Extension District Passes!

The Clackamas County Extension and 4-H District passed with nearly 56% of voters approving its formation and funding on November 4th—a “landslide”, by political descriptions. Clackamas County becomes the first urban-suburban location in the state that has supported a local funding district for Extension. There are now 19 of Oregon’s counties that have formed Extension districts during the past 25 years. All other counties with districts are mostly in rural areas of the state.

The Extension and 4-H District in Clackamas County will provide stable and secure local funding and ensure the continued delivery of informal, practical education programs for farmers, homeowners, homemakers and youth throughout the county. Local Extension funding provides office space, clerical and program support staff, and program budgets for faculty serving the county. The new district and its funding will provide an opportunity to grow programs into the future as the county’s population grows to meet demands for service.

Funding for the new district will be limited to a maximum rate of $0.05 per $1,000 of assessed property value. Monies generated by the district funding tax can only be used for Extension in the county. The median house in the county will pay up to $10 to $12 per year for Extension at the maximum rate.

“We are very pleased to see the level of support in this county for the formation and funding of an Extension and 4-H District here,” said Mike Bondi, Extension Staff Chair. “Hundreds of Extension clients and volunteers have been leading the charge on our behalf. We can’t begin to thank people enough for their support.”

Bondi said the positive result for the Extension District vote demonstrates the value that citizens place on our agriculture and natural resource economy, local production of food and fiber, environmental stewardship, and the need for building capacity in 4-H youth and family programs.

Michael C. Bondi, Extension Agent—Forestry and Christmas Trees
Coming Programs, Meetings and Activities

Community Forestry Day

Saturday, November 8, 2008 (8:30am-4:00pm)
Hopkins Demonstration Forest, Beavercreek

Beneficial Finance Company, one of the largest financial institutions in the US, recently presented a $5,000 grant award to Forests Forever, Inc. during the Annual Meeting of the FFI Board of Directors. Beneficial, expanding its presence in the Portland area market has a strong focus on community support for local organizations. On November 8th, Beneficial is bringing up to 20 employees, families and friends to join in on a Community Forestry Day at Hopkins. The grant award will be used to purchase tools and supplies for FFI as a lasting benefit from Beneficial’s support.

We need woodland owners to work side-by-side with the Beneficial Team. Our guests are interested in learning more about Hopkins and the people who support this place, but also, in learning about you—the people who live on the land—and how woodland forestry happens. Can you join us?

The goals for the day will be to continue the first lift pruning on the 15 acre reforestation area (circa 1992) and now a young forest. This is the same area that Margaret Hopkins had clearcut just prior to her donation to Forests Forever. We are now getting this forest area ready for more intensive management in the future and the first commercial thinning there in the coming 8-10 years. Bring your favorite pruning tools, gloves, field gear, hard hat, and a good appetite for lunch.

Speaking of lunch, Chiyoko Honma returns to Hopkins to prepare lunch for the crew. Everyone always looks to these special meals…be ready for a great lunch. Please call 503-632-2150 to reserve your lunch spot with Tim and to find out any additional details for the day. See you on Saturday, November 8!

Extension District Ballot Measure Lawn Signs

If you have a lawn sign in your yard or you see one along the roadside, could you please pick them up and return them to the Extension office. We are placing all of the signs along the side of the building that has the small fenced in area with the satellite dish. The gate will be unlocked. Thank you to everyone who placed a lawn sign in your yard or at your business. Call the office if you have any questions, 503-655-8631.
Christmas Tree Workshop: A Grower’s Technology Economic Assessment Model (TEAM) for Specialty Crops

Part I: Wednesday, November 11 or Wednesday, January 14 (10:00am-2:00pm each day)  
Part II: Tuesday, January 20 (10:00am-2:00pm)  
North Willamette Research and Extension Center, Aurora

The Technology Economic Assessment Model (TEAM) is a computer program designed to help farmers make long-term decisions when considering implementing new technologies or evaluating cropping system changes. TEAM uses previously generated enterprise budgets to establish a baseline for analyzing potential profitability. This is a hands-on workshop in a computer lab setting where you can discover the value of this risk management tool.

