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Gas in the Tank!

The number one thing you need to get anywhere! Gas in the tank. It is the first thing you stop for when you are headed out on vacation and the last thing you get on your way home after work. How many times have you been 'on fumes' and hoping to make it that last couple of miles to the station? Then, after refueling, that sense of relief and reduction of stress. Ahhh... The same is true for the life of the gardener. Right now we are refueling after the busy holidays and refilling our tanks for the upcoming season. Winter is the time to 'gas up'. We are slowly making our way back out into the garden on those sunny days and looking at plant and seed catalogs when the days aren't so cooperative. It is about the upcoming journey. Soon we will be back out in the garden doing even more work as the days get longer and warmer. For me as a producer and owner of Garden Time, refueling is about contracts and client discussions. I'm also reading material about hot new trends and topics, and checking which stories need updating. The warm winter has also forced stories about early blooming plants onto the schedule. Plus, we might have to address bug problems since they have not had their normal winter die-off and other pest and disease problems. The planning for spring and summer has started quite a while ago!

Speaking of starting our gardens and picking seeds, Judy introduces us to Lane Selman an OSU seed breeder who is behind the Culinary Breeding Network. This is a group of scientists, chefs and foodies that are finding the best culinary vegetables for our area. William tells us all about Jade Plants. These indoor favorites are tough and if you take care of them they can survive for years! We will also preview the Spring Home & Garden Show at the Expo Center happening at the end of February. Plus, to get your taste buds ready for the season, Ron will provide us a delicious background on plums and how to grow them.

I would also be remiss if I didn't remind everyone that we will be returning for our 14th season of Garden Time on March 2nd. Mark your calendars and check out our website (www.gardentime.tv/stations.htm) for your local station and times!

We're planning now with a full tank and we have a great journey mapped out!

Happy Gardening!

Jeff Gustin, Publisher

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Dear Mortimer:

Due to a family emergency I was absent from home for about 8 months in 2018. When I returned, I found EVERYTHING in my yard was covered with moss: gravel pathways, sidewalk, bare ground everything! What do I do to get rid of it?

Never have I had this bad of a problem before and, yes, I have tried the moss killer. Help!

Signed, Will I be next to become moss covered?!

Dear Moss Covered,

I addressed this issue a while back (March 2018) in dealing with pets and moss, but moss is a VERY popular question for our readers and viewers. Moss is a product of our environment. We have a temperate, moist climate, and so the moss thrives. Moss can be controlled either through chemical or physical methods. Physically, you can rake out the moss and remove it. For most people, the chemical methods for removing moss are more popular. For chemical removal of the lawn moss, the active ingredient is usually iron. You will usually see 'Iron Sulfate' and 'Ferrous Ammonium Sulfate' on the label. Iron is effective if you follow the label directions. Once the moss has turned black, you will need to remove the dead material and reseed the area. Once the lawn is actively growing again you will need to maintain it to get a stronger and healthier turf. A nice healthy lawn will crowd out most of the moss in the long run.

If you are looking to remove moss from patios and sidewalks, you can use a power washer. Chemically you will need to use a different $\frac{9}{2}$ product than what you used on your lawn. The or iron in lawn products will stain your cement/ $\frac{9}{2}$



Mortimer answers selected questions and comments every month in Garden Time Magazine.
To send him your question, email

AskMortimer@GardenTime.tv

wood patios and walkways. For these patio and sidewalk areas you will see ingredients like 'ammoniated soap of fatty acids' or a citrus based formula. To prevent the return of moss on these hard surfaces, you will need to re-apply the product again in the fall and in the early spring. In either case, be sure to read the label for application details. Some products won't work as well if it is too cold or wet outside.

If you have roof moss you will find products that contain the fatty acids or citrus based ingredients. Some products even contain zinc, which has been proven effective for long term prevention.

Of course, these solutions are not interchangeable, so follow the label directions and apply the right product to the right place. I'm sorry that we can't offer a permanent solution. Any of these products or methods will eventually wash away in our seasonal rains and your problem may return. Now, there are some on-line recipes that involve bleach and vinegar solutions, but remember that those have not been tested and may have unintended consequences such as toxicity for plants and animals. Check out this page from OSU for more details on mosses and controls, http:// bryophytes.science.oregonstate.edu/page18. htm

> Your friend. Mortimer

Mortimer,

We have been fighting moles that have dug their tunnels under a deck and destroyed it. We have used traps, the worms in the holes and every other type of tool to rid our very large property of condominiums. The best thing we have used is road flares in the holes to fill all the tunnels with the long burning flares. Do you have other suggestions to rid our property of the moles before they do more destruction?

> Signed, Not a mole lover

Dearest despiser of moles,

Ah yes, moles, the world's little cultivators! They have tickled my roots many times! Most deterrents for moles try to chase them away from using their tunnels that already exist, whether the mole is there or not. Some others, such as traps will remove them altogether. You have already run through most of the options that people use to get rid of their mole problem. Here are two methods we have found effective.

For a 'deterrent' method we would recommend a safe product such as Mole Max from Bonide.



This is a castor oil based product that makes it unpleasant for moles to hang around. Some people will spread the Mole Max over a wide area, but we found a great tip from the people at the Rogerson Clematis Garden. They have a big problem with moles and voles, so they simply put a handful in the entrance to the tunnel and then water it into the hole. The water releases the castor oil 'smell' and that drives them away. You will have to reapply the product again later in the season to make sure they stay away.

For a 'removal' method we have used the 'Cinch Trap' (cinchtraps.com) in the past and it has been very effective. This pair of traps will capture and kill the mole. You have to dig a hole where the tunnels are and place the traps in that hole. The mole will feel the airflow and when it returns to the opening to close it up, you get them with the trap. It will remove THAT mole permanently but sometimes other moles will move into an area and use the old tunnels to look for food. Then we would recommend the combination of solutions. Cinch trap first to remove the moles and then the castor oil to keep them away.

Good luck with your mole problem, Mortimer







Each winter we gardeners go into a type of hibernation. We are aware of this and many of us struggle to stay awake. But the reality is...like bears in the forests, it is ok to shut down for awhile.

All year we toil and struggle and work hard to keep our gardens and our homes beautiful. So a brief respite is well deserved.

But inevitably and generally, in December and early January...we awaken!

Too soon, but we can't help it. If ONE crocus starts blooming, that friend posts on Facebook or Instagram, it is like a marching band goes through our bedrooms while we sleep and with more volume than they should ever have!!!

That is when our bodies tell us to go back to sleep and rest a bit more. But our minds are having none of that nonsense.

What if we are not the first to look at the current seed catalogues? Bulb catalogues? Does a garden center we love ALREADY have some new plant introductions ready for sale? Maybe there are classes I am missing!

What if this is how our neighbor's gardens seem more beautiful to us each year than ours do? Is this how they always seem to do that each year? Wake up long before we do from our slumber and get a two month head start?

And also, what about our homes? Is there a hidden leak that is making the ceiling look pregnant? Is that strange sound you hear actually the windows not sealing properly and isn't after all, Grandpa's nose whistling? And WHY is it so cold in this house?

Is it proper to actually feel like you are on a boat when you walk through the house, getting seasick from the ups and downs? Or the hall really does remind you of a roller coaster because it is just that wavy?

Well...NOT this year my friends!

This year we can go to the Portland Spring Home & Garden Show 2019! The Portland Spring Home & Garden Show returns to the Portland Expo Center filled with great home products and ideas. If you are searching for experts, members from the Professional Remodelers Organization will be onsite throughout the show. Expert landscapers and gardeners will also be at the show to answer your questions and fill you with ideas for your outdoor living space. The Portland Spring Home & Garden Show is your one-stop shop for all things home and garden.

And if you plan your trip correctly there are some times at this show when parking will be FREE, courtesy of the Home Builders Association with free parking after 4:00 pm on Thursday and Friday. The rest of the

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Local Events February 2019

Mary's Peak Society Orchid Show February 2, 2019 • 9:00am-4:00pm Garland Nursery, Corvallis, OR

Come see amazing varieties of orchids, have your orchid questions answered and have your orchids repotted by orchid experts (for a nominal fee). Cost: Free to the public!

www.garlandnursery.com

Chinese New Year February 5-19, 2019 • 10:00am-4:00pm Lan Su Chinese Garden, Portland, OR

Experience the most joyous two-week celebration for families and individuals with lion dances, glowing lanterns, cultural activities, and more. The festivities end with several nights of Lantern Viewing Evenings when the garden is illuminated with colorful lanterns and lively dragon processions.

• lansugarden.org

Portland Spring Home & Garden Show Thursday-Sunday, February 21-24, 2019 Portland Expo Center, Portland, OR

Meet remodeling professionals, get plenty of ideas and visit with hundreds of great companies so you can launch into Spring with your new home project. Don't miss the Sculpture Walk in the gardens!

www.homeshowpdx.com



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time it is only \$10 per space, per entry.

Exhibitors

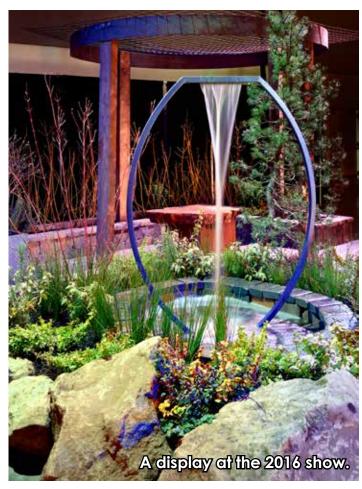
I was going to put the list of all the vendors, but when I did that, it was like 10 pages extra. But you can always go to their website and see them. There is a massive amount of vendors at this year's Portland Spring Home & Garden Show.

