~ Noxious Weeds ~

Is that "obnoxious" plant in your garden noxious?

There are 105 plant species officially designated as noxious weeds by the Oregon State Weed Board. The Board follows strict criteria for determining which weeds are noxious. They examine whether the plant species is causing or has the potential to cause severe production losses to agriculture or horticulture industries of the state. Or perhaps, it is endangering native flora and fauna by its encroachment, or hampering the full use and enjoyment of recreation areas. Sometimes, as in the case of giant hogweed, the noxious weed is poisonous or harmful to humans or other animals.

The Oregon Department of Agriculture has established a quarantine to cut down the number of noxious weeds in the state. Simply put, it is against the law to sell, offer to sell, purchase, or transport plants on Oregon's noxious weed list.

There are several levels of control for plants listed as noxious weeds. The A-list of noxious weeds includes species not known to be established in Oregon or those currently restricted to small areas of the state. These weeds are subject to eradication or intensive control.

The B-list of noxious weeds could have extreme impacts to the state’s natural resources as well as the economy, are regionally abundant, with limited distributions in some counties. These have intensive control determined case by case and may include biological control.

On the "T-list" are plant species targeted for the highest priority control action. These include Japanese knotweed, kudzu, giant hogweed, gorse, Iberian starthistle, leafy spurge, purple loosestrife, and spotted knapweed, among others. For a list of noxious listed weeds go to: http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/invasiveplant-eis/site-specific/MTH/FEIS-08/FEIS-APP/App-I-ODA-Noxious-Weed-List.pdf

Most noxious weeds are not native to the United States. Because they have no natural enemies in this country, all are spreading rapidly. Left unchecked, it may be impossible to control them in the future. Damage in human and environmental terms can be staggering. Some of these plants look pretty, but have nasty characteristics—reproducing prolifically and crowding out desirable native plant species.

One of the best ways to fight the threat of invasive species is to replace them with non-invasive plants. As part of the “Stop the Invasion” campaign, a coalition of organizations developed “Garden Smart Oregon: A Guide to Non-Invasive Plants.” This booklet identifies more than 25 plants that can escape gardens and threaten natural areas. Illustrated with photos, it offers tips to help gardeners select non-invasive replacement plants. Pick up your free copy at the Tillamook Extension Service, order or download from OSU: http://extension.oregonstate.edu/catalog/details.php?search=garden+smart+oregon

To report a new invasive weed species, use the Invasive Species Hotline: 1-866-INVADER.
~ President’s Corner ~

The Tillamook County Master Gardeners Association is ready to kick off your summer with another outstanding tour of local gardens – “Spade & Wade”. On June 22nd five incredible gardens, ranging from a cozy retreat to a walk in a park, will be available for your self-guided touring between the hours of 11 am and 5 pm. Passports for the tour are again a reasonable $15.00 per person. In conjunction with the tour we will have a plant sale (open to the public) on the grounds of the Tillamook Pioneer Museum, from 10 am to 3 pm. There will be many plant vendors with a wide variety of plants to choose from, as well as cook books and garden art created by local Master Gardeners and a food vendor selling breakfast snacks, box lunches, and beverages. The tour Passports are available at the OSU Extension Office (2204 4th Street, Tillamook), at the Master Gardener booth at the Farmers’ Market (Sat. June 14th and 21st), by mail (your name, mailing address, and phone number, along with check or money order to: “TCMGA”, PO Box 712, Tillamook, OR 97141), and may be purchased on the day of the tour at the Master Gardener booth outside the Pioneer Museum. Questions? Want to buy your passport now? For complete information please call the Master Gardeners at the OSU Extension Office, 503-842-3433, or use the following link: http://extension.oregonstate.edu/tillamook/mg-tcmgatours.php#localgardentours.

The Master Gardeners are looking forward to the Farmers’ Market again this year; we will be present on opening day, June 14th, again on June 21st, then every other Saturday throughout the summer. This is a great opportunity to get your gardening questions answered in the relaxed outdoor atmosphere of the Market. Please bring a sample (as large as possible) of any plant material as this is usually critical to diagnosing a problem or answering your questions. As always, you may visit us at the OSU Extension Office on Monday and Thursday afternoons between the hours of 12:30 pm and 4:30 pm. We’ll be delighted to see you there!

