

The Brambles

March/April 2025



News from the Master Gardener™ Association in Curry County

Top stories and resources



A New Chapter Has Begun

By Ginny Knox

Friday, February 28th was the grand opening of our Master Gardener Demonstration Greenhouse and Learning Garden (29841 Airport Way, Gold Beach, OR). What a wonderful event! The weather was perfect and the turnout was great. The community seems as excited as we are. The

Gold Beach Community Center also had an open house, making our collaboration complete. It's a win-win for our whole community.

The grand opening offered several educational opportunities for visitors, including native plant information with Maggie Daly, dahlia advice with Jerry Herbage and guest Bob Chibante, a plant clinic booth, and a slide presentation on the evolution of our greenhouse project by Cindy Myers. Displays of future garden plans, and signage showed our visitors what's coming in the near future.



There were a few speeches, including our co-president, Laura Teague, CCMGA vice president, Cindy Myers, and Gold Beach Community Center president Dee Ragsdale. A beautiful birdhouse was made and installed by CCMGA member, Frank Furtaw and dedicated to Kelly Jacobsen, one of our former co-presidents who passed away suddenly two years ago. Inside the beautiful new greenhouse there were plants available for donations, and delicious treats provided by CCMGA members. As always, thank you to all of our members who helped make this a day to remember as we start the move into our new location.

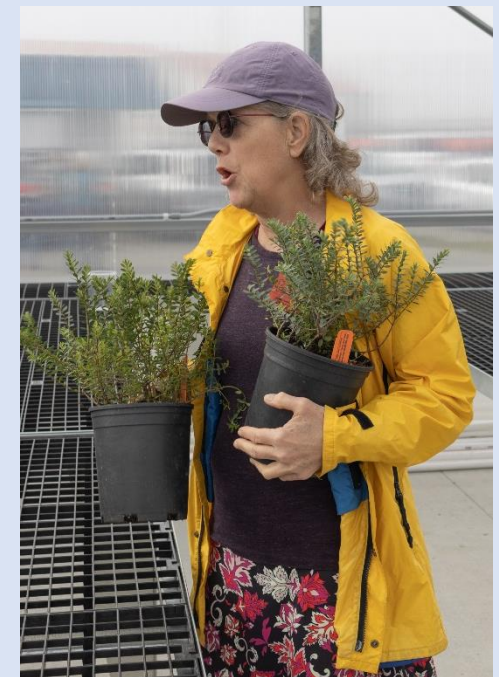


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News From Your Co-Presidents

By Laura & Martin Teague

Hello everyone!! We hope you have been enjoying our wet and windy winter. But Spring is just around the corner and it's time to think about all the upcoming volunteer opportunities and continuing education classes that are available to all of us.

March 15th, Maggie Daly will be the guest speaker for the trainee class.

Maggie's topic will be designing a native plant garden. This will be held at the Curry County Extension Office and her presentation will count toward continuing education for Master Gardeners.

For any of the following volunteer opportunities that occur during school hours on a school campus, you'll need to have your background check completed. If not completed, don't worry, there are plenty of volunteer opportunities that don't require a completed background check.

Every Monday is the weekly work party at Riley Creek Elementary School Garden. The time is 10:00am-12:00pm.

Each Tuesday at the GB High School Greenhouse there are activities including potting, weeding, propagating and organizing. The time is 12:00pm-02:00pm.

On Wednesdays Little Bear Garden Patch at Kalmiopsis Elementary School in Brookings will have 4 classes between 09:00am-12:45pm and volunteers are needed to help out.

Thursdays at Little Bear Garden Patch there will be 2 classes between 10:40am-12:15pm where volunteers can assist in the garden.

On Fridays, volunteers are needed to help maintain the school garden at Driftwood Elementary School. The time is 12:30pm-02:30pm and this is after school is over so no students are present.

May 10th, CCMGA will hold the Annual Plant Sale and there will be plenty of opportunities for volunteers. This is our main event of the year; it is a blast and it is ACTION PACKED!!

These activities are listed on the TeamUp calendar and as new events come up; we will let you know. This is just an overview of the different ways we can all volunteer and keep CCMGA strong.

I also wanted to mention that the Clackamas County Master Gardener Association sponsors the 10-Minute University program. Check out their website for some fun, informative and free webinars. The website address is clackamascountymastergardeners.org.

Lastly, we want to thank all the CCMGA volunteers for their time and effort spent on educating the citizens of Curry County about gardening and helping with the beautification of our school gardens. We can all make a difference!!



