

The Brambles



Summer 2024



New Demonstration Greenhouse and Learning Garden Update

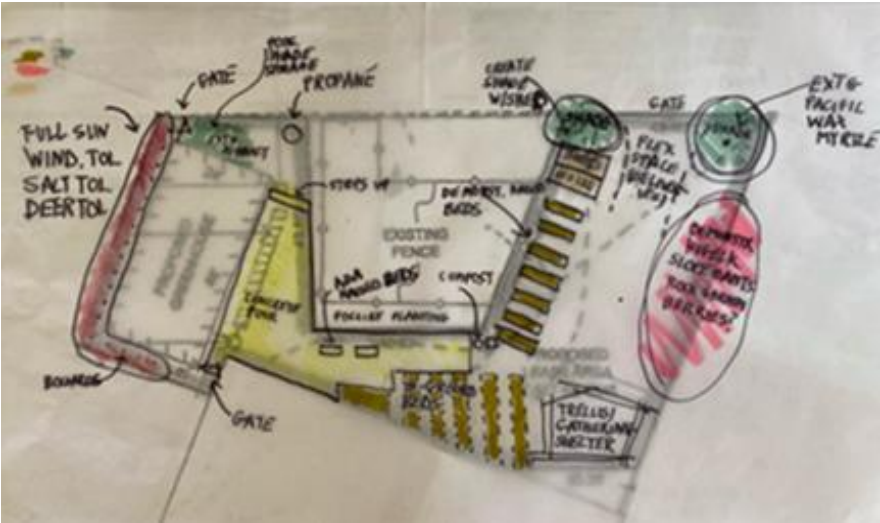
Ginny Knox

We are fast approaching the date when we will be ordering our beautiful new greenhouse. We finally have everything in place to request our building permit, and once the permit is issued, we will be placing the order!

In case you haven't heard, we have reached an agreement with the Gold Beach Community Center to use a section of their property for our new facility. There have been a lot of preparations made to get to this point, including deciding on electrical service, water and sewer,



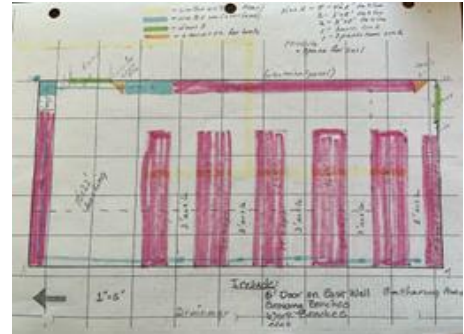
24 ft. x 48 ft. Deluxe Teaching Package
\$34,450.00



in addition to the exact location of the greenhouse, getting bids on different facets of the construction, fencing, accessibility, exterior walkways, outside garden beds, gates, etc. The greenhouse committee has been meeting twice a month for 2+ years planning all of the details.

There are still many details to be decided upon, and there is an active subcommittee planning the exterior spaces and demonstration gardens. Here is a preliminary map showing some of that planning (Maggie Daly). The committee would appreciate your participation and input, so if you have a heart for this, please contact Ali VanOtterloo alivanotterloo@gmail.com

The interior of the greenhouse is another exciting item that we have begun to plan, but we can also use your assistance with ideas if this is something you enjoy. We have basic benches and a big sink planned, but we will need to find the materials to construct them, find contractors to build them, figure out the irrigation system, and storage. We will also have an area inside the greenhouse to offer our community some classes. If you'd enjoy helping with planning the interior of the greenhouse, contact Debbie Carroll dacarroll622@gmail.com



You will have a chance to walk the property and see the location in person at our August membership summer get-together on Saturday, August 31st. Be sure to mark your calendars!

Upcoming Events and Training

July Mondays: Riley Creek School Gardens Open

The Riley Creek School Garden in Gold Beach is looking great right now! The community is welcome to stop by on Mondays from noon to 2 pm while the Master Gardener volunteers are working there. Come on in and walk around, bring a picnic, do a little weeding and even pick a few strawberries, raspberries or some lettuce. Located at 94350 6th Street, Gold Beach.



July 1, 8, & 11: Building Gardens at Pacific High School in Port Orford



Wendy Tomko is seeking volunteers to assist with gardening projects at Pacific High School in Port Orford. The primary task is installing drip lines but there are various other gardening endeavors. Please see the article below for a detailed description of this exciting new project done in conjunction with the Pacific High School Horticulture program. The volunteer dates are Monday, July 1st, Monday, July 8th and Thursday, July 11th, from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm. Kindly reach out to Wendy at wendy.tomko@2cj.k12.or.us for additional information.

