



# CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

October 1-3, 2020

## THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1 – TOUR SCHEDULE

### Native Plants at Fort Worden

Thursday, October 1, 2020

10:00 AM-12:00 N

Fee: \$27.50

Guided tour of the woods and fields in the Fort along easy walking trails that include some hills. Identify native trees, shrubs, grasses and others. 2 CE

### Far Reaches Plant Botanical Conservancy

Thursday, October 1, 2020

10:00 AM-12:00 N

Fee: \$27.50

Internationally known plantsmen and speakers Kelly Dobson and Sue Millekin not only call Port Townsend their home but house their famous Far Reaches Farm nursery and the Far Reaches Plant Botanical Conservancy in here. They have made a life of travelling to distant corners of the world finding exceptional and usual plants rarely offered elsewhere. Their 501(c)(3) nonprofit Conservancy is dedicated to the preservation, cultivation, and conservation of key genetic resources of horticultural and botanical merit. By establishing cooperative agreements with the relevant international botanical entities, they not only expand upon the diversity of important genera grown in North America but contribute to a greater understanding of the world's flora through scientific research. They will speak to the Master Gardeners about the critical work they do and lead a tour through the Farm view plants from across the globe. 2 CE

### Fort Worden Military History Tour

Thursday, October 1, 2020

2:00-4:00 PM

Fee: \$27.50

The military history of Fort Worden is long and fascinating one. Vans will take tour participants up to the artillery and gun lines located in the hills behind the conference center. The views are spectacular from the bunkers. The tour includes admission to the Coast Artillery Museum. The museum was established in 1976 to preserve and interpret Coast Artillery history with special emphasis on the Harbor Defenses of Puget Sound as they existed and functioned from the late 1800's to the end of WWII.

### Finnriver Cidery and Abundant Life Seed Foundation

Thursday, October 1, 2020

1:00-4:00 PM

Fee: \$50

A Finnriver host will lead a ½ mile loop around the organic orchards, with a wheelbarrow cart to carry the cider. The one-hour walking tour includes samples of 6 varieties of Finnriver farm crafted cider and fruit wine, as well as stories on farm history and mission, apple and orchard facts and insights into Finnriver's organic farm practices, land partnerships and more. Includes a light snack. We are working on additional talks from The Organic Seed Alliance, Friends of Trees medicinal herb garden and Essential Blooms Sweet pea farm, all located on the property.

## **Port Townsend Vineyards**

*Thursday, October 1, 2020*

*2:00-4:00 PM*

*Fee: \$50*

Taste wine grown, crushed, aged, bottled and shared by hand, right in Port Townsend. The Vineyards on Portuguese Hill were organically planted in 2015 and designed to showcase the unique five-zone grape varieties that thrive in this geography and coastal climate. Following the vineyard tour we will move to winery itself on the outskirts of Port Townsend. This brand new facility is where all of the locally grown grapes (as well as those sourced from top regional vineyards) are transformed into deliciousness. The vintner will explain their unique wine making process. A tasting of 5 wines will follow.

## **Bloedel Reserve**

*Thursday, October 1, 2020*

*1:00-5:00 PM*

*Fee: \$50*

Join us for a curated walk through the internationally recognized Bloedel Reserve. Rated by the NY Times as 'One of the country's most original and ambitious gardens' and by USA Today as 'One of North America's 10 Best Botanical Gardens', a visit to the Pacific Northwest is not complete without seeing it. Working with the rugged geography of the land, the reserve artfully transformed a rough-hewn Northwest forest into a harmonious series of curated gardens, structural features and distinctive landscapes. Created with imagination, vision and passionate love of the natural world, the inspirational beauty of these refined 150 acres will leave you amazed. 2 CE

## **Whale Watching**

*Thursday, October 1, 2020*

*9:30 AM-2:30 PM*

*Fee: \$95*

This tour is the perfect combination of wildlife and scenery. Board the Red Head, a comfortable and fast 40 seat tour boat, and head out towards the San Juan Islands, or to wherever the whales are. The vessel features indoor seating for everyone, a wrap-around outside viewing deck as well as a snack bar and restroom. Along with viewing whales, bald eagles, harbor seals, California and Steller sea lions, tufted puffins and many other species of marine life are often spotted. A trained marine naturalist will guide you through the many sites along the way and if the whales are 'talking' you'll be able to hear them through a hydrophone.

