.clackamascountymastergardeners.org/>