

Forest Forum

Washington County Small Woodlands Association

June, 2015



John and one of the native *Nothofagus* species, probably the Coigue

Forestry in Chile

Last November, John and Cathy Dummer joined the OSU Extension forestry tour of Chile. They didn't travel the entire length of this long narrow country, but rather the southern hemisphere equivalent of from San Diego to Northern California. They saw native trees like the pictures on this page and extensive acres of native forest, but found that the important trees for Chile's economy are non-native species such as pine, eucalyptus and douglas-fir. Forest ownership was privatized in 1974, so there is minimal government ownership compared to 64% government ownership in Oregon. Most of the commercial forests in Chile are owned by three large companies who also own the ports from which the logs are exported. 80% of the wood from



Cathy hugging the *Araucaria* (monkey puzzle tree), the national tree of Chile

plantations is exported, mainly to Japan, United States, S. Korea and Western Europe. Pine and Eucalyptus grow twice as fast in Chile as in their native countries. The harvest cycle for Radiata Pine is 23-24 years; Eucalyptus is 12-14 years. Pine and Eucalyptus account for 92% of plantation forestry in Chile.

See Chile, page 6

June 18 - 20 – OSWA's 55th Annual Meeting

WCSWA's June event will be OSWA's Annual Meeting at Chemeketa Community College. June 18 is our "Day at the Capital," a day reserved for small woodland owners to meet and greet legislative members. June 19 is the Outstanding Tree Farmer of the Year Tour at Linda Butts tree farm near Lyons with the annual banquet and silent auction at the Red Lion Hotel on Market Street in Salem that evening. June 20 is the Oregon Forest Fair with speakers, educational programs and vendors. WCSWA will have a booth there. Be sure to visit. Go to www.oswa.org for complete information.

WCSWA Leadership

Co-Presidents – John and Cathy Dummer, 503-970-8789
cannbuckley@hotmail.com

Vice-President – Vic Herinckx, vic.herinckx@gmail.com

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bshumaker@coho.net

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WCSWA Website

www.wcswa.com

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Contact Tom Nygren or Bonnie Shumaker for web postings and information.

Facebook:

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

Forest Forum Newsletter

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The Tree Farm Tradin' Post

A free service to our members: List tree farm items/land to buy, sell, or trade. Contact Tom Nygren, 503-628-5472. Got a tool or piece of equipment you don't need any more? Or maybe you are looking for tools, equipment, property, or materials? You can place a free advertisement in Forest Forum. Another way for tree farmers to help each other! (3 month limit)

- Wanted:**
- 1) Forest caretaker and home for rent at Gales Creek timber property. Call 503-357-4258.
 - 2) Computer savvy WCSWA member to monitor and suggest changes/updates to our website www.wcswa.com Contact either newsletter editor (see Forest Forum newsletter box above)
 - 3) Alternative representative from WCSWA to Tualatin River Watershed Council – contact Tom Nygren, 503-628-5472 for more information

Event Calendar

June	18-20	OSWA Annual Meeting and Forest Fair	Chemeketa College, Salem. 6/18-Day at the Capital 6/19-Tour of Butts property and banquet 6/20-Trade fair including WCSWA booth
July	25	Columbia County SWA /OSU Extension Summer Woodland Tour	Details TBA
August	15	TFOY Annual Tour and Picnic	John and Cathy Dummer invite you to their tree farm on Pumpkin Ridge Road north of North Plains
September	TBA	Tour of Active Thinning Operation	Details TBA

The Woodland Beat

I almost hate to admit this, but it's an important part of the story: I finally used our chain saw! In case you couldn't guess, this is Cathy. John of course has used the chain saw many times. And I've certainly helped and watched, but this was the first time I put the chaps and glasses on, set the lever on start, and pulled the cord myself. It started right up (thank goodness) and I proceeded to cut up some small trees that were already on the ground. John moved things around for me and stacked wood. I don't know how long I worked, but I ran through a whole tank of gas.

It was actually a pretty rewarding experience. I felt like I accomplished something worthwhile in cutting up the logs. And the saw itself, although small by most people's standards, is still a very powerful tool, and I got to claim some of its power for myself while I worked.

