



GROWING

Extending Knowledge and Changing Lives in Linn and Benton Counties

Preparing for Wildfire a Year-Round Exercise

By Mitch Lies,
GROWING Editor

At 9:30 a.m. on May 4 of last year, residents of the Skyline West neighborhood in Corvallis grabbed go-packs filled with emergency provisions, hopped in their cars and evacuated the neighborhood on a preplanned route.

There was no fire, no earthquake or other disaster. The residents were conducting an exercise in case of wildfire.

The evacuation exercise, conducted with assistance from the Corvallis fire emergency planners and the city's fire and police departments, is part of a multi-pronged approach the neighborhood is taking towards fire preparedness.

All too often, according to Carrie Berger, fire program manager for Oregon State University's Forestry and Natural Resources Extension Service's new Fire Program, who lives in the neighborhood, people are caught off-guard when a wildfire forces an emergency evacuation. With some advanced preparation, she said, damage can be mitigated, lives saved, and panic avoided.



Aaron Crawford, a Community Emergency Response Team member, displays the contents of a go-bag to residents of the Corvallis neighborhood Skyline West after an evacuation drill last May.

Today, the residents of the Skyline West neighborhood have go-packs complete with emergency provisions ready to grab at a moment's notice. They have created fire-resilient landscapes, complete with fire breaks between the abutting woodlands and their properties. And most also are enrolled in the Linn-Benton Emergency Alert System, so if a wildfire is in the area, they will know of its

presence.

Berger, who took over as Extension Fire Program manager on May 18 and has been with Extension since 2014, said she began working with the residents of Skyline West after she moved into the neighborhood in 2014.

At the time, despite the fact that the neighborhood was at high risk to wildfire, due to its terrain, vegetation and the fact it is abutted on all four

sides by woodlands, the residents had no formal plan for dealing with wildfire. And, she said, that is not unusual for Willamette Valley neighborhoods, where rainy conditions tend to douse concerns over wildfire and people can let their guards down.

"People have to be aware of the risk of fire and be prepared to survive it when it happens," said Brad Withrow-Robinson, Oregon State University forestry Extension agent for Linn and Benton counties, who also has worked to instigate fire-preparedness in the mid-valley. "Our part of Oregon doesn't have as frequent fires as other areas, but we are very much within a fire-prone environment."

Preparing for wildfires is a year-round exercise, Withrow-Robinson said. In fall, winter and spring months, rural landowners and those in the urban-rural interface should consider actions to reduce the fuel load around their homes, landscapes or woods. People should also be thinking about access in and out of their property, for themselves as well as for fire crews.

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New OSU Fire Program Initiated

By Mitch Lies, *GROWING* Editor

Utilizing \$2 million allocated by the Oregon Legislature for the 2019-21 biennium, OSU Forestry and Natural Resources Extension has implemented a new statewide Fire Program to help facilitate large-scale, cross-boundary land management, as well as create a healthy understanding and respect of fire through education and outreach.

With the funding, the Fire Program will hire six regional fire specialists, who will be strategically placed throughout the state.

When on board, the specialists will work to develop partnerships within their designated service areas with the aim of mitigating catastrophic wildfire risk on all lands, including range and forestlands, by, among other methods, creating fire-resilient landscapes, said Carrie Berger, the program manager.

"The Fire Program team will be the facilitators of that effort," Berger said, "but key to our success will be our partners. We will work with our existing partners, like the Oregon Department of Forestry, and create new partnerships with rural and city fire departments. This is an all-hands-on-deck effort."

Berger said she hopes to have the regional specialists on board by late summer or early fall.

"I hoped originally that we would have people on by June," Berger said, "but COVID has said otherwise."

WE ARE OPEN!

See pg 20 for our hours and also a list of virtual programs being offered by Extension.

Who We Are

The Oregon State University Extension offices in Linn County and Benton County offer practical, lifelong learning experiences. We sponsor conferences, workshops, demonstrations, tours, and short courses. We recruit, train and manage volunteers who assist us with community outreach and education. Our Extension faculty and volunteers answer questions and give advice by phone, in person, through e-mail, and on our Websites. We provide brochures and flyers with specific information on a variety of subjects. We are funded by a cooperative partnership between Oregon State University, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and our local counties.

Office locations and hours

The Benton County office is located at 4077 SW Research Way in Corvallis. Office hours are 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Telephone: 541-766-6750. Fax: 541-766-3549. <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/benton>.

The Linn County office is located at 33630 McFarland Rd (on the corner of Old Highway 34 and McFarland Road), in Tangent. Office hours are from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Phone 541-967-3871. Seed Certification phone 541-967-3810. <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/linn>.

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SNAP Ed*	Diana Cardenas	541-730-3540
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* Multi-county assignment

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Oregon State University
Extension Service

A Message from Extension

By Anita Azarenko

Dear OSU Extension Community,

Together, we grieve for and with families across our state and nation who have lost loved ones at the hands of others and due to the COVID-19 pandemic, which we know is disproportionately affecting people of color.

Together, we are struggling with the knowledge that our society has failed—time and time again—to act in ways that honor the value, dignity and wisdom that each person contributes to this world.

Recently, President Ray reaffirmed the university's commitment to inclusivity, safety and opportunity and called on all of us to continue to participate in dialogue, leadership and understanding as we seek to alter the direction of society.

The OSU Extension community stands behind that commitment. We stand and act against actions that continue to perpetuate systemic racism and maintain other societal inequities.

As an Extension service, it is core to our mission to serve everyone to help Oregon thrive. We have work to do.

Our data show that our workforce, volunteer, advisory committee and participant demographics are not at parity with Oregon's population. And that we still have barriers to overcome to help each and every Oregonian access and feel safe and welcome in our programs and activities.

I call on each member of our Extension community to learn, engage and act. And in so doing, to lead in a way that we listen authentically to those whose lived experiences and identities are different than our own—especially our colleagues and members of our community who are Black, Indigenous or people of color.

Educating oneself is a good place to start. Wherever you are on your personal learning journey related to concepts of diversity, equity and inclusion, I urge you to take a next step. We will continue to support and make available learning opportunities for our employees, volunteers and participants.

We will continue to share with you the university and Extension's plans, actions and outcomes toward achieving inclusive excellence and to help dismantle systemic racism.

I look forward to hearing your own ideas, questions and commitments. Let's talk often about what positive and lasting change looks like—and what we need to learn and understand for that to happen. We will expand opportunities for you to share your thoughts and ideas. And most of all we will act to ensure that everyone in our Extension community and across Oregon is welcome, safe and valued.

We are a community of learners, educators and conveners. Together, we can—and must—act for change.

With hope,
Anita Nina Azarenko

Azarenko is Vice Provost for Extension and Engagement, Director of the Extension Service, Interim. She sent this out on June 12.

OSU Extension's Commitments and Actions

The OSU Extension Service is committed to equal access and opportunity, and to ensuring all reasonable effort is made to deliver and to provide access to Extension programs and services for all individuals.

OSU employees participate in professional development opportunities, such as OSU's Search Advocate Program, Social Justice Education Initiative workshops or OSU Extension's Diversity

Champions program. These activities generate conversations and reflection around the complex issues of equity and inclusion.

This work aligns with the university's mission and values, the OSU strategic plan and our highest aspirations for social justice within the university community.

As a land grant institution, we have the power to impact every single person that we

come in contact with.

To realize this vision, we must gather and invest in resources that ensure inclusive action at all levels and ensure that people from all walks of life have the opportunity to transform the world through their unique talents, ideas and voices. Our goal is to ensure that these voices are not just heard but embraced.

Family and Community Health

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Making and Selling Food Products

Some people have had extra time at home to cook and bake lately, and others preserve much more fresh produce than their family could possibly use. Thoughts of selling homemade food products come to mind.

It's possible, but you will want to check the requirements first.

Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) is in charge of ensuring that food products prepared and sold in Oregon are safe for the consumer. They offer guidelines and guidance to protect both the producer and the consumer. In recent years, new laws have made it even easier for individuals to safely and legally sell food products to others. ODA staff prefer that you contact them before you start producing or selling products, they are happy to provide guidelines and advice to keep you from making mistakes.

A great deal of information is available on their website or call them at 503-986-4720 <https://www.oregon.gov/ODA/programs/FoodSafety/Pages/AboutFoodSafety.aspx>

Here is a brief overview of some of the most common activities and links for more details.

Oregon Home Baking Bill allows people to produce baked goods and confectionary items in their home



kitchens and sell them directly to consumers without having to obtain a license or undergo an inspection. <https://catalog.extension.oregonstate.edu/em9192>

Oregon Farm Direct Marketing Bill allows farmers to turn what they grow into low-risk, value added products and sell them directly to consumers without being licensed. These include canned fruit and fruit syrups; jams, jellies and preserves; acidified fruits and vegetables, including pickles, chutneys and sauces; and fermented fruits and vegetables. There are specific labeling requirements. <https://catalog.extension.oregonstate.edu/em9205>

If someone does not grow the main ingredients for the products listed above, they are required to be

made in a licensed facility and have an approved process. ODA will have a list of licensed facilities to rent, which is an economical alternative to building or remodeling yourself.

Food swaps have no legal requirements if people trade homemade, home grown, or foraged foods without food being sold or given away.

Benevolent/nonprofit organizations preparing and selling non-potentially hazardous foods such as jams, bread, cookies, and candy, or the mixing and packaging of bean soup mix to raise funds for a non-profit organization may be exempt. Confirm details with the ODA before your event.

Fruit and vegetable stands located on a farmer's property are exempt from licensing if only selling produce grown by the farmer.

Egg producers who are selling and delivering their own eggs directly to an individual consumer (including farmers' market) are exempt from licensing, but specific labeling is required.

So if your friends have been telling you that your fresh bread or pickled beans are really special, it might be worth checking to see what it would take to make them for sale.

Canning Jar Lids: No Need to Preheat

There are many steps in food preservation. You may be happy to learn that one step is unnecessary. Canning jar lid manufacturers say there's no need to preheat the lids! Just remove them from the box, wash and place them right on the clean rim of the filled canning jar. Screw the metal band down just "finger-tip" tight. It must allow a bit of steam to escape as pressure builds during processing to create a strong vacuum seal when it cools. After years of research, manufacturers found that pre-heating the current sealing compounds used on the lids doesn't make any difference, it's just an opportunity to burn your finger-tips!

