

Forest Forum

Washington County Small Woodlands Association

October 2023

September 16 tour: White Oak Management at Matteson Forest and Chehalem Ridge Nature Park



Learning about Oak at Matteson Forest

Matteson Forest's 181 acres is one of Oregon State University's ten satellite Research Forests located throughout Oregon. It is the only one in Washington County and was bequeathed to OSU in 2013. Steve Fitzgerald, Director of OSU's Research Forests, led WCSWA members on the tour to explore creating openings for releasing Oregon white oak to create an oak savannah. We hiked to a large oak that was crowded out by Douglas-fir. Historically, Native Americans burned out the firs to release the oaks for acorns and to open up space for wildlife. Without fire management, Douglas-fir will fill in and suppress the oak. Currently, an inventory is being done at Matteson by Trout Mountain Forestry after which they will present a basic plan. An area dedicated to Oak Savanna could be in that plan.

See more on page 2

2023 WCSWA Monthly Programs

October	24	Monthly Meeting	7:00pm. 30780 NW Highland Ct. N. Plains. Topic: Controlling harmful algal blooms. See below
	28	Amy's Trail maintenance	Matteson Demonstration Forest, 9:00-noon. See details on page 3.
November	4	WCSWA Annual Banquet	Speaker: Ryan Temple, founder Sustainable Northwest Wood. (see insert)
	7	NEW Forest Practices Act Public Information Session	Wilsonville. See page 7 to register
	16	NEW e-Notification System (FERNS) virtual training	9:00am - noon, or 1:00 - 4:00. See page 7. This is on Zoom; no registration required
December		No program in December	

October Monthly Meeting to Focus on Harmful Algal Blooms

If you have a pond on your property, enjoy being outdoors near water or just have a general interest in water quality and water supply, please plan on joining us on October 24 at the Hub in North Plains (30780 NW Highland Ct) for our October monthly meeting. The focus of the meeting will be Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs) and will include a brief overview of the Joint Water Commission, why they are interested in source water protection, ways to mitigate and prevent HABs, and funding sources in the area available for this work on local private properties. Our featured speakers will be Malyhea Haghshenas (Maly), Source Water Protection Project Specialist for the Joint Water Commission/City of Hillsboro and Brittany Contreras, Water Resources Program Coordinator for the Joint Water Commission/City of Hillsboro. You won't want to miss it!

WCSWA Leadership

President – Vic Herinckx, 503-645-9434

Vice-President – Open

Secretary-Treasurer – Bob Shumaker; 503-324-7825

Board of Directors:

Pos. #1: Kathy Brock, 503-702-7620

Pos. #2: Marc Ahrendt, 503-928-2083

Pos. #3: Dave Rabon, 503 686-3039

Pos. #4: Jonathan Ciampi, 971-867-0912

Pos. #5: Cathy Dummer, 503-703-6573

Pos. #6: Kent Grewe 503-701-2087

Legislative Committee Chair: Scott Hayes 503-568-9999

Membership Committee: WCSWA Board members

Program Committee: John and Cathy Dummer – 503-970-8789,
Tony and Mary Spiering – 503-680-8112, Tom Nygren 503-628-5472

Tualatin River Watershed Council Representatives: Tom Nygren, primary, 503-628-5472, Eric Chambers, alternate, 503-647-2458

EMAIL FOR ANYONE ON THIS PAGE: washcosmallwoodlandsassoc@gmail.com

WCSWA Website – <https://wcswa.com/>

Website Manager: Michael Morgan

Contact Cathy Dummer for web postings and information.

Facebook:

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

Forest Forum Newsletter

Editors: Norie Dimeo-Ediger and Bonnie Shumaker
503-432-1733 and 503-324-7825

Proofreaders: Bonnie Shumaker, Dan Hundley,
Tom Nygren, Ardis Schroeder, Norie Dimeo-Ediger

The Tree Farm Tradin' Post

You can place a free advertisement in Forest Forum. A free service to our members (3 month limit). List tree farm items/land to buy, sell, or trade. Email ad to washcosmallwoodlandassoc@gmail.com.