I'm sure there is more chain sawing in my future. Since the next major task on our property is thinning, I expect some day I will cut a tree down. I might even cut so many trees down that I get tired of it and don't want to do it anymore. Or maybe I'll always find using the saw rewarding.

But my readiness and ability to use the saw is the result of some preparation. First, I wanted to mention the "Chain Saw for Women" class I took this year at Tree School. It was a great experience. First there was a classroom setting where we learned about chains and saws and had the opportunity to ask questions, even ones that probably sounded a little silly. Then there was a chance to don all the appropriate safety gear, start a saw, and cut off a piece of wood. They even encouraged me to do a few extra cuts. Both the class and the practice were a big confidence booster for me. Somehow our saw didn't seem so foreign any more.

Running the saw for more than a few minutes really made me grateful that my back and core and arms are strong enough to do this unfamiliar and somewhat strenuous activity without injury. So the second thing I wanted to mention as important preparation for me is an exercise class I've been taking at the local community center. The class is both strength and cardio and it's not for the faint-hearted. All those burpees and mountain climbers and kettlebell swings and standing crunches and pushups were painful at the time but well worth it when it came time to use the saw. So I sit here writing this article having run the chain saw several times over the last few days and I feel none the worse for wear. Thank you to Gail, the instructor for the class.

And last but not least I'm also grateful for John's support and willingness to help me learn. Of course now he doesn't have to do all the sawing himself...

Until next time – Happy Small Woodlanding!

John and Cathy Dummer

WCSWA Scholarship Winner

On May 6, Doug Eddy and Vic Herinckx attended the Oregon State University College of Forestry Spring Awards Celebration. This event recognized 94 College of Forestry students who were selected to receive scholarships totaling almost \$500,000 for the 2015-16 academic year. The scholarships ranged in value from \$2,000 to \$9,000. The Washington County Small Woodlands \$6,000 scholarship went to Anya Hall who comes all the way from the east coast. Anya is a junior and forestry major who enjoys coaching girls Lacrosse at Crescent Valley High School in her free time. We are looking forward to introducing Anya at the Annual Meeting in November.



Advertising Opportunity:

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A Visit to a New Shumaker Forest



Mixed species and age of trees



Yew and Ponderosa Pine

This Shumaker forest belongs to the next generation. Last fall, our son Dan and his wife Melinda purchased 81 acres in Jackson County. It is halfway between Ashland and Klamath Falls on Dead Indian Memorial Highway. We had never been there, so this Memorial Day weekend we all went camping. We were joined by Melinda's brother and his wife and her parents who live in Klamath Falls. Dan and Melinda had been looking for some investment property for some time that they could also use for recreation and this fits the bill. It is within one-half hour of Lake of the Woods, Howard Prairie Reservoir and Hyatt Lake. There are snow-parks all around, too, but no snow this year. I guess it would not be surprising to find a foot of snow at this 5,000 foot elevation on Memorial Day. We were greeted to clear days near 70 degrees with overnight temperatures in the 30's.

The forest is on the west side of a transition zone from west to east side forest. There is a year-round stream, Beaver Dam Creek, running through the property and a seasonal creek as well. In the three days we were there with the sun

shining all day, we watched this creek recede upwards several feet each day, but always reappearing downstream perhaps indicating an underground spring? The tree species include lots of Ponderosa Pine and White Pine with Doug-fir and Silver Fir. A nice addition is many Yew trees displayed anywhere from shrubs to good sized trees. The one in the picture looks like deer and elk like to browse it creating a skirt-like effect. I remember that for a while Yew trees were rapidly disappearing when it was discovered that their bark contained a cancer-fighting chemical, Taxol. These Yew trees escaped that craze and are growing well. Now Taxol is created synthetically.

A nice surprise was finding a good quantity of morel mushrooms which we enjoyed with dinner. The majority of the forest is around 20 years old and is mixed-age from seedlings to good-sized trees.

