

Forest Forum

Washington County Small Woodlands Association

March 2024

PGE Advanced Wildfire Risk Reduction Program is topic for March Meeting

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.
North Plains, OR 97133, USA

Look forward to seeing you there!

2024 WCSWA Monthly Programs

March	26	PGE Vegetation Management	7:00pm: 30780 NW Highland Ct. N. Plains.
April	23	Managing Your Forests' Future	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
June	22	Wildfire Ready! Wildfire preparedness stations and fair with TWSCD, ODF, OSU Extension, State Fire Marshall, PGE, etc.	9am to 2pm Hagg Lake, C-Ramp
July	13	Tree Farmer of the Year tour and picnic	Tom and Julia Tibbs Tree Farm, Buxton

Looking for seedlings?

ODF still has hemlock and Douglas-fir seedlings at two of their offices.
Tillamook has hemlock seedlings. Contact Trevor Madison at 503-815-7060.
Salem has a variety of seedlings. Contact John Walters at 503-302-6085.



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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

For Sale: 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, RUNS GREAT. \$65,000. Dale Thornton 503-550-0050

For Sale: 1 box seedling protection mesh tubes, 4"dia. X 24" tall (200 tubes in box). Box unopened, was not needed for project. Price - \$50. Contact Eileen at reclarinets@gmail.com.

New publication focuses on forest carbon

A new publication from Oregon State University Extension Service gives an overview of forest carbon, carbon offsets, projects and markets. *Introduction to Forest Carbon, Offsets and Markets* is intended to orient forest landowners, land managers, natural resource professionals and others with forest carbon cycling and storage, along with carbon market terminology and processes. It also provides resources for getting started with a forest carbon project. The peer-reviewed publication can be downloaded from the OSU Extension Catalog. Go to <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/catalog> and type *Introduction to Forest Carbon, Offsets and Markets* in the search bar at the top of the page.



Every Saturday morning when my kids were younger, we would have pancakes thoroughly covered with some product like Mrs. Butterworth's. High fructose corn syrup just tasted good and prepared us for an activity filled day. Fast forward to present time and Trey Scheb's excellent presentation on maple syrup production at the February meeting makes me wonder if locally harvested and manufactured maple syrup will continue to make its way into the marketplace, maybe not for pancake syrup but there are many other possibilities in the kitchen or maybe a Maple Tequila Fizz anyone? Looking forward to Tom and Julia Tibbs' Tree Farmer of the Year gathering on July 13 and continuing to learn more about bigleaf maple syrup production.

The membership renewal window is coming to a close April 1 so if you haven't been able to renew now is the time to do it to ensure you will continue to enjoy OSWA and WCSWA publications and events. Also, a significant portion of your membership dues support legislative advocacy to protect the interests of small woodland owners.

A sign of the Artificial Intelligence times, I asked ChatGPT to summarize why I should own forestland and here's what it came up with:

Owning forestland offers numerous advantages:

Investment Potential: Forests provide long-term value through timber sales and appreciation.

Diversification: Forestland diversifies investment portfolios, reducing risk.

Tax Benefits: Forest ownership may offer tax deductions and incentives.

Recreation and Enjoyment: Forests offer opportunities for outdoor activities and relaxation.

Conservation and Stewardship: Owners can protect habitats and biodiversity through sustainable management.

Privacy and Seclusion: Forests provide privacy and a retreat from urban life.

Ecosystem Services: Forests contribute to environmental health through services like carbon sequestration and water purification.

Heritage and Legacy: Forest ownership honors family heritage and creates a lasting legacy for future generations.

Consider these factors when evaluating forestland ownership for financial, personal, and environmental benefits.

Until next time, continue to stay safe!

Tillamook Forest Center News!

The Tillamook Forest Center, located on Highway 6 at the midpoint between Tillamook and Gales Creek, will reopen for the season Wednesday, March 6.



"There is no Wi-Fi in the forest, but I promise you will find a better connection."

