



A newsletter for those interested in Forestry, Woodland Management and Christmas Trees in Northwest Oregon

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At long last, summer seems to be here. I'm putting together this newsletter on the first 90-degree day of the year and more hot weather is forecast for the coming days. A couple of weeks ago, when the rain seemed never ending, it was hard to believe that fire might be a concern. Think again. Our unusually wet spring/early summer created great growing conditions for herbaceous and shrubby plants. As the weather turns to hot and dry, all that understory material will be drying out. So let's be extra-vigilant this season to prevent unintended fire. On that subject, see an article later in this newsletter about maintaining a fire-safe home.

There are a lot of educational programs coming up in the next few months, as you'll read in the coming pages. There's something for everyone: informal tree farm tours, hands-on skill building sessions, and classroom-based workshops planned for later in the year when the dark and damp days return. I hope you'll take some time to attend an event that appeals to you. Many woodland owners who participate in organized Extension programs comment that the opportunity to converse and share experiences with fellow owners is equally (or more) valuable as the program itself. As a presenter, I won't take that personally; in fact, I agree that often the best source of information or advice might be another person who has been in your shoes.

One event I'm excited about is a Forest Owners' Field Day being planned for August 28<sup>th</sup> just across the river in Woodland, Washington. Our counterparts in Washington State have hosted successful field days every summer for many years, and we are looking forward to making this one a bi-state event accessible to people from both sides of the river. There will be a smorgasbord of outdoor sessions to attend, vendors and exhibitors, and ample opportunities for learning and socializing. Very few details are available at press time, but for now, mark your calendar and watch for a mailing and details on our website.

## New Publications and Resources

### Planting Native Oak in the Pacific Northwest

By Warren Devine and Connie Harrington, US Forest Service

This 32-page publication is a practical guide for landowners and managers who are interested in re-establishing native oak by planting seedlings. It can be downloaded at [http://www.fs.fed.us/pnw/pubs/pnw\\_gtr804.pdf](http://www.fs.fed.us/pnw/pubs/pnw_gtr804.pdf). Print copies can be ordered from the Forest Service by calling (503) 808-2138.



### Oregon Forest Atlas

The Oregon Forest Atlas project was developed in 2010 to provide the public with a broader understanding of Oregon's forests using contemporary technology. The Forest Atlas consists of state maps developed with Geographic Information Systems (GIS) data obtained from several public sources. The maps show satellite imagery, geology, forestland ownership class, historic (1850's) vegetation, site productivity, and more. The Oregon Forest Atlas can be viewed online at [http://www.oregon.gov/ODF/RESOURCE\\_PLANNING/forestatlas.shtml](http://www.oregon.gov/ODF/RESOURCE_PLANNING/forestatlas.shtml).

### Fallers Logging Safety Booklet

The Oregon Health & Sciences University has developed a Fallers' Logging Safety manual. This publication was initially developed as a safety manual to help train new timber fallers, the most dangerous job in Oregon. The manual is also an excellent source of information for woodland owners utilizing a chainsaw by covering information on assessing an area and a tree, establishing a safe work area, felling the tree, and getting in the clear. It also includes a glossary of terms. Free copies are available at both the Columbia and Washington County Extension Offices during business hours – first come, first served until the supply runs out.

### Oregon Dept. of Fish & Wildlife Guidelines for Relocation of Beaver in Western Oregon

Many land managers and biologists are interested in putting beavers to work restoring riparian areas and creating fish and wildlife habitat, and relocating beavers from areas where they cause economic damage to areas desired for restoration is one option. However, moving beavers between locations is not a trivial matter. To aid those interested in harnessing beaver power, ODFW has issued a new set of guidelines that details the standards for moving the species on the landscape. The new guidelines are for western Oregon. Find them on the agency's website, [http://www.dfw.state.or.us/wildlife/living\\_with/beaver.asp](http://www.dfw.state.or.us/wildlife/living_with/beaver.asp). For more information about other options for beaver management, see *Living With Wildlife: American Beaver* on the same webpage.



### Kudos...



Congratulations to the Washington County-based **Oregon Woodland Cooperative!** In June, the Co-op received notice that they have been awarded a three-year, \$150,000 grant from the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture's Rural Development Program. The grant will assist the Co-op's efforts to process and market non-timber forest products from Co-op member lands. For more information about the Co-op see their website, [www.orwoodlandco-op.com](http://www.orwoodlandco-op.com).

