

Master Gardener Program Still Open

People who want to sign up for the master gardener program offered by the Oregon State University extension service have until Jan. 20 to register.

The class will be offered at the OSU extension office at 215 Ringuette St. A maximum of 40 participants will be allowed in the class.

George Tiger, OSU extension agent for Jackson and Josephine counties, says the class has two purposes.

"The intent of the program is to provide people interested in gardening with a basic

knowledge of horticulture and then to use these trainees to help extension staff members at the Grants Pass office answer gardening questions from the public," Tiger said.

"An important plus in the master gardener program is the personal development and creative satisfaction the participants get out of learning more and helping others," he added.

The free program consists of 60 hours of classroom instruction that provides knowledge in caring for ornamental plants, gardens, soil, lawn, nut and fruit trees, and plant insect and disease control methods.

The classes will be held once a week beginning late this month and ends in April.

Master gardener activities start after the training period concludes, Tiger said, adding that each participant spends a pre-determined number of hours staffing clinics.

In turn, the public is encouraged to ask questions and bring plant specimens to the clinic for diagnosis. The clinics will be held at the Grants Pass extension office, garden fairs and at special gardening events.

The OSU extension service office at 476-6613 has further information.

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Master Gardener Program Offered

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1/14/83

Master Gardeners Plan Talk by Landscape Expert

The Master Gardener Association of Josephine County is inviting the public to hear a talk on landscaping at 7 p.m. Thursday in the west room of the 40H Building on Ringuette Street.

Speaker will be Peter Giffin, landscape consultant and former Josephine and Jackson County Extension agent.

The Master Gardener Association is a volunteer organization sponsored by Oregon State University Extension. Members donate their time working in the Extension office, sponsoring the yearly garden fair in April, judging garden contests in the schools, and sponsoring speakers on garden topics.

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Master Gardeners Plan Plant Propagation Program

People who attend the Master Gardener Association meeting Thursday night will discover how economical and easy it is to start seeds and cuttings, association members say.

Dave Adams will talk and show slides on plant propagation with seeds and cuttings in greenhouses and hotbeds when he speaks at the meeting, which will start at 7 p.m. in the west room of the 4-H Building on Ringuette Street.

The public is invited.

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MASTER GARDENER Dean Prescott and Nipps Nursery employee Linda Darneill look over pots of tulips the nursery is donating for sale at the Garden

Fair Saturday. Proceeds from plants will benefit the programs sponsored by the Master Gardeners.
—Courier photo by Susan Goracke

Garden Fair Scheduled Saturday

The fifth annual Garden Fair, featuring exhibits, lectures and plenty of free advice on how to grow anything in the Rogue Valley, will be held Saturday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Josephine County Fairgrounds Pavilion.

Sponsored by the Master Gardeners Association and the Josephine County Extension Service, the fair is free and open to the public.

A schedule of lectures by guest speakers include:

—“Insect Identification and Pest Control” by David James from 10 to 11 a.m.

—“Beekeeping” by Darcy Englen from 11 to 12 a.m.

—“Planting to Enrich Wildlife” by Orley Ringering from noon to 1 p.m.

—“Organic Farming Techniques” by Mike Gallagher from 1 to 2 p.m.

—“Grafting Trees and Plants” by Mark Wheeler from 2 to 3 p.m.

The Master Gardeners will sponsor a cold frame display as well as a weed identification table and a soil sample table. The public is invited to bring in soil samples for testing.

Flowers and bedding plants, donated to the Master Gardeners by several local nurseries, will be sold and wine and table grape cuttings, donated by the OSU Experimental Station, will be available at a small price.

Other groups will present displays on fertilizers, vegetable garden planning, silvaculture and gardening with wildlife.

Among local business which will present exhibits are Bee Good Honey, Gallagher Family Farms, Nipps Nursery, Redwood Nursery, Schaeffer Enterprises, G&S Equipment, Kelly's Irrigation, Goodwin Creek Gardens, Andy's Plumbing and Electric, Hilton Fuel and Supply, Wades Rentals and The Book Stop.

Posters depicting the theme, “Gardening is Fun,” will also be on display at the event, submitted for judging by area elementary school students.