— Ralph Smart

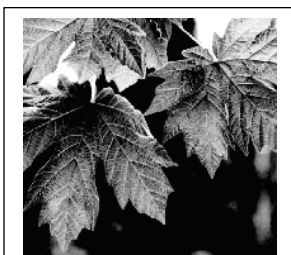
Inquiring minds want to know... More about the bigleaf maple (*Acer macrophyllum*)

From Trees to Know in Oregon by Ed Jensen-Revised November 2010

Bigleaf maple gets its name from the size of its leaves. They're usually 6 to 12 inches wide but can stretch to 15 inches-the largest of the world's many species of maples. Also, the leaf stem is almost as long as the leaf and is the only one of the North American maple leaves from which a milky juice can be squeezed. Bigleaf maple leaves resemble a human hand with the fingers outspread; each leaf has five main lobes. The uppermost lobe has a distinct waist-- it appears almost as if someone had pulled a belt around its midsection. Typically, two samaras join to form a V and unlike other maples, the seeds of bigleaf are covered with dense hairs.

Bigleaf maple grows on the west side of the Cascades and Sierra Nevadas from British Columbia through most of California. It prefers moist, well-drained soils and is one of the most common broadleaved trees in the valleys and foothills of its home range. Its leaves are high in base nutrients and play an important role in enriching the soil.

When grown in the open, bigleaf maple tends to have a stubby trunk and an immense crown. As a result, it's a common native shade tree in western Oregon. It often can be found spreading a carpet of shade over parks and school yards and nestling over backyards like a broody hen. Its tendency to produce huge burls at the base of the tree makes bigleaf maple a prized furniture wood. Burls contain contorted grain patterns and "birds' eyes" that result in striking veneers and novelties. Many burls are exported to Italy and France to be worked by skilled craftsmen. In the fall, bigleaf maple's bright yellow foliage splashes color over hills that tend to be dominated by dark green conifers. Bigleaf maples produce huge crops of seeds each year, and you'll often see squirrels, birds and other small creatures enjoying a picnic beneath their spreading crowns. Bigleaf maple also makes fine firewood.



. Raising Mason Bees

. **Saturday, March 16th, 2024 10 a.m. - noon**

Free In Person Class – registration not required. Open to the Public.

PCC Rock Creek Campus, Bldg. 4, Room 103

17705 NW Springville Rd, Portland, OR 97229

Join the Washington County Master Gardener Association and mason bee expert Ron Spendal for a class focusing on environmental needs, nesting behaviors and housing devices attractive to mason bees. Ron Spendal is an OSU Master Gardener who has been providing mason bee education to the public for over 15 years. He operates educational mason bee displays across Washington County, Oregon and runs highly sought-after courses on mason bee management through the Washington County Master Gardener Association. Ron designs and builds his own equipment. He conducts research in conjunction with Oregon State University and Montana State University. Ron's work with mason bees has been featured on the Oregon Field Guide program on OPB.

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

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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!

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1/6 page	30	60	150
1/4 page	40	80	200
1/3 page	50	100	250
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2/3 page	100	200	500
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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
503-728-8192 cell

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 went 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>

Webinars focus on forest fire resiliency

The Oregon State University Extension Service is holding a webinar series through this spring that will delve into topics related to fires, fuels and density management for a variety of forest types and management objectives across central and eastern Oregon. Webinars in the series will be held on the first and third Thursdays of each month from 6-7:30 p.m. through May 2. They are free to attend, but registration is required. Go to https://oregonstate.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_eOxmzn5oRRRe4Qs65MSXMHA

Trees are keys to the breeze.

-Teresa Miller



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Introducing Jake Barker, the new OSU Extension Forester for Washington County

Jake Barker is currently nearing completion of his MF degree at Yale School of the Environment and has a wealth of experience pertinent to the job of an Extension Forester. He's worked in the PNW as both a forestry technician and a project manager for Springboard Forestry, a private company. He's also worked as a technician for the US Forest Service across six western states. In addition to all the field-based skills and experience he acquired in those roles, Jake has been a Fellow with the National Forest Foundation where his role was gaining in-depth understanding of the perspectives of individuals involved in forestry and helping others understand their complex stories. Jake's decision to focus his interview presentation on emerald ash-borer provided convincing evidence of his deep interest in assisting landowners tackle challenging issues. Jake will be joining the OSU Forestry Natural Resources team on July 1 of this year.

