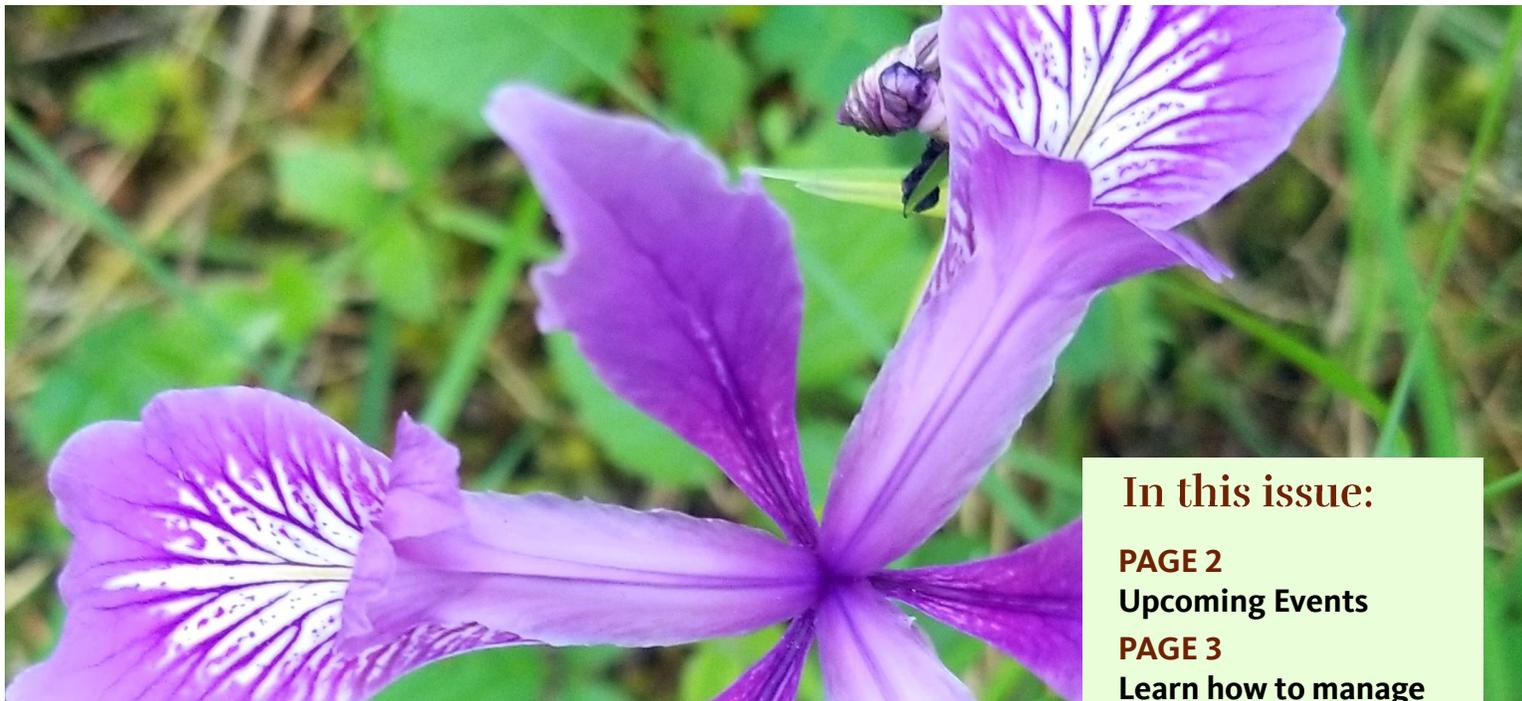


CANOPY VIEW NEWS

Summer 2019, ISSUE 3



A Message From Your Extension Foresters

Spring has sprung and our busy time has begun! Now that the weather is nice, it's the perfect time to head outside to clean up winter storm damage, tackle invasive plants, assess road maintenance needs, and prepare your home and property for fire season. Check out our upcoming events on page 2 – you might find a class or two that can help you with your woodland goals this summer.

