

Weeder's Digest

All the dirt that's fit to print



Newsletter of the Whatcom County Master Gardeners

April 2005

The new class is going just great, with 38 enthusiastic students. They are looking forward to joining us in our activities and, in fact, some of them have attended the monthly meeting and the grafting class.

I want to remind the veterans of the Mock Clinic on Tuesday, April 12, 12:30-4:00 p.m., and hope that many of you will bring plant/insect samples to be diagnosed by the new class. If you can participate, please let us know so we will know how many are coming.

The other important class is the annual volunteer sign-up class on Thursday, April 14, 1:00-4:00 p.m. This is the time when new class members pledge their hours to various projects in order to satisfy their 60 hour obligation. This is also the time when veterans commit to projects in order to satisfy their 25 hour annual obligation. You will also have the pleasure of meeting the new class members, if you have not already done so.

I hope everyone is preparing to contribute plants for the plant sale. We need them to make the sale as successful as it has always been.

Oh, by the way, there is a job opening for the Northwest Washington Fair in August. The position is for the 4-H Horticulture Exhibit Superintendent. It is a paid position at the Fair. We have the job description and necessary qualifications here in the office if you are interested.

Al McHenry

It's Plant Sale Time!

It's not too late to donate plants....And we are in need! We are expecting a bigger turnout of customers than in past years. Our Advertising team has tripled their efforts and with the increase in our county's population, we could have a bumper year! Please donate whatever you can. Consider donating something to our Rare and Unusual Plant Table. Plants at this table will not be sold at discounted prices. Tax donation receipts are available upon request.

If you are planning to volunteer at the sale...and I hope you are (We always have such a good time), you might consider bringing the following to the sale to make your day more comfortable: 1) Your Master Gardener Name Tag; 2) Something to sit on, if you are a checker in the afternoon; 3) Sunscreen, hat or umbrella...depending on the weather; 4) Layered clothes...in the past we have gotten very warm in the afternoon; 5) Your lunch or money to buy lunch; and 6) Waterproof shoes for the morning...the grass is wet. We will provide cold drinks on Saturday.

We also have a wish list of things that help make the sale more successful. These include: 1) cardboard boxes; 2) wheelbarrows and carts; 3) Western Sunset book, clearly marked with your name; 4) folding tables (Call if you can provide one 360/676-9563); 5) Ez-up or Pop up Style Shade Tent (Call if you can provide one 360/676-9563); 6) Middle School or Older Child who is willing to assist shoppers, (They will be provided lunch and receive school volunteer hours).

For those who help on Friday a free lunch will be provided. Master Gardeners who wish to buy plants before the sale must volunteer on Friday and can purchase a limit of three plants after lunch. There will be NO presale of plants to Master Gardeners on Saturday morning before the sale. All Master Gardeners will be able to buy as many plants as they wish after the morning rush on Saturday.

If you would want to secure the job you would like for Saturday, please call Diane at 360/676-9563. Available jobs are: Cashier, Information Booth, Checker, Table Manager, Greeter, Holding Area, Traffic Control, Seminar Presenter, and Customer Assistant.

See you at the Sale! Diane Rapoza, Teri Booth, and Cathy Reade.

WSU Master Gardener Program Purpose Statement:

To provide public education in gardening and home horticulture based on research-based information from WSU Extension.

WSU Master Gardener Program Slogan:

"Cultivating Plants, People and Communities since 1973"

Newsletter Deadline:

*Third Wednesday of every
month.*

Tis the Season



By Faye Agner

March has shown a good deal of her 'lamb' disposition this year. She still has kept a bit of 'lion' just to show that she can. It has given us the promise of a good spring. The spring bulbs are coming out in all of their finery. Azaleas and Rhodies are beginning to bloom, also.

Use a little discretion when working the soil in your beds the first time. If the soil is too wet, it will form large clumps that are very difficult to break up, making your work twice as hard further down the line. While working the soil for your garden, now is a good time to add compost or other decayed material. A commercial fertilizer with a ratio of 5-10-10 at the rate of 4# per 100 sq. feet is the recommended amount in the absence of a soil test.