There is NO scotch broom, Himalayan blackberry or other invasive species! We saw lots of wild strawberry and some gooseberry. The gooseberry looked a lot like the currant that also grows here except gooseberry has sharp thorns. The soil is rocky with stumps and downed woody debris of a huge size that may have populated this area almost 100 years ago.



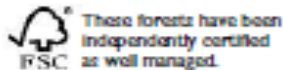
Tall silver fir in background

We are delighted to see the love of forest growing in the next generation, and it was fun exploring this very different forest from our own.



A BALANCED APPROACH

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▲
ALTERNATIVES TO
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▲
FOREST PLANNING
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▲



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or

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Forest stewardship
for productivity and diversity

Did you know:

“Log-rolling,” a political term for trading favors to advance legislation, derived from the practice of neighbors teaming together to roll logs off of newly cut land.

From “American Canopy” by Eric Rutkow

Funny tree covers on Hwy 6? Here’s the story.

Oregon Departments of Forestry and Transportation partnering on Highway 6 safety project –

Oregonian, Jan., 2014

“State Highway 6, a scenic stretch from Banks to Tillamook and a popular route to the Oregon coast, will be safer from falling trees and limbs, thanks to a partnership between the Oregon Departments of Forestry (ODF) and Transportation (ODOT).

The project will remove trees infected with laminated root rot along 35 acres of the highway corridor in 18 different locations. The land will be replanted with tree species resistant to or tolerant of the root disease. Protective tubes will be placed around seedlings to limit damage from deer and elk foraging. The project is funded entirely by the sale of timber from the parcels.”

From Mitch Taylor, ODF. We completed the planting in February, 2015, using Dept. of Corrections inmate crews from the South Fork Camp located in the Tillamook State Forest. The tubes were installed over the cedar seedlings to protect them from deer and elk browse. There is also hemlock planted among the cedar for a total of 360-436 trees per acre on each treated site. We do not typically get significant browse on hemlock, so we leave it unprotected. Everything looks very good so far this growing season as the trees are flushing and actively putting on root growth. We have used the solid tree shelters for a few years. They are initially more expensive than vexar, but we are able to re-use them. We install all of our tree protection devices using five to six foot tall, stout bamboo stakes and zip ties. Our cedar plug stock does extremely well in the shelters.

Once the seedling grows above the top of the shelter, we slide the shelter up to gain another one to two feet of height growth before removing the device and reusing it - usually three to four years after installation.

The supplier of the shelters is Sinorefor Products, Inc., out of Burnaby, British Columbia.



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Chile, continued from page 1

John and Cathy did see some familiar sights on their tour. They visited an experimental forest of Doug-fir at latitude comparable to Northern California. They even spied scotch broom in bloom which “made us feel at home.” One of the places Cathy and John visited was a Nature Conservancy site of 150,000



Another familiar sight

acres, the second largest protected forest in the world. Over 75% of the forested area in Chile is native forest. With the commercial value coming from plantations, there is concern about converting native forest to plantations, although at this time there is plenty of other land available.



Experimental forest of Doug-fir, 20 years old and growing fast

John and Cathy finished their trip on their own doing some trout fishing – what fun! Thank you for sharing your Chile forest experiences, Cathy and John.

Sustaining a New Legacy

By Marc and Delilah Ahrendt

Prior to owning our newly acquired eighty acres out in Forest Grove, we were what you would call typical city folks. My husband and I were both born and raised in Chicago, land of people being elbow to elbow with concrete and skyscrapers overlooking a highly polluted lake. Trees were an accent and were usually fenced in to keep bikers or cars from bashing into them. Nature was an afterthought and not a centerpiece. Nature was what you escaped to when you were fortunate enough to find time to take a vacation from the bustle of city life.

When we moved to the Northwest out of college, it was a massive culture shock. Portland seemed so small and the stores carried 'local' produce as if we were all living on a farm, not a major city. Rain aside, the transition from big city life to suburban Hillsboro was a huge adjustment. That adjustment turned out to be the best thing that ever happened to us.