The Master Gardeners Demonstration Garden, located at the Tillamook County Fairgrounds (4603 E 3rd Street, Tillamook), is undergoing many changes this year, and is being groomed in anticipation of the Tillamook County Fair (August 6th to August 9th). The Garden is open to the public and available for a stroll or a quiet lunch – come on out and see the beautiful garden beds and maybe learn a little something as well!

We’ll be rounding out our summer with participation in the weeklong 4-H Gardening Day Camp (July 7th through July 11th), OSU Gardeners Mini-College (open to all, not just Master Gardeners) in Corvallis (July 23rd through July 26th) and the many and various educational and reclamation projects ongoing at CART’M and Alder Creek Farm. Hopefully, you won’t be able to turn around without running in to a Master Gardener this summer!

Nancy Reardon
TCMGA President 2008

~ Summer Canning Classes Scheduled ~

Preserve for taste, quality, and safety.

Have you thought about canning fish or salsa this summer, but do not know how?

Are you an experienced canner who would like an update on the latest USDA recommendations for canning?

To register or for more information, stop by the OSU Extension Service at 2204 Fourth Street, Tillamook, or call 503-842-3433.

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<tr>
<th>Class Date</th>
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<td>Monday, July 28</td>
<td>Canning Fish</td>
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<td>Saturday, Sept. 6</td>
<td>Canning Salsa &amp; Tomatoes</td>
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Fruit set depends on insect pollination.

The weather may be hot enough for heat-loving squash and cucumber plants to start blossoming and setting fruit. Successful pollination and fruit set of garden cucumbers and squash depends on insect pollinators such as honeybees and native bees and also timing and location.

Most squashes and cucumbers have separate male and female flowers on the same plant. To produce fruit, pollen from male flowers must be transferred to the female flowers.

How do you tell a male from a female squash or cucumber blossom? The female blossoms have what looks like a tiny squash or cucumber below the flower. The tiny fruit is the ovary, full of eggs not yet fertilized via pollen from male flowers. Male blossoms have long-stalked stamens, each with pollen-filled anthers. Every pollen grain contains sperm nuclei, which fertilize the ovules in the female flowers.

Visiting bees and other types of insects provide the transfer of pollen from the male to the female blossoms. When visiting squash and cucumber flowers to collect nectar and pollen, bees carry and spread the male pollen from male anthers to female pistils. Each pollen grain grows a long tube down through the pistil, to the egg cells. The sperm nuclei migrate down the tube to the egg, where fertilization takes place. The product of the union of the egg and sperm is a tiny plant embryo, inside each seed. Surrounding the seeds, what we think typically think of as the squash or cucumber, is actually the plant ovary, which houses the embryos inside their protective seeds.

Do not worry if the earliest blooms on squash or cucumber plants fall off before they set any fruit. The male flowers of cucumbers and squash often bloom and wither before the female blossoms start appearing.

Be patient with squash and cucumber plants. Eventually, most will produce both male and female flowers. Once blossoms of both sexes are opening at the same time and there is still no fruit formation, there may be poor pollination.

Sometimes Mother Nature needs help, if you have a shortage of pollinators. Home gardeners can pollinate the flowers themselves. Use a small watercolor paintbrush and lightly transfer pollen from male flowers to the female flowers.

Past research in the OSU Department of Horticulture has shown that growing cilantro, yarrow, wild buckwheat, white sweet clover, sweet fennel, sweet alyssum, spearmint, Queen Anne's lace, hairy vetch, flowering buckwheat, crimson clover, cowpeas, and caraway attract natural pollinators and other beneficial insects including natural predators.

Once fruit develops keep the plants well watered. Do not let cucumbers or summer squash get too big – they often get seedy, stringy or tough.

To learn more about growing cucumbers and squash, the OSU Extension Service offers the following publications online or you may pick up a copy at the office in Tillamook at 2204 Fourth Street.

“Grow Your Own Cucumbers” (EC 1226)
http://extension.oregonstate.edu/catalog/pdf/ec/ec1226.pdf

“Growing Your Own” – a practical guide to gardening in Oregon, featuring vegetable varieties, planting dates, insect control, soil preparation, and more...
http://extension.oregonstate.edu/catalog/html/grow/grow/

“Vegetable Gardening in Oregon” (EC 871)
http://extension.oregonstate.edu/catalog/pdf/ec/ec871.pdf
Heading into summer, gardeners need to be on the lookout for aphids—tiny, soft-bodied, plant-sucking insects. Aphids especially love the tender young plant growth so prevalent this time of year.

