



Workshops for Sept-Dec. 2025 – Blaine CORE*

*Community Organization for Resources and Education

www.nwcore.org

Supporting and encouraging food resiliency thru the planting of edible landscaping

LOCATIONS Blaine Library, 3rd St. and Blaine Comm/Sr Center 764 H St. in Blaine

*Class descriptions may be subject to additions & modifications,
location, time, date and General topic info will remain the same*

Sept 10, Wed, 5:00-7:00pm Summer & Severe Pruning

Blaine Library

This presentation will focus ONLY on summer pruning and severe pruning of overgrown fruit trees. Using a combination of pruning techniques that quickly gets your trees in shape. Requiring some follow-up care (summer pruning) during the year to maintain the initial work done. Reduced fruit production will be over-riden by the ease of completion for the average tree. May be followed by an actual hands on severe pruning.

Sept 13, Sat. 10am-11am – Vermiculture & Bookworm Bin Project

Garden Spot Nursery,

Overview on the benefits of composting for the environment and your garden. With a strong focus on introducing participants to the Friends of the Blaine Library Bookworm Bin upcycle project. This convenient indoor worm bin will have you singing the praises of worms eating your kitchen scraps (and lots of other things!) as you save money on fertilizer and watch your plants thrive.

Sept. 20, Sat. 9:30--11:30am—Reduce Home Waste: The Art & Science of Composting, Vermiculture

Blaine Community/Sr Center

Beginning in April of 2027, it will be "illegal" in Washington state, to deposit compostable materials into the landfill. To help everyone understand why this is an important change, Washington State Ext Services, the Whatcom County Library and Blaine CORE have collaborated to create a series of workshops to be held at Whatcom county branch libraries (in addition to our local presentations).

Join us for a fun and educational workshop focusing on home composting and share ideas, build new skills to generate high quality compost/materials for your garden/houseplants. We'll also learn more about new guidelines regarding the disposal of compostable materials that will impact many Whatcom County residents in the coming years. This workshop includes a presentation on Composting and Vermiculture and we'll get to see a Bookworm Bin in action!

Sept 23, TUESDAY, 5:30pm-7:30pm - Kombucha – (note date change)

Blaine Library

Known as "The Elixir of Life", Kombucha origins remain shrouded in mystery. Some drink it for health, some for flavor. If you have never tried it, now is your chance! We invite you to get in touch with your inner "Ghengis" by learning more about this interesting elixir at this fun, informative presentation. We will be sampling different flavors, demonstrating how to make your own AND sending you home with your own culture (SCOBY) to start brewing.

Sept. 27, Sat. 9:30-11:30am - An Introduction to Mycology

Blaine Community/Sr Center

Grady Barstad, a self-taught local mycologist who has supplied local restaurants and the community with gourmet mushrooms and supplements for the past 5 years. This class will answer your questions and teach you how to start growing mushrooms, the basics of mycology and the nutritional benefits of enjoying delicious fungi!

Oct. 4, Sat. 10am to 12noon– Garden to Bed - Dahlias & Dividing Perennials

Blaine Library

Overview of putting your garden to bed. How to best create a healthy start for next year and minimize your chores. Protecting your soil from the ravages of winter and getting an early start on planting in the spring. We will also be talking about how to dig/divide your Dahlias and/or protect them for "in the ground storage". Handout on dividing perennials will also be provided.

Oct. 8, Wed., 5pm to 7pm—**Sauerkraut, *Homemade and Healthy!*** Blaine Community/Sr Center
Yup, good old-fashioned homemade, delicious and crispy kraut, made right in your kitchen, easy & HEALTHY!! Can be made with lower salt levels when you make it yourself. Natural pro&pre biotics to help your micro-biome. We will cover all the basics of fermentation. If you have always wanted to try it, now is your chance to get started. Simple tools, salt and veggies transform your diet into new and exciting foods. Come explore!

Nov. 5, Wed. 5--7pm—**Reduce Home Waste: The Art/Science of Composting & Vermiculture**
Blaine Library

Full description on Sept 20. Join us for a fun and educational workshop focusing on home composting and share ideas, build new skills to generate high quality compost/materials for your garden/houseplants. We'll also learn more about new guidelines regarding the disposal of compostable materials that will impact many Whatcom County residents in the coming years. This workshop includes a presentation on Composting and Vermiculture and we'll get to see a Bookworm Bin in action!

Nov 9, Sat, 9:30-11am—**Bulbs for Spring Flowers** Blaine Community/Sr Center

Now is time to order and plant those tulips, crocuses, hyacinths, daffodils, etc! It's easy to create naturalized plantings for specific flower beds,. We will talk about forcing blulbs for an indoor display that will brighten your winter days.

Nov 15, Sat, 10am-12 noon—**Intro to Garden Design 101** - Cheryl Niles, WSU Ext will be guest
Blaine Library

We will discuss how to look at your yard as if you were a landscape designer. Especially important for placement of food bearing trees, bushes, vines and vegetable gardens. In this presentation, we will talk about your overall yard including hardscape assessments, materials use, integration of plant materials, developing a planand execution. This class is introductory to the four part class offered in the Spring at the Community Center.

Dec. 13, Sat. -9:30-11:30pm—**Mason Bee Cocoon Cleaning Workshop** Community/Sr Center

This will be a hands on—demo and workshop. Please bring your cocoons in tubes, boards, etc. and willing hands. We are offering a supervised opportunity to learn how to clean your mason bee cocoons to improve your population (and share with friends). Please email fruit@blaine-core.com to get a further descriptions of how to transport your cocoons and the supplies that you will need. We will provide space (to be able to “make a mess”), water, colanders, towels and expert advice.

Branch Libraries hosting

Home Waste: The Art & Science of Composting and Vermiculture

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Wed, **September 24** - **South Whatcom (Sudden Valley)** Library Meeting Room, 5:30-7:30pm

Friday, **September 26** - **Lynden** Library Meeting Room, 1-3pm

Thursday, **October 2** - **Lummi Island** Library, 1-3pm

Wednesday, **October 29** - **Ferndale** Library meeting room, 5:30-7:30pm

Saturday, **November 1** - **Everson** Library, 1-3pm

Wednesday, **November 5** - **Blaine** Library meeting room, 5-7pm

Saturday, **December 6** - **Point Roberts** library meeting room, 11am-1pm