We hope you are enjoying the *Canopy View News*. We work hard to bring you relevant and timely information each quarter. Over 500 of you read this newsletter online, and over 800 of you receive a printed copy in the mail. While we thank you for your readership, we hope you will consider the following request: **if you receive this newsletter via mail, please contact the Douglas County Extension office and ask to start receiving it via email instead.** In order to keep our programs affordable, we need to reduce the cost of printing and mailing this newsletter. Moving forward, we cannot sustain the growing numbers of printed newsletters that we send in the mail. We hope you will support us in this effort and call (541) 672-4461 to switch your mailing preference to email. If you do not use the Internet or have an email address, please call us and let us know so we can accommodate this moving forward.

Thank you for your support and understanding. We hope you have a productive and safe summer!

Alicia @ Lauren

Douglas @ Lane County Extension Foresters

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Extension Forester contact information



Oregon State
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Upcoming Events

- April 30** **Tree Talks: After the Storm.** 2pm – 4pm. Free family event. Roseburg Public Library (1400 NE Diamond Lake Blvd.). Presentations from OSU Extension and the Roseburg City Fire Marshal covering proper pruning techniques for trees and shrubs, preparing for fire season, avoiding bark beetle outbreak in your woodland, and creating defensible space. Tree themed story time and crafts for kids. Drawings for free prizes! No need to RSVP - come early, space is limited.
- May 9** **Tour Weyerhaeuser's TOPS Plant.** 1:30pm-3:30pm. Free. 785 N 42nd Street, Springfield. On this tour you will learn the types of wood this mill accepts, how the logs move through the yard, and what products this mill produces. Space is limited! To register, call Lauren Grand at (541) 579-2150.
- May 18** **Douglas County Neighbor to Neighbor Tour.** Hosted by the Oregon Small Woodlands Association, Douglas Chapter. 8:30am – 1:30pm. Free! 3724 Hogan Rd., Oakland. Tour 3 small woodland properties and learn about woodland management and challenges. You don't need to be an OSWA member to attend - all are welcome! Lunch is provided. RSVP by May 13th – call (503) 588-1813 or email oswaevents@gmail.com. See article on page 7 for more information.
- May 18** **Protect Your Home From Wildfire - Springfield.** 9am-3pm. \$15/person. Oregon Department of Forestry. Learn how to give your home and property the very best chance against wildfire at this one day workshop. The first half is in-class and the second half is a field tour, where you will learn first-hand how fire professionals assess fire risk at a property, and strategies for preparing for wildfire. Go home with ideas to reduce fire risk on your own property. This workshop is suitable for all homeowners - whether you're unsure where to start or if you want to make sure if everything is properly addressed. Seats are limited! Register through the Lane County Extension website or call Nicole Wells at (541) 344-5859.
- May 29** **The Effects of Climate Change on our Forests.** 6pm. Douglas County Extension Annex (1134 SE Douglas Ave., Roseburg). \$5 per person. Changing climate has the potential to complicate forest management, but how? Shifting of weather patterns may already be occurring, and within the next 50 years or so, climate models and local experience to date suggest these trends: warmer and wetter winters (lower snow pack at higher elevations), hotter and drier growing season, and increased extreme weather events...drought. However, will increased CO2 improve plant performance? Well, although we don't have all the answers, this presentation attempts to summarize how this may influence our major trees and forest pests and pathogens. Lecture presented by Dr. Dave Shaw, OSU Extension Forest Health Specialist & Professor. Register through the Douglas County Extension website or call Alicia Christiansen at (541) 672-4461.
- May 30** **The Effects of Climate Change on our Forests.** 6pm. Winchester Bay Community Center (635 Broadway Ave., Winchester Bay – by fire station). Cost: \$5/person. See May 29th event for description and registration info.
- May 30** **Log Buyers Forum.** 6pm-8pm. Free. Bureau of Land Management, 3106 Pierce Parkway, Suite E, Springfield. Join in on this live discussion with a panel of Lane Co. log buyers as they talk about the species, diameters, lengths, and quality of logs they accept, and how they work with landowners in the harvesting process. RSVP by calling Lauren Grand at (541) 579-2150.
- June 1** **Forests for Engaged Learning.** 8:30am-4pm. Free. Bauman Tree Farm, Eugene. As a workshop participant, you will learn how to actively engage students in learning about Oregon's forests on your property, or as a presenter to a classroom. See page 9 for more information.
- June 4** **Protect Your Home From Wildfire - Florence.** 9am-3pm. \$15/person. Siuslaw Valley Fire & Rescue. See May 18th description. Register through the Lane Co. Extension website or call Nicole at (541) 344-5859.
- June 7** **North Umpqua Plant Walk.** 9am – 12pm. Meet at the trailhead to Susan Creek Falls (Hwy. 138 E, north side of Hwy., Douglas County). Free! Join Alicia Christiansen (OSU Extension Forester) and Tracy Pope (Streamside Flora – Riparian & Wetland Consultant) for a stroll through the woods. Learn how to identify a variety of plants, including ferns, flowers, shrubs, trees, and lichens. Space is limited, so registration is required by June 6. Register through the Douglas County Extension website, or contact Alicia at (541) 672-4461.
- June 13** **Poplar Farm Harvesting Workshop and Open House.** Formal program 10am - 3pm & open house 3pm - 6pm. Free, includes lunch. Biocycle Farm at the MWMC Biosolids Management Facility. Demonstrations include planting, growing, and maintenance of the poplar farm. Examples of logging and milling, and opportunities to obtain saw logs to test mill on your own equipment. General interest open house will follow. Poplar cuttings for growing your own will be available in small quantities. Register through the Lane County Extension website or call Nicole Wells at (541) 344-5859.