The spring bulbs we have been enjoying will soon be finished flowering. Cut off the dead flowers, but don't cut the dying leaves of the bulb. They are needed to collect energy for storage in the bulb for next year. Plant your annuals between the bulbs, and they can hide the dead leaves.

Now is the time to sow cool and warm season vegetables and herbs. Wait for the planting of warm season vegetables until the danger of frost has passed.

Dahlia tubers should be planted, and it is a good time for division of crowded tubers. Also, gladiolus should be planted. By the end of April, after the danger of frost is past, many annuals and vegetables can be seeded in the garden. Gardeners usually plant the annuals in the first week of May.

Lawn care is upon us again, mowing, killing moss and weeds. Your lawn should be cut to 2 inches any time it reaches 3 inches tall. Cut to no lower than 2 inches to provide shade on the soil surface. That makes it difficult for dandelion and other weed seeds to germinate. Leave the clippings on the lawn, as long as you mow whenever the grass blades are 1/3 taller than the mowing height. Clippings do not add to thatch, but will provide about a quarter of the nutrients required for a healthy lawn. In addition, the clippings become mulch to cool the roots and reduce evaporation. One small thing, if you leave the clippings, don't forget to take off your shoes before going indoors after walking on the lawn. Cute little puppies may get away with tracking bits of green into the house, but you won't.

When shopping for plants, look for compact plants with perky leaves and good color. If the plant seems too small for its container, it's probably not ready to plant in the garden. Wait until the leaves of the plant extend over the edge of the container before planting in the garden.

By thinning fruit in spring, the results will be shown in bigger, higher quality fruit in the fall. It helps prevent limbs from breaking and reduces the every-other-year production cycle that often occurs with many kinds of fruit trees. It is best not to wait until after the June drop. In order to be effective, the fruit must be thinned before it reaches the size of a nickel. For spectacular apples and pears, thin to one per cluster. Peaches, nectarines and Japanese plums should be thinned to one every 5 inches. It is generally not worth the effort to thin Italian plums or cherries.

Have some fun. Try growing potatoes in a garbage can. Start with 15 or 30 gallon, clean plastic garbage can. Drill several 1/2 inch diameter holes in the bottom of the container. Fill with about 6 inches of good potting soil, mix in a handful of a slow release fertilizer, and bury seed potatoes 5 inches apart, just below the soil surface. Water well and soon the spuds will begin to grow. Every time the vines grow 4 inches, cover all but the top inch with compost soil or straw. Before you know it, the vines will spill over the top. The hardest part of the process is waiting for the vines for die back before harvesting.

Hovander Starts Up

~David Simonson

The first Hovander work day for 2005 will be Wednesday, April 6. This a good opportunity for members of this year's class to begin payback hours. Also, we encourage veteran Master Gardeners to come and work and meet the new Master Gardener class members.

President's Message

Linda Bergquist, **The Excitement of Variety**

MGF President

Would you like a garden that consisted of all the exact same plant? No, I didn't think so. I bet you'd rather have many different plants – each offering something unique, something colorful, something valuable to the garden. If so, you'll really like our new Master Gardener training class.

As the class of 2005 stood and introduced themselves, it became apparent that we have a great “crop” of new Master Gardeners with wonderful talents and ideas. They have come from all over the United States: Idaho, New York, California, Illinois, Florida, North Dakota, Montana, and Kansas to name a few. Only three are Whatcom County natives and one or two are originally from other areas of our state. They live all over the county: five from Blaine, one from Custer, two from Ferndale, three from Lynden, and twenty eight from Bellingham. At least two are already Master Gardeners from programs in other states, and there are even two 25-year veterans auditing the class.