Kerr® has been making canning jar lids with the sealing ring attached to the metal since 1914. Kerr® brand was acquired by their competitor Ball® in 1996, part of Rubbermaid® Inc. Both brands jars, lids and rings are interchangeable and are Bisphenol -A (BPA) free. Jar lids should be used up within 5 years of manufacture to ensure that they seal.



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You can add whole grains to your meals without cooking, simply by choosing breads, breakfast cereals, and other prepared whole grain foods. If you'd like to enjoy delicious whole grains at home as a side dish, however, here are some guidelines for cooking them from scratch.

1 Cup of Grain	Water	Cook Time	Cooked Amount
Amaranth	2 cups	25-25 minutes	3½ cups
Barley, hulled	3 cups	45-60 minutes	3½ cups
Buckwheat	2 cups	30 minutes	4 cups
Bulgur	2 cups	10-12 minutes	3 cups
Cornmeal (polenta)	4 cups	25-30 minutes	2½ cups
Couscous, whole wheat	2 cups	10 minutes (heat off)	3 cups
Kamut®	4 cups	Soak overnight, then cook for 45-60 minutes	3 cups
Millet, hulled	2½ cups	20 minutes	4 cups
Oats, steel cut	4 cups	20 minutes	4 cups
Pasta, whole wheat	6 cups	8-12 minutes (varies by size)	varies
Quinoa	2 cups	12-15 minutes	3+ cups
Brown Rice	2½ cups	45 minutes (varies by variety)	3-4 cups
Rye berries	4 cups	Soak overnight, then cook 45-60 minutes	3 cups
Sorghum	4 cups	25-40 minutes	3 cups
Spelt berries	4 cups	Soak overnight, then cook 45-60 minutes	3 cups
Teff	3 cups	For porridge: Toast: 3 min. Simmer: 15-20 min.	3 cups
Wheat berries	4 cups	Soak overnight, then cook 45-60 minutes	3 cups
Wild Rice	3 cups	45-55 minutes	3½ cups

Reference: <https://wholegrainscouncil.org/>

How to Get Whole Grains Into Your Diet

By **Hallie Locher**,
OSU Dietetic Intern

Although some trendy diets are promoting low-carbohydrate intake, grains are an essential part of diets. All grains start out as whole but they can be stripped down (germ, endosperm, bran removed) and lose important nutrients. Those nutrients can be added back to make “enriched” white grains or flours, however, they are not considered whole grains. The United States Department of Agriculture recommends that at least 50 percent of our grains eaten should be 100 percent whole grain. To find your daily recommended intake, go to: <https://www.choosemyplate.gov/eathealthy/grains>

What is a whole grain? What are the benefits of eating whole grains over enriched?

Whole grains are any foods made from wheat, rice, oats, cornmeal and barley. Some examples are whole grain breads, pastas, crackers, and tortillas, brown rice, quinoa, some breakfast cereals, and grits. People who eat whole grains as part of a healthy diet can reduce their risk for heart disease, support a healthy digestive system, have good weight management and prevent neural tube defects.



Tips for adding whole grains to your diet:

- Start with familiar foods
- Switch to whole grain foods that you are already eating. Choose 100 percent whole grain breads, tortillas, and pastas over white. Try brown or wild rice over white rice.
- Gradual change
- Add a little bit at a time. Try mixing half brown rice or pasta with half white, or using oats for baking.
- Snack smart!
- Try making air popped popcorn, which is naturally a whole grain! There is now a wide array of whole grain crackers and granola bars.
- Be adventurous
- Try new grains you may be curious about. Research how they can be used.
- Don't be fooled
- Remember to read labels! Make sure that whole grain is at the top of the

list and the list is relatively short. “Multigrain” or “all natural” may not mean anything.

Resources:

Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. (2019, April). *How to Add Whole Grains to Your Diet*. Retrieved from <https://www.eatright.org/food/nutrition/dietary-guidelines-and-myplate/how-to-add-whole-grains-to-your-diet>
ChooseMyPlate. (no date). *All about the Grains Group*. Retrieved from <https://www.choosemyplate.gov/eathealthy/grains>
Harvard Health Publishing. (2016, June) *6 suggestions for adding whole grains to your diet* Retrieved from <https://www.health.harvard.edu/healthy-eating/6-suggestions-for-adding-whole-grains-to-your-diet>

OSU Extension Service



Canning • Pickling • Freezing • Drying • Smoking • Food storage

FOOD Preservation

Help you can rely on

Current and complete home food preservation information from the experts at OSU Extension. We're here to help!

Online: Food preservation resources
beav.es/4eC

Hotline: 800-354-7319 (through October)

Email: extension.oregonstate.edu/ask-expert



FEATURED RESOURCE:
Canning Timer and Checklist App
beav.es/4e9



Basic Food Preservation Videos Published

Kelly Streit, with OSU Extension Service in Clackamas County, has created some detailed, basic home food preservation videos, ideal for beginners or as a review for experienced preservers. At the beginning of each video is information on Oregon's Farm Direct Marketing Bill then Kelly goes through the steps to successful canning, pickling, and drying in careful detail.

- Water Bath Canning: Fruit Syrup recipe - https://youtu.be/DjxTdsi_gZ4
- Acidified Foods: Pickled hot peppers recipe - <https://youtu.be/B0MqSq75fZI>
- Dehydrated Foods: Dried apples & apple fruit leather recipes - <https://youtu.be/f6eTliwN-4I>

Create a Healthy Home Food Environment

By **Hallie Locher**,
OSU Dietetic Intern

So many food influences around us can create questions of how to guide your child in a healthy dietary direction. In a food-focused environment parents strive to teach children to manage their own food choices, however parents can tend to restrict/dictate too much or not give the child enough boundaries with food. It's important to find a happy medium while still having structure. Ellyn Satter created the division of responsibilities to help children and adults become/stay competent and joyful about food. It can apply to every stage in your child's development. Parents are responsible for what, when and where with eating. Children are responsible for

how much and whether to eat or not.

Caregiver's job

- Choose and prepare meals
- Regular and consistent meals and snacks
- Positive eating



- environment
- Show by example
- Be aware of child's lack of food experience without catering to likes and dislikes
- Avoid food and beverages between meals

- Let your child eat and grow into the body that is right for them

Trust

Relax, enjoy your own meal and teach your child to have pleasant mealtimes. Sooner or later children will want to eat what you are eating. Trying new foods may take time, but in the end children will try the foods because they want to, not because they are forced.

Preventing Eating Problems

Focus on your job with feeding and let your child do theirs. Children that are allowed to eat on the run are likely to be picky, eat poorly and struggle with consistent eating. Without a regular mealtime routine, children can't depend on being fed and how much they will

be given. This may cause children to overeat or they may get turned off and avoid foods.

Overweight and Obesity

Children have internal switches to allow them to eat as much as they need. Some days they can eat very little and other days, large amounts. Remember your job is to offer consistent family meals and a safe environment to eat and your child will do the rest.

Resources:

Ellyn Satter Institute. Division of responsibility in feeding. (2019). Retrieved from <https://www.ellynsatterinstitute.org/how-to-feed/the-division-of-responsibility-in-feeding/>

Preparing for Wildfire a Year-Round Exercise

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"You should ask yourself, does your driveway have clearance for a small wildland fire-fighting truck to get in, and a place where it can turn around," Withrow-Robinson said. "If it doesn't, then firefighters will not be able to come in and help you defend your house."

Also, he said, rural driveways should allow for two vehicles to pass, and ideally, homeowners should have two ways in and out of property. "A fire can conceivably move so fast that your own driveway gets cut off," Withrow-Robinson said.

In summer months, fire-prevention evolves into fire avoidance, Withrow-Robinson said.

"As summer heat comes on, the main task shifts

from reducing fuels to being aware of trying to prevent ignitions," Withrow-Robinson said. "Humans are the main cause of fire in Western Oregon. Debris burning, smoking, power equipment and even target practice can start fires. And, if you are in these highly flammable areas, in fire season, you and your neighbors should keep all that in mind and do all you can to prevent it. But fire will happen sometime in our area, and we need to be prepared for that."

Withrow-Robinson said he and staff from the Oregon Department of Forestry have been teaching wildfire preparedness for as long as he's been a forestry Extension agent. Often, however, the classes on fire preparedness have not been well attended.

With wildfires recently causing catastrophic loss of life and property, he is hoping that will change. In November of 2018, for example, the Camp Fire in Northern California completely destroyed the town of Paradise, killing 85 civilians and causing \$16.5 billion of damage.

"Everyone in the past always assumed this is not going to happen to them. But I think people are becoming aware that it might happen to them," he said. "They've seen these things in the news."

Berger said her efforts to create community awareness of wildfire in the Skyline West neighborhood started by going door to door and asking people for their email. "I asked them for their email so we could communicate more efficiently

about neighborhood safety, including fire safety," she said.

Backed by a small grant from State Farm Insurance and the National Fire Protection Association, Berger's next step was to contract for a risk assessment by an urban forester, who assessed each of the 170 homes in the neighborhood for risk to wildfires and provided residents steps to take to mitigate the risk.

Subsequent steps have involved bringing out a master gardener to talk to the community about fire-resistant plants, and conducting a workshop on what it means to be ready, set, go, as well as the evacuation exercise.

In the exercise, Corvallis

officials sent out a reverse 911 call to the neighborhood's residents, who had been forewarned it was coming, and about 80 people showed up at the designated evacuation site, Berger said.

Today, the neighborhood has gained Firewise designation, a designation the National Fire Protection Association awards neighborhoods that meet certain criteria, including developing and sustaining a community-wide plan for addressing wildfires. And, if and when the threat of a wildfire becomes a reality, Berger is confident that the residents of Skyline West will know exactly what to do.



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Community Horticulture

Master Gardener Volunteer of the Year Awardees

This award is presented to one OSU Master Gardener™ from each County by the Oregon Master Gardener™ Association (OMGA) working cooperatively with Oregon State University. This annual award recognizes outstanding dedication and service of an OSU Master Gardener at the county level.

Rich Taylor has been a Benton County Master Gardener for eight years. Rich



serves in leadership roles with the Benton County Master Gardener

Association (BCMGA) serving on the Board as an OMGA representative and on the Outreach and other committees. Rich used his talents to develop the BCMGA website, which serves the community and Master Gardener volunteers with educational and administrative materials. Rich is also an integral part of the Gearing Up for Gardening series (our free to the public, educational event at the

Corvallis Library), recording each lecture and posting them on our website, making them available to Master Gardeners and the public.