You can also find a map for this year's event by going to their website and clicking "Show Map".

However, this show is not about just our homes and the gardens and what you can buy to improve yours. It is also about providing professionals who you can chat with and learn from them directly.

And this year there are several new things happening!

- A 'Dream Yard Giveaway' You can enter to win in the First Tech Federal Credit Union booth.
- A Color Trends Panel Hosted by Life STYLEST. Brandon Gaston.
- There will be 'Main Stage' programming on all show days.
- A great Kids Zone presented by Portland Parent







Thursday, February 21 10:00 am to 8:00 pm

Friday, February 22 10:00 am to 8:00 pm

Saturday, February 23 10:00 am to 8:00 pm

Sunday, February 24 10:00 am to 6:00 pm

Portland Expo Center Portland, Oregon

www.homeshowpdx.com





Magazine filled with fun activities for kids of all ages.

- And a beautiful Sculpture Walk.
- And a Vertical Showcase Garden!

And let's not forget the food and beverages...both for the kids and the adults!

Because this event is all about both our homes and our gardens.

Because both need to look great to enhance the beauty and value of the place we all love the most on this planet...our homes and gardens.

Because both need to be maintained and look great to enhance the beauty and value.

Because our homes and gardens are always at the top of every individuals list, where better to gather all the needed information than this year's Portland Spring Home & Garden Show?

Whether you are inside your home or outside in the garden, the basic ideas and concepts to make them better are the same. Human traffic flow, the size and placement of plants and furniture (can someone say fountain or big screen TV) and always, color! And don't forget our parents that are aging or maybe you have a child with special needs. And in





the Pacific Northwest we must consider things like both heating and air conditioning for year-round comfort inside and outside your home.

Of course we can all head up to Seattle for the Flower and Garden show, but why make that long trip when a great show is happening right here in Portland?

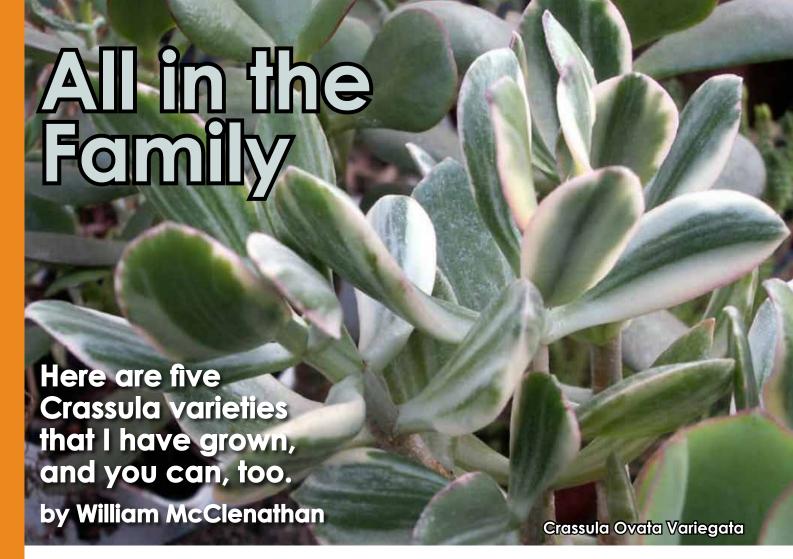
Also, here is the list of showcase gardens this year; several of which we had on Garden Time as well.

- American Rhododendron Society
- Cornerstone Hardscapes
- Cadwell Landscape
- Grasstains
- Mainstream Landscape
- NW Outdoor
- Oregon Outdoor Landscaping
- OSU
- Root Connection
- Vertical Gardens
- The Wall

This year the event which will be the place to go is close to home at the 2019 Home & Garden Show right here in Portland!

Hope to see you there!





First of all let's begin with some science and information about this month's 'Got to Have It' plant Crassula.

Derivation of name and historical aspects:

As with a number of other succulent plant families, the essentially cosmopolitan (absent from Australia and much of South America), Crassulaceae is centered in South Africa where under a great variety of conditions it has diversified and adapted to form what is now one of the most represented families of the South African succulent flora. It is in fact the world's third largest succulent family following Cactaceae and Aizoaceae. Crassulaceae are dicotyledonous (the embryo of the plant has two cotyledons/seed leaves) plants belonging to the order Rosales. The family consists of approximately 34 genera with around 1,500 species.

World-wide, the genus Sedum is the largest in the family with some 428 species (Van Jaarsveld & Koutnik 2004). In southern Africa there are five genera, namely Adromischus, Crassula, Tylecodon, Cotyledon and Kalanchoe. The largest genus here is Crassula with about 150 species.

But many of our readers will also know the names of Kalanchoe as a houseplant in our area, and

Cotyledon as a beautiful outdoor plant. Both are great plants for gardeners and it is fun for me to find out about plants I love, but did not know they were near to each other in the same families.

According to Toelken (1977), Hermann was the first to illustrate any South African species of Crassula in 1687. Linnaeus recognized 28 species by the end of his life in 1753. Thereafter the numbers of species increased rapidly. The majority were added by Thunberg in1778. During the early part of the nineteenth century, Haworth not only described new species but also subdivided the genus into several sections.

Practically all are succulents, in fact, the family name Crassulaceae and genus Crassula are derived from the Latin, crassus which means fat or thick and mostly refers to the succulent leaves and stems associated with most members of the family. The species name arborescens is the Latin name for tree-like, alluding to the relatively large, tree-like appearance of this particular plant.

So you can see how writing about just one variety could be difficult. So I decided to talk about the top five which I have dealt with, sold, owned and grown. These are also the most popular and easi-

est to find of the larger crassulas.

The first one which is one of the most popular houseplants worldwide is...

Botanical Name: Crassula ovata

I always try to tell first hand experiences I have with plants. This plant has one which has stuck in my mind. When I was 16, Mother and I decided we would drive to San Francisco for my spring break when I was at Sprague High School in Salem. Mom had a cousin there whose husband ran the Rich's Turkey Location in that area. And she invited us to stay with them, so off we went.

When we arrived at their home, the entrance was a huge front double door with grand raised beds on both sides that went into the house, it was filled inside with beautiful plants, but what stuck with me was the two massive jade plants on either side of those front doors outside. At least 5 feet tall and they were stunning. They were the first big Crassula ovata varieties I had ever seen. And to this day...it is still one of my most favored plants and memories.

I was not aware of it back then but this popular house plant, the jade plant is easy care. Native to South Africa, this many-branched, succulent shrub tolerates the dry environment of warm, heated homes well.

Its tree-like woody branches are covered with shiny, plump, spoon-shaped green leaves that are sometimes tinged in crimson.

Plants that are several years old may produce clusters of white, star-shaped flowers if given enough sun. They just get more beautiful with age. Put a large jade in a decorative container; its branching growth habit makes it a stunning, tree-like accent for a sunny room. But the bigger they get, the more top heavy they become, so make sure as they get larger, they have heavy enough containers to keep them from toppling over.

Jade Plant Care Tips Origin: South Africa

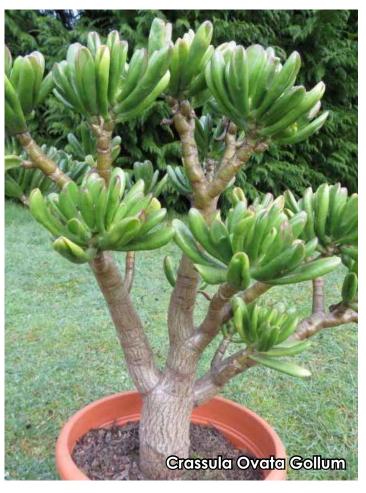
Height: Up to 3 to 4 feet. When grown as a bonsai, Crassula ovata tends to reach only 1 foot or less.

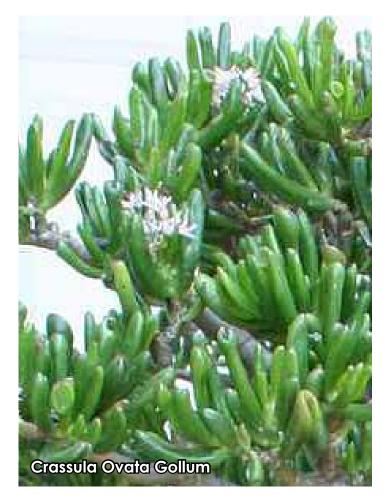
Light: Bright light with some direct sun.

Water: Allow soil to dry out slightly between waterings, but don't allow the soil to get completely dry. Dropped leaves or brown spots on leaves can be signs that the plant needs more water.

Humidity: Average room humidity. Will tolerate dry air.









Temperature: Average room temperatures 60-75°F/15-24°C

Soil: Two parts peat moss-based potting mix and 1 part sharp sand or perlite.

Fertilizer: Feed monthly from spring through fall with a balanced liquid fertilizer diluted by half. Do not feed in winter.

Propagation: Take leaf cuttings or stem cuttings in spring. Allow cuttings to dry out for about 5 days (to prevent them from oozing sap) before potting them in moist potting mix.

Botanical name: Crassula arborescens

My second choice, unlike most crassulas which most are relatively small succulent plants, Crassula arborescens is an outstanding, squat, succulent tree that is easily recognizable by its unmistakable blue-grey foliage that contrasts well with the other plants on hillsides in the karroid (of or characteristic of the Karoo.) scrub. It has a very attractive appearance in both its natural habitat and cultivated gardens.

Crassula arborescens is a large and impressive looking single-stemmed, many branched shrub or small tree, easily reaching a height of up to 3 m. The trunk is thick and fleshy and has a smooth, greengrey bark. And while this one is harder to find, if you have a greenhouse or conservatory...seek it out!

