



Clackamas County Chatter March 2025

Chapter Meeting Monday, March 10, 2025 at 7 p.m. • Milwaukie Center, 5440 SE Kellogg Creek Dr. Milwaukie
Meet & Greet begins at 6:30 with refreshments. The program will start at 7:00.

Helpful, Hungry Bats! presented by Rick Reynolds*



Every night our furry, flying friends – bats – can eat up to their body weight in insects. Learn about these fantastic creatures and ways they can catch so many dangerous mosquitoes, crop-eating moths, and other flying insects in the dark. Explore different types of bats, their amazing adaptations, and the important roles they play in Oregon and around the world in this multimedia presentation with bat artifacts and hands-on activities. Discover ways to help them with bat-friendly habitats, bat boxes, and more! Presented in partnership with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and Clackamas County Vector Control. Click [here](#) for more information: [Lecture Series](#)

Rick Reynolds has been a passionate educator for 30 years. He creates educational resources with partners such as the National Park Service, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Clackamas County Vector Control, and NOAA through Engaging Every Student, the organization he founded in 2009 with the mission to help make the learning process more compelling and meaningful. A certified teacher who has taught in elementary, middle, and high schools, Rick is a past chair of the Board of the Environmental Education Association of Oregon (EEAO). You can learn more about him and see sample projects [here](#).

*Eligible for continuing education credit

Chapter Announcements

- 2025 Members Directory is Printed & Ready for Pick-up Those who paid their 2025 dues may pick up at chapter meetings or it can be mailed for a fee. *A big thanks to all who are involved in compiling, editing and formatting this year's edition.* The [2025 Chapter Handbook](#) is also available online. These publications are key components to keep our members informed. "Big Shout Outs" to Sharon Andrews and Frank Willie for their efforts.
- Spring Garden Fair Volunteer sign-ups are live. Check out the [Volunteers Page](#) for more info.
 - 🐞 We are also collecting donations for the Garden Fair Raffle - Marianne Kahl will be at the March and April chapter meetings to make it easy for you
 - 🐞 Take a look at our Spring Garden Fair pages on Facebook and help us get the word out by sharing! [Facebook page](#) [Facebook Group](#)
 - 🐞 Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, March 19, at 7pm at the Extension office Annex. All chapter members are invited to attend
- Native Plant Sale @CCC March 22, 8:00 - 3:30: Held in conjunction with Tree School at Randall Hall Clackamas Community College. Proceeds support ongoing improvements to the native plant garden at Hopkins Demonstration Forest.
- Seed and Tool Donations: Thank you to all that made donations - Seed to Supper Committee has so much gratitude for our CCMGA Members! Your generosity exceeded our expectations - many new and used tools were contributed that will go to good use this summer for the many families and participants. Volunteers are still needed to help during sessions – please email ccmgs2s@gmail.com
- Sara Hite Rose Garden – Passion Project Join Harry Landers and Friends



- 🐞 Pruning, deadheading and weeding throughout the growing season. Bring your loppers, hand pruners, heavy duty gloves. Dress for the weather, bring a water bottle. Beverages and treats served. Watch your email for workday information
- 🐞 The Sara Hite Rose Garden is adjacent to the Milwaukie Community Center, 5440 SE Kellogg Creek Drive, Milwaukie, OR 97222
- 🐞 *Learning opportunities, community service and fellowship with members. NO Service Hours offered*

Green Glove Award

February's Honoree – Michelle Morley

Let's put a name to a very familiar face: Michelle Morely entered our Clackamas Chapter as an intern from the class of 2024. She was "all-in"! She volunteered on a variety of our CCMGA projects to test the waters. And in 2025 she volunteered for even more activities - namely hosting duties at the chapter meetings, and being part of the Spring Garden Fair vendor sales team. She is also a back-up lead for the Pioneer Garden kitchen garden, and growing starts for the 2025 season. She brings a lot of energy and new ideas to our Clackamas Chapter. The Executive Board is proud to honor Michelle this month!



Open Gardens



Opening your garden is an opportunity to share and enjoy horticulture with others. Regardless of the size of your garden, it is about the joy of sharing.

Sharing your garden encourages others with new ideas and provides support through challenges and failures.

It is a continuous learning

experience where we can reinforce each other's experiments, inspire new endeavors, adapt existing elements, or gain fresh perspectives on our current spaces.

