

The Grapevine



April 2021

The newsletter for Yamhill County Master Gardeners



Oregon State University
Extension Service
Yamhill County

Remember to apply for OMGA grants before May 15th. Simple, easy-to-fill-out forms can win hundreds of dollars for YCMGA projects, either in the planning stage or already functioning.

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APRIL MASTER GARDENER ONLINE CLASSES:

April 13: 'Dazzling Dahlias' with Julie Huynh at 3:00 pm

Zoom + recordings available to watch any time

[HTTPS://WORKSPACE.OREGONSTATE.EDU/COURSE/FREE-INTRO-TO-OREGON-MASTER-GARDENER-PROGRAM](https://workspace.oregonstate.edu/course/free-intro-to-oregon-master-gardener-program)



Sheep sorrel

(*Rumex acetosella*) growing in your soil? That means the soil is acidic and low in nutrients and calcium.



Tales from the Chef's Garden

April means the **shade cloth** better be installed on the greenhouse. Not only can it be unbearably hot for *people* when the sun shines, but seed germination is problematic. An unshaded greenhouse will cook (for lack of a better term) the seeds. **Installing the shade cloth** can take the better part of an afternoon to accomplish when one manages to not have the shade cloth straight, so that the throwing ropes are attached to two different edges! That was the story for 2021. It was as if I had never installed that shade cloth before.

If you notice large holes in shade cloth after it has been stored for the winter, then some mouse mom has lined her nest with your plastic! Ugh!

The next April project is **rototilling**. In my early years here, we had a 1979 Toro tiller that no longer worked well and was quite unsafe. In fact, I referred to it as "The whirling blades of death"! We then rented a walk-behind tiller for 2 or 3 years, but it would take all day and then some to till everything. Four years ago we moved to hiring a tractor guy with a rototiller attachment. My life improved dramatically as a result.



All of March we were busy in the greenhouse **planting seeds** and then **transplanting** hundreds of plants. When the garden has been tilled, we can shape the growing beds and plant right away. The race is on.

April also means **swarm season**. At the Chef's Garden, we have a small apiary ranging from 5 to 10 colonies of honey bees, depending on the time of year and the year itself. You may or may not know, but honey bees naturally reproduce by division, called swarming.



A swarm we were able to retrieve

About half of the colony, along with the old queen, leaves to seek a new nest. They leave behind half of the worker bees and a new queen who will hatch shortly. This behavior reduces the amount of honey the colonies make and can frighten the neighbors. We have had our share of swarms over the years. Some of them we have retrieved and some of them we could not reach.

Back to my original statement that April is swarm prevention time, means that I need to spend time weekly taking steps to discourage swarming along with all the gardening that happens in April.

All of the above activities make for a very full month.



*Anna Ashby, Master Gardener
Master Beekeeper*

The Invasives

Canada thistle

Cirsium advense

About the plant

Canada thistle is an aggressive invasive in open areas, spreading by both seed and roots. Seedlings emerge as small rosettes in the fall or early spring, then bolt into erect stems in summer.

The seeds are dispersed by the wind (similar to dandelion) and can remain viable in the soil for over 20 years.

How it spreads

Each plant has a fibrous taproot with deep, wide-spreading horizontal roots. Once established, Canada thistle spreads quickly in circular patches, and will spread (vegetatively) 10' to 12' each season. Small pieces of root can also grow into new plants.

Seed production is usually completed in early July. Plants become inactive during hot weather (July and August), then new shoots emerge during September. Creeping roots provide stored food and numerous underground buds; removal of shoots or any damage to established plants just stimulates new growth from underground buds. **Buds on creeping roots can generate new shoots a year or more after top-growth has been destroyed.**



Growth in 2 years, from one 12" rootlet

How to fight it

Want to get rid of Canada thistle without using chemicals? Then consider this; you would have to do repeated deep tillage every 7 to 28 days for up to 4 years to kill the root system!

Foliarly-applied herbicides, applied over several years, do have an effect. Spraying needs to be in early June as soon as the first flower buds are formed, or on fall regrowth during September and early October (when the plants will deliver the chemical down into the roots).