The new trainees have areas of interest in gardening as varied as their “roots”. One is a tomato expert (wait until he works with David Simonson at Hovander) and another just returned from planting trees on a missionary trip. We have a mom with teenagers who uses her garden as her refuge (many of us can identify with her plight). Another trainee came from a 5th floor apartment in New York City and can't believe all the beautiful scenery in our county. We have two retired school principals who may try to keep us all in line when we are our usual rowdy selves, like on Plant Sale set up day. Good luck! Many of our veteran Master Gardeners are teachers, and this new class adds a few more, some with an interest in helping youth through gardening. We definitely need more people in that area. We have also added another musician to our group, along with a few more from the medical field. Another new trainee is an avid gardener on whom her son's friends relied when they started their own landscaping businesses; she wants to be a better informed resource. We have a few others who are already in the landscaping business and want to expand their knowledge. One class member is planning to create a new azalea variety and name it after her mother. Yet another new trainee wants to create an adoption clinic for ailing plants, nurse them back to health, and give them to those in need. One is the wife of a veteran MG, and several have worked in nurseries where they developed an interest in horticulture.

Next Meeting:

The April speaker will be our own Master Gardener, Bill Baldwin, who will speak on The Processes of Pesticide Discovery and Development. After receiving his Ph.D from Oregon State University, Bill went on to work with Shell Oil and Dupont. His presentation will include the discovery process and the steps that follow for product registration and market entry. He will also review major changes in the industry over the last 40 years.”

Thanks. Loretta

Take a Spring Break

And come along with us on a tour on Monday April 25, at 1:00 p.m. to a fabulous arboretum hidden in our own back yard. Phil, Emily and Matt Citron are graciously taking us on a jaunt around their many acres of plantings a child of any age would delight in. The Citrons live on the former sight of a tree nursery and take care of many small gardens combined into one. There's a sundial herb garden, a gallica collection, species and rugosa roses, and a woodland waterfall and pond. A culinary garden complete with champagne raspberries, paw paws, figs and mulberries is quite interesting. Acres of blackberry growth have been cleared to reveal mature stands of oak, pine, aspen, liriiodendron, and much more. A newer area contains a magnolia collection, and trees are being planted that may well live to 1,000 years old.

Directions to 3172 Goshen Road: Take Mt. Baker Highway to Cedarville Road (just before the bridge crossing to Nugent's Corner). Turn left onto Cedarville and continue past the Deming Logging Show Grounds. When the road turns, take a left onto Goshen Road, then watch for balloons, at the first driveway on the right. Follow the driveway to its end. Please let Chris Hurst know if you plan to come by phone or e mail. Guests are welcome.

Plant of the Month By Cheryl Greenwood Kinsley

Winter Heath

Family: Ericaceae
(Heather family)
Genus: *Erica*
Species: *carnea*

Sometimes plants of great beauty are so common we tend to take them for granted. I think that's the case with *Erica carnea*, the winter heath that's put on such a splendid show in Whatcom County this year. Actually, it performs well for us every year, in both commercial and residential settings, and surely that's why it's so widely planted here. Winter heath is as charming close up as it is at a distance. Take a look at those masses of small, bell-shaped flowers—characteristic of the Ericaceae family, which includes rhododendrons and kalmias—and then step back and appreciate the overall look of a plant that's very well suited for our local growing conditions.



Photo taken by Audrey Fraggalosch, December 2004.

There are more than 200 cultivars of winter heath, with bloom times ranging from October to March. *Erica carnea* bloomed in John Van Miert's yard in December, and other varieties are at their flowering peak in my garden now. A hard shearing when their blossoms fade will help the evergreen foliage stay tidy and set the stage for more pretty flowers to emerge next winter. Leave heath unsheared and it will brown up, turn twiggy, and lose its good looks. Shear it annually, right after bloom, and it will flourish and stay attractive for a decade or so.

Now is a good time to plant heath—there's a good selection of small, healthy starts at garden centers this time of year—and to propagate it by ground layering. Just scrabble a place in the earth, scrape a little at the underside of a branch still attached to the plant, and anchor it by peg or rock so it stays in contact with the soil. Leave it be for a year

while it roots, then clip the branch from the parent and carefully lift your new plant and settle it into its new home.