Learn how to manage your woodland

From statewide topic
experts
at the
Master Woodland Manager
Training

The MWM program will help you gain in-depth skills for tending your forest, provide you with opportunities to share your passion for stewardship with others, while learning from topic experts from across the state.

10 Installments
beginning
Sept. 5
Various locations
around Douglas
County

For more information contact Alicia Christiansen:
alicia.christiansen@oregonstate.edu | 541-236-3002
extensionweb.forestry.oregonstate.edu/mwm



Oregon State
University

Accommodations for disabilities may be made by calling 541-672-4461

Lovely lichens lurk in your woodlands

Adapted from TreeTopics blog, <http://blogs.oregonstate.edu/treetopics>, April 4, 2019

Brad Withrow-Robinson, OSU Forestry and Natural Resources Extension Agent, Benton, Linn, & Polk Counties



Photo credit: Alicia Christiansen, OSU Extension

Lichens and mosses are hitchhikers, growing on the trees without harming them (so are epiphytes, not parasites). Epiphytic lichens and mosses can make a significant contribution to diversity in our woodlands. There may be 50 or more species of epiphytic mosses and lichens in a typical acre of forest in western Oregon. That is noteworthy since they may outnumber all the trees, shrubs and herbaceous plants in that same acre!

But epiphytic lichens (and mosses too) contribute to forest diversity indirectly also. Many small insects live within the nooks and crannies of the epiphytes, which in turn provide food for many small birds foraging in the lichens. Lichens are seasonally important food to some mammals such as squirrels and deer. So lichens and mosses contribute to the food web, nutrient cycling (some lichens are nitrogen fixers) and animal diversity. So they are worth thinking about if you are growing a diverse forest. Steps towards enhancing the diversity of lichens fall broadly in line with suggestions for [increasing overall diversity in your woodland](#): thin to prevent stands from becoming extremely dense and dark and to increase the structural diversity. Keep minor species, including hardwoods when thinning. Hardwoods help diversify structure in general, but are particularly good hosts for many epiphytes. Keep some older legacy trees if you have them, and plan for longer forest rotations.

