

February 2020

# garden time

A Digital Monthly Magazine for Your Garden & Home

**Roman Holiday**  
**Villa Catalana Cellars**

**Espaliered Fruit Trees**  
**Kombucha**

OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR  
**Gail Langelotto**





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## Love, Love, Love

This is the perfect month for this desire... and as the Beatles say, 'love is all you need'. This month we have Valentine's Day, the annual celebration of love, and associated with that is the rose! This beautiful plant, which graces many local gardens, is a symbol of love and devotion. February also marks the month of pruning for this great garden plant. Presidents Day is the traditional time for your first, seemingly harsh cuts to your rose bushes. You can also tackle some of your other favorite garden plants with your pruners as well. Blueberries, hardy fuchsias, some hydrangeas and wisteria can be cut back during this month. Check out the OSU Extension website for tips on what to cut and how much to cut back this month so you don't cut off flowering shoots or potential fruiting branches.

Another thing to love about this short month is that the days are getting longer, the threat of severe winter weather diminishes and early flowering plants are starting to show off. This time of year I head for the garden and cut off the old foliage from the hellebores and expose those flowering stalks full of blooms. That, with the emerging bulb blooms, Edgeworthia and Pink Dawn viburnum flowers, gets me in the mood for spring and loving my garden once again.

You'll love this month's issue of Garden Time. One place that we really love is Villa Catalana! This winery is the home to Rare Plant Research and Burl Mostul and his lovely wife Cindy. We love it because of the great plants, the tasty wines and the incredible atmosphere! It is a trip to Spain every time you visit! Ryan talks to Burl about the Villa and how it all got started. Of course, it is winter in the garden and it can get messy. Therese tells us about Muck Boots and how they are an essential tool for the gardener any time of year. For the fruit lover, we also have a great story on espaliered fruit trees. These are smaller types of trees, pruned to be grown along a fence or wall. You can have fruit in a small space with a choice of varieties that increases every year. Plus, don't forget to check out our calendar of events at the end of each issue (and on-line at [www.GardenTime.tv](http://www.GardenTime.tv)) for a listing of local events to get your green thumb ready for the coming season.

If you love gardening, get ready! It is time to start getting excited for the months ahead. Don't you just love, love, love it?!

**Happy Gardening!**

**Jeff Gustin, Publisher**

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# Garden Time's Iconic Spokesflower Answers Your Questions!



## Ask Mortimer



Slug

Dear Mortimer,

I've heard that you can control your slug population by applying slug baits and using other organic methods at this time of year. Isn't it too cold for them to be effective?

Thanks,  
Wondering in Woodburn

Dear Wondering,

It may seem like it is too cold to do much of anything in the garden in February, but things are still moving around and growing out there, especially in the Willamette Valley. The late fall and winter are a great time to bait for slugs and snails. Those warm days in the winter garden still brings out the slimy creatures and you can find them under leaves, pieces of wood and in other protected places. Baiting them now will reduce the number of eggs that they lay and that means less of a problem as your spring garden starts to grow. We find that we can apply a small amount of bait around plants that are attractive to them, like early emerging perennials and flower stalks. This targeted approach means less bait around the rest of the garden, which is good for the garden and



Slug Eggs

Mortimer answers selected questions and comments every month in Garden Time Magazine. To send him your question, email [AskMortimer@GardenTime.tv](mailto:AskMortimer@GardenTime.tv)

PHOTO CREDIT: OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY



less money too!

If you have pets or small children (not that they are out much during the winter), remember to get a pet/child safe product and follow the directions for application. If you do a little work now, you can cut back on those little guys munching on your new spring plants!

Happy hunting!  
Mortimer

PHOTO CREDIT: OSU EXTENSION



Dear Mortimer,

I want to get started on my summer veggie garden. Is it too early to start seeds indoors? When would you recommend we start and when can I take them outside?

Thanks,  
Itching in Idanha

Dear Itching,

You can start growing your spring and summer flowers and vegetables from seed anytime you like... even at 1700 feet of elevation near Detroit Lake (Idanha's location). However, when you can put those plants in the ground is another matter altogether. Starting your garden indoors is a great idea, but remember that eventually you may need to move those plants outside. We have started our garden as early as the end of February inside our home,

PHOTO CREDIT: OSU EXTENSION



but we are in the Willamette Valley. You may want to wait for another month or more before you start. It also depends on when you want to move them outside. The key for successful growth outside is soil temperature. Most seed companies recommend a soil temperature of 50 degrees or higher to start your seeds in the ground. That is a good rule of thumb for veggies that you have started indoors and want to transplant outside. You will also need to pay attention to the average frost date for your area too, so you don't freeze those tender new plants once they are in the ground! Give yourself about 8-10 weeks before you plan on moving your plants outdoors from the time when you start your seeds. So, for the valley, you could start your seeds in March and move them into your garden in May. Make sure that your seedlings have a good established root system and that they have their 'true' leaves (not the first leaves they show) before you move them anywhere. We actually pot them into a larger 4 inch pot and let them grow in that for a couple of extra weeks before they go outside.

The type of vegetable or flower will also influence when to start and when to transplant, so do a little research first on your flowers and veggie choices. Don't forget, there are some early season cole crops that you can get in the ground outside a lot sooner than some of your other vegetables. Of course we recommend that you check with OSU Extension or the help desk at your local garden center for more help, variety selections and other great tips.

Happy growing,  
Mortimer

### A Note from Mortimer...

You may have heard that The American Public Gardens Association conference is in Portland this year and we expect over 1,000 public garden administrators for five days of classes, presentations, field trips, receptions and more during the last week of June, 2020. This is a wonderful opportunity to highlight our world-class public gardens. If you might be interested in volunteering during the conference, whether it is for a few hours or a few days, please fill in your contact information on the link below. You could also email your contact information to the volunteer committee co-chair, Lois Moss, at [Lois@Gardens.Tours](mailto:Lois@Gardens.Tours). Your information will not be shared and you can decline volunteering at any time. Any help you might be able to give is greatly appreciated! If you might be interested, please sign up here:

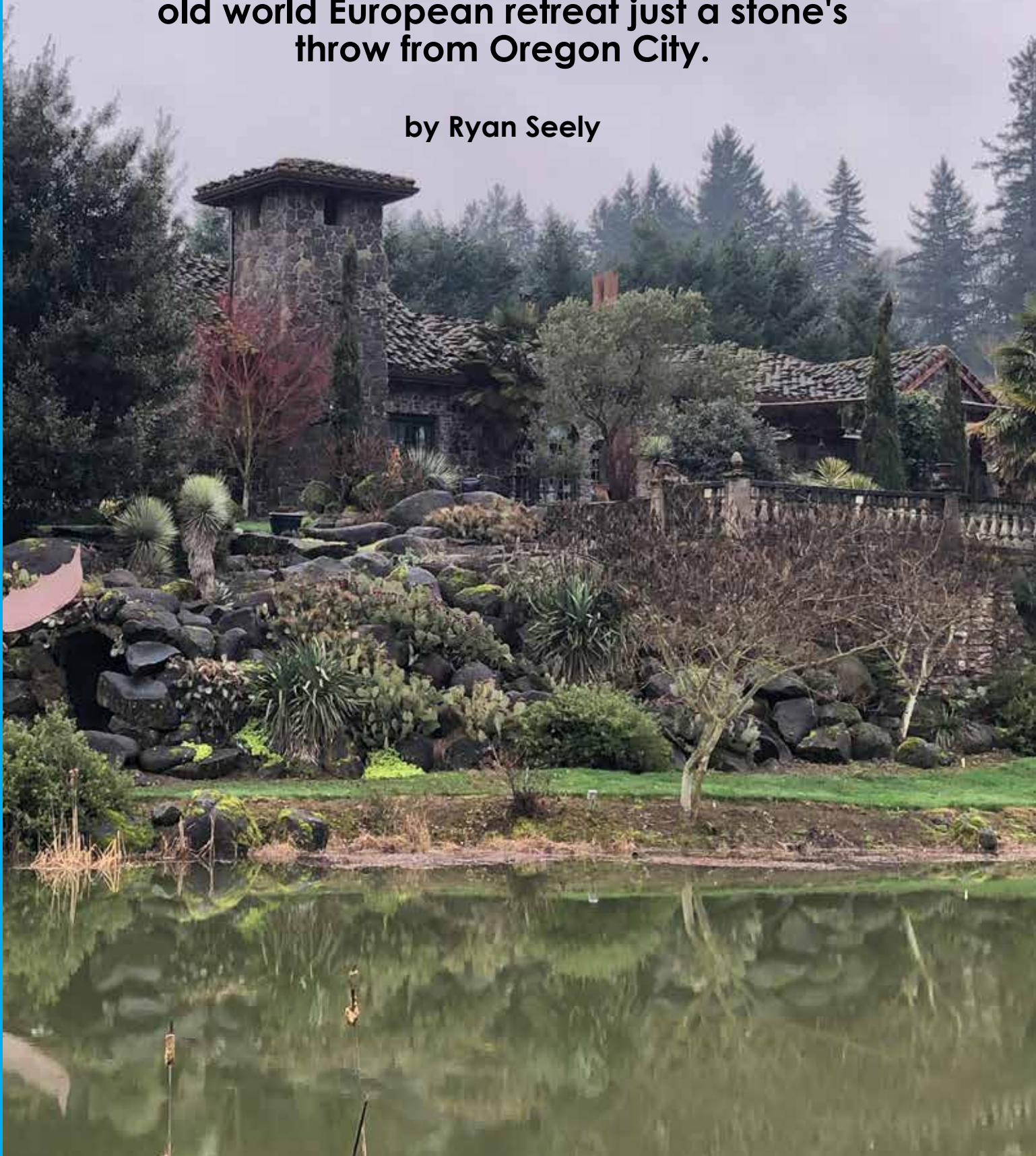
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# Roman Holiday

