

Forest Forum

Washington County Small Woodlands Association

May, 2016

Annual WCSWA Potluck – Tuesday, May 17th

The Annual WCSWA Potluck is almost here! This year's potluck will feature good food, provided by the members attending, outstanding woodland owner company - and much more! The official starting time is 5:00 p.m., but get there when you can – if you're early there will be folks to swap stories with. The potluck will be held at the Hanschu's Little Beaver Tree Farm west of Banks (***see map on page 9 if you haven't been there before***). It's a modified potluck – Sam Sadtler will be cooking burgers and dogs on the grill, and you only need to bring a side dish, dessert, salad, rolls, or whatever you wish to provide. Tableware will be provided, along with soft drinks and water.

The agenda for the evening will include: Presentation of 50-year Tree Farm signs to two of our members, introduction of the 2015 Washington County Small Woodland Association Tree Farmer of the Year, a presentation on invasive weed species by Dr. Rob Emanuel of Clean Water Services, and a tour and discussion of an on-going pole harvest by Ken Nygren of Bell Timber and Richard and Anne Hanschu.

Don't Miss This Event – You'll Enjoy It!

Bugs and Brandy – WCSWA Meeting

The April 26th WCSWA meeting featured Brandy Saffell, Oregon State Extension Education Program Coordinator, describing ***high priority invasive insect pests***. They are high priority because they are: 1) non-native – which means they arrive without natural predators, their hosts lack defenses against them, they reproduce prolifically, and they out-compete other insects in their niche; 2) they have the potential to dominate and transform the ecosystem (which may lead to species extinction), and they degrade the environment and affect human health; and 3) they have very definite and significant economic impacts, such as cost of eradication, decrease in forest products, and require quarantine and embargo of all shipping in and out of the affected region.

Brandy described how most of these pests are introduced and spread. Shipping is a major method of spread, primarily through wood packing materials and live plants in the nursery trade. Humans can also spread insects and their egg masses through recreational travel, firewood, etc. ***Brandy holds a piece of wood showing a beetle gallery >>>>>>>>***

(See "Brandy" on page 6)



WCSWA Leadership

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 cannbuckley@hotmail.com

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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) 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)
 - 2) Alternative representative from WCSWA to Tualatin River Watershed Council – contact Tom Nygren, 503-628-5472 for more information
 - 3) Forest caretaker and home for rent at Gales Creek timber property. Call 503-357-4258.

For Sale: No new For Sale ads

Event Calendar

May	17	5:00 p.m., with potluck beginning at 5:30 p.m. See map on page 9.	Annual WCSWA Potluck, Little Beaver Creek Tree Farm (Hanschus)
	17	6:00 – 8:00 p.m. Forest Grove High School, 1401 Nichols Lane	Chehalem Ridge Nature Park master planning public meeting. For more information, www.oregonmetro.gov/chehalemridge
June	4	McMinnville, OR: Saturday	Ecological Forestry 101: Intro to Silviculture & Wildlife Habitat. See item on page 9 or website (http://ecological-forestry-or.eventbrite.com) for more information.
	9-11	Baker City	Annual OSWA Meeting
	25	Details to be announced	WCSWA Tree Farmer of the Year, and Howdy Neighbor Tour

The Woodland Beat

A few weeks ago we ended up at the annual Farm Fest and Plowing Competition presented by the Yamhill County Historical Society and Oregon Draft Horse Breeders Association. Both my grandfathers used draft horses to farm. By the time I was around the horses were long gone, but the stories about them weren't. So I had heard a lot about what plowing a field with horses was like, mostly from my Dad, but not seen it until this opportunity came around last month.

The plowing competition included some (very large) draft horses as well as some (much smaller) mules. There was a power (2 horsepower to be exact) and an elegance in what was going on. The care and connection with the horses that was necessary to plow straight furrows of consistent depth, and to be sure the horses didn't get too tired, gave me some idea of what my grandpas experienced. I worked on farms when I was in school and occasionally worked fields sitting on top of a lot more horsepower inside an air-conditioned cab listening to Paul Harvey or whatever else might be on AM radio in the mid-Willamette Valley in the late 1980's. The transformation from working with horses to tractors was quite a transition and it happened within a pretty short period of time. There is a grace in working with draft horses that is missing from tractors and I'm glad there are folks out there that continue to preserve that practice. Seeing it allowed me to connect to a piece of my own heritage.

While at the event, which was at the Yamhill County Historical Society in McMinnville, we also got to have a look at the museum they've got over there. There is a large collection of farm machinery and also an area devoted to logging. Surveying tools, a collection of chainsaws, cross-cut saws and a model of a sawmill were all on display.