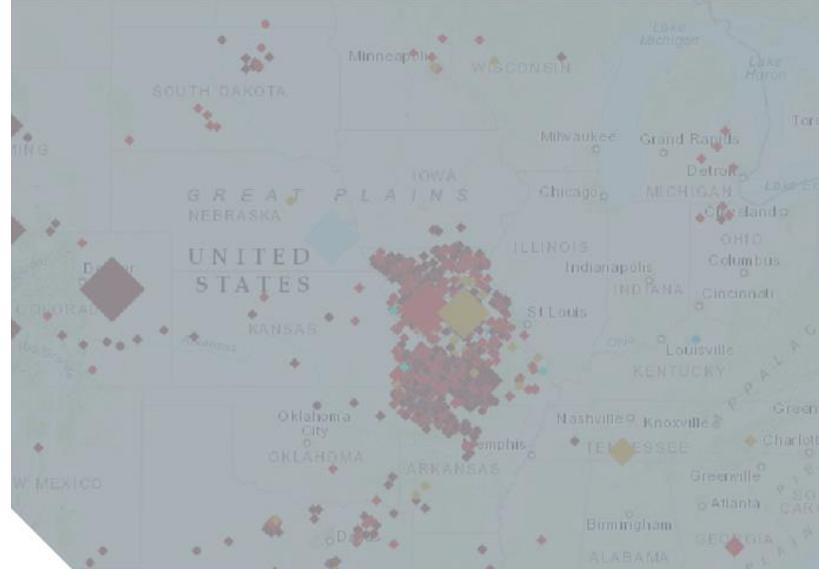
So next time you are out, make an effort to pay attention to the lichens and other epiphytes that give our forests their characteristic fuzzy glow. It is easy to notice and appreciate their diversity of shapes and colors, even if not to identify them. Learn more about lichens in your woods by visiting this [epiphyte website](#) maintained by my friend Bruce McCune, an ecologist at OSU, lichens expert and family forest landowner.

Links referred to in this article can be found at:

Epiphytes & Forest Management: <http://people.oregonstate.edu/~mccuneb/epiphytes.htm>
Growing a Diverse Forest (article): <http://blogs.oregonstate.edu/treetopics/?tag=growing-a-diverse-forest>

Submit drought-related observations

The National Drought Mitigation Center, the National Integrated Drought Information System and the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Climate Hubs are working with states, tribes and others across the country to collect crowd-sourced information on the effects of drought. We want to know how drought is affecting you.



How does this benefit you?

Observer reports help people understand how drought is affecting local conditions. Observations may highlight the need for the weekly U.S. Drought Monitor author to take a closer look at data used to make the U.S. Drought Monitor map. Sometimes reports can help reconcile conflicting data or validate data. The U.S. Drought Monitor map triggers various drought responses, including USDA disaster relief and Internal Revenue Service tax provisions.

State agencies may also make use of understanding how dry or wet conditions are affecting different areas for decisions such as where to position fire-fighting equipment, or where to direct assistance for health and safety-related issues such as dry wells.

How to submit a report

- Go to the current, mobile-friendly survey: <http://bit.ly/droughtreport19>.
- Use the form to pinpoint your location, or to let us know what county you are in, as well as the date of your observation or photo.
- How dry or wet is it? Pick from seven levels, ranging from severely dry to severely wet. Short descriptions on the survey may help you pick a level.
- What if any impacts of drought are you experiencing? Click on any categories that are relevant to you to see a list of potential impacts, and check any that you have experienced. For example, if drought is affecting your crop yield, click on "Report crop production impact" to show the list of related impacts, and then choose "Reduced yield."

- Upload a photo (optional). By uploading the photo, you agree that it may be used and shared for educational and management purposes. A photo of the same spot submitted once a season or once a month would help build up a consistent set of observations, so that we can contrast drought with normal or wet conditions.
- Provide any additional description or caption information.
- Provide contact information (optional), which will not appear on the web: Your name, organization and email.

What happens to your reports?

