

Forest Forum

Washington County Small Woodlands Association

July, 2017

Washington County Tree Farm of the Year and Neighbor to Neighbor Woods Tour: Scotch-Berry Tree Farm

Date and Time: Saturday, July 15th, 8:00 am to 1:00 pm

Steve and Lynn Harrel's Scotch-Berry Tree Farm was selected as Washington County's 2016 Outstanding Tree Farm of the Year. They purchased the property in 1977, converted agricultural land to forest in 1997 and 1998, and have recently thinned their 20 year old timber stand. Experts in forest thinning, forest diseases, and wildlife will discuss these topics with lots of opportunities for questions and answers. A panel of family forest owners will provide insights with the theme, "Now I have forestland to manage - What do I do?"

Registration is Required. To Register email oswaevents@gmail.com or call (503) 588-1813 by July 12th. Admission and lunch are free! The tour will begin with coffee and donuts at 8:00 am and conclude with a hosted lunch.

Tour Focus:

- 1) Property History, before and after acquisition
- 2) Conversion of agricultural land to forestland
- 3) Thinning Strategies
- 4) Forest diseases
- 5) Wildlife in a working forest

Tour Sponsors: Lynn and Steve Harrel, OSWA Washington County Chapter, Oregon Tree Farm System, Oregon Small Woodlands Association, Oregon Forest Resources Institute, OSU Forestry Extension, and Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) Implementation Committee.

Directions: 53227 NW Hayward Road, Manning, OR. Do not use GPS. Traveling West on Hwy 6, 5.9 miles from Hwy 26, turn right on Cedar Canyon Rd. Take quick left turn about a block from Hwy 6 to continue on Cedar Canyon Rd. Travel 3 ½ miles to intersection of Parson and Hayward Roads. Stay right on Hayward Rd. Harrel's tree farm is 2nd farm on left. Follow white OSWA Tour signs from Hwy 6. Plenty of parking at destination.

August Tour: Hampton Mill in Banks

We're excited to announce that Hampton Lumber, the new owner of the Banks Lumber Mill, has agreed to give us a tour of the mill on **Thursday, August 24 at 9 am**. The mill manufactures 2x4s and 2x6s from 8 ft to 20 ft long. One unique aspect of the mill is that product is moved through the mill very quickly and efficiently without any stopping or staging, so a log can enter the mill in the morning and leave as lumber in the afternoon. RSVP is required for this tour. **For more information, directions, and RSVP contacts please see Page 7.**

WCSWA Leadership

President – Bonnie Shumaker, 503-324-7825, bshumaker@oho.net
 Vice-President – Vic Herinckx, vic.herinckx@gmail.com
 Secretary-Treasurer – Bob Shumaker; 503-324-7825
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Scott Hayes, scotthayes8888@gmail.com

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Program Committee: Bill Triest – 503-705-5833, whtriest@gmail.com
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Tualatin River Watershed Council Representatives: Tom Nygren, primary, 503-628-5472,
tngren@juno.com ; Eric Chambers, alternate, 503-647-2458, eric870@hotmail.com

WCSWA Website

www.wcswa.com

Website Manager: Michael Morgan
 Contact Tom Nygren or Bonnie Shumaker for web postings and information.

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/WashingtonCountySmallWoodlandsAssociation>

Forest Forum Newsletter

Editors: Tom Nygren & Bonnie Shumaker
 503-628-5472 or 503-324-7825
 e-mail: tngren@juno.com or bshumaker@oho.net
 Proofreaders: Bonnie Shumaker, Dan Hundley, Tom Nygren, Ardis Schroeder

The Tree Farm Tradin' Post

A free service to our members: List tree farm items/land to buy, sell, or trade. Contact Tom Nygren, 503-628-5472. Got a tool or piece of equipment you don't need any more? Or maybe you are looking for tools, equipment, property, or materials? You can place a free advertisement in Forest Forum. Another way for tree farmers to help each other! (3 month limit)

Wanted:

1) **Timber Helper** near Gales Creek. Possible quarters. Call 503-357-4258

2) **WCSWA** needs you! Please consider the following:

- a)Join the Program Committee and help generate ideas or simply do the grunt work to set up our monthly programs and tours.
- b) Help WCSWA improve communication on Social Media.