July 24-27: Curry County Fair

This year the [Annual Curry County Fair](#) will be held from Wednesday July 24th to Saturday July 27th at the Fairgrounds. As we have in the past, the Master Gardener™ program will be providing an informational booth where fair patrons can learn more about the Master Gardener program and ask gardening questions. Volunteers to staff the booth are still needed! Please take a look at the Volunteer Calendar and sign up. It's a great opportunity to spread the word about Master Gardeners.



August 31: CCMGA Summer Get-together

We will have our annual members' get-together on Saturday August 31st; instead of an August monthly CCMGA meeting. This year it will be at the Gold Beach Community Center, the site of our new greenhouse. Master Gardeners, please mark your calendar and save the date!

July, August and September Training offered by OSU Extension Services: Growing Oregon Gardeners: Level Up Series for 2024

This year's Growing Oregon Gardeners: Level Up series is aimed at helping gardeners take a bite out of hunger.

This webinar series is available on Zoom and broadcast live on the OSU Extension Service's Facebook page. It is also available for later viewing. OSU Extension Master Gardener volunteers receive one hour of Continuing Education Credit for each class.



- **July 9:** [Giving It Away: Growing Produce You Can Take to the \(Food\) Bank](#)
- **August 13:** [Don't Lose the Plot: Making Community Gardens That Endure](#)
- **September 10:** [Fruit Fight: Dormant-Season Fruit Tree Care](#)

For all 2024 webinars in the Level Up Series see:

<https://extension.oregonstate.edu/mg/growing-oregon-gardeners-level-series-2024>

Building School Garden Activities in School District 2CJ

Jen Nelson

There is lots going on in north Curry County!

Port Orford's Driftwood Elementary's school garden is finally bustling with new life after a long winter's rest. Students worked hard this spring seeding and transplanting starts, adding



compost, weeding the strawberries, creating a native pollinator garden bed, and so much more!

Each class at Driftwood adopted a garden bed to plant and tend to. They are currently growing strawberries, raspberries, artichokes, asparagus, herbs, brassicas, lettuce, and peas just to name a few.

In addition to tending to the garden, teachers also utilize the garden as an outdoor learning space. In collaboration with Curry Watershed's education team, students were taught lessons on vermicompost, pollinators, decomposers, ecosystem relationships, seeds, nutrition, etc.

The garden is located in the playground area, which is open to the public during non-school hours. Master Gardener volunteers are invited to help in the garden on Fridays 12:30-2:30pm (school ends at 12:15pm on Fridays for 2CJ). Contact MG Ann Schmierer (annie5565@gmail.com) for more info!



Over at Pacific High School the Horticulture program is taking off under the leadership of Wendy Tomko! Their agricultural space on campus is sizable, and is home to several cranberry bogs (which have been decommissioned) and many animals, including goats, chickens, and rabbits. Students put in many hours this spring brainstorming what their vision is for the space and then giving it a complete makeover.

It started in the greenhouse - cleaning it out, fixing the sprinkler system and drainage, installing new siding, as well as a heater and grow lights in order to grow produce year-round. Students planted a wide range of vegetables in the greenhouse and are experimenting with hanging grow bags for strawberries and tomatoes. The animal habitats were cleaned up and given some updates (including an automatic door for the chicken coop). Drainage channels were dug in the rabbit's pen to start a small orchard which will be



planted in the fall- plums and cherries to start. Since there was not a previous outdoor vegetable gardening area on site, wood was brought in for the building of several hügelkultur beds. These mounds now inhabit one of the old cranberry bogs (which are fenced in to protect the produce from the goats - pictured with MG Laura Teague) and will primarily be used to grow food for the school cafeteria. Compost and vermicompost bins were built as well, in order to ensure the longevity of the hügelkulturs. Students are also prepping areas to raise pigs and quail in the fall.

Once the animal and vegetable garden operations are running smoothly, there are many ideas for future projects including a rain garden for greenhouse runoff, and native plant restoration in the other bogs.

If you would like to get involved at PHS, please contact Wendy Tomko (wendy.tomko@2cj.k12.or.us). There is an amazing team of MG currently working with the Horticulture class along with Curry Watersheds. Photo credits: Martin Teague

News From Your Co-Presidents

Debbie Carroll & Ginny Knox

The past couple of months have been packed with activities in everyone's gardens. Our plant sale was such a fun and profitable event, and our community really supports us. We can't wait to see their responses to our new facility! The new Demonstration Greenhouse and Learning Garden is quickly becoming a reality with much planning and preparations happening. We always say that it is a team effort, and we couldn't ask for a better team! You have all really stepped up to help when needed, and we appreciate all that you do for our association and our communities!



