

Forest Forum

Washington County Small Woodlands Association

July 2026



Russell Tree Farm Tour, July 11

Address: 31291 Raymond Creek Road. Scappoose, Oregon

Date: July 11, 2026

Time: 9am

Please bring your own lunch and lawn chair. Morning coffee, water, and fruit will be supplied.

Carpooling is encouraged as there is limited parking on site.

Schedule:

9:00am Arrival with ride to Station 1: Homesite and Coastal Redwood

10:00am Ride to Station 2: Raymond Creek Restoration.

We will also look at the rock quarry and the Big Tree.

10:45am Ride to Station 3: Thinning Project

11:30am Ride to parking area

Bring your own lunch, beverage, and lawn chair and enjoy some social time around the creek.

2026 WCSWA Monthly Programs

July	11	Scott Russell Tree Farm Tour, Scappoose	See Scott's thinning, stream restoration and coastal redwoods, planted up to 26 years ago.
August		No event scheduled – Enjoy summer in your forest	
September	19	Tualatin Mountain Forest Tour with WCSWA	Learn more about the newest OSU Research Forest, the 3,110-acre Tualatin Mountain Forest outside of Scappoose. Registration required. See page 6 for more information.
October	27	Wildlife Habitat Conservation and Management Program (WHCMP) in the North Willamette Valley	SWCD office, 7175 NE Evergreen Pkwy, Ste. 400, Hillsboro Speaker: Lauri Brewster, Regional Habitat Biologist, North Willamette Watershed District, Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife

WCSWA Leadership
President – Dan Shumaker
Vice-President – Vic Herinckx
Secretary-Treasurer – Melinda Shumaker

Board of Directors:

- Pos. #1: Kathy Brock
- Pos. #2: Ashley Tibbs
- Pos. #3: Amanda Henderson
- Pos. #4: Susan Schmidlin
- Pos. #5: John Bucsek
- Pos. #6: Mary Spiering

WCSWA Website – <https://wcswa.com/>

Website Manager: Michael Morgan
Contact Cathy Dummer for web postings and information.

Facebook:

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

To contact anyone on this page, email: wcswa.oswa@gmail.com

Note: Our Gmail address has changed to make it easier to use.

Legislative Committee Chair: none

Membership Committee: WCSWA Board members

Program Committee: John and Cathy Dummer, Tony and Mary Spiering, Tom Nygren

Tualatin River Watershed Council Representatives: Tom Nygren, primary; Eric Chambers, alternate

Forest Forum Newsletter

Editors: Norie Dimeo-Ediger and Bonnie Shumaker
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 wcswa.oswa@gmail.com.

Wanted: No items this month

For Sale: Woodmizer LT40 Super Hydraulic diesel sawmill (2004, 826hrs) and Woodmizer diesel twin blade edger (2005, 355hrs). Mill has accuset 2 computer networks (recently replaced), a Cat diesel engine, full "super" hydraulic log handling, debarker, board return, and recent maintenance at Woodmizer. Comes with lots of spare blades. Edger has an upgraded Kubota diesel engine and trailer kit. Asking \$28,000 for the sawmill and \$10,000 for the edger, or \$36,000 if purchased as a package. Contact Ben Hayes, ben@springboardforestry.com, 971-678-9464

Oregon White Oak

Oregon white oak, *Quercus garryana*, is a member of the beech family (Fagaceae), and is one of only four deciduous oaks native to the west coast. Fun facts: they can live as long as 500 years!

Large white oaks have thick bark and are resistant to fire. In fact, Oregon white oak ecosystems were shaped by regular low-intensity fires, often started by Indigenous peoples.

Leaves are susceptible to insect induced galls. Like on many other oaks, they also occasionally form large galls, as wide as 5 cm or more. These so-called 'oak apples' are formed from wasps that lay their eggs – a term called oviposit - on the midrib of the leaves.

Here's another fun fact: over 200 wildlife species rely on the tree for habitat!

