



# Country Living

Provided to you by the  
**OSU Extension Service Columbia County**  
505 N. Columbia River Hwy, St. Helens OR 97051  
Phone: 503.397.3462 ▪ Fax: 503.397-3467  
Email: [chip.bubl@oregonstate.edu](mailto:chip.bubl@oregonstate.edu)  
Office hours: Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
The office will be closed Fridays from Noon to 1 p.m.  
Website: <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/columbia/>

## November 2013

### Programs for you . . .

Listen to the Gardening Spot on KOHI (1600 am) radio - Every Saturday, 8:05 to 8:15 a.m.

- Nov. 5 ..... **Scappoose Bay Watershed Council**. 7 p.m., Scappoose Bay Watershed Council's office, Warren
- Nov. 7 ..... **Demonstration Garden and other MG Extension Projects Planning Meeting**. 3:00 p.m., OSU Extension Classroom, St. Helens
- Nov. 7 ..... **Master Gardener™ Board Meeting**. 3:30 p.m., OSU Extension Classroom, St. Helens
- Nov. 12 ..... **Lower Columbia Watershed Council**. 7 p.m., SWCD office-35285 Millard Rd., St. Helens
- Nov. 12 ..... **Beef Quality Assurance**. 4-7 p.m., Polk County Extension Office, Dallas, OR. For registration and more information - call 503-623-8395.
- Nov. 20 ..... **Soil & Water Conservation District**. 7:30 p.m., SWCD office-35285 Millard Rd., St. Helens
- Nov. 21 ..... **Field to Market: Harvesting, Displaying & Selling**. 5:30-9 p.m., \$15 fee. *How did you do at this year's farmers market?* Attend the next small farms workshop if you want to build on your success at next year's markets by learning best practices for harvesting, preserving freshness, market presentation, promotional ideas, engaging customers and building your farm's identity. Space is limited so don't wait to register and find more details here:  
<http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/497887>
- Nov. 28-29 ..... **Thanksgiving Holiday**, Extension Service office closed
- Dec. 4 ..... **Woodland Resource Fair**. 5:30-7 p.m., OSU Extension Classroom, St. Helens. Find out about various programs and sources of assistance available to small woodland owners, an informal open house format. Connect with local resource professionals, bring your questions and take home answers.
- Dec. 5 ..... **Master Gardener™ Board Meeting**. 10 a.m., OSU Extension Classroom, St. Helens



*Chip Bubl*

Chip Bubl, OSU Extension Faculty, Agriculture



Agriculture, Family and Community Development, 4-H Youth, Forestry, and Extension Sea Grant Programs. Oregon State University, United States Department of Agriculture, and Columbia County cooperating. The Extension Service offers its programs and materials equally to all people.

## In the garden

### Hazelnuts or filberts - can Steller's jays tell the difference?

A sharp-eyed Chronicle reporter recently noted that a filbert tree produced an inordinate number of filbert shells with no nuts in them. She wondered why. In addition, she wanted me to clear up questions swirling around the names hazelnut and filbert. So first, the name. I was born in the Willamette Valley. I grew up calling these tasty nuts filberts. Most Oregonians cannot use the “other” name without a certain hesitation.



But are filberts the same as hazelnuts? Are they different? Here is what I know. All filberts or hazelnuts are in the genus *Corylus*. This genus is found throughout the Northern Hemisphere from North America to Eurasia. They were important in early Greek medicine and seem to have been cultivated for ~2-4,000 years or more. The “wild hazelnut” common to Columbia County is *Corylus cornuta*. The nuts were eaten by the the native American populations and were a significant source of food. The European hazelnut species *Corylus avellana* was the source for the *Barcelona* variety, the mainstay of the Oregon industry until recently. Virtually all the first varieties grown in Oregon came through Europe. There they are called in France (noisette), Spain (avellana), Italy (nocciola), and Germany (haselnuss). English is a complex mix of Germanic and Romance language words. In England, the Germanic side won and it became the hazelnut.

