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March 2022

**GoodBye February**



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## President's message



March 5, 2020 will always be the day the storm clouds moved into the Master Gardeners' world. We had our last in-person board meeting that day as COVID-19 arrived in Central Oregon.

Two years later, our community of friends (who happen to be Master Gardeners) has grown and even thrived on the challenges we've faced and conquered. We remotely teach our local gardeners and are taught by distant instructors we never would have met if not for a worldwide pandemic. We've provided a lifeline to those who needed a little support and in return we've been able to find new joys to share. We've learned to take care of ourselves, each other and the natural world we know and love.

And now it's March again and we have a brand-new class of OSU Master Gardener Trainees to remind us that the warming soil is again showing us the possibilities of the future. The veteran MGs are excited to welcome potential friends who will soon join us to teach, support and promote horticulture in Central Oregon.



*The garden is a grand teacher. It teaches patience and careful watchfulness; it teaches industry and thrift; above all it teaches entire trust.* **Gertrude Jekyll** (1843-1932 British horticulturist)

The single greatest lesson the garden teaches is that our relationship to the planet need not be zero-sum, and that as long as the sun still shines and people still can plan and plant, think and do, we can, if we bother to try, find ways to provide for ourselves without diminishing the world. **Michael Pollan** (author, "The Omnivore's Dilemma")



**Newsletter Notes: Deadline for submission of material to the HoeDown is 1st Friday after the board meeting. All articles, notices and other journalistic efforts are welcome and appreciated.** All information provided by the "HoeDown" is believed to be accurate but readers must assume all responsibility for their own actions based on this information.

Occasionally a product or company may be named in an article but this does not necessarily constitute an endorsement of said product.

**Published by : COMGA** Send ideas & articles to:  
**HoeDown** Rocky Bessette, 8200 NW Yucca Ave., Redmond, OR 97756 or [rockyb820@gmail.com](mailto:rockyb820@gmail.com)

## ***COMGA Calendar*** ***for contact persons go to [gocomga.com](http://gocomga.com)***

### **March**

- 1 Gardening Get Good At It, 88.9 FM, 9-9:30am
- Discovery Park CG Lottery opens
- Hollinshead Garden Lottery opens
- 3 Monthly board meeting, 10:00am
- 12 Blog: Gardening in Central Oregon
- 17 Hollinshead Volunteer meeting
- 24 Discovery Park CG mentor meeting
- 26 Blog: Gardening in Central Oregon
- 27 Discovery CG registration due, 9:00am-12:00pm
- 31 Hollinshead CG Lottery closes, 12:00pm

### **April**

- 1 Discovery Park Community Garden Lottery closes
- 2 Spring Gardening Seminar webinars 10am & 1pm
- 4 Discovery Community Garden Lottery winners
- 5 OSU Demo Garden workday 9:00am
- 5 Gardening Get Good At It, 88.9 FM, 9-9:30am
- 7 Board meeting 10:00am
- 9 Blog: Gardening in Central Oregon
- 9 Spring Gardening Seminar webinar 10am
- 12 HH Waterwise Mentor meeting & workday, 9:00am
- 14 Discovery Community Garden mentor meeting 6:00pm
- 16 Discovery Community Garden opening 9:00am
- 16 Spring Gardening Seminar webinars 10am & 1pm
- 19 OSU Demo Garden workday, 9:00am
- 20 Hollinshead plot registration due
- 21 Hollinshead volunteer meeting
- 21 Discovery CG mentor meeting, 6:00pm
- 23 Blog: Gardening in Central Oregon
- 23 Hollinshead Community garden opens, 9:00am
- 23 Spring Gardening Seminar webinars, 10am & 1pm
- 24 Hollinshead Community garden opens, 9:00am
- 26 HH Waterwise mentor meeting & workday, 9:00am

