



Chapter Chat April 2023

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Tuesday, April 4, 2023

7:00-8:00 PM PDT—Free Webinar, Open to All

Registration required

8:00-9:00 PM PDT—Members Meeting

*Digital Plant Problem Diagnosis

**Jay W. Pscheidt, PhD. OSU Professor and
Extension Plant Pathology Specialist**



Many people, including plant doctors, were relegated to working at home in the era of Covid-19. These same people, while starting new gardens or expanding old ones, ran into a variety of problems. Diagnosing plant problems virtually is a special challenge. Washington County Master Gardeners are hosting this webinar with **Jay W. Pscheidt, PhD**, OSU Professor and Extension Plant Pathology Specialist, who will assist us on how to approach these issues despite lack of key information, out

of focus pictures and inability to visit the site.

Jay W. Pscheidt received his Ph.D. in Plant Pathology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1985. Since 1988 he has been a professor at Oregon State University as an Extension Plant Pathology Specialist. His principal duties are to lead a statewide extension program related to the diagnosis and management of diseases of all fruit, nut, and ornamental/nursery crops. He is also co-editor of regional publication *The Pacific Northwest Plant Disease Management Handbook*.

Approved for **one hour** of
Master Gardener Education Credit.

This presentation is free to the public. For more info and to register, go to:
<https://washingtoncountymastergardeners.org/event>

Washington County Master Gardener™ Association

In collaboration and support of the OSU Ext. Service Master Gardener™ Program



President's Message

Hope Preston

I can't believe that it's the end of March as I write this and I haven't been able to do anything significant in my garden! I have been weeding lesser celandine and creeping buttercup and enjoying the dawn bird chorus. My mason bee cocoons are out but I haven't seen any activity.

Parties are working in both gardens; Gardenfest is moving right along; and at least one of our snow-postponed classes has taken place.

I think this month's presentation on Digital Plant Problem Diagnosis will be very helpful for all of us who work the Helpline and farmers markets, not to mention diagnosing problems in our own gardens.

I'm looking forward to seeing many of you at outdoor events soon!

WCMGA Monthly Speaker Committee Wants You

There is an availability for one additional team member on the WCMGA Monthly Speaker Committee. We cordially invite you to join our very enthusiastic and small team of Master Gardeners. This invite is extended to all WCMGA members.

The committee's main responsibility is to secure and communicate with ten interesting and knowledgeable speakers, who are willing to share their expertise on a particular topic at our monthly chapter meetings. Qualifications for the position include an enjoyment of small team collaboration and having a basic computer skill set.

Additionally, we welcome all of your suggestions for potential 2024 monthly meeting speakers and relevant topics of interest.

If you are interested in joining the committee or want to inquire more about it, or you have a suggestion for a speaker/topic, please contact:

Nancy Howarth
Committee Chair
WCMGA Monthly Speaker Committee
nancysnutrition@gmail.com

WCMGA Education Garden at PCC Rock Creek April 2023

The Education Garden is looking good, having the benefit of a couple of workdays that escaped cancellation due to pouring rain, snow or near-freezing temperatures (though it was beautiful with a dusting of snow a couple weeks ago.)

As March wound down, a few of us braved the rain to visit BBC Steel for steel cutouts to use in the landscape-Note that we observed the posted rules "No spitting on the floor".



And with a welcome short break in the weather, Shari MacDonald led an engaging and very informative session on pruning maples, sharing her expert advice using her nearby home garden. We also enjoyed a tour of her beautiful garden!

April is shaping up to be a very busy month:

- Saturday April 1st We'll be meeting for our Education Garden Saturday Work Party (12:30 to 2:30 PM). Contact Larina Hoffbeck at hoffbeck@frontier.com or 503-515-7578, if you have any questions and if you would like to be added to our contact list for the Saturday work parties scheduled for the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of the month (12:30-2:30 PM).
- April 5th- ~ 20 students from the Landscape Technology Department - Plant Establishment and Maintenance Class, will join us at the garden to work on various plant care projects. This is a great opportunity to work with the students.
- April 12th AM - Rebecca Sutton, the new Administrative Office Manager, OSU Washington County Extension Office and Amy Espinoza, the new Program Asst. based at the Wa Co Extension Office will tour our activities at PCC Rock Creek.
- April 15th - (8 AM-3 PM) [Soil School](#) will once again be in-person at PCC Rock Creek. The Education Garden will be used for hands-on activities on Soil Samples, Soil Texture and we will give Education Garden Tours.
- April 19th Noon -Susie Peterson, [Backyard Habitat Certification Program](#) Manager, Weina Dinata, BHCP Technician, Steve Carper, TVWD and Matt Silcox, Pacific Landscape to visit us at PCC Rock Creek to learn about our activities. Also, to see how our garden can be used as a resource for the community to demonstrate use of native plants and various techniques to support the garden ecosystem.



