



LOOKING AHEAD AUGUST & SEPTEMBER

**WSU COWLITZ COUNTY MASTER
GARDENER PLANT AND INSECT CLINIC
FOR GARDEN QUESTIONS
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FLOWERING PLANTS-Roses

AUGUST

- At the beginning of August, apply balanced granular rose fertilizer (E.g.10-10-10), ½ to one cup per bush (last application of the season).
- Continue weekly spray program for [blackspot](#).
- **Test soil** in the late summer or fall to allow time for suggested amendments to react with the soil before the following growing season (<http://simplysoiltesting.com/>).
- Irrigate roses as needed when the top 2 inches of soil become dry. The soil should be moist, not wet, to a depth of 8–12 inches.



Great resources:

<http://pubs.cahnrs.wsu.edu/publications/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/publications/FS164E.pdf>

<https://catalog.extension.oregonstate.edu/ec1624/html>

FLOWERING PLANTS

- Many perennials can be cut back to 4 inches. Fertilize lightly, and water for refreshed foliage and possible rebloom.
- Annuals can be refreshed by deadheading spent blooms.
- <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/news/should-you-deadhead-your-flowers>
- Keep your beds well-watered. Mulch to keep soil moist and weeds down.
- Plants in pots should be watered and fertilized regularly.



SHRUBS AND TREES-Azaleas & Rhododendrons

- Azaleas and Rhodies have shallow roots--be sure to water them slowly and deeply during the summer.
- MULCH!
- [Marginal leaf necrosis](#) (right) is a sign of stress. In the summer, it's usually because of lack of water.
- Many disease and pest problems with these shrubs can be avoided by adequate watering in the summer.
- [Root weevil damage](#) (right)--Adults chew the leaves, grubs damage roots and bark.



*Caption: Rhododendron marginal leaf necrosis
Photo by: R.S. Byther*



*Caption: Adult root weevil damage
Photo by: E.P. Breakey*

[Rhododendron](#)
[First Aid Kit](#)

SHRUBS AND TREES Trees

- **Irrigate young trees!** They need 3-5 gallons of water a week during the summer. You may need to water more during hot, dry weather.

<https://extension.umd.edu/hgic/topics/watering-trees-and-shrubs>

- If we go for a month without rain, large landscape trees will appreciate a deep watering, too. Water slowly, deeply, and thoroughly. Use 5 gallon buckets with a few holes drilled in the bottom and place under the dripline of the tree.
- Grass competes with trees for water—use mulch instead to help with water evaporation.
- For more details, see: HOW TO GET TREES, SHRUBS, AND TURF THROUGH A DROUGHT

<https://www.wsdot.wa.gov/publications/fulltext/Roadside/WiseWaterUse.pdf>



SHRUBS AND TREES Scale Insects

- Check maples, camelias, and holly bushes for [cottony camellia scale](#) insect. Leaves will be sticky.
- Pick or wipe off minor infestations, pruned back severe infestations
- Beneficial insects will help to control them, so avoid using broad spectrum synthetic insecticides
- Use pesticide registered for scale when insects are in the crawler stage (late spring/early summer) only.
 - Least toxic options
 - Neem
 - Insecticidal soap



Photo: Ken Gray

SHRUBS AND TREES *Arborvitae*

- [Leaves turning brown](#)? Too much water and not enough water are the most common arborvitae problems
 - Need summer irrigation--shallow roots. Water deeply but not often, and allow soil to dry out in between. Avoid overhead watering.
 - Need excellent drainage-too much water will rot roots.
- Need full sun
- Dieback on one side of tree? Herbicide spray drift?
- [Spider mites](#) can be a problem. Silvery appearance to leaves; small, fine webbing. Spray off with hose, and apply insecticidal soap, following label directions.



FRUITS: APPLE SPRAY SCHEDULE

- Suggested spray schedule for home garden apples-WSU:
- http://s3-us-west-2.amazonaws.com/treefruit.wsu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/25133917/SUGGESTED_SPRAY_SCHEDULE_FOR_HOME_GARDEN_APPLES.pdf

APPLE MAGGOTS Check your monitoring traps; spray, if necessary. Follow label instructions!

