

Forest Forum

Washington County Small Woodlands Association

April 2025

WCSWA April 22 Meeting: Mike Cafferata, Forest Grove District Forester

Climate Smarter Forestry in Washington County

There is a multi-agency group that has been working on guidance for the forestry community in Washington County to address climate change. The project is called Climate Smarter Forestry in Washington County and their idea is to offer forest owners and forestry professionals information on the anticipated changes and what the implications of those changes might be on your forest regardless of where it is in terms of development.

The effort has brought together forestry professionals from ODF, Tualatin Soil and Water Conservation District, Oregon State University Extension Service, private forestry consulting firms and landowners from Washington County Small Woodlands Association.

Our speaker will be Mike Cafferata, Forest Grove District Forester for the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF). The presentation will include discussion of the development of the project, the intended audience and format of the deliverables and their planned timeline for completion and will also give a preview of key messages from the work. Looking forward to seeing you there.

2025 WCSWA Monthly Programs

April	10	Webinar for Mediterranean Oak Borer on Thursday, 4/10 from 4:30pm to 5:30pm	See page 4 for more information and link to webinar
	22	Mike Cafferata, ODF District Forester update on the Washington County Climate Smart Forestry initiative.	7:00pm Tualatin Soil and Water Conservation District Office. 7175 NE Evergreen Pkwy, Ste. 400, Hillsboro. See above article
May	20	WCSWA Annual Potluck	5:00pm. Jackson Bottom Wetlands. See article, page 8.
June	19-21	OSWA Family Forest Convention	Thurs., June 19 through Sat., June 21. More information and registration coming soon for the Family Forest Convention and the Tree Farmer of the Year Tour at Pam & Jock Dalton's Tree Farm in Benton County.

DON'T FORGET TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP. Go to OSWA.org to renew. If you have already renewed, thank you. See Leadership Notes for why this is important.

WCSWA Leadership

President – Dan Shumaker, 503-680-8943

Vice-President – Vic Herinckx, 503-645-9434

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

Board of Directors:

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

Pos. #2: Ashley Tibbs, 503-358-7645

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

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

Pos. #5: John Bucsek, 503-830-0258

Pos. #6: Mary Spiering, 503-680-8051

Legislative Committee Chair: none

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 an advertisement in *Forest Forum*. This is 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 this month

For Sale: No items this month

Eastern monarch butterfly population doubles in a year

Marina Dunbar, The Guardian, March 11, 2025



Monarch butterflies rest on a plant in El Rosario Butterfly Sanctuary, in Michoacán state, Mexico. Photograph: Anadolu Agency/Getty Images

The population of eastern monarch butterflies – which migrate from Canada and the US to Mexico during the winter – has nearly doubled over the last year, according to a recent report commissioned in Mexico, generating optimism among nature preservationists.

The modest growth in numbers for the orange-and-black butterflies follows years of ongoing conservation efforts – and perhaps provides a sliver of optimism after otherwise discouraging long-term trends for the species.

The report found that monarchs that migrated to central Mexico's forests occupied 4.42 acres (1.78 hectares), which was up from 2.22 acres during the previous winter.

Although it was nearly twice as much forest habitat compared with previous years, the number of monarchs remains far below the long-term average.

Scientists say that better weather conditions in 2024 – which saw less severe droughts compared with previous years along the butterflies' migration route – probably contributed to the population growth.

Leadership Notes

by Dan Shumaker

After many weather-related delays, we were finally able to pick up the seedlings on February 26th. Between the Douglas-fir and the Western Red Cedar there were over 50,000 seedlings. It took many trucks and trailers to pick them up at the nursery in Woodland Washington.

Thanks to all the volunteers that helped pick the seedlings up and deliver to the cold storage facilities. See Don Sohler's article on page 7 for more information on this year's seedling sale.

OSWA has sent us a list of members that have not paid their 2025 dues yet. Please make sure your dues are up to date. There are many Oregon House and Senate bills in the pipeline at the state capital that could impact small woodland owners. Having a strong small woodland owner membership is key to having our voices heard.