Also congratulations to newly-elected Oregon Small Woodlands Association officers from Washington County: **Scott Hayes (President-Elect), and Dallas Boge (Treasurer).**

## Upcoming Events



### ***Columbia County Summer Woodland Tour***

***Saturday, July 17<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 am***

#### ***Clatskanie***

Co-sponsored by Columbia County Small Woodlands Association and OSU Extension Service. Tour and discussion will feature hardwood conversion, conifer release, and other topics. RSVP for lunch to Bill or Lydia Stennick, (503) 556-2014 by July 9<sup>th</sup>. See more details on page 4.

### ***Women Owning Woodlands Network (WOWNet) – Tool Sharpening***

***Saturday, July 24<sup>th</sup>, 10 am – 1 pm***

#### ***Gaston***

More details on page 5 of this newsletter.

### ***Conservation Programs for Small Woodland Owners***

***Monday, July 26<sup>th</sup>, 1:00 – 5:00 pm***

#### ***Ridgefield, WA***

Sponsored by Northwest Natural Resources Group. For information: Kirk Hanson, (360) 316-9317, [kirk@nnerg.org](mailto:kirk@nnerg.org).

### ***Washington County Small Woodlands Association Tree Farmer of the Year Tour and Picnic***

***Saturday, July 31<sup>st</sup>, 10:00 am***

#### ***Mulholland Tree Farm, Gaston***

Tour will highlight thinning, new plantings, and a sawmill demo, For details and directions, contact Jim Brown, (503) 284-6455.

### ***NW Oregon/SW Washington Forest Owners' Field Day***

***Saturday, August 28<sup>th</sup>***

#### ***Woodland, WA***

Whether you own a “home in the woods” or many acres of forest land, there is something for everyone at this “out-in-the-woods” educational event. Multiple ongoing talks and demonstrations, exhibitors, and a chance to socialize with other woodland owners from around the region. Co-sponsored by WSU Extension, OSU Extension, Washington DNR, OFRI, and others. Save the date – and contact the Extension office soon for more details and registration information.

### ***Pacific Logging Congress “Live in the Woods” Show***

***September 15<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup>***

#### ***Clatskanie***

For more information, see [www.pacificloggingcongress.com](http://www.pacificloggingcongress.com). Volunteer guides are sought to accompany school groups on tours of the site (see page 7).

### ***Ties to the Land***

***Tuesday, October 19<sup>th</sup> (and January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2011), 6:00 pm – Rainier (tentative)***

***Tuesday, October 26<sup>th</sup> (and January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2011), 6:00 pm - Beaverton***

This two-part workshop focuses on succession planning for family-owned, land-based enterprises. If you plan to transfer your woodland to the next generation, or are likely to inherit family land, the communication and planning skills presented in this workshop will be invaluable. To be taught concurrently at locations throughout Oregon in fall/winter 2010-11. More details to come.



**Columbia County Small Woodlands Association  
Oregon State University Extension Service  
Jointly Sponsored Summer Woodland Tour ~ July 17<sup>th</sup>, 2010 @ 9:00 AM**

**Columbia County Small Woodlands Association** and **Oregon State University Extension Service** are co-sponsoring a Summer Tree Farm Tour & Lunch on **Saturday, July 17<sup>th</sup>, 2010**. Our hosts will be Tony and Nancy Morrow who have a tree farm on the outskirts of Clatskanie, Oregon. The Morrows have owned their 56-acre farm for 5 years. Clearcut and then neglected by the previous owner, the site is dominated by maple clumps, unmanaged alders and blackberry brambles. Now the Morrows are “renovating” the site to suit their objective of growing a healthy, diverse and financially productive forest.

Amy Grotta, OSU Extension Forester for Columbia and Washington Counties, will lead the tour. We will explore how decisions regarding what materials to remove and what to leave behind will affect the future growth and “look” of the forest. Also, are these treatments financially neutral or for a small profit? What outside resources are available to help the landowner?

This tour promises to be most informative. Lunch following the tour at the Quincy Grange is free for CCSWA members. Non-members are welcome to stay for lunch but a small donation to the grange is requested. Please plan to attend and **RSVP to Bill & Lydia Stennick at 503-556-2014 or [bill45lydia54@msn.com](mailto:bill45lydia54@msn.com) by July 9<sup>th</sup>**.

***Driving Directions to the Morrows’: 77251 Birch Lane, Clatskanie, OR:***

Entering Clatskanie from West-bound Hwy. 30 - Turn Right onto Van St. at Johnson Feed Store. (WATCH FOR THE YELLOW AND GREEN “TREE TOUR” SIGNS AT THE INTERSECTIONS.)