First year growth, in spring

One properly-timed application may provide 50 to 90 percent control on shoot regrowth 6 months to a year later. So at least one additional application (probably more) 3 to 12 months after that is needed to provide some long-term control. Remember that the seeds are viable for 20 years, so it is advisable to scout and spot-spray the plants every year for the rest of your life.



Donn Callaham



Canada thistle in flower

HOW TO USE OUR YCMGA WEBSITE

The YCMGA website has been built to serve two fundamental purposes. The first is to provide gardening information and resources to the public. The second is to provide YCMGA members additional information and resources regarding the organization.

This article will provide a review of all resources available and how to navigate to them. For members we will review where to find out **WHAT**, **WHEN**, and **WHERE** various meetings, activities, or events are held, as well as a number of tools available to help you get involved and stay engaged.

The **MEMBER ONLY** components of the website contain sensitive information which is protected, requiring each member to provide a unique username/password to gain access. At last check there were a number of YCMGA Master Gardeners who have never logged in to the member-only side of the website so a review of how to do so is included below.

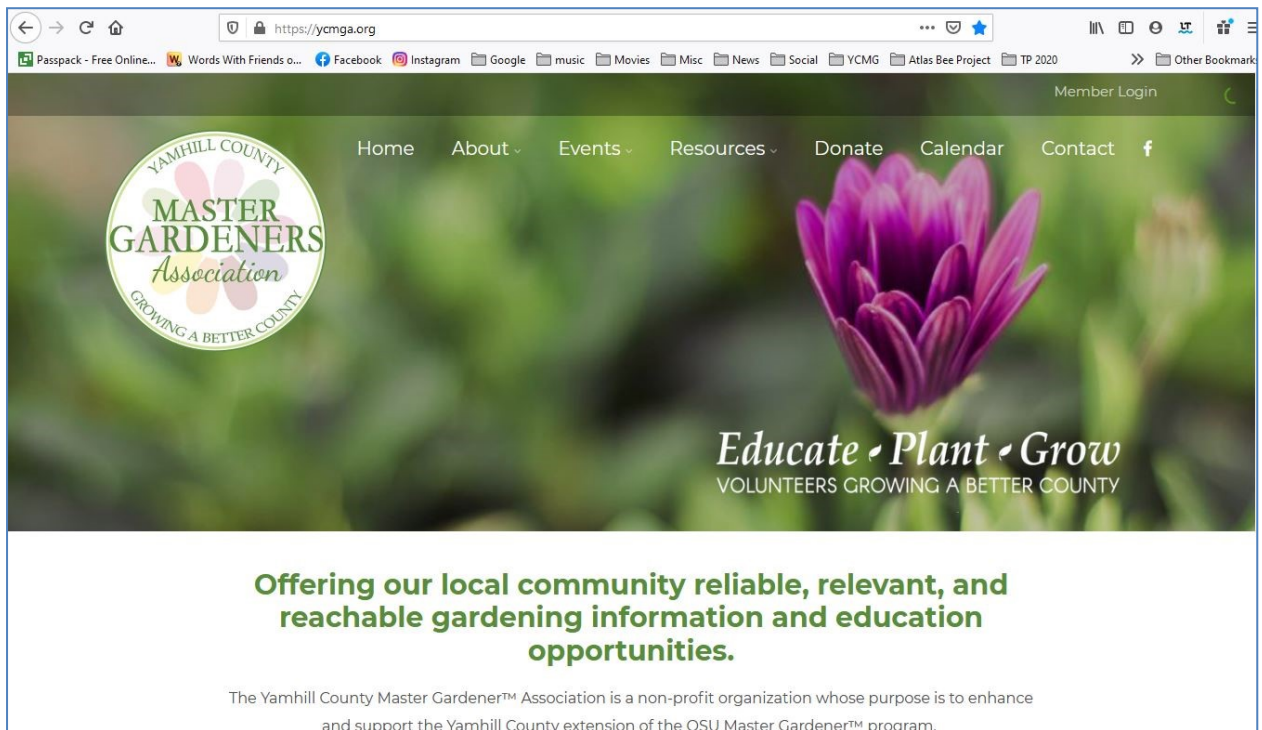


Figure 1.

YCMGA.org
homepage
(Visible to the
Public)

Public Resources

The front page of the YCMGA website provides access to all public resources. The public menu items above have the following sub-menus which will take you to a page detailing each one.



