



NEWSLETTER FOR MG PROGRAM COORDINATORS

MAY 2011

## MG Program Coordinators' Webinar (monthly Adobe Connect meeting)

Friday, May 6<sup>th</sup>. 10:00 am.

[breeze.wsu.edu/mg](http://breeze.wsu.edu/mg)

Enter as a guest, type in your name and county, run the audio wizard.

Instructions are in the note pod in the lower left of the screen.

### Agenda:

- MG Program fundraising campaign

- Spotted Wing Drosophila; involving MGs in trapping and teaching residents

- MG program annual report

- Any questions or other items?

- How MGs can *easily* evaluate their impacts, by Jennifer Marquis, Chelan Co

Next webinar June 3<sup>rd</sup>, Using SharePoint to share calendars and documents, by Jeanne Rehwaldt and Carolyn Gordon

## Volunteer Hours Database.

"Stormwater Education" is now an activity in the drop down list that MG volunteers can report hours to. This is in anticipation of a grant funded project involving WSU MGs educating residents about using rain gardens as a method of reducing pollutants in stormwater in the Puget sound area. (Read about the project in "12,000 Rain Gardens Campaign" below.)

MGs in other areas may report to this activity for rain garden education and other projects such as planting in riparian zones, reducing pesticides and fertilizers near water ways and storm drains, efficient irrigation of landscapes, etc.

## Research Working for You Webinar

Wednesday, May 4th, 10:00 a.m.

[http://breeze.wsu.edu/research\\_that\\_works\\_for\\_you/](http://breeze.wsu.edu/research_that_works_for_you/)

**Speaker:** Tim Miller, PhD; Extension Weed Specialist, Associate Professor, Crop and Soil Science

**Title:** *Identification of Some Common Washington weeds*

During this webinar Tim will show how to identify some common, but often misidentified, weed species that grow throughout the state of Washington. We will focus on how to use the plant characters that can be found in early May to identify these species. It will be archived on the Professional Development website for future viewing.

## The National Extension MG Coordinators web conference

(date has **changed to May 25, 2011** from May 18).

**May 25, 11 am Pacific Time.**

**Topic: Ask an Expert with EMG Volunteers.**

Facilitator, Rick Durham, University of Kentucky.

Web conference, connect link: <http://connect.extension.iastate.edu/hortcop>

**2011 WSU Master Gardener Advanced-Education Conference**

Please make the following information available to all MG volunteers:

Registration is now open for the annual MG State Conference at

<http://www.regonline.com/mgfbeach2011>

The conference will be in Ocean Shores, WA, September 22-24, 2011.

Register now to take advantage of the \$175 registration fee and some great tours. It includes one lunch and two dinners. Beginning August 14, registration fees will increase to \$200.

We have negotiated great rates at three hotels giving you a choice. These rates will be valid on all reservations placed until August 21. Instructions can be found on the website under the Lodging Tab.

**Illinois Researcher requests help from MG volunteers**

Dr Lauren D. Quinn is a researcher at the University of Illinois, looking for help to locate escaped individuals or whole populations of *Miscanthus sinensis* and/or *M. sacchariflorus* in natural areas across the U.S. Find out how MG Volunteers can help map the spread of these grasses at:

<https://sites.google.com/site/laurendquinn/miscanthus-sightings>

If you want to allow MGs to get volunteer or continuing education hours, please decide what is best for your county

**Insect Identification Short Course**

Oregon State University Extension is gearing up to offer a fourth Insect Identification Train-the-Trainer short course. The 20-hour short course is designed to train University Extension field faculty, Extension Master Gardeners, agency professionals, and crop consultants on identification of insects—both beneficial and pesky bugs. The training will include many hands-on aspects, such as collecting, mounting, and identifying insects, using a stereo microscope and insect key. Training will also include insect management and creation of an educational display. Class enrollment is limited to 20 individuals.

This training will be offered at the WSU Extension Office in Kennewick, Washington May 25-27. Signing up now is strongly recommended as class space is limited. There is no charge for the course and applicants will be screened to insure that the course is a good match for their skills and interests, plus their ability to do the community service project (10 hours minimum) as a payback for the training. All handouts, materials, equipment and supplies will be furnished.

If interested, please contact OSU Extension Service for an application packet or email

[shevon.hatcher@oregonstate.edu](mailto:shevon.hatcher@oregonstate.edu). Questions call: Mary Corp 541-278-5403 Steve Van Vleet 509-397-6290 or Silvia Rondon 541-567-8321.

**12,000 Rain Gardens Campaign**

Read more at:

<http://www.wsutoday.wsu.edu/Pages/Publications.asp?Action=Detail&PublicationID=25692&PageID=>