



## The Foundation Connection

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

October 2019 Issue



### ***Contributing to The Connection***

Do you have an event, class, or workshop to publicize in our News & Updates? An article to submit? An article idea to pitch? Please see our contribution guidelines [here](#)

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### ***Foundation Plantings***

### **President's Message: *The Good and Not So Good***

*...by Foundation Board President Jim Olson*



As you know, the Foundation Board's prime job is to raise and spend money for our Program. I've been on the Board three years now. I'm continually impressed with your ability and efforts to raise the funds to run this Program. We've done this well enough over the years to have a comfortable reserve in investment accounts.

That's both a good and a not so good thing. The good is that we can maintain our existing programs and activities as well as weather any bumps in our road. The not so good is that we left a goodly amount of opportunity to grow and improve the Program sitting

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[MGFKC](#)

idle.

But it's not just money. I've learned something key from the more experienced Board members. Finding volunteers to invest the time to define, plan, and implement Program activities is our limiting factor.

We have recently asked for your help on some of the Program and Foundation key projects. The Clinic Leadership Team is one. It's short of help. We have the funds to continue to grow and improve the Program. We need the ideas and time more Master Gardeners can bring to make that happen



## Master Gardener Program: *Lend a Hand*

### *Hand*

Recently, the Master Gardener Program and Board leadership sent an email letter to Master Gardeners in King County asking for help on specific project teams to carry on the work of the Program. Ours is a volunteer organization: step up to lend a hand where you can. This is *your* Master Gardener Program.

Read the email letter [here](#)



*Centranthus rubrum*

### *Cultivate (More) Knowledge*

## Plant Identification Project: *Field Training*

*...by 2019 Master Gardener Intern Roxann Harr*

Enterprising MG Intern Roxann Harr created her own project to learn more about plant names. The owner of Hobart

Farms Nursery in Maple Valley was happy for the help: As the nursery's new owner, she hadn't had time to identify many of the plants that had come with the nursery. Read how Roxann did it and take a lesson!

[Read more](#)

## November CE Opportunity:

[King County MG](#)

[Growing Groceries 2019-2020](#)

[Become a Master Gardener](#)

### Of Interest to You

**Volunteer to Help!**

 **SIGN UP!**



### Staying Smart

#### 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](#).



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

**Thank You.**



Donate to MGFKC



## ***Environmental Stewardship in a Changing World***

Please join us for our 4th annual November CE Opportunity. We have a great lineup of speakers this year that includes Dr. Cliff Mass, Dr. John Albers, Anne Bikle, Dr. David Montgomery and Pamela Berstler. Seven hours of continuing education credit will be available at this one-day event, November 9th, at Renton Technical College. Preregistration is required: The last day to register will be October 25th, so sign up now. Email invitations were sent out the week of September 16, or use the [link](#) for registration or information.

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### ***Planting for Community: Lake City Planter Project***



*...by Master Gardener  
Douglass Fisher*

It's the small things that make a difference. MG Douglass Fisher reports on a collaborative project with the nonprofit Lake City Collective to renovate planters in one Lake City neighborhood.

[Read more](#)



*Lee Farm and  
Nursery: Houseplants!*

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### ***Fourth Annual Cool Plants, Hot Topics: A Happy Collaboration***

*...by Master Gardener  
Alison Johnson*

Bellevue Botanical Garden hosted this 4th annual plant sale and speakers on September 7th. The day was a resounding success: a welcoming venue, a

great selection of plants, engaged vendors, interesting speakers. What's not to like?

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## ***Program Update***

### **Update 2: Search for Program Coordinator for Master Gardener Program in King County**

The hiring committee completed a second round of face to face interviews and presentations last week. Committee Chair Jim Kropf is working on completing reference checks for the candidate the committee selected. Once the reference checks are complete and a candidate is identified, the committee will make a request to Human Resources for permission to offer the position. Permission to offer the position will trigger a background check. Upon successful completion of the background check, which can take a couple of weeks, negotiations will start. I wish I could give you a time frame, but history has taught me to refrain from trying to predict how long a recruitment will take.