### **May**

- 3 OSU Demo garden workday, 9am
- 3 Gardening Get Good At It, 88.9 FM, 9-9:30am
- 5 Board meeting 10:00am
- 6 COBA Home & Garden Show
- 7 COBA Home & Garden Show
- 8 COBA Home & Garden Show
- 12 HH Water-wise meeting & workday 9am
- 14 Blog: Gardening in Central Oregon
- 17 OSU Demo Garden workday, 9am
- 19 Discovery CG mentor meeting & workday 6pm
- 26 HH Water-wise workday & meeting
- 28 Blog: Gardening in Central Oregon
- 31 HH Water-wise Workday & meeting



## PLANT OF THE MONTH

by Lisa Nakadate and Julie Hill

### Featured Plant - Black Lace Elderberry

*Sambucus nigra* 'Eva'

Height: : 6 - 8'

Spread: : 6 - 8'



### Why Should I Plant Black Lace Elderberry in My Garden?

- Intense purple black foliage is finely cut, giving it an effect similar to that of Japanese maple.
- Creamy pink flowers contrast nicely with the dark leaves. They are followed by blackish red fall berries which can be harvested for making elderberry wine and jam, or left on the plant to attract birds and other wildlife.
- It can be used as a dramatic accent plant, planted en masse for a trouble free high hedge or incorporated into the mixed or perennial border.

### Information Sources

Water-wise Gardening in Central Oregon: <https://catalog.extension.oregonstate.edu/em9136>

OSU Landscape Plants: <https://landscapeplants.oregonstate.edu/common>

Monrovia: <https://www.monrovia.com/plant-catalog/plants/3037/black-lace-elderberry/>

## Spring Gardening Seminar 2022

Spring Seminar is coming together very nicely. The committee is working very hard to put it all together. Vickie Minor has organized the speakers; Janet Dart set up the registration information for the website; Julie Hill put together the flyer and banners for the website; Liz Anderson set up the silent auction; Evie Cox is collecting donations for silent auction; Liz Douville and Jan Even are taking care of publicity; Nathalie Smith is handling the logistics; Phil Paterno sent out letters to sponsors; Sue Szabo is a floater helping where she can; Janet and Vickie set up the practice sessions for speakers and host/cohosts. These people are awesome.

### All of the webinars will count for advanced training.

The webinars are \$5 each and the topics are:

Gardening Basics for the High Desert - Vickie Minor - 4/2 @ 10 AM

Water-wise Gardening - Pat Kolling/Chris Miao - 4/2 @ 1 PM

Perennials and Shrubs That Do Well in Central Oregon - Holly Shafer - 4/9 @ 10 AM

Central Oregon Native Bees and the Plants they Frequent - Toni Stephan - 4/16 @ 10 AM

Composting - Rocky Bessette/Toni Stephan - 4/16 @ 1 PM

Firewise Gardening - Amy Jo Detweiler - 4/23 @ 10 AM

Greenhouse Design for All-Season Growing - Eileen Obermiller - 4/23 @ 1PM

**To register go to the COMGA website: [gocomga.com](http://gocomga.com) and click on the seminar flyer.**

See you at one or all of the webinars.

Rocky

## Home & Garden Show Update

With the mask mandate being lifted March 12, and COVID restrictions being eased soon after, we are cautiously optimistic that we have our three-day plant clinic and several gardening classes at the 2022 Home and Garden Show. Plans will be finalized by the end of March. If we do go forward with the event, all efforts will be taken to keep our Master Gardeners safe at the booth and in the classroom. Because the pandemic shut down so many gatherings like this, we anticipate that people will be anxious to get out and we could expect to see several hundred people at our booth, who are interested in getting information about gardening in Central Oregon. Anticipated classes could include growing vegetables, growing tomatoes, composting, growing berries, etc. If we go forward with it, Vickie will put out a call for instructors around the end of March so stay tuned.

## Chapter Inventory

The Inventory Committee, Julie, Nathalie and I wanted to let our members know we will be contacting the Project Coordinators and those who have equipment at their home. We will begin the asset documentation before the gardens open for the season. The OSU Garden inventory is scheduled for Monday March 28. More information to come as it develops.