Part I of the workshop is a training where you will learn the basics of TEAM including: opening and saving files, developing budgets, and developing analyses for specialty crop investments. Part II is an advanced TEAM training where you will use your knowledge gained in Part I to develop customized analyses of your operation. “What if” analyses and interpretation will be a feature of this training.

The cost of each session for this workshop will be $30 per person. Seating is limited due to the number of computer stations. Register early to save your place. Lead instructor will be Jim Julian, a faculty research assistant at NWREC. Contact Jim to register for these sessions at james.julian@oregonstate.edu or call 503-678-1264 x-117.

Managing Climate Change Risk in Forests: How we can use silviculture and genetics to minimize potential problems?

November 12, 2008  
Red Lion Hotel on the River, 909 N. Hayden Island Drive, Jantzen Beach, Portland

While debate swirls around us about the policies and politics of climate change, land managers must stay focused on our responsibility to maintain healthy and productive forests. Much of the discussion about forests and climate change has centered on carbon budgets and the possibilities of income from carbon credits. However, if projections by climatologists are accurate, forest landowners may have problems maintaining the health and productivity of their stands. The difficulty for land managers is that either under-reacting or over-reacting to the uncertainty about future climate can be disadvantageous — we need to strike a balance. This workshop takes a look at climate uncertainty in terms of managing risk.

After an introduction to the scientific basis for climate projections and possible implications, speakers will focus on what techniques land managers should consider to maintain forest health and productivity in the face of uncertainty.

Registration $195.00 the registration fee includes a book of speaker materials, lunch and refreshments, Questions call 888-722-9416 or 503-226-4562 or email michele@westernforestry.org, make checks payable to WFCA 4033 SW Canyon Rd Portland OR 97221 To register online, go to www.westernforestry.org
Oregon Tree Farm System Workshop

November 24, 2008 9:00-11:00am
World Forestry Center, Cheatham Hall, Portland

This workshop, scheduled the morning before the annual Oregon Tree Farmer of the Year Luncheon, will focus this year on forest certification and carbon marketing for family forest owners. The program includes:

- An update on Forest Certification for Family Forest Owners; Rick Fletcher, OSU Extension Forestry—Benton and Linn Counties
- An overview of Carbon Sequestration and Marketing; Mike Cloughesy, Oregon Forest Resources Institute, Portland
- An Introduction to the Woodland Carbon Corporation; Mike Gaudern, Woodland Carbon Corporation

The workshop is free of charge.

Oregon Tree Farmer Recognition Luncheon

November 24, 2008 (Noon-2:00pm)
World Forestry Center, Miller Hall, Portland

This annual luncheon program honors the county Tree Farmers of the Year selected from around the state. Each awardee will be featured in a video of their property. Following recognition of each county awardee, a western Oregon and an eastern Oregon winner will be announced. Finally, the state Tree Farmer of the Year will be announced. Oregon’s Tree Farmer of the Year represents the state in regional and, possibly national competitions.

Les and Shirley Farmer, Viola, Clackamas County Woodland Farmer of Year 2007 will represent us at the State this year. Good luck to the Farmers.

The luncheon cost is $25 per person. To register or for more information contact Dick Beers, at 541-687-1854 or e-mail: rbeers2606@comcast.net.
Diversifying Income Opportunities on Small Woodlands
In West Multnomah and Neighboring Areas
Saturday, December 6th, 9:00am-4:00pm
Portland Community College—Rock Creek Campus

Small woodland owners in Northwestern Oregon manage some of the most biologically rich forests in the world. By understanding the wide variety of new markets and incentive programs now available, woodland owners can translate that biological richness into diverse income opportunities.

West Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation District (WMSWCD) and partner groups will offer a one-day workshop to introduce landowners to a series of strategies and tools for maximizing the economic potential of conservation-based forest management. Speakers from companies and organizations in the Northwest that specialize in small woodland management, markets, and incentive programs will provide an overview of management strategies.

Topics addressed will include:
- Financial Assistance Programs for Small Woodland Owners;
- 2) Forestry-Based Carbon Credit Markets;
- 3) Small-scale Wood Product Manufacturing & Direct Sales;
- 4) Conservation Easements;
- 5) Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) Certification and Markets; and
- 6) other Environmental Certification.

Pre-registration is required. Contact Erica Stokes with West Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District at: registration@westmultconserv.org or 503-238-4775. Cost is $10.00 to cover lunch and the facility. Morning refreshments and speakers are free. Website: www.westmultconserv.org.

Community Forestry Day
Saturday, December 13, 2008 (8:30am-4:00pm)
Hopkins Demonstration Forest, Beavercreek

What a great way to end the year…a work day in the forest! Help is always appreciated. Work projects for December will depend on progress in November. Please put the December date on your calendar. Check in with Tim at the tree farm for plans, 503-632-2150. There could be some special tree planting action this month.
Tree Farmers Recognized

More than eighty attended the recent Tree Farmer Recognition Banquet on October 25 at the Arrowhead Country Club near Molalla. The evening event honored three Woodland Farmer nominees and an Evergreen Awardee. Below is a brief description for each of those recognized. The Recognition Banquet is sponsored each year by the Clackamas County Farm Forestry Association.

Paul Bishop—Jones Creek Tree Farm, Beavercreek

Paul’s property is well-known to many who see his very prominent Tree Farm signs and “planted” signs along Highway 213, just south of Oregon City and across the road from Evans Farm Nursery. Paul manages the remaining 80 acres of an original property homesteaded by his great-great grandfather. Paul’s ancestors spent most of their time clearing the land and farming. Paul has spent much of the past 30+ years on the property replanting trees and managing his forest.

Paul is known for many activities and areas of involvement in tree farming. But one of his special areas of interest has been truffle management in his forests. Paul inoculates his tree seedlings before planting and harvests and markets these fungal fruiting bodies. Paul has long been a member of the North American Truffle Society and regularly hosts “forays” where members and guests dig and identify truffles on his tree farm.

Boy Scouts of America—Butte Creek Ranch, Scotts Mills

This 650 acre property straddles the county line between Clackamas and Marion Counties. Owned since 1968, the Boy Scouts Cascade Pacific Council manages this camp for youth programs focused on outdoor camping and horseback riding activities. About 75 horses are resident at the ranch. More than 4,000 youth participate in programs throughout the year.

For the past ten years, the Ranch has been actively managed for timber production. During this time annual harvests have removed about 2 ¼ million board feet of timber. Most of these projects—covering more than 150 acres—have been hardwood conversions. Beautiful young and vigorously growing plantations are now being established. A forest management committee—including more than ten members and several professional foresters—oversees the forestry projects and make recommendations to the Council’s leadership. Butte Creek Ranch represents an excellent example of blending youth camping and horse management priorities with forestry opportunities.
John and Bernalou Rosebrook—Double WW Ranch, Beavercreek

The Rosebrooks have been on their 170 acre property for the past 30 years. This operation is primarily a cattle and feedlot ranch. But timber management is a big part of this story, too. About 70 acres of the ranch is now in timber, and the Rosebrooks have planted much of this land. Nearly all of their forest areas are Douglas-fir plantations. They have planted mostly lands not suitable for their cattle operation. They have logged some areas and replanted. They have established Christmas tree-timber conversion areas on the property, too.

John and Bernalou have worked hard to make sure their cattle and feedlot operation, doesn’t impact the environment. A good example is a catchment pond John built just below the main feedlot that captures overland flow and manure preventing contamination into Abernathy Creek. The Double WW Ranch provides an excellent example of integrating a livestock ranch with clear and significant forestry objectives.