Most aphids are "naked," without a hard exoskeleton, but some species have a soft cottony substance over their bodies. They can be just about any color. Some have wings and some do not. About one-tenth of an inch long, aphids have long hypodermic needle-like mouth parts, adapted to pierce and suck out plant juices. Most secrete honeydew, a sweet, sticky substance which is a food source for ants, bees and flies. Some kinds of aphids may spread plant viruses from one host to another. Dripping honeydew also encourages sooty mold growth on many plants.

Listed below are some strategies to keep aphid damage at a minimum without resorting to toxic chemicals. Because there are so many kinds of aphids with varying life cycles, the following diverse array of aphid control strategies are recommended:

- **Use smart landscape design.** Do not have aphid-attracting plants where aphids or their honeydew will do harm. For example, birches are notorious aphid-attractors. Do not plant birches near driveways or decks, or your vehicles and deck will be sticky with honeydew.

- **Keep plants healthy.** Plants with adequate supplies of nutrients, water and light can fend off aphids more easily than sickly or stressed plants. Avoid over-fertilizing. Succulent new growth attracts aphids. The use of slow-release organic fertilizers helps avoid an overdose of nutrients to the plants.

- **Remove aphids physically from the plants they feed on.** A periodic strong spray of water with the garden hose can work wonders with aphids on rose shoots and buds, bean plants, young broccoli and cabbage shoots and other tender garden foliage. Prune off badly damaged foliage.

- **Also, yellow sticky aphid traps, sold in garden stores, trap flying aphids in a non-toxic sticky substance.** Quarantine aphid-infested house plants.

- **Introduce or encourage natural aphid predators.** Avoid the use of broad spectrum pesticides which kill aphid predators such as ladybugs and green lacewings. Do not purchase adult ladybird beetles, as they tend to disperse on release. A better predator to purchase may be the green lacewing, available for sale as eggs or larvae.

- **The best strategy is to grow plants that attract and foster natural predators.** These include yarrow, wild buckwheat, white sweet clover, sweet fennel, sweet alyssum, spearmint, Queen Anne's lace, hairy vetch, flowering buckwheat, crimson clover, cowpeas, and caraway. If the above strategies just do not seem to do the trick, try the least toxic method of chemical control of aphids—commercial insecticidal soaps. These soaps, available at most lawn and garden stores, eliminate only the insects that come in direct contact with the soap. This means you have to spray the soap solution directly on the aphids to eliminate them. Make sure to check the underside of leaves and other hard to see areas for aphids. And remember—the soap spray is only effective as an insecticide until it dries. For plants that are in the sun, test an inconspicuous part of the plant first to see whether it will cause leaf burning. **Always follow label instructions.**

Using insecticidal soap on aphids allows predator insects, with harder bodies to survive and naturally control aphids. Commercial formulations of these soaps have been extensively tested on plants so they are safer than homemade solutions.
How to discourage these opportunists in the garden.

Looking like tiny armadillos, sowbugs and pillbugs inhabit garden soil, dank basements and shady areas of the yard. They feast on decaying plant material and play a role in decomposing organic matter in the garden and compost pile.

Though sowbugs and pillbugs feed on tender seedlings, young roots, flowers, and fruits and vegetables laying directly on damp soil, sowbugs and pillbugs get blamed for more damage to garden plants than they actually do.

They are deemed guilty by association, as they are often found feeding in decaying or damaged garden produce. Actually, diseases, slugs and other pests often inflict the initial damage. Sowbugs enter later to take advantage of the feast. They are great opportunists.

Both sowbugs and pillbugs have seven pairs of legs and are dark gray, brown or almost black after molting. The type that curls up in a ball when disturbed is often called pillbugs. True sowbugs cannot curl up in a ball and have two small projections at their hind ends. Both are similar enough in lifestyle to be considered "sowbugs" by most biologists.

Most active at night, sowbugs hide in dark, moist protected areas during the day, such as under flowerpots, decaying leaves on the soil surface, boards, mulches and ground cover. They thrive under sprinkler irrigation.

They do no structural damage to homes and will not harm humans or pets.

