New MWM class ready to serve

Clackamas County is home to 17 brand new Master Woodland Managers. The team graduated at a special ceremony in late July at the Hopkins Demonstration Forest. About 85 friends and family of the graduates attended the event.

“I am very excited about the new MWM class,” said Mike Bondi, Extension forestry agent and coordinator of the Master Woodland Manager program in Clackamas County. “We have a great group of individuals who are experienced forest owners and have a real heart for providing assistance to other landowners, youth and the public.”

The Clackamas Master Woodland Manager Class of 2007 includes:

Loren Bowman, Estacada
Thom Butts, West Linn
Tim DeLano, Beavercreek
Walt Garvin, Milwaukie
Robert Helmig, Molalla
Jean McCloskey, Estacada
Sena Sanguinetti, Boring
Frank Schenck, Molalla
Chuck Schlechter, Salem
Doug Shannon, Molalla

Jane Stone, Beavercreek
Larry Stone, Beavercreek
Mitch Triplett, Mulino
Maralyn Turner, Portland
Amy Waldorf, Molalla
Ilene Waldorf, Molalla
Bill Wood, Sherwood

The Master Woodland Manager training includes 85 hours of class and field education. The purpose of the training is to increase the participants’ understanding of forest management and stewardship principles and prepare them for volunteer service in the community.

Michael C. Bondi
Extension Agent—Forestry/Christmas Trees and Staff Chair

Agriculture, Home Economics, 4-H Youth, Forestry, Community Development and Extension Sea Grant Programs, Oregon State University, United States Department of Agriculture and Clackamas County cooperating. The Extension Service offers its programs and materials equally to all people.
Volunteer Community Work Days
~it’s all about “learning by doing” ~

Saturdays, September 8 and October 13 (8:00am-4:00pm)
Hopkins Demonstration Forest, Beavercreek, OR

Fall is in the air. And there are plenty of work projects underway at the Hopkins Demonstration Forest. The Work Day list includes: fall weed control (from poison oak to blackberries and grass), roadside brush clearing, winter-proofing roads and building maintenance.

In addition, the Clackamas County Farm Forestry Association will be hosting the Work Day in October on the 13th. This will be a special time when members are encouraged to attend, bring a friend or neighbor, and lend a hand.

Lunch is planned for all volunteers. Contact Tim DeLano, Forest Forever’s Community Outreach Coordinator, at the Hopkins Demonstration Forest to let him know you will be present and to find out what tools to bring. Call Tim at 503-632-2150.

Full Spectrum Forestry

Saturday, September 15 (9:00am-1:00pm)
Belton Family Forests, Sandy, OR

Meet at end of Webber Road, five miles east of Sandy on U.S. Highway 26

This special event is being organized by the Oregon Small Woodland Association and is the first of three similar programs offered in western Oregon. The purpose of the events is to attract new woodland owners or those who have not yet become actively involved in the management of their properties.

If you are already an OSWA member, you’re still invited. But, make an extra effort to invite someone who isn’t a member and bring them with you!

Each program will start with an interactive question and answer session about “full spectrum forestry.” Every aspect of forestland ownership will be touched upon in an open forum discussion format, including best practices in planting, wildlife management, streams and water protection, and references to further information. Three field locations will be centers for more in-depth topic discussions.

Local OSU Master Woodland Managers and experienced family forest owners will be on hand to answer questions and visit with attendees.

Registration for the event is necessary. See OSWA’s website at www.oswa.org or contact the OSWA state office at 503-588-1813 to RSVP.
Tree Farmer Recognition Banquet

Saturday, October 20 (6:00-9:00pm)
Farmstead Restaurant, Arrowhead Golf Course
S Highway 213, Molalla OR 97038

Join us for this special evening of recognition for Clackamas County forest owners. Each year nominees for the prestigious Woodland Farmer of the Year are introduced to the audience through a photographic tour of their properties. Besides the Woodland Farmer Awards, we anticipate presenting “special” awards to additional forest owners and supporting businesses and individuals.

Woodland owners have been recognized for the outstanding stewardship of their lands in Clackamas County since 1955, and the tradition continues in 2007. This year’s Woodland Farmer candidates are:
- Diamond L Ranch (Lockwood family; Aims)
- Pam and Jack Dent (Molalla)
- Lester and Shirley Farmer (Viola)

Each story you will hear is an excellent example of forest management, care of the land, and a motivation for all of us.

The evening will include a no-host social hour, dinner, recognition presentations, and lots of time for visiting and getting to know other landowners you may not have already met.