Jack and Jean Carter—Deverell Property, Corbett

The Carters were Clackamas County Woodland Farmers of the Year in 2001. This year we recognize them again, for their continued stewardship of the land and their dedication to forestry and family forest landowner assistance. The Carters have owned their 78 acre property since 1990 and it is truly a model tree farm. (Picturesque, neat and tidy…obviously well-managed. Signs of good forestry and dedication.) Jack is a real student of intensive forestry and plantation management. He is caring for his young forest stands to produce about 4-5 rings per inch of radial growth. Older stands have been thinned at least twice commercially.

But Jack and Jean are probably best known to many in family forestry in Clackamas County for their active involvement in the Clackamas County Farm Forestry Association and for working closely with the Master Woodland Manager program. Many have attended Jack’s “Thinning for Profit” class at Tree School—all with rave reviews. Jack served as the CCFFA’s Program Committee Chair for more than 10 years and helped organized several key programs from forest product marketing sessions to a special two-day field study tour to Central Oregon to examine the forest fire situation there. Jack and Jean also provided important key leadership for the development of the CCFFA’s college scholarship program during the past 3 years.

Paul Bishop, was named Clackamas County Woodland Farmer of 2008 and will represent Clackamas County in the state’s tree farmer of the year competition in November 2009. Congratulations to all of our awardees this year. We had the opportunity to hear great tree farming stories. We look forward to next summer and several fascinating forestry tours to each of these farms.
News You Can Use...

FFI Classroom Raising Auction Report and Next Steps

The recent auction fundraiser for the new classroom and meeting building at the Hopkins Demonstration Forest added more than $6,000 to the project’s budget. The Forests Forever, Inc. Board of Directors has said they will begin construction on the building when enough money has been raised (including donated materials) to construct a weather-tight building. The designated fund amount to trigger construction is $150,000—or, one-half of the total project budget.

Currently, about $5,000 of fund raising remains to reach the $150,000 goal. The final permit process and design review requirements by the county are now in their last stages of approval. The plan is to finish the fundraising in this first stage of the project by the end of the year—and hopefully have all of the building approvals complete about the same time. Construction on the classroom and meeting building could begin as early as January 1.

For more information or to discuss any end-of-the-year giving possibilities, contact Ken Everett, FFI President, at 503-655-5524.

Special Thanks to Our Forestry Supporters

The recent effort to form an Extension and 4-H Service District has certainly brought a lot of people forward who support Extension in this county. We are very thankful for all of the time, talent and energy that many have provided. None of what was accomplished in the past several months would have been possible without this help.

Our Forestry Extension clients, volunteers and supporters made a special mark on this effort. A special thanks goes to Dan Green (Chair of the A Special District for Extension! PAC), Dick Caldwell (lead fundraiser for business contributors to the PAC), the Clackamas County Farm Forestry Association (for their $2,000 donation to the PAC), and Sign Posters and Area—Coordinators (Joe Grassl and Jim Wolf—Sandy, Walt Garvin Milwaukie, Gene and Lori King—Boring, Gilbert Shibley and John Foster—Estacada, Ken Everett—Colton, Jim Puffer—Canby, Lester Helming and Gayla Hansen—Molalla, Paul Bishop—Beavercreek, Jim Schreiber—Beavercreek/Highland/Oregon City, Sena Sanguinetti—Damascus/Carver/Clackamas, Thom Butts—West Linn/Stafford, and Craig Chisholm—Lake Oswego.

Also, Jean McCloskey and Linda Butts coordinated a letter-to-the-editor campaign that targeted all 13 newspapers in the county with weekly stories in each paper for the last six weeks prior to the election. Mitch Triplett handled email communications to forestry contacts with reminders to vote and other important information. And, Gayla Hansen and Scott Hanson each spoke on Extension’s behalf during the public hearing processes in the early-mid summer.

