

Forest Forum

Washington County Small Woodlands Association

February 2024

Small Forestland Maple Sugar Production for February Meeting

Please plan to join us for the February monthly meeting at our regular place in North Plains. The topic will be an Introduction to bigleaf maple tapping and syrup making, with highlights of Tom and Julia Tibbs' maple tapping operation. The featured speaker will be John (Trey) Scheb. Trey graduated from OSU this year with a master's degree in natural resources. His master's research focused on sugarbush management within Oregon's emerging bigleaf maple sugaring industry. His academic and professional focus is on agroforestry and ethnoecology.

Trey did his master's research under the guidance of Eric Jones, assistant professor in the College of Forestry at OSU. During his research, he worked with several small woodland owners in Northwest Oregon to help them get started in maple tapping. He will share his hands-on experience with these small woodland owners. Other topics he will cover include the botany of bigleaf maple, history of maple tapping, the maple industry, bigleaf maple sugarbush management, technologies for bigleaf maple sap collection, processing sap and syrup-making, and selling bigleaf maple products in Oregon. This will be a great foreshadowing of the Tree Farmer of the Year Tour that will be taking place later this summer at the Tibbs' property.

The meeting will be February 27, 2024, at 7pm in North Plains at the Hub (30780 NW Highland Ct. North Plains). We look forward to seeing you there!

2024 WCSWA Monthly Programs

February	22-24	Oregon Logging Conference	86 th Annual Conference, Eugene, see pg. 4
	27	Sm. Forestland Maple Syrup Production	7:00pm: 30780 NW Highland Ct. N. Plains (see more info above)
	27-28	Forest Health in Oregon, 2024 Webinar	8:30am – noon. Free, but you must register. See page 7
	29	NRCS Local Working Group	10:00-noon. See page 4
March	9	Native Plant Sale CANCELLED	No plant sale this year (see page 9)
	26	PGE Vegetation Management	7:00pm: 30780 NW Highland Ct. N. Plains. See page 2
April	23	Managing for Carbon Sequestration	7:00pm: 30780 NW Highland Ct. N. Plains
May Wednesday	29	WCSWA Annual Potluck at Anne and Richard Hanschu's-Gales Creek	5pm Social, 6pm Potluck, 6:45 Speaker SFISH Program – funding for culvert replacement. Josh Hanson, ODF speaker

"Nature does not hurry, yet everything is accomplished"

Lao Tsu

WCSWA Leadership

President – Vic Herinckx, 503-645-9434

Vice-President – Dan Shumaker, 503-680-8943

Secretary-Treasurer – Melinda Shumaker, 503-260-2885

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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 washcosmallwoodlandsassoc@gmail.com.

Wanted: No items wanted this month

ForSale: 2007 Kobeleo 210 Mark 8 Log Loader—9870 HRS. OSHA Forestry cab. Less than 1500 hr. on new track rolls, front idlers, batteries, water pump and radiator. Well maintained and runs great. \$65,000. Dale Thornton 503-550-0050



Magness Memorial Tree Farm Reopens to the Public each Monday, 8:00am – 3:00pm

Magness Memorial Tree Farm, a 77-acre forest located in Sherwood, Oregon, was damaged in the winter storm and has once again opened its gates to the public on Mondays from 8:00am – 3:00pm. This scenic woodland has been owned and operated by World Forestry Center since 1977. It was donated by Howard and Panzy Magness. The tree farm has 2 ½ miles of walking trails.

March Meeting Topic: PGE Advanced Wildfire Risk Reduction Program

Have you ever wondered about how electric utilities deal with managing vegetation under overhead power lines? Well, here is your chance to learn all about that. Come to our monthly meeting on March 26th at 7:00 pm to learn about the Portland General Electric (PGE) Advanced Wildfire Risk Reduction Program.

The speakers will be Clint Robison, Senior Forester – Vegetation Management and Matt Allen, Senior Forester. Clint and Matt will talk to us about the PGE Advanced Wildfire Risk Reduction program and how it addresses concerns shared by PGE customers who are confronting elevated wildfire risk in Oregon.

The meeting will be at our normal meeting location in North Plains: 30780 NW Highland Ct.

Hi everyone – hope you are looking forward to a lot of learning and interacting with WCSWA members this year. If you have not renewed your membership for 2024 please do so as soon as possible. By now OSWA should have sent members 1 or 2 invoices in the mail, and you can always renew on the oswa.org website. If you have any questions about membership or renewal status feel free to reach out to Mary Berrien, OSWA's Business Office Manager – mary@oswa.org or 503-588-1813.

