



NEWSLETTER FOR MG PROGRAM COORDINATORS

DECEMBER 2014

DECEMBER WEBINAR

Wednesday, December 3, 10am-11am

Go to <http://breeze.wsu.edu/mg> and log in as a guest a few minutes before the meeting. Don't forget to run the Audio Wizard after entering the meeting to test your equipment.

Agenda:

- **Guest Presenter:** Dr. Catherine Daniels (WSU Pesticide Coordinator and Director)
- **Topic:** How to Create and Use QR Codes
- State Report and Future Survey Tools
- Share Point Site
- State List Serve Discussion
- Online Training Registration Instructions and Schedule
- International Master Gardener Search for Excellence

January Webinar - TBD

WEBINAR FOR MGs ON USING THE NEW WSU GARDENING WEBSITE

Please refer you Master Gardeners to the link below for a recording of the presentation "An Introduction to the New WSU Gardening Website."

<http://breeze.wsu.edu/p1q160ehuef/>

It can also be found on the State Program website under "I am a Master Gardener Volunteer." --
<http://mastergardener.wsu.edu/for-master-gardeners/>

You might recommend the MGs start at 12:34 by scrolling the bar at the bottom of the presentation to the right. This will allow them to skip the poll questions that were asked at the beginning and go straight to the presentation.

REGISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS FOR TRAINEES FOR ALL-YEAR TRAINING

Attached are the instructions for trainees to register for the all-year training.

PRESENTATIONS FROM THE 2014 EMG COORDINATORS CONFERENCE AT RUTGERS

The PowerPoint presentations from the 2014 National Extension Master Gardener Coordinator's Conference are now available for you to review at the following site: <http://create.extension.org/node/100078>

Remember that you need an eXtension id and password to log in.

ASOTIN COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS HOST TRIP TO ENGLAND

This is NOT a WSU Sponsored Event. Materials are attached. Questions can be directed to Richard Reid at <mailto:rreid66519@aol.com> or the agent listed on the flier at Travel Map.

UPDATED VOLUNTEER HANDBOOK NOW AVAILABLE (Attached)

The revised Volunteer Handbook is now available. Find it online here: <http://mastergardener.wsu.edu/staff-and-volunteers/handbook/>

GROWING GROCERIES WORKSHOPS (Flier Attached)

The first class kicks off with the key to successful gardening: **Healthy Soil = Healthy Crops**. And who better to present this topic than Dr. Doug Collins, WSU Small Farms Educator. This is a class I have been waiting to hear; Doug is a popular presenter at farm and gardening events. Don't let the word farm throw you off: he lists organic gardening and vermicomposting among his hobbies.

More info about what you will learn: <http://ext100.wsu.edu/snohomish/gg1-healthy-soils-healthy-plants/>

Join us starting October 22, 2014 from 7:00pm – 9:30pm for a series of ten classes on growing your own food.

Location is WSU Snohomish County Extension's Cougar Auditorium and Evergreen Room, 600 128th St SE Everett, WA inside McCollum Park.

2015 STATE MG ADVANCED EDUCATION CONFERENCE (Poster Attached)

Clark County, the hosts of the 2015 conference in Vancouver, has produced a promo video for the conference. They also have set up a Facebook page and conference registration site. To see what's in store for Master Gardeners at next year's conference, please check them out.

Here's the link for the YouTube promo video for the conference.

www.youtube.com/embed/Re9mdKvl-iA?feature=player_embedded

Here's the name of the Facebook page [2015 WSU Master Gardener Advanced-Education Conference](#) Items about speakers, seminars, events and other things will be posted on it on a regular basis.

Questions concerning the conference can be directed to the conference chair, Dean Sutera, dsutera45@msn.com.

INTERNATIONAL EMG CONFERENCE

We are less than a year out for the next International Master Gardener Conference –

As the planning continues I wanted to extend the invitation to you, the other coordinators in your state and all of your Extension Master Gardeners to join Iowa and Nebraska for a fun filled week of workshops, tours, and comradery!

Please help us spread the word by getting our information out to your State EMG Programs –

- [Facebook](#)
- [Website](#)
- [E-Newsletter](#)

We also have promotional items we can provide to give away at any of your EMG events!
Please contact us if you have any questions about the upcoming IMGCC Conference
Thank you for your help in getting the word out!

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STINK BUG WANTED DEAD OR ALIVE POSTER

Stink Bugs Still At Large in Washington State

Adult Stink Bugs are a well-known family easily recognized by shield-like shape, five-segmented antennae, and for producing a most disagreeable odor when provoked. They can come in various shades of green, brown and black. There are a number of species in this family that are known for unwanted feeding and vandalism of plant crops like raspberries, tomatoes, peppers. They may attack and damage ornamental plants en mass.

In 1988, a statewide survey revealed 23 species of stink bug in Washington. In 2014, this number was increased to 47 species including the invasive and dreaded Brown Marmorated Stink Bug (middle image) that was found in a handful of counties. We have reasons to believe more stink bugs exist in Washington State.

If you capture any bug that resembles a stink bug, we desperately need the specimen mailed to us along with information that provides us with where (the town or county or GPS location captured), when (date) and on what host plant they were found on.

Please mail (freeze them for 24 hours and place them in a plastic pill bottle) suspected stink bugs to your local Master Gardener Program or to Mike Bush, Extension Entomologist, 2403 S 18th Street, Suite 100, Union Gap, WA 98903. Digital images sent to bushm@wsu.edu may be acceptable as well.

This Wanted Poster expires December of 2015.

It is posted at <http://ext100.wsu.edu/yakima/invasive-pests/>

WHIDBEY ISLAND GARDEN WORKSHOP 2015

Note from Marcia Nelson (Island County MG)

Just wanted to give you a quick heads up that Saturday, March 7, 2015 – yes, next Spring! – is our all day gardening workshop. LOTS of classes to choose from; a great keynote speaker and subject; shopping...

For anyone coming a distance who will need to stay over, we will be having a special rate with the Best Western on Friday and Saturday nights.

Put a sticky note on your calendar or frig and check it out when registration opens about Valentine's Day!

2015 SEARCH FOR EXCELLENCE NATIONAL RECOGNITION PROGRAM FOR MASTER GARDENERS

Applications are being accepted now through January 1, 2015.

The International Master Gardener Search for Excellence is the recognition program of Master Gardener volunteer work throughout the United States and Canada.

- Search for Excellence has seven categories in which Master Gardeners can demonstrate their outstanding contributions to their communities.
- All SFE applications must show that significant learning took place, whether by the Master Gardeners or the general public they were involved with.

All volunteer projects done by Master Gardeners are significant to their communities, but not all are Search for Excellence projects. The Search for Excellence is designed to recognize outstanding group projects, not an individual who does outstanding work. The IMGCC Search for Excellence Committee oversees the Search for Excellence Winners.

More details [here: http://www.extension.org/pages/29834/international-master-gardener-search-for-excellence#.U62OKU1OWUI](http://www.extension.org/pages/29834/international-master-gardener-search-for-excellence#.U62OKU1OWUI)