Nancy, can you please represent us and give this update at the meeting?

Please let me know if you have questions.

Karen, Nathalie and Julie

## Discovery Park Community Garden 2022 Information

### About the Garden:

Discovery Park Community Garden (**DPCG**) (formerly known as NorthWest Crossing Community Garden) is located on Discovery Park Drive near the dog park on the north side of Discovery Park in Bend. The Garden is located on property owned by Bend Park & Recreation District, and is managed by OSU Extension Master Gardener Volunteers. The cost of a raised bed for the season is \$35. Each 4' x 10' raised bed is equipped with microsprayers for irrigation. The automatic watering system is centrally adjusted during the season to compensate for weather and the watering needs of garden plants.

OSU Master Gardener Volunteers are available to be a gardening resource and to assist gardeners. Gardening classes are held throughout the growing season. See the [COMGA](#) or [OSU/Deschutes County Extension website](#) for information and the schedule for 2022. \*

### About Getting a Garden Plot at Discovery Park Community Garden:

Renting an available garden bed at DPCG will be done by lottery. **All wishing to participate in the lottery must register by email to: [discovery@gocomga.com](mailto:discovery@gocomga.com).** Please provide your full name, phone number and email address, and type "DPCG" in the subject line of the email. Returning gardeners in good standing will keep the plots they rented the previous year.

### **LOTTERY opens March 1st and closes April 1st \***

The lottery drawing will be held on April 3<sup>rd</sup> and winners will be notified via email.

Lottery winners will receive their raised bed assignment with the completion of registration.

Remaining lottery applicants will be placed on a *waiting list and notified by email of their status on the list.*

### DPCG Registration Process for 2022 and Gardening Opening on April 16<sup>th</sup> \*

Registration will be available on-line approximately 1 week before the garden opens.

Each gardener will register, and pay the rental fee of \$35.

**Payment may be made on-line (link to be provided during registration) or by mailed check.**

### DPCG CLOSING DAY: Sunday, OCTOBER 16, 2022\*

This will be the last day to work in the garden before it is closed for the season.

\*Garden operations protocols for 2022 have not been finalized as of this writing. It is possible the above listed calendar dates may be modified. Please check back at <http://www.gocomga.com/gardening-news> for the most up to date information about community garden operations.

**Contact: Gary Weber** [discovery@gocomga.com](mailto:discovery@gocomga.com)



## Hollinshead Water-wise Garden

by Pat Kolling & Chris Miao

The Water-wise Garden season has started off at full speed. The first workday will be March 24 beginning at 10:00 AM. The regular workdays are the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month. The team is working on perfecting the use of the workday report with procedures for the volunteers to follow. The plant database is progressing and a meeting is scheduled with the "techie team" to facilitate access to and use of the data. The HWG team is upping our educational program with a pruning class to be held via webinar on March 23rd from 7-8PM followed by an onsite class at the garden on March 26 from 1-3 to demonstrate pruning techniques. The link to registration is: [https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_\\_ETJmk6\\_Sw2k5mjjsS2YRQ](https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN__ETJmk6_Sw2k5mjjsS2YRQ).

There may also be an onsite class in Redmond as part of the session. We are working on that. We have also been approached by the City of Bend to work with them on a "Field day" to be held in June or July at Hollinshead. More to come as this develops. We're looking forward to having a new group of trainees to supplement our full schedule of activities.

## June Garden Fair, June 4, 2022

While June seems like a long ways away, a lot of volunteering tasks will be happening between now and then.

June Garden Fair, which will include a plant sale, vendors, a plant raffle, education booths & mobile plant clinic will be on June 4, 2022. Mark your calendars, I'll need lots of volunteers that day!

Also on June 4th, I'm looking for presenters for 3 different subjects of Growing Tomatoes, Water-wise Gardening and Deer Resistant Gardening. These would be with a 10 Minute University format, outdoors, informal and using the existing OSU Gardening Publications as a guide and could include a hands-on demonstration. Possible time to present might be 10:00, 10:30 and 11:00 am.