Rich is involved in the educational demonstration gardens and helps with design decisions, irrigation and maintenance work, and is the go-to soil and compost delivery person. Rich is always positive and steps right in for any task. Rich has also been integral in the success of the annual Insights into Gardening conference put on each spring. In 2020, he developed and implemented social media outreach via the BCMGA webpage and Facebook resulting in 76 new attendees and a sold-out event. As the Volunteer Coordinator for the conference, he defined their scope and responsibilities and successfully filled positions using on-line sign-up. Rich used detailed analysis and logistical savvy combined with great people skills to recruit, orient, and organize volunteers to ensure success. He also makes volunteering fun with his relaxed demeanor and shared joy in gardening

successes. Thank you, Rich!

Karin Magnuson has been a Linn County Master Gardener since 2016. She quickly



became an integral team member helping with the planning process of the

Albany “Through the Garden Gate” Garden Tour LCMGA fundraiser. Creating the ticket brochure and maps using her computer skills from past work experiences has filled a requirement to make this event successful. She interviews garden owners and also helps with ticket sales. It is wonderful when past work skills can make current projects even better.

The LCMGA pollinator project is another project Karin is actively supporting. She helps with bee supply sales and setting up technology for the BEEvent Pollinator Conference. This past year she joined the team to teach community members how care for mason bees and how to harvest and clean mason bee cocoons. She

helped make improvements to the shared Power Point presentation.

Teaching classes like “Successful Gardening with Physical Limitations” and “Gardening for the Senses” make Karin a valued member of LCMGA. Karin is also a Member-at-Large on the LCMGA Board. Karin steps up as needed and collaboratively works with everyone. Thank you, Karin!

Behind the Scenes Master Gardener Volunteer of the Year Awardees.

This award is presented to one OSU Master Gardener™ from each County by the Oregon Master Gardener™ Association (OMGA) working cooperatively with Oregon State University. This annual award recognizes an OSU Master Gardener™ who works quietly and unselfishly behind the scenes to further the OSU Master Gardener Program on a county level. This is not a person who is out in front working on projects, so that everyone knows their contributions. Rather, it is a person whom few may actually know the

level of their contributions.

Jean Hamilton became a Linn County Master Gardener in 2019. At the LCMGA Demo



Garden, Jean has weeded, planted vegetables, fertilized, harvested and helped

with irrigation. Within the community she often represents LCMGA at both the Brownsville and Sweet Home Farmers Markets helping answer plant clinic gardening questions. Jean also is a mentor for a 2020 trainee.

Jean has volunteered at Albany Garden Tour. She helped with cocoon harvesting classes and has worked plant clinics at the Demo Garden during the Linn County Fair. This year she took on the demanding job of getting vendors for the Beevent Pollinator Conference. She is a collaborative worker who freely volunteers as needed. In a very short time, Jean has made a big impact. Thank you, Jean, for your hard work and

Continued on Page 8



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July-August Gardening Calendar for Western Oregon

The Oregon State University Extension Service encourages **sustainable gardening practices**.

We emphasize **preventive pest management** over reactive pest control. Identify and monitor problems before acting and opt for the least toxic approach that will remedy the problem. Favor biological control agents (predators, parasitoids) over chemical controls.

Use chemical controls only when necessary and only after thoroughly reading the pesticide label. Consider cultural first, then physical and biological controls. Choose the least-toxic options (insecticidal soaps, horticultural oils, botanical insecticides, and organic and synthetic pesticides — when used judiciously).

Trade-name products and services are mentioned as illustrations only. This does not mean that the Oregon State University Extension Service endorses these products and services or intends to discriminate against products and services not mentioned.

JULY

Maintenance and clean up

- If you want a green lawn, water frequently during periods of heat and drought stress. Irrigate a quarter inch four to six times per week from June through August. Measure your water use by placing an empty tuna can where your irrigation water lands.
- Mound soil up around the base of your potato plants. Gather and eat a few “new” potatoes from each hill when plants begin to flower.
- To reduce evaporation, water vegetable and flower gardens in the early morning. Water the soil rather than leaves to reduce disease. Water deeply and infrequently to encourage root growth.
- Pay careful attention to watering and feeding hanging baskets of flowers or vegetable plantings during extended periods of hot weather.
- Weed and fertilize rhubarb and asparagus beds. A mulch of compost or rotted cow manure works well as fertilizer. Water deeply to develop crowns for next year.
- Mulch with paper, plastic, sawdust, etc. to conserve soil moisture.
- Stake tall-growing flowering plants such as delphinium, hollyhocks, and lupine. Stake tomatoes as necessary.
- 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. Do not compost diseased plants unless you are using the “hot compost” method (120 degrees to 150 degrees F).

Planting and propagation

- Beets, bush beans, carrots, cauliflower, broccoli, lettuce, kale and peas planted in midsummer provide fall and winter crops.
- Dig spring bulbs when tops have died down; divide and store or replant.

Pest Monitoring and Management

- Control hollyhock rust by sanitation, picking affected leaves, or spraying with a registered fungicide. Read and follow label directions.
- Watch for cutworm damage in garden. In July, climbing cutworms become a problem and 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 degrees F, or spray with Bt-k according to label directions.

- Late July: Begin to monitor for early and late blight on tomatoes. Correct by pruning for air circulation, picking off affected leaves, and/or treat with approved fungicide.
- Place traps to catch adult apple maggot flies. You can use pheromone traps to monitor presence of pests.
- July 10: Spray filbert trees for filbertworm, as necessary.
- July 10-15: Spray peach and prune trees for peach tree borer, and peach twig borer, as necessary.
- July 17-23: Third spray for codling moth in apple and pear trees, as necessary.
- Cover blueberry bushes with netting to keep birds from eating the entire crop.
- Monitor camellias, holly, and maple trees for scale insects. Treat if necessary.
- Monitor rhododendrons for adult root weevils. Look for fresh evidence of feeding (notching). Try sticky trap products on plant trunks to trap adult weevils. Manage root weevils with beneficial nematodes (if soil temperature is above 55 degrees F). If root weevils are a consistent problem, consider removing plants and choosing resistant varieties (PDF).
- Spider mites can become a problem on ornamental plants, vegetables, and fruit plants during hot, dry weather. Watch for dusty-looking foliage, loss of color, and presence of tiny mites. Wash infested areas with water or spray with appropriate pesticides.
- Continue monitoring raspberry, blackberry, blueberry, cherry and other plants that produce soft fruits and berries for spotted wing drosophila. If the file is present, use an integrated and least-toxic approach to manage the pests. Learn how to monitor for drosophila flies and larval infestations in fruit.
- Check leafy vegetables for caterpillars. Remove caterpillars as they appear. Use Bt-k, if necessary.
- Remove cankered limbs from fruit and nut trees for control of diseases such as apple anthracnose and bacterial canker of stone fruit. Sterilize tools before each new cut.

AUGUST

Planning

- The optimal time for establishing a new lawn is August through mid-September.
- 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.

Maintenance and clean up

- Make compost out of lawn clippings and garden plants that are ready to be recycled. Don't use clippings if the lawn has been treated with herbicide, including “weed-and-feed” products. Don't compost diseased plants unless you are using the “hot compost” method (120 degrees to 150 degrees Fahrenheit).
- Fertilize cucumbers, summer squash, and broccoli to maintain production while you continue harvesting.
- Clean and fertilize strawberry beds.
- Use mulch to protect ornamentals and garden plants from hot weather damage. If needed, provide temporary shade, especially for recent plantings.
- Camellias need deep watering to develop flower buds

for next spring.

- Prune raspberries, boysenberries, and other caneberries after harvest. Check raspberries for holes made by crown borers, near the soil line, at the base of the plant. Remove infested wood before adults emerge (approximately mid-August).
- Monitor garden irrigation closely so crops and ornamentals don't dry out.
- If you want your lawn to stay green, you'll have to water frequently during periods of heat and drought stress. Irrigate 0.25 inches four to six times per week from June through August. Measure your water use by placing an empty tuna can where your irrigation water lands.
- Prune out dead fruiting canes in trailing blackberries and train new primocanes prior the to end of the month.
- Prune cherry trees before fall rains begin to allow callusing in dry weather. This will minimize the spread of bacterial canker.

Planting/propagation

- Plant winter cover crops in vacant space in the vegetable garden
- Plant winter kale, Brussels sprouts, turnips, parsnips, parsley, and Chinese cabbage.
- Mid-summer planting of peas; use enation-virus-resistant varieties, plant fall crops of cabbage, cauliflower, and broccoli.
- Plant cauliflower, broccoli, Brussels sprouts, spinach, turnips, and parsnips.

Pest monitoring and management

- Remove cankered limbs from fruit and nut trees for control of diseases such as apple anthracnose and bacterial canker of stone fruit. Sterilize tools before each new cut.
- Check apple maggot traps; spray tree if needed.
- Control yellowjackets and wasps with traps and lures as necessary. Keep in mind they are beneficial insects and help control pest insects in the home garden.
- First week: If necessary, spray for walnut husk fly.
- First week: If necessary, second spray for peach tree borer and/or peach twig borer.
- First week: If necessary, 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 and maples. Treat as necessary.
- Watch for corn earworm on early corn. Treat as needed.
- For mite control on ornamentals and most vegetables, hose off foliage, spray with approved miticide if necessary.
- Check leafy vegetables for caterpillars. Pick off caterpillars as they appear. Use Bt-k, if necessary.
- Continue monitoring peaches, plums, prunes, figs, fall-bearing raspberries and strawberries, and other plants that produce soft fruits and berries for Spotted Wing Drosophila (SWD). If SWD are present, use an integrated and least toxic approach to manage the pests. Learn how to monitor for SWD flies and larval infestations in fruit.
- Corn may need protection from earworm. Spray new silks with appropriate pesticides if necessary.
- Check for tomato hornworm. Remove them if found.
- Spray potatoes and tomatoes for early and late blight.

Interested in receiving our monthly gardening newsletter?
Sign up at <https://beav.es/4oc>

Master Gardener continued from Page 6

for being a wonderful addition to the Linn Master Gardener program!

Lisa Borgerson has been a Master Gardener volunteer for six years. Lisa's actions have impact. Her huge effort to develop a vastly improved database management system has improved plant sale profitability, improved the accuracy of our labeling, and reduced the number of unsold plants. Over five years, she has tracked the number of any given cultivar potted up and compared that with the number of pots surviving and the number left unsold in previous years.



Keeping this database of specifics on thousands of plants sold over the years current takes many hours of tedious work to inform our planting decisions. Lisa steps forward with energy and a can-do attitude as we make the transition to non-dig methods of propagation.