WCMGA Education Garden at PCC Rock Creek April 2023

- Saturday Work Party - April 22nd We'll be meeting again for our Education Garden Saturday Work Party (12:30 to 2:30.) Contact Larina at hoffbeck@frontier.com or 503-515-7578, if you have any questions and if you would like to be added to our contact list

We welcome all volunteers to join us at the Education Garden. If you would like more information on our activities and/or to be added to our e-mail list, please contact Susan Albright albright.becker@gmail.com or Sue Ryburn sueryburn@comcast.net

WCMGA Learning Garden at Jenkins Estate April 2023

Pruning in the Learning Garden at THPRD Jenkins Estate

The team has been busy with winter pruning, planting veggies, and In-the-Garden series classes. When the first class, Pruning Palooza, had to be canceled due to weather, the presenters pivoted to mini sessions for volunteers during work parties a few weeks later. There was a good community turnout for the recent Rose Care class – everyone is anxious for spring.

Bob Campbell



Annette Bell
Michael Donahue



Bill Klug
Tamara Newton Baker



Photos courtesy of Anna Stubbs

Thank you to all the presenters at the Learning Garden last month: **Steve Kister, Tamara Newton Baker, Cindy Muir, Bob Campbell, Jacque Myers, Annette Bell, Mary Hewitt, and Bill Klug.**

Regular work parties are on Thursday mornings. Come volunteer at a time that is convenient for you between 9 am and 1 pm. For more information contact Steve Kister kansammy@yahoo.com or Robin Burnham robin.e.burnham@aol.com.



Photo courtesy of Terri Rottman

Upcoming Master Gardener Events

Saturday, April 22th, 10 a.m. – noon
Perennials: How to Choose, Plant, and Maintain for Year-Round Flowers

PCC Rock Creek Campus Building 4, Room 103 and
WCMGA Education Garden at PCC Rock Creek
17705 NW Springville Rd, Portland, OR 97229

[PCC Campus Accessibility Map](#)

Free and open to the public

No registration required



Washington County Master Gardener Association invites you to a free *In The Garden Series* class on Perennials. Perennial plants are amazing - they give the garden beauty and food for wildlife plus they create an ever-changing tapestry of color. On top of that, they are a good investment since they come back year after year.

This class will discuss different types of perennials, from easy care to more challenging, and how to best care for them in terms of planting, pruning, fertilizing, pest control, and general maintenance, plus tips to extend blooming time for year- round color.



Presenter **Lisa Graff** retired in 2016 after a 28 year career at Intel Corporation, in electrical engineering and business. She has had a passion for gardening for decades with a focus on densely planted, continuously blooming perennial beds. After retirement, she became a Master Gardener and blended her love of science with gardening and began propagating plants. She opened Lux Perennials Nursery in 2020 and has opened her 1 acre English garden for tours and to customers at her nursery.



For more information, please go to <http://washingtontcountymastergardeners.org/>

Upcoming Master Gardener Events

Saturday, April 29th, 10 a.m. – noon
Plant Propagation - In the Garden Series

WCMGA Learning Garden at Jenkins Estate
8005 SW Grabhorn Rd, Beaverton, OR, 97007

Free and open to the public
No registration required



Washington County Master Gardeners invite you to a free class on plant propagation. Learn how to make more of the plants you love using a leaf, a twig, or a piece of root. Master Gardeners Karen Anderson and Cindy Muir will show you the basic elements of plant propagation.

Approved for **one hour** of
Master Gardener Education Credit.



For more information, please go to <http://washingtoncountymastergardeners.org/>

July 7-8, 2023
Joy of Gardening
Annual OMGA Conference (AKA MiniCollege)
Corvallis

Andony Melathopoulos from the OSU Oregon Bee Project is a keynote speaker.

For more information:

[OMGA - Oregon Master Gardener Association | Growing Gardeners](#)



Send-A-Friend Scholarship

Do you want to go to the Oregon Master Gardener Association (OMGA) Mini College this July 7, 8 in Corvallis, but not sure if you can swing the expense?

The OMGA established the Send-A-Friend Scholarship program in 2002 for just this purpose. Each Master Gardener County Chapter can submit an application for a financial assistance scholarship on behalf of chapter members in need. The maximum amount is \$100 per chapter. The chapter can give this amount to one member or divide it among multiple members. To be eligible for the scholarship, the chapter president must submit an application by May 15, 2023.

If you would like to apply for the scholarship, please send an email to wcmgapresidentoregon@gmail.com

More information is available on the OMGA website. This [link](#) will take you to the Programs and Awards page of their website. Scroll down to find the info on the Send-A-Friend Scholarship program.