Please let me know if you are interested in presenting one of the 10 Minute University subjects.

Vicky Kemp, June Garden Fair Coordinator

## OSU Extension Service Demonstration Garden in Redmond

The first Tuesday in April, our "normal" first volunteer workday for the year, is April 5th and this is ALSO the last OSU Master Gardener classroom Training day. We will probably delay the Demo Garden workday to April 8th, 11th or 12th, 2022.

A decision will be made later in March, so keep an eye out for email notice for which alternate date will be selected.

Starting time will remain the same at 9:00 am.

Vicky Kemp & Karen Simonet,  
Project Coordinators



## ADVANCED TRAINING:

All Spring Seminar classes are approved for Master Gardener Advanced Training. Register on our [gocomga.com](http://gocomga.com) website. Only \$5.00 per session.

You can also get your Advanced Training Credits online at OSU Extension's Level Up Webinar Classes on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 12 noon. Go to <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/mg/growing-oregon-gardeners-level-series-2022>. Classes are recorded, so it's not necessary to attend live.

Upcoming classes are:

**March 8th:** Local Beauties: Native Plants for Ecologically Enhanced Gardens and Landscapes.

**April 12<sup>th</sup>:** Plant Grow Harvest Repeat: Succession Planting

## CONTINUING EDUCATION:

OSU Extension is again offering a series of Level Up Webinar Classes on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 12 noon (Pacific). The series runs from February through November. All classes are eligible for continuing education credit. If you can't attend live, the classes will be recorded and available at:

<https://extension.oregonstate.edu/mg/growing-oregon-gardeners-level-series-2022>

Upcoming classes are:

February 8<sup>th</sup>: The Science and Practice of Seed Starting: Secrets to Success When Growing by Seed.

Register at: <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/mg/growing-oregon-gardeners-level-series-2022#seeds>

March 8<sup>th</sup>: Local Beauties: Native Plants for Ecologically Enhanced Gardens and Landscapes.

Register at: <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/mg/growing-oregon-gardeners-level-series-2022#Native>

## WATCH THIS SPACE FOR UPCOMING MASTER GARDENER EVENTS:

**April:** Tour of Bend Park & Rec's newest park: Alpenglow, the site of our new demo garden. Hopefully we can have a potluck picnic.

**June:** Demo of pruning fruit trees at property in Powell Butte.

**August:** Annual barbecue. (Let's start this up again!)

**December:** Holiday brunch.

## David Douglas

by Judy Shearer

How many of you know what the state tree of Oregon is? Well it is the Douglas fir, *Pseudotsuga menziesii*. I am not making it the topic of this month's article but the man for whom it is named, David Douglas (pictured below). All Master Gardeners should be well aware of who he was and his contributions to our floral knowledge. He was born in Scone Scotland in 1799 and there he started work as a gardener at age 11. In 1823, he was chosen to be a collector for the Royal Botanic Garden in Kew, England and came to Eastern North America in 1824 to begin his work. In his three visits to the country, he came to the Pacific Northwest two times. In 1826, he traveled up the Willamette Valley where he reported the use of fire by local native people. In October of that year he traveled to Roseburg to collect sugar pine cones and had to do so by shooting them out of the trees. After spending some time in California in 1831-1832, he traveled up to the Columbia River in 1832 and then on to the Fraser River District in British Columbia. From there he went to Hawaii for his second trip to the islands. In a freak accident there in 1834, he died after falling in a pit designed to capture roving cows and was trampled by a bull which had also fallen in the pit. His legacy is that he introduced more than 200 plants to the royal gardens in Great Britain and many are still alive today including a Douglas fir at Scone Castle. In North America more than 80 plants have his name associated with them. In a quick perusal through the index in my copy of Hitchcock and Cronquist's Flora of the Pacific Northwest, I found 26 species with the specific epithet douglasii in the scientific name. Examples include *Olsynium douglasii* (grass widows), *Spirea douglasii* (Douglas Spirea), *Chaenactis douglasii* (dusty maidens), and *Eriogonum douglasii* (buckwheat) all of which can be found in central Oregon. Others have the name Douglas in their common names including Douglas fir, and Douglas aster (*Symphotrichum subspicatum*). Just an additional note of trivia is that the tallest Douglas fir in the world standing at 327 feet can be found in Coos Bay BLM near Norway, Oregon. The top 30 feet are dead which means it won't grow more except in girth. The largest Douglas fir in girth is called the Red Creek fir in British Columbia measuring 14 feet in diameter and 43.7 feet in circumference.