The leaves show very little variation and are thick and fleshy, with a blue-grey, waxy bloom, apex (tip) rounded with an obscure, sharp tip, the base may be tapering (narrowing towards one end), the margins are entire, often with a reddish rim, and the petiole is very short or absent.

Leaves and flowers:

The flowers are very showy and carried in dense branches, are star-like, white to pink with almost spherical heads and carried slightly above the foliage. When flowering in spring to summer, the plant is almost completely covered with flowers. After pollination, the flowers turn papery brown which in itself is quite decorative.

Fruits are small, 6 mm long, with 3-5 separate, oval, sharply tipped follicles and remaining among the dried remains of persistent petals. Fruits ripen from Nov.-Jan. Seeds are very small and are dispersed by wind.

Conservation Status:

Crassula arborescens is not endangered and due to its free seeding and easy rooting nature, it generally occurs in abundance in its natural habitat. Horticulturally the plants are very popular in rock gardens, on rocky embankments, slopes and as container plants. Their easy cultivation has led to them being used extensively in outdoor gardens in southern Africa. Besides their attractive flower clusters, they look delightful with their contrasting bluegreen foliage, especially when used in combination with other dark green shrubbery.

Botanical name: Crassula ovata 'Gollum'

Third in line is this unique beauty. Crassula ovata 'Gollum' (Gollum Jade) - A small shrubby succulent to 2 to 3 feet tall by 1 to 2 feet wide with interesting tubular leaves that have a reddish tint. As with Jade plant this cultivar has pinkish white star-like flowers, that often appear in late fall and early winter. Plant in full sun to bright shade in a welldrained soil. Cold hardy to 20-25° F and useful as an outdoor ornamental in USDA Zones 9-10 and a great house plant or winter protected specimen potted plant elsewhere. In researching this article, it was nice to know that this is a similar cultivar to the earlier Jade cultivar 'Hobbit' that has leaves which are curled back around while the cultivar 'Gollum' has leaves that are nearly tubular and appear to be tipped with a suction cup reminiscent of the J.R.R. Tolkein character by the same name. Both 'Gollum' and 'Hobbit', which are sometimes referred to collectively as the "Tolkien Group", are interesting plants with trunks that become thick with age and develop interesting stem patterns. Great for container culture and Bonsai cultivation. Our plants are from John Bleck who helped introduce this plant into cultivation in the US in the mid 1970's from his Abbey Gardens Nursery, having first received it from Brazilian plantsman Severino Rocha. The plants passed from John through the hands of noted plantsman Paul Hutchinson (of Tropical World Nursery) to end up at Grigsby Nursery where David Grigsby coined the ingeniously descriptive name 'Gollum'. In an article by Margrit Bischofberger of the The Crassulaceae Network titled Crassula ovata Tolkien Group" it is noted that Crassula ovata 'Gollum' first appeared in print in the 1981 Grigsby Nursery Wish Book.

Botanical name: Crassula perfoliata var. falcata

My fourth choice is succulent evergreen subshrub up to 1m in height, with sickle-shaped, bright greygreen leaves to 10cm in length, the blades lying vertically. Small scarlet, fragrant flowers are borne in flat clusters.

Now when we sold these at Drake's 7 Dees I did not smell any real fragrance from the blooms. But they were stunningly beautiful.

The maintenance and care for them is the same as the other ones I have mentioned so far.







It has been growing in popularity in the last decade as customers are finding it more and more available.

Botanical Name: Crassula ovata 'Variegata'

And finally the fifth Crassula is the one in this list that does have a bit of difference for care. Even as a houseplant, if it sits in direct sun in the house, the leaves may get burned. When grown in more tropical climates, they even suggest part to full shade.

A moderate growing succulent, it seldom gets past a height of 12-18" and the same for its spread. Most growers and sellers even say to keep it in partial sun to full shade. All the other growing guidelines remain the same as for the rest of the Crassula family.

So there you have it. My top five choices. But please never think this even begins to show the amounts and varieties this family has to offer!

I should also tell you that when it comes to insects, the only ones that really are a maintenance issue are mealy bugs. But there are also many house-plant insect sprays for indoor usage. Just pay attention to the plants and nip any insects in the bud!

I have included a few websites which I use to re-

search more tropical type sedums, succulents and cacti for your edification during the winter months. From small to large, different colors and a myriad of shapes, delve into this family of plants and see what new and unique houseplants you can begin to have. Their low water needs is a big benefit too! Just remember...even less water in the winter! After all, it is the #1 reason houseplants fail...often too much watering.

Pay attention and you too can have some beautiful plants indoors from the Crassula family!

https://wcsp.science.kew.org World Checklist for Selected Family of Plants

http://www.ville-ge.ch/cjb/ Conservatoire et Jardine Botaniques; Ville de Geneve

http://sweetgum.nybg.org New York Botanical Garden: STEERE HERBARIUM

Many garden centers in our area carry a great variety of jade plants.

Portland Nursery, Al's Garden and Home, Bauman's, Garland Nursery and Garden Fever. In fact Dennis's 7 Dees just opened up a mainly houseplant location (www.dennis7dees.com/garden-center/locations)!



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Your garden adventure commences in Varenna, Italy, on beautiful Lake Como, where you will spend two days visiting stunning gardens and their accompanying gorgeous lakeside villas. On our way to Menton, we will visit the Italianate garden at Isola Bella on Lake Maggiore. Menton is our home for three nights as we explore the garden gems on the French Riviera, including the Jardin Exotique of Monaco and Lawrence Johnston's (Hidcote Manor) Jardin Serre de la Madone. Provence is next; via the charming university town of Aix, we make our way to Arles, one of Van Gogh's homes in Provence, our home for the next four nights. From Arles we will explore the surrounding area, visiting the market in Gordes and a number of private gardens, including La Louve, a contemporary garden in the Luberon region, created in 1986 by Hermes textile designer, Nicole de Vesian. Join Garden Time to savor the beauty these dazzling regions offer: lush gardens, delicious food and wine, colorful villages and Roman architecture.

***SEE DETAILS, ITINERARY AND PRICING>>**



Back when my kids were in elementary school, I was lucky enough to be involved in adding a native garden to their school. There was a lot of interest and support from the school and the community to create a garden for students, staff and community members to learn from and enjoy. It started with a grant that was specifically targeted for a Native Plant garden. Once the grant was obtained, we purchased gloves, tools, soil amendments and native plants to maintain and fill the space. We already had a site picked out. It was an area up against the front of the school, surrounded by sidewalks. It had existing large non-native trees and shrubs (which we did not have to remove). It was our goal to include arbors, pathways, seating and art to encourage everyone to enter the garden and benefit from all it had to offer. It was also our goal to encourage the teachers to use it as an outdoor classroom and include the students to help maintain the space.

It took many volunteers to prepare the ground, carve out pathways, move small existing trees, install arbors and finally plant the natives. We had a team of volunteer parents in place to help with the design, installation and maintenance of the garden.

The school was divided into separate "pods"; each pod designated for two grade levels. We decide to hold an art contest to design a large tile to be installed in each quadrant of the garden. Each pod designed their own tile and our garden committee voted on the winners for each area of the garden. We had an amazing parent who owned a kiln and transformed the artwork into beautiful tiles. The tiles were attached to concrete blocks and placed in the respective areas of the garden. A couple of moms and I would ask the teachers to send a couple of their most "horticulturally" interested students out during their recess a couple times a month to help weed the garden and plant new natives. It was a great way to involve the students with their garden and teach them a little about plants and nature.

My kids' second grade teacher used the garden every year to release butterflies that they had studied in their science lessons... from chrysalis to adult. It was always a special treat on "Butterfly Release Day"!

There are many advantages to creating a school garden and many ways to design one. If you think you'd like to get involved with providing a garden

at a school in your neighborhood, here is a check list to get you started.

First and foremost, get the support of the school. The school district will need to be on board with adding a garden to the property. We were not allowed to grow edibles in our school garden because it was open to the public and neighbors walked their dogs on the premises. There was no way to fence the area and therefore no way to prevent people or pets from potentially "soiling" the garden.

Once you have the approval of the school and school district, the next step is...

Site Selection

Location is important to consider when siting your garden. Ask yourself these questions when determining the best location.

- Is the site easy and safe for both students and teachers to access?
- Is there a nearby and dependable water source?
- Is the site protected from vandals, rodents, pets or other potential threats?
- Is the area big enough to allow for future growth?
- Is the site exposed to sunlight at least 6 hours a day, if planting flowers, herbs and vegetables?
- Is the soil contaminated with lead or other heavy metals?

Soil Health

The most important part of your garden is the soil. Good soil is essential to growing healthy plants. Have your soil tested for pH, nutrients and lead contamination (if you are planting edibles). You can contact your nearest Cooperative Extension













office to learn how to take a soil sample and where you need to send it for analysis. If the soil is not suitable, consider putting in raised beds with a good quality potting soil.

Design the Garden for Students

Include the students, teachers and administrators in the planning and design of the garden. Hold a brainstorming session and solicit ideas and design concepts from everyone. The more involved the students and staff, the more successful the garden will

be.

Consider how the garden will be used. Be sure to include wide pathways through the garden for students to work, learn and walk. Consider traffic movement when planning your pathways knowing









students will take the shortest distance between two points. If edibles will be planted it will be a good source of food for learning about diet and nutrition. Working in the garden will encourage physical activity. Students will learn about, nature, nutrition,

horticulture, math and science. It can be a place of enjoyment and recreation and a place for the community to socialize if it is open to the public.