## **Field Session: The New Fundamentals of Tree Planting and Pruning**

*Thursday, October 1, 2020*

*1:00-5:00 PM*

*Fee: \$25*

Join Urban Forestry Specialist Ben Thompson from the WA State Department of Natural Resources and Paula Dinius, Urban Horticulturist in Chelan County for a field session on tree planting and pruning.

Contemporary research on the science of ornamental tree growth has led to substantive changes in best practices for planting and pruning. This tour will consist of field demonstrations of planting and tree pruning to illustrate modern techniques. Instructors will also discuss outdated practices and debunk common myths about how trees grow, as well as the long-term consequences of improper planting and pruning. Hands-on participation in this tour is not required although opportunities for audience participation will be available to those who want to get their hands dirty. 4 CE

## FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2 - OPENING PLENARY PANEL: 10:30 AM-12 N

### The Master Gardener: From Here into the Future

*Panelists: Sharon Collman, Professor Emeritus, WSU Extension; Linda Chalker-Scott, Ph.D Horticulture; Todd Murray, WSU College of Agriculture; Jennifer Marquis, WSU Extension Master Gardener Program Leader*

Things are changing in the gardening world. This panel will consider the latest advancements in our field and how the basics of our training are evolving. A glance at the future of the WSU Master Gardener Program.

## FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2 - Session One: 1:15-2:15 pm

### Garden Design Makeovers!

*Instructor: Sue Goetz, CPH, ECO-Pro*

Breathe new life into a garden with practical easy tips and advice on simple fixes you can do to make-over the garden. Learn shortcuts to good design by using photos and insider tips from an award-winning designer.

### Creating Pollinator Friendly Gardens

*Instructor: Mary Dessel, WSU Master Gardener, Masters in Forestry*

Bumblebees and other pollinators are declining due to multiple threats such as habitat loss. Learn how insect pollinators benefit us and what you can do to protect them...and improve habitat in your own gardens.

### Year-Round Organic Gardening in Western Washington State

*Instructor: Linda Gilkeson, Ph.D Entomology SU*

In our mild West Coast climate we can enjoy fresh food from our gardens year around. Tips on what to grow, planting schedules, protection from extreme weather and how to avoid common pests and problems.

### Garden Lessons in a Box

*Instructor: Tim Kohlhauff, Urban Horticulture-WSU Extension*

“Garden Lessons in a Box”, are effective research-based lessons for younger gardeners that can be easily carried to remote sites, and include supplies, resources and curriculum outline that any Master Gardener can use.

### Glyphosate Resistance and Cancer...What's the Latest News?

*Instructor: Dale Whaley, Coordinator Integrated Weed Control Project-WSU Extension*

Learn about “Glyphosate Resistance”, the timeline of events that led the International Agency for Research on Cancer to declare Glyphosate (aka Roundup) a “Group 2A Carcinogen”, and what this potentially means for you today.

### The Importance of Trees to Our Lives and Landscapes

*Instructor: Ben Thompson, Department of Natural Resources, Urban Forestry Specialist*

Trees are the longest-lived plants in our gardens and landscapes, bearing witness to changes between seasons and years, and evolving to those changes. Today we find ourselves also needing to adapt. Explore the value and relevance of trees to the planet and our daily lives today and into the future.

## FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2 - Session Two: 2:30-3:45 pm

### Sustainable Stormwater Management and the Role that MGs Can Play

*Instructor: Dr. Ani Jayakaran, Associate Professor-WSU Extension*

Learn the current state of the science related to green stormwater infrastructure (GSI), how it can be used as a means to sustainably manage stormwater, impact Puget Sound communities, and the role that Master Gardeners can play.

## **FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2 - Session Two: 2:30-3:45 pm continued**

### **Gardening Amid the Tree Roots**

*Instructor: Christina Pfeiffer, Horticultural Writer/Educator*

Installing new plantings and maintaining old gardens within the shade and root zone of large trees can present challenges. This class provides information and methods for improving long-term success for both the trees and surrounding landscape.

### **Pesticides: WSU Master Gardener Policies and the Law**

*Instructor: Lenora Jones, WSU Dept. of Entomology*

When working as a WSU Master Gardener, it's important to understand and follow WSU Pesticide Policy. We will discuss policy and language to use with clients, and explore how to use reference materials to make pesticide recommendations.

### **Demo Gardens: Everything You Need to Know**

*Bob Taylor, WSU Master Gardener; Jennifer Marquis, WSU Extension Master Gardener Program Leader; Kate Bratrude, WSU Master Gardener*

Demonstration Gardens are integral to the WSU Master Gardener Program. This session will focus on creating meaningful partnerships, encouraging volunteer support, providing quality education and managing a successful garden.

