

Good morning and welcome to **Lawn Be Gone!**

Please sign the attendance roster in the hallway
and place your dots on the Interest Survey poster.



Find a seat.
We'll begin at 10:03am.



Lawn Be Gone!

Photo: Susan Albright



Oregon State University
Extension Service

Susan Albright, Lisa Barnhart, Tamara Newton-Baker
OSU Extension Service Master Gardener Volunteers
Washington County Master Gardener Association

OSU EXTENSION SERVICE

Metro Area

MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEERS

Hello!



Susan Albright



Photo: Sue Ryburn

Lisa Barnhart



Photo: Susan Albright

Tamara Newton-Baker



Photo: Mike Graves/The Oregonian



Oregon State University
Extension Service

METRO AREA
Master Gardener™ Program

Washington County Master Gardener Association



Photo: Susan Albright



In support of and in collaboration
with the OSU Extension Service
Master Gardener™ Program



Oregon State University
Extension Service

Free gardening-related lectures, classes & events



SCAN ME



WCMGA
Free Public
Events

<http://washingtoncountymastergardeners.org>

Two WCMGA demonstration gardens

Learning Garden at Jenkins Estate



Photo: Marilyn Berti

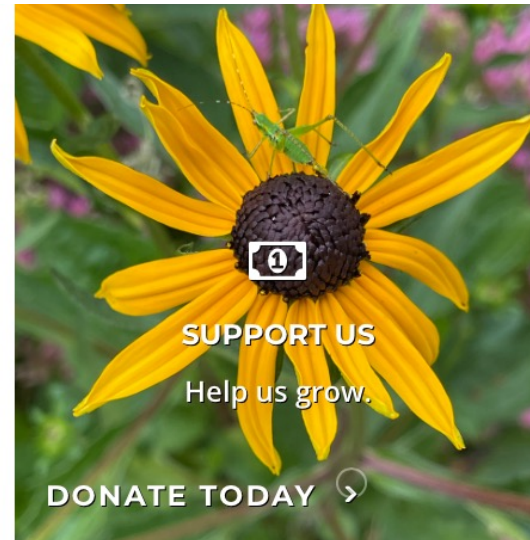
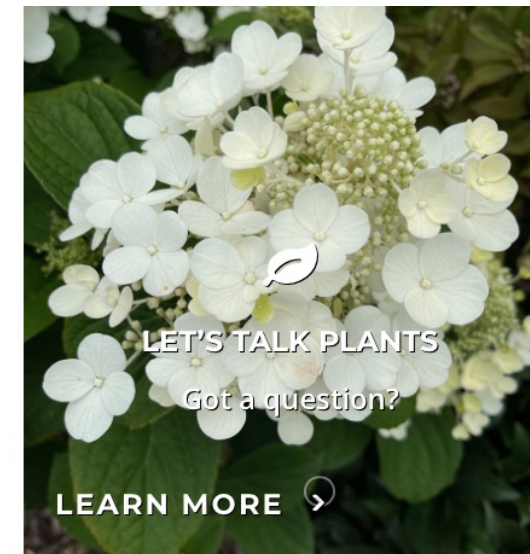
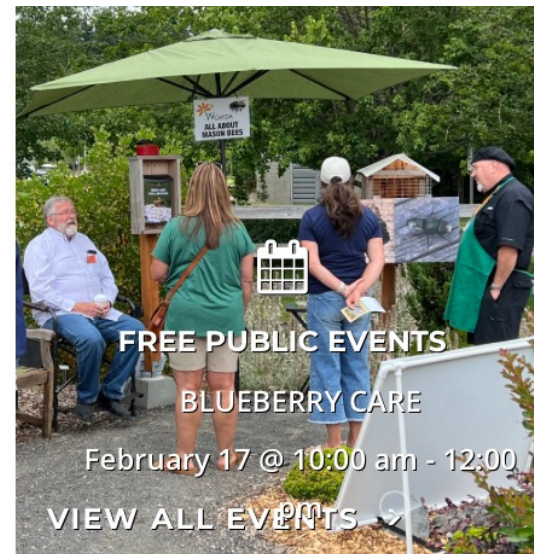
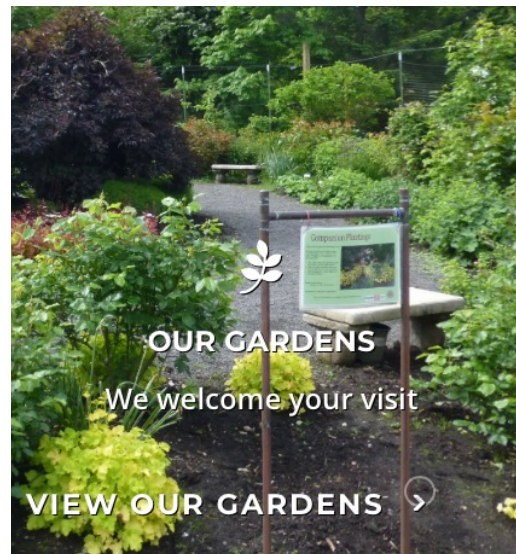
Education Garden at PCC Rock Creek