Melinda and I have been busy getting everything ready for our 2-month trip with our camp trailer starting in April. We will end up as far east as Maine and we plan to have Maine lobster on the ocean front as a "Bucket List" item I've had for years. We also plan on visiting some National Forests and maybe even some small woodlands across the USA.

WCSWA March 25 Meeting: "Logging Oregon's Coastal Forests by Mark Beach and Carl Vandervoort

When a historian and a cinematographer with local roots and a passion for forests got together to make a film, it was a treat for WCSWA forest lovers to watch at our March 25 meeting. The film had appropriate background music provided by "The Choker Setters," which added to the enjoyment.

The film documents the history of logging and logging equipment starting with loggers using axes, then cross-cut saws to chain saws. The first chain saws required two men to operate it. Oxen were eventually replaced with horses and rail lines and trestles were built with varying degrees of safety within the area to be logged. Then came steam donkeys and high-lead extraction of logs from the woods.

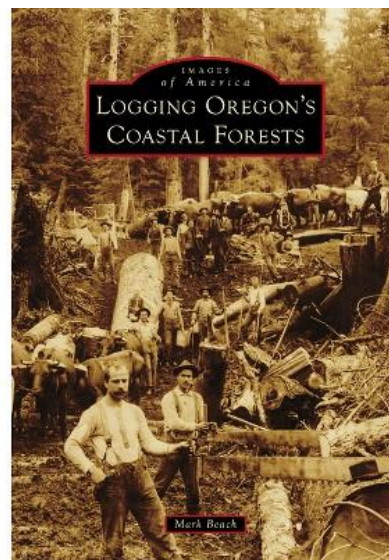
West coast logging attracted men from the east where forests were already cut. Logging camps were built in the 1920's to house men and some families. These became ghost towns in the the 1930's.

The film (and the book by the same name) tells it all from beginning to end and how changes were necessitated for safety and preservation of forests.

Following is a quote from the end of the film:

"To feel truly humble, one must stand quietly in the midst of the Oregon rainforest."

The film is available on YouTube. Just go online to YouTube and type in "Logging Oregon's Coastal Forests."



This image on the book cover says it all: Oxen, saws and not a machine or hard hat in sight!

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




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Female Mediterranean oak borer. Actual length about 1/10th of an inch.

Webinar for Mediterranean Oak Borer

Thursday, 4/10 from 4:30pm to 5:30pm.

The guest will be Allison Monroe, an OSU graduate student researching the life cycles and impacts of the insect. Here is the registration link:

<https://extension.oregonstate.edu/washington/events/mediterranean-oak-borer-mob-webinar>



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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.

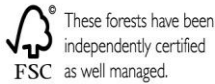
- Search by County for local resources
- Find educational materials in the Learning Library
- Refer to forest practice laws
- Register for classes



Oregon Forest Resources Institute



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DID YOU KNOW?

A lot has been learned about the symbiotic relationship between trees and fungi. Your editor had to look up the meaning of two.

Mycelium and mycorrhizae are related to fungi, but they serve different purposes:

- Mycelium is the vegetative part of a fungus, forming a sticky living mesh that provides soil structure.
- Mycorrhizae are a type of fungus that exist as tiny threads called hyphae, which form a net-like web around plant roots. They help with nutrient uptake and other functions.



Mycelium



Mycorrhizae



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2024 – 2025 Seedling Sale Report
Don Sohler, Seedling Sale Chair

The WCSWA seedling sale was complete on March 21st. Twenty-six customers ordered seedlings this year for 49,200 Douglas-fir and 2,500 Hi-Terpene Western Red-Cedar. Lieb Foods Cold Storage was available this year. Their storage was utilized from February 26th to March 17th. I would like to thank the following staff at Lieb foods for their help every time I called: Jamea Schlegel, Heather Spaulding, Dave Purdue and the fork lift operators. They all helped make this program run smoothly.

