



August 2022

Jackson County Master Gardeners Announcements



Members and friends, we are back on campus and desperately need your help in our demonstration gardens. Come on any Wednesday, from 9 am to noon, from now through October. Our goal: get our gardens back to their former glory.

Contact Lynn Kunstman kunlynn52@gmail.com



- **Winter Dreams Summer Gardens Symposium 2022** will be held October 28th, 29th, November 4th, and 5th Mark your calendars!
- Speakers Presentation schedule and summaries along with speaker bios will be available online starting August 22nd.
- Registration will begin August 22nd. Register online at <https://jacksoncountymga.org/winter-dreams-summer-gardens-symposium/>



Oregon State University
Extension Service
Master Gardener™



If you know anyone who would be interested in becoming a Master Gardener Volunteer, registration for 2023 OSU Extension Master Gardener Volunteer Training in Jackson County will be open later this Fall! Please call the OSU Extension office at 541.776.7371 and leave your name, phone number, and email. We will contact you when registration is open.

Come Back to the Gardens!

Lynn Kunstman

Members and friends, we desperately need helpers in our Demonstration Gardens. We are back on campus and are inviting each and every one of you to come work with us on Wednesdays, from 9 am to noon, from now through October. Our goal: to get our gardens back to their former glory. If you are interested in helping, please choose a garden, contact the GARDEN EDUCATION MENTOR (GEM) for that garden and get signed up.



The **Daylily Garden** features more than 100 cultivars of the *Hemerocallis* genus. For more than a decade, volunteers in the garden have been crossbreeding different daylilies, including about a dozen new hybrids that will be registered with the American Hemerocallis Society. Marsha Waite is the GEM for this garden. mgmarsha@mindspring.com

The **Lavender Garden** includes 80 varieties of lavender and more than 250 plants. The garden is the only one in the Pacific Northwest registered with the Herb Society of America. Part of the Southern Oregon Lavender Trail, open from June to mid-August, our largest garden needs lots of TLC. Please come work with Irv Johnson irvjohanson943@yahoo.com



and Margaret Clark meregrota@hotmail.com .



Over 150 varieties of roses grace our gardens. These include hybrid tea roses, floribundas, grandifloras, miniature roses, climbing roses, and David Austin roses. Learn to care for and prune roses with Joanne Mitani, the **Rose Garden** GEM. joanne.mitani@gmail.com

Water-wise gardening offers an attractive, sustainable landscape that conserves water. The **Water-wise Garden** conserves water by using mostly drought-tolerant plants, by grouping plants together with similar needs and by mulching. Contact Monette Hoffmeister mahonia997@gmail.com to work in this garden.





The **Wanda Hauser Garden** was the first Demonstration Garden at this site, established in 1994. The garden features a wide variety of common ornamental plants with less commonly known culinary, medicinal, and cosmetic uses. Most of the plants are perennials, while others are self-seeding annuals or shrubs. Marcie Katz is the GEM for this garden. marciek10@gmail.com

The **Vegetable Garden** demonstrates various methods for small scale home vegetable gardening. Methods include growing vegetables in straw bales, growing potatoes in very small areas, and cool and warm season cover crops used in carbon sequestration, weed control and nitrogen fixing. It features pollinator plants and a bountiful harvest of vegetables. Sean Cawley is our GEM. seanski0@gmail.com



The **Demonstration Orchard** boasts over 40 different apple trees. Many are of commonly known varieties such as Honeycrisp and Fuji. Less known are Bramley's Seedling, Belle de Boskoop and Arkansas Black. Also present are varieties of peaches and pears. Sean Cawley is doing double duty as this garden's GEM. seanski0@gmail.com

Peggy Corum, a 30-year veteran Master Gardener, started the **Propagation Garden**, and garden mentors Becky Belau lbelau@charter.net and Sharon Maurin maurins@charter.net

teach how to propagate many perennials, shrubs and trees that are then available at plant sales to benefit JCMGA.



The **Native Plant Garden** showcases native plants found in this region that are suitable for the home garden. Native plants are adapted to local environmental conditions and provide food and shelter for native birds, butterflies, and other wildlife. The Native Plant Garden has expanded to incorporate a rain garden - a shallow depression designed to collect rainwater. The rain garden captures water for a short period of time, allowing it to soak slowly into the landscape. The deep roots of the surrounding native plants assist in this water infiltration. Sherri Morgan is the GEM shemor484@gmail.com

The **Native Plants Nursery** was established to provide native plant material to the gardens on campus and to the community at large. We propagate our plants from cuttings and seeds, and grow a variety of annuals, perennials, grasses, shrubs and trees. Nursery work usually goes from mid-January to mid-November. If you are interested in learning how to stratify seed, propagate from cuttings, or just learn more about native plants and help with regular pop-up sales, contact Lynn Kunstman at kunlynn52@gmail.com.



Our **Perennial/Shade Garden** has a mixture of shade, dappled sunlight and even areas with hot afternoon sun. Perennial plants are the backbone of nearly every flower garden. The lifespan, bloom time, culture and form of perennial plants varies greatly. Shade gardens are those with little or no direct sunlight. Since few edible plants grow well under shady conditions, shade gardens are usually ornamental. Doug Kirby is the GEM. oneredquilt@gmail.com

The **Culinary Herb Garden** demonstrates the numerous herbs you can grow in Southern Oregon that can be eaten, used as spice, or for tea. We need a GEM for this garden! Talk to Marcie Katz if you are interested.