Photo: Susan Albright



Washington County Master Gardener Association



www.washingtoncountymastergardeners.org



Land Acknowledgement

The Washington County Master Gardener Association acknowledges that the land occupied by our gardens rests on the ancestral lands of the Tualatin band of Kalapuyans, who once lived along the Tualatin River before the forced removal from their land prescribed by the Willamette Valley Treaty of 1855.

Members of The Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde and The Confederated Tribes of Siletz, the Kalapuya people continue to be purposeful stewards of their land by design. They managed a seasonal fire and harvest regimen until the 1840's and are currently involved in efforts to restore native habitat in the Willamette Valley. We seek to educate ourselves about their lifeways and collaborate with them using both traditional and scientific gardening methods.

We further express our gratitude to their descendants for carrying on the traditions and culture of their ancestors. We invite everyone to appreciate and reflect on the resilience and healing power of the land and community of their ancestors.



“We have to raise the bar on our landscapes. In the past, we have asked one thing of our gardens: that they be pretty. Now they have to support life, sequester carbon, feed pollinators and manage water.”

Douglas W. Tallamy, PhD
Professor of Entomology & Wildlife Ecology -
University of Delaware, 2015
Author

- *Bringing Nature Home*
- *Nature's Best Hope*

photo: S. Albright

Today's Session

- Why reduce or remove your lawn?
- You need a plan!
- Turf removal methods
- What's next?
- Soil • Irrigation • Mulches
- A garden over time
- Resources



Why reduce or remove your lawn?

- Tired of lawn games (*do you actually play them*)?
- Time consuming high maintenance – mowing, edging, etc.
- Costly lawn additives - Nutrition; disease and weed control
- Save valuable resource – WATER
- Concern about polluting the waterways
- Little to no benefit for wildlife

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You need a plan!

Consider:

- What will you put in to replace your lawn?
- What is your budget?
- What are the light and moisture conditions in your yard?
- What is your timeframe?
- When will you be planting?
- Will you hire a landscape designer or DIY?
- How much maintenance are you willing/able to do?
- Are there HOA restrictions?
- What is your current watering system?

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Method #1: Cut out live sod

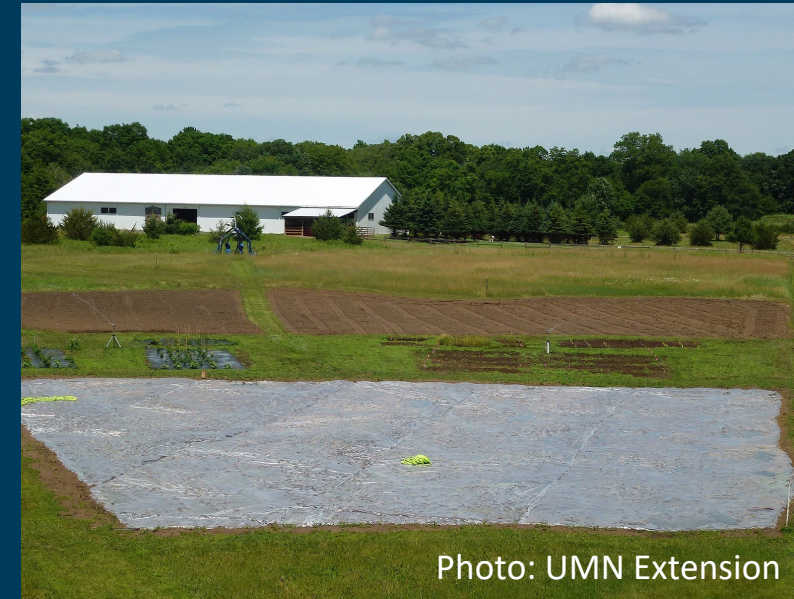
- Machine or hand removal
- Quick and efficient?
- Seed vs sod
- Rent a sod cutter \$80-115
- Disposing of sod