What to Plant

Be sure you choose plants that will do well in your area. Right plant/right place works in school gardens too. Know what soil, water and light requirements your plants need to thrive. If you choose edibles, make sure they are resistant to insects and diseases. If you are making a flower garden or including trees and shrubs, be sure there is no poisonous fruit, weak limbs or lots of thorns. Safety first! Consider what may be taught in the classroom and include these plants in your plant palette. Can seeds be grown in the classroom as a science lesson and planted out in the garden, for example? Again, the more involved with curriculum, the more the school will take pride in their garden.

Resources

So how do you go about funding a school garden? We obtained a grant. There are many grants out there for school gardens. If

you are good at grant writing this would be a great way to get started. Check out: kidsgardening.org/grants/ for more information.

Another great way to get started is to form local partnerships to gain access to tools, soil, funding, building materials, seeds and plants, volunteers and technical assistance. A great way to get much needed help is through the local Master Gardener's program.

Things to Consider

- Is there fencing around the garden area if edibles are to be planted?
- Who will be responsible for watering, weeding and/or fertilizing the garden in the summer when school is not in session?
- How can the garden remain sustainable after an administration change?

Whether it is a Native garden, Flower garden or Edible garden, school gardens allow students to experience the joy, learning and satisfaction that gardening has to offer.







Out of the tree of life I just picked me a plum

You came along and everything started' in to hum

Still it's a real good bet

The best is yet to come

- Lyrics from "The Best is Yet to Come"

In the middle of winter, as we are right now, it is sometimes difficult to look ahead to the warm days of summer and realize that many of those wonderful fresh fruits and vegetables we grow get their starts in the dark days of February. In fact, we're just at the beginning of the planting season for some of our favorite fruits, especially those that grow on trees. Look around your local nursery and you are likely to find new shipments of potted and bare root trees, just standing around waiting for

a new home. Among those available right now (or very soon) are apples, cherries, peaches, pears and more. You may also find several varieties of plums, and if you haven't tasted a fresh plum in years (or maybe ever), then you are missing out on a treat that many people not only like, but they actually love.

When it comes to plums, there's a lot to love. Plums are a low calorie fruit, with only thirty to forty-five calories per piece. They contain potassium which is good for the heart and can help lower blood pressure. They have a low glycemic index, so even though they are sweet, they won't cause negative spikes in blood sugar levels. They also have fiber, great for digestion and (ahem) other problems. Remember, prunes are dried plums!

They're versatile, too. Think of all the things you can make with plums. There is plum sauce, plum butter, plum jam, plum juice, plum cake, plum bread and plum pudding. They're even excellent fresh off the tree. Why, you'd be plumb crazy not

to try them!

Plums are a type of stone fruit, which is a product with flesh or pulp enclosing a stone. Peaches, nectarines, apricots and cherries are also stone fruits. Wikipedia states that "plums may have been one of the first fruits domesticated by humans...with remains found in Neolithic age archaeological sites." That's quite a history for this unassuming little orb.

Modern plums fall into three major categories: European, Japanese and American hybrids. European plums do well in most regions across the United States. Japanese plums do better in warmer regions (which is also the areas where peach trees thrive). The American hybrids are the hardiest and will grow well even in states that experience cold winters, such as North Dakota, Minnesota and New York.

Growing a Plum Tree

With any fruit tree, choosing an appropriate spot is the key to success. Plum trees like welldrained, fertile soil with six to eight hours of sunlight every day. If your soil has a high clay content, it is recommended that you add some peat at planting time. While your yard may not be an ideal location, fruit trees are very adaptable and with some fertilizer, can do quite well even in areas where the soil is poor. If the spot you've chosen has extremely heavy soil or very poor drainage, you'd be well advised to select another location.

Think ahead to when your tree will be full-grown. Be aware of overhead wires, nearby sidewalks, structures and the view from your house. You want to get it right the first time because even after just a year or two, your tree will be difficult to transplant. If you are planting near other trees or if you hope to plant more than one plum tree, you

should allow proper spacing. For dwarf trees, eight to ten feet is recommended; for semi-dwarf, 12 to 15 feet and for standard trees, 18 to 20 feet.

If you purchase a bare root tree, soak the roots for one to two hours (but not more than six hours) before planting. Do not plant when the temperature is below freezing. Dig your hole deeply enough to give the root system plenty of room.

In choosing a plum variety, you will have a lot to choose from. A search of just a few local nurseries yielded more than two dozen different trees, available in potted or bare root form. These cover a rainbow of colors from the deep purple Methley to the medium blue Early Italian to the intense red Burbank, the lemon-yellow Shiro and the aptly-named Green Gage. Each variety boasts its own unique colors, characteristics and flavors, and each has its own





variety for your yard, you might do a little research and visit your local grocery store. Then do a little taste-testing. Plum trees are known to produce large harvests, so you'll want to find a variety that appeals to your taste buds and suits your needs.

Many plum trees require crosspollination. That is, they need to have pollen spread from one tree to another in order to reproduce. Japanese and American hybrid plums will typically need to crosspollinate with another variety. European plums are generally self-fertile, making it the best choice if you are planting only one tree or if you have limited space. While cross-pollination is not essential for European plums, it will improve the number of fruit that form on the tree. If you have the space, consider planting more than one plum variety for the best results. Most varieties that need pollination will come with suggestions for a second variety that will benefit both trees.

With that in mind, here are just a few of the varieties you can find at local nurseries:

Brooks (European)

A very large, sweet, dark purple plum that is great for fresh eating, canning, drying and preserves. This variety was a staple in Oregon's dried plum industry. It makes excellent, large dried prunes, and is great for baking.

Elephant Heart (European)

A heart-shaped, juicy, free-stone plum with deep red flesh and purple skin. Their pronounced flavor makes them perfect for almost any application. This hardy specimen is great for the home orchard, and grows vigorously.

Early Italian (European)

A hardy and vigorous mid-season plum, with freestone flesh and an oblong shape. The sweet-flavored flesh is great for eating fresh or preserving, and changes from yellow green to a rich wine color when cooked.

Methley (Japanese)

A cultivar of a Japanese plum, this small, upright tree is especially beautiful. It will produce a heavy crop of juicy, sweet, redpurple fruit that is mild with a distinctive flavor. Excellent for fresh eating or jelly.

Santa Rosa (Japanese)

This superior variety is one of the most popular Japanese plums because it bears a large crop of very large, round, purplish-red fruit. Sweet and flavorful, it is great for fresh eating and canning. Interestingly, the Santa Rosa Plum is considered to be self-fertile and is, therefore, a good pollinator for other Japanese varieties.

Shiro (Japanese)





Once planted, we move on to the maintenance phase. Luckily, plum trees don't need a lot of care, which is evident if you've ever seen them thriving in a vacant lot. However, getting your newly-planted plum off to a good start will yield dividends for years to come.

Water young trees heavily every week of the first growing season until the fall rains begin, as it helps promote growth. Do not fertilize until they have set a crop, but after that, fertilize regularly, all year long. Thin your plum trees to prevent branches from breaking under the weight of the fruit. Prune young trees in the spring and established trees in mid-summer.

Most plum varieties will be ready to harvest in July, August or September (depending upon the variety). Your plums will be ready to pick when they will separate from the tree with just a little twist. European plums should be picked when they are dead ripe; Japanese plums when they begin to soften. If your plums are still firm, they are not ready to be harvested.

There are far too many wonderful plum varieties to cover here, but your local independent nursery will have an expert on-staff who can help you choose which kind will work best for you. See the chart on this page for some of the varieties available, then go check them out.

Frank Sinatra would undoubtedly agree: Plant your plum tree now and enjoy this delicious fruit in the summer...the best is yet to come!

Plum Places

These plum varieties are listed on their respective websites. If you're looking for a specific variety, it is recommended you call ahead for availability.

Portland Nursery Portland, OR

Beauty Blue Damson Brooks Burbank Combination-4 Way Early Italian Elephant Heart Espalier French Petite Green Gage Hollywood Imperial Epineuse Italian Methlev Nadia Persian Green Santa Rosa Santa Rosa Weeping Shiro Stanley

Yellow Egg

Tsugawa Nursery Woodland, WA

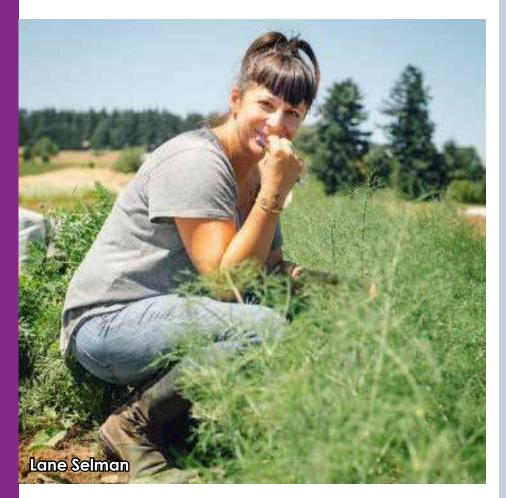
4 Way Combination Blue Damson **Brooks** Early Italian Elephant Heart Green Gage Hollywood Italian Methlev Nadia Santa Rosa Seneca Shiro Stanley Yellow Egg

Al's Garden Center Woodburn, Sherwood, **Gresham, Wilsonville, OR**

4-Way **Brooks** Elephant Heart French Petite Italian Peach Plum Santa Rosa Satsuma Shiro

Garland Nursery Corvallis, OR

Burgundy Elephant Heart Hollywood Methlev Santa Rosa Shiro (combo only) Yellow Egg



I met Lane Selman, Garden Time's February Hortie, last September at the 2018 Vegetable Variety Field Day at OSU's North Willamette Research and Education Center, NWREC. She is an Agricultural Researcher at OSU and was one of the organizers of this Trial Day that brought together many people interested in new varieties of these featured vegetables: Tomato, Pepper, Winter Squash, Cucumber, Leeks, Carrot and Lettuce. The internet invitation enticed me with these words,

"Join us for an afternoon of field tours, tasting tables and discussions about vegetable varieties with plant breeders, Extension agents and seed companies." The event sounded like just too much of plant geek heaven. It was an amazing day listening to the vegetable seed breeders explain the wonderful attributes of their latest varieties growing in the trials. This group of people

standing around the trial field was from many areas of the agricultural industry. Lane invited not only seed breeders, but CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) Farmers, Vegetable Farmers, OSU Staff and people from the Oregon food industry. To me, it was the brain trust of vegetable breeding, growing and cooking. I was in awe.