Give heath plenty of room to spread into ground-hugging, weed-discouraging mounds from 8 to 15 inches tall and up to 24 inches wide. Small starts will fill their spaces in about three years. Choose a place in full sun, where the soil is neutral to slightly acidic and drains very well. Without good drainage, heaths will perish quickly. Healthy heaths, once established, require very little supplemental watering in the summer. And they prefer poor soil. Don't feed them much, if at all; let their performance be your guide. They're quite tough, as plants go, so long as they're given good drainage. In fact, "Erica" derives from a Greek word meaning "to break" and one explanation is that an infusion made from *Erica* leaves was effective at breaking up kidney stones. But another story is that the roots of *Erica* have been known to break rocks where they grow.

The species name *carnea* tells us the flowers are red; and in the first-named *E. carnea*, native to the Alps, the flowers were red and the foliage was deep green. Today, cultivars offer flower colors from deep red to pink to white, and foliage ranges from blue-green to yellow and silver. Growth habit is typically mounding but a few varieties have sparse, weeping branches just right for spilling over the top of a wall.

There are more than 700 species of *Erica*, and 90 percent of them are native to the Cape area of South Africa. The "extraordinary diversity of closely related species in a limited area is unparalleled anywhere in the world," according to *The Gardener's Atlas*. These Cape heaths were widely cultivated in Europe during the 1800s, but they died out during the First World War because not enough men were available to maintain the greenhouses where they grew. Cape heaths may enter our market again during the next decade; but in the meantime there are more than enough cultivars of *E. carnea* to keep us happy.

We might associate *E. carnea* with the British Isles but the plant famously abundant there is *Calluna vulgaris*, or heather—even though it, and the land it grows on, have been known as "heath" for centuries. *Erica carnea* is native to central Europe. That's where a plant explorer found it and brought it to England in 1763. In the 1920s a lady from Scotland collected cuttings of an *Erica carnea* she found on a stroll through the Italian Alps. She cultivated them at her home. Today, *E. carnea* 'Springwood'—named for her home—remains one of the most popular and widely grown heaths in the world. It has lately been joined in the top ten by 'Springwood Pink.' Both varieties produce a very heavy crop of flowers that hang on for months through the winter and into the spring.

There are plenty of other choices available now. Armed with the name of the one you have in mind, you'll find just what you need to add easy-care, year-round beauty to your own home garden.

Weed of the Month By Laurel Shiner

Portuguese Broom

Cytisus striatus

THREAT: Portuguese broom, a native to Europe, was introduced to North America for landscaping and soil stabilization uses. It has escaped cultivation and invaded natural areas in California and Oregon, including savannah, scrub and open forest. Portuguese broom forms dense thickets, replacing native vegetation. Like other brooms, this plant burns readily and the seeds remain viable for years. Additionally, the seeds of Portuguese broom are toxic to ungulates.

DESCRIPTION: Portuguese broom is a deciduous shrub in the legume family. It grows up to 10 feet tall, although may be smaller. There are many stems, which are sparsely covered with dark green leaves. The leaves are more numerous towards the ends of the stems, and each leaf is composed of 1 to 3 leaflets. Portuguese broom has pale yellow pea-like flowers in the spring. Seeds are borne in an inflated pod ($\frac{3}{4}$ to $1\frac{3}{4}$ " long), which is densely covered with whitish hairs. After drying, the pods split open and the seeds are ejected from the plant. Portuguese broom is very similar to Scotch broom, being distinguished primarily by its paler yellow flowers and the white, hairy seedpods. Additionally, the stems of Portuguese broom are 8 to 10 sided, while those of Scotch broom are 5 to 6 sided.



MANAGEMENT OPTIONS: Portuguese broom can be controlled using mechanical control. Small plants can be hand pulled in moist conditions, while large plants can be dug or removed with a weed wrench. Mowing can be used to prevent seed production. If the plant is cut, Portuguese broom can usually resprout from the stump. However, plants cut flush to the ground may not resprout, especially during drought conditions. There is no information on the use of herbicides to control this species.