**Reminiscent of Romanesque churches built 900 years ago, Villa Catalana Cellars is an old world European retreat just a stone's throw from Oregon City.**

by Ryan Seely







Just south of Portland, you can stop by for a taste of European and Romanesque elegance. It started in the early 2000s, when Burl and Cindy Mostel were searching for a home with approximately five acres to house their nursery. After years of searching, and not finding the perfect place, they were drawn to an abandoned 14-acre hay field just south of Oregon City. They eventually bought that parcel of land, and have since transformed this property into an amazing home, garden, nursery and vineyard – Villa Catalana.

Based off a twelfth century Catalanian church in Spain that is a Unesco World Heritage Site, they began first with the construction of the various walls and their home. Their goal was to make their home and gardens reminiscent of Romanesque churches built 900 years ago. They accomplished their goal by using a variety of techniques in construction, including aging the broken concrete to build their stone walls. For their home, they used three different types of stones, and achieved the rustic elegance that is Romanesque architecture: round arches and vaults, with the substitution of piers for columns.

# Where Will a Capitol Subaru Take You?



## Local Events February 2020

### New Year Lantern Viewing Evenings

**Thursday-Sunday, February 6-9, 2020 • 6:00-8:00pm**  
**Lan Su Garden, Portland, OR**

Four evenings of traditional lantern viewings, when the garden glows with hanging red lanterns illuminating sweeping roof lines and the lake reflects the lights of a large illuminated 20-ft Dragon lantern sculpture and lotus lanterns!

• [www.lansugarden.org](http://www.lansugarden.org)

### Little Spouts: Valentine's Terrarium

**Sunday, February 9, 2020 • 11:00am**  
**Garland Nursery, Corvallis, OR**

Cost: \$7.00. Children will get to plant up their very own Valentine-themed terrarium which they will take home. They will be taught about the different plants and how to care for them.

• [www.garlandnursery.com](http://www.garlandnursery.com)

### Winter Apple Tree Pruning

**Saturday, February 22, 2020 • 1:00pm**  
**Portland Nursery (Division), Portland, OR**

Learn how to improve your yields, train young trees, reinvigorate your old growth tree, and more. We will discuss some of the fundamentals of apple tree growth and how you can use that knowledge to get the most from your apple tree.

• [www.portlandnursery.com](http://www.portlandnursery.com)





They built their home high on a hill, with their nursery and vineyards below, and have since added multiple ponds, all man-made. Heavily influenced by the various gardens that Burl and Cindy have visited throughout the world, Villa Catalana was not master-planned. Rather, their beautiful home and gardens seemed to build and grow onto itself, one idea at a time.

After the economic recession of 2008-2010, they wanted to find a way to supplement their nursery, and began growing grapes, thus merging their love of gardening, nurseries and wine! Self-taught and several batches of trial and error wine, Burl quickly learned that the goal to making good wine starts with good grapes. They now grow their own pino grapes and purchase quality grapes in from other local growers. Burl and Cindy open their nursery a few times a year to the public, but they offer wine tastings once a week on Saturdays, from 1-4 PM, allowing guests to visit and appreciate their various gardens. The tastings take place in their beautiful conservatory, with lush and green tropical plants, reminiscent of the Iberian Peninsula and the native orange trees, Ficus growing on the walls, and Bromeliads scattered throughout the







palms. Even on a winter's day in Oregon, the conservatory is warm and inviting, with small tables amongst the foliage, encouraging guests to linger while they sip their wine.

And such a variety of gardens there are! Their gardens include a Southern European Garden, a Northwest Garden (surrounding their home), a Terrace Garden which includes an incredible amount of various succulents, and a Boulder Garden, inspired by Roberto Burle Marx. His gardens were known for their modernist landscape, and Marx was credited for introducing this type of architecture to Brazil in the 1950s. The gardens are so beautiful that Villa Catalana is in high demand late Spring through early Autumn, as it's a beautiful back-drop to various events, such as weddings.

## Available Now! **Garden Time Flowers**

In celebration of Garden Time, we are proud to tell you about three flowers that have been named in our honor. The *Garden Time Dahlia* comes from Swan Island Dahlias, the *Garden Time Rose* was introduced by Heirloom Roses and the *Garden Time Iris* is from Schreiner's Iris Gardens. Check them out and put a little *Garden Time* in your yard!



**Garden Time Dahlia**



**Garden Time Rose**



**Garden Time Iris**

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**Garden Time**





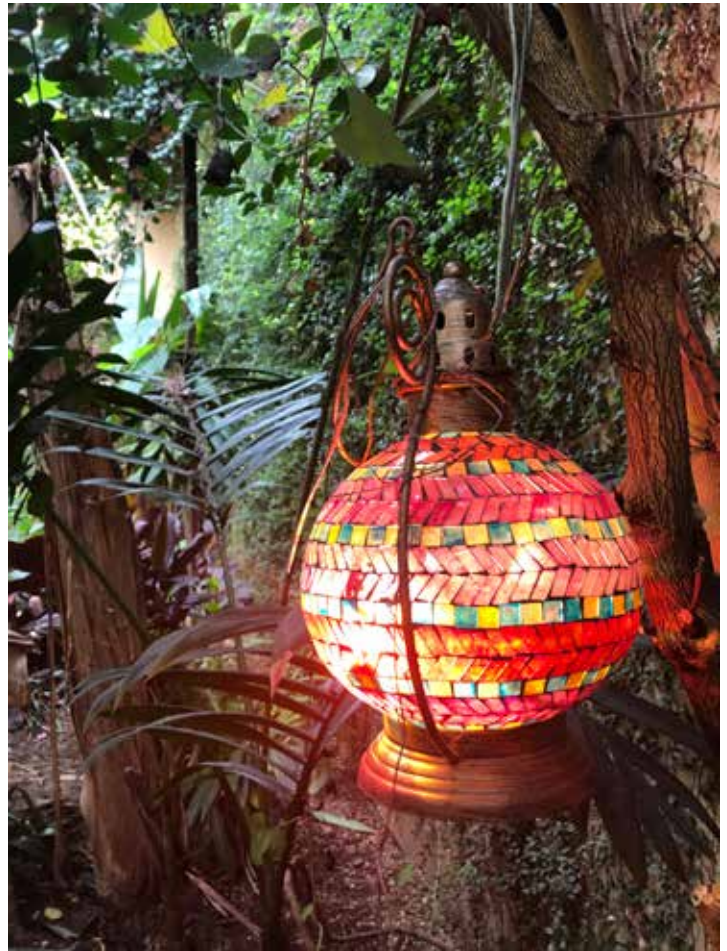


Their selection of plant material is beyond what you would typically find in the Northwest. Having toured the world searching for different and unusual plants that would survive the local winters, you are immediately aware of the uniqueness of the plants and gardens.

So what's next for Burl and Cindy? Their future plans include installing a raised bed garden and fountain, and perhaps a new pond or even a mausoleum. Now that the structure of Villa Catalana has been built, they are transitioning to the maintenance phase of their beautiful property. Their goal is to continue to inspire people to garden, and fill their soul with natural beauty for years to come. "If an environment can bring out the better side of a person, that is something special." -- Burl Mostel.

### **Villa Catalana Cellars**

**11900 S Criteser Rd,  
Oregon City, OR 97045  
[www.villacatalanacellars.com](http://www.villacatalanacellars.com)**





# The Muck Stops Here

A great pair of work boots is an essential tool in your gardening arsenal. A pair of boots from The Muck Boot Company™ is the perfect choice for all your 'mucky' jobs!

by Therese Gustin



Garden Time co-host Ryan Seely shows off his new Muck Boots.



It's that time of year when I look out the window and see what winter chores I put off doing. Most of the time in February Mother Nature teases us with a few balmy days where we think winter is over and spring is upon us. It's those days that I like to get out in the garden and finish up the pruning and general cleanup I neglected before the onslaught of cold temperatures and rain! Like a lot of people, I tend to be a fair weather gardener and if I can avoid gardening in cold nasty weather...I do. But there are times when I need to bite the bullet and get out there and work. One item that makes doing gardening chores in winter so much easier is my Muck boots. It is so much more pleasant to be out in the garden in the winter months when your feet are warm and dry!