ForSale: No items for sale this month

Wanted: No items wanted this month

Matteson/Chehalem Oak Tour, *Continued from page one*



**Fenceline Oak at
Chehalem Ridge**

From Matteson Forest we drove about ten miles to Chehalem Ridge Nature Park. This is a 1200-acre park, owned by Metro, which was purchased in 2008 from Stimson Lumber. It had been planted as a production forest approximately 20 years before. WCSWA previously held two tours there to learn about its transition to a nature park with trails, various thinning methods and the introduction and preservation of a variety of species including Oregon white oak. This was the first WCSWA tour since it opened to the public. Mary Meier, park scientist, led us along the road to a clearing with a few large oaks. She called them “fenceline oaks.” They were on the property line between Stimson and a farm field, were not harvested before the Douglas-fir was planted and had space to grow without being overtopped by Douglas-fir. Ten acres around the fenceline oaks have been cleared

and the oaks are thriving with open crowns.

Before heading back, Mary pointed out on the Chehalem Ridge trail map an area at the end of Mampat Trail that has 18 acres of oak savannah and a great view. It was too far to go this day but would be a good hike for another day.



**Mary Meier introducing us to
Chehalem Ridge Nature Park.**

Tualatin Soil and Water Conservation District has an excellent YouTube video on how to plant Oregon White Oak from acorns. Check it out at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YGSQdmA69-c> or just google YouTube and search “How to plant Oregon White Oak from Acorns.”

Fall is such a great time of year to be able to move beyond high fire danger, give drought stressed plants a nice reprieve and to start preparing for the holidays and enjoying time with family and friends. It is also a chance for WCSWA members to get together at our October meeting and the November 4th Annual Meeting and Banquet. Besides a chance to visit with friends, win a door prize and bid on raffle items, we will elect new officers and board members (see below) and announce the 2023 Tree Farmer of the Year for Washington County. Our speaker for the evening will be Ryan Temple, founder and president of Sustainable Northwest Wood. See article on page 9 for more information on Ryan.

I was able to attend the OSWA annual meeting in Veneta, OR on September 22. At the meeting retiring Vice President Dave Ehlers was recognized for his contributions to the membership committee and cleaning up the membership database. Julie Sandstede from the Roseburg area was elected to replace Dave. The meeting included approval of by-laws changes and increases to membership rates summarized below.

Regular Membership:

- Removed “managing forestland” as a qualification for voting as it was inconsistent with membership qualifications. A regular membership is for forestland **owners** in Oregon. Revised voting qualifications to a single vote per membership.
- Changed annual membership rates to:
 - o < 16 acres \$67
 - o 16-70 acres \$127
 - o > 70 acres \$191
- \$13 of the above dues are collected for and distributed to the chapter.

Associate Membership:

- Continue to be available for interested parties who do not own forestland in Oregon. The annual dues are \$131. This membership cannot hold office or vote at the state level.

Subscription Membership:

- Replaces family membership and continues to be targeted to relatives and friends with an interest in a Regular Member’s property. Annual dues of \$41 are paid by the sponsoring Regular Member.
- This membership cannot hold office or vote at the state level.

The WSCWA board will be reviewing our by-laws and membership to see if any adjustments are needed. Let me know if you have any questions about the memberships or dues.

The OSWA meeting also included a tour of Swanson Brothers Lumber in Noti, OR. This mill handles big logs and they are most efficient running 24” diameter logs. They saw and plane the logs into a variety of products including timbers up to 16” x 24”. All finished products are sold green. Here’s a picture of debarked logs queued up at the head rig to create a square “cant” to send to twin bandsaws that will create sellable boards.



Until next time continue to stay safe!

WSCWA Board Member and Officer Candidates

Election: November 4th at Annual Meeting – Nominations will also be taken from the floor

President: Vic Herinckx
Vice-President: Dan Shumaker
Treasurer: Melinda Shumaker

Board Position #5: John Bucsek
Board Position #6: Mary Spiering

Advertising Opportunity: The Forest Forum is a monthly newsletter sent out to over 300 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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Tillamook, OR 97141
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Warrenton
550 NE Skipanon Dr.
Warrenton, OR 97146
Desired Species:
Douglas fir & White woods

TYLER ROBBINS

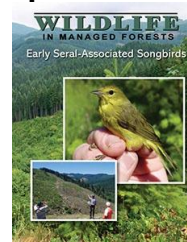
503-324-2681 office
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BANKS
13662 NW Commerce St.
Banks, OR 97106
Desired species: Douglas fir

Tillamook Forest Center to shift to fall hours before closing for the season

As fall approaches, so do the seasonal fall hours for the TFC. Fall hours start with TFC open Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. until Nov. 26, when the center will begin its annual winter closure and will re-open in March of 2024. The reduction in hours allows the newly formed team to catch up on projects from the previous lengthy closure.

Songbird publication updated



The latest scientific research findings regarding the effects of forest management on songbirds and ways to promote songbird habitat on young forests are now part of the newly updated OFRI publication, *Wildlife in Managed Forests: Early Seral-Associated Songbirds*.

