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# THE DIRT SHEET

A PUBLICATION OF THE WASCO COUNTY MASTER GARDENER™ ASSOCIATION





A photograph of a field of yellow wildflowers, likely penstemon, with green grass and dry leaves in the background. The flowers are in various stages of bloom, with some showing bright yellow petals and others as buds. The background is slightly blurred, emphasizing the flowers in the foreground.

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# President's Corner

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Greetings, gardeners!

Spring has sprung and summer is officially right around the corner. We hope your home gardens are coming along nicely; the weather sure has been helpful lately! Ronnie, our current President, is out of town on a nice long vacation so Kendal and I are stepping in to give you a brief overview on the current happenings. Welcome to the busiest and hopefully most fulfilling time as a Master Gardener!

First off, we need to all applaud the major work of our Greenhouse and Spring Fair Crew! If you couldn't make it to the plant sale, all the plants looked amazing, and the people coming to purchase were incredibly impressed. By noon, most of the plants were gone- plans have already begun to make sure we have an additional amount of certain high-demand plants next spring. Everyone worked so hard, not only to grow the plants but to truck them over from the greenhouse, set them up, and help the general community understand what they were buying. It created a warm and inviting atmosphere for plant lovers big and small. We had a very productive, well attended, post-sale meeting on May 30th, many successes and new ideas were shared. There will be many ways in which to help for next year so be on the lookout for more info soon!

Now that our main fundraising event of the year has passed, we look forward to our "Mornings at the DIG". This community favorite class series will begin on Saturday, June 3 at 9 am, and continue each Saturday through August. Laura and Dana will be starting us off by talking about container gardening. We always need extra help with set-up and clean-up, plus it's a wonderful place to gather as Master Gardeners. We hope to see you there!

Farmers Markets will begin soon, with The Dalles Market beginning on June 3rd. This year we will be at The Dalles Market every other week, and then Sherman County, and Tygh Valley the second and fourth weekends of July, August, and September. We also had two clinics at Home Depot in May and have our regularly scheduled Tuesdays from 2-4 pm at the Plant Clinic office. Please see the calendar on the blog site to sign-up for times to help. Questions are starting to pick up with the nice weather!

The rose garden is looking great after our winter class, and bi-weekly work parties. These Tuesday evening get-togethers have completed more pruning, fertilizing, and raked the bark mulch to clean the garden up. They will continue to meet at 5 pm every other Tuesday! Stop by and take a look, the blooms are beautiful!

**Hilary Jensen & Kendal Johnson**



## Board Position Spotlight

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In the fall we will hold elections for the next term of board membership which will start on November 1, 2023 and end October 31, 2024. The term of office for board members shall be one year with the exception of Treasurer which will be a two-year term. A board member may be reelected without limitation. We would love to have some newer members join our board and feel it is important for everyone to know and understand the duties of each position. The three following positions start at President-elect and end at Past President. By becoming President-elect, you will filter through all of these positions over a three-year period.

1. President-elect: This position is currently held by Hilary Jensen who has been a Master Gardener since 2019. According to our by-laws, "The President-elect shall preside at WCMGA meetings in the absence of the President, and shall assume the office of President in the event that the President should be unable to perform the duties of the office. The President-elect will assume the office of the President at the expiration of the current President's term." In addition to this, the President-elect is a part of the Executive Committee, will be present at monthly board meetings, and is also a member of the Audit Committee. The President-elect will maintain regular contact with the current President throughout the term year to help aid in a seamless transition on November 1.
2. WCMGA President: This position is currently held by Ronnie Smith who has been a Master Gardener since 2004. According to our by-laws "The President shall preside at regular and special WCMGA meetings and shall have the authority to appoint such committee chairs and members as necessary." In addition to this, the President will also make a short welcome speech at the new member meet-and-greet as well as at the first class. The President, in conjunction with the Master Gardener Coordinator, will provide an agenda for each monthly board meeting and help approve or deny proposals with a majority vote from the Executive Committee (current board members plus past President) as long as a quorum is present. The President is also a member of the Audit Committee and will conduct an annual audit of the Treasurer's Report each February along with the President Elect, Treasurer, and one other member to be appointed by the Executive Committee. The President will be responsible for keeping the President-elect apprised of all current happenings to help aid in a seamless transition on November 1.
3. Past President: This position is currently held by Bill Merick who has been a Master Gardener since 2004. The Past President served the previous year as the President of the WCMGA Board, is a current member of the Executive Committee and will attend monthly board meetings. The Past President will serve as a support for the current President should questions about processes or procedures from the previous year arise.



# WCMG BOARD MEETING MAY 16, 2023

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Meeting called to order by Kendal Johnson at 5:10 P.M.  
Members in attendance:

Kendal Johnson	Hilary Jensen	Bill Marick	Robin Ross
Jean Zylka	Tammie Oakes	Nancy Lingo	
Peggy Peterson	Paulann Knight	Ashley Johnson	

Copies of the minutes from the April 18th board meeting were circulated for review. All approved.  
Treasurer's Report- Jean Zylka  
Jean reported on the figures generated by the Plant Sale and Spring Fair held on May 13th. All approved.