Photos: Sod University

Method #2: Solarization & Occultation

- Mow grass short. Water to 12" deep
- Clear or Black plastic sheeting (1.5-4mil)
- Apply snugly and bury edges
- 4-6+ weeks (Clear) or 2+ months (Black)
- Works best on hot, sunny days
- Kills most organisms in top 12"
BUT they quickly recover



Method #3: 'Organic' Sheet Mulching

Layering on "sheets" of organic matter to break down turf



Nov 2017

remove 6" wide strip of sod from all borders



mow short,
weed whack,
moisten soil

8-12" layer
arborist chips
...and wait



Photos: Susan Albright



May 2018

Method #4: Chemical

- Uses non-selective herbicide
 - Glyphosate (2-3 weeks)
 - Organic OMRI-listed products containing vinegar/acetic acid
- One week after spraying, mow lawn closely and re-spray as needed
- Kills all vegetation - harmful to bees
- **Read and follow label instructions exactly**
- **Avoid windy days and wear proper clothing**



Photo: Lisa Barnhart

One final step needed? It depends.

Solarization or Chemical Method



Photo: Sod University

Remove dead sod with sod cutter.
Rake up and remove debris.

Sheet Mulch Method



Photos: Mark Becker

If previous lawn was sod with plastic netting, remove this material before planting.

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Your lawn is gone. What's next?

- Ecolawn?
- Pollinator and wildlife habitat?
- Water-wise garden?
- Native plants, non-native or both?
- Growing food? **June 8 Class**

Ecolawn

- Consider plants that are walkable
 - Clovers/miniclover
 - Creeping thyme
 - Achillea 'brass buttons'
 - Sedges and mosses
- Consider Ecolawn seed mixes



Photo Lisa Barnhart, yard in Cedar Mill

One example of an Ecolawn seed mix

Botanical Name	Common Name	% by Weight
<i>Lolium perenne</i> var <i>Celebration</i>	Celebration Perennial Ryegrass	50%
<i>Festuca brevipila</i> var. <i>spartan</i>	Spartan Hard Fescue	17%
<i>Festuca ovina</i> var. <i>azay blue</i>	Azay Blue Sheep Fescue	12%
<i>Trifolium fragiferum</i>	Strawberry Clover	6%
<i>Lobularia maritima</i>	Sweet Alyssum Carpet of Snow	4%
<i>Trifolium repens</i> var <i>Microclover</i>	Microclover	5%
<i>Eschscholzia caespitosa</i>	California Poppy	4%
<i>Silene armeria</i> dwarf	Dwarf Sweet William Silene	1%
<i>Bellis perennis</i>	Lawndaisy	1%

Old lawn - May 2020
(removed Fall 2020)



Ecolawn – April 2021
(seeded Oct 2020)



Ecolawn – May 2022



Photos: V. Skakel

Pollinator and wildlife habitat

Sept 3 Webinar



Photo: S.ue Ryburn

Insect & Pollinator Garden, WCMGA Education Garden at PCC Rock Creek

- Trees, shrubs, perennials, grasses, groundcovers
- Native and non-native plants
- Spring to Fall blooms
- Diversity in size, shape, color
- Nesting areas for bees
- Eliminate pesticide use

June 4 Webinar



Threadleaf Coreopsis (Tickseed)
Coreopsis verticillata 'Zagreb'

Plant Choices

Purple Coneflower

Echinacea purpurea

Perennial sunflower

Helianthus 'Lemon Queen'

Kunth's Red Rock Penstemon

Penstemon kunthii 'Red Rock'

California Poppy

Eschscholzia californica

Victoria California Lilac (evergreen shrub)

Ceanothus thrysiflorus 'Victoria'

Water-Wise garden



Photo: Sue Ryburn

- Trees, shrubs, perennials, grasses, groundcovers
- Native and non-native plants
- Evergreens for winter structure
- Drought tolerant vs Drought resistant
- Mulch with arborist chips
- Drip irrigation

Water-Wise Garden, WCMGA Education Garden at PCC Rock Creek



'Sarah' Rockrose
Halimium 'Sarah'

Photo: Xera Plants

Plant Choices

Feather Reed Grass

Calamagrostis x acutiflora 'Karl Foerster'