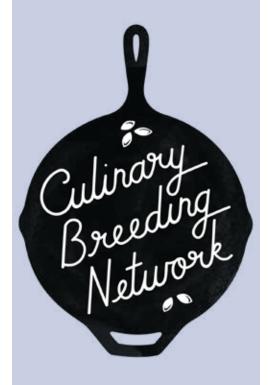
Lane is a plant geek with farmer instincts ingrained in her DNA. She was raised on the family citrus farm on the east coast of Florida. Looking to gain more education in agriculture, she attended the University of Florida for a bachelor's degree in agronomy and a master's degree in entomology. After completing these degrees, she moved to Oregon and in 2005 became an Agricultural Researcher at OSU, specializing in projects with organic farmers.

Lane knows many people in the breeding, farming and food scene in Oregon. In 2011,

Variety is the Splice of Life

Lane Selman formed the Culinary Breeding Network to create new and tastier vegetable varieties and more abundant harvests.

by Judy Alleruzzo



she created a formal group called the "Culinary Breeding Network" and assembled a team of professionals to brainstorm on breeding new vegetable varieties for abundant harvest, flavor and ease of use in commercial kitchens. Hearing more about the network, it seems like just the smartest way to get like minded people together. They all have the common goal of breeding vegetables that professional farmers or backyard gardeners will grow and eat either in their own home or at their favorite restaurant! Lane knew that this group of people would be able to talk the same talk to grow tastier and more nutritious vegetables for any end user be they, farmer or chef. What a simple concept!

This is the mission statement found on the Culinary Breeding Network website.

"The Culinary Breeding Network mission is to build communities of plant breeders, seed growers, farmers, produce buyers, chefs and other stakeholders to improve quality in vegetables and grains.

The goals are to:

- Increase communication and collaboration between stakeholders in the food community in order to create more relevant and desirable cultivars
- Identify cultivars and traits of superior performance, flavor, texture, culinary attributes and overall quality



The Study of a Sustainable Food Future

- Promote and expand awareness of cultivars created by public and independent plant breeders using traditional plant breeding processes for organic systems
- Provide greater access to organic seed and

Culinary Breeding Network www.culinarybreedingnetwork.com

> Organicology Conference www.organicology.org





open-pollinated cultivars"

As the busy Director of The Culinary Breeding Network, Lane juggles the breeding and culinary ends of the organization. To get the vegetable harvest out to consumers, Lane has organized Sagras, that translates to an Italian festival which of course, revolves around food. Being of Sicilian descent, she drew on her heritage to highlight these new vegetable varieties.

The Network has sponsored Sagras to enlighten us consumers about little known/little used vegetables like Radicchio and winter squash. There is a whirlwind of activity about educating consumers that need to know there are more leafy greens than Romaine and Iceberg lettuces and more winter squash varieties than Butternut and Acorn! These events educate the public which in turn creates the market so breeders and farmers can continue to breed new varieties and better tasting harvests and chefs to show off their creative skills. It's a perfect balance of these 3 worlds.

Lane told me about an upcoming event on February 14 to 16, called the "Organicology Conference, The Study of a Sustainable Food Future" at The Hilton Downtown Portland. The Culinary Breeding Network is a supporting group of the event and will be "curating the

Friday evening Social Hour on February 15th from 5:30-7:00 that will include tastings from organic breeding and trialing projects, including spelt, wheat, barley, and dry beans. Oregon olive oil will also be featured and Slow Food Portland will be represented." The three day event sounds like a good mix of great information and tasty food.



Lane is an active speaker all over the world and has been the recipient of many accolades. She is most proud of the "Award of Excellence for Organic Advocate by the Oregon Organic Coalition in 2016." Lane Selman is a woman on a mission to continue the connection between plant breeder, farmer and us, the consumer. She champions the movement to buy produce from our many local farmers and to eat nutritious and delicious vegetables.

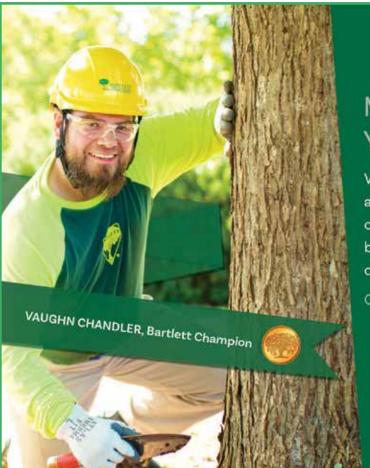
Subscribe to The Culinary Breeding Network to receive emails of news and upcoming events and see you at the next Sagra!











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EVERY TREE NEEDS A CHAMPION.



We have all experienced it. We're in a rush in the morning and before we check the date on the milk carton, we pour it into our morning cup of coffee, only to see curdled chunks of sour milk come pouring out. Or, who hasn't checked the date on the milk and since it was only a day or two past the date on the carton, we give a sniff and declare its fine...and it was.

The label says, Best if Used By, Use By or Sell By, to mention a few. What do they mean? Do they matter? Those are great questions and create a lot of confusion. In fact, some studies suggest that 40% of the food that US consumers throw away has not spoiled and 25% of that is due to confusion in food labeling.

To begin, let's talk about food product dating. Yes, we all have an intimate relationship with our food, but I'm referring to a calendar date, not dinner and a movie. Two methods of dating food exist and both are added by the manu-

facturer. The first is Open Dating. This is the date the manufacturer has applied to let consumers know when a product will be of best quality and when a grocery store would want to remove from the shelf. The next is Closed Dating that manufacturers apply to indicate when a product was produced. This may be in some form of code and can include the calendar date and time.

What is of most interest, is that this packaging information is at the discretion of the manufacturer and is not required by federal law. In fact, the federal government only requires labeling on infant formula. Even dates applied to perishable food products such as meat, poultry and eggs are voluntary. If applied, they must be truthful and include the month and day as well as a phrase explaining the date, such as, Use-By.

We have established that federal law does not really govern food dating, and that food dating is voluntary and left to the discretion of the manufacturer, so why is it included? Primarily to provide consumers a date at which the food is at its highest quality.

So what do these terms mean?

- Best if Used By is about food product quality, not safety. The product will have the best quality, which would include taste, texture and appearance.
- Use By date is similar to Best if Used By. This date has been set by the manufacturer for peak quality.
- Sell By is a date designed for use by retailers. Like other dates, it is about quality and is used by retailers for when food should be pulled off the shelf. The product is still edible, but has lost freshness, such as in the case of bread.
- Born on Date is one of my favorite as it is quite often used on beer. Yes beer loses freshness and the closer to the

born on date that beer is consumed the better.

Since these phrases and dates are more about quality than safety, what should be done with the food after the date has passed? It depends if the food is perishable; which would include dairy, meat and poultry or if it's a packaged or canned product.

With perishable foods, there are some guidelines provided below, but judgment should be used. If the food has off odors or texture, it is most likely spoiled and should not be eaten.

Meat: Use within 3-5 days of purchase

Poultry: Use within 1-2 days of purchase

Milk Products: fine up to a week after the Sell By date if unopened

Eggs: use within 3-4 weeks after purchase, when purchased by the stamped date.





PHOTO CREDIT: WWW.BLOGS.EXTENSION.IASTATE.EDU

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This REFRESHING SESSION ALE delivers CITRUS AND PINE notes.

This REFRESHING SESSION ALE delivers CITRUS AND PINE notes.

This REFRESHING SESSION ALE delivers CITRUS AND PINE notes.

THOPS. Two decades strong and we TASTE MIGHTY FRESH. Chee

ENJOY BEEN UNPASTEURIZED

FRESH BEEN UNPASTEURIZED

FRE



Again, these are guidelines and if the product shows signs of spoilage, discard.

Canned goods quality will deteriorate when it is past the label date. However, unless it shows signs of spoilage; such as bulging, the food should be fine. Note that if a can is bulging, it should be discarded even if not past the label date. Another general guideline is that high acid foods like canned tomatoes can last up to 1 ½ years, while low acid foods such as vegetables and meat (including Spam) can last up to five years.

Manufactured packaged goods, like chips, cookies and cereal can also be consumed after the label date. In evaluation of the product, signs of quality will vary. Chips contain oil and go rancid over time. They will smell like bad vegetable oil and taste the same. Toss. Cookies and cereal will lose their crispness, but are still fine to consume. In general, foods like chips and cookies can last up to two months past the food date and cereal up to a year.

The federal government also advises that it is safe for food banks to accept perishable products, even if the food date has passed. It is recommended though that the food be evaluated prior to distribution.

So how can you maximize the shelf life of your food? Here are a few tips:

- Be sure that perishable foods requiring refrigeration are placed in your refrigerator as soon as possible after purchase. Warming and cooling of food requiring refrigeration speeds up spoilage.
- Freeze meat and poultry before the Sell By date. Although it could be frozen a day or two after the Sell By date, since it will require thawing and may not be used immediately upon thawing, getting into the freezer by the Sell Date is beneficial.