We felt like we were rediscovering what life was supposed to be lived like. Hiking, biking and gardening became a bigger part of our lives and raising kids in the Northwest, surrounded by the ability to travel short distances to the mountains or ocean was surreal.

Knowing the vast terrain that surrounded us, and what Oregon had to offer, living in a fenced in 5,000 square foot lot seemed like we weren't being true to what we really wanted. We wanted land. We wanted something we could raise our kids on while leaving behind a legacy for future generations to enjoy. The idea of owning five acres seemed like a dream come true.

Imagine our surprise when we came across a piece of land that went far beyond what we thought we wanted: Eighty acres of trees. We went from owning 8 trees in Hillsboro to owning over 30,000. Mind blown.

Transitioning from city life to owning a large tract of land was a lot easier than we thought it would be. Partly because we are passionate about what we want for ourselves and our kids. But taking on the responsibility of a tree farmer? Now THAT was a culture shock. Because we didn't know spit about it.

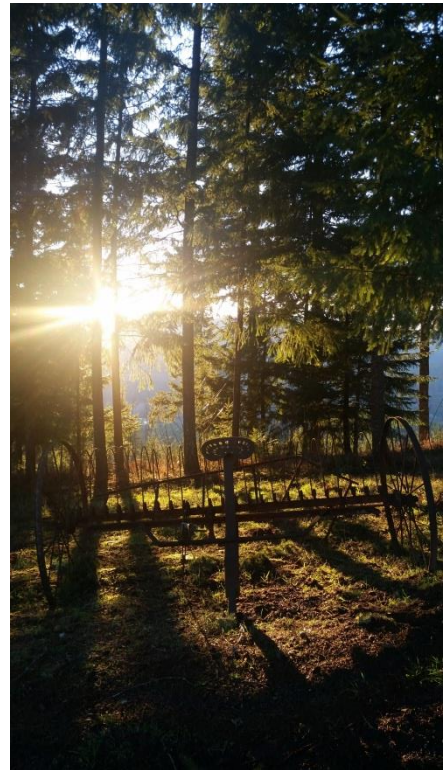
Being passionate about wanting land is one thing, knowing how to keep the trees on your property healthy and happy is quite another. We were fortunate that the person who sold us the land took us under his wing and really spent a lot of time showing us the property. He talked about the forestry plan that was already made up for the property and how we could apply it to the 80 acres. Half the time, we didn't know what he was talking about. In our minds, we just loved the trees, the variety of them and how peaceful it all was.

Then we started meeting incredible neighbors like the Shumakers. While visiting their tree farm, we realized something. Being a tree farmer was a heck of a lot more work than we could have ever imagined. And yet...their passion and their farm inspired us into wanting exactly that. We wanted a tree farm rooted in pride and passion.

We quickly realized, of course, that pride and passion wasn't going to get us far without knowledge. We were blessed knowing the Shumakers who set us down our first path of acquiring said knowledge by suggesting we join the Small Woodlands Association.

It was a turning point in understanding what we were really getting into. At first, it seemed overwhelming. There was so much to do, so much to learn and not enough time. Joining an association, taking classes from OSU and stocking up on books was just the beginning.

The property we acquired needed a lot of trees to be planted if we were going to sustain what we had acquired. The previous owners had clear cut parts of the land three separate times and



although some planting was done, it wasn't enough for what we wanted. Barely two weeks into owning the land, our first days were spent, not moving into the house or starting the renovations that desperately needed to be done, but...planting over a thousand trees.

Again, I will say the Shumakers went above and beyond their neighborly duties and were there at our side, guiding us into understanding how to properly plant. Once we got the hang of it, we were out there in the rain and mud, slugging through not only getting it done, but getting it done right.

Without knowing it, we set precedence as to what sort of tree farmers we were going to be. The land came before us. It was a startling revelation. We own the land and yet...the land owns us.

