



June 17, 2009

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Carolyn Lindberg, 503/238-4775, ext. 101

## **Neighbors Invited to Master Gardener Hotline Open House**

**OSU Extension Master Gardeners invite Portland area residents to visit their new Hotline office, bring in their plant samples and questions, and enjoy refreshments at an Open House!**

**Who: Certified Master Gardener Volunteers**

**What: Open House**

**When: Noon-4:00 p.m., Friday, July 17, 2009**

**Where: Montgomery Park, 2701 NW Vaughn Street, Ste. 453, Portland**

Taking their cue from First Lady Michelle Obama, many folks in Multnomah County are planting vegetable gardens for the first time. Many have questions about soil, landscape plants, fruits and vegetables, and of course, weeds.

OSU Master Gardeners will throw open their doors Friday, July 17 from 12:00 -4:00 p.m. to meet residents, answer questions and inspect plants. The Master Gardener Hotline (503/445-4608) has just relocated to the West Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District office.

The Master Gardener office is in Suite 453 and the hotline is open and staffed Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Last year, the gardening hotline in Washington County answered 4,500 inquiries and the hotline in Clackamas County responded to 3,500 calls.

Master Gardeners are available to answer questions about growing and caring for plants in home gardens and landscapes. They also help identify and recommend management options for household pests. Master Gardener volunteers provide unbiased information about sustainable gardening to help the general public make informed management decisions.

For phone numbers and more information about the gardening hotlines in the Portland metro area, go to <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/mg/metro/questions>.

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