Event Calendar

July	15	Tree Farmer of the Year Tour	Steve and Lynn Harrel's tree farm in Manning. See article on page 1.
August	24	Hampton Mill Tour, Banks	9:00 a.m. RSVP required, see article on page 1
September	TBA	TBA	TBA
October	TBA	TBA	TBA
November	18	WCSWA Annual Banquet	5:30, Meriwether Golf Course.
December		No Meeting Scheduled	

Leadership Notes

When Bob and I joined WCSWA in 2000, we had recently acquired 40 acres adjoining our original 40. We bought this acreage as a clear-cut and had taken on the responsibility to replant. We certainly needed help in this new endeavor as newbie foresters and were delighted to find WCSWA offered great resources in people, education and agencies to help us learn.

I remember also learning about Oregon Small Woodlands Association and wondered how WCSWA and OSWA were connected. Since then, I've heard this question voiced from other new members and explain that WCSWA is a county chapter of OSWA. OSWA is the statewide organization for small woodland owners with Jim James as its Executive Director. He and part-time office staff are the only paid employees in this mostly volunteer organization.

Every year, OSWA has a statewide Annual Meeting which is held in the county that has the designated Oregon Tree Farmer of the Year. It is a time to recognize and celebrate this honor in a field day tour preceded by a full day of educational classes. Last month the Annual Meeting was held in Florence, OR and as WCSWA's President, I attended the Board of Directors Meeting reinforcing my knowledge of the role of our state organization.

OSWA (which includes its chapters) is the only statewide organization devoted to small woodland owners. When Oregon's legislature is in session, we count on Jim James and, Roger Beyer, our lobbyist, to follow bills that would impact forestlands. This year, thanks to their diligence and the testimony and correspondence from our members, several bills with negative consequences for small woodland owners did not pass, including elimination of special assessments on forest land, additional harvest tax and estate tax, and a complete rewrite of Oregon's Forest Practices Act. The strength of OSWA/WCSWA increases as its membership increases. This is an important reason to retain your membership and help acquire new members. Education and sharing ideas and friendship are always important, too.

The highlight of the Annual Meeting was the Rankin Woodlands Tree Farm Tour. I don't know about you, but I think of woodland owners near the coast as being at least ten miles inland in the mountains. The Rankins' place is maybe 1.5 miles inland and includes an estuary where tide gates open and close feeding a large estuary - fascinating. The spruce and fir trees and the love and care with which they steward this land are great, too. The Rankins are both retired educators and introduced us to their Four S's relating to forestry:

- **Sustainable** Forestry – “The goal is threefold: sustaining the ecological systems and components of our forests; sustaining the economic integrity of our human communities; and sustaining our social fabric, our ‘sense of place,’ that ties Oregonians to our forests.” (Hal Salwassar, former Dean of the College of Forestry at OSU).
- Forestry **Silviculture** depends on clearly defined management objectives for not only timber production, but also for wildlife, water, recreation, aesthetics, or any combination of these.
- Forestry **Succession** – As cycles of tree growth, death, and regeneration occur in the forest, species may inhabit or be absent from a given area. Any change in the forest habitat creates “winners and losers.” Some species do best in young, open stands; some in older stands
- Forestry **Stewardship** – Forest landowners, operators and foresters are stewards of Oregon's forests, responsible for sustaining our forests and protecting soil, air, fish, wildlife, water quality and other resources valued by Oregonians. (*Paraphrased from Oregon's Forest Protection Laws*).