Information supplied by OSU extension



Leadership Notes by Dan Shumaker

Melinda and I finally found a logger to thin our southern property in Jackson County. The work will focus mainly on removing the white fir as they are dying in Douglas County at an alarming rate. The tops of the trees start to turn red, which is the first sign they are being infected. At the same time, we will also thin out some Douglas fir trees to reduce the tree count per acre.

The logger we met in Jackson County has agreed to perform the thinning on our southern property. He will begin harvesting at the end of June and stated it will take him around 3 to 4 weeks to finish.

June has been a busy time on the homeplace timber property. Melinda and I finished splitting and stacking the firewood for the year. I am also sawing up some western red cedar to build an equipment and firewood shed for the southern property. I am going to use the cedar for board and batten siding over the 4th of July week.

We are still in need of volunteers to take over the seedling sales and Tree Farmer of the Year committees as Don Sohler & Rich Gaebel are stepping down. Please contact me or one of the Board Members of anyone interested in either of these positions. Also, we are going to need replacement volunteers for the President & Treasurer positions for 2027. See article page 4



"I have always befriended animals and have said many a good word for them. Even to the least-loved mosquitoes I gave many a meal and told them to go in peace."

John Muir

WCSWA is at a crossroads and that means opportunities for you



Washington County Small Woodlands Association (WCSWA) is a strong chapter of Oregon Small Woodlands Association (OSWA). Our chapter is proud of its success offering educational programs and opportunities to get together. This requires volunteer leadership. We have been blessed with volunteers that have participated for years. To stay strong, we need new volunteers since several positions will be open next year. They are listed below followed by a short description. None of these take a lot of time but they are essential to maintaining our chapter's strength. Please consider finding out more from the current volunteer or send an email to wcswa.oswa@gmail.com to find out more. **WCSWA NEEDS YOU!**

OPEN POSITIONS

President – *(Currently held by Dan Shumaker)*. The president, co-presidents, or the vice-president in his/her absence, shall issue notice for and preside at all meetings.

Treasurer – *(Currently held by Melinda Shumaker)*. The treasurer shall be a signatory on all accounts of the organization along with the president. He/she shall provide monthly accounting of all transactions on these accounts to the president or co-presidents.

Board Member – There are six board members. Two vacancies open each year for a three-year term. Board members attend three board meetings per year for general decision-making practices not reserved for the general membership.

Tree Farmer of the Year from Washington County Selection Committee - (currently Rich Gaebel and Bob Shumaker). Solicit recommendations mainly from Oregon Tree Farm System (OTFS) inspectors. Selection is based on forest stewardship and woodland community involvement.

Seedling committee chair – *(Currently held by Don Sohler)*. Don has been the chair for ten years and is ready to train someone else to take over. It is very rewarding. (See Don's job description, page 10).



New outdoor learning pavilion opens for community use at ODF's Astoria demonstration forest



The new outdoor learning pavilion at the Oregon Department of Forestry's Astoria District Office was completed on May 27. The 16-by-24-foot timber structure is now open for community use as part of the adjacent demonstration forest managed by ODF.

Several local area businesses provided in-kind donations of labor and materials for the outdoor learning pavilion including everything needed for the concrete pad.

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)

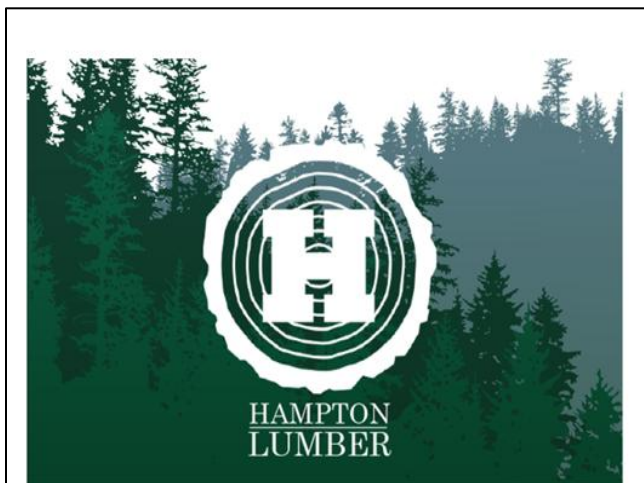
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	1 issue	4 issues	12 issues
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Please send this form, ad copy, logos, photos, etc. to:
Melinda Shumaker, 52490 NW Cedar Canyon Road, Banks, OR 97106. Thank you for supporting Washington County Small Woodlands Association!