All of us in Extension really do appreciate all of the efforts of so many. Thank you.
Tree School Report

Looking for that perfect Christmas gift…how about a Tree School registration gift certificate? Plans for Tree School 2009 in Clackamas County are coming along nicely, thanks to Tree School Coordinator, Merrily Enquist. Merrily reports that she is starting to close in on class and instructor commitments and will have all of the information ready to go into the registration booklets by the end of this month. The registration cost for Tree School 2009 will remain the same as last year—$55 per person.

If you would like a registration gift certificate, contact the Extension office. Class registration is expected to begin about January 10, 2009.

Christmas Tree Marketing and the “Green” Message

Last year the Pacific Northwest Christmas Tree Association reached out with a marketing effort to potential Christmas tree consumers in the California area—the Northwest’s primary sales region for our trees. The effort focused on sharing a “green” message about our real trees and why the real tree is the right environmental choice for the holiday season. The project used a targeted media campaign using newspaper, magazine, radio and television outreach.

First year reports from the campaign were positive. More than 2,000,000 impressions were made through all of the media outlets. The plan is to continue the effort this year and try to expand into the Desert Southwest area—in particular, into Arizona. Extension will continue, again this year, to work with the Association to help with the television in-studio and radio news features.

New Extension Publications

Listed below are recent Extension publications. All are available on-line.


More Publications...


Other programs that you might be interested in....

The 4-H Youth Development program offers youth and adults opportunities that include forestry, GIS-GPS, lego robotics, wood science, large and small animals, arts, science and technology, home economics, and more!

If you are looking to join a 4-H club, start a club or even work with youth by becoming a leader, please call or e-mail Kelly at 503-655-8635 or kelly.redwine@oregonstate.edu. We have a New Leader Orientation coming up November 13, 2008 there are 2 classes that you can choose from 9am to 12 noon or in the evening 6:30pm to 9:30pm.

Family & Community Education program is a voluntary, non-profit organization with an educational mission. There are more than 850 members from all over Oregon ranging from ages 7 to 80+ years old. Most counties in Oregon have Study Groups that meet once a month from September to June. Each monthly meeting will have an informal educational lesson presented by one of the member or special guest speaker. Some of the up coming classes are Do we get enough sleep, What shade of Green are you, Cheeses of the world, and Are you ready? If you are interested in this exciting program contact Edgel Sudul at 503-665-3562 or eddiesu@aol.com

The Metro Master Gardener program provides relevant, research-based education and outreach to the public, about horticulture and household pests. This information promotes sustainable practices that minimize risks to human health and the environment. 2009 Master Gardener Training, will be held in Oregon City Fridays January 9-March 20, in Beaverton on Tuesdays January 6-March 17, and in NE Portland on Thursdays January 8-March 19. If you are interested in this program and have questions or would like to take the training contact Jordis Yost at 503-650-3118 or jordis.yost@oregonstat.edu.

The Family Food Educator program, is part of the cadre of trained Extension volunteers who share their skills and knowledge with others. Extension FFE volunteers are an important link to the community providing information to those interested in preserving Oregon’s abundant and healthy harvests. They learn about safe food preservation, food handling, kitchen cleanliness, food storage, pressure gauge testing. This is a fun and exciting hands-on training course. We are hoping to have FFE classes in spring If, you are interested contact Kim at 503-655-8631 or kim.salem@oregonstate.edu

Check out our website at http://extension.oregonstate.edu/clackamas/ to see what other programs we have to offer.
Upcoming Events information inside

Remember to collect the Extension Lawn Signs- Thank you

November 8   Hopkins Community Forestry Day
November 11 or Jan 14   Christmas Tree Workshop
November 12   Managing Climate Change Risk in Forest
November 24   Oregon Tree Farm System Workshop
November 24   Oregon Tree Farm Luncheon
December 6   Diversifying Income Opportunities on Small Woodlands
December 13   Hopkins Community Forestry Day