The Original Muck Boot Company™ understands this and has created a company that manufactures clogs and boots for cold wet weather and any other kind of muck we have the pleasure of working in. For me...it's gardening, but their boots are made for so many more hobbies and professions; farming, ranching, beekeeping and hunting to name a few. In 1999 the company set out to create footwear to protect your feet in the worst possible conditions during every season. Muck boots provide comfort, warmth and dryness for all of your outdoor messy jobs.

The Original Muck Boot Company™ promises "to deliver boots and footwear that are 100% MUCKPROOF; remarkably protective, exceptionally comfortable, and totally waterproof, made with premium neoprene and rubber and designed to brave every

Check your local garden center or hardware store for Muck Boots or go to [www.MuckBootCompany.com](http://www.MuckBootCompany.com) for the best selection.



Liberty Alpine Waterproof Suede Lace Up

PHOTO CREDIT: THE MUCK BOOT COMPANY



Men's Chore Mid

PHOTO CREDIT: THE MUCK BOOT COMPANY





element". They do this by constructing their boots with scuba grade neoprene for comfort, flexibility, waterproof protection and natural insulation. They seal their seams with rubber tape for added waterproofing. The foot bed is made out of rubber for durability and traction and there is additional rubber in the heel and toe area for added protection. The pull tab to assist with pulling on the boot is sewn to the inside of the boot to avoid the chance of the pull tab getting caught on equipment or any other hazards. It even has a reflective stripe on it for added safety.

PHOTO CREDIT: THE MUCK BOOT COMPANY



**Muckster II  
Mid Cozy  
Fleece  
Lining**



I can personally attest to the quality of construction of their boots. Jeff Gustin, the producer of Garden Time has had his pair for almost 20 years and they are still in good shape! The Original Muck Boot Company™ recently sent all of the Garden Time crew a pair of boots. My pair is fleece lined for added warmth and even folds down for a completely different look. I discovered that not only are the boots super comfortable and warm, but they are also fashionable. Some styles can easily take you from mucking around in the garden to running errands!

PHOTO CREDIT: THE MUCK BOOT COMPANY



A great pair of work boots is an essential tool in your gardening arsenal. A pair of boots from The Muck Boot Company™ is the perfect choice for all your 'mucky' jobs!

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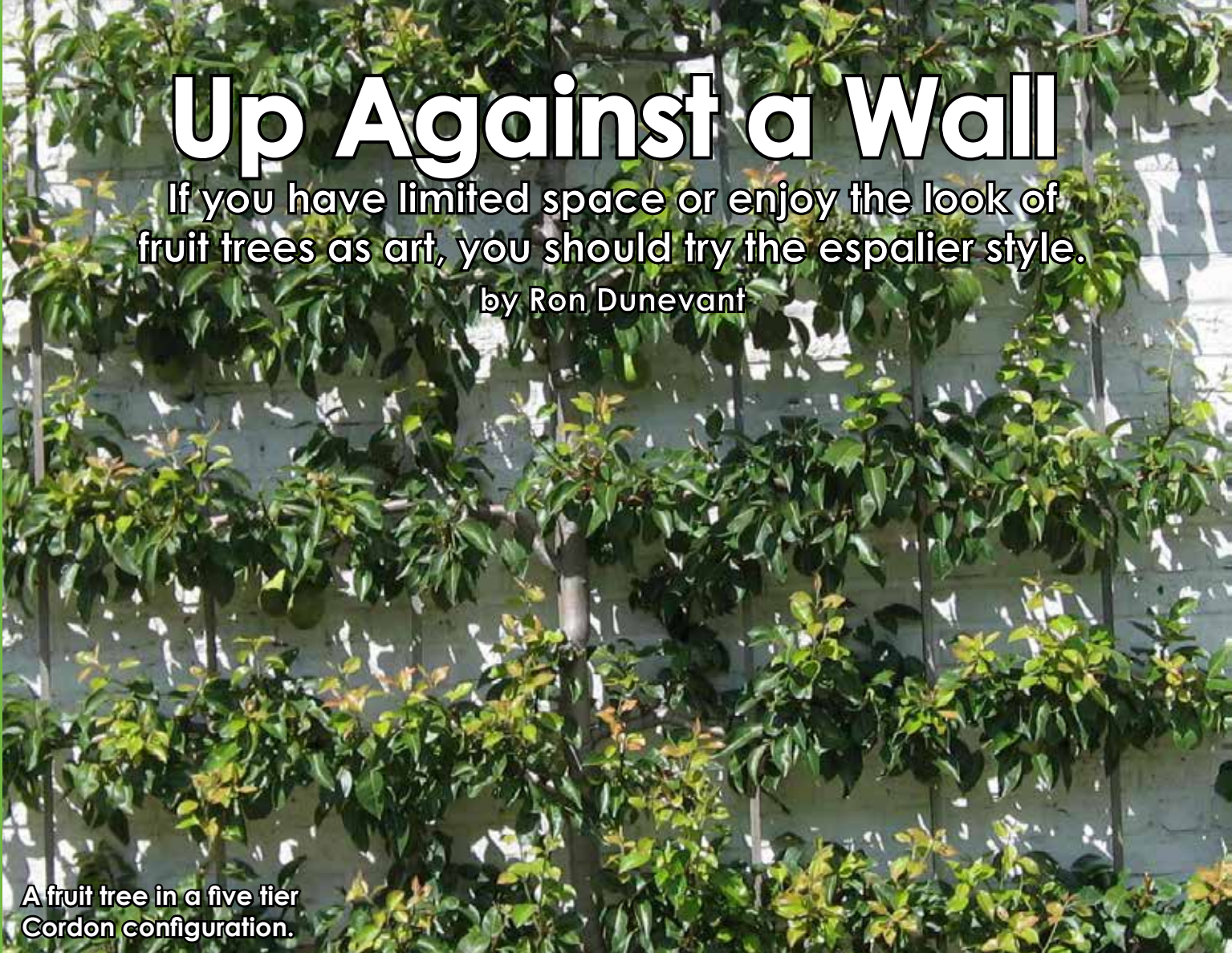
**\*TOUR DATES, DESTINATIONS AND DETAILS ARE NOT YET FINALIZED AND MAY CHANGE. SEE THE TOURS PAGE ON OUR WEBSITE FOR UPDATED INFORMATION.**



# Up Against a Wall

If you have limited space or enjoy the look of fruit trees as art, you should try the espalier style.

by Ron Dunevant



A fruit tree in a five tier Cordon configuration.

Almost everyone loves fresh fruit, and one of the benefits of a big yard is having the space to plant an apple, pear, plum or cherry tree. There's nothing like the experience of eating fruit freshly picked off a tree just steps away from your back door.

But planting an orchard is not for everyone. If you have a small yard, limited space, or just want to get the most bang for your buck, an espaliered fruit tree could be an excellent alternative.

The word "espalier" is a French word derived from an Italian word, "spalliera," meaning to rest against. As a verb in English, to "espalier" a tree is to control its growth along a flat plane, generally a wall, fence or trellis. The resulting tree is referred to as an "espaliered" tree. Interestingly, the word originally referred to the trellis or frame to which the plant was attached.

If you're not familiar with the concept of an espalier tree, you likely have seen one and just not realized it. The finished product is as much art as it is function. Attached to a sturdy series of wires fastened to posts, a trellis, a fence or a wall, a three-dimensional tree is transformed into a two dimen-

sional one. This is accomplished by removing any branches that grow perpendicular to the wall, and training the remaining branches into an artistic and functional pattern. They are often used in the landscape as decoration and they can be trained to become living sculptures, especially impressive when grown against a neutral backdrop. The trees, as they evolve through the seasons, transition as the foliage emerges, forms fruit and then, in autumn, falls off to reveal bare branches that highlight the geometry of the tree. A free-standing espalier tree makes an elegant and interesting fence.

The origin of the espalier tree is attributed to the early Egyptians, and has been captured in paintings of espaliered fig trees found in Egyptian tombs. The practice spread to Europe in the Middle Ages, and was used inside castle courtyards and monastery gardens to provide practical fruit production and an efficient use of space.

An espaliered tree is not limited to fruit trees, but the best candidates have long, flexible branches, so trees with ornamental flowers or fruit work well. Because the branches are pruned and trained, the tree





A tree in the candelabra style.

is able to focus its energy into the blooms or fruit, resulting in a heavier yield. The support of the wall or fence also keeps the tree healthier (due to less branch breaking) and therefore the trees live longer, sometimes 150 years or more! The compact shape also allows for several different cultivars to be grown in a small space, promoting greater diversity and more efficient pollination. Plus, better air circulation and access results in easier application of treatments which reduces pests.

Espalier trees are generally grown in patterns, and there are six basic designs that are used.

**Informal** – Grown on a single plane, but with a natural shape that requires only simple pruning.

**Palmette Verrier** – Horizontally trained branches are gradually trained into upright positions, creating a U-shape. This prevents trees planted against a wall from growing into each other.

**Candelabra** – From a low horizontal branch coming off a central trunk, several vertical branches arise at regular intervals, forming a candelabra shape.

