

FIRST	LAST	BIOGRAPHY
Aaron	Anderson	Aaron Anderson works with the public and Xerces staff to reduce pesticide use in residential landscapes, including promoting alternative pest control measures and pollinator-friendly gardening practices. Prior to joining Xerces in 2022, he researched pollinator conservation in urban landscapes, restored habitat for several endangered butterfly species, and worked in insect biocontrol. Aaron has a PhD from Oregon State University.
Neil	Bell	Neil is (mostly) retired as Community Horticulturist for the OSU Extension Service, having overseen the Master Gardener program in Marion and Polk Counties from 2000 to 2021. Together with Heather Stoven, he has conducted several landscape plant evaluations for un-irrigated landscapes, which since 2019 has included an evaluation of evergreen groundcovers. Since 2021, he has been employed one day per week by OSU Extension to assist with a multi-year evaluation of 118 olive cultivars at the North Willamette Research and Extension Center in Aurora.
Carrie	Berger	Carrie Berger is the Forestry & Natural Resources Extension Fire Program Manager at Oregon State University and along with her teammates, uses education, outreach and boundary spanning partnerships to foster resiliency of communities and landscapes to wildfire at scale.
Dan	Blanchard	Dan Blanchard is the Curator of Living Plant Collections for Oregon State University Campus Arboretum and a horticulture instructor at OSU, where he teaches landscape plant materials classes, among others. He earned his M.S. in Horticulture at OSU in 2023. Dan's thesis project focused on the establishment of the OSU Campus Arboretum and obtainment of ArbNet Level II Arboretum Accreditation. Dan has a passion for woody plants, urban forestry, plant identification, public horticulture, and education.
Kayla	Bordelon	Kayla Bordelon is a Regional Fire Specialist in the OSU Extension Fire Program who supports community wildfire adaptation and landscape resiliency across the Willamette Valley and Columbia Gorge.

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Brenda	Bye	Brenda Bye is a Benton County Master Gardener. She works with the Community Garden Education Team and has been teaching Seed to Supper classes for the past three years. She is always happy to talk gardening successes and challenges.
Kneque	Chaffin	Kneque Chaffin is a very experienced garden center professional. She worked at Peoria Gardens for 3 ½ years, where she seeded and planted annuals. She has extensive retail sales experience, having worked at Tom's Garden Center for 9 ½ years and 7 "fun" years at Home Grown Gardens. She is also an avid home gardener!
Kathy	Clark	Kathy Clark became a Master Gardener in 2010 after a 35-year career in teaching. Her garden interests are in home landscape design, making wise plant choices, and gardening for water conservation. She believes being willing to adapt is the key to having a rewarding, long life as a gardener. Her favorite part of the garden is wherever changes are afoot. Her current home gardening project is replacing a shady quarter acre of Himalayan blackberry and other invaders with native and wildlife-supporting plants.
Donna	Cope	Donna Cope is one of the owners of Home Grown Gardens, a local retail garden center in Corvallis, Oregon. She has worked in the industry for the past 17 years with most of her experience being on the job learning that includes plant knowledge and ordering, merchandising, retail sales, and marketing. At the garden center, she wears many hats.
Jeff	Cope	Jeff Cope is an urban horticulturist and co-owner of Home Grown Gardens retail nursery in Corvallis. Jeff has a BS degree in horticulture from Cal Poly and Masters in Public Administration from Cal State. He is a board-certified master arborist with the International Society of Arboriculture and an Oregon-licensed landscape contractor. Jeff taught irrigation and landscape construction courses at Santa Barbara City College for 8 years. He was park manager for the city of Santa Barbara for 18 years and served 6 years on the Oregon Landscape Contractors Board.

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Signe	Danler	Signe Danler is a veteran Master Gardener, landscape designer and plant nerd with particular interest in urban horticulture and applying ecological principles to landscape design and maintenance. As instructor for the OSU Extension Service online Home Horticulture and Master Gardener Program, she uses her experience and training in gardening, urban forestry and ecological landscaping to communicate about and promote sustainable gardening and landscaping practices.
Brooke	Edmunds	Brooke Edmunds is the OSU Extension Community Horticulturist in Marion and Polk counties. She oversees the Master Gardener volunteer programs in each county, teaches online and in-person gardening classes, and answers hundreds of gardening questions each year. Brooke's background is in plant pathology and horticulture. She has a Ph.D. in plant pathology from North Carolina State University and her M.S. and B.S. from Iowa State University. She lives in Salem and greatly enjoys gardening in her edible front yard.
Paula	Lupcho	Paula Lupcho is a retired college teacher who moved to Oregon in 2006. She became a Master Gardener in 2007 in order to learn more about gardening in the PNW. The one thing she brought with her is a lifelong interest in roses that she "inherited". She has been growing roses throughout her adult life in Southern and Northern California, Nevada, and now here in Benton County.
Darren	Morgan	Darren Morgan grew up on a small farm in the Willamette Valley. He is the nursery manager at Shonnards Nursery in Corvallis, where he has worked for 33 years. He also teaches workshops and community education classes at the nursery, for organizations throughout western Oregon, and through Linn-Benton Community College, with a focus on trees and shrubs, edible gardening, and, most recently, beekeeping.
Joleen	Schilling	Joleen received her BS (Horticulture) and MS (Environmental Education) from OSU. She has worked for and managed nurseries in the Willamette Valley, Central Oregon, and Colorado. After completing her master's degree in 2007, Joleen started teaching part-time at Linn-Benton Community College for their horticulture program. In 2014, she joined Chemeketa Community College as their horticulture instructor and Program Chair.