Condition monitoring reports appear on a map that initially displays how dry or wet observers said it was on the seven-point scale. Separate tabs for each category or sector display any impacts reported, and as of 2019, you can filter by a single impact, such as crop loss. Another tab highlights reports that include photos. Photos may take a few days to appear.

Both the report form and the mapped archive of condition monitoring reports from 2018 are accessible via <https://droughtreporter.unl.edu/submitreport>.

How often should you report?

We recommend that you submit a photo each month or each season, to provide an ongoing comparison of wet, dry and normal conditions. Of course, we also welcome more frequent submissions.

In the long term, we would like to build an online atlas of landscape photos over time, showing what a given place looks like in wet, dry and normal conditions at all times of year. This would be an excellent resource for many uses, including the U.S. Drought Monitor and land and water management.

For More Information

Drought Impact Reporter:

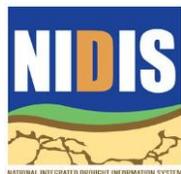
<http://droughtreporter.unl.edu/submitreport>

U.S. Drought Monitor: <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu>

About the U.S. Drought Monitor:

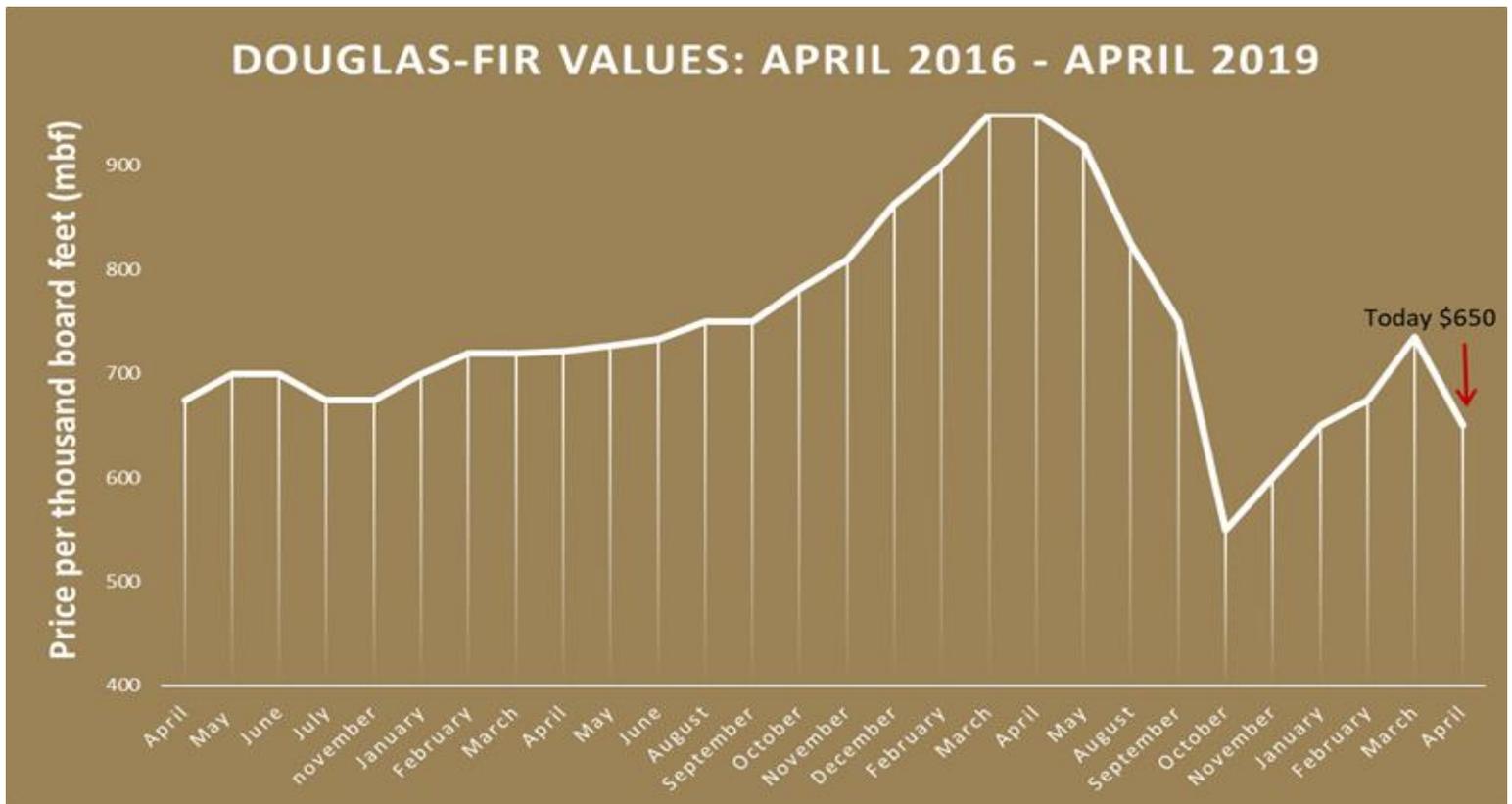
<https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/AboutUSDM/WhatIsTheUSDM.aspx>