### **A Convenient Truth - Composting for the Home Gardener**

*Instructor: Don Kraftt, WSU Master Gardener and Master Composter*

Learn how to teach the basics of composting through this primer on waste management, reasons to compost and the basics of the process and material. Enhance your understanding of the benefits and ways to promote it to the home and community gardener.

### **Watering Systems: What Questions do YOU get in a Clinic?**

*Instructor: R. Troy Peters, Irrigation Specialist, WSU Extension*

Get answers to the most common questions from the public - from "What's back flow prevention all about?" to "How do I prepare my sprinkler system for the winter?" ...and many topics in between!

## **FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2 - Session Three: 4:00-5:00 pm**

### **Creating Garden Beauty All Year with Native Plants**

*Instructor: Mary Foster, WSU Master Gardener*

This class features Northwest native plants used to highlight beauty and color throughout the year, including attractive native flowers. Learn how berries, colorful leaves, and interesting texture can also add depth, variety and attractive features to your garden.

### **Planning a Water-Wise Garden: Design Principles for Everyone**

*Instructor: Everett Chu, CPH, ECO-Pro*

In our climate with increasingly bone-dry summers, a practical answer is Xeriscape, an ecological approach for dry, water-wise gardening. Learn how to be successful incorporating key design principles, selecting plants with drought-tolerant characteristics, and constructing the garden for long-term sustainability.

### **Mixed Vegetable Crop Planning**

*Instructor: Carlene Boxman, WSU Master Gardener*

Learn how to time your crops within each season to ensure you have food to harvest all year around. This class will focus on the basic principles and practices of crop planning including: crop rotation, timing, succession planting techniques, and how to grow successfully in the fall and winter months. (Note: Focus is Western Washington.)

## **FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2 - Session Three: 4:00-5:00 pm continued**

### **Citizen Science - Enhancing Critical Thinking Skills**

*Instructor: Linda Chalker-Scott, Ph.D Horticulture*

The increase in unfiltered information available on the web has created a need for university Extension programs to assist citizens in developing critical evaluation skills. This presentation will provide Master Gardeners with guidelines for evaluating articles, books, and electronic resources objectively.

### **Deer Resistant Garden Design**

*Instructor: Karen Chapman, CPH*

What deer-challenged homeowners need from master gardeners are tried and true strategies and design tricks that will enable them to have the garden of their dreams without resorting to fences or constant spraying. This class illustrates key design steps and abundant examples.

### **If Bugs Could Talk ...Gardening in Tune with Insect Lifecycles**

*Panelists: Sharon Collman, Professor Emeritus, WSU Extension; Dave Pehling, WSU Extension-Retired*

If bugs could talk they'd be shaking their antennae and stridulating in disbelief at our efforts to control them. The Collman/Pehling duo will take a merry look at the insects and how their life cycles should influence your actions. It's really not that hard.

## **Banquet & Keynote Speaker: 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm**

### **Year Five on Day One: Growing the Amazon Spheres**

*Ron Gagliardo, Sr. Manager, Horticultural Services, Amazon.com*

In early 2018, Amazon opened The Spheres, a new take on the office environment that embraces biophilic design.... and takes it to the next level. The Spheres are a result of innovative thinking about the character of the workplace and an extended conversation about what is typically missing from the urban office environment - a direct link to nature.

The Spheres provides a space that is comfortable for people with a unique and meaningful plant collection that inspires curiosity and conservation.

This presentation covers the philosophy behind the building, technological advances and of course, the diverse plant collection from around the world featured in The Spheres.

## SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3 - Session Four: 9:00-10:15 am

### Not in My Back Yard!

*Instructor: Bonnie Orr, WSU Master Gardener*

Learn how to analyze the health of your garden's plants, control weeds, outsmart insect predators, deal with critters and avoid thugs and heartaches. Mastering garden dilemmas in your own backyard will make you more knowledgeable and effective as a master gardener in your community.

### Soil: What it is and How it Works

*Instructor: James Cassidy, Soil Sciences-Oregon State University*

It's ALL about soil! You will learn more than you ever thought possible from this lecture. The reason you are alive, what nutrients are, how soil stores water and nutrients. The fundamentals that ALL humans on the planet Earth should know!

### Do Plants Talk?

*Instructor: Dr. David Crowder, Associate Professor, WSU Dept of Entomology*

Plants face constant attack from pests like herbivores and pathogens. Plants are not undefended, however, and have a variety of chemical and physical defenses to repel attackers. This course will discuss the ways in which plants defend themselves and how growers may be able to promote healthy plants that can protect themselves from stressors.