- In the pantry, think like an accountant; LIFO or last in first out. Basically, if you stock a similar product; say tomato sauce put the newest cans behind the oldest cans. This will help ensure always using the oldest cans first.
- Canned and packaged goods should be stored at 50 to 70 degrees and in a dry dark place.
- If you buy perishable food in bulk, use a vacuum sealer. It will increase the life of the food three to four times over other storage methods.
- Place a date on items to be frozen as the original label may deteriorate in the freezer. It is also helpful to label what the item is.

All of these terms and dates can be confusing to consumers, but they can be confusing to retailers as well. One retailer has decided that enough is enough. Walmart reviewed their branded food products and found forty-seven different food product labels. In their effort to reduce confusion, they now use one label...Best if Used By. That is definitely a positive for the consumer and to reduce food waste due to confusion.

To provide a list of all food products and how long past a food date that they are still good would be too exhaustive for this article. However, if you want to know if that can of chicken noodle soup dated 2018 is still good, just Google 'product shelf life' and you will find multiple charts covering specific foods.

In ending, I would like to dispel the myth of the Twinkie shelf life. Some have said it is shelf stable for thirty years, but that is just urban legend. Reality is they have a shelf life of 26 days. So what about those four year old strawberry Pop-Tarts in Netflix's 'Bird Box'...? They were at least three or four years old!





wtditg

February, the month of Valentine's Day, is for lovers... of gardening! Sure, it's still a little cold, but your plants are preparing for their spring debut. Now is the time to give them a head start by pruning, cleaning, spraying and planting. Everything you do today will pay dividends for the rest of the year.

PLANNING



- Don't forget to add entries into your gardening journal! Planning ahead means you can be more focused on the important projects lined up for your garden spaces this year.
- Mason Bees: If you don't already have a Mason Bee nest-

ing block, then this is the time to get one set up

so you can be ready to attract your own crop of pollinators. Mason Bees will start emerging late February or early March.



• Start thinking and planning what landscaping you want to do this year. Bring photos of spaces you'd like help with into your local independent garden center and ask for their advice.

PLANTING



• Fruit time! Plant blueberries, strawberries and cane berries.

Most of the plants will be available sometime in February - early shopping yields the best selection.

- Bare root fruit trees are available this month.
- Plant sweet peas! These fragrant pretty flowers should be planted late winter or early spring directly into their garden space.



TASKS, MAINTENANCE & CLEAN-UP

• Pruning can be done this month on fruit trees, blueberries, shade and flowering trees, as well as most shrubs. Rose pruning should be delayed until the last half of February. Please do some research before hacking away!

Briefly, pruning is done to improve the shape of the plant, to

open it up to allow more sun in and air to circulate through the foliage. Start your pruning by



removing any dead or broken branches or crossing limbs. Suckers and water sprouts can be removed at this time.

- Prune fall-bearing raspberries now. Check your local garden center for instructions.
- Hose off Blue Spruce and Alberta Spruce, or any spruce for that matter, with a hard stream of water to knock off any aphids feeding on the foliage.

Gare

· Dormant Spray with Bonide's All Seasons Spray Oil - a safe and natural pest control that smothers over wintering insects. If needed, dormant spray for diseases with Bonide's Copper Fungicide (dust or spray). Spray according to label directions. (Don't spray dormant oil on blue spruce.)



• Peach trees second spraying can be done this month for peach leaf curl with approved fungus control labeled for

peaches, like Fungonil or Microcop.

- Water any plants that are underneath the overhang of the house or under wide growing evergreens, where soil can become quite dry.
- Fertilize trees, shrubs and perennials with slow release fertil-

izer like 'All Purpose Tree & Shrub Fertilizer'.

 Soil prep for the garden. Dump on compost and turn over with a spade as it's too early and wet to rototill. You may find it interesting to know that spading the soil instead of rototilling is better for the soil structure, so don't fret if you don't have a tiller. Keep weeds pulled or smothered as

you see them.



 Prune roses. The best month for pruning rose bushes is February. Please research good pruning meth-

ods for your rose bushes.

- Get your lawn mower ready for the months ahead with a sharper blade and maybe an engine tune up.
- Boost your lawn now with a

good lawn fertilizer. Do not apply grass seed until late April.

 Look for slug eggs out in the garden. The eggs look like little white BBs and can often be found under rocks and debris in the garden. Raking up and destroying all that you find now will eliminate many hungry adult slugs later. Use Slug magic to get rid of adults. Slug Magic is a very safe product that is only iron phosphate so the pets will not be harmed, but is deadly for slugs and snails. The broken down iron then gets to be consumed by the plants!



VEGETABLE GARDEN

 Check soil temperatures for best planting times for crops desired. Refer back to soil temperature chart (January issue) for best seed sowing times and soil temperature for planting out young starts.



- Plant horseradish, rhubarb and asparagus starting this month. Make sure you hydrate asparagus crowns first by soaking the crowns in water for about 30 minutes to one hour just before planting. This will ensure the roots are well hydrated.
- Plant these veggies and herbs outdoors: peas, arugula, onions, garlic cloves, fava or broad beans, onion sets, chives, parsley and radish.

- Start these veggies indoors: artichokes, bok choy, broccoli, cabbage, celeriac. At the end of this month, start seeds for tomatoes, peppers and eggplant indoors.
- Plant onion sets, yellow, white or red.
- Watch for Walla Walla Sweets plant starts to come out late in the month or early March. It's a good idea to trim off any brown leaves from the green tops as well as set the roots into



water to re-hydrate for one-half hour to one hour before planting out.



Mary's Peak Society Orchid Show February 2, 2019 • 9:00am-4:00pm Garland Nursery, Corvallis, OR

This is always a beautiful and fun event. Come see amazing varieties of orchids, have your orchid questions answered and have your orchids repotted by orchid experts (for a nominal fee). Orchid show will be here at Garland Nursery. Cost: Free to the public! www.garlandnursery.com

Fruit Tree Pruning Saturday, February 2, 2019 • 10:00am Al's Garden & Home, Woodburn, Gresham, OR

Pruning fruit trees correctly can increase your harvest and improve tree health. In this class, you'll learn the basic steps on how to prune fruit trees. Whether your trees are young or old, they'll benefit from proper pruning. This seminar features Jack Bigei, 2nd Generation Owner of Al's Garden & Home. www.als-gardencenter.com

What to Do in the February Vegetable Garden Saturday, February 2, 2019 • 11:00am Portland Nursery (Division), Portland, OR

With Robyn Streeter of Your Backyard Farmer. Join Robyn for a great refresher on what to do in the veggie garden for the month of February. Learn how to plan your garden for the year. This includes selecting the garden site, how much space you need to feed your family, crop rotation planning, and garden mapping!

Kids' Club: Seeds are Da' Bomb Saturday, February 2, 2019 • 11:00am(W) Saturday, February 9, 2019 • 11:00am(S) Saturday, February 16, 2019 • 11:00am(G) Saturday, February 23, 2019 • 11:00am(V) Al's Garden & Home, Woodburn, Sherwood, Gresham, Wilsonville(V), OR

www.als-gardencenter.com

Fruit Tree Pruning Saturday, February 2, 2019 • 11:00am Saturday, February 9, 2019 • 1:00pm

Tsugawa Nursery, Woodland, WA

Mid-winter, while our fruit trees are dormant, is the best time to give them some much needed TLC. Join us as Jim Chennault advises on fruit tree pruning, teaching different techniques to control growth, remove dead or diseased wood or stimulate the formation of flowers and fruit buds. Arrive early and attend our 11:00 a.m. Fruit Tree Spraying seminar. To get the most out of your fruit trees, plan to attend both Fruit Tree Spraying and Fruit Tree Pruning. Free. After the seminar, we will be offering 15% OFF pruning tools and dormant sprays! www.tsuaawanursery.com

Fruit Tree Spraying Saturday, February 2, 2019 • 1:00pm Saturday, February 9, 2019 • 11:00am Tsugawa Nursery, Woodland, WA

Join us for one of our most popular first-of-theyear classes, Dormant Spraying. Jim Chennault will share the proper use of dormant spray for fruit trees and deciduous shrubs in preventing the spread of fungal diseases and controlling harmful insects. Plan on staying to attend our next class, Fruit Tree Pruning at 1:00 p.m. To get the most out of your fruit trees, plan to attend both Fruit Tree Spraying and Fruit Tree Pruning. Free. After the seminar, we will be offering 15% OFF pruning tools and dormant sprays! www.tsugawanursery.com

Transplanting Houseplants Workshop Sunday, February 3, 2017 • 11:00am-12:00pm Garland Nursery, Corvallis, OR

This is a demonstration/workshop/discussion kinda thina! Lady Charlotte of the Houseplant Charlottes will show you the best practices for repotting your houseplants and answer any questions you may have. No orchids please, look up and to the left if you need an orchid repotted, or have orchid related questions. You can purchase a small houseplant or bring your own (6-inch pot or smaller) for repotting. Cost: Soil and information are free! So is the demonstration/class/discussion. www.garlandnursery.com

Pruning Fruit Trees



Sunday, February 3, 2017 • 2:00pm-3:00pm Garland Nursery, Corvallis, OR

Now is a great time to get your fruit trees in order. Don't know how to do that? Karen from the Garland Nursery with decades of experience will be here to teach you the best practices for pruning your fruit trees. Whether it be a cherry tree or an espaliered combo, Karen has all the answers. Cost: Free to the public! www.garlandnursery.com

Chinese New Year February 5-19, 2019 • 10:00am-4:00pm Lan Su Chinese Garden, Portland, OR

