



Clackamas County Chatter June 2025

Chapter Meeting Monday, June 9, 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.

Flower Flies in Portland and Corvallis Urban Gardens *presented by Nina Miller**



This fascinating family of insects also known as hover flies or syrphid flies serves as pollinators as adults, and some predate on pest insects as larvae, making them valuable insects in a garden system. With 30 gardens in Corvallis and Portland, Oregon, Nina has identified floral associates and defined ways to attract these pollinators into your garden.

Nina Miller has B.S. in Botany and Entomology and is currently a master's student fellow pursuing a degree in Horticulture and

Entomology at Oregon State University. She is merging her two fascinations of plants and insects into a research project with the Garden Ecology Lab, led by Dr. Gail Langellotto. She recently presented at the 2024 Dipterist Society meeting, and is a co-author in two papers that will be published within the next year. <https://blogs.oregonstate.edu/gardenecologylab/author/millennin/> Click here for more information: [Lecture Series](#)

**Elegible for continuing education credit*

Chapter Announcements

- **June Chapter Meeting:** There will be a special ballot vote to appropriate funds for Soil Testing and Grow an Extra Row. Please plan to attend.
- **Sara Hite Rose Garden Rose Pruning** Thursday, June 12, 9am to noon – Come chat, prune, weed and tend the roses. Please bring your pruners, heavy duty gloves, a bucket, small rake, sun protection and personal water bottle. [Contact Priscilla if you plan to help for more details.](#) This ongoing venture will usually be on the 2nd Thursday of the month during the growing season. **Passion Project Opportunity (sorry no hours) Check out their website for more information about the garden.* <https://ncprd.com/parks/sara-hite-memorial-rose-garden>
- **Joy of Gardening:** July 11 & 12 [Registration is now open < Early bird registration runs through June 15 > just \\$80/ two days!](#) The event will be located at the OSU Alumni Center in Corvallis. [Joy of Gardening website](#)
- **Open Gardens –** [Oak Grove Garden Club](#), a recipient of a Community Grant in 2024 will open [Risley Landing Gardens](#) on July 27 from 1-4. There is more info in the article on page 3. Watch your email for more details as the time approaches [Contact Nancy Cutler](#) and see our website for more information about this fun chapter activity > [Open Gardens](#)
- **International Master Gardener Conference:** August 25-28, 2025.
 - 🐛 Location: Online – join from anywhere in the world!
 - 🐛 Early Bird Registration Rate: \$185. Register here: <https://www.imgc2025.com/registration/>
 - 🐛 <https://www.imgc2025.com/> for more information.
- **Chapter Donation:** The Executive Board is happy to announce that two new computers with enhanced monitors have been purchased and installed at the Oregon City, Extension office by our Clackamas chapter. This new technology will better serve the needs of our volunteers, while they research and communicate with our community. Special thanks to Srijana Shrestha and Marcia McIntyre for facilitating this purchase and installation
- **Chapter Housekeeping:** *Where will you make a difference this summer?* Click the links for more detailed information and join us at these chapter sponsored projects:
 - [Grow an Extra Row:](#) Workdays on Tuesdays & Fridays
 - [End of the Oregon Trail Pioneer Garden:](#) Workdays every other Wednesday
 - [Native Plant Garden at Hopkins Demonstration Forest:](#) Workday on the third Monday of the month
 - [Gray & Norreene Thompson Community Projects Grants:](#) Helping provide seed money for projects in the community. Check out their page for information about past grants, and to learn how to apply for funding.
- **Help Wanted:** The following committees are in need of help. Please contact Priscilla Robinson or any board member with your questions: Treasurer • Back-up Secretary • Audio Visual Tech Assistant • Soil Testing Lead • Burlap Bag coordinator* see article on page 3 for more information.

Green Glove Award

The May Award went to Carol Holt

Our chapter recognizes Carol Holt, class of 2024 for jumping right in during her first year as a Master Gardener. She volunteered at many chapter projects last year: End of the Oregon Trail, Grow an Extra Row, Farmers Markets, and Spring Garden Fair (plant check!) For 2025 Carol is focusing on work at GAER and Spring Fair. You may see her at chapter meetings too, greeting folks at the door and drawing door prizes after the meetings. She says she has enjoyed every minute of her time as a volunteer. Carol, we are looking forward to working with you in the coming seasons!



Spring Garden Fair

It's a Wrap!