NIDIS: <https://www.drought.gov>



Spring has sprung, but log prices haven't: Logs & Non-timber Forest Products - Prices & Trends

By Lauren Grand, OSU Forestry and Natural Resources Extension Agent, Lane County



Spring is here, but where are our log prices? It's time for everyone to start wondering what logs are going to do this year. Typically prices start to rise after the new year and peak in the late March/early April before starting their decent into the summer prices. A little over a year ago, the domestic Douglas-fir market went crazy and anyone who was prepared with a management or harvest plan was able to capitalize early and rode that ship into financial felicity.

Does lightning strike twice? There are exceptions to any rule or saying, but in this case, it looks like the market is taking it easy. That's not to say log values, both domestic and export, have turned sharply downwards, we're merely saying that market "spike" in values last summer and spring was just that!

But the past is the past, so let's look for today, and what might be on the horizon. The local mills seem to have a good volume of logs in their yards and lumber prices are still below average. Typically, the market is thriving this time of year in anticipation of building season. All this snow and rain has been holding some volume back to see a small increase in prices last month, but nothing substantial. Really it's all the snow and rain around the country that has been keeping people from buying lumber and creating demand in the market.

So for now, look at Douglas-fir long logs to bring at least \$650 at the local mills. Doug-fir domestic demand is strong enough to be competitive with export prices in the mid-700s. Now it will all come down to your location in relation to the mill or the dock. Chips, however, are in high abundance and are sitting around \$40/ton.

Red alder logs and pulp logs are in abundant supply and the alder lumber market is weakened from the China tariffs. This has caused prices to decrease lower than we've seen in a few years. With all the damage in the snow storm this year the oversupply will likely rise. Alder is over \$600/MBF for the 8" and up sorts. More realistic log sizes/values shows values as low as \$80/ton and \$400 for 6" and 7" logs.

(Continued on page 7...)

Continued from page 6 (Spring has sprung, but log prices haven't)

Incense cedar values in Douglas County mills are running close to \$800 for long logs at 8"+. Drop down to the 6" – 7" log and you'll see values about \$25/MBF less. Short logs come down further depending on diameter. Incense cedar is being purchased in the valley, but at lower values than Douglas County roughly in conjunction with the cost of trucking it to the Roseburg mills. Again, incense cedar is in demand. For those of you interested in Port-Orford-cedar in the Douglas County area, prices range from \$550-\$600.

Western redcedar prices are still lower than they have been in the recent past in the south valley and are holding at \$850/MBF for long-log cedar and \$50 less in Roseburg. Short log values decline by another \$100-\$200 depending on the length. Redcedar demand isn't what it has been because the mills have a good inventory at the moment.

Ponderosa pine isn't making the comeback of the century, but if your property is close enough to southwest Oregon you might find the price of just over \$400 mbf worth it. I wasn't able to get a price for the valley crowd, but if I had to guess I'd say it was slightly less to make up for the new tariffs and sending it to Coos Bay.