Lamb's Ear

Stachys byzantine

Manzanita 'White Lanterns' (shrub)

Arctostaphylos x hookeri 'White Lanterns'

Dwarf Russian Sage

Perovskia atriplicifolia 'Lacey Blue'

'Dragon's Blood' Sedum

Sedum spurium 'Dragon's Blood'

PNW Native Plants

Oct 26 class

PNW Native Pollinator Garden,
WCMGA Education Garden at PCC Rock Creek

- What's in a name?
Native: *Ceanothus thyrsiflorus*
Cultivar: *Ceanothus thyrsiflorus* 'Victoria'
- Select native plants that work in your garden setting
- Even native plants need water to get established
- Be patient. First year sleep, second year creep, third year leap



Great information on selecting, planting and caring for native plants.



Red flowering currant (shrub)

Ribes sanguineum

Photo: Susan Albright

Plant Choices

Evergreen huckleberry (shrub)

Vaccinium ovatum

Graceful cinquefoil

Potentilla gracilis

Farewell-to-Spring

Clarkia anoema

Low Oregon grape (shrub)

Mahonia repens

Tall Oregon grape (shrub)

Mahonia aquifolium

Vine Maple (tree)

Acer circinatum

• Plants – So Many Choices!

June 15 class



General Considerations:

- Right plant, right place
- Group plants with like needs
- Layers – Low to high
- Consider mature plant size!
- Consider winter structure
- Gardens grow and change
- Maintenance required!

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• Soil • Irrigation • Mulches

Test your soil

Healthy soil = healthy plants

Soil Analysis

A & L Western Agricultural Laboratories

503-968-9225

Cost: under \$50 for basic results

Retest in 2-3 years



• Soil • Irrigation • Mulches

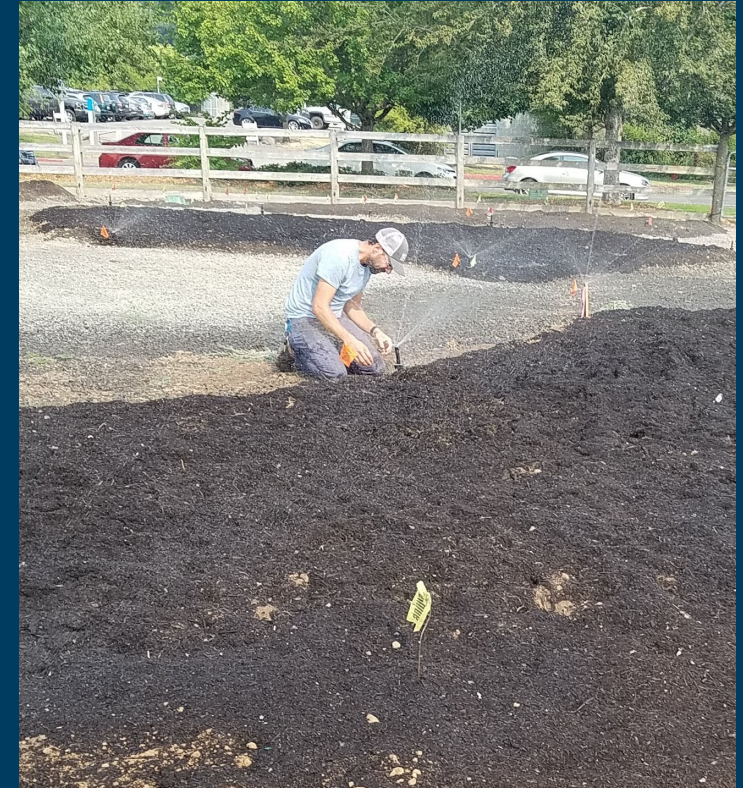
Hose bib with timer?



Drip Irrigation?



Overhead Spray?



It depends on your time, budget and what you are growing

• Soil • Irrigation • Mulches

Aug 17 class & Oct 1 webinar

Any material applied to the soil surface in sufficient amounts to have a beneficial effect on the soil

Organic

Compost, bark dust, Arborist chips



Inorganic

Landscape fabric, plastic, gravel



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- A garden over time



Who and what is a garden for?

1986



1994



I actually planted ivy!!

2010



2012



Began ivy removal

2013



2018



Hellstrip update: Ivy out. Water-wise in.