The program committee has planned a lot of good programs this year; January's focused on funding and cost-share opportunities from some of our partners. I haven't had the opportunity to do one of these for my property but at least half the people in attendance had and I'm sure many are interested so I asked Bob Shumaker and John Dummer to share their experiences in this newsletter. You can read about their experiences below.

Until next time, Happy New Year and continue to stay safe!

Government Grant Experience

by Bob Shumaker

Government grants are a good way to help you meet your goals for your property. They are a return of the tax dollars you have paid to a beneficial use you can see and appreciate yourself.

The agencies giving grants are for the most part non-regulatory and you only apply for grants that will help you meet your goals. You are in control as long as you perform the tasks that are required by the contract.

We have had three contracts with granting agencies over forty years. They have required us to do projects which we wanted to do anyway but gave us money to help with the project plus a timeline to complete the project. All three helped achieve our goals. A short description follows.

- 1979-80: Reforest 3 acres of cutover forest that had returned to a brush patch. Did the work ourselves and received \$245 from USDA through ODF.
- 2010-2014: NRCS grant for conifer release on 20 acres. Required Pre-commercial Thinning (PCT) of trees planted in 1998, removal of excess brush, blackberries, scotch broom, etc. We also pruned remaining trees up eight feet. We were paid \$856 per year for the five-year contract. We did the work ourselves and figured out we were paid less than minimum wage for the hours we put in. That could be because we were old and slow.
- 2020-2023: NRCS grant for PCT on 100 acres. 78 acres done by a contracted hand crew at cost of \$574/acre. NRCS paid \$297/acre, We did the balance with our own processor and received the same rate/acre.

Government Grant Experience

by John Dummer

In 2015 we did a Pre-Commercial Thinning (PCT) on our 38-acre property with the assistance of the USDA cost share program. We had recently completed our management plan after taking a class taught by OSU Extension, so we had that in hand and walked through the process with the USDA staff in Hillsboro. Our property was planted in about 2002 after being clear cut so the trees were about 13 years old, and the stocking was about 500 trees per acre. We knew that we were heading toward a PCT, it was in our management plan, so we thought we'd investigate how the funding programs worked. After talking with the USDA folks, it seemed pretty likely that we could get some funding, so we applied and got the grant.

Our goal was a stocking rate of 300 trees per acre with an approximate 12' x 12' spacing. The slash treatment required in the grant was lop and scatter with pieces cut no longer than 6' and slash depth no more than 2 feet.

Continued on page 4

The cost share for the type of work we were doing from USDA was \$330/acre at the time. After checking with a few WCSWA members we identified a few contractors and identified one that was willing to squeeze us into their winter schedule.

The contractor was efficient and very conscientious. We have a lot of root rot pockets, and he went a little lighter in those areas, which has worked out well. He also girdled the alders rather than cutting them down. They are now rotted and haven't appeared to cause much damage. The ODF stewardship forester at the time was Nate Agalzoff, and he provided technical assistance to USDA and to us. Another thing that was helpful was to mark the boundaries of our property prior to the contractor coming on site.

The program motivated us to get our PCT done. I'm glad we got it taken care of and the financial assistance was nice too. As part of our agreement, we also planted an area on our property with native plants and shrubs. This was a large root rot pocket and is struggling a bit today as we continue to try to figure out what wants to grow there. Overall, we are about at our 300 tree per acre goal and looking forward to a commercial thin at some point in the future... or if there are other activities identified in our management plan that have the potential for funding we'd look into that again.

Notes on Forestland Funding

Notes taken by Bonnie Shumaker at WCSWA meeting, January 23rd

Our four speakers were:

Jessica Wells, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Jessica.Wells@usda.gov

Brandy Saffell brandy.saffell@tualatinswcd.org and Mike Conroy

mike.conroy@tualatinswcd.org, Tualatin Soil and Water Conservation District

Rachel Mauch, Community Wildlife Forester, ODF Rachel.e.mauch@odf.oregon.gov.

All emphasized that contacting them about projects you have in mind is the first and welcome step. In addition to contacting them directly, there will be a Local Working Group meeting at the Tualatin SWCD office, 7175 NE Evergreen Parkway, #400 on February 29, from 10:00am – noon. Come to the meeting and bring your views on areas of forest health that you would like to see covered.