This year presented several challenges. An unexpected cold snap prevented the nursery from lifting seedlings until February 21st, delaying the start of planting. Lewis River grows 9-10 million seedlings annually. I do appreciate the effort that Lewis River Reforestation puts in to helping WCSWA, with our relatively small order of 50,000 seedlings in the middle of their very busy season. 2026 planting season for WCSWA will have available 40,000 Douglas-fir, 9,000 less than this year, and 5,000 Western Red-Cedar. The Cedar price will be less in the 2026 season due to a new contract, saving members a few dollars per bag.

I would like to thank the following members who donated their time, trucks and trailers: Dan and Melinda Shumaker, Gordon Dana, Mike Jamieson, Rich Gable, Mel Mortenson and Dave Rabon. The volunteers are the reason the WCSWA seedling program is successful. And again, we followed the military standard by following the “last order first”.

Now that the seedling sales are complete, I will have time to work on my DZ482. What is a DZ482? I will post pictures in a News Letter sometime in the near future.

Annual WCSWA Potluck, May 20, 2025

Location:

Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve, 2600 SW Hillsboro Hwy, Hillsboro, OR 97123

Meeting Place:

Main Visitors Building in Multipurpose Room, Parking in Front of Building

Agenda:

- 5-6pm arrival. Come early if you want to walk around Jackson Bottom Wetland
- 6-7pm Potluck Meal
- 6:45-7:30pm Speaker and Presentation

What to bring:

This will be an old –fashioned Potluck with no main dish provided. Always a lot of choices!

WCSWA will furnish plates, cups, eating utensils, napkins, lemonade, water, and coffee. Hillsboro Parks has a no-alcohol policy.

Presentation: Tom DeLuca, Dean of the Oregon State University College of Forestry. Tom is a forest soil scientist whose long research career includes more than a decade in Sweden and the United Kingdom. He holds a Ph.D. in soil science from Iowa State University and was the University of Montana’s forestry dean for three years.

Tom's talk will be titled “Roots to Robotics: Past, present and future of Forestry at OSU.” He will discuss some history, current information, and future activities of the College. Also attending will be Zak Hansen, Senior Director of Development for the College of Forestry and Melanie Ellis-Roach, Assistant Director of Development, College of Forestry.

The College of Forestry is a world class center of teaching, learning and research. It offers graduate and undergraduate programs in sustaining ecosystems, managing forests and manufacturing wood products; conducts basic and applied research on the nature and use of forests; and operates more than 15,000 acres of college forests.

About Jackson Bottom:

Located minutes south of downtown Hillsboro, [Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve's](#) 635 acres are a quiet sanctuary for both people and wildlife. Over 211 species of birds are sighted annually at Jackson Bottom, including Bald Eagles, Great Blue Herons, and thousands of Tundra Swans and Northern Pintails, making Jackson Bottom a haven for bird watchers. The Preserve is home to deer, otters, beavers, and thousands of other species.

Looking forward to a good time with friends, food, and a discussion about what’s happening at the Oregon State University College of Forestry.

Contact Tony Spiering (503) 680-8112 for questions.

Scholarship Thank you:

Matthew from Forest Grove is an honors scholar at OSU pursuing a degree in Pre-Forest/Civil Engineering.

He sent us a letter stating how grateful he is to receive the WCSWA Scholarship and how this will open more opportunities for him. He is excited to continue his path and has been happy studying in the college of Forestry.

Wildfire Ready 2025, Forest Tour



The **Wildfire Ready 2025 Event Series** is a free wildfire preparedness event series for residents of Washington County. Wildfires are a growing risk in Washington County, and it's essential for residents to work together to prepare. The series provides resources, strategies, and community connections to help you be ready for wildfire season.

Wildfire Ready! Part 3 will take place April 26 from 9:00 - noon at **Chehalem Ridge Nature Park** 38263 SW Dixon Mill Rd, Gaston.

The tour will explore the connection between forest health and wildfire preparedness. This **FREE** guided tour is designed for landowners and forest managers interested in practical strategies for reducing wildfire risks. A light breakfast will be provided.

