



NEWSLETTER FOR MG PROGRAM COORDINATORS

May/June 2012

June 7th webinar for Program Coordinators: 17A MG Excellence funds.

Webinars for home gardeners and MG Continuing education

Spotted Wing Drosophila update

USABlight program

Rain gardens in high schools

State and National Conference Dates

JUNE 7TH PROGRAM COORDINATORS' WEBINAR

Thursday, June 7, 10-11 AM Linda Bailey, Development officer for WSU Foundation will talk about the WSU MG fund raising campaign and your county MG Excellence Funds (17 A accounts) for local program development. As always, go to breeze.wsu.edu/mg and log in as a **guest**.

WEBINARS TO PROMOTE to MGs

"Scheduling Lawn and Garden Watering on your Smartphone or Web Browser"

Tuesday May 29th at 7:00 PM go to breeze.wsu.edu/rain and log in as a guest. When do I turn the water on? How long do I leave it on? These are simple questions with difficult answers. This webinar will describe how to use a new irrigation scheduling tool that runs equally well on a Smartphone or any web browser to greatly simplify making these decisions in a way that will result in green lawns and healthy gardens, save you work, and most importantly save on your water bill! Speaker: Dr. Troy Peters, WSU Extension Irrigation Specialist. For more information: <http://cahnrnews.wsu.edu/2012/05/07/wsu-provides-precise-irrigation-recommendations-via-online-program/>

"Spotted Wing Drosophila" recorded webinar by Todd Murray, WSU Entomologist and Skamania County Director. Use in a MG class or distribute the url in your county newsletter. It is archived on the MG Program website under pest alerts. <http://mastergardener.wsu.edu/SWD2010.html>

"Western Cherry Fruit Fly" recorded webinar produced last year by Paula Dinius, WSU Chelan County Urban Horticulturist. The URL is <http://breeze.wsu.edu/p52095515/> Now is the appropriate time in most counties for MGs to review.

SPOTTED WING DROSOPHILA UPDATE

Tim Smith reports that new trap catches are showing up in central and eastern Washington communities. This pest is of concern to commercial growers as well as home gardeners. It's likely we will soon have sustained catch in most areas, since the captures range from the far north to the far southeast. You can wait until your region has a positive catch, but you may also consider protecting your cherries as soon as they reach what we suspect is the susceptible stage: FIRST PINK. For management information and to view Todd Murray's new webinar, see resources on the MG program website at <http://mastergardener.wsu.edu/SWD2010.html>

USABLIGHT: A National Project on Late Blight of Tomatoes and Potatoes in the United States.

<http://usablight.org/> is a new national website that will act as an information portal on late blight. You can report disease occurrences, submit a sample online, observe disease occurrence maps, and sign up for text disease alerts. There are also useful links to a decision support system, and information about identification and management of the disease.

PROMOTING ENV. STEWARDSHIP IN HIGH SCHOOLS THROUGH RAIN GARDENS

<http://www.kidsgardening.org/article/promoting-environmental-stewardship-through-rain-gardens>

This detailed account provides step-by-step instructions for designing, installing, and maintaining a rain garden. Additional content provided to use this as a high school activity.

CONFERENCES

2012 WSU MG Advanced-Education Conference

September 13-15, TRAC Center, Pasco, WA

[More](#)

2012 National EMG Coordinators Conference

September 25-27, WSU Spokane, Spokane, WA

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