Friend Barnes making a "Gold" at 100 yards

Did you know this about Yew?

From "A Master Craftsman of Fin de Siecle, Forest Grove," a paper delivered before the Tualatin Plains Historical Society, Oct. 5, 1970, by Thomas E. Bolling. Thank you to Friends of Historic Forest Grove for this information.

Friend Barnes, a watchmaker by trade and lifelong bowmaker, came to Forest Grove in 1893. In 1902 he was president and master bowman of the Maurice Thompson Archery Club at Pacific University. He advertised himself not only as a watchmaker and jeweler, but as the manufacturer of the finest yew bows. Pem Patten, a pioneer in Patten Valley, said Barnes would pay him up to \$500 a wagon load for yew staves, but he

was very finicky as to what he considered prime wood.

Traces of Barnes or his cutter were found in the Saddle Mt. area. Before they cut a yew tree, they tested it. This test was a notch near the base of the tree. From this they determined the thickness of the sap wood, the color of the heart wood and the finesse of the grain. If the sapwood (which always formed the "backing" of the bow) was coarse and yellow and the heart wood was light colored and coarse grained, the tree was left.

Barnes bows were famous in England. Even in those days they sold for over \$300 in some of the exclusive sporting shops catering to the aristocracy.

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)

YES! I want to advertise in the WCSWA Forest Forum. Ad size: _____

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

Melinda Shumaker, 52490 NW Cedar Canyon Road, Banks, OR 97106. Thank you for supporting Washington County Small Woodlands Association!

	1 issue	4 issues	12 issues
1/12 page	\$20	\$40	\$100
1/6 page	30	60	150
¼ page	40	80	200
1/3 page	50	100	250
½ page	75	150	375
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503-931-3143 cell

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3111 Third St.
Tillamook, OR 97141
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550 NE Skipanon Dr.
Warrenton, OR 97146
Desired Species:
Douglas fir & White woods

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503-324-2681 office
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BANKS

Training on new forestry rules continues

The Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) is continuing to provide training for private forest landowners and managers to cover new rules for stream protection and forest road construction and maintenance that will go into effect Jan. 1, 2024. A recording of a recent public training session covering these new rules and a fact sheet summarizing key dates and recent changes to the Oregon Forest Practices Act are available on the ODF website [Forest Practices Act webpage, https://www.oregon.gov/odf/working/pages/fpa.a.spx](https://www.oregon.gov/odf/working/pages/fpa.a.spx).

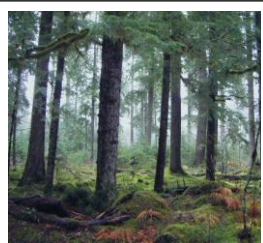
The 86th Annual Logging, Construction, Trucking and Heavy Equipment Expo is happening in February!

Register today for the 86th Annual Oregon Logging Conference to network with forestry professionals and see the latest technology and equipment.

Thursday, February 22-Saturday, February 24, 2024

Lane County Events Center and Fairgrounds, Eugene, Oregon

To register, go to <https://olc-events.com/olc-online-registration>



“All of humanity’s problems stem from man’s inability to sit quietly in a room alone.”

Blaise Pascale

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Study offers rare long-term analysis of techniques for creating standing dead trees for wildlife habitat

Oregon State University, January 23, 2024

CORVALLIS, Ore. – Ecologists have long known that standing dead trees, commonly referred to as snags, are an important habitat element for forest dwellers and act as a driver of biodiversity. Jim Rivers of the Oregon State University College of Forestry looked at nearly 800 large-diameter Douglas-fir trees that had been subjected to snag creation treatment in southwestern Oregon in the early 2000s. He learned that chain-saw topping was the best way to have a rotting, standing dead tree after a couple of decades.

Rivers said the study makes it clear that when managers interested in snag creation are deciding which treatment or treatments to use, they should think in terms of time span – i.e., how quickly do they want decay to occur in newly created snags.

For example, if the goal is rapid decay – such as within five years, to rapidly create snags in an area with few or none – chain-saw topping seems to be the best method.

“But if the goal is to promote slower decay over longer time frames such as decades, mechanical wounding may be more appropriate,” he said. “Wounding involves removing a section of the tree base and leads to a slow decline.”