**Belgian Fence** – A lattice effect is created by using a V-shaped pattern that is woven together into a fence. On either end, a modified V pattern is used.

**Cordon** – The most traditional espalier form used. Here, the branches are trained to grow horizontally out of a central trunk. You can also have a single cordon, which is known as a “rope,” or a multi-tier cor-



A pear tree in the informal configuration.

don, which can have three to five tiers of branches. This method can be used to create living fences.

**Fan** – With branches grown at a 45 degree angle and radiating from a central trunk, the result looks very much like a fan. This is most desirable in square spaces or spaces requiring vertical coverage.

Note that in some circles, the fan design is considered to be different than other espalier configurations. However, for this article, we will consider the fan configuration to be an offshoot of the espalier technique. The espalier option where tree growth is confined to two or three tiers, is best employed on apple and pear trees.

Usually, the same design is employed for every espalier tree in a landscape.

### What to Choose

So, what types of fruit trees are a good choice to espalier? Apple trees are probably the best and most common. Their new stems take some time to harden and are easier to bend toward support wires. After that, pear trees are a popular choice, but the stems do harden more quickly than with apple trees. If you are using the fan design for your trees, you can also include plums, gages, cherries, damsons, pomegranates and peach trees, along with nectarines and apricots. Almost any variety of fruit tree can be trained using one of these methods, but if you're working with a small space, it is recommended that you plant a dwarf or semi-dwarf variety. While most people will



plant several trees along a wall or fence, if your intention is to plant only one, be sure it is a self-pollinating variety so it will bear fruit.

### Where to Plant

Choosing the best location for your espaliered tree is as important as choosing the variety you plant. Popular locations include against a brick or stucco wall, along a fence, or next to a trellis or pergola. If none of those locations are optimal, you can also create a spot using sturdy, free-standing posts and heavy wire strung horizontally. You will need about eight feet of linear space in a sunny spot that has good drainage. At least six hours of daily sun is needed, so a spot with a southern exposure will give you the best results. A south-eastern or southwestern exposure will also work well. If your only choices are an eastern or northern orientation, you should choose a variety of tree that can handle the reduced sunlight, such as cooking apples or a Morello cherry.

### Creating the Espalier

Your espaliered tree will need wire supports along which the branches will grow. Using 3/16" eye bolts and 12-gauge wire, you will trace out the route that your tree will follow. For the Cordon configura-

tion, for example, along the vertical trunk line, you will place an eye bolt at ground level and then in 16-inch intervals straight up. This will give you three tiers or levels of horizontal wire for the tree to grow on, with the highest level being at 48 inches.

Measuring out three-and-a-half feet from the center on both sides of each eye bolt (except the one at ground level), you will place another eye bolt. Threading the wire through the eye bolts, twist and secure and cut off any leftover wire. The end result will be three tiers of horizontal wires about seven feet wide and one line of vertical wire, running from the top tier down to the base of the tree. Imagine three "Ts" stacked one on top of another.

### How to Plant

In the spring or fall, dig a hole 12-14 inches wide and deep in front of the vertical wire. Position the tree in the hole so that the crown sits at soil level, about four to five inches from the wall with a bud just above the lowest guide wire.

Using about half of the removed soil, add an equal amount of compost, mix and then use to fill the hole. Water well.

Attach the trunk to the vertical wire, somewhere below the lowest horizontal wire, using a tree-friendly plant tie. This is especially important because damage to the bark will make the tree more vulnerable to disease.

### Pruning and Training

If you are planting a young tree that already has branches, position the tree so that two of the best branches can be easily bent to the wire and trained. Leave one leader branch to continue to grow up vertically, and carefully remove all the other branches. If your tree is a whip (an unbranched shoot or plant), position it so that a set of buds are at each wire up the length of the tree. When the buds grow into branches, you can then train them to grow along the wire using a plant-friendly tie. Be sure to space your ties so that they hold the branches firmly in place.

Remove any suckers or unwanted growth from the trunk of the main branch as they appear. As the tree continues to grow, water shoots will emerge vertically from the mother branches and should be trimmed back to the first few leaves when they've reached about eight to ten inches long. As they grow, continue to snip them to create woody fruiting spurs on your mother branches. When the main branch gets to the top of your wall or trellis, you can trim off the tip to prevent additional growth. It will take about three years for your tree to achieve its desired shape.

The friendly experts at your local independent garden center can help you to choose the best varieties and configurations for your yard. Be sure to take advantage of their knowledge!

Creating an espalier tree is much like the art of bonsai, another endeavor that involves the shaping of a tree. Having a plan, an eye to the future and patience are all required for success. The big reward comes later, when you have an abundance of fresh, delicious fruit waiting for you, just outside your door!



A 'Golden Transparent' plum growing in a fan configuration.



PHOTO CREDIT: ANDYVANCELEVE VIA WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

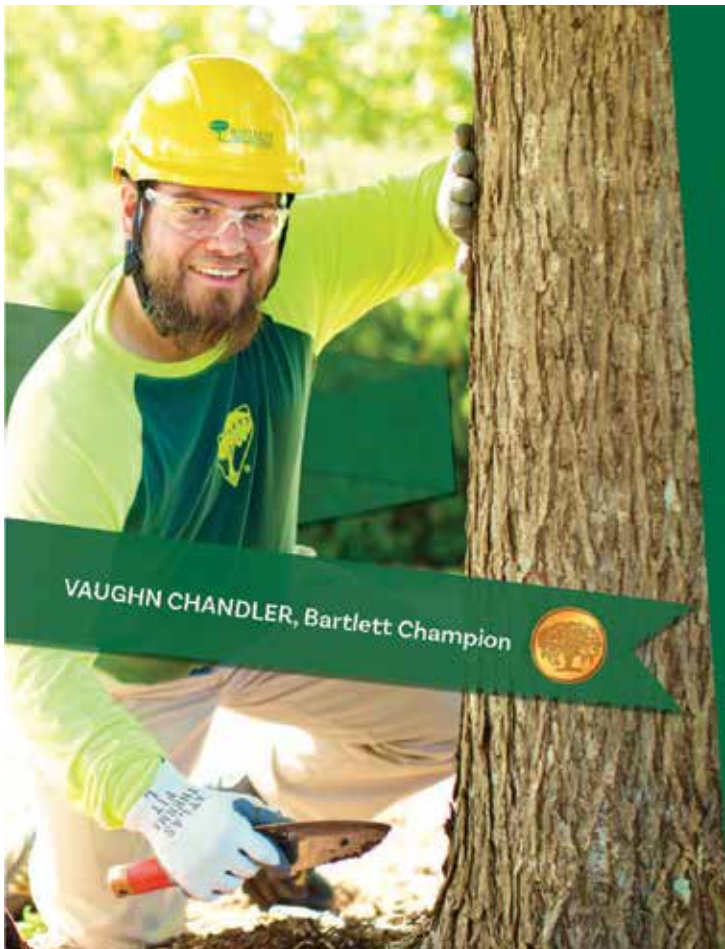


A fruit tree in the Belgian fence style.



An apple tree in the Palmette Verrier configuration.

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# Time for a SCOBY Snack!

**Love it or hate it, Kombucha is a multi-million dollar industry. What's behind the increasing popularity of this fermented beverage?**

**by Therese Gustin**

Mention kombucha and you are likely to hear a response of 'Love it!' Or 'Hate it!' This highly trendy beverage has exploded on the market in the last few years and we thought it was time to explore its popularity.

So what exactly is kombucha? Kombucha is a fermented slightly carbonated beverage made from

green or black tea, sugar, liquid from a previous batch of kombucha and a SCOBY which stands for symbiotic culture of bacteria and yeast. The yeast component usually contains *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*, (a yeast generally used in brewing and winemaking) along with other species. The bacterial component almost always includes *Gluconacetobacter xylinus* which oxidizes yeast producing



alcohols to acetic acid and other acids. The SCOBY is also commonly called a “mother” or “mushroom”. Sometimes spices, juice, fruit or other flavorings are added to enhance the flavor of the drink.

Kombucha is believed to have originated in China more than 2000 years ago. Today kombucha is brewed at home around the world and also commercially produced by many companies.

Because it is fermented, many believe it provides probiotic properties like other fermented foods such as sauerkraut and yogurt. Kombucha drinks are being promoted to help improve digestion and diabetes.

It is also been said to reduce blood pressure, strengthen your immune system, help with rheumatism, liver function, aging, anorexia, arthritis, hemorrhoids, gout and even fight cancer. In reality, there have been very few studies done on humans concerning the benefits of drinking kombucha, so none of these claims have any basis in science. Most of the claims rely on the interest in the affects

of microbes in our guts and how consuming foods rich in probiotics are increasing one’s “good” bacteria. One study, published in the journal *Annals of Epidemiology* studied 24 adults with non-insulin dependent diabetes over a 3 month period. The study showed that the adults consumed kombucha over the 3 month period and their mean blood sugar levels stabilized to within normal ranges. It wasn’t a controlled or randomized study however, and the authors of the review admitted that some of kombucha’s assertions like how it benefits rheumatism, gout, hemorrhoids and nervousness were anecdotal and unverified.