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 503-931-3143 cell

Tillamook
 3111 Third St.
 Tillamook, OR 97141

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TYLER ROBBINS

503-861-5300 office
 503-728-8192 cell

Warrenton
 550 NE Skipanon Dr.
 Warrenton, OR 97146

Desired Species:
 Douglas fir & White woods

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Farm & Forest Contractor

Jose Luis
503-949-0347

Sheela
503-507-5896

Main
503-371-7591

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Tree School Field Day: Save the date for October 3

Join us for a day of learning in the woods on October 3 at Hopkins Demonstration Forest.

Our Tree School Field Day will include a schedule of field classes and learning opportunities throughout the forest for attendees to choose from.

For more information, contact [Jean Bremer](mailto:jean.bremer@oregonstate.edu):
jean.bremer@oregonstate.edu

“There is a serene and settled majesty to woodland scenery that enters into the soul and delights and elevates it and fills it with noble inclinations.”
Henry David Thoreau



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Tualatin Mountain Forest Tour with WCSWA

Date: Saturday, 9/19/2026

Time: 8am to 12pm

Description: Join OSU Extension to learn more about the newest OSU Research Forest, the 3,110-acre Tualatin Mountain Forest outside of Scappoose. We will discuss history of the property, recently managed stands, recreation dynamics and opportunities for research. This will mostly be a driving tour, but please wear weather-appropriate clothing and walking footwear.

Register here: <https://beav.es/fDf>



**One of Ray's 2025 alder
seedlings**

Update on Alder Seedling planting

Reported by Bonnie Shumaker

Last year I reported on WCSWA member Ray Brock's efforts to get alder seedlings to grow. Ray reported about 10% survived. He also planted 500 more in this his third year of planting and said this year's seedlings look good. Ray said they grow best in wetter shady places but have survived in more open places, too.

Why the Alder Seedling Program Matters

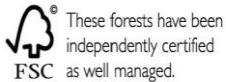
Alder trees are essential to forest health, enriching nutrient-poor soils by fixing nitrogen and providing vital forage and habitat for wildlife, which enhances biodiversity. Despite their importance, alders are often overshadowed by more commercially popular softwoods like Douglas fir, leading to their decline.

Northwest Hardwoods, nwh.com/alder-seedlings provides the seedlings free of cost.



A BALANCED APPROACH

▲
 TIMBER MANAGEMENT
 ▲
 ALTERNATIVES TO
 CLEARCUTTING
 ▲
 FOREST PLANNING
 AND RESTORATION
 ▲



PORTLAND FORESTERS – 503-222-9772

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Summer Hours

10:00am – 4:00pm

Wednesday – Sunday

Reflecting on Resilience, TFC's 20th anniversary exhibit is available for viewing this summer

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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



We Have a Winner!

As reported in the February Forest Forum, the OSU Washington County Small Woodlands scholarship Endowment Fund reached its \$100,000 goal. With your support, profits made from our plant and seedling sales plus annual meeting auction/ raffle items made this happen. The Endowment Goal Committee was formed and determined that we could award a \$5,000 scholarship annually to an OSU student in the College of Forestry with a preference to a Washington County resident. It worked! We received permission to print the following thank you letter from this year's recipient, Madylin Carnell. Congratulations, Madylin!

Dear Oregon Small Woodlands Association Washington County,

Thank you so much for offering this scholarship to me. I am incredibly honored that you decided to support me in my educational journey and future career, it truly has made a difference for me and my family

How did you decide OSU was the right school for you?