The **Wildflower Garden** features flowers, shrubs and grasses that are native to the Rogue Valley. Our area is part of the California Province of Wildflowers which is considered a hotspot for native plant biodiversity. The garden also includes non-native plants that are frequently found in our area. The Wildflower Garden was registered as a Monarch Way Station in 2015. Sue Koury is our GEM. SKoury1112@gmail.com

Our **Vineyard Garden** is being replanted in wine grapes. This garden needs a GEM! Are you that person? You would work closely with our viticulturist, Dr. Alexander Levin, who, by the way, speaks both Spanish and Russian.



Call for Board Nominations for next year's Board of Directors

JCMGA Board needs YOU!

We are looking for new, and experienced members of Master Gardeners to serve on our JCMGA Board for 2023. Could that be YOU, or someone you could recommend?

Please consider becoming a board member. The Board is the governing body of the association. It adopts the budget, sets policy, and generally oversees the present and future direction of JCMGA. Meetings are held the second Friday of each month. Most board members also sit on one or more of the association's working groups and are among the first to volunteer when jobs need to be done! Your input is important, and fresh perspectives on how we move forward is the key to our success.

The following positions are to be elected this fall: Vice-president/president-elect, membership secretary, OMGA representative, and five members-at-large. Nominees must be members of JCMGA in good standing, and be willing to serve if elected. Let your voice be heard, help plan for the future of Jackson County Master Gardener Association!

If you have questions, contact **Marcie Katz**, Vice-President at marciek10@gmail.com



Deadline for nominations is SEPTEMBER 1!

Gardening Gourmet

Sydney Jordan Brown MG 2000

Four Paws Approved!

This article is derived from my experiences over many years with my pets in my garden.

Whether with canines (or felines), after a long winter's wait, we bolt from our banishment lured by greenery beckoning us outside.

Dropping to knees, or bellies, we plunge in with gloves and paws plowing deep into moist soil we've missed for way too long.

While each of us pursues their own pathway of preferred plant or prey, this probing and pawing is only the beginning between pets and their human gardening companions.

Nothing equals the loving bond that grows between a gardener and their furry friend(s). Together they dig, cultivate, plant and bury what brings each a sense of purpose and satisfaction.

For those who've never promoted paw prints upon their perfectly manicured plots, they don't know what they're missing. They've truly forsaken the animal element in the fundamental foundation of gardening: For me, God's intentional pairing of plant, animal and human sustained by the seasons of life. Of course, furry garden partners aren't for all.

However, while buds burst into bloom, gardeners joining with their furry friends find fulfillment with this most natural partnership. Sometimes it's humorous, sometimes exasperating, but always endlessly rewarding.



Tilling through the growing season, pet-accompanied gardeners develop a sense of flexibility and patience from accepting unexpected subtractions and modifications to their plotted plans. While partners may not always agree upon the prioritized placement between plant and bone, they remain bound by that unbreakable bond of gardening together.

Concerned that pets have different perspectives on aesthetics than yours? Adding structural boundaries that are pleasing to you may curb four-pawed friends from pursuing places you prefer them not to go.

Adequate raised beds, decorative fences and gates not only provide pleasant backdrops for bushes, vertical structures for vines, accessibility for harvesting crops, and enhance the grounds, but also provide barriers for your companions.

Of course, anything without barriers should be considered fair game. However, replanting the rearranged or replacing the missing is much less significant than the alternative of solitary gardening for pet-loving gardeners.

While poop patrol pick up is a regular activity and replacing prized potted plants a persistent practice, they're far less inconvenient than withstanding unpredictable weather or a multitude of munching insects.

Just expect your planting zone to include mysteriously disappearing gloves or trowels, possible tooth-pocked plastic pots littering the lawn, and a driftwood log to provide a prominent perch for some afternoon landscape patrol.

Whether canine (or feline), you'll find the inclusion of pets provides that final element to both enhance and complete your gardener's partnership with plant and soil.

Ultimately, the silhouette of the gardener's wide-brimmed hat and their partner's pointy ears against that last ray of sunshine would seem the perfect garden composition.

Safe-Proofing Gardens for your Pets

If you love your pet(s), make them not only welcome but as safe as possible in your garden space.

The ASPCA has a great resource, a long list of plants that are toxic and non-toxic for pets, sortable for dogs, cats and horses.

<https://www.aspca.org/pet-care/animal-poison-control/toxic-and-non-toxic-plants>

Plotting for your pet(s):

Old rug remnants or door mats placed to catch early morning sun or afternoon shade make great landing spots for naps.

Crumpled foil placed below soft soil surfaces deters felines from using an area as their litter box.

Modify the Hazards

- Use non-toxic chemicals.



- Thoroughly dig in additives such as blood and bone meal, fish and kelp. Spray the area with tea tree oil or citrus spray to deter consumption
- AVOID cocoa or coconut mulches: they are poisonous to pets. Chemicals in cocoa/chocolate can be lethal for pets.
- Fold back sharp metal fence ends. Keep sharp tools off ground.
- Make sure garden stakes are too high to penetrate pets playing chase.
- Plant non-poisonous plants.

15 pet-friendly plants to get started from Great Garden Plants nursery:

<https://blog.greatgardenplants.com/15-dog-friendly-plants-for-your-garden/>

Astilbe *Astilbe*

Crane's Bill/Hardy Geranium *Geranium*

Tickseed *Coreopsis*

Coral Bells *Heuchera*

Crape Myrtle *Lagerstroemia indica*

Perennial Hibiscus *Hibiscus*

Creeping Phlox *Phlox stolonifera*

Forsythia *Forsythia*

Catmint *Nepeta*

Thymes *Thymus*

Russian Sage *Perovskia atriplicifolia/Salvia yangii*

Black-Eyed Susan *Rudbeckia hirta*

Maiden Grass/Chinese Silver Grass *Miscanthus sinensis*

Stonecrop *Sedum*

Roses *Rosa*