Filbert appears to be a word that got stuck to hazelnuts in England (and perhaps, France) where it coexisted with hazelnut. It is thought to have derived from St. Philibert day, one of the many saints' days that populated calendars of the time. St. Philibert lived in France in the seventh century. The day he is honored is either August 20 or 22 (traditions vary) which is about the time filberts are ripe in some parts of Europe. There is an unverifiable rumor that an adventurous (early 1800s) French settler/trapper in the northern Willamette valley brought some “filberts” to be planted and the name stuck. A.M. Gray went to Philadelphia with bags of Oregon filberts in the early 1900's (the crop was just starting to gain traction) where he found a ready reception for his crop. By then, the east coast hazel/filbert industry had been destroyed by Eastern filbert blight. He became an evangelist for Oregon filberts and by 1923, western Oregon had 10,000 acres. His comment on the name is as follows: “The only difference between the filbert and the wild hazel is what care and selection have produced during a period of 2000 years”. Currently, Oregon has 29,000 acres of hazelnuts.

Since we market our filberts to Europe and the Far East and since most of the world knows them (in English) as hazelnuts, our industry (which produces 98% of the US filberts) made a conscious effort to get the name hazelnuts stuck to our crop. So basically, this is a long way of saying that all filberts are hazelnuts but not all hazelnuts are filberts. I am adjusting well.

Crows, jays, and a few other birds love hazelnuts. In every hazelnut crop, there are a percentage of nuts that are “blanks”. In other words, there is a shell but no nut inside. The reasons for the blanks are poorly understood. Pollination weather (in the late winter) certainly plays a role. So does mineral nutrition of the tree. Homeowners

may start to harvest their filberts only to find that most of them are blanks. They wonder what went wrong with the tree. What went wrong is that there were probably 5-20% blanks. But the crows and jays can tell the blanks from the shells with nut meat inside and they grabbed all the good ones first. They will harvest a tree in a day or two, usually well before the nuts start to drop naturally. The only answer is to have lots of trees and perhaps start picking them by hand (instead of waiting for them to drop) when you first see jays or crows there. They know when they are ripe. It is also clear that they prefer our cultivated types to the smaller wild hazelnut.

## **Weeds of the Month: Ornamental plants that can become weedy**

Gardeners like to share showy plants that are easy to grow. But sadly, many of these plants are not good neighbors. They spread without much help and can be a real problem in natural areas and other locations. Here is a list of ornamental plants that have escaped in western Oregon. Most have been found in Columbia County.

### **Annuals and biennials**

Policeman's helmet, jewelweed, or Himalayan balsam (*Impatiens glandulifera*)

Garlic mustard (*Alliaria petiolata*)

Fennel (*Foeniculum vulgare*)

### **Herbaceous perennials**

Bishop's weed (*Aegopodium podagraria*)

Knapweeds (*Centurea sp.*)

Knotweed species (*Fallopia sp.*)

Giant hogweed (*Heracleum mantegazzianum*)

Star of Bethlehem (*Ornithogalum arabicum*)

Chinese lantern (*Physalis alkekengi*)

Lesser celandine (*Ranunculus ficaria*)

Italian arum (*Arum italicum*)

Virginia jumpseed (*Persicaria virginiana*)  
'Painter's Palette'

Yellow flag iris (*Iris pseudocarus*)

Yellow archangel (*Lamium galeobdolon*)

### **Woody perennials**

Butterfly bush (*Buddleia davidii*)

Purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*)

Running bamboo (*Phyllostachys sp.*)

English ivy (*Hedera helix*)

English holly (*Ilex aquifolium*)

Princess tree or Paulownia (*Paulownia tomentosa*)

Chinese elm (*Ulmus parvifolia*)

Old Man's Beard (*Clematis vitalba*)

Great and small periwinkle (*Vinca major and minor*)

Spurge laurel (*Daphne laureola*)

This list does not include many of the recent aquatic invasive plants (often pond and/or aquarium refugees) nor invasive ornamental grasses.

If you are removing invasive ornamentals, don't dump the plants somewhere. Make sure they are destroyed. There is a lot of evidence that landscape cleanup projects have resulted in significant new weed invasions.





## *That's the Way it Grows*

### **New Grass!**

About 20 or so years ago, I used to drive by a lady's house on my way home every day. It seemed that every time I passed by, she was bent over in her yard, hand-picking weeds from her grass. I drove past her house a lot, as we lived a few streets beyond, and always saw her with a handful of undesirable grasses that she had plucked from her lawn. We used to joke that she tweezed her lawn.

We recently leveled and seeded an area that had been the site of my garden mulch pile for the last five years. I finally used all the mulch up and didn't get more this year. I simply was tired of walking around the pile and decided that I would plant some grass, even if it only lasted until spring, when I get another load of mulch.

So I had a flat, bare area just begging for some new grass. Now, the new grass is putting the rest of the lawn to shame. It's so soft and pretty, and I just have to pet it when I go outside. There are a few weeds in the new grass, so I go out and pluck a few now and then, while they are still small.