## Extension Report-Kendal Johnson

Plant Clinics:

Home Depot on Saturdays from 10 until 1 p.m. Sherman County at Grass Valley: once in July and once in August	Tygh Valley: once a month The Dalles: twice a month There will be seeds to give away at the clinics.
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We need to interest/recruit more members to attend the clinics. A discussion ensued about advertising for the clinics. Suggested having a laminated sheet at locations that sell plants directing them to the clinics with their plant/garden-ing questions.

Post Plant Sale and Greenhouse Meeting will be scheduled for a weekday evening.

Discussion about creating committees for MG projects in an effort to incorporate new members and utilize their skills and talents. There is an urgency to retain and include new members.

Kendal talked about getting our own greenhouse for Master Gardeners. He has a site in mind. Master Gardener/OSU Extension would have to go before the Park Committee.

Liability waivers need to be signed by people who are not master gardeners participating in activities at The DIG. Forms will be available at The DIG.

## New Business

Master Gardener of the Year: Proposed changes to selecting the master gardener of the year: a vote to be taken at the end of year party and submitted to OSU the following May. Thought to be more helpful to new members.

Scholarship: Cindy Russell will attend this year.

Mini College Raffle: Kendal will inquire about the "Mandatory" donation request for \$250 or item of like value.

Board Member Recruitment and Advertising: Discussion of other ways to recruit new members and to make the gen-eral public aware of our existence, activities and projects: newsletter, emails, Facebook, Instagram. A summary of the board meeting minutes will be placed in the monthly newsletter.

Decided that each month, a board position would be featured in the newsletter in an attempt to generate higher levels of interest and participation.

Saturday Mornings at The DIG begin June 3rd. There will be no porta-potty this year. Parking is still under debate. Still Needed at The DIG:

Volunteers to set up, meet and greet speakers and attendees for Saturday morning classes.

Work parties.  
15 more yards of bark mulch  
Stump grinder



JUNE

17

A Master Gardener Social  
for the Summer Solstice!

See the Solstice Cairns  
and picnic with friends.



## PICNIC ON THE PLATEAU

Join fellow Master Gardeners for a Picnic on the Plateau June 17, 5-8 pm. A meat main will be provided, bring something to share, your own beverages and a chair if possible. Family members are welcome.

Location: Jean and Robin's house. From The Dalles come west on Hwy 30 past the Tom McCall overlook about one mile. Shortly after Canyon Way Road as you go up a rise there is a small gravel drive on the right. Look for an orange cone. Turn there and stay left of the big barn for one mile to our home.

RSVP by June 14: [jeanzylka@gmail.com](mailto:jeanzylka@gmail.com) or 262-524-0145



# 2023 Garden Tour and Spring Plant Sale Photos





# Upcoming Webinars from OSU Extension

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Jun 6, 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm PDT Online

[How could you not grow garlic? \\* \\*](#)

Jun 13, 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm PDT Online

[The Bees' Needs: Make Your Backyard a Sweet Spot](#)



\* \* This is approved for one hour of MG education credit.







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## Lamb Chops with Cherry Glaze

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### Glaze:

- 1 cup cherries**
- 3/4 cup bone broth**
- 2 tsp. apple cider vinegar**
- 2 tsp. honey**
- 1 Tbs. tapioca starch**

### Lamb:

- 4 (1/2-inch-thick) lamb chops**
- 2 Tbs. avocado oil**
- 2 Tbs. fresh rosemary leaves**
- 1 tsp. minced garlic**
- 1/2 tsp. fine sea salt**
- 1/2 tsp. freshly ground black pepper**

### 1. To make the glaze:

- 2. In a saucepan at medium-high heat, combine the cherries, 1/2 cup bone broth, apple cider vinegar, and honey.
- 3. Bring to a boil, and then lower the heat to a simmer for 8 minutes, stirring occasionally.
- 4. In a separate bowl, add 1/4 cup bone broth and tapioca starch. Whisk together. Once combined, pour into saucepan and stir until sauce thickens.

### 5. To make the lamb chops:

- 6. Turn the oven to broil. Brush the avocado oil on the chops.
- 7. Combine seasonings and press evenly onto chops. Place chops in a baking dish and broil for 5 to 6 minutes on each side.
- 8. Transfer lamb to a plate and let rest for 5 minutes. Top with cherry glaze and serve.