Early Seral-Associated Songbirds offers scientific background and solutions for managing early seral forests — the earliest stage of forest growth typically seen after clearcutting and replanting tree seedlings or following a wildfire. Order a free copy or download a pdf at OregonForests.org.

The most exciting phrase to hear in science, the one that heralds new discoveries, is not “Eureka! But “That’s Funny.”

Isaac Asimov

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WCSWA Field Day – Amy's Trail Maintenance at Matteson Forest (Registration Required)

Date: Saturday, Oct. 28th **Time:** 9:00 am – 1:00 pm **Location:** Matteson Demonstration Forest, Gaston

Come join us at Matteson Demonstration Forest for some regular trail maintenance work, including clearing vegetation from the trail corridor and opening drainage to prepare for the coming winter.

We would also like to take this opportunity to honor Amy Grotta's spirit. To that end, please consider being ready to share something about forestry or forest management that you have found particularly helpful or even something you've learned recently and would like to share.

Please come dressed for working outside in the elements: boots, long pants, long-sleeved shirts. OSU Extension will provide the appropriate PPE (hard hats, hearing protection, gloves if needed) and tools. You can bring your own PPE and tools, however No Chainsaws. A portable restroom will be provided.

You are also invited to stay after the work is done for a sack lunch and community building (weather permitting). Bring your own lunch, a lawn chair, and a story about Amy!

RSVP by emailing washcosmallwoodlandsassoc@gmail.com by Oct 25. Please include the names of everyone in your group. Parking space is limited – please carpool if possible.

Directions to the Matteson Forest:

Highway 47 to the Hagg Lake /Scoggins Valley Park turnoff. Follow Scoggins Valley Rd. past the park gate and turn left on West Shore Drive, crossing the dam. Proceed another two miles past the dam on West Shore Drive. Turn left on Hankins Rd. Follow to the property gate on your right.



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Erin Giebner

New OSU Extension Program Coordinator for MWM and WOW

Hi, I'm Erin Giebner and I am very excited to join the Forestry and Natural Resources Extension team at OSU as the Program Coordinator for the Master Woodland Manager and Women Owning Woodlands Network. I look forward to meeting you and learning more about how I can best support and facilitate programs that serve your needs.

Subject: Northwest Hardwoods Alder Seedling Project

Caitlin Wind, Log Procurement Specialist, NWH, September 7, 2023

We're happy to introduce the Northwest Hardwoods Alder Seedling Program. As part of our vision, we're working to help replenish the alder tree population in commercial forests.

Why alder? They offer a distinct ecological advantage. Unlike softwoods, alders enrich nutrient-poor and disturbed soils with usable nitrogen, revitalizing the soil and setting the stage for healthier forest growth. Alder trees also serve as both forage and habitat, supporting a myriad of wildlife and enhancing biodiversity.

In collaboration with PRT Nursery, we're excited to offer 35,000 alder seedlings annually—at no cost – to small woodland owners. These seedlings, grown from seed sourced by Weyerhaeuser, are specifically adapted to the Pacific Northwest's unique growing zones. We would love to see these alder trees flourishing on your woodlands!

The first batch is slated for pick-up in Spring 2024. Dependent upon demand, we will be reaching out to confirm the amount of seedlings allotted to each landowner by February. Request Your Alder Seedlings Here: <https://nwh.com/alder-seedlings/>



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Report explains changing forest protection laws

A new special report published by the Oregon Forest Resources Institute titled *Finding Common Ground*, focuses on how the historic Private Forest Accord agreement between 11 forest products companies, the Oregon Small Woodlands Association and 13 conservation groups has led to the most significant changes to Oregon's forestry regs in 50 years.

To order a free copy of *Finding Common Ground* or to download a PDF of the report, go to oregonforests.org/pub/finding-common-ground

NEW Forest Practices Act Public Information Sessions

The FPA changes—streams, roads and more class will be held at various locations across Oregon from 9 a.m.- noon. The nearest to Washington County will be held Nov. 7 in Wilsonville at Wilsonville Holiday Inn, 25425 SW 95th Ave.

[Register now](#) for the information sessions.