I've wanted to become a civil engineer for quite a while, not just to contribute to my community through public infrastructure, but also to leave an impact on the way that our societies interact with nature, namely, forests. I hope that in my career, I will be able to form a more harmonious relationship with our infrastructure and the environment that we rely on. This desire was a major reason I decided to enroll at OSU, a university that offered a rare combination of forest engineering and civil engineering along with many opportunities to connect meaningfully with our forests.



Imagine yourself 10 years from now - What do you hope to be doing?

In 10 years, I would like to be an established civil engineer working to integrate our infrastructure and forests in healthy ways that benefit everyone. I hope to use innovative and thoughtful designs that improve our communities and the ways we rely on our ecosystems.

What would you be proud to contribute to society?

In general, I hope that I will be making a positive difference through civil and forest engineering. I would be proud to contribute efficient new infrastructure, integrate green areas that benefit both the local ecosystems and people and put as much care as possible into the design of infrastructure that we rely on every day.

How will receiving this scholarship help you pursue your education at OSU?

I originally had some hesitance in choosing a pathway through OSU that includes an extra 5th year of education, and of course, expenses. Your generosity has encouraged and supported me in my ability to take that pathway. The financial burden on myself and my family has been significantly reduced and has put me in a better position to reach my goals.

It's Time to Order Seedlings

It is time to start thinking about your seedling needs for the 2027 planting season. You will find a seedling order form insert in this newsletter with a slight correction from the June insert. Seedlings will be available to plant between January 15 and February 2027, depending on the weather.

We need a new seedling coordinator of 1 or 2 people

The seedling sale began in 1999. It was Wendell Walker's idea and has provided a valuable service to members and generated income for WCSWA to carry out and expand its programs since then. If no one steps up by September, we will have to shut this vital program down after 2028 delivery. Don Sohler has provided a detailed timeline for you to consider. Remember, this could be either a solo position or be divided between two people. It has worked both ways in the past.

Starting in June, when the order form comes out, there will be a few phone calls with questions about the program. Time varies, but normally no more than 1 hour total for the month of June, July, and August.

1. At the end of August, reconcile all orders and determine if the minimum number of seedlings have been sold to meet the contract of 40,000. If need be, send an email to the newsletter staff advertising that the program has extra seedlings available. **Time 1 hour**
2. In early September, call Lewis River Nursery and find out how many seedlings have survived the summer growing season. If sales meet the goal of 40,000, stop taking orders. **Time ½ hour.**
3. Early December call the nursery and set a tentative date for picking up the seedlings. January 10th to the 15th is the target date. **Time ½ hour.**
4. At the same time call Lieb Foods cold storage in Forest Grove and Paul Sansoni and confirm that there is cooler space available starting in mid-January. **Time ½ hour**
5. Early January, contact the nursery and confirm a pickup date, weather permitting. Write seedling orders in two receipt books. Keep one in Paul Sansone's cooler, keep the second one at home or in personal vehicle. **Time 2 hours.**
6. First week in January contact volunteers to find out who is available with pickups and trailers to haul seedlings and which day works best for them during that January 10th to the 15th time frame. Tuesday through Thursday works best for the nursery scheduling. **Time 1 hour.**
7. Meet volunteers in North Plains and drive to Lewis River Reforestation. Haul seedlings from Lewis River to Lieb Foods in Forest Grove and about 100 to 125 bags of seedlings to Paul Sansoni's cooler. **Time, 4 to 5 hours.**
8. Notify everyone by phone that has purchased seedlings that they are available for pick up. **Time 1 hour.**
9. As purchasers call to pick up their seedlings, make arrangements with Lieb Foods cold storage for a time to pick up the seedlings. All seedling customers must be at Lieb Foods no later than 3 pm Monday through Friday for pickup. Forklift operators will bring the seedlings to the parking lot for pick up. **Time, ½ hour for each customer.** This is for larger quantities.
10. Smaller orders are kept at Paul Sansone's cooler in Gales Creek. Pick up times are available 6 days a week Monday through Saturday 8am to 5 pm. Since this cooler is located on private property, the customer must call the seedling coordinator ahead of time. **Time ½ hour for each customer.**
11. Once a week, mail receipts to customers that have picked up their seedlings and have not received their receipt in person. **Time, 1 hour.**
12. Receive any invoices from Lieb Foods by email as customers pick up their seedlings and print out for record keeping. Mail any checks received for payment to the WCSWA Treasurer for deposit. **Time is 2 hours per week for about 6 weeks.**
13. At the end of the season consolidate all records to match the seedlings issued. **Time 2 hours.**
14. Consolidate any personal expenses, such as stamps, envelopes and receipt books purchased and forward to WCSWA Treasurer for reimbursement. **Time ½ hour.**