Our community and the many fair goers were treated to a 1st class Spring Garden Fair in 2025. We had perfect weather, 125 + vendors and over 6800 attendees. Plant check handled over 1000 clients; Soil Testing had over 400 samples (which they accomplished with only one working machine). And Raffle had record breaking income this time around. None of this could happen without the hardworking committee members led by Cindy Manselle, so let's recognize all the work that went on behind the scenes months prior to plan and publicize the event. And of course we couldn't do it without you, our volunteers! In all 198 of you showed up and worked a total of 292 shifts. Thank you all for your efforts to set up, run events, assist vendors, teach classes, answer questions, provide snacks, coordinate support staff and finally take down/clean up.



Clackamas Master Gardeners Nursery Tour and Social Event

- **Date:** June 16, 2025
- **Time:** 5:00pm - 7:00pm
- **Location:** Hydrangeas Plus
6543 S. Zimmerman Rd.
Aurora 97002

We are excited to invite you to a fun-filled evening at Hydrangeas Plus! We will explore the stunning display garden, featuring over a hundred varieties of hydrangeas that will take your breath away. This is a wonderful opportunity for Master Gardeners to connect, share experiences, purchase hydrangeas, and enjoy some delicious food and refreshing drinks in a beautiful garden setting.

Don't miss this chance to immerse yourself in the beauty of hydrangeas and mingle with fellow gardening enthusiasts! RSVPs are due on June 1st for pre-planning.

For more information or questions please contact Wendy Wilson wendydlwilson@gmail.com We look forward to seeing you there!



Open Gardens

Risley Landing Gardens – July 27 from 1-4pm.

Across the Willamette River from Marylhurst lies the 1.12-acre historic Risley Landing Gardens, surrounded by towering oaks. Restored by the Oak Grove Garden Club, which received a [Gray and Noreen Thompson Community Grant](#) in 2024 from the chapter, the garden has flourished with blooming sun and shade plants since its donation in 1978. The tranquil setting and river view make it popular for many kinds of events. The gardens are maintained by 54 club members. To learn more about Risley Landing Gardens and its history please visit www.oakgrovegardenclub.com. Join us on on July 27th from 1-4pm to explore this charming garden;6195 SE River Forest Pl, Milwaukie, OR 97267. For more information contact Nancy Cutler <mailto:cutler.nancyjean@gmail.com>



Note from the Desk of Priscilla Robinson

The 2025 Spring Garden Fair is in the books as one of our most successful. Cindy Manselle, first year SGF Chair, put together a winning team of leaders who created a structure that withstood stresses and unpredictable circumstances. I have so much appreciation and gratitude for our chapter's commitment to produce a successful Spring Garden Fair.

Are you ready to make a difference? There are so many Master Gardener volunteer opportunities to suit your schedule and interest. Look for announcements from Extension requesting help, sign up for Farmers' Markets and Hands on workshops offering program hours for MG's with current certification.

Chapter sponsored activities don't require signing up-just showing up! Make a new friend and earn your partner hours. We hope to see you at Grow an Extra Row, the Pioneer Garden, or the Native Plant Garden at Hopkins Demonstration Forest. Please keep in mind wherever you find yourself helping out or volunteering for an event to approach the public and your fellow Master Gardeners with respect and kindness. Keep it professional. Let's prevent misunderstandings. If there are issues or something is questionable, please check in with the program lead and allow them to do their job.

With much appreciation and admiration,
Priscilla Robinson CCMG President

Happening in June

- ❖ **June 9 – [Lecture Series](#):** Flower Flies in Portland and Corvallis Urban Gardens presented by Nina Miller. *Plan to attend June Chapter meeting. There will be a special ballot vote to appropriate funds for Soil Testing and Grow an Extra Row.*
- ❖ **June 16 –** Nursery Tour and Social Event at Hydrangeas Plus. *See article on page two.*
- ❖ **June 24 -** 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

Details regarding the Burlap Bag coordinator position:

A Master Gardener with a pickup truck is needed to take over burlap coffee sack distribution project! For many years, members gardens have benefitted from Kroger Bakery's donated burlap coffee sacks as a way to keep weeds and mud at bay in their gardens. Meredith Hilderbrand, the most recent "Bag Lady" is ready to hand the project over as she will be traveling and will no longer be in town to pick up, store, and distribute the burlap. Kroger has made it clear that they would like to continue with the current plan of action but will dispose of the sacks if no one assumes the project.

The sacks, which are available at the bakery in Clackamas (16253 SE 122nd Ave., Clackamas, OR) are put loose in a rolling bin approximately once a week adjacent to the plant's employee parking lot. The number of sacks varies, but is generally between 70 and 90 per week. Sometimes there are also poly bags filled with coffee chaff which can be used as garden mulch. A pickup truck with an open bed is the most efficient way to transport the sacks as they are loose and shed fiber which is not fun to breathe. Anyone who is interested should feel free to call or text Meredith: 503.970.8493 for more detailed information.

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