Once in a while I travel for work and often try to get a taste for the history and culture of an area. Recall that I wrote about the Louisville Slugger baseball bat factory last year in this space. If someone were coming to our area from out of town what would I recommend for an excursion that would be interesting, not too far away and give a sense of what this avocation of small woodland ownership is all about? The World Forestry Center comes to mind, particularly if they've got limited time. A little more time might allow a visit to the Tillamook Forest Center and of course a hike that showcases some of the incredible local forests. Our attendance at the Farm Fest and Plowing Competition made me realize that the list should also include a check of the local festivals that perhaps I've never attended that might be of interest.

Until next time – Happy Small Woodlanding!

John and Cathy Dummer

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Tree Talk

by Bonnie Shumaker

The First Step

In many self-help programs, the first step is admitting you have a problem. We acknowledged we had a problem after two unsuccessful tries to submit an E-notification of Operations with the Oregon Department of Forestry. It may have been more than two tries, but it was certainly two concentrated tries after a few just fooling around tries. We are not totally computer illiterate, but have to admit that learning new programs is sometimes a challenge.

After admitting we were stumped, we had two choices. Either ignore the whole process since we weren't doing a whole lot on our tree farm, or get help. We knew that all landowners must file a Notice of Operations if doing any work on the tree farm involving machinery (including chain saws). Since we are almost always law-abiding citizens, we chose to get help and take our files into the ODF office in Forest Grove.

We used to do this every year before E-notification and actually enjoyed talking with the friendly staff and getting our paperwork in order. Now E-Notification is the only way to file, and that friendly staff is still at the ODF office and willingly helped us. Each office has a kiosk designed just for the purpose of teaching landowners who have taken that first step and admitted they have a problem. I won't bore you with what our main problem was, but the light turned on with a little help from the ODF staff. They left us alone to do a second E-Notification on our other property, and we only needed a little help this time.

In researching the ODF website to write this article, I found online Training Videos we could have used. Next year if we need help, I'll try to remember to try them.

- [Registration and overview](#)
- [Draw and delete a unit](#)
- [Add activities and operators](#)
- [Add landowners, timber owners, and fire emergency contacts](#)
- [Add site conditions and documents](#)
- [Submit a notification](#)
- [Import a shapefile via Shape Up](#)

By chronicling our experience in filing an E-Notification with ODF, I hope I have given a road map for others who have less-than-stellar computer skills to follow. Admitting the problem is always a good first step.

Matteson Demonstration Forest – Oregon State University Extension

The Matteson Demonstration Forest was established in 2014 through a gift willed by Marian Matteson. It is located near Hagg Lake in Washington County. Oregon State Extension will administer the Forest, and its primary value will be to demonstrate small woodland management. Amy Grotta, Extension Forester, has been very active in developing baseline information about the Forest as a prelude to initiating active management. Other OSU Extension specialists have also been involved.

Planned activities include vegetation control and management, forest inventory, and roadside management (some invasive species exist along the interior roads). A parking lot for visitors is also planned. Some timber harvests will occur in 2017-2018, using cut-to-length techniques to thin 28 year-old plantations.

Information provided by Brandv Saffell at the April WCSWA meeting.



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Didn't Get To Tree School?

The handouts from Tree School 2016 are now online. Go to <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/clackamas/tree-school> to view them.

Brandy, continued from page 1

The current concern with non-native invasive insects in the Pacific Northwest is with 3 insects: emerald ash borer, Asian long-horned borer, and Asian gypsy moth. The two borers kill trees by tunneling under the bark and disrupting the vital flow of water and nutrients between the roots and the crown. The Asian gypsy moth is a defoliator, which will completely strip the leaves and needles of trees.

There has as yet been no infestation in Oregon of the emerald ash borer (EAB), but it has reached as far west as Colorado. EAB has devastated native ash stands in the east and Midwest, and could do the same with ash in Oregon. It does not move geographically very fast, but it can be easily transported by humans – in firewood for example. There is no economically efficient way to treat an outbreak if it were to occur. (see www.emeraldashborer.info).

The Asian long-horned wood borer (ALB) prefers maple species, but also can attack other hardwoods such as willow. There have been some incidences of ALB in Washington near the shipping ports, but immediate action contained them. Like EAB, ALB is not very mobile – the large insects can't fly fast and far, but they are good at hitchhiking in wood that humans transport! (see www.AsianLonghornedBeetle.com)

The Asian gypsy moth (AGM) is related to the European gypsy moth (EGM), which has been established in hardwoods in the eastern US for many years, and has been the subject of many eradication attempts. AGM is a recent invader, with a significant and more dangerous trait – it can attack Douglas-fir. If it became established, it could have very significant ecological and economic impacts on the Pacific Northwest. Pheromone traps are used to detect the presence of AGM and EGM. When detected, aerial spraying with a bacterial insecticide is done to eliminate the infestation. A small infestation found in the north Portland –Vancouver area has been sprayed this spring.

Brandy also described a new cooperative program to detect and monitor the incidence of these high priority pests. It is called the Oregon Forest Pest Detection Program. Training is given to volunteers so they can recognize and report any suspected incidence of EAB, ALB, and AGP. The training consists of an on-line segment, followed by a field segment where simulated pest indicators are available for practice in recognition of the pest presence. If you are interested in being part of this program, contact Brandy at the Extension office, 503-397-3462. More information on the program can be found at www.pestdetector.forestryoregonstate.edu.