Fall 2019



Lawn on its way out

Spring 2020



8" of arbor chips



Not quite ready for
planting...time to plan

April 2021



- Two mason bee nesting stations added
- Pathways marked
- Plants researched, purchased and planted
- Ready for bees!

July 2022

Goldenrod

Goldenrod

Yarrow

Douglas aster cultivar

Black-eyed Susan

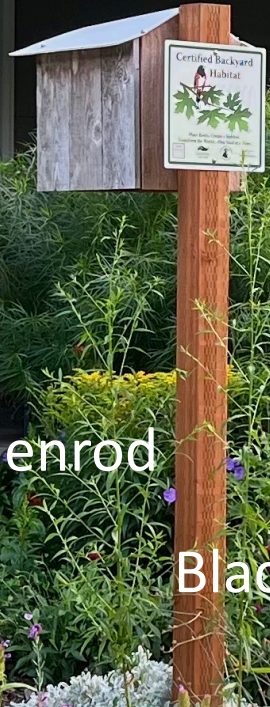
Pollinator Habitat

Bowle's mauve

Farewell-to-spring

Self-heal

Roemer's Fescue





2022

“The beauty of a plant is not just the plant itself, but all of the other organisms it can bring into your garden.”



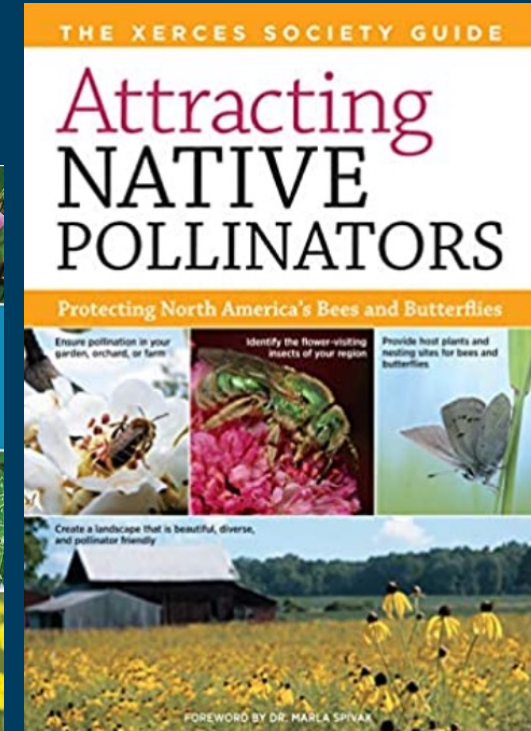
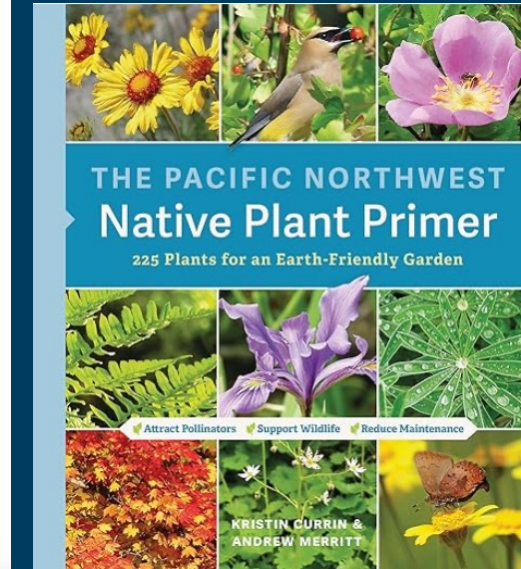
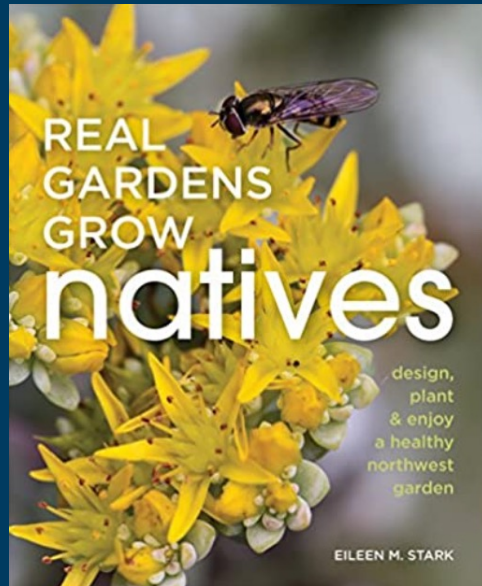
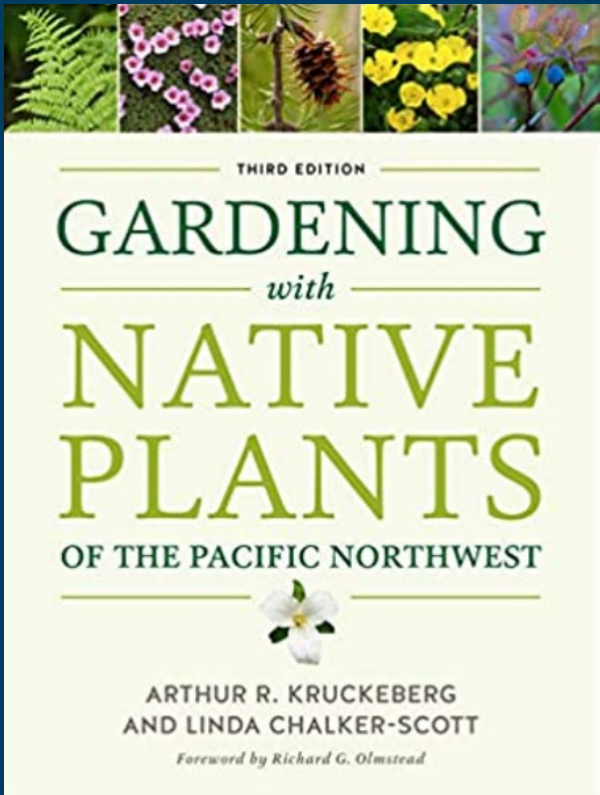
Gail Langellotto, PhD
Professor of Horticulture
Garden Ecology Lab
Oregon State University