News Briefs and Announcements

Annual Plant Sale on May 11th

What an ideal day we had for our annual plant sale! The weather was literal perfection. Not even our usual strong wind. We had a great turnout with tons of people waiting almost an hour to get in and shop. The volunteers were ready and when we opened, people were not disappointed. We sold over 2,000 plants! Our total sales were \$10,514, with \$534 in donations.



On June 22nd, we took some of our leftover plants and planters to the Brookings Harbor Bodacious Bazaar and sold an additional \$351 there. Thank you again to all of our wonderful volunteers!



In addition, more than 100 plants from our greenhouse have been donated to support community efforts, including school gardens and plant sales of the Brookings Harbor Garden Club and the Native Plants Society of Oregon, South Coast Chapter.



Grants Received

On June 21st, Cindy Myers (pictured left with Steve Denney) and Julia Bott received checks from the Curry Health Foundation. A grant of \$2,500 to support the new Demonstration Greenhouse and Learning Gardens in Gold Beach, and a grant of \$500 to support Little Bear Patch Garden at Kalmiopsis Elementary School, Brookings were awarded. Wendy

Tomko (pictured right), Master Gardener class of 2024 and horticulture teacher at Pacific High School, also received a grant for replacement panels for the greenhouse at Pacific High School. Congratulations!



Little Bear Patch Garden is City of Brookings Garden of the Month

Julie Bott

Congratulations to the Kalmiopsis Elementary School 2nd and 4th graders, and those who have worked in the garden over the past 2 years including





Master Gardener volunteers Tom Kerr, Jeff Hall, Ruth Patton, Cathy Appel, Lynette McPherson, Diane Enderson, Michelle Gayden, Frank Furtaw, Linnie O'Flanagan-Gorre, and Julia Bott, as well as community members Cecila Swick and Karen Skalbeck-George, Ruth's brother Conrad, and Ashley Hall who successfully gained her Master's degree after

completing her Monarch Garden and associated curriculum. Thanks to all for their love and hard work in Little Bear Patch School Garden! It is being recognized as the commercial Garden of the Month by the City of Brookings. The garden does look beautiful right now!

The award was presented on Thursday June 13th.

Photo credit: Nancy Raskauskas-Coons



Native Plant Society of Oregon Garden Tour



Sarah Mocas

Three Master Gardeners, Maggie Daly (pictured right), David Denney (pictured left) and Sarah Mocas opened their gardens to the public as a part of the Native Plant Society of Oregon's Garden Tour (June 8th). Also included in the tour was the Bioswale

located by the Gold Beach Visitor Center. More than 60 Curry County gardeners made the rounds and explored four unique styles of native plant gardening. Maggie's garden shows how to transform a grass lawn into a native showcase. David recently added a pollinator garden to his mountaintop gardens. And Sarah has been restoring a stream bank overgrown with blackberries and replacing invasives with native plants. Maggie is a new MG but as a member of NPSO, she also organized the entire tour.

Photo credit: Pattie Slote



Garden With Me in Port Orford



Paul Maree

The Garden With Me event on May 21st was at Driftwood Elementary School and hosted by Group Connections.

It was the first time this event was in Port Orford, so the crowds were small but the little ones who attended had a blast! We provided them with colorful gardening gloves, which they got to keep and helped them plant their own flowers or sugar snap peas. Each one of them left happy, and a little dirtier than they were before. We were also able to help some grownups with any gardening questions they had.

Photo credit: Paul Maree

Azalea Festival, Brookings



At the end of May (25th - 26th), as a part of the popular Azalea Festival, MG Dee Shafer staffed an Information table / Plant Clinic during the Brookings Harbor Garden Club's (BHGC) plant sale held at the Botanical Garden. She was joined by Karen Skalbeck-George who is a garden club

member and also volunteers at the Brookings School gardens.

Photo Credit: Jeffrie Hall



4-H Lobster Creek Youth Camp

A few brave Master Gardeners provided hands-on activities for 3rd-5th graders at the Curry County 4-H Lobster Creek Youth Camp on June 27th. The 4-H activity was to create Nature Inspired Art. Campers explored their surroundings and created drawings, leaf rubbings, poems, and stories based on what inspired them! They



also learned about the wide variety of plants all around them. Thank you to 4-H for having us and to all the creative campers! EPA, Paul Maree and CCMGA volunteers Kim Foster, Wendy Tomko, Jerry Herbage, and Julia Bott participated.

Curry County Master Gardeners Association Membership

BOARD MEETINGS are monthly on the 3rd Tuesday from 10:00 am to noon, at the OSU Extension Office, 2930 Ellensburg Avenue, Gold Beach OR.