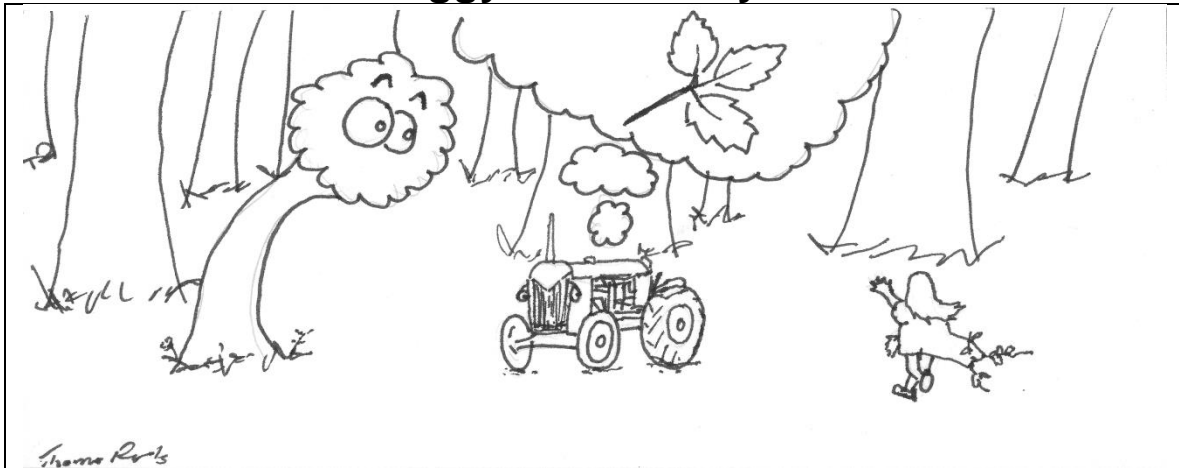
Being new to tree farming, everyone we meet and everything we learn is like opening yet another door that allows us to grow in our understanding as to what we want for our land and the legacy we plan to leave for our children. Given we have two very eager to work teenagers; we have enough help to be able to survive.

The hardest thing about being new to tree farming is finding the money and the time to do everything that needs to get done. Given that we aren't retired and have full time jobs, it's turned into a challenge. But juggling real life and tree life is probably the most gratifying aspect about owning a tree farm. No matter how crazy life gets, everything around us remains steadily calm. Nature reminds us that there is plenty of time. We just have to make an effort to claim it.

We have so much more to learn and so much more to do, including creating our own forestry plan designed for us and by us, but only three months into tree farming, we know one thing to be true: it's the beginning of a beautiful journey.

Editor's note: Bob and I are excited about Marc and Delilah's passion for their newly acquired tree farm and asked them to put down in words what they are experiencing. Thank you Marc and Delilah.

The Adventures of Duggy Fir by Thomas Perkins



“Ouch! Umph! It’s itchy!” “What is the matter now?” Orion asked Sam the Woodcutter’s daughter, who was itchy.

“Looks like she done stepped in a little Poison Oak,” retorted a brother of Francis the Tractor.

“What did you just call my species?” gasped Orion, who was an oak tree and felt strongly offended.

“No, no. Poison Oak, got nothing to do with oak trees, it is a plant like a weed with three leaves. It can make you all itchy. I’m a tractor, I can’t get itchy, but humans sure can.”

Registration Now Open for 2016 Scandinavian Forestry Tour

WCSWA and the Oregon Woodland Cooperative (OWC) are co-sponsoring a special tour to Sweden and Norway that will depart Portland on May 27, 2016 and return on June 14. This educational tour will focus on private forestry in Sweden and Norway and the role of woodland owner cooperatives. We will meet woodland owners and tour their tree farms, see harvesting equipment in action, and visit forestry companies, sawmills, equipment manufacturers, and forestry museums.

In addition, tour participants will see and experience outstanding natural beauty in the farms, forests, mountains and fjords of Sweden and Norway, and enjoy the cultural highlights of the towns and cities along the way. A group of 42 woodland owners from the Northwest and other states had a memorable experience together on the first tour in 2014.

Members of WCSWA and OWC now have the first chance to register their interest in the 2016 version of the tour. In a few weeks, we will send an announcement to members of forest-related organizations through the Northwest and beyond. The 2014 trip sold out within only a few months following the public announcement. Please note that space for this tour is limited and reservations will be accepted on a first come, first served basis.