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• Native Plant Resources



A focus on creating pollinator habitat and reducing pesticide exposure

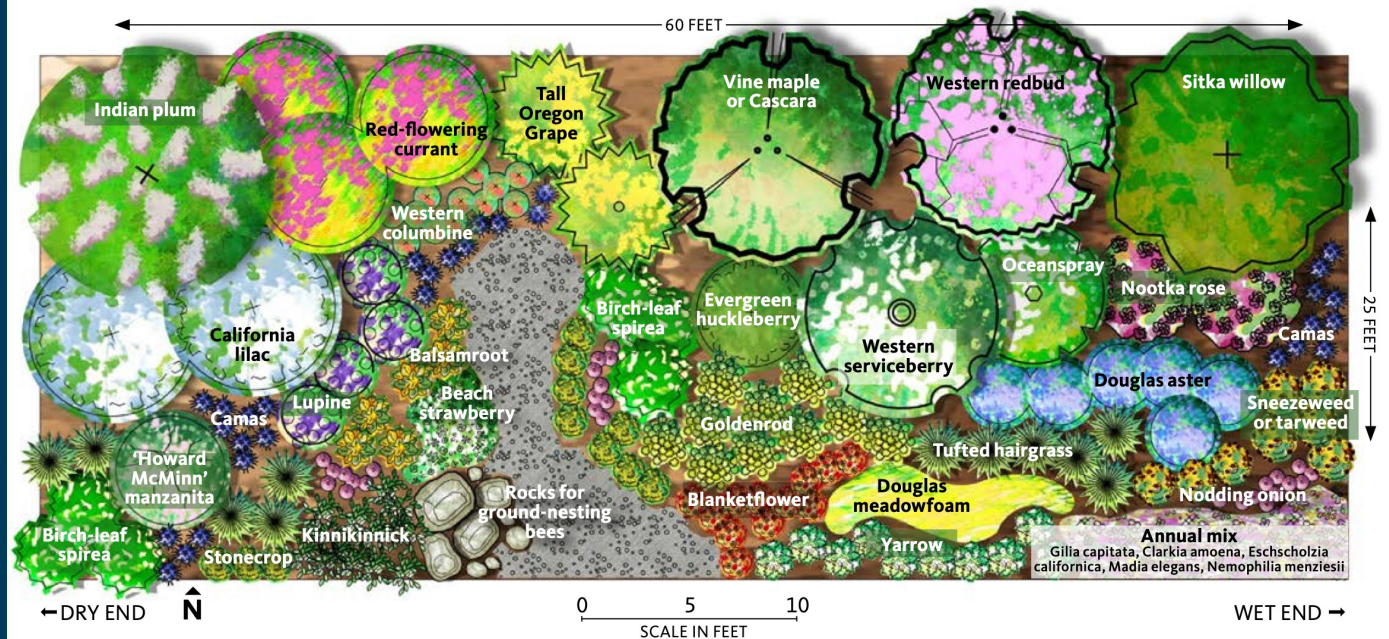


Photo: Lynn Ketchum, © Oregon State University



EM 9289
June 2020

Native plant garden SPRING THROUGH AUTUMN, WEST OF THE CASCADES



<https://catalog.extension.oregonstate.edu/em9289>

Figure 1. Bee abundance and diversity on Native Plant Picks for Bees

Native Plant Picks for Bees

To support native bees in your garden, select plants that support high bee abundance and/or diversity (bee species richness).

Outer white circle represents relative bee abundance.



Inner white circle represents relative bee diversity.



OSU Garden Ecology Lab

Photos, left to right top line: Aaron Anderson; Creative Commons license, The Marmot; Jen Hayes; Svea Bruslind; Jen Hayes
left to right bottom line: Gail Langellotto; Izzy Messer; LeAnn Locher; Gail Langellotto; Jen Hayes



“...based on three years of research (2017-2019) monitoring bees on 23 wildflowers.”

<https://extension.oregonstate.edu/pub/em-9363>

• Upcoming WCMGA Events

May 4

June 1

June 29



Gardenfest Plant Sale

Saturday, May 4 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
PCC Rock Creek Campus

- 6500+ plants expertly selected for the PNW
- Garden tips & advice
- Children's activities, gifts for gardeners, books, tools, & more!

CREATE Beautiful Gardens That Thrive

In collaboration with and in support of
Oregon State University Extension Service Master Gardener™

GREAT PRICES



washingtoncountymastergardeners.org 

PCC Rock Creek



Washington County Master Gardener Association invites you to

OPEN GARDEN FAMILY EVENT

Invertebrates and Vertebrates!



Photos: Jim Cruce, Jim Cruce, Sarah Albright, Avery Thompson

Saturday, June 1, 2024 • 10am-1pm
WCMGA Education Garden at PCC Rock Creek
17705 NW Springville Road, Portland, OR
All Ages Welcome • Open to the public
• FREE entry and FREE parking

- Hands-on Activities • Giveaways •
- Participating Organizations with Expert Information •

OSU Extension Service Master Gardeners
Backyard Habitat Certification Program
Five Oaks Museum