Whatcom County Noxious Weed Control Board, 901 W. Smith Rd., Bellingham, WA 98226, 360/354-3990

Weather Warning

~Al McHenry

Our current Governor has declared that a state of drought emergency does exist. I am sure that this decision is based on the best forecasts and existing water storage levels, so for Master Gardener help in giving advice to the public we offer the following water saving tips and plant information adapted from a George Pinyuh article.

Many of the ornamental plants that have been traditionally used in Washington landscapes do not possess the virtue of drought tolerance. Even during normal summers, plants like rhododendrons, azaleas, Eastern dogwoods, Japanese maples, magnolias and others that evolved in summer rainfall areas of the world, require a considerable amount of irrigation. Periodic drought conditions will stress these plants even further.

The enclosed list of trees, shrubs, vines, and herbaceous plants have been shown by experience here and in other parts of the world to be low water use plants. After a period of establishment, the woody plants should be able to grow and prosper with little or no water during the summer. Even the herbaceous plants (annuals, biennials, and perennials) listed can endure long periods between irrigations once they are established.

In addition to plants that need little water, there are also a number of techniques which can help cut down water usage in all landscapes. Mulching, weed control, drip/trickle irrigation systems, and watering times can all fit into a concerted effort of water conservation

Evaporation from the soil surface is one of the more obvious ways that moisture is lost to plants. Covering the soil surface under and around plants with a layer of leaves, bark, wood chips, wood shavings, sawdust, hay, grass clippings, compost, etc., when the soil has water in it, will go a long way in preventing evaporation.

Weed control is most important. The fewer competitive plants there are in the landscape – the more water available for the desirable species.

Nurseries and garden centers have various sorts of drip/trickle irrigation system kits and components for sale. These can easily be installed on existing outdoor faucets with no tools necessary.

Also consult the internet where there are several sites giving water saving advice.

Build Your Own Rainbarrel

MATERIALS:

Large plastic barrel
3/4" copper water faucet
1" flat galvanized washer
3/4" flat rubber washer
3/4" 90 degree galvanized elbow* 4'
length of 3/4" pipe or copper tubing

TOOLS:

Saber Saw (optional)
Hole saw
Drill
7/8" drill bit/router

ASSEMBLY:

BOTTOM: Drill a 7/8" hole about 1-1/2 to 2 inches from the bottom of the barrel. There should be enough distance between the drilled hole and the barrel's bottom to allow room for attaching a hose after the barrel is completed. When the faucet is attached to the bottom of the rain barrel at this site, the barrel should be able to sit flat on the ground without the faucet interfering.

Place the 1" galvanized washer and the 3/4" rubber washer over the threaded end of the faucet. From the outside, insert the washer-threaded end through the 7/8" hole at the barrel's bottom. From the inside of the barrel, screw the galvanized elbow to the threaded end of the faucet protruding through the hole. Make sure the unattached end of the elbow is pointing to the bottom of the barrel after being tightened. Teflon/plumber's tape can be used throughout the rain barrel hardware assemblies to ensure watertight seals.

TOP: The top of the barrel will most likely have a small covered hole that will accommodate the gutter assembly. If there is not a hole, one may be cut into the barrel's top that will accommodate the gutter. If you desire a larger opening, draw a line around the top of the barrel 1/2 to 1 inch in from the rim. Cut along the line with a saw and remove the centerpiece. The centerpiece may be refitted to the rain barrel with the addition of two wooden blocks affixed to opposing sides which serve as a shelf, or by the use of one affixed block (or jutting screw/post) and an opposing hinge. A handle can be attached to this larger lid for ease of use.

After the bottom fittings have been attached, place the rain barrel in position underneath a downspout gutter. The downspout can be directed to flow water into the hole at the top of the barrel. Various methods can be used to accommodate the water flow, from heat-moldable rubber worked into a funnel shape to a chain connecting the gutter's down flow to the inside of the barrel.