Chinese New Year at Lan Su Chinese Garden is one of the most popular things to do in Portland. Experience the most joyous two-week celebration for families and individuals with lion dances, glowing lanterns, cultural activities, and more. Plan for the most auspicious visit by purchasing admission tickets ahead of time online and arriving early for your favorite activities. The festivities end with several nights of Lantern Viewing Evenings when the garden is illuminated with colorful lanterns and lively dragon processions. Chinese New Year is the most popular time to visit the garden. Plan for the best visit by purchasing your tickets ahead of time and arriving early for your favorite activities. lansugarden.org

Rolling in the Wealth Tuesday, February 5, 2019 • 10:00am-11:00am Lan Su Chinese Garden, Portland, OR

Oranges, with their round shape and glowing hue reminiscent of gold, symbolize money in traditional Chinese customs. On the first day of Chinese New Year, families and businesses roll oranges and coins over the threshold of their front door, to ensure that prosperity will flow into the building all year long. The first 100 visitors on Tuesday, February 5 are invited to join Lan Su staff and volunteers to "Roll in the Wealth" for a healthy and wealthy Year of the Pig. Special note: long lines are possible at times during Chinese New Year, particularly on weekends and opening day. Plan ahead by arriving early and buying your tickets in advance.

continued next column

lansugarden.org

Wishing Tree

Tuesday, February 5-Sunday, February 16, 2019

• 12:00pm-2:00pm

Lan Su Chinese Garden, Portland, OR

Chinese wishing trees, money trees, and hong bao trees are a big part of Chinese New Year festivities. Every year, billions of people around the world gather to toss their red ribbons up into the wishing tree with hope that it will stick and their wish will come true for good fortune in the coming year. Visitors will have an opportunity to toss a wish for prosperity, happiness and longevity into the wishing tree at Lan Su. Your wish (if you're lucky!) will stay in the wishing tree, but you can learn how to make your own wishing ribbons for use at home at this event.

Free with membership or admission. Chinese New Year is the most popular time to visit the garden. Plan for the best visit by purchasing your tickets ahead of time and arriving early for your favorite activities. Event begins at 10:00am on February 5, 9, 10 & 16. lansugarden.org

Red Lantern Family Craft Activity Tuesday, February 5, 2019 • 10:00am-4:00pm Saturday-Sunday, February 9-10, 2019

• 10:00am-4:00pm

Saturday-Sunday, February 16-17, 2019

10:00am-4:00pm

Monday, February 18, 2019 • 11:00am-1:00pm Lan Su Chinese Garden, Portland, OR

Construct your own red lantern in celebration of Chinese New Year — Year of the Pig. Paper lanterns are used in Chinese culture during festivals and times of celebration. The bright red color of these lanterns is especially important in Chinese culture, representing luck and prosperity. This family craft activity will teach you how to create this keepsake that you can carry through the garden during your visit and take home with you to use as decoration.

All needed materials are provided. This activity is continued next page



included free with Lan Su membership or admission; no registration is required. Chinese New Year is the most popular time to visit the garden. Plan for the best visit by purchasing your tickets ahead of time and arriving early for your favorite activities. lansugarden.org

Folk Art Demonstration February 5-18, 2019 (Daily, Excluding Thursdays) • 12:00pm-4:00pm

Lan Su Chinese Garden, Portland, OR

Calligraphy is a high art in Chinese culture. See why the writing of beautiful characters is so revered, and watch as expert calligrapher Zhao Ze Ming creates a colorful painting that builds on this ancient art's techniques. Personalized calligraphy is available for a small cost or simply watch a master at work. Event begins at 10:00am on February 5, 9, 10, 16 & 17. lansugarden.org

School Performance

Tuesday, February 5, 2019 • 12:00pm-12:30pm Saturday-Sunday, February 9-10, 2019

• 12:00pm-12:30pm

Saturday-Sunday, February 16-17, 2019

• 12:00pm-12:30pm

Lan Su Chinese Garden, Portland, OR

Watch as children from local schools sing and dance! Each performance will take place at Noon on the terrace. lansugarden.org

Tuesday Yoga in the Garden Tuesdays, February 5, 12, 19 & 26, 2019

• 1:00pm–1:50pm

Leach Botanical Garden, Portland, OR

Rejuvenate and restore your mind and body with a gentle weekly yoga session surrounded by nature. Instructors Jill Russell and Kelly Carsley will lead you through routines that will optimize your overall well-being through breath awareness, improved joint mobility and increased strength and flexibility. All levels are welcome and supported. Studies show that simply looking at trees and the color green can lower blood pressure, reduce

stress, and improve your mood. That makes the Garden's Manor House Fireplace Room, with its wooden floors and beautiful views of the surrounding forest, an ideal place to take a mid-day break that is just for you. Register in advance or just drop in.

Ages 18 and over. Meets weekly in the Manor House Fireplace Room starting February 5, 2019. \$12/session or \$10 for Leach Garden Friend. To register in advance, please go to www.leachgarden.org and click on "Learn". Drop-ins welcome. Leach Botanical Garden, 6704 SE 122nd Avenue, Portland, OR 97236. 503-823-1671.

Meet & Greet: Shadow, the Pet Pig with the NW Miniature Pig Association

Tuesday, February 5, 2019 • 2:00pm-4:00pm Friday, February 8 & 15, 2019 • 2:00pm-4:00pm Lan Su Chinese Garden, Portland, OR

To usher in the Year of the Pig, come meet Shadow, the friendliest pig in town! Shadow is a New Zealand Kunekune pig, known for their mellow disposition and long hair. Kunekune pigs do not root for food; they are the only breed that grazes on grass. They are very smart and can live between 15 to 20 years! lansugarden.org

Leach Garden Weekly Honeybee Hikes Wednesdays, February 6, 13, 20, 27, 2019

• 10:00am-11:00am

Leach Botanical Garden, Portland, OR

Join us for a weekly garden exploration just for preschoolers. Your little one will look for wildlife, listen to the wind and the creek, touch a thimble-berry leaf, water the Children's Discovery Garden and maybe even eat a raspberry right off the vine! Then pause while our guide reads the group a story before helping the children craft something fun. Each week is different with seasonal themes.

This hike takes place Wednesdays, 10:00-11:00am from February 6, 2019–December 11, 2019. Ages: 2–5 years, accompanied by an adult. Dress for the weather! \$3.00 per child, non-walkers free. Punch



cards available in the Leach Garden Gift House purchase 5 hikes and get the 6th one free.

Meeting places will change during construction. Meet in the upper garden through March. From April - December, please check the website to confirm meeting location and parking information. Groups with 10+ children/adults must preregister by contacting the Education Coordinator, 503-823-1671. Please check website for possible cancellations. Leach Botanical Garden, 6704 SE 122nd Avenue, Portland, OR 97236.

Drip Irrigation – How, What, When, Where, Why, and YOU!*

Saturday, February 9, 2019 • 10:00am-12:00pm PCC Rock Creek, Portland, OR

With Jennifer Peters, Chair of the PCC Rock Creek Landscape Technology Department and Susan Albright, Master Gardener

Thinking about drip irrigation but not sure where to start? Well, here's the answer. In this session we'll cover the following: drip vs. overhead watering; how to convert an existing system from overhead to drip; determining water needs for your site's size, light conditions, soil and plants; installation options; resources for information and supplies; tour of irrigation system at WCMGA Education Garden at PCC Rock Creek (weather permitting): hands-on activity with take-home sample plus ample time for questions. *Approved for MG education credit. LOCATION: PCC Rock Creek Building 4 Workroom WCMGA Education Garden at PCC Rock Creek 17705 NW Springville Rd. Portland, OR 97229. No registration needed, free parking: For weekday WCMGA educational events, use the Events Parking Lot behind Building 9. On Saturdays all campus parking areas available for free.

Valentine Terrarium Saturday, February 9, 2019 •11:00am-12:00pm Garland Nursery, Corvallis, OR

A terrarium is a miniature garden grown inside a covered container. The children will get to plant up their very own Valentine themed terrarium continued next column

which they will take home. They will be taught about the different plants and how to care for them. Fun and informative! Cost: \$7.00. www.garlandnursery.com

Portland Chinatown Dragon Parade Saturday, February 9, 2019 • 11:00am Lan Su Chinese Garden, Portland, OR

Celebrate Chinese New Year with the Portland Chinatown History Foundation Dragon Parade! PLEASE NOTE: The parade route leads through the Chinatown neighborhood surrounding the garden. The parade begins on NW Davis & NW 4th Avenue at 11:00am. www.lansu.org

Make a Nesting Ball for Birds! Saturday • February 9, 2019 • 11:00am Portland Nursery (Division), Portland, OR

With Portland Nursery's Tamara Wallace. Make a unique and beautiful present for your neighborhood birds to help them easily find the materials they need to build nests. Pinecone nesting balls, made with natural, found and recycled materials, offer essential supplies that ensure your avian friends can make a warm and cozy refuge to raise the next generation. Class fee: \$15. Class size limited to 15. www.portlandnursery.com

Rose Care 101 Sunday, February 10, 2019 • 1:00pm Portland Nursery (Division), Portland, OR with Rich Baer, Portland Rose Society

February is here and it's time to prune your roses! Join rose expert Rich Baer from the Portland Rose Society to learn the basics of growing roses. He will cover the basics of different rose species, proper pruning timing and techniques, fertilizing and watering needs, pest and disease control, and other helpful tips to keep your roses healthy, happy, and blooming! www.portlandnursery.com

Wine & Workshop Wednesday: Scent-sational Topiary

Wednesday, February 13, 2019 • 4:30pm(V) Wednesday, February 20, 2019 • 4:30pm(S)



Wednesday, February 27, 2019 • 4:30pm(G)
Al's Garden & Home, Wilsonville(V), Sherwood,
Gresham, OR

www.als-gardencenter.com

Attracting Bees, Butterflies, Birds*
Thursday, February 14, 2019 • 10:00am-11:00am
Jenkins Estate Learning Garden, Beaverton, OR

With Kassia Rudd, Washington County Programs Coordinator, Oregon Agriculture in the Classroom. This hands-on session will prepare you to incorporate wildlife friendly plants and features into your yard. Already gardening for wildlife? We have something for you too—this session will end with an overview of citizen science opportunities for wildlife gardeners. Whether you are a pollinator fan, or nuts about birds, this session has something for you. Adults and interested teens. *Approved for MG education credit.: WCGMA Learning Garden at Jenkins Estate Learning Garden at Jenkins Estate 8005 SW Grabhorn, Beaverton, OR 97007. On weekends, use the Camp Rivendale entrance, park, and then walk past play structure down to Learning Garden. No registration needed, free parking.