I used to chuckle at the lady who tweezed her lawn, but I understand now, and I probably make the neighbors chuckle a bit, too.

### **Just Being**

I find myself looking forward to winter, to the "dormant" season, when I can sit back and relax, not have to harvest or deadhead or prune or mow anything. I like a little dormant time myself.

To me, fall is the time to put the garden to bed, to pull a cozy blanket of protection over the soil, tuck a warm layer of mulch around my favorite plants, and then settle back for a long winter's rest.

During these beautiful fall days full of sunshine, I spend a lot of time staring at the amazing color show fall puts on. Leaves lose their chlorophyll in preparation for winter and their true colors come out. Reds and golds and oranges pop out everywhere, contrasting deeply with vibrant green

lawns newly resuscitated from summer's drought. It's a beautiful sight, yet I can't fail to notice all the work that I have yet to do before the winter rains start.

So I don my gardening clothes and tick off the dozen or so jobs I need to get done that day, quickly realizing that I might get only one or two of them done. So I jog back and forth to the shed, I rush with the pruners, I hurry with the spading fork.



And I miss the joy of being.

I have to remind myself to stop and watch the geese fly by overhead, to watch the cats battle over the last of the grasshoppers, to wonder over the discovery of deer eating my apple trees and fall peas. I stop and turn my face to the mixture of sun and crisp breeze, run my fingers over the velvety new grass I planted and just sit and watch it grow.

It is then that I remember how much I love the fall garden, breathing in the crisp air and feeling the bite of cold on my nose. Magically, my list of chores becomes irrelevant.

As I winter-prune my rose bushes, I look forward to next summer, when I can touch the velvety blooms. As I plant iris divisions, I imagine how beautiful they will look in May. As I prune back raspberries, I think about how luscious next year's berries will be, fresh off the vine. As I rake leaves from beneath my fruit trees, I can't wait to taste next year's first juicy, ripe peach.

Fall gardening isn't work, it's a celebration. Of life, of nature, of all the work you put in since spring, and the changes you've wrought since you started on your particular plot of land. It can be a joyous experience between you, your garden, and nature. Just being.

—Lisa M. Long

*Columbia County Master Gardener™*

Compost, rock and bark dust delivered; 397-2989

# NOVEMBER 2013

## Garden hints from your OSU Extension Agent

Oregon State University Extension Service encourages sustainable gardening practices. Always identify and monitor problems before acting. First consider cultural controls; then physical, biological, and chemical controls (which include insecticidal soaps, horticultural oils, botanical insecticides, organic and synthetic pesticides). Always consider the least toxic approach first.

All recommendations in this calendar are not necessarily applicable to all areas of Oregon. For more information, contact your local office of the OSU Extension Service.

### Planning

- Force spring bulbs for indoor blooms in December.

### Maintenance and Clean Up

- All of Oregon: Service lawn mower prior to winter.
- Check potatoes in storage and remove any going bad.
- Place a portable cold frame over rows of winter vegetables.
- Place mulch around berries for winter protection.
- Cover rhubarb and asparagus beds with composted manure and straw.
- Rake and compost leaves that are free of diseases and insects. Use mulches to prevent erosion and compaction from rain.
- Protect built-in sprinkler systems: Drain the system, insulate the valve mechanisms.
- Clean and oil lawnmower, other garden equipment and tools before storing for winter. Drain and store hoses carefully to avoid damage from freezing. Renew mulch around perennial flower beds after removing weeds.
- Protect tender evergreens from drying wind.
- Tie limbs of upright evergreens to prevent breakage by snow or ice.
- Trim chrysanthemums to 4 to 6 inches after they finish blooming.
- Leave ornamental grasses up in winter to provide winter texture in the landscape. Cut them back a few inches above the ground in early spring.
- Last chance to plant cover crops for soil building. You can also use a 3- to 4-inch layer of leaves, spread over the garden plot, to eliminate winter weeds, suppress early spring weeds and prevent soil compaction by rain.
- Watch for wet soil and drainage problems in yard during heavy rains. Tiling, ditching, and French drains are possible solutions. Consider rain gardens and bioswales as a long term solution.
- Take cuttings of rhododendrons and camellias for propagation; propagate begonias from leaf cutting
- Prune roses to "knee-high" to prevent winter wind damage.