Use the following strategies to reduce sowbug populations in the yard and garden:

- Limit moist, dark hiding places. Clean up organic debris, boards, boxes and piles of leaves around the yard and garden.
- Water early in the day so plants and the soil surface dries out by the evening when sow or pillbugs are active.
- Mulch with coarse materials, so water passes through to the soil quickly.
- Elevate fruits and vegetables off the ground with old strawberry baskets or pebbles. Black plastic mulches are good because they get too hot in the summer to provide desirable shelter for sowbugs.
- Seal cracks around the house and eliminate the dark, damp hiding places next to your foundation if sowbugs are entering your basement.
- Plant seeds deeply and do not water until seedlings have their first true leaves. Or start seedlings indoors. Then to maintain good drainage, transplant seedlings into the garden so that the soil around seedlings is higher than surrounding garden soil.

Wheat bran-based slug and snail baits containing carbaryl among the active ingredients will also help control sowbugs. A less toxic method for sowbug control is to place a rolled up newspaper tube on the soil surface. Leave it overnight. In the morning, shake out the tubes into a pail of soapy water.

Another less toxic method to control sowbugs is to sprinkle diatomaceous earth directly on the row where seeds have been planted to dry the soil surface enough to discourage sow bugs. Experiment with the amount of diatomaceous earth, as too thin a layer will not be effective and too thick a layer can become like plaster if it becomes wet.

~ Sowbugs and Pillbugs ~
Planting broadleaf spinach is most successful during the cooler temperatures of spring and fall. Spinach seeds germinate better in cool soils between 55 and 65 degrees.

If you plant spinach in the summer, some varieties will flower or “bolt” prematurely. They stop growing leaves and set seed.

One variety that seems to best tolerate summer’s long days and heat without bolting is – Correnta.

Traditional, cool season or broadleaf spinach varieties are best grown when the weather stays below 75 degrees. The OSU Extension Service recommends the following spinach varieties as performing well in Oregon conditions, especially if planted when the soil is cooler. Savoy varieties have puckery, rather than smooth leaves.

Plant these varieties in spring for early summer harvest:
- (smooth leaf) Bloomsdale Long Standing, Olympia, Nordic IV;
- (savoy) Spinner, Correnta, Unipack 151, Melody, Skookum.

For late summer for fall and winter harvest, plant these:
- (smooth leaf) Oriental Giant, Rushmore;
- (savoy) Jive.

Plan on planting broadleaf spinach about four to six weeks before your average last frost in the spring, and six to eight weeks before the first frost in the fall. From late spring until mid-summer, plant the heat-adapted spinachs.

For a continuous supply of spinach during the entire growing season, plant seed every one or two weeks. Sow cool season spinach in the early and mid-spring. Then plant the bolt-resistant variety Correnta in the late spring and through most of the summer. Then follow with more plantings of cool season, broadleaf spinach in the late summer and early fall.

Try planting heat tolerant green leafy spinach-like greens that are not related to spinach, but look and taste somewhat like spinach and can be used like spinach in the kitchen, including: New Zealand spinach (Tetragonia), amaranth (also known as “Hin choy” or Tampala spinach) greens and Orach (also known as mountain spinach or “Atriplex hortensis”). These spinach-like greens can be planted in the late spring and summer and thrive in the heat and do not bolt as easily as true broadleaf spinachs.

Oregon seed companies that offer several varieties of spinach (including bolt-resistant variety Correnta) and spinach-like greens include: Nichols Garden Nursery, 1190 Old Salem Road N.E., Albany, OR 97321-4580, toll free 1-800-422-3985 (http://www.nicholsgarden nursery.com); and Territorial Seed Company, P.O. Box 158, Cottage Grove, OR 97424-0061, toll free 800-626-0866 (http://www.territorial-seed.com).

For more information about growing, fertilizing, watering, pests, diseases and preserving spinach, download OSU Extension’s “Grow Your Own Lettuce, Spinach and Swiss Chard,” (EC 1268) at: http://extension.oregonstate.edu/catalog/html/ec/ec1268/ You may also obtain a copy of this publication at the Tillamook office at 2204 Fourth Street.
Only two effective chemicals are licensed and formulated into slug and snail baits for use on home gardens – metaldehyde and iron phosphate. The less toxic slug baits containing iron phosphate are as effective as metaldehyde baits for controlling the slugs that damage gardens and landscapes, including the common gray garden slug.

