

# Summary of 2010 State Conference

Dear MG Program Coordinators and Faculty:

The 2010 Advanced Educ. Conference in Vancouver was a great event. . I was very pleased with the sessions I attended and proud of the interactions I heard between volunteers and speakers.

## Here's a quick summary of the meetings that occurred during the conference:

Lunch session with faculty and program coordinators:

- I had a printed copy of the 2011 MG Manual to show. I will provide a color copy of the 640 page book to each county that hosts a MG volunteer program.
- I will establish a topic-based monthly webinar with MG faculty and program coordinators. The first topic will be about using the MG SharePoint site to share information among counties.
- New tools on the MG Program Management Website <http://mastergardener.wsu.edu/> include a new orientation PowerPoint for use in any county, new MOA templates for counties and local MG organizations, a rearranged "tools for program management" page, updated pest management recommendations document, and new dates for November cluster meetings.

## Q and A Session with Dr. Linda Kirk Fox (only answers are summarized here):

Linda opened with a detailed description of the past and expected future budget difficulties and showed with WSU contributes to the MG programs in Washington state. (See attached document.) There is a need for working in partnership with other WSU programs, such as 4-H and FoodSense, as well as community partners to eliminate duplication of efforts and share resources.

It is not only possible, but encouraged to integrate trainings with programs such as Beach Watchers to eliminate duplicated efforts

WSU Extension no longer has county-based expertise in food preservation topics except for a couple local offices. All other Extension offices have the following publication to give to clients: Food Preservation Resources <http://cru84.cahe.wsu.edu/ItemDetail.aspx?ProductID=15380>. It is a 4-page online publication that may be printed free of charge. MG clinics may give this to clients asking about food preservation.

MG volunteers should not be visiting going to people's homes to diagnose plant problems. This activity competes with the private sector businesses that employ arborists and consultants to provide that service. Also, there is a liability factor. Please discuss this with your county director.

The following message was written by Dr. Linda Kirk Fox and sent to District and County Directors. Just want to be sure you see it and pass it along to volunteers if you want.

**From:** Fox, Linda

**Sent:** Saturday, September 25, 2010 10:38 AM

**To:** County Directors ([codirectors@lyris.cahnrs.wsu.edu](mailto:codirectors@lyris.cahnrs.wsu.edu))

**Subject:** Summary of Master Gardeners at Conference in Vancouver, WA

County Directors and District Directors,

This past week and weekend, Sept. 23-25 I attended an excellent WSU Master Gardener Advanced-Education Conference held in Vancouver, WA

<http://www.regonline.com/builder/site/Default.aspx?eventid=807195> and hosted by Clark County MG Foundation. There was excellent attendance with nearly 400 registered participants and many WSU faculty and staff on the program.

Congratulations to the conference planners and to these individuals for their leadership:

Mary Shane, President  
Master Gardener Foundation of Washington State

Wayne Chandler, President  
Master Gardener Foundation of Clark County

Tonie Fitzgerald  
WSU Master Gardener Program Leader

Next year's MG Advanced-Education Conference will be Sept. 22-24, 2011 in Ocean Shores. Early registration, BEFORE Sept. 30, 2010, will save each registrant \$25 and enter them in drawing for savings on lodging! Go to [www.regonline.com/mgfbeach2011](http://www.regonline.com/mgfbeach2011) or contact Claudia Matthew, [mgfbeach2011@gmail.com](mailto:mgfbeach2011@gmail.com)

Congratulations to the awardees who were recognized at the Banquet featuring the speaker Rose Hayden-Smith, University of California Cooperative Extension, Ventura County, CA.

- Mary Shane, Grays Harbor County and President, MG Foundation, WA State  
She received the Ed LaCrosse Distinguished Service Award
- Sarah Jackson, Features Writer, The Daily Herald, Everett, WA and a Master Gardener, Snohomish County.  
She received the MG Foundation Media Award
- Ed LaCrosse, MG King County  
He received the MG of the Year 2010 Award

During the atmosphere of a relaxed boxed lunch on Saturday, I hosted a Q&A for the purposes of hearing and sharing concerns and ideas about the MG Program. One of the issues I was prepared to address was how WSU is dealing with the budgets, and worse case scenarios. I also anticipated the concern that WSU is not investing enough in the MG Program. For that purpose the document attached was made available. I thought you would be interested in knowing the sum total of investment in the program, see attached.

Please feel free to forward this email to MG Coordinators and MG volunteers in your county and express my gratitude for their contribution of time and talents to WSU Extension.

Regards,  
Linda

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WSU Extension programs are available to all without discrimination.

September 20, 2010

**WSU contribution to the Master Gardener Program can be summarized as follows.**

14.7 WSU FTE (5.8 Faculty, 8.9 Staff)

\$627,448 in direct support including the following

- o \$484,583 in State and Federal PBL (Permanent Budget Line) for salaries
- o \$112, 295 from County MOAs (Memorandum of Agreement)
- o \$22,800 from fees (self sustaining)
- o \$7, 500 from grants and contracts through WSU

Other contribution from counties (in-kind) is not included.

Other contribution from administrative salaries (Associate Dean, Assistant Dean, Program Directors, District Directors, Fiscal staff, etc) – probably worth something, but not easy to segregate. Usually considered 26% indirect support from WSU for off-campus non-research programs.

Contribution from publications staff – developing the manual.

Contribution from the WSU Center for Distance and Professional Education (CDPE) – Developing Online Training.

**In summary, WSU invests \$750,000 per year in the WSU Master Gardener Program.**



Linda Kirk Fox  
Associate Dean