

Clackamas County Chatter September 2024

Chapter Picnic: Saturday September 7 from 5:00 – 7:30

Please join us for this annual potluck picnic. We will supply the sausages, rolls and all the fixings, iced tea or lemonade. Share a side dish, salad or dessert. Activities and live music will make this a family focused fun event. Invite your family and friends. Please bring your own plates and cutlery. Please RSVP so we can plan accordingly. Volunteers are welcome to assist with set up, serving, activities and take down. Snd a message to Priscilla indicating what you are willing to help with. Priscilla Robinson: Cell 925-360-9977. Email pwellsrobinson@aol.com

Fall into Gardening: Saturday, October 12 from 9:00 – 12:00

You are invited to a morning of stimulating gardening classes and demonstrations at our “Fall into Gardening” event. This year’s free event is open to all and takes place from 9 am to noon on Saturday, October 12th at the Milwaukie Center: 5440 SE Kellogg Creek Drive, Milwaukie. <https://ncprd.com/milwaukie-center>

There will be free pH soil testing, a garden questions clinic and educational displays. Classes begin at 9 am, but the doors will open at 8:30 am for early birds to drop off soil samples (4 per customer please) or browsing educational displays before the sessions begin.

Scheduled talks:

- 9:00 – The Joy of Houseplants with Laura Eyer
- 9:45 – Beyond Grass Lawns with Carole Hardy
- 10:30 – De-Bunking Common Garden Myths with Jane Collier

For more details on each session check our webpage: <https://clackamascountymastergardeners.org/fall-into-gardening/> Master Gardeners: Each session counts as one hour continuing education. Plan now to attend!! If you are available to volunteer for please contact [Sandi Hartley](#) or [Amelia Wilbur](#). And your time will count for partner hours.



We hosted Dr. Leslie Madsen – Statewide Master Gardener Program Manager in August

Dr. Madsen, Leslie, was invited to tour two of our chapter projects on August 6; *Grow an Extra Row (GAER)* and *End of the Oregon Trail Pioneer Garden*. After a brief introduction of volunteers at GAER we showed her the garden and explained the history and mission of the project. The task list for the day included harvesting, pest control, and weeding. And Leslie enthusiastically pitched in! At the EOT garden she learned about the history of the Interpretive Center, and the multi-level mission of the project – demonstration garden, children’s education, and the historical component.

“As a lifelong learner and avid gardener, I'm thrilled to find myself managing the Master Gardener Program. I enjoy working with - and am learning so much from - Master Gardener volunteers and county program coordinators. My work as statewide manager of the OSU Extension Master Gardener Program builds on my extensive expertise and experience in formal and informal learning environments.” madsenle@oregonstate.edu



Please welcome our metro area Master Gardener™ Program leader Srijana Shrestha.

Srijana Shrestha, Assistant Professor of Practice, has started her position leading our OSU Extension Service metro area Master Gardener Program. Her position serves the whole metro region, which includes Clackamas, Multnomah and Washington counties. Her office will be based in Washington County.

Srijana comes to us from Washington State University with a master’s degree in horticulture and a Bachelor of Agricultural Sciences. She is currently working on her Ph.D. in horticulture from Washington State University.

Srijana has a broad range of experience in nursery production, vegetable crop production, plant propagation, diversity-equity-inclusion work, and volunteer management. Additionally, Srijana has knowledge and experience in berry production, weed science, irrigation and nutrient management, climate change, integrated pest management and soil-biodegradable plastic mulches. srijana.shrestha@oregonstate.edu. Read more about Srijana – [Welcome article from the February Metro newsletter](#)

2024 Open Gardens in review

Mary Nietupski, Harry Landers and Nancy Cutler opened their gardens for us this year.

Mary’s garden is small and packed with vegetables. She makes good use of her small space and loves to eat out of the garden’s bounty of fresh produce. Freezing and making sauces are another favorite. Spots of color with flowers make this small space bright and cheerful. This garden is proof you can do lots with a tiny space!