Iron phosphate slug and snail baits, originally used in Europe, have been registered in the United States since 1997. Products containing iron phosphate include: "Sluggo," "Escar-Go!" and "Worry Free" slug and snail bait. These are sold as pelleted bait, typically applied to the ground around plants or crops. Iron phosphate baits have proven to be relatively non-toxic around children and pets, unlike those baits containing metaldehyde, according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Metaldehyde has been an active ingredient in slug and snail baits since the 1930s. Products containing varying concentrations of metaldehyde include: "Cory's Slug and Snail Death", "Deadline," and "Slug-Tox." These products are sold as granules, sprays, dusts, pelleted grain or bait and are typically applied to the ground around plants or crops, to attract and kill slugs and snails.

Classified by the EPA as a "slightly toxic compound," metaldehyde may be fatal to dogs or other pets if eaten. The death of birds feeding in metaldehyde-treated areas has been reported in the scientific literature. These deaths were from the birds eating the slug bait, not dead slugs. The 4 percent pelleted metaldehyde bait, a concentration commonly sold to home gardeners, is reported to be toxic to wildlife, according to the EPA.

Gardeners who are frustrated with battling slugs need to keep in mind that pest control using baits is very different from using an herbicide or insecticide.

With baits, the slugs must actively encounter and ingest the bait for it to work. Since more than 90 percent of the slugs are underground at any one time, total eradication is impossible.
Wooden decks, trellises and play structures can be important elements in your garden, both beautiful and useful. You’d probably also like to know they are safe.

In climates with wet winters, and even sometimes wet summers, wood tends to rot. Unprotected wooden structures eventually fall apart, making them safety hazards even before the problem is noticeable to the eye. So for generations, wood for outdoor use has been treated with chemicals in a pressure process to discourage insects, mold and rot.

Until recently, the chemical most commonly used to preserve wood used outdoors was chromated copper arsenate, also known as CCA. This wood is also called “pressure treated wood.”

In 2004 the US Environmental Protection Agency banned the use of CCA to preserve wood for residential use. An exception is that it can still be used for permanent wood foundations. And CCA-treated lumber is still available for industrial uses. New EPA-approved chemicals without arsenic have replaced CCA for home and garden use.

Arsenate is a form of arsenic, a substance that is present naturally at low levels in soils and at even lower, trace levels in water, food and air. Over a period of time, rain can leach arsenic from CCA-treated wood and potentially result in arsenic levels in the underlying soils, which might not be safe.

Arsenic was cheap. Most of the new chemicals rely on copper, which is not cheap. So to keep the cost reasonable, lumber now is treated according to its intended use, with the copper content in the preserving chemicals varying from around 20 to 95 percent. The price also varies accordingly.

Before you start buying lumber, be sure you know what it is to be used for. Tags listing appropriate end-use categories are stapled to the ends of the boards. Wood labeled “Decking” is treated to a lower (and consequently less expensive) level of protection than wood labeled simply “For Above Ground Use.” The type of preservative is also listed on the tag.

Meanwhile, what should you do about your deck and play structures that were built 10 years ago, presumably with CCA-treated wood?

It is actual ingestion of arsenic that poses a risk. Breathing the air from around CCA-treated wood won’t poison you. As for absorbing it through the skin, while not impossible, it is not likely during amounts of contact that are realistic.

So give some thought about how your structures are being used.

Do you have small children, say under 6 years old, playing on them frequently? The National Pesticide Information Center explains that children in this age group generally have a lot more “hand to mouth activity” than the rest of us.

Of course, older children, while they may put their hands in their mouths less often, may also be playing on CCA-treated structures at playgrounds, at school and at friends’ houses. They also play more vigorously and might be more likely to dislodge minute bits of the wood.

Pay attention to ground surface under the play structure or deck, where particles of wood may have settled. Is the area under the deck accessible? Or even an attractive place for children to play?