Meeting minutes:

- [CCMGA Minutes 3-2024](#)
- [CCMGA Minutes 4-2024](#)
- [CCMGA Minutes 5-2024](#)



For information on applying to the 2025 MG program see <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/mg/curry> or email currymg@oregonstate.edu

Monthly Garden Tips

Sarah Mocas

July is all about hot summer days. It's a good time to learn about effective, efficient watering practices. For example, reduce evaporation by watering vegetable and flower gardens in the early morning. Water deeply and infrequently to encourage root growth. Mulch also helps reduce evaporation. For more tips, see the July link below.



July is also the time to plant beets, bush beans, carrots, cauliflower, broccoli, lettuce, kale and peas for fall and winter crops.



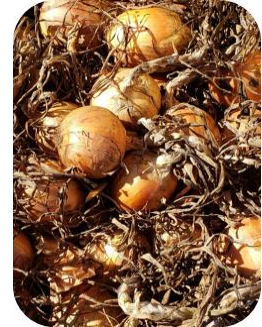
While summer is a wonderful time to enjoy your garden, it is also a time for plant pests and diseases. Late July, begin to monitor for blight on tomatoes. Correct by pruning for air circulation, picking off affected leaves, and/or treating with approved fungicide. Fruit trees and garden ornamentals are items to also check regularly for pests. OSU has extensive information on pest/disease identification and control; the links below are a good starting reference point.

The hot days of August are an ideal time to plan for late summer and fall planting. Also the optimal time for establishing a new lawn is August through mid-September. In the meanwhile, you can plant winter kale, Brussels sprouts, turnips, parsnips, parsley and, on the Oregon Coast, spinach. In addition, plants like cucumbers, summer squash and broccoli can be fertilized to maintain production.



Some berries (raspberries, boysenberries) can be pruned and revitalized after harvest. There are a host of fruit tree pathogens, critters and insects that may need your attention now too. Again, specific advice for berries, fruit/nut tree and ornamental shrub maintenance can be found at the August link below.

September is harvesting time, but also a time to divide plants for propagation. Divide iris and peonies, and plant daffodils, tulips and crocus in anticipation of a beautiful spring. As the rainy season approaches, it is the perfect time to begin planting trees, shrubs and perennials. Fall planting will encourage healthy root growth over the winter. Also plant or transplant woody ornamentals and mature herbaceous perennials now.



The above material is based on information from OSU Extension Services.

- **July** <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/gardening/techniques/july-garden-calendar>
- **August** <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/gardening/techniques/august-garden-calendar>
- **September** <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/gardening/techniques/september-garden-calendar>



HOW TO FIND OUT WHAT'S GOING ON

Contact the Curry County Master Gardeners-OSU Extension office at 541 247 6672, or visit <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/mg/curry>

THE BRAMBLES NEWSLETTER

Publisher: Sarah Mocas smocas0@gmail.com

Editor, Ginny Knox gklucygirl@gmail.com

The Brambles is emailed to active members, and can be found on

<https://extension.oregonstate.edu/curry/master-gardenertm-program-home-gardening-landscape> and <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/newsletter/brambles>

Brambles is published quarterly. The last Monday of the month, prior to publication, is the cut-off date for submitting articles for the Brambles; email them to the editor and the publisher.

Already a Master Gardener: Visit these sites to volunteer:

GOLD BEACH HIGH SCHOOL GREENHOUSE
29316 Ellensburg (at the rear of school)
Contacts: Deb Carroll dacarroll622@gmail.com and Ali Van Otterloo
alivanotterloo@gmail.com
Annual Plant Sale Project spoken here.

LITTLE BEAR PATCH GARDEN AT KALMIOPSIS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
650 Easy Street, Brookings
Contact Julia Bott, jbott@batnet.com

RILEY CREEK GARDEN
94350 6th Street, Gold Beach
Contact Lori Phelan homesbylori17@gmail.com

DRIFTWOOD SCHOOL GARDEN
Port Orford
Contact Jen Nelson jen.nelson@currywatersheds.org

[CCMGA Teamup Volunteer Calendar](#)

Curry County Master Gardener™ Association
P.O. Box 107
Gold Beach, OR 97444
541-247-6672

Co-Presidents: Debbie Carroll & Ginny Knox
Vice President: Cindy Myers
Treasurer: Julia Bott
Secretary: Ali VanOtterloo

Membership: Lori Phelan
Newsletter: Ginny Knox & Sarah Mocas
Past President: Debbie Richter
OSU Education Assistant: TBD



Oregon State University
Extension Service
Master Gardener™

Oregon State University Extension Service prohibits discrimination in all its programs, services, activities and materials on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, familial/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, genetic information, veteran's status, reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.)