- ✿ **About Us**
- ✿ **Our History**
- ✿ **Historical Photo Gallery**
- ✿ **Becoming a Master Gardener**
- ✿ **Master Gardener Speakers**
- ✿ **Grapevine Newsletter Archive**

(This changes during the year)

Events:

- ✿ Spring into Gardening
- ✿ Plant Sale
- ✿ Mini-College
- ✿ Garden to Table
- ✿ Events Calendar
- ✿ Event Photo Gallery

Resources:

- ✿ OSU Gardening Webinars
- ✿ YCMGA Scholarship Materials
- ✿ Oregon Bee Atlas Project
- ✿ Popular Publications
- ✿ Ask an Expert
- ✿ UC Integrated Pest Management
- ✿ Identification
- ✿ Gardening Calendar
- ✿ Oregon Nurseries
- ✿ OSU MG Site

Member Resources

You'll notice in the top right corner of the public page a Member Login button (see Figure 1). If you select it, you'll see the popup to the right.

At some point you should have received your login credentials: use these to gain access to the member only resources.

If you've forgotten your password simply click on the [Lost Password](#), and supply your user name or email address, and you will be emailed a link to reset your password. If you need additional assistance, contact webadmin@ycmga.org.

Once you are logged in, you will be directed to your member profile. The information displayed is available to all members through the Master Gardener Directory. You can edit any of the fields so make sure it is kept up to date. For security, you will be automatically logged out after 30 minutes of inactivity.

Also, once logged in, you will notice an additional menubar across the top of the screen (see figure 3).

Member Login

Figure 3.

YCMGA.org
Member Only
Menubar



You've seen the Member Profile page. The other Member menubar items provide the following:

Volunteer!:

- ✿ OSU's Volunteer Reporting System (VRS)
- ✿ Summary of Volunteer opportunities, and contacts
- ✿ Detailed Job Descriptions for Board Officer, Committee, and Activity positions.
- ✿ Online signups for ongoing activities
- ✿ Inventory of outreach media and poster materials

Docs: includes quick access to:

- ✿ YCMGA Reports to OMGA
- ✿ Resource Manual
- ✿ Job Descriptions
- ✿ MG Office Computer Training Notes
- ✿ Board Minutes
- ✿ YCMGA BY-LAWS
- ✿ YCMGA Articles of Association
- ✿ YCMGA Scholarship Materials

Annual dues renewal

Master Gardener Directory

(Searchable directory of contact info for all YCMG's)

Forms:

- ✿ Check request form
- ✿ Education outreach project form
- ✿ New project form
- ✿ Intake form (revised in 2018)

Templates

- ✿ Excel Plant Sale tag template

REMEMBER: This website is our resource: if there is something that needs updating or there is additional content you think would be useful please let Tom Canales know.

Survivor Trees...



Dogs Detect Plant Pathogens

A national research team is starting a four-year project that involves training dogs to sniff out pests and pathogens, starting with spotted lanternfly eggs and powdery mildew.

Detection dogs have been used in agriculture before — to recognize citrus greening disease, for example — but only on a small scale. People typically imagine expensive, purebred working dogs. But the researching team will train 70 dogs representing many breeds. Another misconception about scent work is that it's *work*. In fact, canine experts say, dogs appear to think of scent detection as a game.

All breeds have excellent noses. The question is not whether a dog *can* detect scents, but whether it *wants* to. Some breeds, and specific dogs within breeds, are more motivated. In one experiment with a pug, German shepherd and greyhound, the pug clearly performed best, surprising the researchers.

In phase one of experimentation the plant pathologist will supply spotted lanternfly eggs and vineyard clippings inoculated with powdery mildew. In the lab, the dogs will be trained to recognize each scent. Like teaching a dog to roll over, each time the dog does what's expected, it's rewarded.

They also will test dogs' limitations. For example, they'll test how soon after inoculation and from how far away a dog can recognize scent.

Phase two will take place in farmers' fields. The researchers will partner with the National Association of Canine Scent Work, an organization that teaches members, both professionals and amateurs, how to scent-train.