Many people wonder about the safety of using pressure treated wood raised garden beds to grow vegetables or fruits. A study conducted by University of Minnesota found that vegetable crops grown in CCA-framed garden beds can accumulate arsenic from treated wood, but based on U.S. Public Health Standards, these vegetables would be safe for human consumption. To be on the safe side, you can line garden beds made of CCA-treated wood with plastic sheeting on the base and sides of the bed to separate the wood from the soil. For more information, see: http://www.extension.umn.edu/yardandgarden/YGLNews/YGLN-June0101.html#as and http://www.toronto.ca/health/factsheet_ptw.htm

Continued On Page 9
Pressure Treated Wood ...continued ~

Here are some simple measures you can take to reduce any potential risk from CCA in your garden:

- To minimize leaching, apply a sealant to CCA-(chromated copper arsenate) treated wood regularly, as recommended by the wood manufacturer. Sealants also reduce the amount of arsenic that repeated or prolonged contact with the wood can leave on the skin.
- If possible, do not encourage children to play under decks.
- Put a heavy layer of sand in areas where children play under CCA-treated wood. Arsenic does not bind to sand. Any arsenic leached from above in rainwater washes through the sand and binds to the soil underneath.
- Wash children’s hands when they are through playing. Be sure small children do not habitually put their mouths on the wood or eat the soil.
- Wash your hands after working with CCA-treated wood.
- Do not burn CCA-treated wood.
- Do not use CCA-treated wood for bark or mulch.
- Take precautions when sanding or sawing CCA-treated wood. See the EPA Consumer Safety Information Sheet on using CCA-treated wood, at http://www.epa.gov/oppad001/reregistration/cca/cca_qa.htm#bkmrk2

While the new generation of chemicals will not bring arsenic into your garden, they may pose other problems. The higher copper content makes them more corrosive to some metals. So do some homework before you build. Some preservative treatments rely on borate rather than copper.

For more information, you can contact The National Pesticide Information Center at 1-800-858-7378, or email npic@ace.orst.edu

Slag Bait ...continued~

More slug baits and strategies.

Pellet baiting is recommended for vegetable and fruit plants. When baiting food gardens for slugs, apply baits at a density of about four to eight pellets per square foot of soil surface. Pick a time when daytime temperatures will be at least 50 degrees, with night temperatures not below 42 degrees. If the soil is not wet, sprinkle it with water just before applying the bait to make it more hospitable for slugs to come to the soil surface where the bait is.

Autumn is an important time to keep controlling slugs because you can kill many of them before they lay eggs. But wait for the mornings to get damp, so the slugs will come out of their underground hiding places. Applying additional bait once more a little later in the fall to kill those little ones that just hatched.

Remove yard and garden debris, leaf litter and other excess vegetation, as these all prove to be refuges for slugs.

Rototilling the soil prior to planting a vegetable garden is an excellent way to reduce slug populations. The mechanical tilling action crushes slugs and their eggs and disrupts the cracks and worm holes they travel in.

When using baits, follow all label instructions and heed all label warnings. Do not allow baits to contaminate the edible portions of plants.

SPADE AND WADE GARDENS TOUR ~ Sunday June 22

A Bay City Retreat-Perennials & whimsical garden art. Clematis climbing an old ladder and French doors
Trask River Rambler-garden of rooms, formality with country cottage feel. Elevated decks or stroll to river.
Country Cutting Garden– Dahlias, roses, pond, western motif.
A Walk in the Park-Natural settings, conifers & wildflowers.
The common Dandelion (Taraxacum officinale) scourge of the "perfect" lawn has a host of look-alike friends and relatives all waiting for an opening in lawns, pastures, waste areas, gardens and flowerbeds. The dandelion a native of Europe and Asia followed immigrants into North America being used as an herb and salad greens.

Some of the look-alikes include spotted cat's-ear, and fall hawkbit. Spotted cat's-ear's flowers appear in groups of 3 or 4 at the ends of the stems and fall hawkbit has a few scale-like leaves on its flowering stem. Spiny, annual, marsh and perennial sowthistles, common groundsel and goat's beard all have similar flowers to the dandelion.

The common dandelion is the only one with a leafless hollow milky stem, but all have golden yellow flower heads consisting of ray florets (each petal is a flower), this is why when the fruit or achene is mature there are so many seeds that blow on the wind. Dandelions have a fleshy taproot that can reach 2.5 meters deep and all of the root must be destroyed or a new plant will grow again. Dandelion is a perennial that can bloom nearly year round in our mild coastal conditions.

The dandelion has rosette of jagged triangular lobed leaves 2” to 12” long this helps shade grass growth in your lawn.