Pick off and destroy any infested fruit (by crushing or by placing in plastic bag and leaving bag in hot sun for a week) any infested fruit to stop larval development. Pick up fallen fruit, too.

CODLING MOTH

Sanitation! Pick up and pick off infected fruit and dispose as suggested above.

Continue the spray schedule until harvest. Follow directions on label for timing and protection of pollinators.



Codling Moth

FRUITS: RASPBERRIES

- Cut the canes that had fruit (floricanes) to the ground
- Secure the new canes that grew this year (primocanes) to your trellis system. They will flower and bear fruit next year.
- Keep them watered--1-1.5 inches per week. Avoid overhead watering

<https://catalog.extension.oregonstate.edu/sites/catalog/files/project/pdf/ec1306.pdf>
<https://extension.umn.edu/fruit/growing-raspberries-home-garden>

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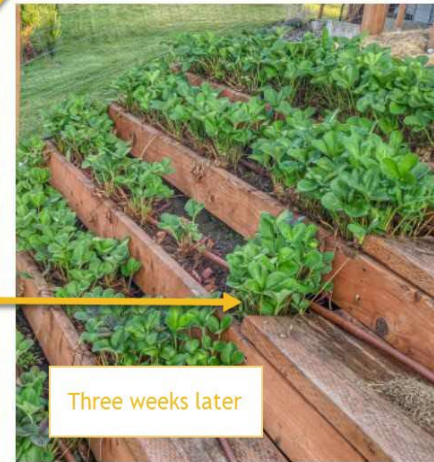
Raspberries--trim off floricanes after fruit is finished.



Remaining primocanes will be thinned to become next year's floricanes

FRUITS: Strawberries

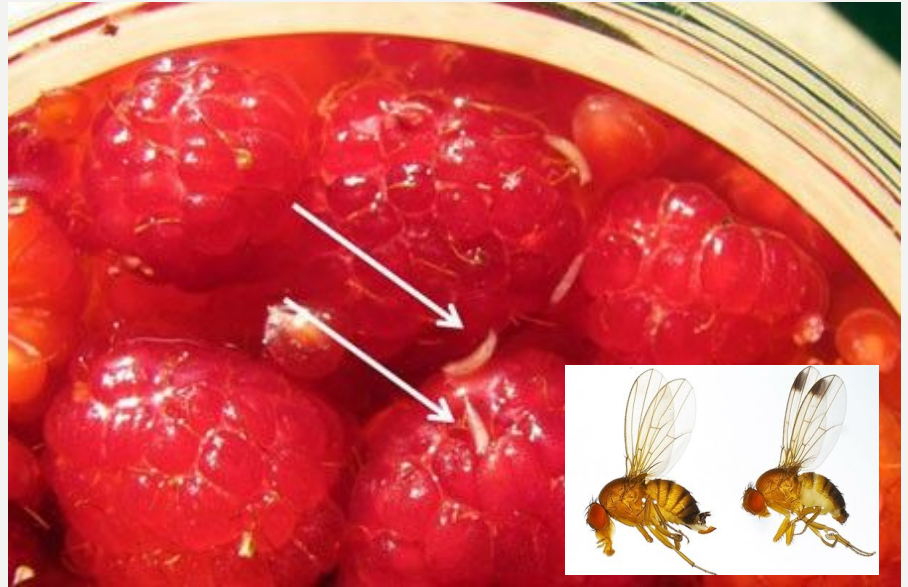
- **Strawberries**—June bearing varieties are done for the year. **Mow or cut off foliage 2 inches above the crown.** Remove plant if it didn't produce. Remove all runners for the rest of the season.
- If plants didn't produce runners, apply compost or an organic fertilizer, such as blood meal, around the plants to increase nitrogen for plant growth
- <https://catalog.extension.oregonstate.edu/ec1307/html>