Drill a 7/8" hole 2 inches from the top of the barrel for an overflow vent hole that can also be used to connect a second rain barrel. Additional rain barrels can be added to the assembly simply by using a double threaded pipe segment and appropriate hardware. Also, items such as a segment of garden hose and hose clamps can be utilized for the same effect. Use what you have!

BASE:

A base for the rain barrel can be created by using the accompanying instructions or by simply using cement cinder blocks or another similar setup. It is important to place the rain barrel in a secure site where it will not tip over or roll. Be aware that it is quite possible for a full barrel to freeze, creating a round bottom that will become unbalanced and tip over. The barrel should sit at least 15" off the ground (high enough to accommodate a pail underneath the faucet).



WOODENBASE INSTRUCTIONS:

1. All angles are 3 degrees.
2. Four 2x4's
Cut on opposite ends going the same way (parallel).
3. 1/2" CDX or 1/2" chip board with exterior glue.

Cut 2 side pieces roughly the diameter of the rain barrel with 3 degree angles on ends sloping in from the outside (bottom wide, top narrow). Nail legs to edges, creating two finished sides.

Cut one end piece with the same 3 degree slope and same length or 1" shorter. Nail to legs on two side pieces for back. Add inside braces to support interior structure. Measure from inside of the braces across back and cut front piece with 3 degree slopes to that length. Nail to inside of legs.

Cut a cross piece to span across the two sides and at 3 degree on each end.

Cut two shorter braces to go between back-to-front and side-to-side braces.

Cut top to fit outside of legs and sides.

Nail or screw pieces together as you go. (Optional: glue with waterproof glue. Ex. Titebond II or III)

SPECIAL NOTE:

Mosquito control is very important in Whatcom County due to West Nile Virus. If you choose to build your rainbarrel with an opening that allows access to mosquitos, you should take proper measures to ensure that mosquitos do not breed. There are several forms of WSU approved mosquito control listed on the website: <http://pep.wsu.edu/pdf/PLS121mosquito.pdf>. You could also buy several inexpensive goldfish that would eat the larvae and also keep the algae down in the tank.

For a printable copy of this brochure visit: <http://whatcom.wsu.edu/ag/compost/rainbarrel.htm>

Drought Resistant Plants

Written by George J. Pinyuh, Area Extension Agent, King/Pierce County Cooperative Extension 4/88