Visit this link on the OWC website to find complete information about the 2016 tour.
www.oregonwoodlandcooperative.com/scandinavia-forestry-tour

If you have questions, contact Karen Graham, kgraham@duckswild.com, 503-647-0310, or Miles Merwin, ridgebacktrees@gmail.com, 971-285-6960.

Meet Small Woodland Owners from Sweden at the Grand Lodge, Sept. 22

A group of about 50 small woodland owners from Sweden will visit Washington Co. as part of their tour of forestry on the West Coast of the US. They will overnight in Forest Grove following a visit to the World Forestry Center in Portland, and Anne & Richard Hanschu's tree farm near Gales Creek.

As an opportunity to meet forest landowners from overseas, WCSWA invites its members to come to a special dinner at the McMenamins Grand Lodge on Sept. 22. Most of the Swedish visitors will speak English – a popular second language in Sweden – so guests will be able to converse easily while seated at round tables. If you are considering joining the 2016 Scandinavia forestry tour, this will be an excellent chance to meet our Swedish guide for that trip and to make new friends among fellow woodland owners.

Dinner will be catered by McMenamins and held in the Children's Cottage at Grand Lodge. The multi-course menu is yet to be finalized, but the cost will be approx. \$40 per person. Beer and wine will be available for purchase.

A form to reserve seats at this event will be included in the July issue of Forest Forum, along with further details. Space is limited so registration will be first come, first served. If you have questions, contact Karen Graham, kgraham@duckswild.com, 503-647-0310, or Miles Merwin, ridgebacktrees@gmail.com, 971-285-6960.

Rules to live by

The Oregon Forest Practices Act requires that all the benefits of the forest be sustained for future generations. Our new special report, *Rules to Live By*, describes how Oregon works to do that.

Order a copy and learn more at:

OregonForestLaws.org



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We have the following properties available for purchase in Washington County, Oregon.

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Pumpkin Ridge: 2 Parcels. 78 acres-\$599,000, 46 acres-\$269,000. High quality, professionally managed reproduction parcels. Good stocking, access, and productivity.

Small Tracts: We are also offering 12.5 acres total (3 separate tracts) of forestland for sale or trade in Washington County. These are a combination of merch timber and various ages of reproduction.

Contact information is below for more details.

If you have a forestland property that you have considered selling; we offer free consultation and will come look at your forestland.

If you are settling an estate, let us do the job of getting you the best price for your family. With 45 years of experience in forestry work, we can offer solutions from a practical forestry and financial standpoint.

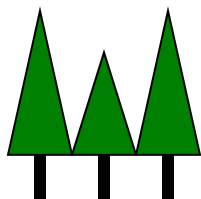


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Forest Forum



COUNTY CHAPTER OF THE
OREGON SMALL WOODLANDS
ASSOCIATION

Potpourri

New Member Welcome to Bryce Schroeder of Beaverton! 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're always invited to the WCSWA meetings!). 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.

Financial assistance available to Oregon landowners under Regional Conservation Partnership Program, applications due June 19

PORTLAND, Ore. – (May 15, 2015) – Funding is now available for private landowners to conserve and protect their land as part of six new regional conservation projects in Oregon. The projects are funded by the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) under a new Farm Bill program called the Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP). The two that may be of interest to WCSWA members are:

- ▣ **Unlocking Carbon Markets for Non-Industrial Private Forest Landowners in the Pacific Northwest**
- ▣ **North Willamette Valley Upland Oak Restoration Partnership**

Interested? Contact Santiago Miguez, - NRCS, Hillsboro, OR [<mailto:Santiago.Miguez@or.usda.gov>].
Remember June 19 is the application deadline.

Helpful Links:

- <http://blogs.oregonstate.edu/treetopics> to read Amy Grotta's "Tree Topics" blog
- www.oregonwoodlandcooperative.com to learn about the Oregon Woodland Cooperative
- <https://www.facebook.com/WashingtonCountySmallWoodlandsAssociation>