She heads the Perennials Propagation Team, a small group growing many hundreds of perennials through cuttings, seeding and purchasing plugs. She is personally trialing many flats to determine the feasibility of making our own plugs from seed in a timely manner. She currently has over 400 tiny Trilliums successfully propagated from seed collected from her own plants.

She has a great sense of humor, amazing flexibility, and a sincere willingness to take responsibility for what needs doing. In addition, she mentors new Master Gardeners and teaches the Plant Problem Scenarios. Thank you, Lisa!



Empowering Gardeners in Uncertain Times

By **Emily Herb**,
Master Gardener Volunteer

In March 2020 the Benton County Master Gardeners were facing the same challenges as everyone else as the waves of closures, cancellations, and eventually 'stay home' orders were announced. The Community Gardening Education Team, a committee of the Benton County Master Gardener Association, had a powerful conversation about how we could be useful and relevant during the lockdown of the COVID-19 pandemic.

One idea was to host virtual Veggie Gardening Q&As to help meet the needs of new gardeners by answering their questions live and in real time during an online Zoom session. I am so glad that despite how shut down I was feeling, that I opened myself enough to join this meaningful work.



Since our first Q&A we have held six Veggie Gardening Q&As, and all of them have been well attended. We are not always able to answer all the questions, but we can always promise to research their issue later and email an answer. We are streaming Live on Facebook as well as recording podcasts of our sessions. We didn't have any idea that our small attempt to reach people and be relevant during the pandemic would get so big!

Another related story is how these Veggie Gardening Q&As opened the door to reaching out to a community in Oregon that previously

had little contact with Master Gardeners. In my professional life I am a Sign Language interpreter. One of my Deaf friends reached out to me to see if there would be a possibility of offering a similar opportunity in Sign Language. Since then have had two gardening Q&As in American Sign Language that have been open to all who use that language.

I am proud of how Benton County Master Gardener volunteers and the Community Gardening Education Team moved into the online space and brought gardening to more people during uncertain times.

This is excerpted from a longer essay, to read it and find links to our podcast visit <http://blogs.oregonstate.edu/linnbentonmg/2020/06/23/empowering-gardeners-in-uncertain-times/>

**ASK A MASTER GARDENER
GARDENING
Q&A DIAL IN
ASK A QUESTION
OR JUST LISTEN IN**




**WEDS 7/15 @7PM
TUES 7/28 @12PM
TUES 8/11 @7PM
541-730-3531**



Chrissy Lucas
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Groundwater Protection Education

Are You Water Wise? Try a Water Use Calculator

Increasingly, Americans are becoming more aware of the importance of using water wisely. The biggest question many water users have is are they doing a good or a poor job of conserving, or not wasting water?

One of my favorite water use calculators, the Water Calculator, is easy to use, free, and fun for the whole family. You can go room by room, explore your landscape, and pool or spa usage. The Water Calculator is a collaborative project

of the Alliance for Water Efficiency and The Field Museum and was made possible by a grant from the Home Depot Foundation. <https://www.home-water-works.org/calculator>



How A Water Footprint/ Use Calculator Works
Home water conservation is easy once you understand how and where you can use less. The quick and easy Water Calculator shows you which water uses in your home are efficient and which are not and offers

simple conservation tips that save water and energy.

The Water Calculator compares your water use to a similar average and efficient house in your region. The Water Calculator estimates the energy savings and carbon footprint of your hot water usage, and helps identify specific areas for improving overall household water efficiency. Water conservation is easy and the Water Calculator gets you started right away. Through a series of simple questions about household size, daily routines, the age of your home, and more the interactive tool accounts for



your estimated water you use from the tap.

For a deeper understanding of your water footprint, the website also has pages about all

things conservation for both indoor and outdoor use.

Adapted from <https://www.home-water-works.org/calculator>

SepticSmart Week 2020

Save the Date!
September 14-18,
2020

Plan ahead for SepticSmart Week!
EPA's annual event focused
on how to care for and
maintain your septic system.

For more information, visit
www.epa.gov/septic.



Start Conserving Water Today with a New Faucet!

Faucets account for more than 15 percent of indoor household water use – that's more than 1 trillion gallons of water across the United States each year. A newer faucet can reduce a sink's water flow by 30 percent or more without sacrificing performance. If every household in the United States installed these type of bathroom sink faucets or faucet accessories, we could save more than \$350 million in water utility bills and more than 60 billion gallons of water annually. If you are not in the market for a new faucet, consider replacing the aerator in your older faucet with a more efficient one. The aerator – the screw-on tip of the faucet – ultimately determines the maximum flow rate of a faucet, look for 0.5 gpm (gallons per minute) style. Aerators are inexpensive to replace and are an effective water-efficiency measure.

For more information on water-efficient faucets, showerheads, and accessories, <http://www.epa.gov/WaterSense>



Working on Your Best Fields First

Improving pastures and hayground is rewarding in the end, but where you start may be a bit perplexing. I have developed an online, interactive class, “Best Fields First,” that addresses where to start. It should be easy for you to attend and work with. See sidebar for instructions.

Best Field First - online program

Wednesdays, July 15 – August 5, 2020

Cost \$20.00 (includes all sessions)

Register at <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/county/linn/events>

This educational program assists forage producers in making decisions on managing pastures and hay ground. Topics include using maps to determine physical soil properties, to estimate current and potential production, and to form management units. This information is then used to take soil samples for fertility testing and to make agronomic, economic input decisions. Part of this process includes the option of selecting to focus work on your best fields first. This can help producers prioritize funding for inputs and time spent on multiple fields.



The class is scheduled to occur in three or four *online* sessions including an introductory presentation (Using Current and Potential Forage Yield Data to Make Management Decisions) viewed in real time or as a recording, supplemental information to be reviewed on the participants’ own time, work session(s) as a group or one-on-one with the instructors, and a presentation on Natural Resource Conservation Service programs for agricultural fields. At the completion of the program custom reports will be provided which will be useful in future classes and consultations on forage production.

Joining an Online Zoom Meeting

Upon registering for the class, you will get an email invitation with a link to attend a “Zoom” meeting. Click on the link to join the meeting and, if you don’t already have it, you will be prompted to download Zoom to your device. You will be in the waiting room until the host admits you, so use this time to test your speakers and camera (not required). The host will do the rest. You can also request a practice meeting.

Processing Meat Animals at Home

By **Shelby Filley**, OSU Extension regional livestock faculty

The cost and supply of food is concerning to many these days. Disruptions in the cattle, sheep, and swine markets, particularly in the slaughter-packer sector, have indeed threatened the availability of meat and put pressure on prices at the supermarket and at the livestock producer level. This has caused us to rethink the way we produce and process food. Some are considering backyard slaughter of livestock.

The OSU Extension Service livestock workgroup realized we needed to provide information to people who want to process their own meat animals at home. Many important steps need to be taken prior to and after the actual slaughter of any meat animal. These are necessary for safety and meat quality. In response to this need, we have produced a helpful web page and are working on some short videos and a webinar with resources to address the current need and have them available for future use.

Our collection of information and publications on selecting, purchasing, and preparing a meat animal for home slaughter includes resources for beef, chevon, lamb, pork, poultry and rabbit. Please see <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/animals-livestock/beef/processing-meat-animals-home>.

Here is a summary of what we have put together:

Acquiring Meat Animals - Where to purchase live animals



(neighbors, producers, local slaughterhouses and meat processors); How to select a meat animal (muscling and finish); Transporting animals (safe, low-stress handling); Housing animals (sturdy corrals, pens, cages); and Rest, feed and water prior to slaughter.

Slaughtering Meat Animals - Federal and state licensed slaughter facilities (custom mobile slaughter and brick and mortar); Animal handling; Safety while killing; Regulation of animal killing; Humane slaughter, and Disposal of offal, hide, etc.

We also have sections on the fabrication process (primal and sub cuts) and equipment (tables, saws and knives, sources for purchasing); How much meat to expect, including yield and quality of meat; and Aging the carcass (temperature, humidity, time).

Other considerations addressed are Food safety (temperature, sanitation); Storing meat (canning, freezing, refrigeration,

drying and smoking), and Considerations for cooking (utilizing whole/most of the carcass, cut selected, aging, and fat content).

We also go over the basic rules and laws of selling meat and sharing meat with those outside of your household. Lastly, we include some links to websites (Niche meat processing assistance network, Temple Grandin) with information for processing facilities, handling animals and humane slaughter. We have contact information for the main livestock associations in Oregon (cattle, sheep, goat, pork) and on poultry and rabbit.

These resources are changing and improving as we gain more information about the process and how Oregonians wish to use it. Please feel free to contact me or the other authors on the collection to request other details to be included or tell us how we might improve what is there.



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Commercial Agriculture Small Farms

With Accommodations, Oregon U-pick farms are Open for Business

By Melissa Fery and Audrey Comerford,
OSU Extension Service,
Agricultural Tourism

Many of us are anticipating the fresh sweetness of Oregon-grown fruit and the opportunity to pick-our-own at local farms. Perhaps this year, even more than most, we are looking forward to getting outdoors, being active and breathing in farm fresh air.

Farmers that feature on-farm picking, known as U-pick, are gearing up to welcome visitors, with blueberry and cherry season in full swing and peaches coming soon.

However, customers should expect some changes this season.

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, farms will have extra sanitation and guidelines in place to keep their employees and visitors healthy. To comply with the 6-foot or longer social distancing rule, on-farm picking may only be allowed in certain rows. Some farmers are also considering ways to schedule harvest times in advance.

“We’ll be working with customers to make sure that

groups are appropriately distanced from one another,” said Andrea Davis of Kings Valley Gardens, a blueberry U-pick farm in Benton County. “We’ll also be open on Sundays, in addition to Friday and Saturdays, for the first five weeks of the season to try and make sure we don’t have too many people at once.”

Christina Fordyce of Fordyce Farm in Marion County said, “We will assign our U-pick customers two rows apart instead of the usual neighboring rows to enforce social distancing guidelines, adding that that the farm will have a

handwashing station by the field for both staff and customers.

Some farmers are also considering ways to minimize handling of the fruit. Kiger Island

Blues, a blueberry farm near Corvallis, is planning to sell by the bucket instead of weighing fruit after it’s picked this year.