### Plant & insect Clinic: Helping Clients Figure Out the Problem

*Panelists: JennyGlass, WSU Plant & Insect Diagnostic Lab; Rachel Bomberger, WSU Plant & Insect Diagnostic Lab*

WSU Plant Diagnosticians will team up to help you improve your plant problem diagnostic skills. The class will highlight the lines of diagnostic questioning that lead to answers, resources available, and ways to engage your clients as vital team members in the diagnostic inquiry.

### Growing Degree Days: Plant Phenology

*Instructor: Paula Dinius, WSU Urban Horticulturist*

The accumulation of daily heat values can be used to predict plant phases and insect activity...a much better predictor of life cycle stage than calendar timings. Pest control is most effective in an integrated pest management plan when growing degree days are used together with plant phenology, the visual phase of a plant.

### Graft Your Own Designer Fruit Trees

*Instructor: Judi Stewart, WSU Master Gardener and Member North Olympic Fruit Club; Dr. Roger Eichman, Member North Olympic Fruit Club, Past-President Western Cascade Fruit Society*

A top-notch grafting class presented by North Olympic Fruit Club members, providing knowledge and techniques to enable you to create fruit trees next spring and summer and in years to come. Basic grafting techniques will be demonstrated, along with videos and time for questions.

## SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3 - Session Five: 10:30 - 11:45 am

### The Best Plants for Challenging Places

*Instructor: Dan Hinkley, Plantsman/Garden Writer/Horticulturist*

Doing battle with dry shade, poor soil, and overly moist sites can be challenging; however much easier if armed with the knowledge of those plants that tolerate these conditions. Dan Hinkley will present some of his favorite selections for rigorous garden conditions while complementing his recommendations with tidbits of how to best establish plants in difficult sites.

## **SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3 - Session Five: 10:30 - 11:45 am continued**

### **Soil Test Results in Hand - What Does it all Mean?**

*Instructor: James Cassidy, Soil Sciences-Oregon State University*

If you are serious about growing plants, you really need to know your soil type and get a soil test –Test results will allow you to correct for nutrient deficiencies and track your progress over time. Learn how to take a representative soil sample, where and how to send the sample, what to ask for and how to interpret the results.

### **Community Gardens and Food Banks**

*Panelists: Beth Chisolm, WSU Master Gardener Program Community Gardens Project; Jeannine Polaski, WSU Master Gardener Program Coordinator - Mason County; Jennifer Marquis, WSU Master Gardener Program Statewide Coordinator*

Join in the discussion as our panelists share their experiences and explain the roles that community gardens and food banks can play in fulfilling WSU Extension's mission. Bring your questions & experiences to share and learn how you can enrich your local WSU Master Gardener program!

### **"Can I Plant Something Pretty on my Drainfield?"**

*Instructor: Bob Simmons, Associate Professor Water Resources-WSU Extension*

There are plenty of great plant options for planting over septic system drainfields. This presentation provides an overview of how septic systems work and the do's and don'ts in the drainfield area. This will include how to go about landscaping on and around the drainfield area, what plants to avoid and which ones work well.

### **Ten Things an MG should Know about Lawn Care**

*Instructor: Dr. Gwen K. Stahnke, Professor Emeritus-WSU Puyallup*

Lawn care practices are involved either directly or indirectly in many of the questions that MGs are asked to answer in clinic. Our goal is to reduce the potential for negative impacts such as damage to adjacent plantings and the pollution of surface runoff. Here's a list of the most important issues to know about.

### **Leading Through Change: Empowering Volunteers**

*Instructor: Jana Ferris, Associate Professor-WSU*

As our programs continue to become aligned with social norms, university regulations, and a changing volunteer population, change is constant. This interactive workshop includes hands-on, skill building activities and resources that attendees can begin using day one...techniques to implement to lead their volunteers through the process of change management.

## **SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3 - Plenary Session: 1:15-2:30 pm**

### **Climate Change and the Gardener**

*Panelists: L. Katherine Baril, JD, MBA, former Director of WSU Jefferson County Extension; Chad Kruger, Director, WSU- NWREC, CSANR; Joan A. Qazi, Ph.D, Geography Instructor, Wenatchee Valley College*

According to a Yale Survey, the percentage of Americans who are alarmed or concerned about climate change has increased to 60%, but about the same percentage say they rarely or never discuss climate change with family or friends. This presentation will offer tips for how to get these important climate conversations started; how to find common ground; and how to focus on the science not the politics.