Welcome to the Master Gardeners Demonstration Gardens at Jennings Memorial Park in Marysville, Washington

One of the pride and joys of the Snohomish County Master Gardeners, our gardens have an impressive array of gardening practices and ideas that you can easily incorporate into your own landscaping or simply enjoy in the tranquility here at the park.

Scroll through for a digital tour.

For more information about the Snohomish Country Master Gardener Program, go to: http://snohomish.wsu.edu/ or call: WSU Extension, Snohomish County, 600 128th Street SE, Everett, WA 98208, 425-338-2400
From Humble Beginnings

In 1962 the Ellsworth Jennings family donated what was once called Cherrydale Farms to the city of Marysville. Cherrydale Farms became Jennings Memorial Park.

Beginning in 1983 on an acre of that land, the Snohomish County Master Gardeners got busy creating what has become one of our crowning achievements.

Because the park has strict rules about heavy equipment on the property, the Master Gardeners had to get creative. They brought in not only smaller gas tillers but employed a horse drawn tiller for the larger area of the gardens.

An original Mulberry tree still enjoys it’s home at the center of the garden. Come by on any summer day and enjoy the shade of this lovely old tree. And yes, the mulberries are edible. Just don’t climb the tree though. She’s an old girl and we are very protective of her.

In the years since, the gardens have gone through their fair share of revisions. Every season, we do something to change up the look and feel of the gardens, from rearranging current plots to completely replanting others. One is only restricted by one’s imagination and we have many great minds and ideas amongst our Master Gardeners.
English and Rose gardens.

You’ll enjoy garden areas like our whimsical English Garden (pictured above) with its assortment of beautiful wild flowers, climbing roses and perennials or the Rose Garden (below) for anything you ever wanted to know about roses. And don’t be afraid to ask. Simply walking through these gardens and taking time to smell the beautiful blooms is enough to start your day off with a happy sigh.
A Myriad of Ideas and Examples

If your yard is shaded, we have a Shade Garden plot that will fill you with planting ideas.

Enjoy the peacefulness of our Meditation Garden. Take a few moments to sit on the shaded bench and reflect on all of life’s gifts.

There is also a Scent Garden to fill your olfactory senses with joy and a Southern Hemisphere garden to display the types of plants that exist in hotter climates.
You are invited to see one of our newest additions, the Spiral Herb Garden. Installed last spring, it is a brilliant idea. It would be a very attractive and productive addition to any landscape. Think of how fun it would be to step just outside your own kitchen door to gather the very herbs you’ll need for your evening meal. Once you’ve gone fresh, you’ll be hooked.

You’re invited to enjoy lunch on our beautiful wood deck beneath the grape arbor. The arbor was built by a local Eagle Scout. And the little ones will love playing a game of Hopscotch in our Walkable Garden.
If your interest is in flower gardening, in addition to our English and Rose gardens we have a wonderful Cuttings Garden that just may suit your fancy.
Are you pressed for growing space?
If you have any space at all that gets 6 or more hours of sunlight a day then our Container Garden is just the place for you to pick up ideas on how to maximize the space you do have and compliment your menu with your own freshly grown produce or colorful flowers. Or both. It’s all up to you.
How can we help? Better yet, become a Master Gardener.
Go to the web address below to find out how.

http://snohomish.wsu.edu/
Among the many crowning glories of Jennings are our vegetable gardens. We demonstrate different ways in which you can grow your own delicious, organic foods in a variety of settings, yard sizes, etc. In the fall, you’ll see squashes climbing up and over arbors, peas winding up a fence, vertical gardening techniques for lettuces, tomatoes and strawberries, gargantuan artichoke plants (yes, artichokes do very well in our Pacific Northwest Maritime region) and the list goes on and on.
Every year we are proud to donate 100% of our produce to the Marysville Food Bank. In 2013, we donated 2751 pounds of fresh vegetables.

We anticipate bettering that number in 2014 as we constantly strive to improve our gardening practices.

If you or someone you know needs assistance from the Marysville Food Bank please contact them at 360-658-1054.
Anytime you see any of us Master Gardeners working away in the gardens, please don’t hesitate to stop and say hi and ask us any gardening questions you may have. That’s what we’re here for and besides, you just meet the nicest people in the garden. Maybe you’re interested in becoming a Master Gardener yourself.
To find out how, please go to http://snohomish.wsu.edu/

All photos by Richelle Taylor, Master Gardener.