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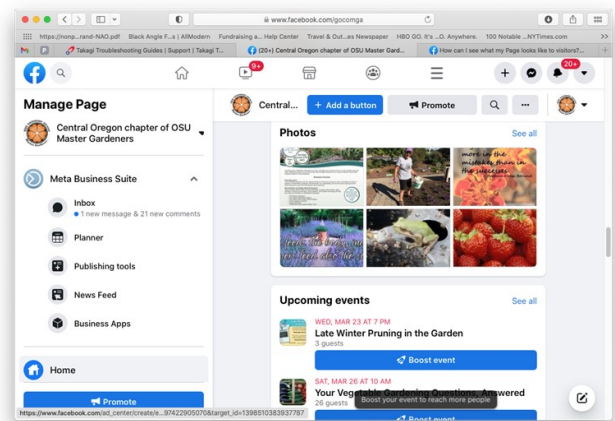
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<https://ancientforestalliance.org/worlds-largest-douglas-fir-tree-the-red-creek-fir/>

## Are you on Facebook?



COMGA is looking for a Facebook editor. If you visit Facebook daily, maybe it could be you!

### Requirements:

Have a Facebook account that you check daily.

Check COMGA's Facebook account daily for questions and respond to them. It may require some research to respond to a question. Just as in plant clinic, all answers must be based on science.

Knowledge of how to create Facebook events is a plus.

If you are interested, please contact Jan Even at [communityed@gocomga.com](mailto:communityed@gocomga.com) or 541-280-5238.



## LOWDOWN FROM THE BOARD

### BOARD MEETING MINUTES

March 3, 2022

In Person and via Zoom Online

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Nancy Glick (President), Janet Dart (VP MG Education), Jan Even (VP Community Education), Marilyn Clark (Secretary), Tim Schindele (Treasurer), Jan Barron (OMGA State Rep.), Rocky Bessette (Communications Liaison), Jolene Dodge (Membership Coordinator), Liz Douville, Vicky Kemp, Pat Kolling, Carroll Minium, Ruth Mulligan, Judy Shearer, Nan Smith, Kirsten Hinton, Betty Faller, Shawna Larson, Diana Hardin and Toni Stephan.

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. and was adjourned at 11:39 a.m. The board discussed the following:

**Approval of Minutes** from February 3, 2022, meeting.

Upon motion by Janet Dart and seconded by Rocky Bessette, the minutes were approved as submitted by unanimous vote.

**OSU Report.** Ton Stephan reported that MG training is past the half-way point. Feedback is good on the hybrid method being used this year. Amy Jo is on medical leave. We hope she is back in a couple of weeks. The training class for next week is in development and will include a segment about the Project Fair. Toni is trying to get it finalized, and asked project coordinators to be available Tuesday morning, March 8th for the Zoom session. Nancy Glick asked each project coordinator to review and update the project summary information for the website and get the changes to her by next Tuesday, if possible. She'll upload them to the website so everyone can have access to current contact information.

We've had access to one Hotspot internet connection device which we've been using for the last 8 years or so. It's been used for remote events including Home & Garden Show, plant clinics, etc. COMGA needs to look into getting one for future events.

As for the masking update, Toni recommended everyone read the email from OSU that was sent out March 2nd.