Register using the form at the end of this newsletter.

A Few Forested Acres
~keeping your dream on track~

October 22, 24 and 27 (Mon & Wed evening & Sat morning) 7:00-9:15pm & 8:30-noon
Environmental Learning Center, Lakeside Hall; Clackamas Community College; OC

This introduction to key topics in forest management is offered as a starting point for those who have some forest property and may want to consider doing more with it. It could also suit someone in a family who seeks to learn only to appreciate what forest management is all about, not to actually practice it. Consider learning enough so you can at least ask good questions. Get to know other folks who have similar dreams for similar properties.

The instructor will be Gilbert Shibley, Extension Forestry Program Assistant and owner/manager of family forestland in the Springwater area of Clackamas County near Estacada. Whether it features wildlife or wood or both, your dream might take shape better if it is based on a few realities like these:
- How many trees per acre can thrive on your site, wet or dry
- How trees grow and forest communities function
- Why a mature forest may still need help growing
- What assistance is available to help with forest management
- Tax savings to help you reach your goals for the property

Cost is $30 per family with one set of handout materials. Registration is required by October 18 by using the form at the end of this newsletter. See our webpage for specific directions to Lakeside Hall. (http://extension.oregonstate.edu/clackamas/forestry)
Busy summer at Hopkins
This past summer was especially busy at the Hopkins Demonstration Forest near Beavercreek. Besides many educational events and programs several special activities occurred. First, the Clackamas Environmental Youth Corps spent six weeks at the Forest working on several construction projects. One of the most impressive was the building of a dry rock wall adjacent to the Hopkins Hall classroom. More than 10 tons of rock was used. The rock was donated by Avison Rock Quarry.

In addition, the Youth Corps group helped complete an RV site pad (with electricity, sewer, satellite TV and internet) and two portable shelters in the woods that will provide cover for field classes at the farm.

ORTOSAs learn forestry skills
Oregon Teachers on Summer Assignment (ORTOSA) is a unique opportunity for school educators to receive a hands-on forestry training during their time off. The Oregon Forest Resources Institute organizes the program each year. Between 15-20 teachers are offered positions around the state wherever there is a host company, agency or non-profit willing to provide the training.

The OSU Extension Service in Clackamas County has hosted ORTOSAs for the past four years. During that time teachers have completed stream assessments, learned surveying, developed riparian management plans, and conducted forest inventories.

This year, 3 of Oregon’s 17 ORTOSAs were hosted at the Hopkins Demonstration Forest. Teachers David Scharfenberg (Pleasant Valley Elementary School), Ruth Reno (Talk About Trees program in area schools), and Jason Pipkin (North Clackamas School District Schellenberg Vocational Forestry Program) worked with Extension Agent Mike Bondi to finalize logging plans for this fall’s harvest, conduct wildlife habitat assessments, and mark the Thinning and Pruning Research and Demonstration Area for its second entry treatment planned for next summer.

“This is a great experience for the teachers and an important source of help to get critical projects done at Hopkins. I have been fortunate to have a perfect place to work with the teachers. And, we are in a good location to provide a valuable opportunity for area teachers,” Bondi said.

Christmas Tree growers successful at legislature
This past Oregon Legislative session resulted in a new Extension position to support the Christmas tree industry in the state. Growers lobbied the Legislature to get the position specified in the state’s budget for Extension.

The new position will be a full-time specialist with responsibility for coordinating research and outreach education programs for the state’s fifth largest agricultural industry. Although many details for the position still need to be worked out, the expected location for the new staff person will be OSU’s North Willamette Research and Extension Center in Clackamas County.

Advertising for the new position is expected later this fall with interviews and selection of the successful candidate later this coming winter.
New Christmas Tree certification program emerges

Two of Oregon’s largest Christmas tree growers have joined forces to initiate their own environmental certification program for yule trees. The program attempts to establish standards for land stewardship and best management practices designed to ensure sustainable production of the crop.

Holiday Trees, Corvallis—Oregon’s largest Christmas tree producer—and Yule Tree Farms, Aurora—the state’s fifth largest producer—have ventured into the certification arena to improve the marketability of their production. They believe that most consumers still think that Christmas trees are cut from forestland and are not being sustainably produced.

Holiday and Yule hope other growers will join the effort to certify the crop in the northwest.

So, what’s the outlook for Christmas Tree sales this year?

Speaking of markets, this year’s sales season will be similar to last year. There continues to be more trees around than the market can support. Huge plantings 7-10 years earlier are creating the glut we now see. This market situation is expected to last at least another two or three years.