# June

## 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3 Mornings at The Dig! 9am ---- Plant Clinic 9am-1pm TD Farmers Market
4	5	6 Plant Clinic 2-4pm	7 The Dig Work Party 7-9pm	8	9	10 Mornings at The Dig! 9am
11	12	13 Plant Clinic 2-4pm	14 The Dig Work Party 7-9pm	15	16	17 Mornings at The Dig! 9am ---- Plant Clinic 9am-1pm TD Farmers Mark
18	19	20 Plant Clinic 2-4pm	21 The Dig Work Party 7-9pm	22	23	24 Mornings at The Dig! 9am
25	26	27 Plant Clinic 2-4pm	28 The Dig Work Party 7-9pm	29	30	



# June Garden Calendar

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Produced by OSU Extension, each month provides reminders of key garden chores, such as fertilizing, pest control, planting and maintenance.

The Oregon State University Extension Service encourages sustainable gardening practices. Preventive pest management is emphasized over reactive pest control. Identify and monitor problems before acting and opt for the least toxic approach that will remedy the problem. The conservation of biological control agents (predators, parasitoids) should be favored over chemical controls.

## Planning

- Construct trellises for tomatoes, cucumbers, pole beans and vines.

## Maintenance and cleanup

- Prune lilacs, forsythia, rhododendrons and azaleas after bloom.
- Fertilize vegetable garden one month after plants emerge by applying a side dressing alongside rows.
- Harvest thinnings from new plantings of lettuce, onion and chard.
- Pick ripe strawberries regularly to avoid fruit-rotting diseases.
- Use organic mulches to conserve soil moisture in ornamental beds. An inch or two of sawdust, bark dust or composted leaves will minimize loss of water through evaporation.
- After normal fruit drop of apples, pears and peaches in June, consider thinning the remainder to produce a crop of larger fruit.
- Make sure raised beds receive enough water for plants to avoid drought stress.
- Mid-June: If green lawns are being maintained through the summer, apply 1 pound nitrogen per 1,000 square feet to lawns.
- Central Oregon and higher elevations of eastern Oregon: Frost can still be a concern during cold nights. Protect young vegetables from frost by having row cover (frost cloth) on hand. Place over crops when needed. Use season extenders, such as walls of water, around tomatoes and other tender plants.
- If you want a green lawn, water frequently during periods of heat and drought stress. Irrigate 0.25 inches four to six times per week from June through August. Measure your water use by placing an empty tuna can where your irrigation water lands.

## Planting/propagation

- Plant dahlias and gladioli.

## Pest monitoring and management

Use chemical controls only when necessary and only after thoroughly reading the pesticide label. First consider cultural, then physical and biological controls. Choose the least-toxic options (insecticidal soaps, horticultural oils, botanical insecticides, and organic and synthetic pesticides — when used judiciously).

- Central Oregon and high elevations of eastern Oregon: Manage weeds while they are small and actively growing with light cultivation or herbicides. Once the weed has gone to bud, herbicides are less effective.
- First week: Spray cherry trees for cherry fruit fly, as necessary, if fruit is ripening.
- First week: Spray for codling moth in apple and pear trees, as necessary. Continue use of pheromone traps for insect pest detection.
- Learn to identify beneficial insects and plant some insectary plants, — such as alyssum, Phacelia, coriander, candytuft, sunflower, yarrow and dill — to attract them to your garden. Check with local nurseries for best selections. For more information, see *Encouraging Beneficial Insects in Your Garden*.
- Blossoms on squash and cucumbers begin to drop; this is nothing to worry about. Cherries may also drop fruit; this is not a major concern.
- Monitor azaleas, primroses and other broadleaf ornamentals for adult root weevils. Look for fresh evidence of feeding (notching at leaf edges). Try sticky trap products on plant trunks to trap adult weevils. Protect against damaging the bark by applying the sticky material on a 4-inch wide band of poly sheeting or burlap wrapped around the trunk. Mark plants now and manage root weevils with beneficial nematodes when soil temperatures are above 55 degrees Fahrenheit. If root weevils are a consistent problem, consider removing plants and choosing resistant varieties.
- Control garden weeds by pulling, hoeing or mulching.
- Control aphids on vegetables as needed by hosing off with water or by using insecticidal soap or a registered insecticide.
- Watch for 12-spotted beetles on beans, cucumbers and squash and cabbage worms or flea beetles in cole crops (cabbage, broccoli, Brussels sprouts). Remove the pests by hand or treat with registered pesticides.
- Birch trees dripping a sticky fluid from their leaves means that aphids are present. Control as needed.
- Use yellow sticky traps to monitor for cherry fruit fly. About 1 week after the first fly is caught, spray cherries at appropriate intervals.
- Last week: Second spray for codling moth in apple and pear trees, as necessary.

- Continue monitoring blueberry, strawberry, cherry and other plants that produce soft fruits and berries for spotted wing drosophila. If these pests are present, use an integrated and least toxic approach to manage the pests. To learn how to monitor and manage spotted wing drosophila



# The Dirt Sheet

NEWSLETTER OF THE WASCO COUNTY  
MASTER GARDENER™ ASSOCIATION

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Kendal Johnson, Master Gardener and Community Horticulture Educator

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