Gardens exhibit a diverse range of styles and interests, embodying the ever-evolving nature of gardening. Gardening is an ongoing process, not a competition-there are no judges involved.

It centers on the joy and connection to nature. The best outcome is meeting new people and forging new friendships. If you are hesitant about opening your garden, rest assured that every garden enthusiast finds it invaluable and delightful.

Tips for planning your Open Garden:

- Choose a day or date when your garden looks its best.
- Set reasonable visiting hours (10 AM - 4 PM or 11 AM - 5 PM).
- Place clear signage at the front to direct visitors
- Ensure hoses and other obstacles are rolled up for safety.
- Plant tags are optional.
- Refreshments are optional.
- Include pictures documenting the garden's progress if available.
- Relax, wear comfortable attire.
- Be prepared to discuss your garden.
- Remember: perfection is not required.

For further assistance, please contact Nancy Cutler, who will help you get started.



Note from the Desk of Priscilla Robinson

March is an exciting time of the year! We sit on the edge of great things to emerge from wintry hibernation. The Project Chairs have been nurturing ideas and working with committee members to provide strong foundations and paths for 2025.

The CCMGA Projects: Spring Garden Fair, Public Education, Community Service and Chapter Operations are impressive for a volunteer led organization. Our members engage in many good works that impact Master Gardeners, home gardeners and families near and far. I am so thankful for the leaders' expertise and confidence in making decisions that guide our chapter. If you are looking to join a committee or project look no further than our 2025 Chapter Directory pages 2, 3, and 4 at the many opportunities. Committee Liaisons are a wealth of information.

The CCMGA projects and committees have been carefully crafted and cultivated. The depth of our program impresses. Our chapter is aligned to our parent organization's guiding principles of Mission and Vision, as noted below from the OSU Extension website.

Mission

Cultivating resilient and healthy communities throughout Oregon through sustainable horticulture education and gardening projects that are rooted in science and that are supported by OSU Extension volunteers.

Vision

We provide accessible and equitable education programs that nurture life-long learners and volunteers who can expand the reach and impact of science-based sustainable gardening practices to benefit all Oregonians.

Priscilla

GARDEN *Discovery Day*

A FREE COMMUNITY EVENT BY CLACKAMAS COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS

March 15, 2025 • 9am to noon • Doors Open at 8:30

Milwaukie Center 5440 SE Kellogg Creek Drive in Milwaukie Info <https://cmastergardeners.org/garden-discovery-day/>

- **9:00: Fruit Tree Pruning - What You Must Know:**
Learn how to prune fruit trees for health, production and easy access.
- **10:00: Care and Sharpening of Garden Tools:**
Extend the life of your tools with maintenance and sharpening.
- **11:00: Growing Blueberries:** Learn about varieties, care, soils, planting techniques, and pruning.
- **Free Soil Testing (9:00 – noon):** *For step-by-step instructions* [click here](#). Limit of up to 4 samples per client please.
- **Let's talk Plants (8:30 – noon):** Master Gardeners will be on hand and eager to talk all things plants, pests and insects.
- **Educational Displays:** Three dimensional displays covering timely garden subjects.

This Month's Webinars

Presented by 10-Minute University™



- **March 5 at noon:** Creating a Pollinator Garden taught by Cheryl Borden
- **March 12 at noon:** Tips for Growing Vegetables and Berries taught by Jane Collier
- **March 19 at noon:** Tips for Growing Tomatoes taught by Priscilla Robinson
- **March 26 at noon:** Plant Superheroes taught by Cheryl Borden and Sherry Sheng

*All webinars approved for continuing education credit

[Click here for more information and links to register for each class](#)

Coming in March

- **March 10 – Lecture Series:** Helpful Hungry Bats! Presented by Rick Reynolds
- **March 15 – Garden Discovery Day 9:00 to noon at Milwaukie Center**
- **March 19 – Spring Garden Fair** meeting 7:00 at the Extension Annex. *All chapter members are welcome.*
- **March 25 - Executive Board Meeting,** Extension Annex, 2:00pm *Meetings are open to anyone wishing to attend.*

[Click here for the complete 2025 calendar](#) *subject to change

President: Priscilla Robinson • Vice President: Jane Collier • Secretary: Judy Fulton • Treasurer: Paul Baker

Assistant Treasurer: Rhonda Frick-Wright • Advisors: Wendy Wilson, Kelly Welch, Amelia Wilbur • Newsletter: Laura Eyer