The tour includes:

- A 1.5-mile hike on an easy/moderate trail with demonstrations of pruning, weed management, and creating defensible space.
- Guidance on replacing weeds with fire-resilient vegetation.
- Discussions on slash management, fuel breaks, and creating good access for firefighters.

This event is for landowners with forested properties but is open to anyone eager to learn more about improving fire resilience.

The event is free, but you must register: <https://tualatinswcd.org/event/wildfire-ready-part-2-home-hardening-workshop/> or google tualatinswcd.org/ wildfire ready.



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Washington County Master Gardener Events for April

Spring Cleaning in the Garden, Saturday, April 12th, 2025, 10 a.m. – noon

Free and open to the public. No registration needed, WCMGA Education Garden at PCC Rock Creek.

This outside demonstration and hands-on workshop will take place in the WCMGA Education Garden at PCC Rock Creek. It will include the when, what and how of spring pruning, thinning, and transplanting. Bring your pruning shears, gloves, and dress for the weather. This is a rain or shine event

Basics of Plant Propagation Saturday, April 19th 10:00a.m. to noon.

Free and open to the public. No registration required. WCMGA Learning Garden Gazebo at Jenkins Estate 8005 SW Grabhorn Rd, Beaverton, OR 97007

Learn how to make more of the plants you love using samples we'll take from selected plants in our Learning Garden. During this hands-on session, you'll make new plants and get to take them home. We'll provide the necessary supplies, but you can bring your favorite pruners and gloves if you'd like.

Veggie Delight! Learn About Vegetables Typically Not Grown Here Saturday, April 26th, 2025, 10 a.m. – noon. Free and open to the public – no registration needed, PCC Rock Creek Campus

You can grow an assortment of vegetables that make great conversation pieces and provide you with nutritious meals! Learn about some vegetables that are typically not grown in the PNW - bottle gourd, lemongrass, taro root, black chickpeas and more. Learn tips and tricks on how to start veggies from seed using a simple, homemade set up. Learn how to cook them and take home some recipes!

Oregon Tech Integrates Student Experience into New Mass Timber Residence Hall

OIT, February 6, 2025



Oregon Institute of Technology (Oregon Tech) is focusing on the student experience and incorporating hands-on learning into the construction of its new \$35 million mass timber residence hall at the Klamath Falls campus. The 86,170-square-foot, four-story building will house 517 students, addressing the university's growing need for additional on-campus housing. Construction is expected to be

completed in December 2025.

The vision for this new residence hall was directed by a steering committee at Oregon Tech, which included students. The concept is to provide a dynamic and enriched community experience through a high-quality, long-lasting building that feeds curiosity and is a place to retreat and relax. With these qualities in mind, the facility is designed to showcase mass timber construction—a renewable building material that significantly reduces the building's carbon footprint while supporting Oregon Tech's commitment to sustainability.

"Utilizing mass timber aligns with Oregon Tech's history of sustainable design and environmental stewardship," said Kurt Haapala, a Partner at Mahlum Architects, the firm that designed the structure. "Mass timber provides aesthetic and functional benefits, such as exposed wood ceilings and efficient manufacturing techniques that reduce waste and improve construction timelines."

Browse Control, Part 7 by Susan Schmidlin

When it comes to (pardon the pun) out-foxing the wildlife that seem bound and determined to stomp, maul, browse, scuff up and tear out your tender forest seedlings, perseverance seems to hold as the means to get trees that can manage to tower above the browse line and have tough enough bark to fend off those rodents near the base.

Homes and Gardens had an article about keeping voles at bay. Using castor oil, ammonia, cinnamon, coffee grounds, cayenne pepper and/or peppermint around their burrows could help but it is only temporary and needs reapplication after rains. Encouraging owls to reside in the area seemed to be a more sustainable way to go. I recently attended a truffle dog demonstration where voles could feast on plentiful truffles. During the wooded hike it was mentioned that burrowing creatures were well under control as was evident from the owl pellets scattered along the forest floor that were chock full of tiny skeletons.