**Regarding Plant Clinic,** Toni is working on a plan to accommodate the trainees from 2020 as well as the 42 or so from this year. She's developing options to mentor trainees first (through April and May), leaving availability in June for returning volunteers. She will be meeting on it next week and will let us know as soon as she has a plan.

## BOARD REPORTS:

**Treasurer's Report** as presented by Tim Schindele: Copies previously sent to board members and project coordinators. Nancy shared the report on screen for all attendees. February income is \$970.42, including 15 member renewals for \$225 and \$700 in Spring Seminar sponsorships. With expenses of \$163.86, net income was \$802.06.

**Membership Report** from Jolene Dodge: We have 55 paid members as of now. There are a few that filled out the form but haven't paid yet. She just mailed a few checks to Tim, not in the bank yet.

**Advanced Training** from Janet Dart: She will be promoting OSU Level Up series; March is Local Beauties, Native Plants for Ecologically Enhanced Gardens and Landscapes; April is Plant Grow Harvest Repeat – Succession Planting. Spring seminar registration is open, and all classes will count toward advanced training. Quarterly meeting: Planning something for April and will get out information next week. June – fruit tree pruning at Liz Andersons. August, we'll have a BBQ and December our holiday party. Janet will be writing a blurb on Alpenglow to include in our projects list. Plan to plant it in May. Bend Park & Rec. is paying for everything except labor. They are providing a shed for our assets and tools.

**Community Education** from Jan Even: Classes are getting underway this month. March 15th and 17th, Pat Kolling is teaching two COCC Zoom classes on Veggie Gardening and General Gardening.

March 23rd, Pat & Chris will be conducting a pruning class on Zoom, we have the slide deck on pruning on the public drive. Then, Sat. March 26th, we planned a live pruning demo at the Hollinshead Waterwise garden.

Practice is beginning for the Zoom Spring Veggie Classes Q&A: Sat. 3/26 10 am and 3/28 at 7 p.m. Registrars will get a link for the video, and then come to the live Q&A periods mentioned.

**Publicity** includes Facebook events for each class and session, sending out a press release, and sending info. to Lisa Cowen to put on Ext. website. Also sending info. to Central Oregon Gardeners Facebook group, which has 7,000 members. We're also purchasing some Facebook ads to target people in our geographic areas.

For the spring seminar, we may be advertising in The Source, and there'll be one ad in the Bulletin. Liz also does the gardening blog on our website. Marilyn now has the article in the Madras Pioneer. Online access is behind the paywall, and she'll ask for a special link to promote it and allow access.

Diana Hardin is still getting questions from CO Master Gardeners website. Jan will delete her contact link.

**LOWDOWN FROM THE BOARD** Continued

**Historian Report** from Mimi Thomas. Nancy received her report and spoke in her absence. FLICKR will update next week at \$133 for 2 yrs. She is still looking for photographer names from project coordinators of who will be taking photos of events. Send them to her email. Send any photos from last year also.

**Annual Statewide Awards** – Nancy Glick discussed the annual OMGA Programs and Awards categories for which we need to make nominations. We need to get our nominees to Amy Jo this month. Jan Barron will ask about the Behind-the-Scenes criteria so we can understand it better. Nancy asked Coordinators to give her input for MG Awards Behind the Scenes. Janet Dart suggested we apply for the Marje Luce Search for Excellence award. We could submit for the Waterwise garden.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

**Chapter Inventory** report from Nathalie Smith: Nancy spoke in her absence. The committee will be contacting project coordinators and plan to conduct it Monday, March 28th.

**Madras/Prineville paper column.** Jan Even mentioned that since OSU is reviewing the article, we could place copies in the COMGA Library for member access.

**Soil Thermometers** – Last month, Nancy Glick reported that we need a replacement for Diana. Karen Simonet agreed to take it over. Diana brought the notebook and would like to discuss it with her so the thermometers can be included in the March 28 inventory. Nancy will email Karen.