The main tenant of sustainable gardening is to try the least offensive control method first--- that would be cultural control: cultivation or hand removal including the use landscape fabric and mulch to block the light. Second method would be biological; unfortunately no insect predators are known to feast on dandelions. The third option would be to use chemical controls, several are known to control dandelions and other broadleaf weeds. They include mixes or concentrates containing 2,4-D, triclopr, glyphosate which can be used during the active growing season and dichlobenil which is recommended for use in mid-winter.

Always read and follow the label when using chemical controls.

Common Dandelion (Taraxacum officinale)

Dandelions and Their Look-alike Friends

Sources:

Royer, France and Richard Dickinson. Weeds of the Northern US and Canada

Dennis, La Rey J. Gilkey’s Weeds of the Pacific Northwest

Western Society of Weed Science. Weeds of the West

Extension Services of OSU, WSU, and U of Idaho. 2008 PNW Weed Management Handbook
# Garden hints from your OSU Extension Agent

## JUNE
- First week: spray cherry trees for cherry fruit fly and brown rot if fruit is ripening. Spray for codling moth and scab in apple and pear trees. Last week: second spray for codling moth and scab in apple and pear.
- Apples and crabapples that are susceptible to scab disease will begin dropping leaves as weather warms. Rake and destroy fallen leaves; spray with summer-strength lime sulfur, wettable sulfur, Immonox, or Captan.
- Lawn mowing: set blade at $\frac{3}{4}$ to 1 inch for bentgrass lawns; $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ inches for bluegrasses, fine fescues, and ryegrasses.
- Fertilize lawn.
- Spray with Orthene to control adult root weevils in rhododendrons, azaleas, primroses, and other ornamentals.
- Remove seed pods after blooms have dropped from rhododendrons, azaleas.
- Prune lilacs, forsythia, rhododendrons, and azaleas after blooming.
- Construct trellises for tomatoes, cucumbers, pole beans, and vining ornamentals.
- Use sawdust, barkdust, or composted leaf mulches to conserve soil moisture.
- Pick ripe strawberries regularly to avoid fruit-rotting diseases.
- Control aphids on vegetables as needed by hosing off with water or using insecticidal soap or a registered insecticide.
- Watch for cutworm damage in garden. (Large portions of foliage will begin to disappear on established plants.) Use barriers, remove by hand, use beneficial nematodes when soil temperature is above 55°F, or spray with BT per label directions.
- Midsummer plantings of beets, bush beans, carrots, cauliflower, broccoli, lettuce, kale, and peas will provide fall and winter crops.
- July 10: spray filament trees for filbertworm.
- July 17–23: third spray for codling moth in apple and pear trees.
- Cover blueberry bushes with netting to keep birds from eating all the crop.
- Stake tomatoes, watch for blight (prune for air circulation, pick off affected leaves, treat with approved fungicide).
- Plant Chinese cabbage, kohlrabi, and rutabagas.
- Monitor camellias, holly, maple trees for scale insects. Treat if necessary.
- Check leafy vegetables for caterpillars. Control with BT or Sevin. Never use Sevin during bloom or in the presence of bees.
- Weed and fertilize rhubarb and asparagus beds, water deeply to develop crowns for next year. A mulch of compost or rotted manure works well.
- Mound soil up around base of potatoes, gather and eat a few “new” potatoes from each hill.
- Dig spring bulbs when tops have died down; divide and store or replant.
- Stake tall-growing flowering plants such as delphinium, hollyhocks, and lupine.
- Spider mites can become a problem during hot, dry weather. Watch for dusty-looking foliage, loss of color, presence of tiny mites. Wash infested areas with water or spray. φ