OWC News

The Oregon Woodland Cooperative is offering discounts on Logrite and SuperSplit products for the next two months. We have several items in stock and wish to clear some inventory to make room for new equipment items. Three ATV arches, perfect for moving small logs out of your woods easily, and a number of smaller items like peaveys, hookaroons and small hand-held oil cans with special lubricating oil are now available at special discounts to OSWA and OWC members. We will be restocking our inventory with new SuperSplit firewood splitters and again will be offering discounts to Oregon forest landowners.

OWC recently began manufacturing an ergonomic handle for the SuperSplit. Check the OWC YOUTUBE videos to see how these products are used in forests of your neighbors.
<https://www.youtube.com/@OregonWoodlandCoop>

Small Forestland Maple Sugar Production Topic of February Meeting

The March meeting speaker was Trey Scheb who provided a wealth of information on Oregon's emerging bigleaf maple sugaring industry. You can tap one tree just for fun or 10,000+ for production. Trey recommended the book "Bigleaf Maple, Tapping the Western Maple" by Gary Backlund and Katherine Backlund if you want to get started. OSU Extension also has useful publications.

There have been small scale operations in the Northwest since the 1950's that have grown since bigleaf tapping become more popular in the last few decades. One company near Seattle, Neils Bigleaf Maple Syrup <https://www.neilsbigleaf.com/>, sells several varieties and has been in business for many years.

Trey graduated from OSU this year with a master's degree in natural resources. During his research he worked with small woodland owners including the Tibbs family in Buxton to help them get started maple tapping. You will be able to see and find out more at the Tree Farmer of the Year Tour on July 13.



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2nd Annual Sandy Invitational Chainsaw Carving

Saturday June 1, 2024 8:00 am-6:00 pm

Mount Hood Farmers Market

38600 Proctor Blvd, Sandy, Oregon 97055

Come celebrate Timber Culture in the middle of town! Watch as a dozen Oregon artists are pitted against each other in an all-day judged carving competition.

- Competitive Timber Sports
- Mechanized Demos
- Youth Forestry Field by OSU Graduates.
- Mass Timber Displays
- Educational Booths
- Career Opportunities



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Native bees webinar recording available

For those who missed tuning in to a webinar OFRI hosted in late November on how forest management affects native bees in Oregon, a recording is now available on YouTube.

The “Wildlife in Managed Forests: Native Bees” webinar featured experts from the National Council for Air and Stream Improvement, the University of Oregon and the Oregon Department of Forestry who discussed the latest research related to native bees in Oregon’s forests and forest management practices that benefit bees.

In addition to organizing the webinar, OFRI recently published *Wildlife in Managed Forests: Native Bees*. It’s the newest publication in the Institute’s *Wildlife in Managed Forests series*, which offers scientific research-backed guidance on managing forests to support healthy wildlife populations. The *Native Bees* booklet provides context for better understanding the roles managed forests play in providing habitat for native bees.

Print and electronic versions of *Wildlife in Managed Forests: Native Bees* are available to order or download free of charge through OFRI’s website, OregonForests.org.



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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 are available online at beav.es/tree-school-clackamas.

Managing Your Forests' Future is the topic of the April Meeting

Small forestland owners are used to thinking of their forests as long-term management challenges. However, many don't think of how to provide for the future of their forests beyond their own lives. At some point though, they seek answers to help them make such decisions. The advice of a qualified estate attorney can then be invaluable.

Taylor Kittell is a Founding Partner at Breakwater Law. Taylor will be the featured speaker at the WCSWA April 23rd monthly meeting. She recently spoke to the Yamhill County SWA on the topic of providing legal advice in helping forestland owners. She will speak on this topic, and on the implications of recent legislation affecting woodland owners.

Taylor's practice focuses on estate planning and administration, including probate, trusts, guardianships and conservatorships. Above all else, Taylor says she values her relationships with clients. She is committed to treating each client with respect and compassion while assisting them in resolving both the immediate and long-term issues they face.

A Walk with Wildland Fire: Book Reading & Reception with John Bailey

Dr. John Bailey, Professor of Silviculture and Wildland Fire, recently published "*A Walk with Wildland Fire*," an easily accessible book on wildland fire history/ecology, fire behavior and management, and the role of sustainable forest management in addressing the emerging wildfire crisis. John will discuss the forces that drove the book's creation and then read some passages that illustrate how he used imagery and stories to explain key concepts to students, legislators and the media. There will be a reception with refreshments, time for questions, and copies of the book available.

