Tree School Clackamas

Oregon’s largest forestry and natural resource education event of the year brought approximately 800 private woodland owners, instructors, and exhibitors together at Clackamas Community College on March 23. This was the 29th annual Tree School Clackamas which was started in 1991. With approximately 6,000 private woodland owners in Clackamas County, interest is high for this annual event and it fills up quickly. Nearly half of the 650 spots available were claimed on the first day of registration.

Tree School Clackamas included 75 classes, taught by OSU faculty and local experts sharing their knowledge with a regional and practical focus. “This year we offered 21 new classes based on focus group input we received from woodland owners. This included a full day of interactive activities for children ages 6-13 years and a Youth Fire Academy for young adults ages 14-20,” said Glenn Ahrens, OSU Extension Forester for Clackamas, Marion, and Hood River counties. Beyond the classes, Tree School has inspired a sense of community, with many friends, neighbors, and families traveling from different states to bond with others in their industry and share their personal experiences.

Tree School Clackamas 2020 will be held on March 21, and will mark the 30-year anniversary of Tree School in Clackamas. Visit http://bit.ly/TreeSchoolClackamas to learn more about past and future Tree Schools!

Rose Clarke
Forestry Education Program Assistant
Raise Your Hand for Oregon 4-H

The Raise Your Hand for 4-H campaign is underway and runs through May 15, 2019. Raise Your Hand is a nationwide promotion with a call to action for 4-H alumni, supporters, and friends to vote for funding for their state. It also allows each state to gather alumni names for their local database. The three states with the most hands raised will win $20,000, $10,000 and $5,000! We have Raise Your Hand voting forms available in our office or you can vote for your state online: www.4-H.org/RaiseYourHand. Please show your support by sharing the campaign on your social media. Tag 4-H in your posts so we can promote them and highlight your support. Twitter: @4H, Instagram: @National4H, Facebook: @4-H and @Clackamas4H. To read more about the Raise Your Hand campaign, visit https://bit.ly/2IlcWYW.

Wendy Hein
4-H Youth Development Faculty

2019 May Spring Garden Fair

For 35 years, home gardeners have gotten their gardening season off to a spectacular start by attending the Clackamas County Master Gardeners' Spring Garden Fair. From humble beginnings as a simple fuchsia sale, the Spring Garden Fair has grown into an iconic event for both the experienced and aspiring gardener. The Fair has become a tradition for families and friends, who travel from both near and far to take part in this plant lover’s extravaganza.

On Saturday May 4 and Sunday May 5, the Spring Garden Fair tents will rise at the Clackamas County Event Center in Canby, Oregon. Over 100 vendors will be selling a vast array of perennials, annuals, conifers, fruit trees, shrubs, herbs, vegetables, and ground covers. Specialty vendors will offer garden art, furniture, planting containers and tools.

OSU Extension Service Master Gardeners™ will be at the ready to answer gardening questions at two ‘Ask a Master Gardener’ booths. Throughout the weekend, Master Gardeners will continue to share proven gardening techniques on a variety of gardening topics via 10-Minute University™ mini-classes. Free soil pH testing will be available, along with the fun of a New Plant Introductions Silent Auction and a Garden Fair Raffle.

The continued success of the Spring Garden Fair comes from the dedicated hard work of the Master Gardener volunteers, the vendors, the many supporting businesses, and an enthusiastic and passionate gardening community. Funds raised by the sale support the mission of the Clackamas County Master Gardeners in cooperation with the OSU Extension Service Master Gardener program.

Marcia McIntyre
Master Gardener Program Coordinator

2019 Spring Garden Fair
Clackamas County Event Center
694 NE 4th Ave, Canby, OR
May 4 – 9:00 am to 5:00 pm
May 5 – 9:00 am to 4:00 pm
Admission: $5 (under 16 free)
Parking: Free

The Spring Garden Fair is full of work and play for our Master Gardeners.
Food Tastings in Clackamas County

OSU Extension Family & Community Health’s SNAP-Ed program partners with food service providers to offer Food Hero recipes as healthy additions to menus in schools, early childhood learning centers, and daycares. This April, SNAP-Educators from Clackamas County visited a training for the food service providers, where they learned about the requirements for serving healthy meals. Our staff presented two delicious Food Hero recipes: Hummus (no tahini) and Kale Dip. Participants voted on the two recipes, and most people responded that they liked the recipes.

These recipes, and others like them, can be found online at https://foodhero.org. Both are available as Quantity Recipes, making them easy to calculate for required food service portion sizes, but also easy to prepare to bring to a potluck or add to a large family meal. They are also excellent options for a child’s snack, and can be prepared in advance and used throughout the week. We served the dips with carrots, cauliflower, and whole grain crackers.