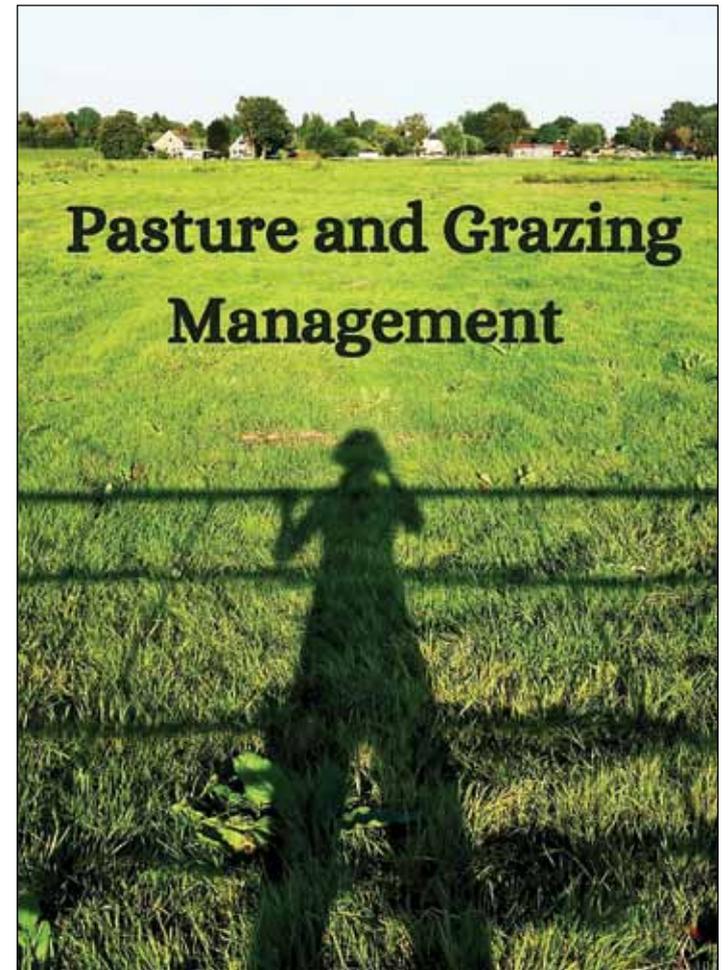
“I’ve sourced food grade buckets that my customers can fill up for a flat rate of \$10 and then take the bucket home with them,” said Kiger Island Blues owner Mindi Miller.

To have a fun and successful U-pick

experience, there are a few things you should keep in mind:

- To help prevent the spread of COVID-19, don’t go if you are sick or have symptoms.
- Check the farm website, social media accounts like Facebook – or call ahead for picking days and hours and any new procedures this year.
- Wearing facemasks might be encouraged by the farm.
- Consider bringing your own container for picking or to take home your fruit. If you do, make sure they are washed, disinfected and rinsed. Not all farms provide containers.
- Pick what you touch to minimize the spread of germs.
- Don’t eat the fruit while picking and avoid touching your face.
- Payment options vary by farm. Some will be discouraging the use of cash while others don’t have the option to take debit or credit cards. Be prepared for both payment options.
- Areas that may have been used as gathering places in the past might not be available this year, such as barns, shade trees, canopies, etc. Come prepared with the appropriate sun

Continued on Page 12



New Free Pasture Management Online Course

Growing Farms: An Introduction to Pasture and Grazing Management

We are excited to share this new OSU Extension resource for livestock producers seeking to improve their pasture management and create a more productive and sustainable forage-livestock system.

The online course is based on the premise that livestock producers are also grass and legume farmers, using the forages that they grow as a feed source for their animals. Topics include: Benefits of good pasture and grazing management, assessing conditions, rotational grazing, irrigation, nutrient, and weed management strategies, renovation and more.

Access free course: <https://workspace.oregonstate.edu/course/pasture-and-grazing-management>

protection and clothing.

- Be mindful of your distance between others in locations like the parking area, picking in the fields and waiting in line to pay for produce.
- There might be more wait time in lines due to additional sanitation procedures such as disinfecting scales and checkout areas.

“We are committed to providing quality fruit to our customers – something we believe no one should miss out on during this time,” Fordyce said. “Eating seasonally and spending time outdoors have many health benefits. We wish to provide this opportunity to our customers while also doing whatever is necessary to keep our customers safe. We also ask that our customers be mindful of the health of those around them and please save your U-picking for another day if you are ill.”

Safely picking and enjoying tasty, nutritious Oregon fruit benefits the farmers and consumers.

“I enjoy U-pick season, it’s a fun way for me to work with the public,” Miller said.

OSU Extension and the Oregon Department of Agriculture have guidance on the U-pick experience.

There are also several resources for finding a local U-pick farm in your area, including:

- Oregon Blueberry Commission
- Oregon Strawberry Commission
- Oregon’s Bounty U-Pick Listing
- Oregon Pick Your Own
- Willamette Farm and Food Local Food Guide



OSU Dry Farming Project Presents 2020 Virtual Field Tours

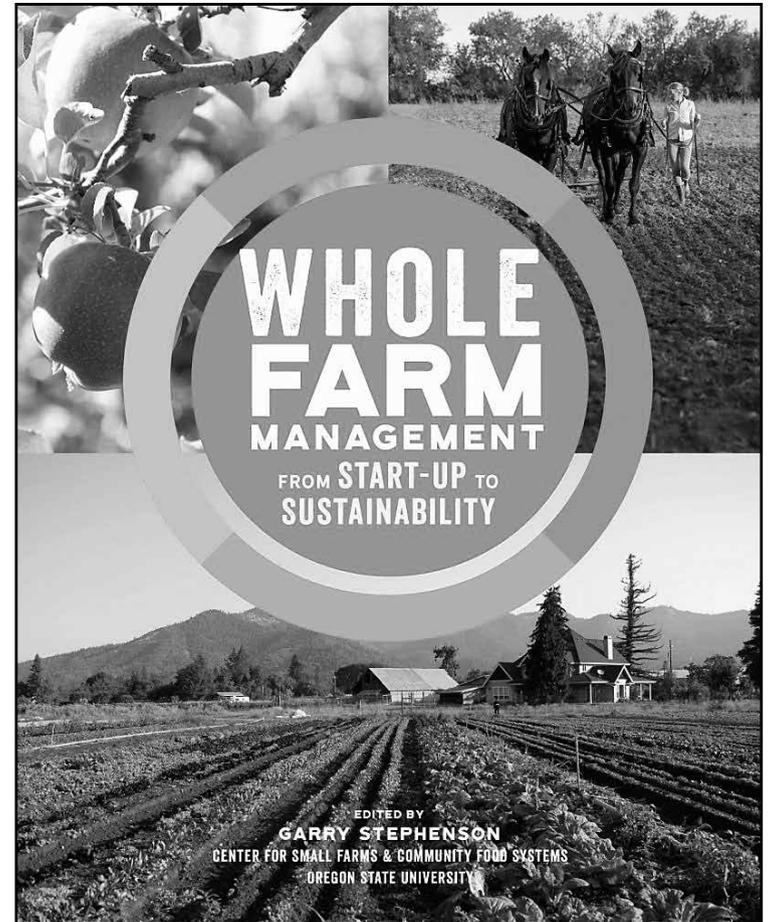
The 2020 OSU Dry Farm Project field tours will be held on Wednesday mornings at 10 a.m. in August and September. There will be nine field tours featuring different elements of the five core projects: Tomato, Corn Breeding, Soil Management, Solar Co-location with Dry-Farmed Vegetables, and Variety Trials. For more information and to view a final schedule once posted visit the Dry Farming Project Website: <https://smallfarms.oregonstate.edu/dry-farming>

Discounted Registration Now Available for ‘Growing Farms’ Program

You can now register for the Growing Farms online program for only \$100 (formerly \$150) and registration now also includes a copy of the recently published Whole Farm Management Book (normally \$20). Growing Farms: Successful Whole Farm Management provides farmers with the tools and knowledge needed to develop and manage a successful farm business. This course is intended for people who are considering starting a farm business, those within their first five years of farming, and others who may be considering major changes to their farm business.

The core Growing Farms course is a series of six online modules that lead you through the basics of managing a successful farm business.

The course was developed by OSU Small Farms Program faculty and other farm management experts, and is presented in an interactive and graphically rich format. Modules include more than



four hours of video created specifically for the Growing Farms course, and feature six Oregon farmers who share their experience and insights about farming (see Featured

Farmers).

Register Here: <https://workspace.oregonstate.edu/course/growing-farms-online-successful-whole-farm-management>.

NEW Email Listserv Offered

The Southern Valley Small Farms Program is now offering a new opportunity to engage with the small farm community and to stay informed. We are now offering an email Listserv for Linn, Benton, and Lane Counties. This Listserv is for those who are actively farming, managing land, or moving in that direction. The email

list is an opportunity to receive timely notifications regarding relevant small farms resources, educational and networking opportunities, as well as a way for you to reach out and connect with the farming community directly.

You are welcome to post questions or searches to the group. Posts will be moderated to assure

relevance to farming, land management, the sharing of resources (jobs, equipment, etc.), and that it remains a safe place for all. To subscribe to this the email listserv: go to: https://oregonstate.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_bynmdEM9kigGH1b

Contact Teagan Moran with any questions: teagan.moran@oregonstate.edu



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Commercial Agriculture Tree and Small Fruit

Leaf Tissue Analysis and Soil Sampling in Hazelnut Orchards

By Erica Chernoh

Soil and plant tissue analyses can be used to assess the nutrient status of hazelnut crops and is an important component of a nutrient management program. Soil sampling is important for determining the soil pH and identifying which plant essential nutrients are available in adequate or deficient levels. A plant tissue analysis will provide information on the elemental composition of the plant or plant parts sampled (e.g. leaves or petioles), or in other words, how much of the essential nutrients the tree has taken up from the soil. Plant tissue analysis is typically used to diagnose nutrient deficiencies and monitor the effectiveness of fertilizer practices. A plant tissue analysis is not a substitute for soil testing, and is most effective when used in combination with a regular soil sampling program.

For hazelnuts, leaf sampling should be done in August, the time of year the nutrients are most concentrated in the leaves. To sample, collect leaves from the mid-shoot of this year's growth. Take at least 50 leaves from across the field in order to obtain a representative sample, collecting five leaves from 10 trees. If the leaves are dirty, wash



them in cold water with a drop or two of detergent, and spread them out to dry on a screen or dry surface for a few hours.

Soil sampling is also an important practice for nutrient management strategies and understanding the fertilizer needs of your crop. Soil sampling in established orchards can be done any time of year, but should be completed with results in hand prior to when lime is typically applied in the fall. For new orchards, it is best to test the soil prior to planting so that the soil can be easily amended before the trees are in the ground.