Three weeks later

FRUITS: ALL BERRY AND STONE FRUITS (PLUMS, PEACHES, CHERRIES)

- Be sure to pick raspberries, blueberries, strawberries, plums, etc., as they ripen. Overripe fruit and fruit that falls to the ground is a mighty fine attractant for Spotted Wing Drosophila (SWD). This tiny red-eyed fruit fly pierces the raspberries, lays eggs, and the tiny white thread-like “worms” ruin the fruit.



https://spottedwing.org/sites/agscid7/files/swd2_editedpair_elagasa_wsda_1289.jpg

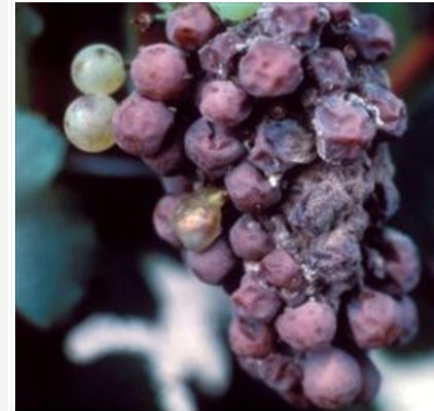
- <http://hortsense.cahnrs.wsu.edu/Search/MainMenuWithFactSheet.aspx?CategoryId=2&PlantDefId=74&ProblemId=790>
- <https://blogs.cornell.edu/berrytool/2017/02/26/raspberries-spotted-wing-drosophila/>

FRUITS: GRAPES

- **Herbicide injury**
 - Grapes are very sensitive to herbicide injury. Avoid using herbicides in hot and windy conditions.
- **To prevent powdery mildew and botrytis (gray mold) -very common in August**
 - Ensure sure that your vines have good air circulation throughout the vine and exposure of the grapes to sun and wind by shoot thinning, leaf pulling, and shoot positioning.
 - Clean up and discard infected fruit and leaves. Do not compost.



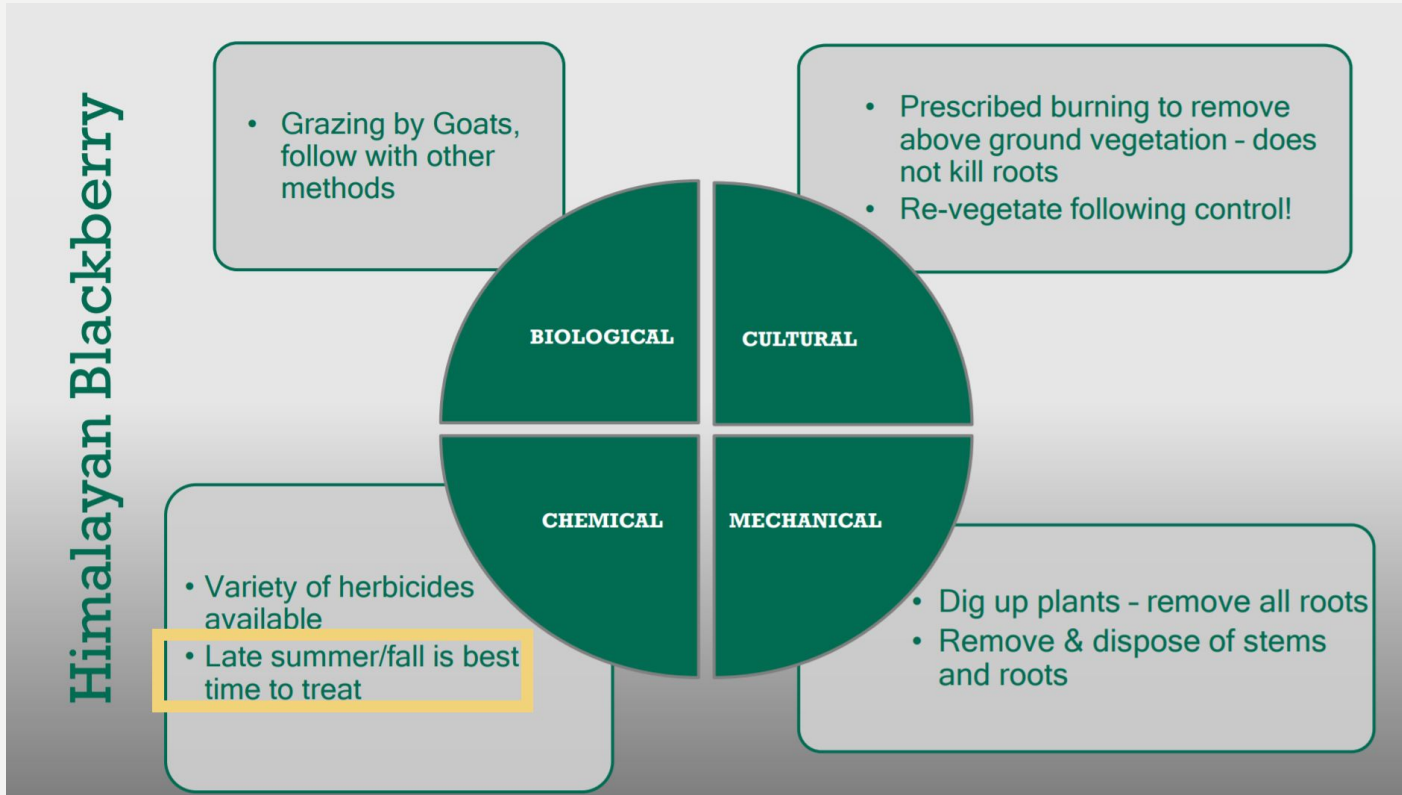
Figure 27. Symptoms of 2,4-D injury on a grape leaf.