### Planting/Propagation

- Plant window garden of lettuce, chives, parsley.
- Good time to plant trees and shrubs. Consider planting shrubs and trees that supply food and shelter to birds; e.g., sumac, elderberry, flowering currant, and mock orange.
- Still time to plant spring-flowering bulbs, such as tulips, daffodils, hyacinths, crocuses. Don't delay.
- Good time to plant garlic for harvest next summer, and to transplant landscape trees and shrubs.

### Pest Monitoring and Management

- Monitor landscape plants for problems. Don't treat unless a problem is identified.
- Rake and destroy leaves from fruit trees that were diseased this year. Remove and discard mummified fruit.
- Check firewood for insect infestations. Burn affected wood first and don't store inside.
- Treat peaches 4 weeks after leaf fall spray for peach leaf curl and shothole diseases.
- Moss appearing in lawn may mean too much shade or poor drainage. Correct site conditions if moss is bothersome.
- Bait garden, flower beds for slugs during rainy periods. Use traps or new phosphate baits, which are pet-safe.

### Houseplants and Indoor Gardening

- Reduce fertilizer applications to houseplants.





**The Grapevine**  
 News for Columbia County Master Gardeners™  
[www.columbiacountymastergardeners.org](http://www.columbiacountymastergardeners.org)



**November 2013**

Deadline for THE GRAPEVINE - All materials will need to be into the OSU Extension office no later than the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month.

**President's Corner**

Greetings Gardeners - Just when it looked like the rain was here to stay, Mother Nature fooled us again. I'm not complaining about all of the dry sunny weather because I still have a lot of unfinished jobs outside.

We did take a day off to go to the All About Fruit show at the Canby Fairgrounds. What a great day! I got some apples identified and sampled others that were on my "Do I really need this?" list.

One Green World had their booth there and was passing out samples of juices and other delights. My wife and I were both impressed with the Honeyberry juice - it was delicious. I also sampled Cornelian Cherry Gelato and Paw Paw Gelato - both were delightful. Since my bride can't have dairy, she tried some Seaberry Sorbet - and said it was fantastic.

Now I have my One Green World catalogue out and contemplating where to start. That's the great thing about gardening - the fun and new things never end.

Happy Gardening!

--Dennis Snyder

**Mason Bee Wash - A Success**



The New Bug Crew is happy with the turnout for the Mason Bee Wash. We washed over 500 cocoons and met some great bee-friendly people who had learned a lot about bees, but were just confused about how to tear apart a straw or dig cocoons out of a tray. No one wants to hurt a bee! We had many thanks and are looking forward to next year. Watch for the notices next October.

-New Bug Crew

<b>Calendar: At-A-Glance</b>	
Nov. 7 .	Demonstration Garden and other MG Extension Projects Planning meeting, 3:00 p.m., Extension office
Nov. 7 .	Board Meeting, 3:30 p.m. Extension office
<u>Note – No Chapter Meeting in November or December</u>	
Dec. 5..	Board Meeting, 3:30 pm Extension office

**Election Results - 2014 Officers:**

- ✓ President – Dennis Snyder
- ✓ Vice-President – Wes Bevans
- ✓ Treasurer – Gail Martyn
- ✓ Secretary – Kim Tupper
- ✓ Historian – Kit Gardes
- ✓ State OMGA Rep – Kathy Johnson
- ✓ Alt. State OMGA Rep – Larry Byrum



Thank You All!

<b>Master Gardeners Contacts</b>	
<b>Officers for 2013</b>	
<u>Title</u>	<u>Name</u>
President.....	Dennis Snyder
Vice President ....	Chuck Petersen
Past President .....	LeRoy Schmidt
Secretary.....	Debbie Broberg
Treasurer .....	Gail Martyn
Historian.....	Zelda Anderson
OMGA Rep.....	Andy Thayer
OMGA Alt. Rep. ....	Kathy Johnson
Demo Garden .....	Dennis Snyder
Spring Fair.....	Kathy Johnson
<b>CCMG website:</b>	<a href="http://www.columbiacountymastergardeners.org">www.columbiacountymastergardeners.org</a>
Webmaster .....	Larry Byrum
<b>OSU Extension Service:</b>	
Extension Faculty.....	Chip Bubl
Secretary.....	Vicki Krenz
<b>Guide to Plant Disease Control:</b>	
OSU.....	<a href="http://plant-disease.ippc.orst.edu">http://plant-disease.ippc.orst.edu</a>

# Farm and livestock notes

## Sheep topics

For many sheep farms west of the Cascades, October and November are prime breeding months. Make sure your rams are up to snuff. While we have had some good asture weather for the last several months, cooler weather and shorter days are here so grass growth will slow fairly dramatically. Start feeding hay before you push your pastures too far down.