The omniscient smile of a trained sniffer dog

If the project is successful, the researchers say they'll create curriculum and certification tests. Eventually, they envision some people becoming dog entrepreneurs whom farms can hire, and that some farmers will train their own.



From an article By [SIERRA DAWN McCLAIN](#) Capital Press

Buried Alive—for 17 years

They've been living in roots and now cicadas are ready to rise. When the ground warms to 64 degrees, they'll stop gnawing on tree roots and start scratching toward the surface by the hundreds of billions.

After tunneling their way out of the ground near tree trunks, they'll crawl up trees, or things they mistake for trees, and shed a thin shell from which they emerge as Technicolor animals with big orange eyes and wings.



The males will start mating songs that reach up to 100 decibels (the same decibel level of a chain-saw). Adult cicadas die post-intercourse. Females stick

their eggs into the branches of trees, then die. The eggs hang out for a while, then hatch, and the nymphs fall to the ground and dig down to a tree root, which they nibble on for 17 years.

Sometimes, 17-year cicadas jump the gun because of climate change. Millions of Brood X cicadas bore to the surface in 2017 a bit too early, and were completely devoured by predators.

A natural fungus attacks male cicadas in the most personal way. They can't mate if they've got the fungus because their reproductive parts are lying on the ground somewhere. Males transfer the fungus into the eggs of females in their sperm, infecting the next generation.

Cicadas have dramatically declined virtually everywhere, especially in Southern states.



Darryl Fears Washington Post
March 9, 2021

Plant Sale

Sponsored by Yamhill County Master Gardeners

Online Shopping Only

Begins April 5, 2021

Vegetables, Annuals and Perennials all at great prices!

Visit ycmgaplantsale.com
starting April 5

Scheduled Plant Pickups

at the
Yamhill County Fairgrounds

Pickup dates:

May 6-8 and May 13-15

Thank you for your Support!

*Plant Sale proceeds support YCMGA educational
horticultural programs in Yamhill County.*



For more details, call 503-434-7517 or go to:

ycmga.com



OMGA Master Gardener Mini-college 2021

Master Gardener Mini College 2021 has a slate of outstanding speakers ready to present a wide range of educational and interesting topics. We're really excited about this program.

Everyone has been doing virtual meetings and webinars. One thing is certain: these events are much better when there is a moderator who can assist the speaker. To this end we are seeking volunteers to function in that capacity for each of the presenters scheduled to do the breakout sessions on Friday and Saturday at our virtual Mini College.

Here is a peek at the speakers, and their proposed topics, who are on tap for Mini College 2021.



GROWING GARDENERS 2021

Friday July 16th 11am to 1pm (est.)

IPM with crops —Navnett Kaur, OSU Extension Entomologist

Oregon Bee Atlas — (Andony Melathopoulos, OSU Extension Asist. Professor of Pollinator Health)

Native Garden Plant considerations for Pollinators — (Jen Hayes, OSU Hort. Dept. Graduate student)

Soil health/human health — Dr. Gwynne Mhulreach, OSU Biology and Built Environment Center

Mason Bees — Rich Little, Entomologist & 2013 Linn County Master Gardener of the Year

Saturday July 17th 11am to 1pm (est.)

Japanese Beetle — Dr. Jessica Rendon, Oregon Dept. of Ag. Japanese Beetle Eradication Specialist

Urban Soils — Mykl Nelson, OSU instructor of Urban Agriculture

Biochar Research — Kristin Trippe, USDA Research Soil Microbiologist

Organic gardening — Weston Miller, OSU Extension Community and Urban Horticulturalist

Year-Round Pollinator Plants — Janet Magedanz, Master Gardener and "Plant Nerd" –

You'll recognize that each of the speakers is an expert in their topic and practiced at conducting an exciting and interesting presentation. We just need a couple of hours of your time to help with a class.

If you would like to join one of these fine educators and assist with facilitating their webinar, I urge you to contact me, Eric Bosler (ericbosler@hotmail.com). If you know of a prospective moderator just let me know and I'm happy to reach out and see if they are indeed interested and available to participate.

Thank you for your consideration and commitment to our program.