Caption: Botrytis bunch rot (gray mold) on grape
Photo by: Univ. of Georgia/bugwood.org

- Growing Table Grapes
<https://catalog.extension.oregonstate.edu/sites/catalog/files/project/pdf/ec1639.pdf>

Himalayan Blackberry – *HOW DO I CONTROL IT?*



Himalayan Blackberry – *HOW DO I CONTROL IT?*

- Blackberry can be controlled by digging, mowing, herbicide, plowing, and/or livestock grazing (especially goats).
 - Removal of top growth by mowing, cutting or grazing with goats will eventually kill blackberry if done regularly and over several years.
 - Cutting followed by digging up root crowns is much more effective than cutting alone.
 - Blackberry can be controlled with herbicides, but product labels should be followed carefully - different products need to be used at different times and may pose different risks to the user and the environment.
 - <https://www.kingcounty.gov/services/environment/animals-and-plants/noxious-weeds/weed-identification/blackberry.aspx>
 - *Spot treat only* with glyphosate (E.g., RoundUp)
 - Triclopyr products are effective and are available for non-specific area application
 - <http://hortsense.cahnrs.wsu.edu/Public/FactsheetWeb.aspx?ProblemId=2006>
- **Always follow directions on label!**

WEED RESOURCES

[Weed Identification Guide](#)

[WASHINGTON STATE Noxious Weed Control Board](#) Identify, control, and dispose of noxious weeds, see lists of Class A, B, C plants, as well as monitoring and quarantine lists. Want alternatives to garden bullies in your yard? See the Garden-wise booklet. So much more!

[Cowlitz County Noxious Weed Control Board](#)

[Herbicide Information](#)

[Hortsense](#) also offers chemical management options.

[Cowlitz County Noxious Weed list for 2020](#)

WHAT'S BUGGING YOUR GARDEN?

- Nuisance pest this month--Pacific dampwood termites are swarming
- Attracted to moist places. Unless part of the wooden structure of your home moisture-damaged, the termites are just a curiosity--or a nuisance.
- If your home does not have wet wood from wood-soil contact, poorly ventilated crawlspaces, leaky plumbing, gutters or roofs, or non-treated lumber on porches or decks, the Pacific Dampwood Termite will not want to nest there.