Sheep do fit our yearly grass growth cycle exceptionally well. Lmbs are ready to consume grass before calves start eating much. With good pastures, you can have the lambs weaned as 80# feeders and off to market in late June. This allows more time for the ewes to recover condition and puts less stress on the pastures. So with an average lambing survival rate of 1.25 lambs per ewe and seven 150# ewes weighing (and eating) as much as one British breed cow, the ewes ( $7 \times 1.25 \times 80\# = 700$  pounds of lamb) will outproduce a cow ( $1 \times .85 \times 550 = 468$ ) in meat by quite a bit and it usually takes until October to get that weight on a calf.



Sheep (and goats) can also improve pastures. They will eat tansy ragwort with no ill effect. Blackberry starts and the edges of larger clumps will be consumed by both sheep and goats. Their manure and urine is more evenly distributed over pastures. And both species can be managed in a rotation grazing system without much difficulty if you have good fencing controls.

Sheep producers across the country are invited to participate in a four-session webinar series that is designed to help them explore the feasibility of marketing lamb and

mutton to ethnic consumers. The series is free.

The purpose of this multi-state effort is to equip sheep producers with skills and knowledge for effective marketing of sheep/lamb meat to ethnic communities in their respective market areas. This outreach will be accomplished via a webinar series (broadcast live and then archived) and will be supplemented by readings, self-driven activities, assignments and group discussions. At the end, participants should be able to: (1) Identify lamb-consuming ethnic populations. (2) Learn about the ethnic consumers demand for lamb and mutton and any special requirements (3) Evaluate their production system to determine needed changes in breed(s), carcass size, lambing time and or management to meet this market if deemed feasible. (4) Adapt or create an ethnic marketing plan as a part of a business plan for their sheep operation. Each session is scheduled for 60-90 minutes in length and includes time for questions. Each session is scheduled to begin at 7:00 pm (eastern) and will feature sheep marketing experts. The schedule for the free webinar series is as follows:

- Session 1 – Ethnic Market Background, Tuesday, Nov. 19, 2013;
- Session 2 – Understanding the Ethnic Consumer, Tuesday, Nov. 26, 2013;
- Session 3 – Understanding & Evaluating Your Market Options Tuesday, Dec. 3, 2013; and
- Session 4 – Your Marketing Plan, Tuesday, Dec. 10, 2013.

All sessions will be archived for later viewing. This series will also be useful for goat producers. To register for this free series and for more information about specific sessions, instructors and other related information go to <http://umaine.edu/livestock/sheep/ethnic-marketing-of-lamb-and-mutton>

## 2014 OSU/Columbia Master Gardener™ Class Will Be Held in Vernonia (again)

After twenty-one years of having the Master Gardener classes in St. Helens, Vernonia hosted the class in 2010. It was a wonderful class. After discussion with a number of people, we have decided to come back to Vernonia for the 2014 class. The classes will be held in Vernonia each Thursday from about 9:30 am – 3 p.m. starting March 6<sup>th</sup> 2014; there will be about 10 class days on successive weeks. Classes will start in March to avoid the worst weather and will go through early May. Cost of the class series will still be \$75. Gardeners from all parts of the county are welcome.

The classes will cover vegetable and fruit gardening, soils and fertilizers, insect and disease identification and management, weed identification and management, and lots of other topics of interest to gardeners.

Payback projects (an obligation for all Master Gardeners™) will be focused in the Vernonia area and nearby communities. If you are interested in the Vernonia OSU Master Gardener program, please call the Extension office 503 397-3462 to get more information and to get on the mailing/email list.



---

Oregon State University Extension Service offers educational programs, activities, and materials—without discrimination to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, age, marital status, disability, or disabled veteran or Vietnam-era veteran status—as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Oregon State University Extension Service is an Equal Opportunity Employer. OSU Extension programs will provide reasonable accommodation to persons with physical or mental disabilities. Contact the Columbia County Extension office at 503.397.3462 to request reasonable accommodation.

Presorted Non Profit  
Bulk Rate  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
St. Helens, OR  
Permit #002

Oregon State University  
Columbia County OSU Extension Service  
505 N. Columbia River Highway  
St. Helens, OR 97051  
Return Service Requested