Bonnie Shumaker

Advertising Opportunity: The Forest Forum is a monthly newsletter sent out to over 250 members and friends of WCSWA. Advertisers receive free newsletters for the duration of their ads. ADVERTISING RATES (PRICE INCLUDES TYPESETTING & AD PREP)

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Please send this form, ad copy, logos, photos, etc. to:

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**Thank you for supporting Washington County Small
Woodlands Association!**

	1 issue	4 issues	12 issues
1/12 page	\$15	\$30	\$75
1/6 page	25	50	125
1/4 page	35	70	175
1/3 page	45	90	225
1/2 page	65	130	325
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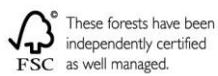


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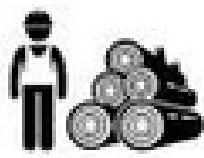
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Time to Order Seedlings

By Don Sohler and Bob Shumaker

It is time to start thinking about your seedling needs for the 2017-18 planting season. **A seedling order form is included in this newsletter.** Orders are taken on a first-come basis.

We will have 40-50 thousand Douglas-fir 1+1 Vernonia High Gain seedlings available this year. The seedlings are grown for WCSWA by Lewis River Reforestation in Woodland, Washington from seed bought from the ODF Schroeder Seed Orchard breeding program. These seedlings have superior growth characteristics and are intended to maximize the growing potential of your site. We will also have Western Red Cedar plug +1 available. The price is the same as last year at \$56/bag (.46 each) for the DF packed at 120 per bag and \$56/bag (.56 each) for WRC packed at 100 per bag. Seedlings are available between January 15 and February 15 depending on weather conditions, but you need to order now.

Order inquiries and questions should be directed to Don Sohler 503-357-0536, and order forms and checks sent to WCSWA, c/o Bob Shumaker, 52490 NW Cedar Canyon Rd., Banks, OR 97106.

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"Serving Many of the Reforestation Needs of the World From This Location Since 1889"

(A repeat plus of the article on page 1)

August Tour: Hampton Mill in Banks

We're excited to announce that Hampton Lumber, the new owner of the Banks Lumber Mill, has agreed to give us a tour of the mill on **Thursday, August 24 at 9 am**. The mill manufactures 2x4s and 2x6s from 8 ft to 20 ft long. One unique aspect of the mill is that product is moved through the mill very quickly and efficiently without any stopping or staging, so a log can enter the mill in the morning and leave as lumber in the afternoon.

RSVP IS REQUIRED FOR THIS TOUR. *This is a member tour only, at the request of Hampton Lumber Company.* Please send an email to washcosmallwoodlandsassoc@gmail.com or leave a message at (503)703-6573 with the following information:

Name(s)
Contact information - phone or email **Please respond by Monday, August 21.**

We will meet at the office building at the mill site in Banks. The address is: 13620 NW Commerce Street Banks, OR 97106. The office building is located on the east side of Commerce Street next to the train tracks. Parking is located immediately north and south of the office building along the train tracks. Please do not park at the far south end of the facility where the trucks load the finished lumber. The facility is compact and fairly easy to walk, and our hosts can be flexible if folks do not want to walk far. No children under 10 please.

Log Markets Climb in 1st Quarter

During the first quarter of 2017, domestic log prices generally climbed for all Oregon species as compared to the 4th quarter of 2016. Price changes varied by region and species, with DF, white woods, and pines rising 1 to 5%, while alder climbed 4-12%. Domestically processed log prices, expressed as pond values from sample regions, are reported quarterly online by the Oregon Department of Forestry at
www.oregon.gov/ODF/Working/pages/TimberSales.aspx

The Random Lengths Index reported that framing lumber increased by 13% over a year ago (as of June 9th), and structural panel composites increased by almost 8% over the same period.

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"We shall never achieve harmony with the land, any more than we shall achieve absolute justice or liberty for people. In these higher aspirations the important thing is not to achieve but to strive"

Aldo Leopold, Round River: From the Journals of Aldo Leopold

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We market forestland properties in western Oregon and Washington. Check www.WorldForestInvestment.com for the latest properties available under "Forestland for Sale" tab.

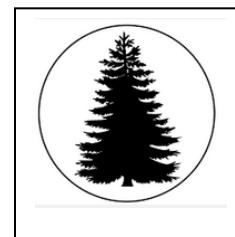
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5 Tree Root Myths Explained

Myth 1: All Trees Have Single Tap Roots

Most trees do not have tap roots after the seedling stage. They quickly produce water-seeking lateral and feeder roots. When a tree is grown in deep, well-drained soil, these trees will develop many deep roots directly surrounding the trunk.