It is important that the samples, particularly plant tissue samples, be delivered to the lab quickly. If you live within driving distance of the lab, it may be easier to deliver them yourself. If you need to mail

the samples it is better to mail them early in the week (Monday through Wednesday) so that they are delivered to the lab by Friday. If they arrive over the weekend, they may sit in transit or in a mail box over the weekend causing the samples to mold or decay. Always contact the lab or visit their website prior to collecting the sample to review fees, specific instructions, and download forms. Make sure you fill out the forms correctly and label the bags you send the sample in with your name, date, crop, field name/number, and sample number (if applicable). Include the information form in a separate sealed bag.

For more information on soil and leaf tissue sampling in hazelnut orchards, and interpreting your test results, see OSU Extension publication EM 9080 Growing Hazelnuts in the Pacific Northwest: Orchard Nutrition. A list of laboratories that offer soil and leaf tissue testing services in Oregon can be found in EM 8677 Analytical Laboratories Serving Oregon. For soil sampling instructions see EC 628 A Guide to Collecting Soil Samples for Farms and Gardens. These publications can be read or downloaded for free from the OSU Extension Catalog: <https://catalog.extension.oregonstate.edu/>.

Extension helps distribute KN95 masks, hand sanitizer to Oregon's agricultural and farmworker communities



On May 27-28, at 18 distribution sites across the state, Oregon State University Extension Service employees worked side by side with the Oregon Army National Guard and Oregon Department of Agriculture to sort, load and hand out personal protective equipment earmarked for agricultural producers and farmworkers to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. In Linn County at the Tangent office, the line was steady with farmers coming from both Linn and Benton Counties to pick up their PPE.

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Benton County 4-H Youth Development

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Spring Classic Results

Benton County 4-H members truly know how to persevere despite setbacks caused by COVID-19.

Although it looked different this year, Benton County had several teams participate in the Oregon 4-H Spring Classic. This event involves knowledge tests, presentations, and judging contests where youth demonstrate their ability to judge the animals. Although this event was solely for horses in recent years, it was expanded to include livestock, small animals (poultry, rabbits, and cavy), dogs, and shooting sports.

This year, Benton County 4-H youth didn't let the fact that the contests had

turned virtual stop them from participating in the animal science categories. They jumped on computers from their homes to compete. Whether it was in a team of just Benton County 4-H members or with a combined team with another county's members, our youth worked hard and the effort showed.

Since the entire results are rather lengthy, the full list of Benton County results will be shared in the Benton County 4-H e-news. Some of the highlights from this year's contest include:

- Brooke McKinley and Jessica McLennan earning the 1st place and state medallion for their intermediate team horse

presentation

- The senior hippology (horse) team earning 2nd place
- Addison Cleveland earning the 2nd place for her intermediate livestock presentation
- The Linn/Benton combined team in poultry judging earning the 1st place, state medallion, and qualifying for the national poultry judging contest.
- Both the intermediate and senior rabbit/cavy judging teams earning 1st place and state medallions

A few of the participating 4-H members shared about their experience this year. Carly Dowless

(horse member) stated that it was a very different experience this year, but she is extremely proud of the horse team for how they did. She is also excited to compete in person again next year. Elysia Schweitzer (rabbit/cavy member) shared that a good friend of hers moved recently so this was a good opportunity for her to meet new 4-H members and friends while she practiced with the team. She learned more about her project through this process as well. Elysia is also thankful for the leaders and coaches who helped it run so smoothly. Julia Weldon (poultry member) also shared her gratitude for the organizer of the event, Candi

Bothum, who put together an extraordinary event. She is extremely excited, along with her teammates, to have the opportunity to compete at the national poultry competition. If the contest does happen in person this November, the team members will be traveling to Louisville, Kentucky for the event.

Even without being allowed to have in person programming for an extended period due to COVID-19, these 4-H members have shown their grit and persevering positivity. Congratulations to all of the participating youth for their dedication to their projects and awards earned in the contests!

4-H GRIT! Stay Safe - Stay Positive - Stay 4-H Strong

Opening remarks by Carolyn Ashton, with excerpts from Mike Knutz's, OSU thriving "on a time for Grit" blog post.

During these uncertain times, it's easy for youth (and adults) to get discouraged or feel overwhelmed by the current state of the world. Things are changing from one minute to the next, and no one knows what the future holds.

I am, however, certain of one thing. Our youth are amazingly resilient. I've seen, first hand, our youth rise up and face this challenge head on, learning, growing and

stretching themselves more than ever before. It may not be easy for them, in fact it can be incredibly challenging, but I've seen how strong, resilient and capable our youth are. I've seen true "grit" in motion.

Renown researcher and author, Angela Duckworth in her New York Times best-selling book "*Grit: The Power of Passion and Perseverance*"; writes about her studies at West Point U.S Military Academy.

Duckworth's quest was to discover a better predictor of why 20 percent of cadets' dropout and why 80 percent succeed.

Although all the recruits had a stellar record both physically and academically to be admitted, they faced the formable challenge of doing things they could not yet do. Essentially, they were asked to perform tasks that exceeded their current skill level. How did successful individuals continue in this daily exercise of being stretched beyond limits on every front? Duckworth writes, "*the highly successful had a kind of ferocious determination that played out in two ways. First, these exemplars were unusually resilient and hardworking, Second, they knew in a very,*

very deep way what it was they wanted. They not only had determination, they had direction. It was this combination of passion and perseverance - in a word, they had grit."

During this time when youth have seen all their activities canceled. Parents are facing the challenges of unemployment, teaching their children at home, and some even teaching at home while working. We can all relate to being stretched beyond our means. Youth now, more than ever before, need to keep their eyes on the future. A future where their goals can still be

achieved. Whatever setbacks or obstacles that COVID-19 may have put in their path, encourage youth with the words of Angela Duckworth, "*Grit is sticking with your future, day-in, day-out. And working really hard to make that future a reality. Grit is living life like it's a marathon, not a sprint.*"

You can learn more about Grit from Angela Duckworth's website, which includes a quiz to assess your level of passion and perseverance, and her popular TED Talk on the topic at: <https://angeladuckworth.com/grit-scale/>.

Benton County 4-H to Hold Virtual Shows

The 2020 Benton County Fair & Rodeo, originally scheduled for July 29–August 1, has been canceled per State of Oregon restrictions on large gatherings through the end of September. This decision was driven by the need to guarantee safe physical distancing to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.

The OSU Benton County 4-H program will be holding virtual 4-H shows this year, following Oregon State University's call to adhere to the guidance provided by Oregon Health Authority and our local health authorities to guarantee safe physical distancing to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.

As much as we share in the disappointment about not having in person 4-H

shows, we know that is the most prudent course of action. Our first priority is the health and well-being of our 4-H members, their families, our volunteers and our staff.

There will be opportunities for 4-H members to participate in the following 4-H virtual shows:

- Large Animal (*Beef, sheep, swine and goat*) market, breed and showmanship
- Small Animal (*Rabbit, poultry, cavy*) market, breed and showmanship
- Family and Consumer Science, Arts and Science
- Dog (*showcase event*)

- Horse (*TBD*)

Although not perfect, we want to provide an opportunity for our 4-H youth to showcase the projects that they have been working on throughout the year. This opportunity will also give youth with market

animal projects an opportunity to participate in a virtual Youth Market Auction (*see article about Benton County 4-H Youth Market Virtual Auction*). We are proud of our 4-H members for pivoting to this new way of showing!



 **Lee Allen Memorial Youth Market Auction** 
Bid Online July 29 - 31 • bentoncountylivestockauction.com

Lee Allen Memorial Youth Market Auction Goes Virtual

The Lee Allen Memorial Youth Market Auction will be virtual for 2020!

This is an unprecedented time and these youth have a huge time commitment and financial investment.

Please consider supporting these 4-H youth to continue to make "Good Kids Great."

Anyone can bid Online! Bidding opens on Wednesday,



July 29, beginning at 6 p.m., and continues through noon on Friday, July 31. Closing bidding time will start at noon on July 31 and end approximately at 6 p.m. Fill your freezers! Processors have been scheduled.

More information will be available on our website bentoncountylivestockauction.com to explain how you can get involved and support our Benton County 4-H youth with market animal projects. Any question please email: bentoncountylivestockauction@gmail.com



Virtual 4-H Wildlife Stewards Summit – A Celebration of Student Learning!

By Maggie Livesay & Jody Einerson

From June 3rd-5th, fifty-four students from Jefferson, Ashbrook and Franklin schools honed their skills with PowerPoint and Zoom and successfully presented their research projects to a panel of judges at the 17th annual 4-H Wildlife Steward Summit. Students worked in teams or as individuals to share their presentations on local wildlife and endangered species of the world.

This was the first time in the history of this popular youth conference that an on-line venue was the tool used to listen and give feedback to students about their projects. Typically, the conference takes place at a Benton County elementary school and the day is alive with more than 200 students who share their research projects with local science professionals and engage in hands-on natural science activities provided by partner agencies and organizations. However, when life throws a curve, you adjust and we would like to thank our panelists, teachers, and the Bervin family who donated gift cards for all our presenters!

Congratulations to a great group of students who went out of their comfort zone to learn new presentation tools and successfully share their learning with others.

Graduating Seniors



The Benton County Extension 4-H Program wants to wish a hearty congratulations to all of our graduating 4-H seniors! We wish you every success in the future!

Allen, Sylvia
Barnhart, Elijah
Bushnell, Madison
Coskey, Rose
Creager, Lydia
DeVries, Abigail
Drahn, Kayli
Faust, Abigail
Forester, Sierra
Freeman, Cassidy
Greenough, Cameryn
Jones, James
Moussaoui, Ahmed

Moussaoui, Fatima
Mulvey, McKenna
Nuno, Rivers
Olufson, Cade
Pace, Raquel
Phillips, Cheyanne
Sanders, Clarissa
Shaffer, Jacob
Shaw, Elijah
Stark, Viola
Stueve, Toben
Thibert, Trevor
Vega, Reed

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4-H/FFA Livestock Show and Auction Combo of Live and Virtual

As with most everything else this summer, the 2020 Linn County 4-H and FFA livestock shows will look different than they have in the past. There won't be a traditional Linn County fair in the sense of concerts, rides, food vendors, exhibits, or people. The livestock shows will still happen, but will be a combination of live and virtual shows.