<https://www.oregon.gov/ODF/Working/Pages/FPA.aspx>

ODF updates stream maps

The Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) has updated its stream classification map as required by recent changes to the Oregon Forest Practices Act. The map identifies which streams have fish, or are used as a domestic water source, and classifies the streams based on the protections required for each stream type under Oregon law. The new map went into effect July 1 and is available through ODF's website

<https://www.oregon.gov/odf>

NEW e-Notification System (FERNS) New Changes virtual training

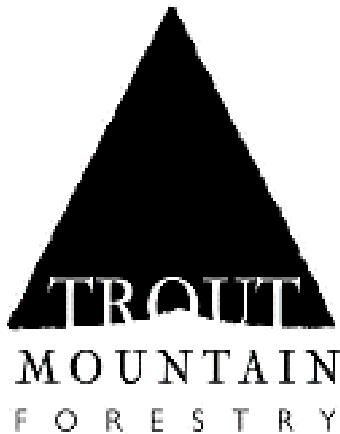
This class is designed to help landowners and operators better understand how to file notices to harvest timber on their land. The class will discuss new changes to the system.

The e-Notification System (FERNS) New Changes class will be held at two different times with the same content. No registration is required.

- Nov. 16, 9 a.m. - noon, [Zoom training](#)
- Nov. 16. 1 - 4 p.m.. Zoom

*"The trees breathe out,
We breathe in."*

Luchita Hurtado



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Lookout tower at Hopkins now open

The former Clatskanie Mountain Fire Lookout Tower, which was relocated from the Oregon coast range east of Astoria to the Hopkins Demonstration Forest in Oregon City, is currently open to the public. The tower can be visited between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. through September, based on volunteer availability. Learn more about the lookout tower on the Hopkins Demonstration Forest <https://demonstrationforest.org>.



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Sustainable Northwest Wood: Local Wood for the Greater Good

Ryan Temple is the founder and president of Sustainable Northwest Wood. Sustainable Northwest Wood is the fruition of a dream Ryan had to make rural businesses beneficiaries of the green movement. He believes the stewardship ethic with which many manage the forests that we depend upon deserves recognition in the market. As the founder of the company, Ryan leads by example and holds the vision for making a positive impact in our local communities. He develops the relationships

with the network of local mills and small businesses to advance both a better built environment and healthier natural one.

Ryan will be the featured speaker at the WCSWA November 4th Annual Banquet at Embassy Suites.



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Gail and Gordon Culbertson (2019 Oregon Tree Farmers of the Year) working with Lauren Grand (center), OSU Forestry Extension Agent

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- Refer to forest practice laws
- Register for classes



The following is an occasional feature in the Forest Forum. Your editors, Bonnie Shumaker and Norie Dimeo-Ediger ask people to tell their woodland story, or you can submit a story on your own. Thank you, Dave Schlegel for agreeing to tell your family's story.

Schlegel Family Tree Farm Story

09-21-2023, Dave Schlegel



certified strawberry plants for a few years, then leased the field to a strawberry grower who harvested berries. Farming in those days was all about the labor force used to harvest the fruit. When dad had enough of labor contractors and camps for farm workers, he plowed the strawberries under and planted all the farmland to Christmas trees.

My parents lived on a farm started by dad's grandfather in the 1870's. Dad always had a job off the farm which paid the bills, and he and his brother farmed the land together as a second income. With growing families, they looked to expand their acreage, and diversify their holdings. The brothers bought a piece of timber land located a mile north of their farm in the early 1960's. The parcel had been logged in the 30's and 40's and had been neglected since.

My father cleared a 20-acre field on the upper portion, where the land was most flat, and put his three sons to work picking up sticks, cleaning up the field. He raised registered,

Continued on next page

Around this time my brother and I purchased land from dad and planted a couple of houses on the edges of two of the fields, left some pasture space around them for farm animals, pigs, lambs, goats, and chickens, and always planted a little clover for the elk passing through.

Dad and his brother divided up the original land of their father, with dad retaining the timber property to the north, and his brother keeping most of the farmable land of the original farm. Christmas trees lasted for a few cycles of plant/grow/harvest/replant until our wholesaler retired and left us with mature trees and no market. We again shifted strategies and let the standing Christmas trees go bushy and feral, perfect for harvesting boughs for wreaths.

The timber land on the property continued to build value over the years. The stand was a mix of Douglas-fir, western red cedar in the draws, big leaf maple, a small amount of alder, and hemlock. Dad reached out to Oregon State University Extension, Oregon Dept of Forestry, Stimson Lumber Company, and the Oregon Small Woodlands Association, for advice on ways to maximize growth, care for the forest, and make it a place for future generations to live, work, and play.