News Briefs and Announcements

Plant Clinic and Seed Distribution

March 1st at the Curry Public Library (Gold Beach) Master Gardener trainees and volunteer participated in an annual free seed distribution event and hosted a plant clinic table. Volunteers helped people make their seed selections and took questions about vegetable gardening, landscape care, and gardening issues.

This was a great opportunity to connect with fellow gardeners in the community and also helped to train the current trainees in the skills they need for future plant clinic events.

CCMGA at the Curry Public Library: Hints for Healthy Houseplants

On February 2nd, at the Curry Public Library (Gold Beach, OR), Master Gardener volunteer Julia Bott gave an informative and fun presentation on how to keep (or get) your houseplants healthy and happy. Attendees were encouraged to bring cuttings of house plants to share or swap.

What the Curry County Master Gardeners have to Offer

Are you wondering what to do in the garden this month and next? Do you know about the Greenhouse Project in Curry County? Would you like to know more about what the Curry County Master Gardener volunteers offer the public?

On February 13th, at the Southwestern Oregon Community College, Curry Campus, (Brookings, OR), Julia Bott answered these questions. Julia has been an OSU Curry County Master Gardener volunteer since 2018. This was a free program sponsored by the Friends of Curry Campus.

The Driftwood School Garden gets an Update

On January 20th, at the Driftwood School Garden (Port Orford, OR), Master Gardener volunteers participated in a volunteer workday organized by Donna Johannesmeyer, from Driftwood School and Jen Nelson from Curry Watersheds. The goal was to upgrade the garden beds at Driftwood. The beds had lost quite a bit of volume and Wahl's Sheep Ranch donated compost to amend them. First perennial herbs were removed, after that compost was added, and then the beds were replanted.

MGs are excited to have new opportunities to participate in north Curry County and to help with the Port Orford school gardens!



Curry County Master Gardeners Association

Board Meetings are monthly on the 3rd Tuesday from 10 a.m.–noon, at the OSU Extension Service office, 2930 Ellensburg Avenue, Gold Beach. Past meeting minutes:

[CCMGA Minutes 1-2025](#)

Monthly Garden Tips



By Sarah Mocas

This material is based on information from the Oregon State University Extension Service's [Monthly Garden Calendars](https://extension.oregonstate.edu/gardening/techniques/monthly-garden-calendars).

Winter is finishing up and Spring begins, but on the windy Oregon coast, we may still need to monitor for winter damage to plants. All the same, spring gardening and planting can start. The links below contain helpful tips for early spring gardening, pest monitoring and management, and some seedlings and plantings that can kickoff.

- March <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/gardening/techniques/march-garden-calendar>
- April <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/gardening/techniques/april-garden-calendar>

Upcoming Events and Training



Events March/April

Besides the many continuing MG projects, as highlighted in the **News from Your Co-Presidents** above, there are no particular event highlights for March and April. But we just had word that we need to be moved from the high school greenhouse by March 21st (and into the new greenhouse)! In addition, MG volunteers are very busy preparing for the annual plant sale on May 10th, that will now be held at the new greenhouse. It's a lot!

All volunteer hands are welcome, especially Tuesdays from 12:00 to 2:00 at the current greenhouse, located at Gold Beach High School. Activities in preparation for the plant sale and the move include organizing, potting, cleaning up weeding and, of course packing and moving.

For more information or to let them know you will be joining them, contact Ali Otterloo at alivanotterloo@gmail.com

March/April Training offered by OSU Extension Services

The popular [Growing Oregon Gardeners Level Up Series](#) appears to have new 2025 courses available and OSU Extension Master Gardener volunteers can receive 1 hour of Continuing Education Credit for each class.

Mar 5 [Creating a pollinator garden](#)

Mar 12 [Tips for growing vegetables and berries](#)

Mar 19 [Tips for growing tomatoes](#)

Mar 26 [Plant superheroes](#)

Apr 2 [Houseplants 101](#)

Apr 9 [The Resilient Garden](#)

Apr 16 [Solving pest problems](#)

Apr 23 [Good bugs, bad bugs](#)

Apr 30 [Building a Garden: A Behind-the-Scenes Look](#)

These online seminars are free with advanced registration but you can also view recording 2 days after the class. Below are more training opportunities.

Feb 12 [Growing Vegetables in Small Spaces](#)

Feb 19 [Gardens as Stepping-stone Habitats](#)

Feb 26 [Growing Early-Season Vegetables](#)

More classes are listed at:

<https://extension.oregonstate.edu/mg/projects-events-gardens>

[Elevated Master Gardener Series](#) (Grow your community garden educator skills with people and technology.)

[Reading research-based sustainable gardening publications](#)

[MG Advanced Training webinar series \(ongoing & recorded\)](#)

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