Myth 2: Tree Roots Will Grow Only to a Tree's Drip-line

There is a belief that roots tend to stay under a tree's leaf canopy. That seldom happens. Trees in a forest have roots reaching well beyond their individual branches and leaves in search of water and nutrients. Studies have shown that roots actually grow laterally to a distance equal to the height of the tree.

Myth 3: Damaged Roots Result in Canopy Die-back on the Same Side

This does happen but should not be assumed a foregone conclusion. Interestingly, maples do not seem to show injury and drop leaves on the side of root injury. Instead, branch death may occur anywhere in the crown with some tree species.

Myth 4: Deeper Roots Secure Water and Nutrients

On the contrary. The "feeder" roots in the top 3 inches of soil supply your tree with water and food. These delicate finer roots are concentrated in that upper soil and duff layer where immediate nutrients and moisture are quickly available. Minor soil disturbances can injure these feeder roots and remove a large portion of the absorbing roots on a tree.

Myth 5: Root Pruning Stimulates Root Branching

Don't worry about encircling roots as they will correct that on a new site. Most new root growth occurs at the end of existing roots. Root pruning is often done at the nursery to accommodate packaging and to resume growth before the final sale. If you are planting the tree at its final site, it may be best that you gently break up the root ball but never prune root tips.

Source: The University of Florida's IFAS Extension's great "Dispelling Misperceptions About Trees".

Want to Save the Trees? Unleash the Fungus

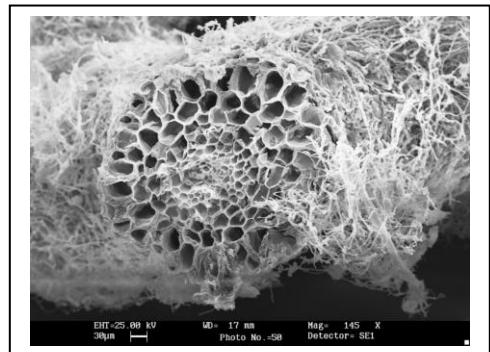
from Matt Simon Science, 5/11/17

They call it *shroom juice*, a dark slurry of fungi that will *not* get you high. Workers dump packages of magic powder into buckets, add water, and stir. Then they grab saplings, dunk the roots into the mix, and drop the baby trees into the ground.

All right, fine, the powder isn't actually magic, at least not in anything but the ecological sense. It's loaded with six different species of fungi called mycorrhizae, which form one of the strangest and most mysterious networks in nature. Hidden in the soil, tangled among the tree roots, the fungi both take energy and give energy to the trees, on top of running a protection racket. Trees couldn't make it without the fungi, and the fungi couldn't make it without the trees, forming an expansive ecosystem that scientists are just beginning to understand.

Some 50,000 species of mycorrhizae lurk in soils all over the world. They penetrate tree roots, exchanging nutrients and shielding the trees from toxins (some species even grow as sheaths over the roots, protecting them from hungry critters), growing so extensively that they end up connecting swaths of forest. The fungi function as an extension of the root system, growing farther and deeper than the roots themselves and squeezing into tighter crevices.

In West Virginia, where logging and burning and farming have leveled forests and sapped the soil of nutrients, Nature Conservancy scientists and wildlife officials are shrooming in the most sober sense of the word. The problem is that while some types of trees have made a comeback here, red spruce certainly has not. It doesn't regenerate from its root system like others might, so these crews are replanting saplings by hand, inoculating them with the mycorrhizal fungi that the trees will depend on for the rest of their lives.



What researchers have found in Appalachia is that without inoculating the trees with fungi, the things go into transplant shock. They turn yellow and don't grow so fast, likely because the fungi ecosystem in the soil ain't what it used to be. "So what we're trying to do is reduce that transplant shock, give the trees a little bit of extra nutrients, so they can grow a little bit faster," says Mike Powell, a stewardship manager at the Nature Conservancy.

