



Mason County

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION

Through the Garden Gate Pumpkins and Gourds: From Garden to Décor By: Mary Dessel

Please join the Mason County Master Gardener's Through the Garden Gate workshop, "Pumpkins and Gourds: From Garden to Decor" on November 6 at 10:00. This free, one hour long zoom class provides the basic particulars about growing gourds and pumpkins. You will learn to create a table decoration using pumpkins and succulents to highlight your Thanksgiving table. If you would like to attend, go to mgfmc.org.

Gourds are one of the earliest plants that were domesticated by humans dating back 13,000 years. Through time they have been used as water containers, rattles, eating utensils and even birdhouses. Today, gourds are turned into beautiful art pieces as they are carved, etched, and painted. Gourds and pumpkins are also used as ornamentals especially to enhance fall décor.

Master Gardener, Dee Ann Kline, will guide you through the steps in growing gourds and pumpkins. Gourds and pumpkins are popular and are easy to grow. They need to grow in an area with full sun and take the entire summer growing season to mature (75 – 140 days). They are heavy feeders and grow best in rich organic soil. Pumpkins and gourds need plenty of room to grow as their vines like to spread. Gourds can be trained to grow on trellises or fences.

In our workshop Master Gardener, Dorothy Skans, will teach you how to clean and dry gourds so they can be used in art. Master Gardener, Laurie Williams, will demonstrate how to make a Thanksgiving table decoration using a pumpkin, moss, and succulents. We hope you will join us for this fun Fall Through the Garden Gate.

For additional "Through the Garden Gate" information go to www.mgfmc.org or www.facebook.com/masoncountymastergardeners

Mary Dessel is a Mason County Master Gardener. She serves as Vice-President and chairs the Educational committee. Mary was awarded Master Gardener of the Year for Mason County in 2020.

Extension programs and employment are available to all without discrimination. Evidence of noncompliance may be reported through your local Extension Office. Reasonable accommodations will be made for persons with disabilities and special needs who contact Kendall Carman at 3030 N 4th St. Shelton, WA 98584, (360)427-9670 ext. 682, kendall.carman@wsu.edu at least two weeks prior to the event.