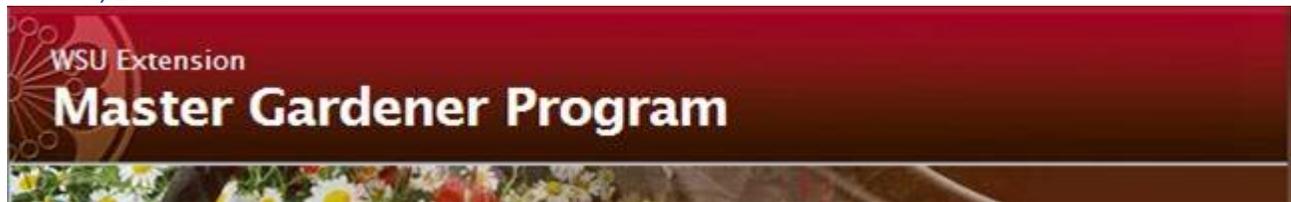


October, 2009



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**Annual Conference**

Thank you for promoting the 2009 Advanced Education Conference to volunteers in your counties and thank you to those of you who attended. Conference evaluations indicate a high level of satisfaction and learning. Clark County MGs presented a video invitation to next year's conference in Vancouver, WA, Sept 23-25<sup>th</sup>. That video and other promotional materials are available for all counties.

**Online MG Training**

The attached Word documents are handouts from Cinde's class on the online training.

If you are one of the 17 counties starting new MG classes in January or February of 2010, please read this!! Some of you have asked about mentors having free access. WSU's Center for Distance Education (CDPE) is not willing to cover the cost of more free accounts to the MG course, BUT they are setting up the county sites 6 weeks prior to the actual start date of the County trainings. That means if your county program starts training on January 1, access to the online courses will be ready in November and your volunteer mentors can register and begin reviewing the course then. (Your other volunteers won't have access until you instruct them on how to register.) Mentors will have to pay for the course unless your office or local foundation is willing to pay for them.

Program Coordinators' access has been paid for by CDPE. If you go to [lms@wsu.edu](mailto:lms@wsu.edu) and can't log in to access the course *How to Use Online Training* or the *MG Online Training* course itself, it may be because you have not logged in before or haven't logged in for over a month. If you are unable to get to the courses, contact Debbie Whitney at [whitneyd@wsu.edu](mailto:whitneyd@wsu.edu).

There are suggestions about how to incorporate the online training into your face to face meeting schedule in *How to Use Online Training*. Also, Cinde Johnson is willing to set up a couple more webinars for you to ask questions and navigate through both courses if you would like. If you want to participate in a webinar about using online training, email me and we will make that happen.

### **Cool Idea of the Month**

From Sharon Collman, Snohomish County: The *MasterGardener Magazine* has become an online publication at the annual subscription rate of \$8. Sharon suggests that the county fee for the MG program include the cost of a subscription to *MasterGardener Magazine* for each volunteer. Quizzes could be developed for articles and successful completion of the quizzes could count for an hour of continuing education. (Like some of you are doing with your own newsletter articles.) By including a subscription to *MasterGardener Magazine* for each MG intern, you are providing them with research-based articles and supporting a good publication.

### **New Resources**

[http://mtvernon.wsu.edu/path\\_team/PhysiologicalLeafRollOfTomato-PNW\\_VEG\\_FactSheet.pdf](http://mtvernon.wsu.edu/path_team/PhysiologicalLeafRollOfTomato-PNW_VEG_FactSheet.pdf)

This is a new fact sheet about a physiological leafroll problem in tomatoes. Members of the PNW Vegetable Extension group received many reports of moderate to severe leaf rolling on tomato plants in home gardens and commercial fields this season.

[www.ampleharvest.org](http://www.ampleharvest.org) Ample Harvest organization puts gardeners in touch with local food banks.

<http://invasives.wsu.edu/defoliators/index.html> Discovering and Exploring Leaf-feeding Insects site, including a lesson plan for teachers. This resource was listed in a prior newsletter, but it's worth repeating.

### **Cluster Meetings**

Please attend whichever one is most convenient for you.

SW Cluster- December 7<sup>th</sup>, 10 am to 1 pm, Chehalis

NW (Puget Sound) Cluster, 10 am to 3 pm, Kitsap Co office (MG portion 10-noon)

Eastern Cluster, TBA, Spokane or WECN

### **Tonie Fitzgerald**

*Master Gardener Program Leader*

WSU Extension at WSU Spokane

Mailing: PO Box 1495, Spokane, WA 99210-1495

Shipping: 412 E Spokane Falls Blvd., Spokane, WA 99202

509-358-7879 fax 509-358-7979

[tjfitz@wsu.edu](mailto:tjfitz@wsu.edu)

<http://mastergardener.wsu.edu>

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