I am thankful for Penny and Carrie's continued leadership and thank you for your patience and for your efforts to maintain and improve the WSU King County Master Gardener program during this challenging transition.

If you have any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to email me directly at [tmurray@wsu.edu](mailto:tmurray@wsu.edu) or call at 509-335-8744.

*Todd A. Murray  
Director, Agricultural and Natural Resources  
Extension Program Unit*



*Batman endorses the Growing Groceries classes.*

### **Growing Groceries Starts in October: 2 Locations!**

The 2019-2020 Growing Groceries series will start soon in two locations. Eastside classes begin on October 9 at The Grange in Issaquah, and Seattle classes begin on October 22 at El Centro de la Raza on Beacon Hill. The series is composed of 11

classes, presented by your peers, and classes are \$5

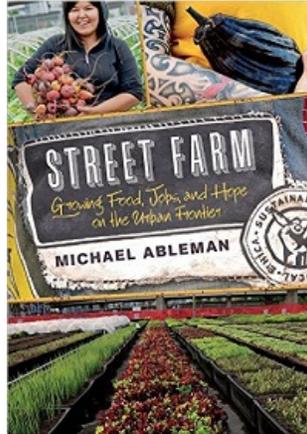
each. Check out the classes, get the details and register at the main Growing Groceries page, <http://www.mgfk.org/education/growinggroceries>

We urgently need your help to promote this series in your communities. Click [here](#) for some pre-written content that would help us get the word out, whether on your Nextdoor Neighborhood site, community blogs, Facebook or Twitter. Since this series begins in a couple weeks, we need your help now.

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

***Street Farm:  
Growing Food,  
Jobs, and Hope on  
the Urban Frontier***



Can you run a farm in the city? What are the challenges in that part of the city with few resources and not much hope? This month's book selection takes us to our neighbor to the north, Vancouver, British Columbia, for a look at a nonprofit that has taken on those challenges.

[Read more](#)



**News Shoots: *Short Subjects***

It's early fall, and many of us are cleaning up garden beds, transplanting, and dividing. As you do so, pot up your best 'gems' for our spring plant sales. Remember to *label them* with the botanical as

well as the common name. Then watch your email for more information and tips by mid-October.

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***What I like about the Master  
Gardener Program***

Why did you become a Master Gardener? What do you especially like about the Program? Share your thoughts at [communicate@mgfk.org](mailto:communicate@mgfk.org) You may see them in a future *Connection!*

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***News & Updates***

***What's Happening & When***

**[Next MGF Board Meeting](#)**: Thursday, **Oct. 10** at 7

p.m. at the Center for Urban Horticulture (CUH). There will be an online option for those who cannot attend in person .



### ***Staying Smart -- Save the Date!***

**Oct. 5, Saturday**, 10:00 a.m. - 12 noon - **Fall Clinic Leadership Meeting**, Bellevue Botanical Garden.

**Starting Oct. 9 - Growing Groceries 2019-2020** classes start in October.

**The Grange in Issaquah, October 9:** Principles of Vegetable Gardening in the PNW, Onion family.  
**October 30:** Soil, Compost, and Gardening Methods. Soil analysis, garden bed preparation, fertilizers, amendments, cover crops.

**El Centro de la Raza in Beacon Hill:**

**October 22:** Soil #1; Season Extenders; Garlic. Soil types, analysis; fall planting. Registration is now open. Visit the [Growing Groceries](#) page for information and registration.

**Oct. 27, Sunday**, 9:45 a.m. - 11:45 a.m. - **2019 Master Gardener Recognition Event**, Bellevue Botanical Garden. See all the details and [sign up now](#).

**Nov. 9, Saturday**, 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. **November CE Opportunity All Day Workshop - Environmental Stewardship in a Changing World** at Renton Technical College. [Registration](#) is now open.

### ***More Events and Dates . . .***

[Bellevue Demonstration Garden free workshops](#) continue in October.

[Bellevue Botanical Garden classes](#)

[UW Botanical Garden classes and workshops](#)

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### ***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](mailto:communicate@mgfkc.org).

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