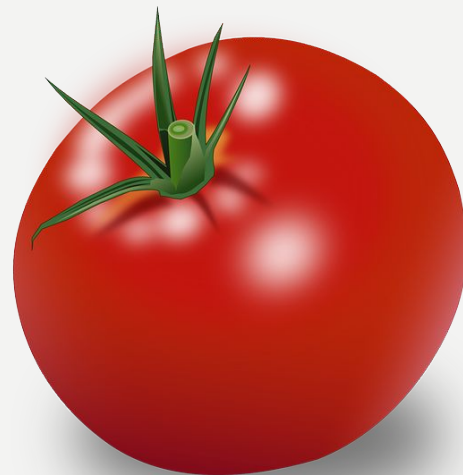


Pacific Dampwood Termite
Zootermopsis angusticollis Hagen
Adult
© Ken Gray Insect Image Collection

- WSU's list of common offenders—and what to do about them!
<http://hortsense.cahnrs.wsu.edu/Search/MainMenuWithFactSheet.aspx?CategoryId=5>
- [Bug problems covered in previous months](#)

How To Get A Red Tomato--on the vine

- Any fruit that hasn't set by then won't ripen.
- Cut off all blossoms and growing tip of each plant to the first node
- Remove most of the leaves
- From bottom up
- If very hot weather expected, keep leaves that shade tomatoes
- Better circulation helps prevent late blight
- Plant's energy focuses on ripening fruit
- Water sparingly, but don't let plants wilt.
- Too dry: blossom end rot



How To Get A Red Tomato--OFF the vine

- Harvest largest, unblemished, mature green tomatoes, wipe clean
- Reasonable size and color turning lighter
- Clip stem close to fruit
- Place in open cardboard box
- Room temperature—70 degrees
- Check for spoiled fruit
- Should ripen in around 14 days
- Others swear by pulling out the tomato plant and hanging it in a 70 degree location to ripen on the vine.



Tomato Problems

Early Blight <https://extension.umn.edu/diseases/early-blight-tomato>
<https://pnwhandbooks.org/node/3617/print>

- Brown spots with bullseye halo on older leaves
- Can affect fruit, too.
- Keep leaves dry, irrigate and fertilize
- Fungicide at regular intervals
 - Bonide Fung-onil
 - Bordeaux mixture



Leaf spot symptoms of early blight on tomato



Early blight fruit rot symptoms

Tomato Problems

Blossom End Rot

<https://extension.umn.edu/plant-diseases/tomato-disorders>

- Cause: Plant isn't getting enough calcium.
- Usual reason in our area: Inconsistent soil moisture. We generally have enough calcium in our soil, but the roots can't take it up unless the soil is moist. If it's too dry or too wet, the roots don't function properly.
- Prevention: Soil test will tell you if you need to add lime or dolomitic lime in fall or late winter.
- Epsom salts won't help—it's magnesium sulfate. It's a garden myth!
- Egg shells in the planting hole don't help either!



<http://gardening.wsu.edu/blossom-end-rot-of-tomato-and-pepper/>

Blossom End Rot



Continue to Monitor the Garden

After planting monitor your plants closely:

Watering needs	Fertilizing needs	Supporting	Nighttime temperatures
Diseases	Insects	Pruning	Leaf discoloring
Leaf distortion	Plant health	Growth	Vertebrate pest damages
Weeding	Mulching	Weather	

Keeping a Garden Log is the best way to track your success and problems!

Irrigation

July and August are usually the most crucial times to ensure plants are watered. Tomatoes alone need 1 inch of water per week.

September the cooler temperatures are coming back along with the rains so irrigation will not be as critical as the July and August neframes.



More [monitoring and Irrigation resources](#)

Composting

Warmer weather is the best time to start and maintain your compost bins/piles.