Oregon Agriculture in the Classroom
Oregon Bee Atlas
PCC Rock Creek Farm Animals (Live and in person!!)
Tualatin Soil & Water Conservation District
Xerces Society

Questions? albright.becker@gmail.com sue@sueryburn.com

In collaboration with and in support of Oregon State University Extension Service Master Gardener™

OSU Extension Service prohibits discrimination in all its programs, services, activities, and materials. Accommodation requests related to disability should be made by 5/15/24 to Catalina Santamaria, 503-655-8631, catalina.santamaria@oregonstate.edu

*Scan for other 2024 WCMGA events 

PCC Rock Creek



Washington County Master Gardener™ Association presents

LEARNING GARDEN FAIR

Grow Together: Families in the Garden 

Saturday, June 29, 2024 • 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.
WCMGA Learning Garden at Jenkins Estate
8005 SW Grabhorn Road, Beaverton, OR
FREE and open to the public

 Activities for All Ages 

- Plant vegetable seeds in soil to take home •
- Learn about pollinators and hummingbirds •
- See wise watering, composting, and native plants •
- Get research-based information from the experts •
- Inspect carnivorous plants • Go on a scavenger hunt •
- Guided tours available •

Questions? wcmgagarden@gmail.com

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*Scan for details of these and other WCMGA events 

Jenkins Estate



How to get a digital copy of the resource list for this class:

1. Scan this QR code to get to “Education & Resources” page on our website
2. Go to the ‘Resources’ column
3. Scroll down and click on “Lawn Be Gone! Resource List”

How to locate research-based information on your web browser:

Your search word or phrase here **site:edu**

OR

Your search word or phrase here **site:gov**

Example: **drip irrigation site:edu**



Questions?

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Oregon State University
Extension Service

Before we head to the garden...

Please take time to fill out the evaluation form.

Your honest feedback helps us improve.

Presenters: Albright, Barnhart & Newton-Baker

Topic: Lawn Be Gone!

Date: April 6, 2024

Hand in your completed form on your way out

Thank You!