Because it is made with tea, there are claims that kombucha has anti inflammatory and antimicrobial properties. Again, this could be true but there aren’t any scientific studies to support it.

Because kombucha is made from tea it does contain some caffeine but some of that caffeine is reduced through the fermentation process leaving about 10 to 25 mg. per serving. A typical cup of black tea contains 47 mg. of caffeine by comparison. The



PHOTO CREDIT: ANIA MENDREK VIS FLICKR.COM

Commercial Kombucha





**Homemade Kombucha**

fermentation process also produces alcohol so kombucha does contain a small amount of alcohol. Non alcoholic kombucha must contain less than .5% alcohol by volume. There is a trend to make alcoholic versions of kombucha which can contain alcohol levels from 3.2 to 8% alcohol by volume; by comparison somewhere between beer and wine. Alcohol kills probiotics so if you are looking for the probiotic benefits in kombucha, steer clear of the alcoholic varieties.

There have been some adverse reactions with some people consuming kombucha such as upset stomachs and allergic reactions. If kombucha is brewed at home under non-sterile conditions, contamination of the tea can occur. The acidity of the tea can also cause problems with some drinkers. For most people with healthy immune systems, drinking 4 ounces of kombucha daily should not pose a risk but those people with pre-existing health issues may potentially have issues with drinking it. Commercially produced kombucha tea fermented in sterile conditions would seem to be a better bet if you are concerned about contamination risks.

Love it or hate it...Kombucha is a multi-million dollar industry. I hope I shed some light on this wildly popular beverage!



**A SCOBY, a symbiotic culture of bacteria and yeast.**



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# "There's No Such Thing as a Brown Thumb"

Thanks to the efforts of OSU Master Gardener Coordinator Gail Langellatto, there is proof that anyone can learn to garden.

by Judy Alleruzzo

Have I said it before? I just love interviewing and writing the Garden Time Magazine's Hortie articles. I get to learn about a person I may not know very well or even if the Hortie is a friend, there are always new details about their life to uncover! This month's Hortie is Dr. Gail Langellotto, Professor of Horticulture at Oregon State University, Entomologist and Statewide Coordinator for the Master Gardener Program. She has been interviewed by Garden Time on two segments titled "Fall Garden Spiders" and "Being Friendly to Bees". Both of these segments were filled with great information. Thinking she is an avid gardener, I really found out that Gail is a scientist and researcher first and a gardener



Gail Langellotto at the Master Gardener's Info Booth

second. "I think of myself as a scientist that studies gardens, rather than an actual gardener." The interview took a twist I wasn't expecting!

Gail grew up a long way from Oregon, on the outskirts of Baltimore, Maryland. She grew up in a humble family that raised vegetables, rabbits and chickens in the city. Not exactly very cool back then, but the backyard farm supplemented the family's grocery budget. Gail's Mom came from a farming family in The Philippines and had a goal for her children of not growing food but going to a store to buy it. Since gardening wasn't a fuzzy and warm feeling

in Gail's past, she ended up studying, in a roundabout way, scientific subjects in the natural and gardening worlds!

Gail told me, "My graduate degrees are in entomology, a field that I did not know existed, until I was a junior in college. I thought it was the study of words (etymology), and had never heard of the study of insects (entomology) as a profession." Gail's degrees include a BS in Biology, an MS in Entomology and her PH.D in Entomology. One of Gail's first jobs was in New York City when she was on the faculty at Fordham University. "I was an entomologist working in



New York City, but I didn't want to study mosquitoes, roaches, or the other arthropods that urban entomologists would traditionally study. Instead, I stumbled upon gardens as an understudied habitat type for insects, and started to study the pollinators in urban gardens in East Harlem, the South Bronx, and the New York City suburbs." The outdoor/gardening world is lucky she decided to work outdoors!!

Dr. Langellotto has been involved in a multitude of collaborative scientific papers published on wide ranging subjects such as the 2017 paper "Arthropod Diversity and Abundance in Wild Rice, *Oryza rufipogon*, in the Mekong Delta, Vietnam" and the 2018 paper, "Garden Pollinators and the Potential for Ecosystem Service Flow to Urban and Peri-Urban Agriculture". You can look up the published research papers written by Gail and her teams on <https://agsci.oregonstate.edu/users/gail-langellotto>

I asked what new research projects are coming up in the next year. Gail gave me an interesting list of topics that are on all our minds these days.

- "We're extending our native plant research, by taking Willamette Valley natives that were found to have low, medium, and high pollinator visitation from our research in 2017-2019. We're planting those natives with cultivated selections (sometimes called 'nativars') to see how breeding for particular plant traits impacts pollinator visitation.
- Writing up our urban soils, native plants, and garden pollinator research for publication.
- Developing a "garden bees of Portland guide."

While waiting for the research to be completed, I asked Gail what gardeners can do in our own areas to help be good stewards of the earth.

- Don't use pesticides so as to not compromise pollinator health.
- Plant an assortment of flowering plants to attract a diverse population of pollinators.
- Gail had a third tip, "often overlooked for bees, is that you need to provide nesting habitat. An estimated 70% of all bees nest in the soil. Raised berms, with some exposed soil, is good nesting habitat for bees. I've also seen bees nest in gardens that are fully planted with vegetation, so that they don't need to mulch the ground (the plants, themselves, serve as a living mulch). And, speaking of mulch . . . it's great for weed suppression, but not for nesting bees. Go easy on the mulch, in at least 1-2 spots in your garden, to make room for bees."

Dr. Langellotto's other responsibility at OSU is being the Statewide Coordinator for the Master Gardener Program. It is an amazing organization

teaching science based gardening information to Master Gardener students and they in turn provide that information as outreach to communities. When I first moved to the Willamette Valley, I took the Marion County Master Gardener program to learn how to garden in the area.

The classes and payback volunteer hours were some of the most interesting and fun I have had as a gardener. The group classes of the 2020 Master Gardener program have already started up in January. I asked Gail if there are any alternative programs than physically going to classes.

- "One, we're focusing on making the program more accessible to a broader audience. We're reducing the volunteer hour commitment, as well as time in class. In many counties, we offer hybrid options for the classroom portion of the program. There is also a fully online option for the classroom portion of the program. Several counties





offer scholarships to defray the cost associated with the initial training program. Some counties earmark scholarships for under-represented groups.

- Two, we're focusing on making the training program more dynamic. The traditional training model was a 3-hour lecture in the morning and a 3 hour lecture in the afternoon, one day a week for 12 weeks. Our move towards hybrid training is cutting down on classroom time. And, the classroom trainings, themselves, are moving towards a 60-90 minute lecture, followed by a 90-120 minute classroom or garden-based activity."

Here are several statistics Gail gave me about the 2019 Statewide Master Gardener Program

- 2,849 active Master Gardeners in 27 Oregon counties.
- The MG's volunteered 221,423 hours, which is valued at \$5.6 million and equivalent to an additional 106 full-time employees at OSU.
- Master Gardeners reached and taught 139,242 Oregonians: answering gardening questions, teaching classes, serving as garden mentors.

\*Master Gardeners volunteered at 117 gardens in Oregon and from the vegetable gardens, 53 tons of fresh food was donated to local food banks and food pantries.

Gail told me, "OSU supports the equivalent of 10 full time faculty in the Master Gardener Program. There is literally no way we could serve the gardening public,

if we did not have the support of Master Gardener volunteers."

She also teaches classes during Master Gardening training and of course, her favorite class is Entomology. Her other favorite is the Pesticides class. The MG students think they will hate the class, but it turns out they change their minds.

Gail says, "They end up saying how much they learned and how they are going to do things differently, with regard to pesticides."

Whew! Dr. Gail Langellotto is full of knowledge and energy, working on research projects, writing papers and teaching many hours a week.

She finds time to watch over her native plant garden and spend time with her husband, Steve Rhodaback. They love walking their Husky named Cowboy, in the city and in the woods, enjoying time off together.

In ending my interview with Dr. Langellotto, I asked for any words of wisdom about how to connect with new homeowners or new want-to-be-gardeners to help them create gardens at their homes or at local community gardens.

- "Anyone can learn to garden. There is no such thing as a brown thumb - even if someone has told you that, in the past!

- Start small. Don't feel like you need to overhaul your entire property in a season. Plant a small patch of flowers. Try something new to you. Discover what it is that you love about gardening (I had thought



PHOTO CREDIT: LYNN KETCHUM VIA FLICKR





I would be a food gardener, but I really love the ornamentals for the beauty and the bees that they bring to my life).

- Know that Master Gardener volunteers are in your county, are accessible via phone or online, and are waiting and wanting to give you great answers to your gardening questions."

I think Gail has hit the bullet points we all think about as advice to ourselves or other new or veteran gardeners. Thanks to Dr. Langellotto for all her research and coordinating of the Oregon Master Gardener Program. We all benefit from her hard work.

