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END OF YEAR REPORTS will be handled in a separate message from me. Watch for it soon.

A HISTORIC PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT about joining Cougars everywhere on a bold new path to transform WSU and the world will be appearing in your mailboxes soon. You and volunteers and alumni and others are all invited to view the event on Thursday, December 2nd from 11:30 to 1:30. There are several locations to view it from. The announcement about the event is originating from CAHNRS and WSU Extension. When it comes, please register and share it with MG volunteers. I don't know anything more about this event than what comes in the announcement, but I'm definitely going to be watching!!

NEW WSU EXTENSION MASTER GARDENER MANUAL is finished!!! The 640-page new resource is a compilation of 25 chapters written by WSU faculty and a few guest authors. It's beautiful, with color photos and two new chapters on Backyard Forest Stewardship and Firesafe Landscaping for Homes and Communities. And it's the first Extension Curriculum number in the WSU publications system! Here is how MGs can get EC0001, WSU Master Gardener Manual:

All new MGs, starting in 2011, will receive it automatically when they enroll in the online course. It will appear as individual chapters within related modules, and in full on the DVD that comes with the online registration. So, it will be included in the \$70 online training fee and there is no need to purchase a separate CD.

Veterans who enroll in the online course next year will get it the same as new MGs above.

Veterans who do not enroll in the online course may purchase the new manual in CD (compact disk) form and view it on their computers, copy it on their home printers or take it to a copy center for printing. The cost of the CD has not been determined yet, but it is expected to be about \$25 dollars.

People who are not MG volunteers who want to purchase the manual on CD may do so through the County Extension offices or University Publications just like ordering other Extension publications.

I am providing one color copy of the printed manual for each County Master Gardener Program. (Close to a \$200 value.) To save postage fees of these hefty books, they will be available at Cluster meetings, WASAC meeting and anywhere else I can find faculty or staff. If I haven't seen you before the end of the year, we will send a copy to your office.

2011 VERSION OF MG ONLINE TRAINING

The new, improved version of the MG online Training will be available this month for Program Coordinators and MG mentors to view to begin program planning for 2011. Program Coordinators will soon receive notification on how to access it for planning purposes. Changes include an easier registration system, easier navigation within modules, and corrections to errors noted last year. Within each module, the presentations and activities and videos are all designated as either required for basic training, optional or advanced education. Only quizzes and final exams are graded in the 2011 version.

GREAT IDEA OF THE MONTH:

To find all university research based information about a particular topic, do an online search for "topic site:edu." For instance, to find university based information about dandelions, type this into Google or other search engines: dandelions site:edu Only information from universities will come up.

CLUSTER MEETING DATES (Free color MG manual to every county represented!)

NW cluster meeting, Nov 15th, Bremerton. Information from Peg Tillery

SW cluster meeting, Nov 16th, Chehalis. Information from Don Tapio

E WA Cluster, Nov 19th, WECN, telebridge or Spokane. Information from Brigitta Jozefowski

Tonie Fitzgerald

Master Gardener Program Leader

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Evidence of noncompliance may be reported through your local Extension office.*