Wednesday, March 13 at 5:00pm to 6:30am

George W. Peavy Forest Science Center (PFSC), Atrium
3100 SW Jefferson Way Corvallis, OR 97333

The book is also available online.



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**

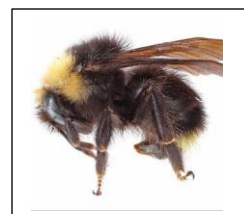
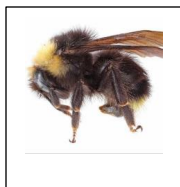
Find it at **KnowYourForest.org**

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



New online guides will aid in identification of native bees in Pacific Northwest



CORVALLIS, Ore. – Pollinator enthusiasts and scientists have new online tools to identify native bees in the Pacific Northwest. The publicly available “keys” resemble the field guides familiar to fans of fauna and flora but contain the extraordinary detail needed to identify bees, which are much harder to tell apart than plants, birds, mammals and reptiles, according to Jim Rivers of the Oregon State University College of Forestry. “With birds for example, one characteristic can tell you whether it’s a California scrub-jay or a Steller’s jay,” said Rivers, who helped develop the keys. “Bees are not that way. Many species appear identical at first but are in fact distinguished by very small, nuanced differences.”

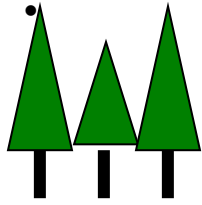
Oregon alone is home to more than 600 species of native bees. Bees and other animal pollinators enhance the reproduction of nearly 90% of the Earth’s flowering plants, including many food crops, and are an essential component of insect and plant biodiversity. Bees are the standard bearer among pollinators because they’re usually present in the greatest numbers and because they’re the only pollinator group that feeds exclusively on nectar and pollen their entire life.

Rivers, Lincoln Best of the OSU College of Agricultural Sciences and the OSU Extension Service, Josh Dunlap of the Oregon Department of Agriculture, August Jackson of Mount Pisgah Arboretum in Eugene and Paul Williams of the Natural History Museum in London put together three separate ID keys: bee genera (https://ir.library.oregonstate.edu/concern/technical_reports/xg94hz59f) of the Pacific Northwest, and male (https://ir.library.oregonstate.edu/concern/technical_reports/6q182v23p) and female (https://ir.library.oregonstate.edu/concern/technical_reports/3484zr250) species keys for the region’s bumblebees. The keys, which took the collaborators about three years to assemble in a project funded by the College of Forestry’s Fish and Wildlife Habitat in Managed Forests program, are aimed at two primary target audiences: Scientists and land managers whose work involves bees, and bee enthusiasts among the general public.

“The small number of people who are really good at identifying bees don’t use keys – they just know the species inside and out because they spend so much time working with bee specimens,” Rivers said. “We’ve made our keys easy enough that the amateur can use them, and our expectation is that the keys will benefit all kinds of research projects in this part of the world.” Rivers explained that in the Pacific Northwest, there are perhaps a half-dozen professional bee identification experts whose work is critical for moving forward any research project that depends on knowing for sure which bees are in a particular study area. “And they’re all backlogged for months,” Rivers said. “It’s a big bottleneck in bee research when you have thousands of specimens you’re trying to ID and you have to wait for months before you can get the identification data you need to complete a project. With the keys, we can at least get one step closer to having the identifications we need in a timely manner.”

The keys are downloadable and printable but most easily used online, he said. The design uses hyperlinks to navigate users through a decision tree that walks them through what to look for in various parts of the bee anatomy in high-resolution detail. “You work through a series of dichotomous questions until you can say yes, what I am looking at in my specimen matches what I see on the key,” Rivers said. “We got the best high-resolution images we could get for the different diagnostic characters so that the images match what you see in a specimen. That’s a big improvement over the idealized hand drawings that most traditional keys have, which can be challenging to use when trying to ID a real-world specimen.” Community scientists, including Oregon Bee School participants and OSU Extension Master Melittologists, helped review and test the keys.

Forest Forum



COUNTY CHAPTER OF THE
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Potpourri

New Members: Welcome to new member **Barb Conaway** of Cornelius. 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 \(oregon.gov\)](https://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