Dad decided that he would manage the forest by selective thinning each year which would give him some extra income and allow him to save money to invest in the education of his children and grandchildren and provide for his and mom's retirement. With input from loggers and foresters, we would go through a section of the woods and mark trees for removal. Sometimes we'd take out one big tree to open up an area where smaller trees had been denied light and water, allowing those smaller trees to grow to fill in the vacated space. Other times we'd leave the bigger tree, and remove smaller trees that were maybe snow damaged, or showed signs of distress. Sometimes we would run into areas of root rot in the Doug-fir, where we would take all the trees showing signs of rot, plus trees whose roots might be touching the diseased tree and replant those areas with more rot resistant species such as cedar.

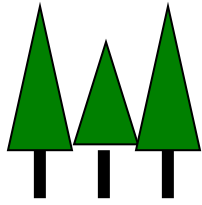
Over the years we tried a little logging on our own, mostly to keep up with removing trees downed by wind and rain each winter. It felt good to get enough wood out to break even, paying for the skidder, and for a self-loader to come up and haul the logs to the mill. None of us got hurt, other than a knee operation for my oldest brother.

There have been changes over the years. The brothers and their spouses all retired from "real world" jobs. Mom and dad are both gone. My oldest brother is gone, too. Ownership, deeds, and trusts have changed, and another generation is involved. I think there are more elk up here than there used to be, at least we see them more. And every year we find a couple dead elk from unknown causes on the property. I think we see more bobcats and bald eagles than we used to, but I can't remember the last time I saw a fox, and racoons and opossums are also rare these days. Summer seems longer, hotter, and drier, and we're starting to plant some pine trees for boughs, in addition to noble fir, which might prove to be more drought tolerant.

We've seen more people moving to the area, which brings more traffic, noise, fire danger, and water shortages. We get more air traffic over us now than before; the Hillsboro Airport has grown to meet the needs of the hi-tech businesses in Washington County, the glider port at North Plains is busy towing planes over us, and the Oregon Air Guard has increased its flights from Portland to the Oregon coast.

Other things remain the same. There are still Schlegels on the land. We still grow a few Christmas trees. We harvest boughs every year for wreaths. We do a little logging. We cut firewood. We walk in the woods. We don't hunt the elk, but we watch them and give them space to eat, rest, and raise their young. We pick mushrooms after the rain. We raise and eat sheep, goats, pigs, and chickens. We are still in awe of nature's beauty, diversity, and abundance. We remain grateful for the gifts of those who came before us, and are humbled by the opportunities and responsibilities those gifts have presented. My dad's philosophy of being good stewards to the land still remains, as does his desire to pass the land on to future generations of our family. We are merely the caretakers for our descendants.

Forest Forum



COUNTY CHAPTER OF THE
OREGON SMALL WOODLANDS
ASSOCIATION

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Potpourri

New Members: Welcome to new member **Joel Birkeland** of North Plains. We are here to help members achieve their management goals. To get the most out of your membership, come to the meetings and tours that are scheduled throughout the year. You'll find many kindred spirits among our diverse membership – and many opportunities to learn and share together! If you have any questions or need help, contact any of the Directors, Officers, or Newsletter Editors listed on page 2 of this newsletter.

Forestry for the Birds: *Western Oregon* was produced by the Forest Stewards Guild. Download at: <https://foreststewardsguild.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/ForestryfortheBirdsWesternOregonGuide.pdf>

How to Prevent Phytophthoras in Restoration Plantings on Your Woodland A new informational brochure for small woodland owners, published by the Oregon State University Extension Service and funded by OFRI, offers advice on how to prevent the introduction of invasive Phytophthora species – microscopic organisms that can cause root, stem and leaf diseases in native trees and plants. The brochure is available online through the OSU Extension Catalog in both English and Spanish. <https://catalog.extension.oregonstate.edu/em9398>

Recommended Fire-safe Brochures:

[NFPA - Preparing homes for wildfire](#) (Home Ignition Zone)

[Defensible Space - Ready for Wildfire](#) (Defensible Space)

Firewise Landscaping Checklist: [checklists \(oregon.gov\)](#)

[FireWise: Living With Fire | OSU Extension Service \(oregonstate.edu\)](#)

Fire Resistant Plants for the Home Landscape: [Fire-Resistant Plants for Home Landscapes | OSU Extension Catalog | Oregon State University](#)

Helpful Links:

- www.oregonwoodlandcooperative.com learn about the Oregon Woodland Cooperative
- <https://www.facebook.com/WashingtonCountySmallWoodlandsAssociation>
- For E-Notification: : <https://ferns.odf.state.or.us/E-Notification> or visit an ODF Office