Go North, one block to stop sign. Proceed straight ahead; street name changes to Haven Acres Rd. The road winds up hill and around to a stop sign. Make a Rt at the stop sign.

Continue up the hill. When you come to a 'Y', make a hard left to stay on Haven Acres Rd.

Continue winding up the hill to another 'Y'. Bear left, and continue up the hill to Birch Lane.

Turn Left on Birch Lane and continue straight past the houses, bear right until road's end. Yellow house, brown roof.

If coming from East-bound Hwy 30, go through town to Van St. (Johnson Feed Store) and make a left. Then continue with above directions.

***To Quincy Grange: drive west on Hwy 30 to Clatskanie and turn right at the light by Hump’s on to Nehalem St, turn left at NW 5<sup>th</sup> which becomes Beaver Falls Rd. Go approx. 3 miles and turn left onto Quincy-Maygar Rd. Go ½ mile to Rutters Rd. Turn sharp right in front of the old grade school and Go 400’ to the Grange Hall.***

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. OSU Extension will provide reasonable accommodation to persons with physical or mental disabilities. Contact Columbia County Extension Office at 503-397-3462 to request reasonable accommodation.

**Woodland Tour & Tool Sharpening**  
**Mt. Richmond Forest – Gaston**  
**July 24<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 am – 1:00 pm**

**DETAILS**

**Mt. Richmond Forest**  
**Pam and Peter Hayes**  
**13600 NW Ford Rd.**  
**Gaston, OR 97119-8006**

RSVP: (503) 397-3462 or  
[amy.grotta@oregonstate.edu](mailto:amy.grotta@oregonstate.edu)

Call or email for driving directions, or find map  
at:

<http://womenowningwoodlands.blogspot.com>

**AGENDA**

Keeping your tools well maintained and sharp will make your work easier, lengthen the life of your tools, and help reduce the spread of disease and invasive weeds.

During this session we will practice cleaning, maintaining and sharpening our forest tools. We will also take a walk around the Mt. Richmond forest to get a glimpse into the unique Hayes management strategy.

Bring any tools or kitchen knives, something to sit on, and your willingness to practice.

There will be a potluck lunch after the session. Please bring a dish that does not require heating or refrigeration, as there is no electricity at the venue.



**Women Owning Woodlands Network was formed by Oregon State University Extension Service and local groups of women woodland owners who wanted to:**

- Recognize the growing number of women taking a wide array of active woodland management roles.
- Raise basic forestry and decision-making skills through hands-on activities.
- Support and increase women's access to forestry-related information and encouraging communication through state and local networks.

*Agriculture, 4-H Youth, Family & Community Development, 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.*

## Q and A: Tailhold Trees?

Beginning with this newsletter, I'm starting a new feature. The Extension Service office fields lots of calls and emails about trees, forests, and forestry. While many of the inquiries are repeats ("where can I buy seedlings?" is probably the question I get the most), some raise questions that I bet would be interesting to many of you. I've decided to choose an interesting question from the past few months, and a follow-up answer, in my newsletter. As always, I welcome your feedback as to whether this feature is useful to you.

This edition's Q and A:

### Q:

Our land is adjacent to company timberland which is about to be logged. The harvest unit is steep and bisected by a riparian area, and the logging contractor would like to use trees on our property as tailholds for their cable yarding setup. They offered to pay us for the trees, but since these are the largest trees on our property we are reluctant for them to be cut or damaged. Should we trust the contractor's assertion that the trees will not be damaged?

### A.

First of all, a definition for those who are unfamiliar with the term "tailhold". In cable logging, the tailhold is one of the end anchor points for the skyline or cable which is suspended over steep terrain. The tailhold is at the opposite end of the system from the yarder, and might be a stump, large tree, or piece of equipment. If a standing tree is used for the tailhold and protective measures are not taken, the weight of the cables can partially girdle the tree, which can cause it to die years after the logging is completed.

Steve Bowers, OSU Extension Forester in Douglas County (and better known to many of you as the Treeman) offered these additional suggestions: If the survival of these trees is important, the landowner can require the logger to protect them with inner tubes, plastic culvert, protective plates, or some other material. Better yet, put this in a written agreement and require compensation for any tree that shows excessive damage after the operation. Also, be aware that the logger is probably offering to pay the landowner for the value of the tree at the mill – which may be quite different (lower) from the intrinsic value of the tree if left on site. If you decide to accept payment for the tailhold trees, think carefully about what payment is appropriate for you. Finally, remember that you are the landowner and you can always say "no".

