

Having trouble viewing this email? [Click here](#)



The Foundation Connection

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

September 2015 Issue



Elaine Sherbrooke and the Mysterious World of the Diagnostics Lab

Elaine Sherbrooke trained as a Master Gardener in 1994 and greatly enjoyed her volunteer work at the Bellevue Home Depot Clinic. But then diagnostics began to dominate her time.

"I became a diagnostician in 2000. Jane Tobin was in charge of the lab at that time, and she decided to train a new group," recalls Elaine. Diagnosticians are invited to join the group - it is not something you can



Master Gardener Elaine Sherbrooke, Diagnostics

In This Issue

The Elaine Sherbrooke and the Mysterious World of the Diagnostics Lab

The Carkeek Gardens are now Master Gardener Demonstration Gardens!

Clinic Spotlight: Lake City

The Master Gardener Rain Garden Program:

MGFKC Board of Directors Spotlight: Stephenie Kramer

What's Happening - News and Updates

volunteer for, like hours at a *Lab Team Leader* clinic.

"When I was nominated, I thought, 'You've got to be kidding!' I didn't know much about it. I was flattered and in awe of being associated with that group. I thought I'd give it a try and wanted to extend my knowledge, give it more depth...

"Then I went through the training and it was absolutely terrifying! Have you ever heard a fungus being described? It makes your blood run cold," says Elaine. "It is a very complex language you have never heard before. You start in on the elements of fungal pathogens and it's 'Holy Cow!' I'll never learn all this!"

When she talks to Master Gardeners in training, she tells them that they will have enjoyed their garden a whole lot more "before they learn the diagnostics stuff. Because once you learn it, you're always looking for trouble. If you ever think you're in control of your garden, you are delusional!"

READ the full article

The Carkeek Gardens are now Master Gardener Demonstration Gardens!

Visit the new Master Gardener Carkeek Demonstration Gardens on September 19 at the "Festival of Fruit" celebration
...by Drexie Malone

The Carkeek Demonstration Gardens were created approximately 20 years ago with the purpose of showing the public how to garden with native plants, without the use of pesticides and with minimal water use. The dozen gardens that make up the Carkeek Gardens surround the administration and environmental buildings at Carkeek Forest and Park in northwest Seattle.

Minna Piper was a passionate gardener on her family property in the late 19th century. Her picture is featured in the Carkeek Park Garden brochure, created in 2006, as a steward of the land. Her land became Carkeek Park, now owned by the City of Seattle, and her gardening legacy prompted the "Natural Gardening and Backyard Wildlife Habitat Demonstration Gardens."

The Gardens feature many themes, from the Shady Woodland Garden to the Butterfly Hill Garden.

Since the publication of the original brochure, the Gardens have suffered the neglect of a completely volunteer-based maintenance program (or lack of a program). The Hop vine grew rampant, the Black Twinberry flourished beyond its boundaries and the invasive Field bindweed was prominent.



Minna Piper was a passionate gardener in the late 19th century. Her family property became Carkeek Park, now owned by the City of Seattle

READ the full article

Clinic Spotlight: Lake City

...by Laura Watson, with the help of Judy Broom, Pat Guise and Anne Nelson

Lake City's Master Gardeners are an informed yet ever-curious group of people who enjoy serving the diverse Lake City population by answering gardening questions from all comers. We gather socially twice a year for a delicious potluck and schmoozing. At the spring meeting, we sign up for all our clinics throughout the season; in the fall, we try to have a speaker.



(l-r) Gail Petersen, Jill Williamson and Laura Watson at the Lake City Clinic -- ready for all comers

We are about 22 Master Gardeners' strong, including three Emeritus Master Gardeners-Dori Wright, Holly Kennell and Adriene Harris, who are wonderful resources. We all enjoy the opportunity to learn by working with them...

READ the full article

The Master Gardener Rain Garden Program: *Educating for a Cleaner Puget Sound*

...by Lisa Haglund, King County Rain Garden Program Coordinator, WSU Extension Master Gardener Program

Read about the Master Gardener Rain Garden Program in this three-part article.

[Part 1, Lisa's Story](#), tells about Lisa Haglund's growing awareness of the need for rain gardens, her educational background and involvement with the Master Gardener Rain Garden Program.

[Part 2, The Story of Rain Gardens](#), provides the backdrop of why rain gardens are needed and how they work.

[Part 3, The Master Gardener Rain Garden Program](#), describes what Master Gardener Rain Garden Educators do and how Master Gardeners can get involved in the program (including information on three upcoming events in September and October).

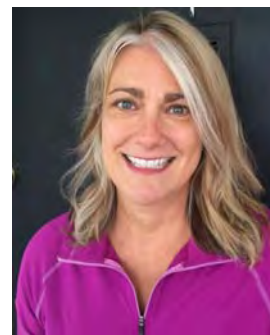
For more information about these rain gardens, you can find a list of the rain gardens in King County and who is installing them in the [Rain Garden Profiles](#) page.

Master Gardener Foundation of King County Board of Directors Spotlight: *Stephenie Kramer*



Master Gardener Rain Garden Educator Jessica Saavedra talking with residents at Brightwater Community Center on World Water Day

Stephenie Kramer joined the Master Gardener Foundation of King County Board of Directors in June, 2015. Stephenie shares some thoughts on gardening and volunteering with the Master Gardener program.



MGFKC Board member Stephenie Kramer

READ the Q&A with Stephenie

What's Happening? *News and Updates*

- **[Next MGF Board Meeting](#)**: Thursday, **Sept. 10**, at Neely Mansion Historic Garden.
- **Bellevue Demo Garden Fall Harvest Festival & Plant Sale**: **Sept. 12**, 10am to noon. Find [other fall classes](#) at Bellevue Demo Garden.
- **Master Gardener Rain Garden Workshop & Build**: **Sept. 12**, 11am, at the Newcastle Days celebration.
- **Master Gardener Rain Gardens & Natural Yard Care workshops**: **Sept. 19** at City People's Garden Store, and **Oct. 10** at Third Place Books Commons in Lake Forest. No registration is required for these workshops. Contact Lisa for more information.
- **[Applications for 2016 Master Gardener training class](#)** are now available. **Submission deadline is Oct. 16**. Incorporating online modules and classroom instruction, the Master Gardener training class in King County will be on 12 consecutive Saturdays beginning on Jan. 9, 2016. Contact Elaine Anderson for more information.
- **[Explore, Learn and Lead, 2015 WSU Advanced Education Conference](#)**, **Sept. 17-19**, 2015, in Vancouver WA. Registration now open.
- **Annual MGF Meeting & MG Recognition Dinner, Wednesday, Oct. 21**. Mark this date on your calendar (note it was incorrectly listed as the 22nd in last month's issue). Details will be provided later.



- [Recognition Nominations for Outstanding Master Gardeners.](#)
These Master Gardeners will be honored at the Recognition Dinner in October. Now is the time to think about whom to nominate who has gone 'above and beyond' in service to the Master Gardener program in King County. Look for Elaine's email with more details later.

Forward this email

STAY CONNECTED

Like us on Facebook 

[Forward this email](#)

 SafeUnsubscribe™

This email was sent to secretary@mgfkc.org by communicate@mgfkc.org |
[Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Rapid removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [About our service provider.](#)



Master Gardener Foundation of King County | 3501 NE 41st St | Box 354115 | Seattle | WA | 98195-4115