OMGA™

Oregon Master Gardener Association





**CONNECT
COLLABORATE
CULTIVATE**

Save the Date

OMGA PRESENTS

Mini-College 2021

CONNECT - COLLABORATE - CULTIVATE

July 16 and 17, 2021

Experience and participate in a dynamic program
of
interactive educational classes and workshops

Keynote presentations by:

Robert Michael Pyle and **Gail Langellotto**

Watch for the exciting details when our website *“goes live”* at:

mastergardenerminicollege.org

Registration will open in March 2021

Walnuts are not nuts...

A true nut is a hard-shelled pod containing both the fruit and the seed of the plant. The fruit does not open to release the seed. Almonds, walnuts, pecans, and many fruits are drupes; the pit is surrounded by a fleshy part. In these plants, the outer flesh eventually releases the seed inside the fruit.

Bull thistle flower as compared to Canada thistle flower (lower right corner of this page)



The payoff of growing organic vegetables
(photo by Lynn Ketchum)



Extreme Topiary



Yamhill County Master Gardener™ Association and OSU Extension presents

Spring into Gardening

**Free Virtual
Educational
Gardening Classes**

**Saturdays in
April 2021**

10:00 AM to 11:15 PM



Speakers and Topics

April 3rd

**Working with Nature - Thoughts on Plant Nativity
& Climate Change** by Norm Jacobs - Arbutus Garden Arts

April 10th

**Underground Vegetables - Root Crops and How to
Grow Them** by Darren Morgan - Shonnards Nursery

April 17th

Attracting Birds to Your Garden by Patty Sorensen
Lincoln County Audubon Society, MG Lincoln County

April 24th

**The Humble Ground Cover - A New Look at an Old
Landscape Staple** by Neil Bell - OSU

**All sessions qualify for Master Gardener recertification credit of 1 hour*

Major Sponsors:

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Red Ridge Farms

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Les Schwab - Newberg

Reid Rental

McMenamins Pub at Hotel Oregon

Wilco Farm Store

Willamette Valley Medical Center



Register online at: YCMGA.org

All sessions limited to first 100 registrants! Free Registration!



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PESKY PROFILES

By Heather Stoven

Cabbage Maggots

As spring is underway and the weather warms during April many of our insect pests begin to arrive. One of the pests which is emerging from pupae in the soil during this time of year is the cabbage maggot (*Delia brassicae*).

The cabbage maggot adult is a dark gray fly which looks similar to a housefly, but is about half the size (about 1/3"). The maggots are the life cycle stage which are problematic, as they feed



Cabbage maggots (larvae)

on brassica roots or bore into the taproot which can damage or kill young seedlings either directly or by introducing root pathogens.

The larvae feed for about 3-5 weeks then they pupate in the soil again. After emerging as adults they mate, lay eggs and start another generation (there are multiple per year). Crop rotation is important for cabbage maggot, as well as applying a row cover prior to adult emergence (degree-day modeling shows peak emergence will be early-mid April this year).

Row cover applied this spring will also help protect other early season crops from additional pests such as leaf miner on spinach and beets and carrot rust fly damaging carrots, parsnips, and celery.



pnwhandbooks.cabbage-maggot

Heather's Highlights

Hello Master Gardeners! I hope you are enjoying the first days of spring and some of the warmer weather we have been having. I know I have enjoyed spending some of these days out in my garden.

Now that our risk levels in Yamhill County have been reduced we do have our Master Gardener gardens open for volunteers again, though participants must fill out OSU paperwork and sign up with committee chairs in order to ensure the number of volunteers is within the garden's limits.

If you are interested in joining any of the many Master Gardener committees, please contact

Heather Stoven

Heather Stoven

OSU Yamhill County Extension
Faculty, Community Agriculture



Carla for more information and she can connect you to the committee chairs. We also have many other exciting events on the horizon including Spring into Gardening webinars Saturdays in April, and the spring session of Garden-to-Table which also begins the first Saturday in April.

The online Master Gardener plant sale is on the horizon for early May. Although we have some modifications to the format of our traditional spring programs, it is exciting to see the Master Gardeners come together to plan safe events and for these to come to fruition. Thank you to all of you, and happy Spring!





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The Grapevine

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FOR FREE SUBSCRIPTION BY EMAIL, SEND REQUEST TO ABOVE ADDRESS.

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