Youth that would like the opportunity to show off their market project in the ring with a judge will have that opportunity, however if people feel more comfortable participating virtually there is that option as well. The public will not be allowed at the in-person shows, however, we are working on providing live streaming options for those that would like to watch the shows. Youth with breeding stock and small animals will be participating in a virtual show, where they will submit pictures and videos of their projects. Youth that typically exhibit static exhibits have opted to take a break for 2020 and pick up where they left off for next year.

The Linn County Youth Livestock Auction will be different this year as well. The auction is taking on the virtual platform and will be open from Monday, July 13, through Saturday, July 17. Buyers will be able to log on anytime during that week to place their bids. The auction committee has worked really hard at developing a plan so that the young people in our county can get the best support possible.

Please visit LCYLA.com to get all of the updated information and sign up to be a buyer. What better way to fill your freezer with high quality local meat than to support the hardworking 4-H and FFA youth?

Tractor Safety Certification Still Essential

Along with most everything else in the world, the tractor safety classes that are offered each spring had a different look to them this year. With limited group sizes, proper social and physical distancing, and personal protective equipment requirements, we were able to successfully train and certify more than 70 youth. Classes that are typically held over a three day period - covering book work and driving practice - were spread out and had smaller numbers of youth on site at a time. The book work took on the all-too-familiar online platform that all of the students had used to finish out their school year. The in-person portion of the class focused on driving skills and safety.

Other than a few rain drops the classes were another success, even though we had to think outside of the box and try new ways!



Mac Damon of Linn County puts himself through the paces at the in-person portion of tractor safety training last month.

Gone Too Soon

On May 23, the Linn County 4-H program and community lost two beautiful lives and friends. Caleb and Shelby Simonis were hit head on by a driver whom police say was intoxicated. Their younger sister Kylee was in the car with them, but survived the accident with serious injuries. She has a long recovery ahead of her. I still can't wrap my head around the fact that Shelby and her dimples won't be at future 4-H events. Caleb was always so quiet, but eventually opened up to me and we had some great conversations. I truly miss both of these young people and want to honor them because they touched my life so greatly.

As a county, there have been small groups doing things for the family as the need has arisen. A group of people

donated a truck load of hay for their animals, the feed for both Kylee and Shelby's market projects have been donated to cover the animals until the auction. There have been some work parties organized at Jim's (their father) house to clean the barn and remodel the deck to help meet Kylee's physical needs. People have donated to our 4-H Association in the name of Shelby and Caleb, Jim and Amy would like to offer a scholarship in the kids' names in the future with that.

When the time is right a permanent memorial will be installed at the Linn County Fairgrounds in remembrance of Caleb and Shelby. 4-H was a huge part of their lives, showing cattle at the Linn County Fair. You could also find Shelby and her mule Greta at the different horse events that 4-H participated in.



Caleb Simonis



Shelby Simonis

As we mourn the loss of these two amazing young people, we as a county are here to support Jim, Amy and Kylee.

Hooray for our 2020 Graduating Seniors

The Linn County Extension office would like to congratulate all of our graduating 4-H seniors! We wish you great success and happiness in the future!

Case, Quinn
Clark, Summer
Crenshaw, Mckenzie
Curry, Madison
Davis, Kyndall
Don, Jacoy
Ford, Ashliegh
Hagan, Winona
Harter, Theron
Herold, Abigail
Hickman, Duane

Hubert, Timothy
Kincaid, Sidney
Krahn, Gracelyn
Lea, Caralea
McConnell, Haden
Mote, Clarissa
O'Hearn, William
Parrish, Austin
Pearn, Kymberly
Pimm, Zion
Rush, Kelton

Smith, Austin
Somatis, Pippi
Spilde, Amelia
Stockburger, Stephanie
Turner, Angela
Virtue, Samantha
Wells, Cordella
Wong, Siyeh
Workman, Mary

An Opportunity to Grow

By Paul Smith, Linn County 4-H coordinator

Springtime in the Willamette Valley is an interesting time of year. The sun begins to return after months of hiding out during the winter, flowers begin to blossom, and wildlife emerges from hiding. Spring also brings plenty of rain, which can be overwhelming at times, especially after months of cold winter rain.

The good news is that the combination of sun and rain means that soon the valley will once again be full of life. While at times it feels like the valley is drowning in dreariness, the opportunity for growth is laying just beneath the surface, ready to spring to life.

This year has been quite overwhelming so far. Many people feel like they are drowning in the chaos of 2020, and they have every right to feel that way. The good news

is that challenging times offer opportunities for growth.

OSU Extension and 4-H staff have worked hard at growing the last several months. Staff and volunteers have worked hard at continuing their work in positive youth development. New ways to engage youth continue to be developed and implemented. The 4-H Thriving Model remains just as relevant in a virtual world as it does with in-person programming. Youth with interests, or sparks, still need caring adult mentors who are available to help them face challenges and develop a growth mindset. There remains a need to connect with others and to develop pro-social behaviors that help build strong communities.

It is not fun or easy having so many planned events to mentor and bond with youth cancelled due to the pandemic. It has also been challenging to plan future events with the

amount of uncertainty still present. Ultimately, the safety and well-being of 4-H youth, families, volunteers and staff is a major priority. With that in mind, 4-H will continue to work hard at safely providing services and growing opportunities for 4-H youth.

One day soon the rain will take a break, the sun will shine, and major growth will resume. In the meantime, there are ways to stay engaged, both in the 4-H world and in the community. County websites and social media pages continue to be a good resource for finding up-to-date information and ways to stay engaged. 4-H staff are also standing by and eager to help.

“Every adversity, every failure and every heartache carries with it the seed of an equivalent or a greater benefit.” – Napoleon Hill

Sallees Among National 4-H Hall of Fame Laureates

4-H has announced the names of the sixteen individuals who will be inducted into the National 4-H Hall of Fame during a special ceremony to be held on Friday, October 2, at the National 4-H Youth Conference Center in Chevy Chase, Maryland.

The National 4-H Hall of Fame Class of 2020 Laureates who will be honored for excellence in citizenship, leadership, character and career accomplishments include: David and Sue Benedetti (National 4-H Council), Susan Halbert (National 4-H Council), Greg

Hutchins (Wisconsin), Dr. Denver Loupe (Louisiana), Robert Meadows (Virginia), Dr. Thearon McKinney (North Carolina), Darlene Baker-Millard (Arkansas), Arthur Nemetz (New Jersey) Jerry Parsons (Iowa), James Phelps (NAE4-HA), Marie

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Congratulations Sherm and Fay Sallee

Please join us in congratulating Sherm and Fay Sallee on the news that they are being inducted into the National 4-H Hall of Fame. Sherm and Fay have been volunteers in Linn County since the 1980's. They have been leaders of Clever Clovers 4-H club, Linn County 4-H Natural Science Superintendents and State Fair Superintendents. Fay is also celebrating her 50th year as a volunteer!

We thank them for their years of service. Our 4-H program would not be nearly as strong without them.



Fay and Sherman Sallee

4-H & U

The word ‘virtual’ has become increasingly popular this year. Many people have worked, studied and maintained relationships virtually for the last several months. For 4-H, youth development has gone from in-person mingling with peers and adult mentors to a virtual world. It is not an ideal place to be for many, but due to safety concerns, it is necessary.

One of the ways that 4-H has engaged youth virtually is through a new program called 4-H & U. 4-H & U is a series of fun, online classes that are available to both 4-H members and youth not yet enrolled in 4-H. There are a variety of classes to choose from, such as photography with your phone or tablet, art from around the world, how to prepare for college, preparing for a catastrophe, and even a class about playing dungeons and dragons. New courses will also continue to be available once the previous courses are completed.

Classes are four weeks long and only one hour a week and are free. Youth are encouraged to join in on the fun learning, and adults are encouraged to participate if interested in teaching or supporting a course. To learn more, visit <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/4h/marion/events/4-h-coming-u-virtual-classes>

Spring Classic Results Are In

Typically, youth would travel over to Central Oregon the third weekend of May and compete in the Oregon 4-H Spring Classic. The Spring Classic offers an opportunity for members to demonstrate their knowledge in Horse, Livestock, Rabbits, Poultry and Dog projects by competing in judging contests, skills events, and quiz bowls.

With the onset of the current pandemic the Spring Classic had a different look to it this year. The entire contest was facilitated virtually by using multiple platforms such as Zoom, quizmaker, dropbox, and quizbowl system app. Linn and Benton County Youth joined together to create a Senior Division Rabbit judging and knowledge team.

Members of the team were Alexa Lindsey, Ben Baisted, Elizabeth Beck, Trinity Serafin, and Riley Bond. This team worked hard and brought home the first-place award. Linn and Benton members also teamed up together to create a Senior Division Poultry team, and they took home first place in their division, too. Members of that team were Luke Milburn, Riley Bond, Elizabeth Beck and Julia Weldon.

Even though many events have been canceled, these members found ways to practice and continue on with their projects. 4-H members still find ways to thrive and be resilient during all of these changes. Congratulations to all of these hard-working youth!

Benton County and Linn County Extension programs may offer opportunities that are only open to the residents of their respective counties. Please check with your county Extension Office if you have any questions about participation eligibility for specific programs.

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Wildfire and Fish

By Bessie Joyce, Watershed Educator and Guillermo Giannico, Extension Fisheries Specialist, OSU Department of Fisheries and Wildlife

Images of wildfire and cold-water fish coexisting, even thriving in the same landscape, do not come naturally to many of us. True, high-intensity megafires, seen more and more often in our changing climate, can be devastating to stream habitat, especially in the short-term, but the patchwork of relatively less intense fires that historically occurred on a more regular basis in the Pacific Northwest is, in fact, beneficial to our native salmon.

Salmonids have adapted to disturbance on the landscape over thousands of years and the habitat changes caused by wildfire provide essential benefits to stream ecosystems. Wildfire disturbance, for example, opens the forest canopy spurring regeneration and successional growth of vegetation communities.

Wildfires can lead to the input of habitat-forming materials via landslides. The historic disturbance regime of fire in PNW forests provides pulses of biological and physical inputs to streams and, given periods of recovery between events, can serve to 'reset' or refresh stream ecology and enhance the physical habitat

complexity and food sources for fish.

Many PNW wildlife species have evolved with, and therefore are, dependent upon landscapes that are occasionally burned or disturbed -i.e., many woodpeckers, blue birds, bear, aspen, lodge pole pine (serotinous cones), and morel mushrooms- to name a few. Salmonids and many other wildlife species gravitate toward more complex habitats shaped by natural disturbance. Fire suppression over the past 100-plus years has changed forest and stream conditions from what they were historically.