Markets for 5-6’, 6-7’ and 7-8’ nobles are soft. Markets for bigger nobles are strong. Doug prices are about the same as last year. Grand fir prices are good since supplies are limited.

What’s the answer? Aggressively market your trees. Work hard to keep those good customers and find new ones to replace ones you lose. Certification programs may be one answer to help in the marketplace. Consider direct marketing if you have an interest.

New Extension publications

EM 8752-E, Keeping Your Well Water Well (available only online), revised July 2007, 2 pages, no charge. Author: Gail Glick Andrews
http://extension.oregonstate.edu/catalog/html/em/em8752-e/


EC 1609, Tarif Access Tables: A Comprehensive Set, new August 2007, 28 pages, $4.00. Authors: Steve Bowers and Nate Coleman
http://extension.oregonstate.edu/catalog/pdf/ec/ec1609.pdf

Clackamas County Extension office burglarized

Sometime during the night of August 1st, burglars broke into the Extension office in Oregon City. The break in was discovered by Office Manager, Roxie Applebee, as she arrived at work the next morning. Staff was not allowed into the building until about noon, after police completed their investigation and search for evidence. The office was closed to the public for two days as staff cleaned, reorganized and identified missing items.

Five laptop computers and two digital cameras and a digital camcorder were stolen. The estimated value of these items is approximately $14,000. Two suspects were booked for the crime within four days following the incidence. Only the camcorder was recovered.

“These kind of events are certainly unnerving,” said Mike Bondi, Extension Staff Chair. “We’ve never had anything like this happen before. We feel like our space has been violated.”

The burglars tossed a concrete patio stone through an office window to gain entry.
Special District update
As the fall arrives, Extension’s work on forming a special district begins to pick up pace. On September 6 the Extension Service will visit with city mayors and managers from around the county about the County Commissioners’ plans to establish an Extension special district and the permanent tax base to fund services in the county.

Following the presentation, each of Clackamas County’s seventeen cities will be approached for approval to include their jurisdictions within the county-wide Extension special district boundary. Work on city approvals is targeted for completion by the first of the new year.

If successful in this step of the district formation process, the County Commissioners will hold public hearings about the proposal prior to moving forward and bringing the issue to a required vote within the county.

Anyone interested in getting involved in any of the coming Special District activities should contact Extension Staff Chair Mike Bondi at 503-655-8631.

Merrily Enquist wins award
She’s often the one handing out the awards, but this time Merrily was on the receiving end when she was presented with the Clackamas County Master Woodland Manager Volunteer of the Year Award at MWM Mini College in August. Merrily was honored for her outstanding volunteer achievements with just a few listed here:

- Providing exceptional leadership to Forests Forever, Inc. as a board member and the chairman of the recreation and trails committee
- Initiating the upgrade and improvement of the FFI website
- Providing excellent support to the Clackamas County Farm Forestry Association by spearheading the membership program

The list could be much longer. We congratulate Merrily on her many volunteer accomplishments, her dedication to forestry education, and her generous service to the woodland community.

Thank you Merrily!
Tree Farmer Recognition Banquet
Saturday, October 20 (6:00-9:00 pm)
Arrowhead County Club, 28301 S Hwy 213; Molalla

No host social hour at 6:00 pm          Dinner at 6:45 pm          Recognition Program at 7:30 pm
Buffet includes grilled salmon, chicken cordon bleu, side dishes and assorted dessert bars

Names of all attending

____________________________________________________________________________________________

Address ____________________________________________________________________________________
City____________________________________State_______________Zip _____________________________

Daytime Phone _______________________________________________________________________________

Registration is required. Cost is $20 per person. Please make checks payable to “CCFFA.” Mail this form and your payment to OSU Extension Service, 200 Warner Milne Road, Oregon City OR 97045. Please register by the deadline date, Monday, October 15.

A Few Forested Acres
Monday, Wednesday, Saturday   October 22, 24, 27 2007
Environmental Learning Center, Lakeside Hall, Clackamas Community College

Names of all attending

____________________________________________________________________________________________

Address ____________________________________________________________________________________
City____________________________________State_______________Zip _____________________________

Daytime Phone _______________________________________________________________________________
Email___________________________________________

Registration is required. Cost is $30 per family. Make checks payable to “OSU Extension Service.” Mail this form and your payment to OSU Extension Service, 200 Warner Milne Road, Oregon City OR 97045. Please register by the deadline date of Wednesday, October 17.