Hampton Lumber Announces Closure of Sawmill in Banks, OR

by [Hampton Lumber](#) | Jan 9, 2024

Hampton Lumber today announced the indefinite closure of its sawmill in Banks, Oregon, where operations have been curtailed since October. "We are well aware of the detrimental impact a mill closure has on employees, their families, and the surrounding community," said Hampton CEO, Randy Schillinger.

There has been a lumber mill in Banks since 1961, a town of fewer than 2,000 people in rural Washington County. The Banks mill employed 58 people. "No one wants to see a mill close," said Schillinger. "However, with the current log supply restrictions in Oregon and the likelihood of additional restrictions on State Forests in the coming years, we just can't see a viable future for the Banks facility."

The town of Banks lies on the outskirts of Tillamook and Clatsop State Forests, Forest Trust Lands managed by the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) for recreation, habitat, timber harvest and revenue for county services. ODF returns roughly 64 percent of the revenues produced from timber to the counties to fund public services like rural schools, fire departments and law enforcement agencies. The state retains the remaining 36 percent as a management fee.

Under a proposed Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP), now being considered by the Board of Forestry, harvests on state forests are expected to decrease up to 34 percent from roughly 250 million board feet (MMBF) annually to just 165-182.5 MMBF each year for the next 70 years. These figures do not include the impact of subsequent lost jobs and economic opportunity related to harvest reductions.

This decreased harvest projection is due to ODF's decision to set aside 57 percent of state forestland for habitat under the HCP. In the coming months, the Board of Forestry will have to decide whether to make changes to the HCP to improve harvest outcomes or continue with the plan as proposed.

Editor's Note: Hampton Lumber has been an advertiser in the Forest Forum for many years and wants to continue their ad. Their mills in Tillamook, Warrenton and Willamina still want our logs.



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Master Gardener Events

Conserving Invertebrates at Home

Tuesday, March 5th 7 – 8 p.m. Free Webinar on Zoom:
Registration required. Join Aaron Anderson, PhD,
Pesticide Program Specialist from the Xerces Society,
Raising Mason Bees: Sat, March 16th 10 - noon
Free In Person Class – registration not required. Open
to the Public.

PCC Rock Creek Campus, Bldg. 4, Room 103

Gardenfest Plant Sale

Saturday, May 4 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

PCC Rock Creek Campus Hoop House, Near Bldg. 4

FOREST HEALTH IN OREGON STATE OF THE STATE, 2024

OSU's College of Forestry & Natural Resources Extension
Program is teaming up with ODF and OFRI to present Forest
Health in Oregon, 2024, a two morning webinar on February
27-28.

The first day, the 27th, will concentrate on the west side of the
Cascades and the 28th on the east side. There is no charge,
but you need to register.

Register online:

<https://bit.ly/ForestHealth2024>



Oregon Forest
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Oregon State University
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Cancelled: 2024 Native Plant Sale

WCSWA's Plant Sale Committee had to make a difficult decision.

Our main vendor since the beginning of the plant sale 20+ years ago would not be able to guarantee which plants they could supply until two weeks before the sale making planning impossible.

We knew the location in North Plains for the last two years was temporary and had been looking elsewhere with little success.

Finding out that the location would not be available this year, plus the problems with the vendor resulted in the difficult decision to not hold the plant sale in 2024.

In 2021, the WCSWA Board identified 3 priorities for the plant sale.

1. Community Engagement,
2. Member Engagement,
3. Profit for education purposes

The Committee is recommending that a new WCSWA committee (including current members) brainstorm and recommend how the native plant sale or other opportunities can meet the objectives identified in 2021.

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Save the Date: Tree School 2024!



Saturday, March 23, 2024, 8:15 a.m. – 5:15 p.m.
Clackamas Community College, 19600 Molalla Ave,
Oregon City

Tree School planning is well underway, and we hope to see you there this spring! Tree School Catalogs were mailed in mid-January and registration opened Tuesday, February 6th at 10:00 a.m. The Tree School Catalog and online registration is available online at beav.es/tree-school-clackamas.



Is This the Time of Year to be Thinking Fire Preparedness? – Yes, it is

Last summer, Don Sohler published a booklet, **Initial Attack Fire Equipment for Woodland Owners**. It summarized Don's knowledge and experience based on his 37-year career with ODF's Fire Program. It offers many concrete ideas on building or purchasing equipment to have available for initial wildfire attack on your woodland property. If you want to make use of ideas in this booklet, now is the time to get going so you are ready when it is hot and dry. These ideas are for INITIAL attack only on a small fire.

