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Peninsula Fruit Club's annual "All About Fruit Show and Gourmet Apple Tasting" event is this weekend, Saturday, October 25 from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Silverdale Community Center, 9729 Silverdale Way NW (across from Cimarron Motel). Admission for adults is one dollar and children under twelve are free.

If you're tempted to grow your own fruit, you'll want to attend this event and taste different varieties for yourself. Even though apples are the featured fruit, you can sample pears, grapes and nuts too. Fruit Club members have a wealth of information to share. The event promises to not only be delicious but also full of education.

The club is providing informational pamphlets. If you have an apple tree on your property and want to know the name of the variety, bring it's fruit to the show and a member can identify it for you. You can also see a display on apple maggot and learn about controlling this very unwelcome pest.

Peninsula Fruit Club is a member of the Western Cascade Fruit Society. If you're interested in attending meetings or want to join the club, you'll have that opportunity too at the show. You can receive information about the club by calling 360-697-2783 evenings and weekends before 9 p.m.

The Extension Office at 715 Sidney has WSU publications on growing fruit in Puget Sound. Office hours are 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30-4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Information is also available online at <http://gardening.wsu.edu>.

Another excellent resource on growing fruit is Raintree Nursery off of Interstate 5 south of Chehalis. Visit Raintree Nursery online at <http://www.raintreenursery.com>. When the weather is cold and rainy, sit at your computer and peruse all the offerings from Raintree. If we get a few of our sunny weekends, hop in the car and visit in person. Many of our local nurseries carry stock from Raintree. Now's the time to order a catalogue either online or by calling 360-496-6400. The nursery is closed December 22 through January 7. You'll also want to call for open hours.

The best time to plant bareroot fruit trees and berries is January through May. You'll have all fall to study and choose the right plants for your own garden. Fall, however, is an excellent time to purchase plants in pots and place them in your garden. Especially woody plants. The fall and winter rains will give them a good start before you'll need to irrigate. Always water the plants in well though when you dig the planting hole and after you've tucked them in to their new spot in the garden.

There is one caveat when thinking about growing your own fruit. Fruit trees, bushes and plants require maximum sun to bear fruit. When choosing a spot to place your fruit bearing plants select a site that gets sun most of the day. Choose disease resistant varieties and remember to check if your selection requires a cross-pollinator.

Another not-to-be-missed October annual event is Bainbridge Gardens Tenth Annual Pumpkin Walk on Friday October 24 and Saturday October 25 from 6-9 p.m. Stop at Bainbridge Gardens on 9415 Miller Bay Road and take a delightful ramble through their Woodland Walk. You'll find hundreds of lighted pumpkins on parade. Staff and customers carve and illuminate hundreds of pumpkins and display them along a winding trail. See if you can spot Betsy Bat, Boris the Spider and Sunny Sunflowers.

Bainbridge Gardens encourages any one who wishes to bring their carved pumpkins to the nursery on Thursday October 23 between 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. or by 11 a.m. on Friday, October 25. Personal pumpkin pickup is on Sunday, October 26 between 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Then come back on the 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> with family and friends to see if you can spot your pumpkin in the dark on the Woodland Walk.

The event is free but donations are gladly accepted to benefit the Boys and Girls Club. Call the nursery at 206-842-5888 with any questions.

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