Harry’s garden is charming and tropical. You enter through a rose covered arbor into this garden paradise. As you wander through, you’ll take in all the varieties of tropicals and succulents, with lilies and roses punctuated throughout. The pond houses Koi and frogs and is dotted with saracenas, waterlilies, and various aquatic plants. Harry has created this lush look by subscribing to the “see no dirt” style which he’s accomplished beautifully.



Nancy’s garden is a mixture of clipped hedges and loose perennials. There is a greenhouse with succulents and cacti, and a mosaic courtyard with raised beds and fountains. She has also created a metal art garden full of whimsy and lots of blue and purple!

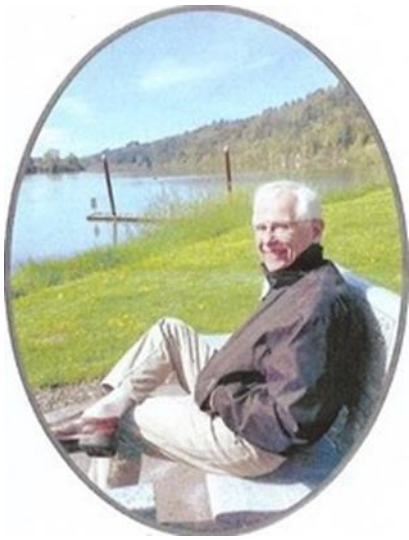
It’s always fun to tour and get to know each other and get inspired and learn from one another. Every gardener has different ideas and experiences, and puts their own personal style on display through opening their gardens. All our gardens are a work in progress. Hopefully we’ll see some more next season!

<https://clackamascountymastergardeners.org/opengardens/>

We say goodbye to a long time Master Gardener

We are sad to learn that our friend and fellow Master Gardener Mike Matern passed away on August 13th at the age of 89. Mike spent his career as a clinical social worker and was the longtime Oregon director of the Casey Family Foundation.

Mike and his wife Cathy took the Master Gardener course in 2001. Mike and Cathy enjoyed volunteering at the Washington Park Rose Garden and headed our soil testing committee for many years. Mike and Kathy received the Green Glove award in 2008 for their service to the chapter. He was a very important part of the program and those of us who were lucky enough to work with Mike remember him fondly. We extend our condolences to Kathy and their family. He was truly a “Master” Master Gardener and will be missed. To honor Mike, the Matern family would like donations made to an animal rescue or society of your choice. The Clackamas County Master Gardeners have donated to the Clackamas County Dog Services. Sympathy cards can be mailed to the family of Mike Matern at: 1928 Aztec Ct. West Linn, Ore. 97068



10-Minute University News

Check out their page for recertification resources and other relevant gardening information for yourself, and for friends and family. New: [2024 Summer in the Garden series](#). Research based articles authored by Master Gardener experts focusing on creating your best garden. You will also find [2024 Let's Grow Together! Video Links](#) - Video recordings from the Let's Grow Together series earlier in the year. Remember the videos will count for your annual recertification hours.



Spring Garden Fair Planning Begins



Planning begins for our annual fundraiser this month. Our first meeting will be on Tuesday, September 10 at the Extension office Annex. All are welcome to the meetings, and if you are interested in joining our team, please contact Cindy Manselle. And of course, save the date for our 2025 Fair – Saturday and Sunday, May 3 & 4.
<https://springgardenfair.org/committee/>



Chapter Calendar

**All lectures are approved for one hour continuing education credit*

- **September 7** **Saturday at 5:00 ** Chapter Picnic, Milwaukie Center *Family members welcome*
- **October 12** – [Fall into Gardening](#) Milwaukie Center, Milwaukie Oregon
- **October 14** – [Lecture Series](#): Success with Planting Garlic, *Chip Bubl*
- **November 12** **Tuesday** – [Lecture Series](#): Characteristics and Natural History of Conifers in the Pine Family (Pinaceae), *Elizabeth Price*
- **December 9** – [Lecture Series](#): Native plants in the Home Garden, *Eric Butler*

You will find more information about each event by clicking the blue highlighted links above.

Chapter Housekeeping

➤ **Clackamas County Master Gardener Assoc. is on Facebook!** If you Facebook please give us a like and follow. <https://www.facebook.com/ClackamasCountyMasterGardeners> Send us a FB message if you have any content suggestions 😊

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