### Master Garden OnLine Classes

<https://workspace.oregonstate.edu/course/free-intro-to-oregon-master-gardener-program>

### PollNation Pod Cast

<http://blogs.oregonstate.edu/pollinationpodcast/2018/01/01/dr-gail-langellotto/>

### Fall Garden Spiders - Dr. Gail Langellotto

Garden Time Episode 375  
September 26, 2015

[www.gardentime.tv/archive/show150926.htm](http://www.gardentime.tv/archive/show150926.htm)

### Being Friendly to Bees - Dr. Gail Langellotto

Garden Time Episode 401  
June 25, 2016

[www.gardentime.tv/archive/show160625.htm](http://www.gardentime.tv/archive/show160625.htm)



# Hot in the Kitchen

A little "2020" vision on the trends in food, drinking and cooking appliances.

by David Musial



**Vegetables are commonly fermented in crocks or mason jars using a fermentation lock.**

It's not only the start of a new year, it's the start of a new decade and the year wouldn't be complete without a list of 'fill in the blank' trends. Not quite sure where these lists originated, but I would guess it was a marketing

2020 tactic to direct your purchasing habits in the New Year. What is certain, is that either you love them or hate them.

Not wanting to be left out on the trend, I've created my own list. Not surprising, my list is centered

on the kitchen. Trends in food, drinking and maybe a cooking appliance. So in no particular order, let's get started.

**Plant Based Meat Replacements**





Plant-based meat alternatives come in all shapes and sizes.

The reasons to move towards a more plant based diet range from health issues to environmental concerns. Many individuals have adopted meatless Monday, but with the strides made in taste and texture of plant based meat replacements, expect meatless Monday to expand to other days of the week. Case in point, there are several companies that sell a burger that you would be hard pressed to know it is not meat and I've had vegan pepperoni on a pizza and although the texture was a little different, the flavor was spot on.

In addition to these plant based meat replacements, there are now

several companies selling blended proteins or 'Blended Meats' that contain meat and plant derived ingredients such as pea protein, chick peas and cauliflower. They can be found as patties and nuggets. Results are still coming in but they have been favorable.

### Mocktails

If you didn't know, January is becoming known as 'dry January' for many people; a month of not drinking alcohol. Along with this is the trend to cut back on alcohol in general, but the desire is to still enjoy a satisfying beverage at home or when out at a bar. Enter the mocktail.

Mocktails are not the alcohol free drinks of the past, such as a Virgin Mary or Margarita, which are basically spicy tomato juice and limeade respectively. Today's mocktails are balanced drinks designed by mixologists with the same care as their alcohol based cocktails. The downside is that the prices can also be comparable to drinks with alcohol.

To kick your mocktails up a notch, the latest innovation is non-alcoholic spirits. Not sure that phrase makes sense, but several companies are making these alcohol alternative. One company describes their alcohol free gin as a "premium brand that contains all the flavours of gin without the alcohol". Besides gin, you can find alcohol free rum, tequila with a burn and a smoky whiskey. I'm in!

I happen to enjoy a gin and tonic, and may have been ahead of the times. A few years back, I steeped several botanicals used to give gin the distinctive flavor, added to glass with ice, added tonic water and squeeze of lime. Tasted like the real deal.

Unfortunately, I didn't write down the recipe, but there was juniper berries, orange and lemon peel, and coriander. Come up with your own ingredients, steep like tea and store in the refrigerator until ready to use.



Up your mocktails with these non-alcoholic spirits.





A small sampling of dairy alternatives.

## Milk Alternatives

What started as a milk alternative for those with dairy allergies, milk alternatives have now taken on a life of their own, continue to grow and increase shelf space at the market. No longer are dairy allergies the primary reason to purchase a milk substitute; now reasons range from ethical to dietary concerns.

Where almond, soy and rice milk were the standard, pea, hemp and oat milk; to name a few, are now available. Each has a different taste and can be used for different

applications.

Many of these products can be a good source of fiber or protein. Know that several of these milk alternatives do have additives; not all are as bad as they sound, and may have the addition of sugar, so be sure to read the label.

## Ugly Produce

There has been a movement to stop food waste for years and that movement has primarily been focused on the food that we throw away as consumers. Another movement is to reduce the food loss at the farming level. Food loss comes from imperfections of fruits and vegetables that are not accepted at the market or a farm that has overproduced. Enter the ugly produce movement to address food loss from imperfections.

With a large percent of the fruits and vegetables produced not making it to market based on imperfec-



This produce may be mishapen, but it still has full flavor.



tions; several entrepreneurs have stepped in to save the produce. The plan is simple, market the produce to consumers through delivery. Consumers have taken to the concept as the produce is not damaged; only imperfectly shaped, and sold at about 25% less than grocery store prices.

There is currently a debate on the merits of selling imperfect produce to the consumer, but one thing is certain, it is in demand by the consumer.

### Multi-cookers

Alton Brown of Food Network fame does not like uni-taskers in the kitchen; gadgets that can only be used for one thing and I couldn't agree more. Enter the Multi-cooker, a multi-function electric cooking kitchen device. These devices are gaining in popularity and more importantly their functionality is improving.

So what can a Multi-cooker do besides free up real estate on the kitchen counter? It can boil, braise, roast, make rice, and stew. If that weren't enough it is a pressure cooker so you can cook food faster or if you're not in a hurry, it can be used as a slow cooker. Some models can even make yogurt.

There are several models on the market and it is suggested that time be spent reviewing the different models. Additionally, they come in different sizes to suit the number of people normally serving.

Not sure of Alton Brown's opinion of Multi-cookers, but they are definitely not uni-taskers.

### Fermented Foods

If asked to write a list of fermented foods, most of us would include kimchi and sauerkraut. There are many other fermented foods; such as cheese and yogurt. If asked why we should eat fermented foods, most would refer to taste or the need for preservation.

Historically, fermented foods were made for preservation purposes, but new research suggests that eating these foods have health benefits, which has caused consumption of fermented foods to substantially increase. These studies show that the probiotics created in the fermentation process improve digestion and can boost the immune system, as well as many other reported health benefits.

So what's the trend? The trend is fermenting at home and mostly fermenting vegetables. Many vegetables can be fermented at home with simple kits you can buy or create. The kits generally include mason jars, with fermentation locks and weights to keep the vegetables submerged during the fermentation process, which is

fairly simple.

Cleaned and cut up vegetables are placed in a jar with salt or salt brine. The brine acts as a preservative while bacteria feed on the vegetables starch and sugar which creates lactic acid. The process preserves the food and while the lactic acid creates the distinctive sour flavor. As food can spoil when being fermented, it is important to read up on the process and learn the signs of spoilage.

Not only are fermented vegetables good for you to eat, they taste great. Most pickles sold in the jar contain vinegar as a preservative. However, in the past; pickles were naturally fermented using salt brine. These are the pickles you would find in the old pickle barrels. Now you can make them yourself.

So there you have it, my 2020 predicted trends in the kitchen. Be sure to check back at the end of the year to see if I had 2020 vision or if I need a new pair of trend predicting glasses. Sorry, just had to add that joke like everyone else.



Mason jars using a fermentation lock are handy for fermenting vegetables.

PHOTO CREDIT: WWW.AMAZON.CA



# 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 nesting 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.



# What To Do In The Garden

## FEBRUARY

- 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 methods 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.







# PLAY TIME

## Gardening Events Around Town

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### **We Love Valentine's Day Event**

**Saturday, February 1, 2020**

**Tsugawa Nursery, Woodland, WA**

- Heavens to Betsy Chocolates • 11:00am-3:00pm

- Free Plant Potting Service • 11:00am-3:00pm

Join us Saturday, February 1st for an entire day of great gifts, decadent chocolate, gorgeous flowers and creating the perfect gift for that special someone.

From 11:00am until 3:00pm, we will be offering a free potting service to those of you who pick out a plant and pot and just don't want to get your hands dirty. We've also received a large order of indoor houseplant pots, perfect for freshening up your decor. Pick out several. They make terrific Valentine's Day gifts!

While you're here, be sure to stroll through our newly updated gift room which features a fabulous new selection of gifts for the season, many that we've never offered before. You're sure to find just the right item for each of the people on your Valentine's Day list.

Then, check out our houseplant area, where you'll find a beautiful array of popular favorites plus a selection of new houseplants that we've never carried before.

We will also be featuring a local chocolatier who knows how to put a smile on everyone's face with her bite-sized delights. Her name is Beaty McBride and her 'Heavens to Betsy' chocolate business is to die for, so if you need a little something sweet to go along with those beautiful flowers then come say hello to Beaty between 11:00am and 3:00pm.

We hope you can join us for this very special day designed to help you find and create amazing gifts for all your Valentines! [www.tsugawanursery.com](http://www.tsugawanursery.com)

### **Wishing Tree**

**Thru February 5, 2020 • 12:00pm-2:00pm (Mon-Fri);**

**10:00am-2:00pm (Sat-Sun)**

**Lan Su Garden, Portland, OR**

Chinese wishing trees, money trees, and hong bao trees are a big part of Chinese New Year festivities.

