



The Foundation Connection

A monthly e-newsletter from
the Master Gardener Foundation of King County

May 2019 Issue



Abfelbluehte-Apple blossoms



*MGs Kelly Forsyth and Faith
Gant*

The Master Gardener Diagnostics Lab: A Closer Look

*...by Master
Gardener Marty
Byrne*

MG Diagnostics Lab
Lead Elaine

Sherbrooke gives us an inside look at the workings of the Diagnostics Lab, the next step for clinics in solving clients' plant disease and pest problems.

[Read more](#)

Vote! MGF Board

Master Gardener
Foundation Board Elections
open until **May 15**. Look for
the link to the voting site in
your April 15 email from the Foundation, Subject:



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"Vote for 2019 MGF Board." The Foundation Board will change on June 1, four positions will be open at that time, opportunity for new leadership. This is a time of transition for the Board and the Program in King County. If you would like to participate in planning related to the program, clinic and garden expansion, outreach to diverse and younger gardens, many without land for large gardens, join us.

You are welcome to attend any Board meeting (see the announcements below for the time of the next meeting). Board positions are filled on a rolling basis, so think about stepping up.

TCCQs: Typical Clinic Client Questions

An occasional series featuring questions that come up in Master Gardener Plant Clinics and where to find the answers.



Type caption text here.

Client Asks: "Deer are eating all my plants, what should I do?"

...by Master Gardener and Interim Co-Coordinator Carrie Hill

The bad news is that there are no official WSU Extension reference materials 'to the rescue.' The good news is that there are other reputable resources.

Our Puget Sound Tip Sheet #1, [Gardening Websites](#), lists the following:

Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife (wdfw.wa.gov): *Living with Wildlife*. You can download a 15-page PDF document that includes deer-resistant fencing, repellents, and other resources.

Great Plant Picks (greatplantpicks.org): Fact sheets and photos of more than 1000 plants that do well in the Pacific Northwest and are relatively low maintenance, including over 200 that are deer-resistant. The site includes plant lists and advanced search options. Sponsored by the Elisabeth C. Miller Botanical Garden.

Local nurseries may also have plant lists for deer-resistant plants.

[King County MG](#)

[WSU Volunteer Database](#)

[Become a Master Gardener](#)

[MGF Washington State](#)

More Links

[MG Plant Sales](#)

[Growing Groceries 2.0](#)

Of Interest to You

Continuing Education

Learning takes place in many ways, and the Program is offering more ways to learn than ever before. [Find CE opportunities](#)

Tip Sheets for KC

Browse tip sheets about Puget Sound Gardening [Garden Tips](#)

WHERE am I?

Find King County Master Gardener **clinics** and **garden** locations using the [MGFKC map](#).

amazonsmile

You can donate .5% of your purchase to the Foundation when you use [AmazonSmile](#).

Thank You.

Make a Difference!
DONATE

Donate to MGFKC

WSU Publications:

There are well over 200 home gardening publications available at pubs.wsu.edu.

Most are free to download. Many of these publications are also posted at WSU's *Gardening in Washington State*: gardening.wsu.edu

Master Gardener Foundation Plant Sales: A (Very) Short History

...by Master Gardener Marty
Byrne

Can you believe the Master
Gardener Foundation has
been holding the Spring
Plant Sale for 35 years?

A look back at our newsletter collection revealed that some things never change (weather as a factor; parking) and some things do (plant sale dates).

[Read more](#)

May 8: Remember to **GiveBIG!**

The King County Master Gardeners are a member-supported organization. Individual donations to the Foundation mainly come from those of us who are members and donate because gardening is integral to our lives. Our Program creates the opportunity for us to connect with each other and donors who support what we do. Without King County support and with limited WSU support, the Foundation relies on us to financially support our plant clinics, gardens and over 600 active MGs in our county, donating over 44,000 hours each year.

Please consider how you can support the Program financially this year. We hope you will donate now during the GiveBIG event and during the end of the year when we plan for 2020. Here's the link:

<https://www.givebig2019.org/master-gardener-foundation-of-king-county>

You are the gift we give ourselves for the future of this program. Thank you.