**Project Fair Volunteers** – Pat Kolling. Toni clarified how they will be handled, and will be available for the next Tues. class, March 8th. We need project updates on the website. Get your information updated now because the website displays some 2020 data and contacts. New trainees are anxious to begin participating. Jan Even asked how she can get volunteers for community education if it's not treated like a "Project". It needs to be included. Jolene asked why isn't Community Education considered a project? Rocky suggested Jan contact Toni to be included in the Project Fair. Pat Kolling will fill in for Jan since she will be unavailable next Tues. Diana suggested we consider the renaming the topic Volunteer Opportunities rather than Projects.

**Pat Geary Condolences** – Nancy Glick lead discussion about a donation or flowers for Kathy Geary's husband's memorial service. Kathy told us about his passing on Feb 17th. We sent cards, but we are waiting until next month to act.

**PROJECT STATUS REPORTS** – Reports are submitted directly to the HoeDown. Unless a project coordinator has an issue, or needs funding or board approval on a topic, we will not discuss at meetings.

**Open Forum:**

**Conflict of Interest forms** are needed from selected board members, Marilyn will send out a second request.

Jan Even heard from an OSU representative that we need to review our logos in advertisements. There is one valid OSU Extension logo, so we need to look at the new criteria. As soon as she receives the new logo criteria, she will send out. Any time we publicize our educational events, we need to use the new logo, or use this language: "in conjunction with OSU Extension Service".

Marilyn asked about Workspace training. A new instructional video has recently been stored on the library, Google workspace folder.

.Respectfully submitted:

Marilyn Clark

**Hollinshead Community Garden**

by Kirsten Hinton

We'd love to welcome three more Master Gardeners as mentors at Hollinshead Community Garden. The mentors, assistants, and volunteers are a super bunch who I appreciate very much. We've already enjoyed two productive mentor/volunteer meetings to finish off one of last year's projects and are looking forward to another great season. If you're interested (and I hope you are), please send an email to [hollinshead@gocomga.com](mailto:hollinshead@gocomga.com) so I can provide you with more information on this fun volunteer position.

To welcome gardeners and give them an introduction to community gardening—how it's different from home gardening, a short, no-audio video is being developed to send with the Garden Guidelines. The goal is to have it available for the start of the 2022 season, but if not we'll have it for next year.

The New-Gardener Lottery started March 1 and ends March 31. People may enter by emailing: [hollinshead@gocomga.com](mailto:hollinshead@gocomga.com) Currently, we have four plots available. Nine other renters from last season have until March 23 to reclaim their plot. This year we are developing a "Pre-Lottery" lottery for existing renters in good standing who desire to change from their existing plot to one of the vacant plots. So far, we have about seven who have indicated they want to move.



## Spring Flowering Bulbs,

by Nancy Glick

Are you ready for Spring? Are you ready for some bright yellow daffodils, a few cheerful purple crocus, or a brilliant red tulip standing bravely in the cold, early Spring of Central Oregon? Me, too.

If you planted Spring Flowering Bulbs last fall, you might be seeing the tips of leaf buds poking through the soil now. Once the leaves are above ground and the first thaw has begun, it's a good time to put some balanced 10-10-10 fertilizer on the bed. The flowers are ready and waiting inside the bulbs, poised for the first warm sunshine to bloom and that first fertilizer, scratched into the soil around the new growth, will strengthen the stems and help prolong the bloom.

Since our favorite Spring bulbs originated in the deserts of Turkey, they don't mind dry soil – don't water the bulbs unless it's been dry for a month or more. Overwatering will cause the bulbs to rot in the ground and they'll just disappear before next Spring. Deadheading the blooms as they fade will keep everything looking good. Cut a few blooms to enjoy indoors but cutting too many could reduce the bulb's ability to produce blooms next year.