Green (Nitrogen) 1 part Some Examples:	Brown (Carbon) 2 – 3 parts Some Examples:
Grass clippings	Shredded paper
Tea/coffee grounds	Straw
Manures	Wood chips
Green leaves	Dried grass and leaves

- Successful composting key points to remember are turning the pile, proper moisture content, temperature, aeration, smaller particles the better and good balance of green and browns.
- Compost is used for amending soil, mixing with potting soil, improves soil structure, retains moisture in soil, making compost tea, top dress lawns and the list can go on and on.

More [composting links](#)



Lawns

Lawn care is a classic love/hate scenario. We love it in the spring and fall and hate it in the hot dry summers.

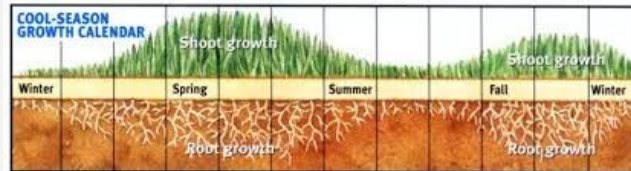
Lawns will seasonally ebb and flow in how they look and perform because of our climate and species selection.

We can help them last and persist through tough times by:

- Properly fertilizing at the right times.
- Encouraging growth when it is most needed.
- Managing weeds.
- Reseeding at choice times to rejuvenate the lawn.

Mowing frequency should match rate of growth. Do not remove more than 1/3 of the leaf blade in a single mowing and keep your mower blades sharp.

Aerating helps rejuvenate lawns and loosen soil to promote root growth, not to mention removing thatch annually will increase soil oxygen, water penetration and encourages grass root growth.



From GARDEN to TABLE or FOOD PROCESSOR!

How do you know when to pick your vegetables?

When garden produce is ready to harvest don't hesitate.



Frequent picking encourages more produce in some plants.

- **Onions**-stop watering when the stems turn yellow, and knock them down--they'll start their ripening process. Pull them up about 10 days later. set them to dry in a well-ventilated area until their skins turn papery.
- **Winter squashes** are harvested fully mature when the skins feel hard and waxy. In autumn, there is no hurry to harvest winter squashes unless excessively cold or wet weather is approaching. Pick winter squashes with stems attached. Cure in a warm, dry place and store at room temperature. Under these conditions, winter squashes store between 3 to 5 months.
- **Potatoes** start to die back in late summer or early fall, when the tubers are mature. Stop irrigating after the tops die back naturally or you cut them off. Dig your potatoes approximately 2 weeks after the vines have died back.
- **Garlic** is ready to harvest after the leaves on the lower third of the plant have turned yellow. Remove garlic with stalks intact from soil and place in cool dry ventilated place to dry.
- **Cabbage** should be harvested when the head is small and firm. More mature cabbage can be woody.

When to Harvest Vegetables

- The links below will help you to determine when to harvest:

–<https://extension.uga.edu/publications/detail.html?number=C935&title=When%20to%20Harvest%20Vegetables>

–https://www.creighton.edu/fileadmin/user/health/wellness-council/docs/Programs/Planting_Harvesting_Times-ISU.pdf

–<https://extension.unl.edu/statewide/douglas-sarpy/pdfs/ce/resources/ce-g2089-when-to-harvest-fruits-and-vegetables.pdf>

–<http://gardening.wsu.edu/when-to-harvest-carrots/>

–<http://pubs.cahnrs.wsu.edu/publications/pubs/fs104e/?p-page=1>



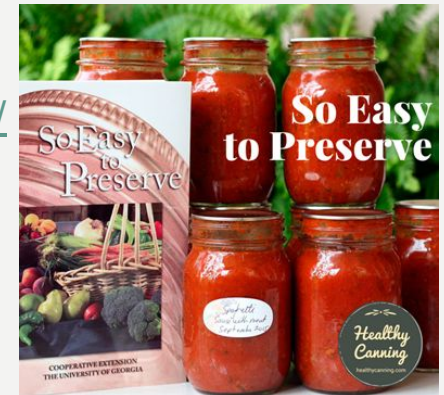
What To Do With Your Harvest

- Prepare for the table.
- Processing (Freezing, Dehydrating, Pressure or Water-Bath Canning).