## JULY
- Control hollyhock rust by sanitation, picking affected leaves, or spraying with a recommended and registered fungicide. Read and follow label directions.
- Early morning is the best time to water vegetable and flower gardens to reduce evaporation. Water deeply and infrequently.
- Hanging baskets of flowers or vegetable plantings need careful attention to watering and feeding during periods of hot weather.
- Watch for cutworm damage in garden.
- Control aphids on vegetables as needed by hosing off with water or using insecticidal soap or a registered insecticide.
- Check leafy vegetables for caterpillars. Control as needed.
- Mulch with compost or rotted manure around the vegetable garden; plant winter cover crops in vacant space.
- Remove seed pods after blooms have dropped from rhododendrons, azaleas.
- Prune lilacs, forsythia, rhododendrons, and azaleas after blooming.
- Construct trellises for tomatoes, cucumbers, pole beans, and vining ornamentals.
- Use sawdust, barkdust, or composted leaf mulches to conserve soil moisture.
- Pick ripe strawberries regularly to avoid fruit-rotting diseases.
- Control aphids on vegetables as needed by hosing off with water or using insecticidal soap or a registered insecticide.
- Watch for cutworm damage in garden. (Large portions of foliage will begin to disappear on established plants.) Use barriers, remove by hand, use beneficial nematodes when soil temperature is above 55°F, or spray with BT per label directions.
- Midsummer plantings of beets, bush beans, carrots, cauliflower, broccoli, lettuce, kale, and peas will provide fall and winter crops.
- July 10: spray filament trees for filbertworm.
- July 17–23: third spray for codling moth in apple and pear trees.
- Cover blueberry bushes with netting to keep birds from eating all the crop.
- Stake tomatoes, watch for blight (prune for air circulation, pick off affected leaves, treat with approved fungicide).
- Plant Chinese cabbage, kohlrabi, and rutabagas.
- Monitor camellias, holly, maple trees for scale insects. Treat if necessary.
- Check leafy vegetables for caterpillars. Control with BT or Sevin. Never use Sevin during bloom or in the presence of bees.
- Weed and fertilize rhubarb and asparagus beds, water deeply to develop crowns for next year. A mulch of compost or rotted manure works well.
- Mound soil up around base of potatoes, gather and eat a few “new” potatoes from each hill.
- Dig spring bulbs when tops have died down; divide and store or replant.
- Stake tall-growing flowering plants such as delphinium, hollyhocks, and lupine.
- Spider mites can become a problem during hot, dry weather. Watch for dusty-looking foliage, loss of color, presence of tiny mites. Wash infested areas with water or spray. φ

## AUGUST
- First week: spray apple maggot traps; spray tree if needed.
- Make compost of lawn clippings and garden plants that are ready to be recycled. Do not use clippings if lawn has been treated with herbicide, including weed-and-feed products.
- Control yellow jackets and wasps with traps and lure as necessary. Keep in mind they are beneficial insects and help control pest insects.
- First week: spray for walnut husk fly.
- First week: second spray of peach and prune trees for root borers.
- First week: second spray of filbert trees for filbertworm.
- Check for root weevils in ornamental shrubs and flowers; codling moth and spider mite in apple trees; scale insects in camellias, holly, maples. Treat as necessary.
- Plant winter cover crops in vacant space around the vegetable garden; plant winter kale, Brussels sprouts, turnips, parsnips, parsley, and Chinese cabbage.
- Dampwood termites begin flying late this month. Make sure your home is free of wet wood or places where wood and soil are in contact.
- Watch for corn earworm on early corn—treat as needed.
- Begin soil preparation for planting new lawn.
- Fertilize cucumbers, summer squash, and broccoli to maintain production while you continue harvesting.
- Clean and fertilize strawberry beds.
- Control caterpillars on leafy vegetables, as needed, with BT or by hand picking and removal.
- For mites on ornamentals and most vegetables, hose off foliage, use miticide if needed.
- Monitor garden irrigation closely so crops and ornamentals do not dry out.
- Use mulch to protect ornamentals and garden plants from hot weather damage.
- Camellias need deep watering to develop flower buds for next year. A mulch of compost or rotted manure works well.
- Mound soil up around base of potatoes, gather and eat a few “new” potatoes from each hill.
- Dig spring bulbs when tops have died down; divide and store or replant.
- Stake tall-growing flowering plants such as delphinium, hollyhocks, and lupine.
- Spider mites can become a problem during hot, dry weather. Watch for dusty-looking foliage, loss of color, presence of tiny mites. Wash infested areas with water or spray. φ

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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.
**Sunday June 22nd**

**SPADE**

**And**

**WADE**

**Garden Tour**

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**Passports may be purchased at:**

TCMGA PO Box 712 or e-mail: tcmgagardentour@yahoo.com

TILLAMOOK FARMERS’ MARKET

OSU Extension Service Office ~ 2204 4th Street,

Tillamook 97141

503 842-3433

In front of Pioneer Museum on day of Tour