Not only are there tens of thousands of different species that form mycorrhizal relationships, but the nature of the relationship will differ. For instance, how the fungus and plant exchange nutrients, or whether or not the fungus penetrates the cells of the roots. Part of untangling the mystery of the mycorrhizae, then, is figuring out where you'll find these different relationships. Randy Swaty of Nature Conservancy and his colleagues took vegetation data from the government's Landfire program, which plots all kinds of things on US land, from simple topography to the amount of fire fuel in a given area. "Now we also have a great understanding of which fungi inhabit the roots of different plants," says Swaty. "So we're basically able to attribute roughly 9 billion pixels in the United States with a mycorrhizal community based on the plants and the fungi that they would have on their roots."

Armed with this data, conservationists can better understand the fungal relationships in an ecosystem. So say pines disappear from a particular landscape. "Pines might be the only plants there that host a particular type of fungi," says Swaty. "So if restorationists in the future try to plant pines on that site, they're going to have to inoculate those seedlings." This knowledge will grow all the more valuable as climate change transforms American forests, potentially wiping out species that can't adapt fast enough.

So sure, humans are making a mess of the planet. ***But maybe a sip of shroom juice can help.***

A Letter from our Recent Scholarship Student

The most recent recipient of the WCSWA Scholarship Endowment at Oregon State sent a letter of appreciation to WCSWA. It's obvious that our scholarship money is well-spent! We wish Austin all the best as he pursues his career in forestry!

To Whom It May Concern,

I would like to put forth my great appreciation for the financial generosity contributed towards my education in forestry here at Oregon State University. Influences both academic and social that I have experienced here in my short period of time as a student have created deep impacts in my professional, as well as personal circles.

Currently, I am working through a combination of forestry and business classes in pursuit of my bachelors in Forest Operations Management. In addition, I am also training as an Ambassador for the College of Forestry. This position largely focuses on College of Forestry events in a local setting as well as speaking on behalf of the college at other distant events. I also oversee fundraising for the Forestry Club here at OSU in order to fund our various trips and competitions. I am hopeful that my academic involvement here at OSU will continue to improve my professional skills for years to come.

On the flip side from school this year, I finally registered my own small business Finster Forestry LLC. In my free time during high school away from sports, I would sell firewood and help family friends with thinning and maintenance of their small woodlands. Luckily, my reputation has traveled and I am now to the point where I do small custom logging and thinning services for clients outside of close family friends. Although planting season has been a bit wet this year I am also working on establishing my own small Christmas tree farm in Hillsboro, Oregon with skills and mentorship I have gained working with a successful local tree farmer.

Following a successful internship with Weyerhaeuser last summer, I have plans to further my business as well as do more production logging and timber falling alongside my father on our small family tree farm this upcoming summer. I am extremely grateful for the scholarship funds offered to my academic pursuits as I strive to bridge the experience gap often found between forestry students and industry workers. Through a combination of hard work in the classroom expanding my perspective as well as in the field, I am confident in achieving my goal as a diverse and successful industry professional.

Please feel free to reach me at finstera@oregonstate.edu, or by phone at 503-828-2574.

Many Thanks, Austin R. Finster

Keeping the Forests as Forests

By Charlie Niebling, Innovative Natural Resource Solutions LLC | June 03, 2017

Across the Northeast U.S. and much of the country, markets for low-grade wood resources have fallen off dramatically. In this context, “low grade” is used to describe wood feedstocks that have few, if any, higher-value markets. The forestry trade press has reported widely on the decline in pulp and biomass energy markets. Some of this decline is cyclical and will return. But most of it reflects a fundamental change in how we use wood, and will not return.

The practice of sustainable forestry is absolutely dependent on these markets. Strong demand and high prices will probably always be there for high-quality veneer and sawlogs to make premium lumber, but if these are the only products that have markets, what stays behind in the woods after harvest? That’s right—the poorer-quality, misshapen or unhealthy trees that otherwise have no markets. They become the future forest.

