



Oregon State University Extension Service Marion County

OSU Extension Welcomes New Community Horticulturist



*Brooke Edmunds is the new
Community Horticulturist for Marion
County Extension. Photo credit:
Brooke Edmunds*

Brooke Edmunds is a native Oregonian (born in Roseburg) and grew up in both Vancouver WA, and Des Plaines, IL. Even though she lived in bigger cities, Brooke enjoyed windowsill gardening, family camping trips, and exploring urban forest preserves growing up.

Brooke went on to get a bachelor's degree in Plant Health and Protection from Iowa State University. This multi-disciplinary degree exposed her to agronomy, weed science, soil science, horticulture, entomology and plant pathology. She interned with Extension and fell in love with diagnosing plant problems through a student job at the campus plant clinic. She stayed on at ISU to get a master's degree in Plant Pathology studying a new landscape disease of hostas. Brooke went on to get her PhD in Plant Pathology from North Carolina State University studying postharvest diseases of sweetpotato. She enjoyed NC BBQ and helping growers and producers problem solve but not the humidity!

After graduation, Brooke worked for Colorado State University Extension as a greenhouse and nursery specialist for the Front Range. Then she had the opportunity to move back to the PNW to work for the Oregon Department of Agriculture as a plant pathologist (seed and plant certification program). When an opportunity with OSU Extension opened up, she jumped on it. Brooke has been with OSU Extension since 2014 as a horticulture faculty member working with the OSU Extension Master Gardener program and community horticulture education (in Benton and Linn counties previously).

Brooke lives in Salem and is already enjoying the much shorter commute. She loves learning about the flora of Oregon, agate hunting at the coast, and hiking with her husband and two children. Brooke transferred to Marion County in early July and has been busy answering gardening questions, solving plant problem mysteries, and getting to know the amazing Master Gardener volunteers. If you have questions about the Master Gardener Volunteer Program please contact Brooke at

brooke.edmunds@oregonstate.edu or call the OSU Extension Marion County office at 503-588-5301.

Welcome to Marion County, Brooke!

Learn more about the Marion County Master Gardener Association here:
<https://marioncomga.org/>, and check out the OSU Extension gardening pages
<https://extension.oregonstate.edu/gardening>