When the blooms are done, don't remove or tie up the leaves until they're no longer green. The leaves are building up reserves in the bulb to produce next year's flower – damage the leaves now and you may not get any bloom! I like to plant annuals around the fading leaves to keep the garden beds looking their best. Some gardeners plant their bulbs around perennials. The bulbs will shine before the perennials are awake and when they begin to grow, the new leaves will hide the fading bulb leaves in late spring and summer.

That's it – all you need to do for the best Spring Bulbs is lightly fertilize and don't overwater. One more application of a balanced fertilizer after the blooms fade and you're done. You can understand why I plant hundreds of bulbs every fall – that's the hardest I have to work for a beautiful display every Spring.

So now that my daffodils, scilla and alliums are blooming, how does my garden look? Hmmm, maybe not as good as it could. Time to get out my camera and my garden journal.

O dear, the allium looks a little skimpy – I must make a note in my journal to divide it this fall. When I planted the daffodils five years ago, that conifer wasn't so big – the flowers are now underneath the branches! The blue scilla is stunning but it would be a better display if I plant some more this fall. The new fence looks really good – wouldn't some red tulips look incredible against the white wood? The little blue muscari are multiplying like crazy – maybe the bulbs would be a great Easter gift if I divide and pot them up. I can tell from my annual digital photos that the daffodil bed is improving but some double bloom daffodils or some white cupped narcissus would really make the area more spectacular.

There's lots of work to be done next fall!

My notes will also help me know what color, size and bloom time I want and where. Next August and

September, I'll have an easy shopping list when it's time to order my bulbs.

A little planning in your early Spring Garden will make your garden the beautiful vision you dreamed of all winter long.

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## Horticultural Oils

### What a Gardener Needs to Know

by JoAnne Skelly

Here is a list of terms taken from a publication from University of Nevada Cooperative Extension. If you would like to read the whole publication go to University of Nevada Cooperative Extension Fact Sheet 13-20.

**Delayed Dormant oil**—Oil applied when buds are showing 1/16 to 1/2 inch of green.

**Dormant Oil**—Oil applied to woody plants during dormant stage of growth (winter) before buds open in the spring at a higher concentration than summer oil. Refers to season of application.

**Horticultural Oil**—A pesticide used to control insects, mites and some diseases. May be petroleum or plant based.

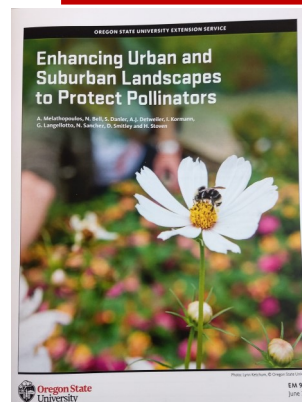
**Nonselective**—kills all insects, including beneficial insects.

**Phytotoxicity**— Plant injury due to a toxic effect by a compound.

**Summer Oil**—Oil applied when plants are in leaf at a lower concentration than dormant oil. Sometimes called superior oils. Refers to season of application.

**Superior Oil**—Oil that doesn't contain sulfur and can be applied when plants are in leaf. Also called supreme oil.

**Supreme Oil**—Highly refined oil. Similar to superior oil.



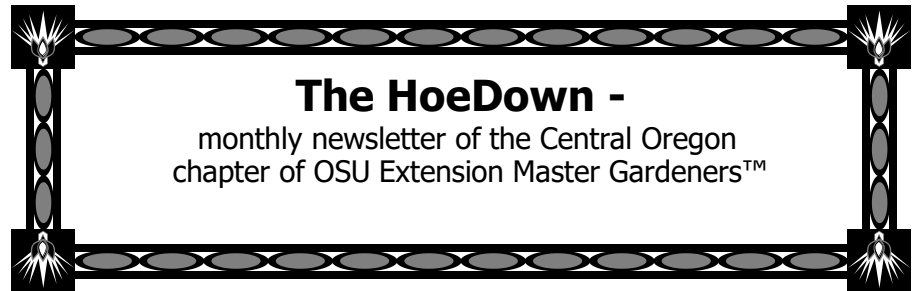
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