

<http://sandpoint.org/bcmastergardeners/>

# The Garden Gate

September 13, 2005



## Calendar

**Sept 14 Stewardship for Small Acreages - Goal Setting and Resource Evaluation**

**Sept 15 Home Hort: Putting your Garden to Bed**

**Sept 17 Garden Tour and Potluck**

**Sept 21 Stewardship - Soils**

**Sept 26 Extension Office Landscape Meeting 10 am**

**Sept 29 Home Hort - Greenhouses  
Be sure you logged in your hours for  
MG Clinic ...ends Sept 29**

## **Stewardship for Small Acreages**

*Bob Wilson*

Classes will be offered Wed. evenings from 7-9 pm at the Federal Building (1500 Hwy 2, Sandpoint) starting on Sept. 14. The field trip will be on a Saturday, the date to be determined. Cost for the course is \$25 or \$5 for individual classes. Call the extension office to sign up.

**Sept 14 - Goal Setting.** Evaluating your resources, needs and dreams. For those who are new to land ownership or those who would like to make improvements to their properties, this class will help students take a hard look at what they have to work with and what they would

like to accomplish. Instructors: Robert Wilson, Jeff Stewart.

**Sept 21 - Soils.** Whether you are producing crops, livestock or trees, it is essential to understand what qualities you need in a soil and how you can attain that. Instructors: Valdasue Steele, Jeff Stewart.

**Sept 28 - Water Quality.** Water is essential for home and agriculture. This session explores how to evaluate and protect your groundwater as well as area lakes, ponds and streams. Instructor: Glen Rothrock.

## **Home Horticulture Classes**

East Bonner County Library at 1407 Cedar St. in Sandpoint for a cost of \$10 per class.

### **September 15, Thursday, 6 - 8 pm "Putting Your Garden to Bed"**

Diane Green of Greentree Naturals will help you put your Garden to bed with information on when to cut back certain perennials, mulch, garden sanitation for all aspects of your landscape: veggie, flower & container gardens, and lawns. Also, Robert Karr of Newport, a commercial garlic grower will share his secrets of success.

**September 29, Thursday, 6 - 8 pm**

**"Greenhouses: Use and Construction"**

Bob Wilson, Horticulturist. Whether you are looking for a small seasonal greenhouse or a large commercial, or year-round model, Bob will help you with the information you need.

**Plant Clinic-September**

by Debbie Crain

Harvest time and we've enjoyed a successful season in the plant clinic. Thank you for the time you gave sharing your gardening knowledge with others!

Here is the schedule for the remainder of the month:

- Sept. 13: Jan, Penny, Gail
- 15: Marsha, Jan, Susan D.
- 20: Jan, Gail, Joyce L.
- 22: Marsha, Pat, Brenda
- 27 Susan D.
- 29 Brenda, Susan D.

Please tally your hours to make sure you have at least nine for re-certification (15 if you took the advanced class). If by any chance you fall short, we can extend the plant clinic for September 27 and 29. Please call me (265-6744) or email [crain3610@hotmail.com](mailto:crain3610@hotmail.com)

**Harvest Dinner**

This Saturday, Sept 17.  
Meet at the Extension Office at 4pm and bring a salad to share. Viewing Robin Roberts perennial garden on Gooby Road! Call Barb Moore 263-7236.



Thank you Ann! For beautifying our Extension Grounds!



## Landscaping at the Extension Office

*Bob Wilson*

First, I would like to offer my sincere gratitude to Ann Keiser for her efforts in making the Extension Office look wonderful for the fair. She saw that the grounds were not receiving the attention they needed and made it her responsibility to make a difference. After a lot of weeding and bringing in her own plants and planters to brighten up the front entry, she really made the place look great. Even more has been added since the fair so if you haven't been to the office lately, stop by for a look.

There is still a lot more work to do and Ann can't do it alone. I would like to get all the folks together that, at the beginning of the year, indicated an interest in helping with the Extension Office landscaping. We need to have a short meeting to identify what work is needed and, most importantly, develop a plan for getting the work done.

I would like to call a meeting Monday, Sept. 26 at 10:00 am for all those interested to figure out the best way to handle this. Here is a list of people that indicated an interest. Any Master Gardener not listed is more than welcome to join us.

Penny Barton, Beverly Chapin, Don Childress, Ann Keiser, Bill Lamson, Joyce Lane, Adrienne Lilly, Sue Lopez, Barbara Moore and Gail Swan

## Mickinnick Trail

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The Mickinnick Trailhead is planted and mulched, with a drip irrigation system in place. Drive by and take a look. There are, unfortunately, many weeds, including grass, that remain a problem. Help is needed. Work days are sometimes planned late so it is not always possible to put out an email to the entire group. It would be very helpful if people who could sometimes volunteer would send me their email addresses and/or phone numbers so I would know who to contact. Ann Wimberley ([afwim@yahoo.com](mailto:afwim@yahoo.com), home: 264-5379, cell: 597-0477)

**Directions:** To get to the trailhead, turn left off Schweitzer Road about 1/2 mile past the railroad tracks onto Woodland Drive. The trailhead is on the right about 1/2 to 1 mile down Woodland Drive.

## Waterlife Discovery Center

The Waterlife Discovery Center also has drip irrigation and has been mulched. A repeat planting this fall is planned, but not yet scheduled. There is also a major weed problem here. Again, contact Ann Wimberley if you are willing to be on a list to contact for planting, weeding, etc. It's worth the drive out to see what's been done.



***Botany Bob at 17 months***

BIO

Bob Wilson

Eventually I wound up majoring in botany and horticulture in college. I loved the taxonomy and plant materials classes. I wanted to know names of all the plants. I am still trying.

I have had so many experiences over the years learning about plants. Everywhere I go I try to learn as much as I can about the plants that are found in that area. I have been a member of the Native Plant Societies of California, Oregon, Arizona and

My interest in plants started at an early age, a very early age. Even before I could walk, I was fascinated by the flowers my folks had planted in the yard. I would grab the flowers and pull them apart. (20 years later I got to do this again in a college course in plant taxonomy.) No plant was safe. As I grew older and more mobile, even the neighbors had to keep an eye on me. I still can remember the smell of the zinnias as their delicate petals one-by-one were plucked from the stem.

As I grew older, I helped my Dad in the garden planting peas and sampling the carrots. In the third grade my folks said I could pick out seeds for one of the flowers and we could plant them. It didn't take me long to decide. When I saw the picture for the morning glory 'Heavenly Blue', I knew that was the one. My Dad built a chickenwire trellis along the side of the garage and I planted the seeds. They grew and they were beautiful. I loved the way the flower buds were curled up in a spiral, then would open up to reveal the sky blue within.



now Idaho. While in Arizona, I took my interest one step further. When we first moved there, I was able to find a job working as a horticulturist for the Arboretum at Flagstaff. The gardens there included many unusual and many native plants. However, when people

asked where they could buy the plants for their own gardens, the prospects were slim. Many were not being grown by anyone. So after 6 years, I quit and started my own nursery growing plants native and adapted to northern Arizona. It was fun work because there wasn't any reference I could go to and learn about specific propagation requirements. And not everything I read worked for me. So I had to keep good records and develop my own reference database.

Now as an extension educator for UI, I find myself more in the role of a teacher than a learner. Although one never stops learning, it is very rewarding to have such a great group of people, which the Master Gardeners are, to share my experiences with.

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