Gardenfest Plant Sale

Thank you to everyone who has submitted the 2023 Gardenfest Plant Sale volunteer form! We have filled nearly all the slots for staffing positions during the sale hours of 9am to 1pm on Saturday, May 6th at PCC's Rock Creek campus

We still have a few areas in which we need help to make WCMGA's biggest fundraiser of the year a success:

- Helping with printing and laminating signs and handouts at the OSU Extension Office Caring for plants at PCC Rock Creek and Jenkins Estate in the weeks leading up to Gardenfest
- Helping place signs during setup on May 4th, 5th, and early on the 6th
- Setting up the sales area at PCC Rock Creek on May 5th between 9am and 5pm (We especially need people who can help with setting up tables, chairs, and canopies)
- Helping during the sale as a "floater" to fill in as needs arise from 8:30am to 1pm
- Takedown after the sale from 1pm to 4pm
- Additional cleanup on Monday, May 8th between 9am and 11am
- Helping with potential pop-up sales on May 13th and 20th (if there is leftover plant stock from the main sale)

There is an updated volunteer form on our website that you can fill out if you'd like to help and haven't already submitted a form here:

<https://washingtontycomastergardeners.org/member-portal/>

Or, you can contact **Larina Hoffbeck** at 503-515-7578 or hoffbeck@frontier.com.

We hope you'll join us for this fun event with your fellow Washington County Master Gardeners! Thank you!



A few of the plants being readied for sale by the propagation team

And Even More Events!

Tualatin Soil & Water Conservation District

Tualatin SWCD is hosting an array of workshops and events this spring. Join us to learn about soil, how to identify priority weeds, and to celebrate agriculture in Washington County. Many workshops are free! Details and registration can be found on their website: <https://tualatinswcd.org>



Weed Watchers

Wednesday, April 12th | 6 PM | Tualatin SWCD | 7175 NE Evergreen Pkwy #400, Hillsboro, OR

Join a Weed Watcher Workshop and learn how you can help prevent the spread of invasive species in our community. This workshop highlights [Early Detection and Rapid Response \(EDRR\)](#) weeds in the Tualatin River watershed

Soil School

Saturday, April 15th | 8 am to 3 pm | \$35 per person | PCC Rock Creek | 17705 NW Springville Rd, Portland, OR

Soil School offers multiple sessions on a wide variety of topics related to soil and soil health. This year's event is back in person at PCC Rock Creek for classroom and outdoor hands-on sessions!



Hillsboro Hops Ag Night

Wednesday, April 26 | First pitch: 6:05 PM

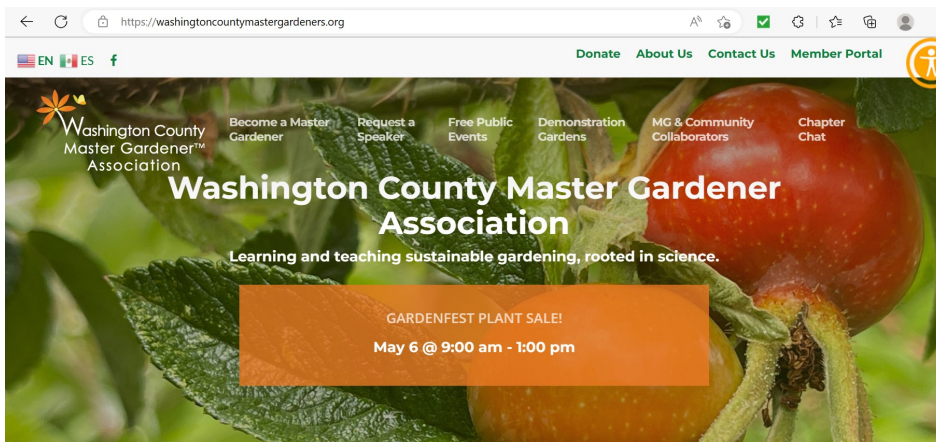
Stop by our table at the Hillsboro Hops game as we celebrate Washington County's booming agriculture industry! Remember to wear your green to celebrate the Hops' Green Out.

Master Gardeners of Note

The WCMGA Website Committee hopes that Chapter members and the public have had the opportunity to check out the Chapter's new website. The committee members worked with the designer, Laurel Briggs, Creative Marketing & Design, to update our website and bring visual interest to it. If you haven't seen the result, don't wait any longer! The feedback has been quite positive.

Work on the new website started during the previous WCMGA board's term in 2022. Committee members continued into 2023 to look at a number of examples, correspond with other MG chapters, provide current information for the Chapter, and make suggestions for visual content to Laurel.

