



NEWSLETTER FOR MG PROGRAM COORDINATORS

FEBRUARY 2015

## FEBRUARY WEBINAR

**Wednesday, February 4, 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 (found under "Meeting" in the upper left corner of your screen) after entering the meeting to test your equipment. We're going to be discussing ideas for evaluating the impact of the MG Program. Feel free to use your camera/microphone to join in the conversation!

Please be thinking about the following questions.

1. Do you have ideas about how the Master Gardener Program saves clients money?
2. What benefits are there to having a Master Gardener Program in our state?

### **Agenda:**

- Evaluation brainstorming session (see questions above)
- WSU Master Gardener Training Manual updates

March Webinar – TBD

## STATE MG PROGRAM FACEBOOK PAGE AND TWITTER ACCOUNT

Please spread the word to your MGs that the statewide program now has a Facebook page and Twitter account.

They are accessible through the main State MG Program website: <http://mastergardener.wsu.edu/>

The links directly to the sites are:

<https://www.facebook.com/WSUMGProgram>

<https://twitter.com/MGatWSU>

## REGISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS FOR TRAINEES FOR ALL-YEAR TRAINING

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

## **AVIAN INFLUENZA IN WA STATE (Resources Attached)**

In addition to the confirmation of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza that has been detected in Benton and Franklin County Area, there has also been a detection of HPAV in the Port Angeles area of Clallam County and now in Canyon County Idaho. Please refer to information and factsheet sent to this listserv on January 14<sup>th</sup> (attached) for more information on this disease and actions being taken by WSDA and USDA APHIS.

URL Links:

[http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal\\_health/birdbiosecurity/about/downloads.htm](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health/birdbiosecurity/about/downloads.htm)

[http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal\\_health/birdbiosecurity/AI/DownDown](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health/birdbiosecurity/AI/DownDown)

<http://healthybirds.aphis.usda.gov/>

[http://www.aphis.usda.gov/publications/animal\\_health/2014/pub\\_bioguide\\_poultry\\_bird.pdf](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/publications/animal_health/2014/pub_bioguide_poultry_bird.pdf)

From: T. Randel (Randy) Baldree  
Director, Agricultural and Natural Resources Extension Program Unit  
Assistant Director, WSU Extension  
Washington State University College of Agriculture, Human, and Natural Resource Sciences

## **AVIAN INFLUENZA WORKSHOP**

FREE workshop for all poultry owners! Limited space, free registration at [AvianFlu.BrownPaperTickets.com](http://AvianFlu.BrownPaperTickets.com).

Monday, Feb. 5, 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Longhouse at Evergreen State Fairgrounds, 14405 179th Avenue Southeast, Monroe, WA.

Avian Flu is a serious threat in our area; join us for this free workshop to learn what you can do to protect your poultry. This serious disease affects all domestic poultry including chickens, ducks, and turkeys. Learn the steps necessary to keep your flock safe along with early warning signs of the disease, which has already cropped up in three locations around the state of Washington! Special presentations by Dr. Amber Itle & Dr. Paul Kohrs; specialists with the Washington Dept. of Agriculture Animal Health Division will cover information on protecting your flock from wild birds, proper biosecurity protocols, signs and symptoms to look for, and tips for monitoring and reporting any unusual behavior.

Limited space, free registration at [AvianFlu.BrownPaperTickets.com](http://AvianFlu.BrownPaperTickets.com).

Visit the [WSDA website](#) for more information on the disease and its prevention. For more information on the workshop, contact Bobbi Lindemulder, Snohomish Conservation District, (425) 377-

7003, [bobbi@snohomishcd.org](mailto:bobbi@snohomishcd.org)

Sponsored by Snohomish County, Snohomish Conservation District, WSU Snohomish County Extension, and Evergreen State Fairgrounds.

## **THE SAFETY OF USING RAIN BARREL WATER TO IRRIGATE FOOD GARDENS**

This is a great science-based article that would be helpful to Master Gardeners.

<http://daily.sightline.org/2015/01/07/a-green-light-for-using-rain-barrel-water-on-garden-edibles/>

## **GROWING GROCERIES WORKSHOPS (Flier Attached)**

<http://ext100.wsu.edu/snohomish/gg1-healthy-soils-healthy-plants/>

### **Grow Your Own Transplants!**

Buying transplants for your garden can be expensive, and local stores may not have the varieties you want to grow or that will do best in the Maritime NW. Learn how you can save money by growing your own transplants and expand the variety, and season, of vegetables available in your garden.

Join us Wednesday evening February 4, 2015 from 7:00pm – 9:30pm for **Starting from Seed & Growing Transplants**. Fourth in the 2015 Growing Groceries Education series, you'll learn proper seeding, raising, and transplanting techniques. Location is WSU Snohomish County Extension's Cougar Auditorium, 600 128th St SE Everett, WA inside McCollum Park.

Some plants do better started inside and love to be transplanted, others don't like to be coddled and prefer to go straight into the ground. Learn which are which and how you can get a jump on this season's harvest by growing your own. You'll learn proper seeding, raising, and transplanting techniques with Kate Halstead, owner and grower for Soil Sisters Plants & Produce in Monroe. For more than 20 years, Kate has grown her own transplants for sale to growers in the Snoqualmie Valley.

Be prepared to get your hands dirty! We'll practice transplanting tiny seedlings. Everyone will take home at least one transplant!