Scientific name, Common name	Scientific name, Common name	Scientific name, Common name
<i>Achillea</i> sp., Yarrows	<i>Helichrysum bracteatum</i> , Strawflower	<i>Sedum</i> sp., Stonecrops
<i>Alcea rosea</i> , Hollyhock	<i>Helleborus lividus corsicus</i> , Corsican hellebore	<i>Sempervivum</i> sp., Houseleeks
<i>Alyssum</i> sp., Alyssums	<i>Helleborus orientalis</i> , Lenten rose	<i>Senecio cineraria</i> , Dusty Miller
<i>Amaryllis belladonna</i> , Belladonna lily	<i>Hemerocallis</i> sp. + cvs., Daylilies	<i>Sisyrinchium</i> sp., Blue & Yellow-eyed Grasses
<i>Aquilegia</i> sp., Columbines		
<i>Arctotheca calendula</i> , Cape weed	<i>Ipomaea</i> sp., Morning glories	<i>Thymus</i> sp., Thymes
<i>Arctotis</i> sp., African daisies	<i>Iris foetidissima</i> , Gladwin iris	<i>Tropaeolum</i> sp., Nasturtiums
<i>Argemone</i> sp., Prickly poppies	<i>Iris</i> sp. Bearded irises	
<i>Armeria</i> sp., Thrifts, sea pinks	<i>Iris</i> sp. Pacific Coast species	<i>Verbascum</i> sp., Mulleins
<i>Artemisia</i> sp., Wormwoods		<i>Verbena</i> sp., Verbenas
	<i>Kniphofia uvaria</i> , Red Hot Poker	<i>Vinca rosea</i> , Madagascar Periwinkle
<i>Baptisia australis</i> , False indigo	<i>Kochia scoparia</i> , Summer Cypress	
<i>Brodiaea</i> sp., Brodiaeas		<i>Yucca</i> sp., Yuccas
	<i>Layia platyglossa</i> , Tidy tips	
<i>Catananche caerulea</i> , Cupid's dart	<i>Liatris</i> sp., Gayfeathers	<i>Zauschneria</i> sp., California Fuchias
<i>Centaurea</i> sp., Cornflower. Sweet sultan	<i>Limonium</i> sp., Sea lavenders	
<i>Chrysanthemum frutescens</i> , Marguerite	<i>Linaria</i> sp., Toadflaxes	
<i>Chrysanthemum parthenium</i> , Feverfew	<i>Linum</i> sp., Flax	
<i>Cleome spinosa</i> , Spider flower	<i>Lithodora diffusa</i> , Lithodora	
<i>Coreopsis</i> sp., Coreopsis	<i>Lobularia maritima</i> , Sweet Alyssum	
<i>Cortaderia selloana</i> , Pampas grass	<i>Lotus berthelotti</i> , Parrot's beak	
<i>Cosmos</i> sp., Cosmos		
<i>Cynoglossum amabile</i> , Chinese Forget-me-not	<i>Marrubium vulgare</i> , Horehound	
<i>Cynoglossum grande</i> , Western hound's tongue	<i>Narcissus</i> sp., Daffodils	
	<i>Oenothera</i> sp., Evening Primroses	
<i>Dianthus barbatus</i> , Sweet William	<i>Origanum</i> sp., Marjoram	
<i>Dianthus plumarius</i> , Cottage pink	<i>Osteospermum</i> sp., African Daisies	
<i>Dimorphotheca</i> sp., Cape marigolds		
	<i>Papaver</i> sp., Poppies	
<i>Epimedium</i> sp., Epimediums	<i>Pelargonum</i> sp., Geraniums	
<i>Erigeron glaucus</i> , Beach aster	<i>Pennisetum selaceum</i> , Fountain Grass	
<i>Erysimum</i> sp., Wallflowers	<i>Phlomis fruticosa</i> , Jerusalem Sage	
<i>Escholzia californica</i> , California poppy	<i>Phlox drummondii</i> , Annual Phlox	
	<i>Portulaca grandiflora</i> , Moss Rose	
<i>Fragaria chiloensis</i> , Sand strawberry	<i>Potentilla</i> sp., Cinquefoils	
	<i>Romneya coulteri</i> , Matilija Poppy	
<i>Gaillardia</i> sp., Blanket flowers	<i>Rudbeckia</i> sp., Coneflowers	
<i>Gerbera jamesonii</i> , Transvaal daisy		
<i>Gomphrena globosa</i> , Globe amaranth	<i>Salvia</i> sp., Sages	
<i>Gypsophila paniculata</i> , Baby's breath		



Weeder's Digest is the monthly newsletter for the Whatcom County Master Gardener Program. Guest articles are encouraged. Please submit typewritten articles by the third Wednesday of each month to Karri at the Master Gardener Office. Articles can also be submitted by e-mail to: karrimac@coopext.cahe.wsu.edu. Editor uses MS Word for Windows and PageMaker 6.5. Any articles prepared on other programs or platforms should be saved as Text Files or Rich Text Files. Editor reserves the right to edit for space considerations, grammar, spelling and syntax.



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Horticulture Agent

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Dates to Remember:

April 7	10 a.m. to noon	Monthly Foundation Board Meeting Extension Office
April 12	12:30 to 4 p.m.	Master Gardener Mock Clinic for 2005 class at Extension Office
April 14	7 to 9 p.m.	Monthly Foundation Meeting See article for details
April 14	1 to 4 p.m.	Volunteer Sign-up (Job Fair) Extension Office
May 7	Begins at 9 a.m.	Annual MG Plant Sale Hovander Demonstration Garden
Wednesdays	8 to 9 a.m.	Master Gardener breakfasts Babe's in Ferndale
Wednesdays	9 a.m. to noon	Hovander Work Parties