Here on the farm, I have a logged single-acre plot that is the bane to my reforestation. This was a patch of oversized logs (those bigger around than what the local mills prefer) with several truckloads of poles. We left a couple of trees that were special, one called the bee tree for it has a scar (cat face) thirty feet above the ground where a large honey bee nest resides. Another tree was the lone cedar tree of the patch, and it is big enough to throw shade across the upper part of the plot during the morning hours of each day. And ol' Betsy, a gnarled, twisted, out of shape, good fer nuthin', century old Douglas-fir that continues to survive between some old growth roots on the upper ledge from the swampy area of the plot. She was too ugly to cut down even for firewood, so she remains.

After logging the plot about 6 years ago, we fenced off the area to keep our cows out. This has done little to keep all the other creatures at bay. Each year we plant, and replant this acre just trying to get something besides thistles, grass, snowberries, wild roses and buck brush from taking over the area. Over the years, thousands of fir, cedar, pine, spruce, alder, willow and others have been planted with few survivors. The ones that have lasted are puny and slow growing. My plot attracts many deer and elk evidenced by the trails, ripped up fencing, scattered droppings and smashed down beds show. The seedlings are mauled, nibbled and eaten as fast as they are planted.

I talked to Vince Cooney, a long time forest landowner in Columbia County, since I had heard he had a particular way of fending off the big browsers in his woods. Many, many years ago he had some blackberries that he had sprayed as a marker to get rid of them the next time a bulldozer was near the area and noticed that the local critters steered clear of the blue paint when browsing. He used the blue logger paint on his seedlings, and it indeed seemed to deter browsing. Hearing that he may have been onto something, other loggers/landowners began painting their young forests as well. Vince was quick to point out that although the paint seems to work better than no deterrent at all for him, many of the others that tried the trick failed to see a difference.

Another forest owner mentioned the best way to deter browsing was to keep the elk and deer cold. Very cold. As in frozen in your freezer in meal sized packages. The search for the perfect browse control continues.

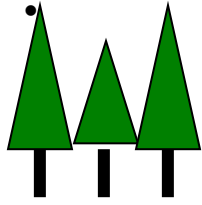


Meet Tom Schultz, 21st Chief of the Forest Service, March 4, 2025 (excerpts from speech)

I recognize that I am the first Chief who did not come from or previously work within the agency, but I hope you will see that as I do—as a strength. I have over 25 years of land management experience. Working for state agencies in Montana and Idaho has given me a perspective on the role of the states in managing public trust lands and how that differs from goals and objectives in managing federal lands.

I want to refocus our efforts on safety, active forest management, fire management and recreation. I want us to do more to create resilient forests through active forest management, including timber sales, fuels reduction through mechanical thinning and prescribed fires, as well as fighting fires safely and protecting resource values.

Forest Forum



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COUNTY CHAPTER OF THE
OREGON SMALL WOODLANDS
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Potpourri

New Members: We welcome new member **Alexander Logan** 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! Questions? Contact any of the Directors, Officers, or Newsletter Editors listed on page 2.

Helpful Links:

Oregon's Forest Protection Laws: An Illustrated Manual 2024

This edition is only available as a digital download (PDF) at [Oregonforests.org](https://oregonforests.org). Print copies of the manual will be available by early 2025.

Forestry for the Birds: Western Oregon was produced by the Forest Stewards Guild. Download at: <https://foreststewardsguild.org/foresters-for-the-birds>

Recommended Fire Related Brochures:

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

Firewise Landscaping: [Firewise Landscaping Basics | OSU Extension Service \(oregonstate.edu\)](https://oregonstate.edu)

Wildfire Prevention: [Oregon Wildfire Response and Recovery: Wildfire Prevention : State of Oregon](https://www.oregon.gov/forestry/forests/management/wildfire-prevention)

Other Helpful Links:

- www.oregonwoodlandcooperative.com learn about the Oregon Woodland Cooperative
- <https://www.facebook.com/WashingtonCountySmallWoodlandsAssociation>
- For E-Notification: : [FERNS - Welcome \(oregon.gov\)](https://www.oregon.gov/ferns) or visit an ODF Office