Ellen A'Key Grant: *Still Time to Spread the Word*

Master Gardener projects in any Washington state county that are looking for funding still have time to apply for the 2019 Ellen A'Key grant.

The Ellen A'Key Grant is meant to assist and support WSU Master Gardener projects in non-urban counties of Washington State. It is in Ellen's honor that King County Master Gardeners share our resources with others in our state. Get the details [here](#).

Zero Hours???

What are the reasons you have not entered hours yet this year?



- Don't like keeping track of time spent doing what you love. Probably should look at your calendar or make a list.
- Lost my password. It's just one more thing to remember.
- Lack of directions. Go to the WSU Volunteer Database, log in, enter your hours. Here's the link:
<https://volunteers.cahnrs.wsu.edu/logon.aspx>.
- Can't remember what counts. Read about reporting hours: <http://www.mgfkf.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/KCMG-Reporting-Vol-Hours.pdf>

It's important. When you reapplied, you agreed that you would update your hours on a monthly basis. This way WSU knows to include you in its liability coverage and is able report the number of volunteers and volunteer hours correctly.

Remember, current enrollment requires compliance with this policy, so **do it now** and keep your hours updated throughout the year.

Master Gardener of the Year

The Nominations for MGFWS 2019 Master Gardener of the Year Award are open until June 3.

The list of criteria and details about how to submit a nomination for this Washington State Foundation award are found at:

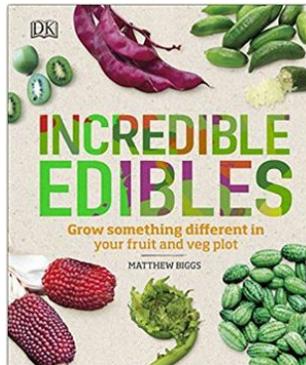


<http://mgfws.org/Awards.aspx>. Surely you know an active MG who is deeply involved in the leadership of our program, contributing to the legacy of the King County and the state program and making an impact with their presence in our community. Think seriously about nominating someone this year.

***Elisabeth C. Miller
Library Selection***

Incredible Edibles

British author Matthew Biggs suggests considering some different plants for your "fruit and veg" garden. Brian Thompson, Curator of Horticultural Literature for the Miller Library, reports that many of the plants do well in our Pacific Northwest climate.



[Read more](#)

News & Updates

What's Happening & When

Next MGF Board Meeting:
Thursday, May 9, 7:00 p.m. at CUH.



Staying Smart -- Save the Date!

Growing Groceries 2.0
May 8, 2019: [Cucumber and Corn Families](#).
May 22, 2019: [Bugs, Weeds, and Water](#)
(rescheduled from March 27) All classes at The Grange in Issaquah.

Bellevue Demo Garden Free Workshops
May 11, 2019: Perennials for Year Around Color, MG Cleo Raulerson
May 18, 2019: Plant Propagation, MG Gordon Polson,

Snoqualmie Valley Master Gardener Library Talks

May 11, 2019: [Kids in the Garden](#), Tilth Alliance speakers at North Bend and Sammamish Libraries.

Neely-Soames Homestead and Gardens

May 18, 2019: Saturday, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.: MG Darien Payne talks about Soil. [\[map\]](#)

More Events and Dates . . .

[Bellevue Demo Garden Free Workshops](#) continue to October

[Bellevue Botanical Garden Classes and Lectures](#)

MG [Plant Sale Dates in May . . .](#)

May 4, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.: Bellevue Demo Garden at Big Picture School (148th Av SE & 22nd)

May 4-5, 11-12, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.: Cesar Chavez Demo Garden at the Demo Garden on Beacon Hill [\[map\]](#)

May 11, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.: Soos Creek Demo Garden in Auburn [\[map\]](#)

Contributing to The Connection

Do you have an event or CE opportunity to share? An article of interest to Master Gardeners? Deadline for announcements or article submissions is the 15th of the month prior to publication (ex: May 15 for the June edition). For more information or to submit items to consider, please contact us at communicate@mgfkc.org.

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