Erin Devlin
Family and Community Health Faculty

Extension Education Center Update

The Land Use Approval process with the City of Oregon City continues on. The third submission since August 2018 was delivered last month in March. There have been numerous issues from site location, number of windows/or lack thereof, exterior look of the building, and wetland impact and mitigation concerns. Over the past several months, all of these issues have been examined, discussed, and alterations made, as possible. Now, during the first week of April, the City has provided a “conditional” land use approval pending the resolution of a final utility right-of-way. If this happens, a 120-day clock begins for the City to analyze the details of our construction plan and approve or not. When we receive approval, then the permitting process will begin, construction documents will be finalized, and contracts for construction will be ready to advertise.

So, what’s the construction timeline likely to look like, as of this moment? The best case scenario is looking to late summer/early fall for a ground breaking—if all the stars line up. Build out is expected to be about 15 months. We believe we are getting closer!

In the meantime, it’s full steam ahead as we continue with private fund raising and in-kind contributions. Two major financial commitments for the fund raising have been secured in recent months. First, this past December, the Clackamas Chapter of the Master Gardeners Association committed $50,000 over five years and will be naming the public gardening clinic in the new Extension Education Center after Gray and Noreen Thompson. Gray, a former Clackamas Extension Agent, created the Master Gardener program in 1976.

Also, J. Frank Schmidt Family Charitable Foundation has pledged $100,000 with naming rights to the Outdoor Education Pavilion—a multi-purpose space for outdoor education classes and activities. J. Frank Schmidt & Son Co. is one of the largest shade tree nurseries in the U.S. and is a Clackamas County business founded more than 70 years ago in the Boring area.

Finally, conversations are occurring at this time with the wood products and forestry landowner community for funding support and wood product in-kind contributions. The Extension Education Center will be the first all wood, advanced wood technology (i.e., cross laminated timber and mass plywood), and net-zero building (producing its own electrical energy needs) in the county. For more information, contact Clackamas Extension County Liaison, Mike Bondi.

Michael Bondi
Clackamas County Liaison
Future Events

April:

4-H Spring Events: Saturday, April 20 at the Clackamas County Event Center. 4-H youth enrolled in associated projects will have the opportunity to participate in Cat Fair, Dog Judging Clinic, Western Gaming Prefair, and Foods & More Day events. Contact Jan Williams and Wendy Hein 503-655-8635.

National 4-H Day of Service: Saturday, April 27. To register your service project, visit https://4-h.org/get-involved/true-leaders-in-service. Contact Wendy Hein 503-655-3122. Contact Wendy Hein 503-650-3122.

May:

Spring Garden Fair: May 4-5 at the Clackamas County Event Center. Activities include 10 Minute University™ talks, potting station, and more. Contact Janet Hohman 503-655-8631.

Office Closed: Wednesday, May 8 the Extension office will be closed for an all-staff meeting.

4-H New Leader Orientation: Thursday, May 9 at the Extension annex. There will be two sessions available. The first from 9:00 to 11:30 am and the second from 7:00 to 7:30 pm. Pre-registration required. Contact Trisha Applebee 503-650-3132.

Community Forestry Day: Saturday, May 11 from 8:30 am to 2:30 pm at Hopkins Demonstration Forest. Contact Peter Matzka 503-655-8631.

Hopkins Homeschool & Forest Field Day: Thursday, May 16 at Hopkins Demonstration Forest. The self-guided day will include grade-appropriate activities and educational stations for youth grades 2 through 12. Contact Peter Matzka 503-655-8631.

4-H Small Animal Shows: Saturday, May 18 at the Clackamas County Event Center. 4-H members from all counties are invited to compete at our county shows for rabbits, cavies, poultry, and pigeons.

4-H Horse Prefair: May 18-19 at the Clackamas County Event Center. 4-H Horse members will demonstrate their riding and horsemanship skills. Contact Wendy Hein 503-650-3122.

Office Closed: Monday, May 27 in observance of Memorial Day.

June:

Community Forestry Day: Saturday, June 8 from 8:30 am to 2:30 pm at Hopkins Demonstration Forest. Contact Peter Matzka 503-655-8631.

Farmer’s Market Tour and Recipe Demonstration: Saturday, June 8 from 9:00 to 10:30 am at the Oregon City Farmers Market. Participants get to interact with local farmers and taste a recipe made from seasonal produce. Contact Kelly Streit 503-557-5885.

Accommodation requests related to a disability should be made by two weeks before the event to the contact person listed on the event.

This publication will be made available in accessible formats upon request. Please call 503-655-8631 for information.