We published a link to Don's booklet last summer. The link is now permanently available on our website www.wcswa.com. Click on "About Us", "Our Links", and "Publications Produced by WCSWA Members".



The rig on the left is Don Sohler's ATV decked out for fire season.

The rig on the right is Anne and Richard Hanschu's fire wagon attached to their tractor.



Whatever you need to know



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

Keep your forest healthy • Improve wildlife habitat
Reduce wildfire risk • Learn about certification

Find it at KnowYourForest.org

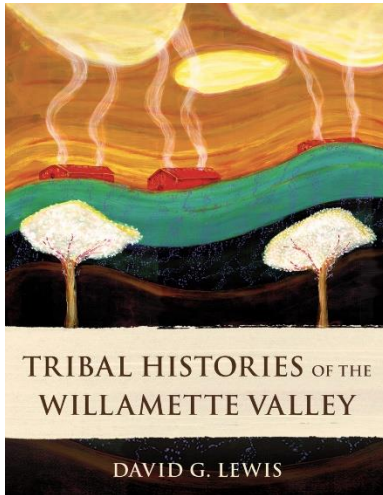
All the resources and assistance to manage your forestlands are in one easy to access location that is regularly updated.

- Search by County for local resources
- Find educational materials in the Learning Library
- Refer to forest practice laws
- Register for classes



Oregon Forest
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A Window into the Past – and Present –



Many of us see the pleasures, surprises and challenges of continuous learning to be one of the many rewards of forest ownership and stewardship. For many of us, learning from good books is a valued part of the never-ending learning brew.

I write to share word of a recently published book that many of you will find of as much interest and value as I do: David Lewis' Tribal Histories of the Willamette Valley. There are reasons why I think it will interest many of you and reasons why bookstores are struggling to keep copies on their shelves; let me explain.

Grand Ronde tribal member Mike Wilson recently shared an excellent presentation with our chapter on the native history of our region. I'm confident that I was not the only one who left Mike's presentation thinking "... and now I want to learn even more, but how?" Dr. Lewis' book offers us an excellent opportunity to learn more.

There are many reasons for booksellers selling more copies than they anticipated. In addition to being a well written, thoroughly researched and timely book, it is also a unique book. Through life, you and I have encountered so many tellings of various aspects of the cultural clashes between Euro-Americans and native peoples in the American West – books, films, presentations, exhibits.... I find that Lewis's book differs from all that I have previously encountered in four ways:

Where: While most recountings of the clash of cultures focus on places distant from where I am, the Great Plains, the Southwest, the Rockies..., this book focuses all of its attention on the valley that we call home. I deliver lumber in communities where the fighting happened and eat lunch with members of a thriving tribe whose history the book shares.

Who: So many accounts focus on tribes whose main contact with Euro-Americans came relatively later in the process and, accordingly, were able to maintain more cultural continuity. This book focuses on tribes that were most drastically diminished by diseases and other forces because of their proximity to European contact via the mouth of the Columbia. This adds important complexity.

Sources: In contrast to how many familiar accounts are based on more common and familiar sources, such as the journals of Lewis and Clark, Lewis' book is informed by rich and often recently uncovered primary sources written from many points of view.

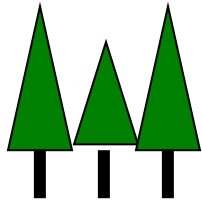
Author's Experiences and Perspective: In contrast to how so many of the retellings are created by non-tribal members, one of this book's many strengths is that not only is it written by a native author, but it is written by a well-connected, local tribal member. This made a big difference in what I learned from the book.

More detailed reviews, available online, provide explanations of how Lewis' book chronologically follows the lives of Indigenous people of the Willamette Valley and western Oregon from pre-contact up to the present.

I will end with recommendations and thanks. If this topic interests you, I recommend a visit to the Five Oaks Museum and the Chachalu Museum and Cultural Center. I want to thank Mike Wilson for his superb presentation to our chapter and Dr. Lewis for the valuable book. May the work, learning and relationships continue.

Thank you to WCSWA member Peter Hayes for this book review

Forest Forum



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ASSOCIATION

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Potpourri

New Members: Welcome to new members. 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>

Recommended Fire Related Brochures:

Initial Attack Fire Equipment for Woodland Owners Booklet. Go to www.wcswa.com.
About us/links.

[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