

October 2017 MGFTC Survey Results / 62 total respondents

1. Do you receive notice of the meetings in time to schedule them on your calendar (mostly through the Friday Flash)?

- a. Yes 53
- b. No 5

2. Do you normally attend the membership meetings?

- a. Yes 34
- b. No 25

If you answered No, please circle the reason(s) for nonattendance:

- a. I have other responsibilities/commitments on Tuesday nights 9
- b. I don't drive at night 4
- c. Not interested in the speakers' topics 4
- d. Other (please explain)

- New member
- I don't like potluck meetings or meetings at night
- I attend 50% of the time if my schedule allows, and if it's an interesting topic. Often bring my husband as well.
- I have not been interested in being involved in the business side of the Foundation.
- I choose on availability and the topic.
- I attend when I can.
- New to MG and still getting on board with all the opportunities.
- No specific reason for not attending the meetings.
- Conflicts with other events.
- I attend a lot of gardening classes and don't feel the need to attend one twice.
- Perhaps I can have better attendance now since I have been saddened re my husband's passing.
- Sometimes I'm interested in the topics and not others. Also other commitments happen on Tues which conflict. I'll choose depending on my level of interest.
- All of my answers are a little of both. I typically do not drive at night. Except for a few topics, I have not been interested in the topics. I am new at gardening and want to LEARN more. I also wish you would pick another day other than Tuesday, as there seems to be a lot going on in the community on that day. I am interested in meeting other gardeners, but evenings do not work well for me.
- I am still new to understand all the benefits.

3. Meeting day/time preference. The best time for you to attend membership meetings and earn CE: (please circle just one choice)

- a. Monday night 10
- b. Tuesday night 18
- c. Wednesday night 15
- d. Thursday night 10
- e. Saturday day 8

4. Is the current location (Health Dept. on Lily Rd.) convenient for you: Yes 54 No _____
If your answer is No, do you have a suggestion for a “no charge” facility?
5. How important are the potlucks to you at the meetings?
- a. Very important/would like a potluck at every meeting 6
 - b. Somewhat important/would like a potluck occasionally 14
 - c. Not important at all/doesn't matter if we have a potluck or not 29
 - d. No potlucks please 8

Speakers: We'd love to find speakers that will enhance your knowledge and be of interest to you. Please indicate below the topics in which you'd like to learn more:

My personal interests are around garden design and perennials. The speakers I have attended talked about birds in the garden and taking care of garden tools – if that gives you any ideas. I know lots of people order seeds in the spring. I always end up with way more seeds than I can use. Maybe we could set up a seed swap at one of the spring meetings – could be vegetable or flower seeds – or both.

In general, all gardening topics.

More about actual gardening practices and appropriate plants for a border.

Not sure, again new to the foundation.

Plant pests and diseases. Effective garden irrigation.

I have enjoyed all of the speakers. I especially enjoyed the one about fungi.

Bees. Cause and control of gnats! Pruning of hydrangeas and clematis.

Growing and pruning fruit trees and shrubs. Low(er) maintenance gardens.

Current insect or disease problems in this area. Bumblebees and yellow jackets – how to create safe habitats for them in our yards.

Session on common lawn and yard weeds. Session on lavender (Evergreen Valley Lavender)

Someone to speak on espalier, native edibles.

Lawn care, mole treatment, rain garden, plant diseases, unusual vegetables.

Landscaping basics. Plant problem identification.

Natural medicinal plant products – health oversight and regulation. Recycling programs for private senior living organizations. Show the film “Just Eat It” or “The Clean Bin”

Native plants especially those tolerant of no/low rain summer.

Fruit trees, gardening success, how to handle weeds, how changing climate may change our gardening techniques.

The speakers have been very good. Keep up the good work!

Keep the focus on gardening topics.

Bring in WSU Extension speakers. Puyallup Research Center has folks to share current research. Plant pests of NW; new invasives to be aware of, landscaping tips, design and planting suggestions for different areas of county.

The one on tools with Lowell was really good.

Great Plant Picks.

Wintering over plants in pots – that's on my mind right now. Pruning and transplanting.

How about the owner of some of the local nurseries such as Eastside Urban Farm and Seed and The Barn to talk about seasonal topics of interest such as planting seeds, fall garden preparation, deer and rabbit proofing your yard, gardening with a small small (sic), etc. I would like to hear their suggestions for new and interesting plants, soil supplements, northwest natives and watering. It would also be great if some of the recent interns who completed projects talk about their efforts. Dave Humphrey recently completed a very interesting effort at CLP and Deb Hill is working on plant ID at DW demonstration gardens. Those are two that come to mind but there must be lots of others that would be interesting to the collective group.

