



The Hovander Demonstration Gardens are a horticultural classroom, providing educational information and visual demonstrations of home gardening methods.

WSU Whatcom County Master Gardener volunteers maintain the garden. Their goal is to showcase sustainable practices, support, educate, and inspire home gardeners. Each year, volunteers dedicate over 2,400 hours.

The public is invited to visit the gardens, take photos, and ask questions during the WSU Master Gardener work parties:

Wednesdays, 9:00am - Noon (April - October)

Educational signs are located throughout the garden to identify and describe plants.



Hovander Demonstration Garden is located at:
5299 Nielsen Avenue • Ferndale, WA 98248

Park Hours: 8:00am to Sunset

Master Gardener Program

WSU Whatcom County Extension
1000 N. Forest Street • Bellingham, WA 98225
(360) 778-5811

<https://extension.wsu.edu/whatcom/hg/mg>

We offer youth gardening support, free diagnostic plant clinics, workshops and community education year round.

With 200 active volunteers offering sustainable gardening, stewardship, and science based info to our community.



WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION
Master Gardener Foundation

Hovander Demonstration Gardens



Hovander Homestead Park
5299 Nielsen Avenue • Ferndale, WA

WSU Master Gardeners:
Cultivating Plants, People, and Communities since 1973!



Whatcom County
WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION

Hovander Demonstration Gardens

Gardens & Projects:

GREEN HOUSE

Each spring 2,000 tomatoes for the annual plant sale are raised in the greenhouse, and each summer volunteers carry out a demonstration for propagating different plants and techniques for public education.

CHILDREN'S STORY GARDEN

Each garden bed features a favorite children's book - you will find Peter Rabbit among the lettuce, Jack climbing the beanstalk, and Paul Bunyan minding Paul's Little Free Library, where children can "take a book, leave a book." The garden is open to all youth, while programs and events focus on ages 4-8.

HERBS in HISTORY and MODERN HERB GARDEN

This garden contains plants that were useful over the course of history. In addition you will find modern herbs such as shiso, epazote, lemongrass and stevia.

DAHLIA GARDEN

The sunny dahlia garden is designed to provide a cheerful space in which to view the wide variety of dahlias that can be grown in Whatcom County.

WEED IDENTIFICATION GARDEN

One of the most popular gardens, the garden displays over 100 weeds with educational signs about each one. Learn the many useful aspects of weeds.

CULINARY HERB GARDEN

Located near the back kitchen door of Hovander House, this garden contains herbs likely harvested by Mrs. Hovander for cooking and herbal remedies. Visitors can walk the path and enjoy the old-time herbs necessary to sustain early pioneer family life.

VEGETABLE GARDEN

Visitors can observe gardening techniques in action and ask questions about their own food growing endeavors. Summer workshops reveal the basics of vegetable gardening in Whatcom County and how to prepare a fall vegetable garden. Over 1,800 lbs of food each year is donated to the Ferndale Food Bank.



Signs are located throughout the gardens to identify and describe the plants.

NATIVE PLANT GARDEN

To showcase the beautiful plants of the Pacific Northwest, this garden features at least 28 species of trees, shrubs, and perennials, including ornamental favorites: Evergreen Huckleberry, Red Flowering Currant, Red Columbine, Star-Flowered False Salomon's Seal and Wild Ginger.

ANNUAL GARDEN

A favorite place for wedding photos, many flowers are grown from seed by Whatcom County Master Gardener volunteers in the early spring.

PERENNIAL GARDEN

It is a joy to see the changing seasonal beauty of the perennial garden. Featuring heritage trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants that would have been available to a pioneer gardener. Visitors may come to find inspiration for their home gardens.

SUSTAINABLE GARDEN PRACTICE

The demonstration gardens feature a drip irrigation system. This method conserves water, reduces introduction of disease, maintains soil nutrient profile and is less labor intensive for gardeners by allowing water to slowly drip to the base of plants and their roots systems.