**continued next column**

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. [www.lansugarden.org](http://www.lansugarden.org)

### **Family Craft Activity: Make Your Own Year of the Rat Button**

**Saturday & Sunday, February 1 & 2, 2020**

• 10:00am-4:00pm

**Saturday & Sunday, February 8 & 9, 2020**

• 10:00am-4:00pm

**Lan Su Garden, Portland, OR**

Make your own Chinese New Year — Year of the Rat button as memento of your visit to Lan Su. Great for the whole family! All needed materials are provided. This activity is 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. [www.lansugarden.org](http://www.lansugarden.org)

### **Chinese Calligraphy Demonstration**

**Saturday & Sunday, February 1 & 2, 2020**

• 10:00am-4:00pm

**Saturday & Sunday, February 8 & 9, 2020**

• 10:00am-4:00pm

**Lan Su Garden, Portland, OR**

Calligraphy is a revered art form that has existed for thousands of years and is considered a high art in Chinese culture. Drop in anytime during the scheduled demonstrations to learn more about this art and watch classically-trained scholars from the Wisdom Arts Academy, share techniques of this ancient art. Free with membership or admission. Chinese New Year is the

**continued next page**





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. [www.lansugarden.org](http://www.lansugarden.org)

#### **New Year Lion Dances**

**Saturday & Sunday, February 1 & 2, 2020**

• 11:00am, 1:00pm & 4:00pm

**Saturday & Sunday, February 8 & 9, 2020**

• 11:00am, 1:00pm & 4:00pm

**Lan Su Garden, Portland, OR**

Lion Dancing began in China over 2,000 years ago. The imagery and symbolism of the Lion was introduced from India through the influence of Buddhism. The Lion Dance is performed to ward off evil and bring good fortune. The Dancing Lion is accompanied by a drum, a gong, and cymbals. Lion Dances are performed during the Chinese New Year, at grand openings of new businesses, and at weddings and birthday celebrations. See the lion dancers up close as they move throughout the garden to the beat of the loud drum song to welcome the Year of the Pig to Lan Su Chinese Garden! Free with Lan Su membership or admission. Chinese New Year is the most popular time to visit the garden. Plan your visit by purchasing admission tickets ahead of time and by arriving early for your favorite activities. [www.lansugarden.org](http://www.lansugarden.org)

#### **Chinese New Year School Performances**

**Saturday & Sunday, February 1 & 2, 2020**

• 12:00pm-12:30pm

**Saturday & Sunday, February 8 & 9, 2020**

• 12:00pm-12:30pm

**Lan Su Garden, Portland, OR**

Watch as children from local schools sing and dance! Each performance will take place at Noon on the terrace. [www.lansugarden.org](http://www.lansugarden.org)

#### **Cultural Performance**

**Saturday & Sunday, February 1 & 2, 2020**

• 2:00pm-2:30pm

**Saturday & Sunday, February 8 & 9, 2020**

• 2:00pm-2:30pm

**Lan Su Garden, Portland, OR**

**continued next column**

Celebrate the Chinese New Year with cultural performances from local community groups. All performances will take place on the terrace overlooking Lake Zither. Free with Lan Su membership or admission; no registration is required. Chinese New Year is the most popular time to visit the garden. Plan your visit by purchasing admission tickets ahead of time and by arriving early for your favorite activities. [www.lansugarden.org](http://www.lansugarden.org)

#### **Martial Arts Performances**

**Saturday & Sunday, February 1 & 2, 2020**

• 3:00pm-3:30pm

**Saturday & Sunday, February 8 & 9, 2020**

• 3:00pm-3:30pm

**Lan Su Garden, Portland, OR**

Watch these exciting martial arts performances on the terrace during Lan Su's Year of the Rat Chinese New Year celebrations. Free with Lan Su membership or admission; no registration is required. Chinese New Year is the most popular time to visit the garden. Plan your visit by purchasing admission tickets ahead of time and by arriving early for your favorite activities. [www.lansugarden.org](http://www.lansugarden.org)

#### **Mason Bees 101**

**Saturday, February 1, 2020 • 10:00am-12:00pm**

**PCC Rock Creek, Portland, OR**

Presenter: Ron Spendal, Master Gardener

Addresses the biology, behavior and natural history of the Mason Bee. Location: WCMGA Education Garden at PCC Rock Creek, 17705 NW Springville Rd. Portland, OR 97229. Building 4 Classroom. Enter from Springville Rd, drive past Building 9 and Parking Lot E to first stop sign, continue straight on gravel road to Building 4. Parking is free campus-wide on Saturdays. Free event, free parking, no registration needed.

#### **Kid's Club: Macramé Plant Hangers**

**Saturday, February 1, 2020 • 11:00am(W)**

**Saturday, February 8, 2020 • 11:00am(S)**

**Saturday, February 15, 2020 • 11:00am(G)**

**Saturday, February 22, 2020 • 11:00am(V)**

**Al's Garden & Home, Woodburn, Sherwood, Gresham,**

**continued next page**





# PLAY TIME

## Gardening Events Around Town (continued)

### **Wilsonville(V), OR**

Add a burst of fresh fun to your room or space with a houseplant in a macrame plant hanger, created with your own two hands and your imagination! Turn brightly colored yarns and macrame knots into a friendship bracelet for your plants. You'll love this fun project! [www.als-gardencenterevents.com](http://www.als-gardencenterevents.com)

### **What to Do in the February Vegetable Garden**

**Saturday, February 1, 2020 • 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! [www.portlandnursery.com](http://www.portlandnursery.com)

### **Make a Spring Wreath**

**Sunday, February 2, 2020 • 11:00am**

**Portland Nursery (Division), Portland, OR**

With Jess. Welcome Spring by joining Jess of Portland Nursery to create a hand-tied wreath. We will use fresh flowers and branches that celebrate nature's annual awakening.

Materials fee: \$30, payable at register on the day of the class. Class size limited to 20. [www.portlandnursery.com](http://www.portlandnursery.com)

### **A Systematic Process for Simplifying Plant**

**Problem Diagnosis\***

**Tuesday, February 4, 2020 • 6:50pm**

**Griffith Park Building, Beaverton, OR**

Presenter: Neil Bell, Community Horticulturist, OSU Extension, Marion/Polk Counties. \*Class is approved for one-hour MG Education Credit. Any plant in any garden can develop problems from time to time. The vast array of plants that we grow and the multitude of potential causes of problems can make the search for the reason for stress daunting. This presentation describes a systematic process to make that search a bit easier.

Location: City of Beaverton Griffith Park Building, 4755  
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SW Griffith Drive, Room 330, Beaverton, OR 97005. Free event, free parking, no registration needed.

### **New Year Lantern Viewing Evenings**

**Thursday-Sunday, February 6-9, 2020 • 6:00-8:00pm**

**Lan Su Garden, Portland, OR**

Celebrate the end of Lan Su's Chinese New Year Celebration with four evenings of traditional lantern viewings, when the garden glows with hanging red lanterns illuminating sweeping roof lines and the lake reflects the lights of a large illuminated 20-ft Dragon lantern sculpture and lotus lanterns!

During the evenings, the Portland Lee's Association Dragon & Lion Dance Team will perform traditional Chinese Lion Dance followed by a lighted dragon procession. In addition, attendees can participate in the popular Wishing Tree activity, Eight Treasure chopstick challenge and calligraphy demonstrations — all a part of these special evenings.

The Teahouse will offer open seating (no reserved seats) and a \$10 minimum per person (gratuity not included). Complimentary hot cider for will be provided. [www.lansugarden.org](http://www.lansugarden.org)

### **Curator's Talk: Spirits Rising**

**Friday, February 7, 2020 • 5:00pm-7:00pm**

**Portland Japanese Garden, Portland, OR**

Enjoy light refreshments while learning directly from our curator as she presents a slide lecture focusing on the artist and a selection of works on display. For Golden Crane, Patron, and Steward members only. Reservations are required. Location: Cathy Rudd Cultural Corner.