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parking.

Annual Pruning Demo Saturday, February 16, 2019 • 9:00am-12:00pm Tualatin Valley Garden Club, Hillsboro, OR

Tualatin Valley Garden Club (TVGC) in collaboration with the Washington County Master Gardener Association will offer their annual pruning demonstration on Saturday, February 16, 2019. Come and learn how to prune cane berries, grapes, fruit trees, ornamental shrubs, ornamental trees, and roses. Experienced volunteers and professional tree pruner Bill Stone will demonstrate at this event.

Participants may also bring two tools to be sharpened by a volunteer who will be available to answer questions on tool care and sharpening. ONE CLEAN TOOL PER PERSON w/name label. Please bring pruners and gloves for hands on experience. Hot coffee and cookies available.

The event is free and requires no registration. Stop by between 9 a.m. to noon rain or shine at 3850 S.W. Minter Bridge Road, Hillsboro. Questions? Call: Dave Russell, 503-648-4236, leave your name and number. www.tualatinvalleygardenclub.org

Brunch & Workshop Saturday Saturday, February 16, 2019 • 10:00am Al's Garden & Home, Woodburn, OR

www.als-gardencenter.com

Hypertufa Trough Making Saturday, February 16, 2019 • 10:00am-12:00pm Rogerson Clematis Garden, West Linn, OR

Join curator Linda Beutler and greenhouse manager Susan Toler for this rewarding and messy class! We provide all the materials you need to leave with your own trough, plus instructions so you can repeat the process at home. Dress for the weather, as part of the process happens outside. We will be in the greenhouse driveway unless the weather is bitter, in which case we'll meet in the milking parlor of the barn. Classes are \$10 for FRCC members, \$25 for non-members of FRCC, and free



to FRCC members at the Patron and Duchess of Waverly levels. 125 Rosemont Rd., West Linn, OR 97068. 971-777-4394. www.rogersonclematiscollection.org

The Seasons of a Pine Saturday, February 16, 2019 • 11:00am Portland Nursery (Division), Portland, OR

With Tom Dufala, Bentwood Tree Farm. Tom Dufala of Bentwood Tree Farm will visit us to explore Japanese garden styled pine trees. Learn about pine tree culture and the best methods to guide your pine tree into its own character. Tom will discuss pine varieties, garden siting for best growth, and how to care for and prune pine trees for a Japanese garden style. www.portlandnursery. com

Bonsai Class: Topic TBA Saturday, February 16, 2019 • 11:00am Tsugawa Nursery, Woodland, WA

Join us and learn about this fun, relaxing and artistic hobby. All levels are invited. We look forward to seeing you! A fee for materials may be added once topic is determined. Call us for more information. www.tsugawanursery.com

Pruning Roses Saturday, February 16, 2019 • 1:00pm-2:00pm Garland Nursery, Corvallis, OR

Pruning Roses by Debbie de los Rosas Now is a great time to get your roses in order. Don't know how to do that? Debbie de los Rosas from the Garland Nursery with decades of experience will be here to teach you the best practices for pruning your roses. Whether it be a floribunda or a climber, Debbie de los Rosas has all the answers. (Oops, I did it again.) Cost: Free to the Public. www.garlandnursery.com

Soils: Part 1 Saturday, February 16, 2019 • 1:00pm Portland Nursery (Division), Portland, OR

With Marc Scheidecker. This class looks at the types of minerals and organic matter that make up our

continued next column

soils. These help determine the nutritional value of the plants we grow because as Marc says, "If it's not in the soil, it's not in us." We will look at how to avoid unintentionally harming our soil and follow the axiom "First, do no harm." We will also discuss the importance of aetting a professional soil test done. www.portlandnursery.com

Portland Spring Home & Garden Show Thursday, February 21, 2019 • 10:00am-8:00pm Friday, February 22, 2019 • 10:00am-8:00pm Saturday, February 23, 2019 • 10:00am-8:00pm Sunday, February 24, 2019 • 10:00am-6:00pm Portland Expo Center, Portland, OR

The best place to start your next home project is at the Portland Home & Garden Shows. The 2019 show will feature 11 incredible showcase gardens built by exhibitors. Meet remodeling professionals, get plenty of ideas and visit with hundreds of great companies so you can launch into Spring with your new home project. And you won't want to miss the Sculpture Walk through the gardens new this year! www.homeshowpdx.com

Mason Bees 101* Saturday, February 23, 2019 • 10:00am-12:00pm PCC Rock Creek, Portland, OR

With Ron Spendal, Master Gardener. First in a series, this presentation addresses the biology, behavior and natural history of the Mason Bee. *Approved for MG education credit. LOCATION: PCC Rock Creek Building 4 Classroom. WCMGA Education Garden at PCC Rock Creek, 17705 NW Springville Rd., Portland, OR 97229. No registration needed, free parking: For weekday WCMGA educational events, use the Events Parking Lot behind Building 9. On Saturdays all campus parking areas available for free.

Inviting Mason Bees to Your Garden Saturday, February 23, 2019 • 11:00am Tsugawa Nursery, Woodland, WA

This class will focus on a wonderful little insect... the Mason bee! We are excited to have Master Gardener Billie Bevers back to share with you her continued on page 43



PLAY TIME Gardening Events Around Town (continued)

knowledge of these proficient pollinators and how you can encourage them to visit your garden and orchard this season, increasing the abundance of your harvest. Learn about their nesting habits and how to establish an environment that will encourage them to keep a regular home in your garden. This class covers equipment, seasonal management, bee biology and management of pests. Free. www.tsugawanursery.com

Soils: Part 2 Saturday, February 23, 2019 • 1:00pm Portland Nursery (Division), Portland, OR

With Marc Scheidecker. Learn how to feed your soil and the billions of soil microorganisms that in turn feed your veggie plants. We will discuss foliar fertilizing, soil drenches, side dressing, and manures as well as how to avoid overfertilization. We'll talk developing about an ongoing season long fertilization plan. www.portlandnursery.com

Organic Vegetable Gardening 101: Basics for Beginners Sunday, February 24, 2019 • 11:00am Portland Nursery (Division), Portland, OR

With Gardening Goddess, Jolie Ann Donohue. If you are excited to grow your own food, but have little to no experience or are new to gardening in the Portland area, this is the class for you! Jolie Donohue, The Gardening Goddess www. jolieanndonohue.com will discuss the basics of organic edible gardening, including: site preparation, crop selection based on site elements, planting and care techniques. With her two decades of gardening experience, Jolie will demystify growing your own food and will share her tips and techniques for beginner success! www.portlandnursery.com

Organic Vegetable Gardening 102: Crop Rotation & Companion Planting Sunday, February 24, 2019 • 1:00pm Portland Nursery (Division), Portland, OR

With Gardening Goddess, Jolie Ann Donohue. Take your vegetable garden to the next level. This

is a great class for gardeners with a little experience under their belt who now want to dig deeper! Join Jolie Donohue, The Gardening Goddess (www.jolieanndonohue.com) and learn the benefits of practicing crop rotation and companion planting for the healthiest, happiest plants possible. Drawing from two decades of gardening experience, Jolie will discuss tips and techniques for crop rotation, great crop combinations and methods for inter-planting, and strategize about how to rotate crops in small urban plots. www.portlandnursery.com

Garden & Public Speaker Series: Rhoda Maurer Thursday, February 28, 2019 • 2:00pm Portland Japanese Garden, Portland, OR

"Approaching Nature from the Slant: A Journey Towards Understanding Our Shared Humanity" -An accomplished horticulturalist shares wisdom not just about plants but on spirituality, social justice, sustainability, environmentalism, and finding wisdom in different worldviews. Rhoda Maurer narrates her journey as a horticulturalist and photographer to find a connection with nature that restores a sense of awe, mystery, and wisdom to our lives. Solutions to complex global challenges cannot be found without looking deeply within ourselves and the relationships we tend with the land, other people, and all living beings. From the interconnectedness of science, art and wellness to the question of what the new social purpose of botanical gardens should be, Maurer will braid together insights on art, science, community, and the relationship between humankind and "Nature with a capital N." Ticket Price: Location: Yanai Classroom. Members: \$15 Public: \$20*. *Public tickets do not include Garden admission.

LOOKING FOR MORE?
You will find more events and updated information on the Garden Time Events Calendar www.gardentime.tv/events.htm



These are just some of the companies we've produced videos for:

Benson High School • Central City Concern • Malarkey Roofing Lewis and Clark Law School • Muscular Distrophy Association Oregon Cancer SkiOut • Regional Water Providers Consortium SOLV • Salem Hospital • Team Oregon • Willow Station

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CONTACT US TODAY 503-793-6804

email: gustingroup@comcast.net