Hope Preston, elected as the new Board president, took the lead on managing the communications between the committee members and Laurel. Hope also expanded the website review groups and facilitated the training with Laurel for the members who are managing the website. The committee members lead by Hope are:



Helen Dorbolo
Larina Hoffbeck
Pat Simmons
Harriet Ottaviano
Terry Wagner
Holly Beare
Leslie Ray
Eric Butler
Steve Kister.

The efforts of the committee, with Hope's coordination, produced an exciting, beautiful, and inviting website for our chapter. Thanks to all of you!

<https://washingtoncountymastergardeners.org/>

Master Gardeners of Note

Fall of 2022 the idea of **Outreach Activity Kit (OAK)** was born and it is the brainchild of **Susan Albright**. The concept is designed to formalize and extend the activities that had been created for tabling events. If you've attended one of our Open Garden events at the Education Garden or the Learning Garden, you'll have seen children and parents, and sometimes unaccompanied adults, clustered around tables learning to distinguish between bees, wasps, and flies, making bee antennae, or coloring bee pictures.



To facilitate and expand the tabling events each OAK is designed to cover a specific topic such as compost, hummingbirds, invertebrates vs vertebrates, planting seeds, and other pollinators. More kits covering more topics are being developed for Master Gardeners to use at our events to engage with the public.

For their innovative concepts to make learning fun WCMGA recognizes these team members as MGs of Note for their achievement:

Jennifer Rosenquist
Hope Preston
Sue Ryburn
Larina Hoffbeck
Kari Woyak
Susan Albright

If you are interested in attending a short OAK demonstration workshop with some of the OAK team please let Marilyn Berti (mcbberti@gmail.com) know and we'll set up a date and time that works for those interested.

Monthly Book Review

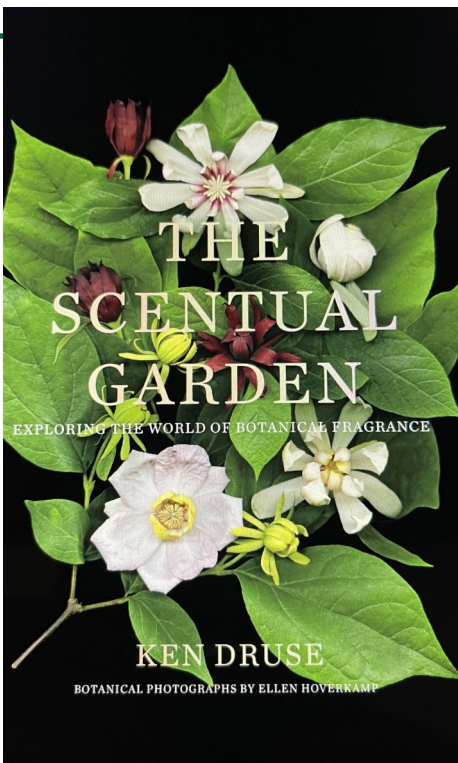
By Terry Wagner

The Scentual Garden: Exploring the World of Botanical Fragrance

Author - Ken Druse

Botanical Photographs - Ellen Hoverkamp

Imagine walking through a lovely garden that speaks specifically to one of our five senses, smell. In his 20th garden-centric book Ken Druse has given us an entrancing way to more fully enjoy our experiences in the garden world. What we usually find in plant descriptions regarding smell is the word "fragrant." If you would like to get beyond this non-illuminating description, this is the book for you.



You will find a comprehensive survey of fragrance in the garden. Mr. Druse has divided familiar and unusual garden plants, shrubs and trees into 12 categories of scent: Animalic, Balsamic/Resinous, Floral/Sweet, Forest, Fruity, Heavy, Herbal/Green, Honey, Indolic, Medicinal, Rose, and Spice. This is far more definitive than anything I have ever thought about when considering "fragrant."

His book also gives us a view into why plants smell (it's not for our benefit), how to get the most out of the many fragrances, and how to capture scents while we are exploring the plant world. For instance, to cleanse your nose palate between plants, use the method of perfumers while sampling the scents. They smell the crook of their elbow for a reset. He provides an encyclopedia of fragrant plants and suggestions of how to use scent in our landscapes. Consider planning for a sequence of fragrances through the season, adding night-scented plants, using culinary herbs and medicinals as part of the landscape, and when considering plants to add to our landscapes don't forget the "invisible garden layer."

It won't surprise the reader that this book is an award winner of the American Horticultural Society. In addition to the words in this book, the photographs of Mr. Druse and botanical photographs of Ellen Hoverkamp are artfully exquisite. The combination of words and photographs will likely touch a part of your brain where smell is evocative of memory and emotion.



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or on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/WashCoMGs/>