In the non-timber forest products world, Oregon grape and usnea lichen are sun setting and pipsissewa (prince's pine) and cascara are on the rise. I've also been hearing that morels are out and bountiful.

Well that's all we've got for you this time, folks. You can tell things are mostly in a holding period until we find out what the rest of this wacky spring weather will bring. If you are looking out your window and seeing snow damage as far as the eye can see, start talking to your consultants or loggers now to get in the queue. It will likely be a busy summer.

Douglas County Neighbor to Neighbor Tour

Saturday, May 18, 2019

8:30 am – 1:30 pm

**Hogan Road Family Forest
Owners [Oakland, Oregon]
Admission & Lunch: FREE!**



RSVP required by May 13th

Email oswaevents@gmail.com

or Call (503) 588-1813

The Neighbor to Neighbor Tour occurs in Douglas County every few years. This year, we will visit three small woodland properties and discuss:

1. History of family forest ownership - challenges and rewards
2. Converting oak woodlands to conifer & managing for oak woodlands
3. Christmas tree farm conversion to forest - thinning strategies
4. Pond development for fire protection and wildlife
5. Dealing with invasive species
6. Making bio-char from slash
7. Road development and replacing culverts
8. Drought strategy, tree planting, and more

Directions: Tour begins at 3724 Hogan Road, Oakland, OR 97462. From I-5 Exit 142 travel East on Goodrich Hwy about 2.9. Turn right on Hogan Rd. Continue 3.5 miles to gravel driveway on left. Follow OSWA Tour Signs.

Tour Sponsors: Dave & Susan Monnett, David Jones & Careasia Parker, and Mark & Christine Fishbauger; OSWA Douglas County Chapter; Oregon Small Woodlands Association, Oregon Forest Resources Institute, OSU Extension, Oregon Tree Farm System, and Sustainable Forestry Initiative Implementation Committee.



Neighbor to Neighbor Tour Hosts: (from left to right) Dave Monnett, David Jones, Careasia Parker, Christine Fishbauger, & Mark Fishbauger. Photo credit: Tami Jo Braz

Workshop Notes:

Controlling those Invasive Weeds

Be on the lookout! Spring is the perfect time to look for and treat invasive species.

Wylda Cafferata, OSU Extension - Master Woodland Manager volunteer



Garlic Mustard, a Class B noxious weed. Photo credit: Glenn Miller, Oregon Department of Agriculture



Himalayan blackberry, a Class B noxious weed, encroaching into a stand of timber. Photo credit: Leslie J. Mehrhoff, University of Connecticut, bugwood.org

We all have them: blackberries, false broom, Scotch broom, Japanese knotweed, but then there is Portuguese broom and French broom and garlic mustard and meadow knapweed...numerous species of plants that compete with our seedlings for light and space to grow. On April 11, 2019, OSU Extension partnered with the Middle Fork Willamette Watershed Council and met at Pleasant Hill High School's beautifully remodeled Student Center to present a workshop on the identification and control of invasive weeds.

Wyatt Williams, Oregon Department of Forestry's Invasive Weed Specialist, began the program with a quick overview of Oregon forestland ownership. Forty-eight percent of Oregon is forested, and 15% of that belongs to small woodland owners. Wyatt defined invasive species: they are non-native, pests (competing with humans for resources) and have tremendous negative consequences. For example, Scotch broom and blackberry control costs Oregon \$80 million annually! Additionally, invasive species cause increased pesticide use, raise human health concerns, and are the # 2 cause of species extinction.

Wyatt and his team aerial survey every acre of Oregon's forests every year to map and report on invasive species' prevalence. Early detection and rapid response, Wyatt emphasized, are our first line of defense. Oregon classifies invasive plants into Class A and Class B, with Class A mandated to treat, and Class B forbidden to buy, sell, or transport. An example of a Class A plant is giant hogweed, that looks like cow parsley only with more rounded leaves and growing up to 13 feet tall. Both Himalayan blackberry and Scotch broom are examples of Class B plants.