Plant care, plant identification.

Pruning, garden design.

Insect ID, companion planting (the science behind it), organic fertilization.

How to have my yard designated a wildlife sanctuary, growing and pruning grapes, strategies for protecting the garden from deer, care of garden tools – could combine with sales of same, hummingbirds in our gardens – year-round, webinars – how non-techies can access.

Review of insects in home garden and their worthiness or not and how to treat. Emphasis on dragonflies.

Insects. Some of the vegetable grows at the market and the importance of buying local. How do they survive?

Most of them are interesting.

Kelly and Sue from Far Reaches would be a big draw and they're willing to come again. Their discussions about their trips are entertaining as well as informative about species they find. Gardens and Travel: Maybe someone from a Binetti trip would have enough pictures and interest in sharing the experience? I don't bring a camera any more so am not able to do this.

Propagation, pruning trees, greenhouses.

Would love to hear the Far Reaches folks talk about their plant finding expeditions again. Learning more about getting rid of lawn and having (good looking) drought tolerant plants.

Building up your soil, installing micro irrigation, new pests in the garden.

Climate change effects on tree species, growing figs in Western WA (indoors and outdoors), succulents, detailed info/samples of New Plant Picks from CUH, bonsai.

Pests in the garden, organic fertilizers for the garden, etc., pruning, good types of garden plants that do well here, mulches, resources, etc.

Interested in all things gardening.

The Foundation includes the Master Recyclers/Composters. Are CEs only concerning gardening topics? For the group that encompasses both Master Gardeners and Master Recyclers/Composters is it worthwhile to have ID cards that included both and to have clothing and hats that incorporate both programs?

Anything. I need help to learn more about veggies. Technology for canning all fruits and vegetables. Just about any subject.

Anything else you'd like to share with your foundation board? We want to hear from you!!
Thanks for sharing your thoughts and/or concerns.

Thank you for everything you do! I'm so grateful for those of you who are willing to serve on the board. I would be glad to set up online surveys for you in the future. It would make it much easier for people to respond. I can set one up in about 15 minutes using Google Docs. It's free and compiles all the responses in a spreadsheet for you! You wouldn't need to manually compile the answers. If you want, I could turn this into an online survey to see if more people would respond.

Thanks for all the good work you do!

Thank you to all involved, the organization is truly awesome.

Maybe have a daytime meeting sometimes for those that do not drive at night.

Is there the opportunity to have four meetings a year?

Thank you for doing such good work. Appreciate all your hard work and dedication.

You all do a great job.

No real concerns. You all do a great job, and just having you ask us what we want is so much appreciated. I hope you receive some great feedback! We couldn't do this without you!!!

You are all doing a great job – thank you for your efforts.

Thanks for asking. It's always good to check in every couple of years.

Thanks for all the work done by the group.

April and June are busy times of the year. It would be good to have meetings in the winter months.

The speakers all sound great, and I'd love to attend more meetings but it's simply not viable for working people and/or students to participate in the organization the way it is now; if we want more young people to become MGs, MRCs and MGFTC members, the hours and locations need to become more flexible.

I'd appreciate a regular update in the weekly Flash regarding if and when we will have a different office, plus a building at the Farmers Market. I realize politics are involved, so some things are confidential at some times. Even if the report is "no change," that will let us know that these are still on the agenda. Thanks for your hard work and all your time to keep this organization going.

More info re book club.

Don't like going through the website for tours/trips.

I'm sure you've thought of this, but be careful what you wish for. If you start getting 100 people to meetings, where will you hold them that has the capacity for free?

It would be great to get an email brief summary of the speaker's presentation after the meeting that would include a copy of any handout, especially if internet or book references were given. Might not have to take notes. Feel like being included in foundation even if couldn't attend meeting.

The people I have met through Master Gardeners have been very nice. Overall, my preference would not to meet on an evening, not to have a potluck (snacks are OK), and to have interactive sessions. Thank you for doing this survey.

Spring plant sale. Ask customers for information when loading customers' cars. This will tell us if we are selling what they want and what we need to grow more for next year. Can we set up a backup with other growers to fill unusual demand?