Trico® Pro: an effective new tool in the battle against deer and elk browse

By Mike Messier, Trout Mountain Forestry

As most small woodland owners and forest managers will attest, few things are more disheartening than having your newly planted seedlings chewed down to a stub by deer or elk, especially if you have invested in good site preparation and high-quality seedlings.

Until recently, the commercially available tools have consisted of short-lived repellents or physical barriers. Landowners in our region have commonly resorted to costly, high-maintenance, physical barriers, such as Vexar mesh tubes or solid-walled tubes, which may protect the foliage inside of the tube, but anything emerging from the sides and top is fair game for the game. Particularly with western red cedar, it is common to have seedlings permanently confined to the tube, while competing vegetation occupies the site.

When I learned about this new product, Trico Pro, I was astounded by the claims of its effectiveness, so I decided to try it at one of my most challenging sites. Trico Pro is an oil-in-water based emulsion of sheep fat that is used at full strength and applied to *dry foliage*. It is manufactured by Kwizda and distributed in the United States by Helena Chemical. When applied according to the label, it may provide up to *six months* of protection to the treated foliage against deer and elk browse.

In the spring of 2025, I used a backpack sprayer to apply the product to five-year-old western redcedar seedlings that were stuck in their tubes. Some of the trees had 3-6 inches of fresh growth (not yet chewed). I returned to the site six months later in the fall of 2025 to find little, if any, browse on the treated trees.

Undeterred by browse, these five-year-old trees added 3-12 inches of new growth by the end of the summer. Amazed, I applied Trico Pro again in October to protect that new growth through the winter, when cedar foliage becomes a preferred food source. When I visited the site in early April 2026, I saw the new growth had been protected all winter.

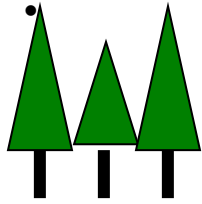
When I returned for another application in mid-May 2026, many of the trees looked as if they were truly recovering from their suppressed state and the most vigorous trees had already put on 12 inches of growth. My hope is that most of these established cedars will emerge above the browse zone with two years of treatment (4 applications total).

Following the success of the trial applications last year, we (Trout Mountain Forestry) began using Trico Pro this year at many of our sites to protect seedlings at the time of planting or applying in the unit to previously planted trees that had struggled with browse. While the product is not cheap, one can make multiple applications to a seedling for less than the cost of one Vexar tube, and it avoids many of the downsides. While it only provides protection to the treated foliage, we have anecdotally observed some level of protection to post-budbreak growth even when the tree was treated pre-budbreak (at planting).

Treated foliage seems to be avoided by ungulates all together.

While Trico Pro is no silver bullet, it has thus far proven to be the most promising tool I have encountered. As we adopt it more widely, we will undoubtedly learn more about the best timing and methods for application. You may reach me at mike@troutmountain.com or the Western Region Technical Field Expert for Kwizda (the manufacturer), Mark Boardman, at m.boardman@kwizda.com

Forest Forum



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Potpourri

Membership: 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 2025

This edition is now available as a print copy. You can order at Oregonforests.org. We will also have print copies available at WCSWA meetings.

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 \(oregonstate.edu\)](#)

Wildfire Prevention: [Oregon Wildfire Response and Recovery: Wildfire Prevention : State of Oregon](#)

Other Helpful Links:

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