If invasives aren't detected early, their eradication is unlikely without intense effort, and if they become widespread, then they can only be managed through IPM (integrated pest management). Wyatt showed a series of slides picturing invasive plants. He encouraged participants to be keen observers of the growth on their own woodlands. If new species are found, he urged they be reported on the Invasive Species Online Hotline. He added that he is available to advise on control methods and can be reached by phone at (503) 945-7452 or by e-mail at wyatt.williams@oregon.gov. Additionally, he has a wealth of fact sheets on numerous species available to download from the ODF website.

Glenn Miller, Oregon Department of Agriculture's NW Oregon's IWM (Integrated Weed Management) Coordinator, presented the second half of the workshop, telling stories and giving advice based on 35 years of experience working with weeds in our area of the state. He provided participants with some general rules, including the following:

To learn more about noxious weeds in Oregon, visit:

www.oregon.gov/ODA/programs/Weeds

(Continued on page 9...)

Continued from page 8 (Workshop Notes: Controlling those Invasive Weeds)

1. Killing weeds is a long-term process.
2. Not all weed species are bad. For example, thistles are good for birds and pollinators, and keep elk and deer away from seedlings.
3. Using IPM (Integrated pest management) can be helpful and will reduce your dependence on herbicides.
4. Some weeds cannot be controlled without herbicides, including blackberry, deep-rooted Canadian thistle, and field bindweed.
5. Be persistent in your control methods and don't blame your neighbor for your weeds - that solves nothing.
6. Practice prevention techniques. For example, buy Oregon certified weed-free seed. Insist that equipment brought on to your property be clean.



A forester uses a weed puller to uproot a mature Scotch broom weed. Photo by Steve Wickham.

Glenn went on to discuss methods of mechanical and biological control, and then lectured on various means to control numerous species, with entertaining anecdotes about each. Garlic mustard was introduced in this country in the 1600s and brought west by the Fred Meyers family. There is a patch of Portuguese broom just south of Florence. It looks like pussy willow. If you want to see French bloom, look at the rock quarry just across the McKenzie Bridge on I5. Spurge laurel looks like a mini-rhododendron. Glenn is a joy to listen to, for sure. Like Wyatt, Glenn concluded by encouraging participants to be aware of plants on their own property. You don't have to be a botanist, he told the group. Just learn to be observant.

Out on my own property the day after the workshop, I found myself looking both appreciatively and suspiciously at many little plants I have overlooked before, and feeling grateful for the opportunity to learn more about them.

Forests for Engaged Learning

Saturday, June 1, 2019
8:30 am – 4 pm
Bauman Tree Farm [Eugene]
Cost: FREE!



Join us for a day of preparing to engage educators and students on your tree farm. The morning will be spent investigating tips, techniques, resources and curriculum. The afternoon will be spent exploring PLT activities and a discussion at Bauman Tree Farm with landowner Lindsay Reaves, who, in collaboration with Forests Today & Forever, has hosted over 10,000 students over the past 9 years in educational forums. Lunch is provided.

Register Now: <http://onrep.forestry.oregonstate.edu/workshops>

In this workshop forest landowners will:

- Learn strategies to engage students in learning about OR forests on your land, or as presenter in a classroom.
- Receive the award-winning Project Learning Tree Guide (free). This PreK-8 Activity Guide includes over 90 age appropriate activities that help student understand forests and their connection to our lives.
- Receive free materials and resources specific to Oregon's forests including: tips and strategies for working with teachers and students, planning templates, identification guides, and more.
- Create a plan for engaging teachers and/or students on your property or in a classroom presentation with help from the workshop leaders. You will receive materials to support your efforts.



Canopy View News

A Forestry & Natural Resources Newsletter for Woodland Enthusiasts of Douglas & Lane Counties

Summer 2019 – Issue 3

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