## Tick Season

Only one kind of tick in Oregon carries Lyme disease, but distinguishing it from the other three species that prey on humans can be difficult. For that reason, Philippe Rossignol, professor in the fisheries and wildlife department at Oregon State University, recommends first contacting OSU Extension county offices to help identify ticks.

About 20 species of hard ticks are found in Oregon, but only four are known to prey on humans. The western black-legged tick is the only known carrier of Lyme disease in Oregon. "It is believed that only about one to five percent of western black-legged ticks actually carry the bacterium responsible for Lyme disease," Rossignol said.

In Oregon, adult ticks are active primarily in the spring and early summer, but also can be found in the fall. A publication called "Identifying Adult Hard Ticks Commonly Found on Humans in Oregon," provides additional information and the following advice on how to remove attached ticks as soon as possible. It is online at <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/catalog/html/em/em8410-e/>

## Wildfire Research Brings About Updated Firewise Recommendations

This spring, I took part in a two-day Columbia County Firewise Communities Training sponsored by the Oregon Department of Forestry. The fact that such an extensive training program was delivered here, in one of the least-dry areas of the state, served as a reminder that we should not be complacent about fires just because they aren't as common here as on the Eastside. Most of the workshop focused on preventing fire damage to homes and other structures, not forests. However, since most woodland owners live on their land the information was very relevant.

The concept of defensible space has been around for a long time, but new research has brought about slight changes in the way that the defensible space zone should be managed. Defensible space is a "fire-resistant" buffer zone around your home, typically about 30 feet radius. Should a wildfire move through your area, having proper defensible space should theoretically prevent the fire from directly impacting your home. At one time, fire specialists recommended removing trees from the 30-foot zone, especially those that directly overhang a roof or deck. Now the thinking has changed a bit. There is less emphasis on tree removal, and more emphasis on regular cleanup of gutters and other nooks and crannies where needles and leaf litter from these trees might accumulate and ignite. This is good news for those who value the shade, cooling effect and privacy that trees around the home provide.

During fire season (now), it is also a good idea to remove combustible objects from decks. Combustible objects might include woodpiles and lawn furniture cushions. During the wood heating season you probably find it convenient to have a woodpile within easy access, but once summer begins and you are using the woodstove less often, make it a regular habit to move the woodpile away from your home or shop for a few months.

If you live in Columbia County, ODF will conduct a free Firewise Home Assessment for you. Call Kevin Nelson at (503) 397-2636.



Flammable furniture cushions could be a vector that transports a wildfire to your home.  
Photo: [www.firewise.org](http://www.firewise.org).



### Volunteer Mentors Needed



The Pacific Logging Conference will be held in Clatskanie this fall. Thousands of students in grades 5 through 12 will visit the PLC's Live In The Woods show on Sept. 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>. Hundreds of volunteer foresters, forest operators, family forestland owners and numerous other experts are needed to assist with the event and serve as tour guides. Volunteers will receive a free pass to the show a T-shirt, and interpretation materials. If you would like to volunteer, contact Julie Woodward, [Woodward@ofri.com](mailto:Woodward@ofri.com) or (503) 584-7259.

## Log Price Information

Below are domestic prices for delivered logs in Northwest Oregon as reported by the Oregon Department of Forestry for the past five quarters. All values are reported in \$/MBF and are averages of quotes from regional sawmills. Prices for other log sorts and time frames can be found online at:

[http://egov.oregon.gov/ODF/STATE\\_FORESTS/TIMBER\\_SALES/logpage.shtml](http://egov.oregon.gov/ODF/STATE_FORESTS/TIMBER_SALES/logpage.shtml)

Species	Grade	2009 2 <sup>nd</sup> Q	2009 3 <sup>rd</sup> Q	2009 4 <sup>th</sup> Q	2010 1 <sup>st</sup> Q	2010 2 <sup>nd</sup> Q
Douglas-fir	2S	315	355	400	455	490
	3S	295	320	365	440	465
Hemlock	2S	255	275	310	375	435
	3S	245	260	285	365	375
Spruce	2S	270	320	340	345	435
	3S	265	295	335	340	400
Cedar	2S	740	740	790	820	900
	3S	740	740	790	820	900
Red Alder	CR	430	535	515	520	530



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