Pulpwood and energy chips from logging residuals, while low in value, are often 70 percent or more of harvest volume. The money is in the premium logs, but steady markets for low-grade wood are what drive productive and scientifically responsible forestry operations.

Years ago, this was a tough concept to get across to lawmakers during debates about renewable biomass energy policy. But that’s changing. Opinion leaders are beginning to understand that without robust markets for low-grade wood, forestry is threatened as a viable land use. Without timber harvest to generate income for landowners, they are forced to consider alternatives to forest ownership and management. That usually means subdivision, fragmentation and development.

The values society places on our forests—wildlife habitat, clean water, recreation, carbon storage and wood products—depend on them remaining as forests. That’s why esteemed organizations such as the Nature Conservancy have been preaching the value and importance of productive forestry for decades. They know that good markets are necessary for good forestry, and good forestry means healthy forests that stay productive and undeveloped. The value of productive healthy forests is incalculable to society. Policies that support these markets sometimes come with a cost to taxpayers or ratepayers, such as state renewable portfolio standards or federal tax credits. But the economic, social and environmental benefits far outweigh the costs. This message is finally resonating with our elected officials, and it’s high time. Improved markets will return for low-grade wood, but in the meantime, public interest in keeping our forests as forests is well-served by these policies.

Working Forests at Work for Birds by George Fenwick, President of American Bird Conservancy

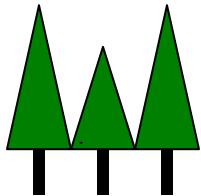
I have concluded that if we want to maintain our bird diversity, we must recognize and manage for the variety of habitats birds need. And to succeed, we need the help of a wide range of people and organizations. Today, humans have so encircled and controlled nature as to prevent it from doing what it does best: manage itself for health and diversity. Due to poor forest stewardship going back more than a century, management has now become essential to create habitat for high-priority bird species that depend on early successional forest, such as [Golden-winged Warbler](#), and other rapidly declining species that need canopy gaps in mature forest, like [Cerulean Warbler](#). That said, some types of habitat must be off-limits to management. For example, we at ABC continue to press for strong protection of old-growth forests for [Northern Spotted Owl](#) and [Marbled Murrelet](#) in the Pacific Northwest.

We recognize there are differences of opinion on this matter. However, science clearly shows now that declines among many forest birds can be reversed *only* through more-active management. Conservationists, landowners, government, and the private sector all have a shared obligation to deploy what we know about natural cycles and help to accomplish what nature once did on its own. In doing so, we will restore and preserve more habitats. It’s one of the most important ways we’re “bringing back the birds.”

Newsletter Editor
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Forest Forum



COUNTY CHAPTER OF THE
OREGON SMALL WOODLANDS
ASSOCIATION

Potpourri

Found after the potluck at Bob and Bonnie Shumakers' in May: One gold earring, one hiking stick, and one green salad bowl with red tongs. The Shumakers will be at the TFOY event at the Harrel's on July 15th. This would be a good time to reunite you with your left-behinds. Call Bob and Bonnie at 503-324-7825, or e-mail them at bshumaker@oho.net.

Summer wildfires boost air pollution considerably more than previously believed. Naturally burning timber and brush launch what are called fine particles into the air at a rate three times as high as levels noted in emissions inventories at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, according to a new study. The microscopic specks that form aerosols are a hazard to human health, particularly to the lungs and heart.

"Burning biomass produces lots of pollution. These are really bad aerosols to breathe from a health point of view," said researcher Greg Huey from the Georgia Institute of Technology, which led the study. The research also describes other chemicals in wildfire smoke, some never before measured, and it raises the estimated annual emission of particulate matter in the western United States significantly.

Helpful Links:

- <http://blogs.oregonstate.edu/treetopics> to read Amy Grotta's "Tree Topics" blog
- www.oregonwoodlandcooperative.com to learn about the Oregon Woodland Cooperative
- <https://www.facebook.com/WashingtonCountySmallWoodlandsAssociation>
- For E-Notification: : <https://ferns.odf.state.or.us/E-Notification> or visit ODF Office