***** ENSURE YOU FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS FOR PROCESSING *****

- <https://setp.uga.edu/> So Easy to Preserve (Purchased through The University of Georgia)
- https://www.pubs.ext.vt.edu/content/dam/pubs_ext_vt_edu/348/348-594/FST-304.pdf
- <https://www.freshpreserving.com/recipes-0>
- <https://extension.wsu.edu/snohomish/families/food-preservation/>



Extending the Growing Season

With cooler temperatures coming in September start to plan on how to extend the production of your garden. Here are a few great sites that can help you out immensely:

<https://extension.wsu.edu/snohomish/plastic-culture-to-extend-growing-season/>

<https://catalog.extension.oregonstate.edu/sites/catalog/files/project/pdf/pnw548.pdf>

<https://extension.umd.edu/hgic/topics/extend-growing-season>

<https://hort.extension.wisc.edu/articles/extending-garden-season/>

WSU Master Gardener Training Manual (Chap 6 & 25).

How to build a hoop house:

<https://www.motherearthnews.com/organic-gardening/low-tunnel-construction-mini-hoop-house>

<https://catalog.extension.oregonstate.edu/sites/catalog/files/project/pdf/ec1627.pdf>

What To Do With Your Harvest

More links from WSU

<https://extension.wsu.edu/foodsafety/content/preserve-the-taste-of-summer-online-course/>

Preserve the Taste of Summer is a series of eight lessons in a Power Point format that covers all methods of food preservation that you can do at your leisure or all at once. A course that you can do at your own pace in the convenience of your home. The course information is available to you for 365 days from the date you sign up for review.

- Lesson 1: Intro to Food Preservation
- Lesson 2: Canning Basics
- Lesson 3: Canning Acid Foods
- Lesson 4: Canning Low Acid Foods
- Lesson 5: Pickled & Fermented Foods
- Lesson 6: Making & Preserving Fruit Spreads
- Lesson 7: Frozen & Refrigerated Foods
- Lesson 8: Drying Foods

This course is for everyone from the beginner to the advanced canner. The online course is administered by Iowa State University and the cost is \$25.00 for the entire series of lessons.

Vertebrate Pests

In the Pacific Northwest there are numerous vertebrate pests that a gardener has to be aware of and plan to deter:

Birds, chipmunks, deer, elk, nutria, opossums, mice, moles, raccoons, rabbits, skunks, voles.

Links for [Vertebrate Pests](#)



August ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- Many of the topics covered, especially pruning and pest monitoring, in the last couple months are also relevant in the current month:
 - [Looking Ahead: January](#)
 - [Looking Ahead: February](#)
 - [Looking Ahead: March](#)
 - [Looking Ahead: April](#)
 - [Looking Ahead: May](#)
 - [Looking Ahead: June](#)
 - [Looking Ahead: July](#)

Always choose the **LEAST TOXIC OPTIONS!**

- [SIMPLE, HOLISTIC, COMMON SENSE METHOD OF MANGING GARDEN PESTS & DISEASES](#)
- [Home Vegetable Gardening in Washington WSU EM057E](#)
- <https://pubs.extension.wsu.edu/home-vegetable-gardening-in-washington-home-garden-series> (click on DOWNLOAD NOW)

DIAGNOSTIC RESOURCES

- **Hortsense:** <http://hortsense.cahnr.wsu.edu/Home/HortsenseHome.aspx>
- **Pestsense:** <http://pestsense.cahnr.wsu.edu/Home/PestsenseHome.aspx>
- **PNW Handbooks:**
- **Insect Management** <https://pnwhandbooks.org/insect>
- **Plant Disease Management Handbook:** <https://pnwhandbooks.org/plantdisease>
- **Weed Management Handbook:** <https://pnwhandbooks.org/weed>
- **WSU Plant Pest Diagnostic Clinics:**
- **CAHNRS Plant Pest Diagnostic Clinic, Pullman**
- **WSU Puyallup Plant & Insect Diagnostic Laboratory**

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