The exhibition Spirits Rising includes a selection of photographs from Ishiuchi Miyako's monumental hiroshima series, documenting cherished items and clothing left behind by victims of the atomic bomb detonated in Hiroshima at the close of World War II that are now housed at the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum. The subjects are captured in her unique, moving style that resurrects and gives voice to those who suffered and

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died on that fateful day, bringing to life a renewed appeal for humanity and global peace. [japanesegarden.org](http://japanesegarden.org)

#### **Fruit Tree Pruning**

**Saturday, February 8, 2020 • 11:00am**

**Tsugawa Nursery, Woodland, WA**

Let Jim Chennault share his 30-plus years of experience with you as he demonstrates proper pruning techniques to control growth, remove dead wood and stimulate flower formation for abundant, healthy fruit. FREE! [www.tsugawanursery.com](http://www.tsugawanursery.com)

#### **Kokedama Workshop**

**Saturday, February 8, 2020 • 11:00am**

**Portland Nursery (Division), Portland, OR**

With Lucy Davenport of Bonsai Akira. Kokedama roughly translates from Japanese to mean "moss ball," which describes the technique of wrapping of the plant's roots and soil in moss and artistically tying this bundle with wire or string. Either hung from a ceiling or shelf or set on a tray, kokedama is a beautiful and space saving way to display houseplants. Learn how to create two in this class and go home with tips on how to care for your new creations. Materials: \$30 fee, payable at register day of class. [www.portlandnursery.com](http://www.portlandnursery.com)

#### **Fruit Tree Spraying**

**Saturday, February 8, 2020 • 1:00pm**

**Tsugawa Nursery, Woodland, WA**

Join Jim Chennault for this informative seminar on the proper use of dormant spray to prevent the spread of fungal diseases and to control harmful insects. FREE! [www.tsugawanursery.com](http://www.tsugawanursery.com)

#### **The Seasons of a Pine**

**Saturday, February 8, 2020 • 1:00pm**

**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

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pine trees for a Japanese garden style. [www.portlandnursery.com](http://www.portlandnursery.com)

#### **Writing and Drawing with Plants**

**Sunday, February 9, 2020 • 11:00am**

**Portland Nursery (Division), Portland, OR**

With interdisciplinary artist Tamara Lynne, of Portland Nursery. Bring a hardback notebook with blank pages and a pen, pencil or any other drawing materials, and settle in to enjoy quiet writing and drawing inspiration from the many vibrant living things around us: plants, trees, insects, birds, sun, wind and weather. Through close listening, careful observation, and a series of timed prompts, we'll engage with the environment. We plan to be outside for part of the time, weather permitting. Chairs will be provided, but feel free to bring cushions or other seating if you like. [www.portlandnursery.com](http://www.portlandnursery.com)

#### **Little Spouts: Valentine's Terrarium**

**Sunday, February 9, 2020 • 11:00am**

**Garland Nursery, Corvallis, OR**

Cost: \$7.00. A terrarium is a miniature garden grown inside a covered container. The children will get to plant up their very own Valentine themed terrarium which they will take home. They will be taught about the different plants and how to care for them. Fun and Informative! [www.garlandnursery.com](http://www.garlandnursery.com)

#### **The Story of a Flower**

**Sunday, February 9, 2020 • 1:00pm**

**Portland Nursery (Division), Portland, OR**

With Gradey Proctor from the Arctos School of Herbal and Botanical Studies. Are you ready to delve deep into the story of a flower? Then join Gradey from the Arctos School of Herbal and Botanical Studies in this hands-on class where we will go through basic anatomy of the flower and see what each part is up to. We'll explore how this relates to the co-evolutionary dance between plant and insect, how we use this tool to ID plants and to explore plant relationships. If you are looking for a new way to see the plants in your garden you should come by for this hands-on exploration of the plant world. [www.portlandnursery.com](http://www.portlandnursery.com)

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# PLAY TIME

## Gardening Events Around Town (continued)

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### **Bonsai Introductory Class**

**Saturday, February 15, 2020 • 9:00am-11:00am**  
**Tsugawa Nursery, Woodland, WA**

Join us for a two hour introduction to bonsai class and learn the simple truth about growing ancient trees.

• Class fee: \$20.00. [www.tsugawanursery.com](http://www.tsugawanursery.com)

### **Tualatin Valley Garden Club Annual Pruning Demonstration**

**Saturday, February 15, 2020 • 9:00am-12:00pm**  
**Tualatin Valley Garden Club, Hillsboro, OR**

Tualatin Valley Garden Club (TVGC) will offer its annual pruning demonstration on Saturday, February 15, 2020. The public is invited to 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. A \$5 donation per tool is suggested. Questions on tool care are welcome.

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. [www.tualatinvalleygardenclub.org](http://www.tualatinvalleygardenclub.org)

### **Bonsai Continuing Class**

**Saturday, February 15, 2020 • 11:00am-1:00pm**  
**Tsugawa Nursery, Woodland, WA**

REQUIRES PREVIOUS ATTENDANCE IN  
INTRODUCTORY CLASS

Advanced class. Topic TBA. Class fee: \$30.00. [www.tsugawanursery.com](http://www.tsugawanursery.com)

### **Mason Bees**

**Saturday, February 15, 2020 • 11:00am**  
**Tsugawa Nursery, Woodland, WA**

If you were ever curious about attracting and keeping mason bees in your garden then this is the perfect time to let Billy Bevers show you how. Learn about their nesting habits, the plants they need for food and how to set up the best environment to keep them coming back year after year. FREE! [www.tsugawanursery.com](http://www.tsugawanursery.com)

### **Rose Care 101**

**Saturday, February 15, 2020 • 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](http://www.portlandnursery.com)

### **Herbal Remedies from the Kitchen Cabinet**

**Sunday, February 16, 2020 • 1:00pm**  
**Portland Nursery (Division), Portland, OR**

With Missy Rohs from the Arctos School of Herbal and Botanical Studies. Did you know that there is a whole apothecary at your disposal in your own kitchen? Join community herbalist Missy Rohs to uncover the secrets in your spice cabinet. We'll talk about herbs (and even some vegetables!) that you can use for colds, digestive upset, coughs, wounds, and more! You'll be surprised at how many remedies you never knew you could use safely and effectively that can be grown in your own back yard or on your windowsill. [www.portlandnursery.com](http://www.portlandnursery.com)

### **It's All About Roses!**

**Saturday, February 22, 2020 • 10:00am**  
**Tsugawa Nursery, Woodland, WA**

Come join us from 10:00am to 12:00pm as Louis Rossetto from the Ft. Vancouver Rose Society shows us how to plant, prune and care for roses. FREE! [www.tsugawanursery.com](http://www.tsugawanursery.com)

### **Blueberries Pruning and Care\***

**Saturday, February 22, 2020 • 10:00am-12:00pm**  
**PCC Rock Creek, Portland, OR**

Presenters: Cindy Muir and Sue Ryburn, Master Gardeners. \*Class is approved for one-hour MG Education Credit. Blueberries are relatively easy and fun to grow. Learn about steps to care for blueberries, including pruning techniques. Bring your own hand pruners and garden for some hands-on opportunity to prune.

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We will meet in Building 4 and then make a short 5-minute walk to the PCC Rock Creek Learning Garden for pruning opportunities.

**Location:** WCMGA Education Garden at PCC Rock Creek ♦ 17705 NW Springville Rd. Portland, OR 97229. Building 4 Classroom. Enter from Springville Rd, drive past Building 9 and Parking Lot E to first stop sign, continue straight on gravel road to Building 4. Parking is free campus-wide on Saturdays. Free event, free parking, no registration needed.

#### **Winter Apple Tree Pruning**

**Saturday, February 22, 2020 • 1:00pm**

**Portland Nursery (Division), Portland, OR**

With Jarid. Spring is almost here and it's time to winter prune your apples! Join Jarid of Portland Nursery for an intro in essential care for your apple trees. Learn how to improve your yields, train young trees, reinvigorate your old growth tree, and more. We will discuss some of the fundamentals of apple tree growth and how you can use that knowledge to get the most from your apple tree. [www.portlandnursery.com](http://www.portlandnursery.com)

#### **Organic Veggie Gardening 101: Basics for Beginners**

**Sunday, February 23, 2020 • 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 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](http://www.portlandnursery.com)

#### **Organic Veggie Gardening 102: Companion Planting and Crop Rotation**

**Sunday, February 23, 2020 • 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 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](http://www.portlandnursery.com)

#### **Drip Irrigation**

**Saturday, February 29, 2020 • 10:00am–12:00pm**

**PCC Rock Creek, Portland, OR**

Presenter: Jennifer Peters, Chair, PCC Rock Creek Landscape Technology Department. Registration is required for this class and participation is limited to the first 25 people. Please register by emailing: [albright.becker@gmail.com](mailto:albright.becker@gmail.com), put "Drip Irrigation" in the subject line.

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 the irrigation system at WCMGA Education Garden at PCC Rock Creek. Hands-on activity with take-home sample plus ample time for questions.

**Location:** WCMGA Education Garden at PCC Rock Creek, 17705 NW Springville Rd. Portland, OR 97229. Building 4 Classroom. Enter from Springville Rd, drive past Building 9 and Parking Lot E to first stop sign, continue straight on gravel road to Building 4. Parking is free campus-wide on Saturdays. Free event, free parking.

#### **LOOKING FOR MORE?**

You will find more events and updated information on the Garden Time Events Calendar  
[www.gardentime.tv/events.htm](http://www.gardentime.tv/events.htm)

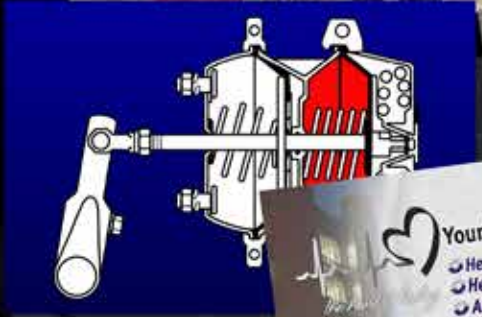
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