



King County

Master Gardener Program

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION

March 4, 2020

To: Master Gardeners of King County
Subject: MG Update in Light of COVID-19

To: Master Gardeners of King County

In accordance with the latest guidelines from the King County Department of Health regarding COVID-19 we are suspending in-person MG gatherings for the month of March and are encouraging virtual meetings instead whenever possible. We are taking a cautious stance given that most of our Master Gardeners, by virtue of age, fall within the COVID-19 vulnerable population as defined by the health department. The April plant sale at CUH will remain as scheduled at this time.

Intern Training:

For the remainder of intern training we are working out a plan to move as much as is feasible online and rescheduling the rest to later dates. Intern training will not be held at CUH for the remainder of March. Topics that are not feasible to be held via video-conferencing will be rescheduled. Interns who complete online training, quizzes and final exam by the original deadline of March 27th will be released to their clinics/gardens for the season regardless of whether or not some intern training sessions get rescheduled for after that date.

Continuing Education:

We are asking those who have coordinated in-person CE events in March to cancel or reschedule those events. If it is feasible to hold those events online via Zoom video-conference or some other technology platform and the presenters are willing to do so they can be held that way. If you are eager to get some CE hours in before the gardening season gets into full swing there are numerous online options. A list of approved online CE is at the bottom of this email.

Clinic and Garden Spring Kick-off Meetings

As stated in my Tuesday communication please consider holding your spring kick-off meetings virtually. Here again are some options:

To set up a free conference call line: <https://www.freeconferencecall.com/>

To set up a free Zoom video-conference account: <https://zoom.us/> Zoom meetings allow participants to either join by video or by phone. Be aware that the time limit for a free Zoom account is one hour if more than 2 people are in the conference. You can resolve this by either setting up two meetings back to back and when one shuts off, hop on to the next one. Or by keeping your agenda to one hour.

Please take care of yourselves and follow recommendations from health authorities.

We will get through this!

COVID-19 Resources

- Please familiarize yourself with and follow the King County Dept of Health

recommendations. Here is that link:

<https://www.kingcounty.gov/depts/health/communicable-diseases/disease-control/novel-coronavirus/protection.aspx>

- If you want to speak with someone live about concerns you may have regarding COVID-19, you can call the King County COVID-19 Information Line at (206) 477-3977.
- Washington Department of Health
<https://www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/1600/NovelCoronavirusFactSheet.pdf>
- National Center for Disease Control <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/about/index.html>
- WSU <https://wsu.edu/covid-19/covid-19-faqs>

Here is the list of **approved online continuing education**:

Watch an online webinar relevant to Pacific Northwest home gardening
Oregon State University and the Cooperative Extension System offer a number of webinars, and some are relevant to home gardening in the Pacific Northwest. The hotlinks listed below will take you to a selection of webinars that are relevant and will qualify as CE. As you watch the webinar, reflect on how the topic presented relates to the questions we get from clients and how the information will influence your answers.

The webinars listed below are offered on demand and without charge.

2018 All Bugs Good and Bad Webinar Series: Bees, Wasps, and Hornets, Oh My!: <https://learn.extension.org/events/3258>

Organic Pesticides for Home Gardens
: <https://learn.extension.org/events/3141>

'First Look': OSU Research on Native Plants in the PNW Garden
: <https://learn.extension.org/events/3494>

The latest research on bees in the garden: Results from the Oregon State University Garden Ecology Lab
: <https://learn.extension.org/events/3443>

Never doubt how a small, thoughtful and committed pollinator habitat (in your garden) can change the world
: <https://learn.extension.org/events/3139>

"Frontiers in Slug & Snail Management" recording, slides, and a resource for slug & snail ID
: <https://learn.extension.org/events/3294>

"Identifying & Managing the Bronze Birch Borer"
recording: <https://learn.extension.org/events/3289>

"Hybridization and Tetraploids and Chromosomes, Oh My! Understanding Plant Breeding for Disease Resistance"
: <https://learn.extension.org/events/3287>

"Powdery Mildew: Biology and Management in the Garden"
: <https://learn.extension.org/events/3290>

"Dealing with Darling Dastardly Deer"
: <https://learn.extension.org/events/3430>

"Practical Food Safety in the Garden"
: <https://learn.extension.org/events/3431>

"Meet the New Neighbors: Emerging Insect Pests in Oregon"
: <https://learn.extension.org/events/3434>

"The latest research on bees in the garden: an update from the OSU Garden Ecology Lab"
: <https://learn.extension.org/events/3443>

"First Look: OSU Research on Native Plants in the PNW Garden"
: <https://learn.extension.org/events/3494>

Warm Regards,

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This email is being sent by the Master Gardener Foundation of King County on behalf the
the [WSU Extension Master Gardener Program in King County](#).