The forest landscape prior to European settlement was much patchier than what we see today - it was more of a patchwork of recently-burned and older burned areas with snags, interspersed with meadows and early to late succession forests. The more diverse landscape was reflected in streams having more diverse and complex habitats, which native fish and wildlife prefer.

We recently had the opportunity to meet with Research Fish Biologist, Dr. Rebecca Flitcroft, at the Forestry Sciences Laboratory of the US Forest Service on the OSU campus. Flitcroft and colleagues published a paper in 2015 describing their research findings in a study of wildfire effects on habitat quality for spring

Chinook salmon and bull trout in the Wenatchee River sub-basin in Washington.

Most fire-related changes to stream habitat come as a result of post-burn precipitation and storms. "Landslides provide building blocks of stream habitat," says Flitcroft, which is often contrary to our conventional approach to sediment and stream health. "Landslides have shaped streams over millennia delivering important pulses of sediment and large wood that native species are adapted to."

Fish species respond differently depending on their preferred habitat and needs at different life stages. Based on the modeling studies Flitcroft and colleagues have completed, Chinook tend to be more resilient to fire disturbance than bull trout. Chinook generally use areas lower in the watershed that are usually more expansive and allow fish to find refuge in unburned areas and access a variety of habitat types. Bull trout, on the other hand, are more vulnerable as they tend to use colder water areas in the upper watershed that don't allow for as much movement of the bull trout population. The vulnerability of a species reflects the fragmentation of habitats. Loss of habitat connectivity drastically reduces a species resiliency or ability to bounce back after initial disturbance



Fire burned in this stand during the B&B Complex fire in 2003 near Canyon Creek in the central Oregon Cascade Range, killing about half of the overstory trees, but also allowing a high level of tree survival and rapid recovery of vegetation, seen in this image from 2007. This is typical of many Pacific Northwest forest fires.

taking advantage of the benefits of such disturbance. How fire affects the different life stages of a species also determines that species' long-term resilience.

Some generalizations can be made about the long- and short-term effects of fire in a forested watershed. In the short term, fire has more immediate negative consequences, such as silt and fine sediment that can cause egg mortality or suffocation of individuals. The fine sediment delivery, along with nitrate and phosphorous loading to stream, and increased water temperature from loss of shade degrades egg and fry habitat. Temperature fluctuations become more intense, and runoff is increased due to loss of vegetation and reduced

infiltration rates causing increased and earlier peak flow events.

Post-fire long-term positive effects include the delivery of coarse sediment and large wood to stream channels creating habitat complexity most beneficial to both juvenile and adult fish. As new patches of algae and plants grow, they become food sources for most of the insects consumed by fish.

We asked Flitcroft how managers might navigate the seemingly changing approach to sediment delivery into streams, which is generally thought to be detrimental - something to be controlled and stopped. She explained that it is the chronic fine

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New Publication: Reptiles in Managed Woodlands Tools for Family Forestland Owners

You can head to the woods any time of year and readily find some types of wildlife, like birds. Reptiles are another story. Summer is a good time to find these often-secretive residents of our woodlands. The Woodland Fish & Wildlife group has come out with their latest publication featuring reptiles in managed forests. You can find it and all of their publications at <https://woodlandfishandwildlife.com/>.



Sallees Among National 4-H Hall of Fame Laureates continued from Page 17

Rice (Alaska), Sherman and Fay Sallee (Oregon), Glenn Snyder, Jr. (West Virginia), William Svendsgaard (Minnesota), Kendra Wells (Maryland), and Helene Zeug (Hawaii).

Each laureate was selected for the National 4-H Hall of Fame because of his or her significant contribution to 4-H, the nation's premier youth development organization that serves over six million youth nationwide. 4-H programs in every state, U.S. territory and the District of Columbia as well as 4-H's three national partners - National Association of Extension 4-H Youth Development Professionals (NAE4-HYDP); National 4-H Council and the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA)/USDA, nominate outstanding individuals for this honor.

The National 4-H Hall of Fame was created in 2002 as a 4-H Centennial project to recognize and celebrate those people who have made a significant impact on 4-H and

its millions of members for over 100 years.

"These individuals have touched the lives of many people, from 4-H staff and colleagues to thousands of 4-H volunteers and members throughout the nation," said Jeannette Rea Keywood, Chair of the National 4-H Hall of Fame.

About the National 4-H Hall of Fame

In 2002, the National Association of Extension 4-H Agents (NAE4-HA), National 4-H Council and National 4-H Headquarters at the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA)/USDA created the National 4-H Hall of Fame during 4-H's centennial year. The National 4-H Hall of Fame was established to recognize 4-H volunteers, financial supporters, staff and pioneers who made major impacts within the 4-H movement at the local, state and national levels. Biographies and more information about inductees can be found on the National

4-H Hall of Fame website at <http://www.4-h-hof.com/>

About the 4-H Youth Development Program

4-H is the nation's largest youth development organization, serving more than 6 million young people across America annually with research based programs in leadership, citizenship, communication and life skills. For over 100 years, 4-H has connected the science, engineering and technology innovations of land-grant universities to local youth and families. The National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA)/United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) provides programmatic leadership for the 4-H Youth Development Program. 4-H programs are offered in every county in the United States. For more information about 4-H, visit the national 4-H website at <http://www.4-h.org>.

Reducing Health Effects of Wildfire Smoke

Although we are enjoying a moist spring as we prepare this edition, we never know what will come with fire season. Smoke can be an issue in the Valley, even when there are no fires close by, effecting people working outside or with respiratory conditions. The Oregon Health Authority has a webpage (<https://www.oregon.gov/oha/PH/Preparedness/Prepare/Pages/PrepareForWildfire.aspx>) where you can learn about current wildfires, wildfire smoke conditions, and what you can do to reduce the health effects.



Wildfire and Fish continued from Page 18

sediment delivery from erosion associated with roads and unvegetated riparian areas that is a problem for fish. In contrast, fires release pulses of sediment across landscape slopes. These pulses of sediment are naturally mixed, containing fine sediments as well as gravel, larger rock and wood that together benefit aquatic ecology. Pacific lamprey, for example, need to nest and forage in fine sediment during their young larval or ammocete stage. "Sediment from fire puts the flesh on the bones of restoration projects," says Flitcroft. Stream habitat projects place large wood and rock in the channel, but it is nature that we count on to deliver the desired materials to these sites over time for the development of complex habitats.

Certainly, our west side forests and wildlife are quite different from the dry interior of Oregon and Washington. Rainfall, forest growth rates, fuels accumulation, historic fire return intervals and fire behavior all vary. But there is growing awareness that fire has, and increasingly, will play a role here in our humid western Oregon landscape, too.

So it is worthwhile paying attention to what is learned in other areas about how fire effects ecosystems and processes, as we begin to try to figure out how to manage towards more fire resilient landscapes and communities here in western Oregon.

The Flitcroft et al. 2015 study can be found at https://www.fs.fed.us/pnw/pubs/journals/pnw_2015_flitcroft001.pdf

This video, produced by the Northwest Fire Science Consortium, is a great educational tool showing the effects of wildfire on fish habitat featuring Rebecca Flitcroft and Gordon Reeves. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=omUN7VsKxBo&feature=youtu.be>

Have you completed the 2020 census? There is still time.

Did you know...? The information you provide is used to determine how hundreds of billions of dollars in federal funding flow into communities every year for the next decade. That funding shapes many different aspects of every community, no matter the size, no matter the location.

You can complete it online at <https://2020census.gov/en.html>



Virtual events calendar for Linn & Benton Counties

JULY

Most events can be found with links to register at <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/county/linn/events>

- 7 Tree School Online: Commercial Truffle Cultivation in Western Oregon, 10-11:30 a.m. PDT
- 7 Tree School Online: Goods from the Woods, 3-4:30 p.m. PDT
- 14 Tree School Online: Intro to Small Woodland Management, 10-11:30 a.m. PDT
- 14 Tree School Online: Managing Understory Vegetation, 3-4:30 p.m. PDT
- 15-8/5 Best Field First – online program, register at <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/douglas/events/best-field-first-online-program>
- 15-8/11 Dial-in Gardening Q&As, dial-in details at <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/mg/linn-benton/events/dial-gardening-qas>
- 16 Solve Pest Problems: A New Resource for Master Gardeners and the Public, 10-11 a.m. PDT online, register at <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/mg/events/solve-pest-problems-new-resource-master-gardeners-public>
- 20-10/1 Introduction to Urban Agriculture Online Course, register at <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/mg/events/introduction-urban-agriculture-online-course>
- 21 Tree School Online: Pruning Timber & Landscape Trees for Quality Health, 10-11:30 a.m. PDT

- 21 Tree School Online: Restoring Riparian Areas – Beginner, 3-4:30 p.m. PDT
- 28 Tree School Online: Red Alder Management: Silviculture to Marketing, 10-11:30 a.m. PDT
- 28 Tree School Online: Words of Wisdom from the Woods Panel, 3-4:30 p.m. PDT

AUGUST

- 5-9/30 OSU Dry Farming Project Virtual Field Tours – Online, more information available at <https://smallfarms.oregonstate.edu/dry-farming>

On-demand:

Basic food preservation videos

- Water Bath Canning: Fruit Syrup recipe – https://youtu.be/DjxTdsi_gZ4
- Acidified Foods: Pickled hot peppers recipe – <https://youtu.be/B0MqSq75fZI>
- Dehydrated Foods: Dried apples & apple fruit leather recipes – <https://youtu.be/f6eTliwN-4I>

Self-paced Small Farms class

- Growing Farms: Introduction to pasture and grazing management, access the class at <https://workspace.oregonstate.edu/course/pasture-and-grazing-management>

WE ARE OPEN!

The OSU Linn County Extension office is open to the public. Our office hours are 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday-Friday through July 10.

On Monday July 13, and going forward, we will be staffing our office from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday-Friday.

The OSU Benton County Extension office is open to the public from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday.

Both offices have safety precautions in place, and there are plenty of masks, hand sanitizer, and gloves for customers to use.



The National Young Farmers Coalition has created a Racial Equity Toolkit designed to orient and incite members toward preliminary consciousness-raising and direct action. A resource for people who are overwhelmed by the breadth and depth of the problem, and need help determining how to start dismantling racism in their communities.

<https://www.youngfarmers.org/resource/racialequitytoolkit/>

YOUNG FARMERS RACIAL EQUITY TOOLKIT

THE NATIONAL YOUNG FARMERS COALITION | 2020

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