The WSU Snohomish County Extension Growing Groceries Education Series brings together beginning and experienced gardeners with speakers and topics focused on growing healthy food using sustainable gardening practices. No matter if you have a tiny apartment deck, a small garden space, or plenty of acreage you can grow fresh food in a healthier, more environmentally friendly way.

Developed over the last five years, the program's goal is to increase local access to fresh, healthy food by teaching the latest research-based techniques for growing food. With an overall focus on limited space and limited resources, the Growing Groceries series pairs speakers with topics to teach beginners as well as long time gardeners more about growing food using healthy and sustainable practices.

Because we have a limited number of seedlings available, pre-paid registration for this class is required. Cost is \$25 per person for any class in the series, any five classes for \$100, and all seven remaining classes for \$133. Register online at [GrowingGroceries.BrownPaperTickets.com](http://GrowingGroceries.BrownPaperTickets.com). For more information about all classes in the series or to download a form for mail-in registration, visit [snohomish.wsu.edu/growing-groceries](http://snohomish.wsu.edu/growing-groceries).

### **Upcoming classes in the series:**

**Wednesday evening, 7-9:30pm:** Feb. 18 – Small Fruits, Big Harvests

**Saturday mornings, 9am-noon:** Feb. 28 – Early Start = Early Harvest; Mar. 7 – Good Bugs, Bad Bugs, & Pollinators; Mar. 14 – Weeding and Watering; Mar. 21 – Small Space & Vertical Gardening; Mar. 28 – Growing Heat Lovers in the Chilly NW

For more information on the program, contact Kate Halstead, (425) 357-6024, [khalstead@wsu.edu](mailto:khalstead@wsu.edu) or Sharon Collman, WSU Snohomish County Extension Educator, (425) 357-6025, [collmans@wsu.edu](mailto:collmans@wsu.edu).

## **BLUEBERRY WORKSHOP**

Wednesday, February 11, 2015

WSU Mount Vernon Research Center, Mount Vernon, WA

8:30 am - 4:30 pm \$25 per person Register at: <https://pesticide.givezooks.com/events/2015-wa-blueberry-workshop>

A workshop focused on cultural and biological controls for managing mummy berry, other diseases and spotted wing drosophila in blueberries. And hear an update on a new crop insurance program. Lunch is included in the registration fee.

#### Agenda

8:30 Check-in

9:00 Organic Management of Mummy Berry:

Mummy Berry Overview & Cultural Controls – Jade Florence, Oregon State University and Dalphy Hartevelde, Washington State University

Evaluation of Commercial Products for Mummy Berry Management – Jay Pscheidt, Oregon State University

Organic Grower Perspective: Sanitation, Monitoring & Managing – Jim Meyer, Cascadian Farms

12:10 Lunch

Whole-Farm Revenue Insurance: A New Opportunity for Organic, Specialty Crop and Diverse Farms – Drew Killian, Northwest Farm Credit Service

Other Diseases of Blueberry Discussion – Dalphy Hartevelde, Washington State University and Jay Pscheidt, Oregon State University

Organic Management of Spotted Wing Drosophila (SWD) in Blueberry – Beverly Gerdeman, Washington State University

Weed Management & Mulching – Jade Florence, Oregon State University

4:00 Conclude

## **VARIETY TESTING REPORTS**

WSU Mount Vernon Variety Testing Reports

Date: Monday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2015

Time: 8am-10am

Location: Sakuma Auditorium, WSU Mount Vernon Research Center, 16650 State Route 536

Attendance free of charge, no registration required

*Pastries, coffee and tea will be provided.*

Growers, seed dealers and others are warmly invited to WSU Mount Vernon for a presentation and discussion of the latest results from variety tests of wheat, barley, oats and dry beans. The WSU Mount Vernon Plant Breeding program has been growing variety testing nurseries at multiple locations west of the Cascades to identify varieties suited for the region, and evaluating them for their field performance and grain quality. These trials generate yield, disease resistance and quality data to help farmers and seed dealers choose varieties suited to specific end-uses, production systems or market classes.

We hope in future to hold this meeting on a twice-yearly basis, to help inform choice of spring-sown and fall-sown varieties. The end goal is to increase productivity and quality of small grains and dry beans in Western Washington!

Please bring along your questions and comments. Staff and researchers will be on hand:

Dr. Stephen Jones (Program Director)

Steve Lyon (Senior Scientific Assistant / wheat program)

Brook Brouwer (PhD student / barley and bean programs)  
Louisa Winkler (PhD student / oat program)  
Brigid Meints (PhD student / barley and bean programs)  
Colin Curwen McAdams (PhD student, perennial wheat and forage)  
Bethany Econopouly (PhD student, wheat breeding)  
Jonothan Bethony McDowell (Resident Baker at the Bread Lab)

More information available from Louisa Winkler  
([louisa.winkler@wsu.edu](mailto:louisa.winkler@wsu.edu), 360-848-6129)  
or from <http://plantbreeding.wsu.edu/>.

## **FOR ARCHIVED NATIONAL EXTENSION MASTER GARDENER COORDINATORS WEBINARS**

The EMG online discussion archive can be accessed at: <http://create.extension.org/node/93850>

## **2015 STATE MG ADVANCED EDUCATION CONFERENCE (Poster Attached)**

Please share this information with your Master Gardeners. 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](http://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](mailto: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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