Forest Health in Oregon: State of the State, 2016

Insect Pests

Part 2 of a 3 part series of information presented at a Symposium at Oregon State University on February 16-17.

NOTE: the presentations that this information was derived from can be viewed on-line at <http://blogs.oregonstate.edu/2016foresthealth/presentations/>

Bark Beetles – There are a variety of bark beetles (over 3500 species). The top 4 in mortality loss in the U.S are mountain pine beetle (38%), spruce beetle (16%), fir engraver beetle (15%), and western pine beetle (7%). While the mountain pine beetle infestations are decreasing, the other three are on the upswing. The most common and destructive to our native conifers are the Douglas-fir beetle, western pine beetle, mountain pine beetle, spruce beetle and Ips beetle.

Each beetle is opportunistic and eruptive, that is, they take advantage of trees in a weakened condition to invade, and then their population can erupt to a destructive level across the landscape in their preferred tree species. The beetle eggs are deposited in a tree's bark, where the larva then hatch and bore into the cambium layer. Once in the cambium, the larvae begin tunneling around – in distinct gallery patterns unique to the beetle specie. The cambium layer is no longer able to function in transporting nutrients and water, and the tree begins to die. Fungi may then enter the tree and create wood stains. Outward signs of a beetle infestation are pitch oozing from the entry holes, frass (fine wood particles and larvae excrement) and boring dust around the tree, and boring galleries under the bark.

Specific beetle stand conditions in western Oregon inviting infestation:

Douglas-fir beetle: pole size and larger trees, blow-down, root rot, fire, drought stress.

Western pine beetle: stressed ponderosa pine (drought, fire).

Spruce beetle: large diameter trees, usually associated with blow-down.

Ips beetle: ponderosa pine near fresh slash, and drought stress.

Large scale damage tends to be periodic and associated with major events such as drought, while fire and blowdown will be damaging on a local or regional scale. The trend has been increasing the past few years – up 25% on the 2014 survey, and 15% in 2015. Ips beetle infestations are trending upward.

Wood borers - There are a variety of wood borers that attack native Oregon trees. The most common are the Flat-headed and Round-headed wood borers, and ambrosia beetles. The wood borers generally attack all the conifers, but ambrosia beetles do not prefer western red cedar.

The wood borers, commonly called metallic wood borers (flat-headed), or long-horned wood borers (round-headed), attack trees in a weakened condition. They are considered secondary agents, which come in after trees are damaged, or are growing on poor sites such as dry sites. They do cause tree mortality in droughty periods or on drier sites like valley fringe areas. They often come in after fire, root disease, or bark beetle infestation. While tree mortality can sometimes occur, the larva tunneling in the wood also causes important economic damage to wood products such as lumber and poles.

Ambrosia beetles are not a causal agent for tree mortality, but instead attack dead or nearly dead trees. Their effect is in the wood product value, either from the bore holes they create or the fungal stains that follow.

Generally, wood borers and ambrosia beetles are not major insect pests in Oregon. **However**, there are two potential threats from wood borers not presently established here – **emerald ash borer** and **Asian long-horned beetle**. These non-native pests have become established in some parts of the United States, primarily the eastern and central parts, seem to be moving westward. All woodland owners should become familiar with the identifying characteristics of these pests – and the signs of their presence, so that they can be reported and eliminated before

they spread. Information on how to spot and report these very significant insect pests can be found at www.emeraldashborer.info and www.AsianLonghornedBeetle.com.

Defoliators – Most damage from defoliators comes from the stress and growth loss that they place on trees, with some exceptions such as the balsam woolly adelgid. Major defoliator types include moths, butterflies, and sawflies. The damage is done by the larvae of these insects. Defoliator outbreaks occur infrequently. The native species outbreaks are inherent in population cycles, and are related to stand condition events such as fire and blowdown. Non-native species, however, do not have the host resistance and/or predators which results in more widespread and severe infestations. The major defoliators affecting Oregon trees are:

Western spruce budworm: attacks Douglas-fir, true firs, Engelmann spruce, and western larch. This is the most destructive defoliator in eastern Oregon. Outbreaks can last up to 10 years and cover millions of acres. Damage is growth loss and top kill of large trees, and mortality of understory trees. Perhaps even more important than the damage from defoliation is the follow-on infestation of bark beetles and root rots, which kill the trees. The past few years has seen significant detections, but there is an increasing trend in some areas, such as the Strawberry Mountain Wilderness on the Malheur National Forest. Washington forests have been harder hit.

Douglas-fir tussock moth: also attacks Douglas-fir and true firs as the preferred hosts. Outbreaks generally do not last more than 3-4 years. The damage is similar to that of the western spruce budworm – top kill, growth reduction, and mortality – but a distinction is that the tussock moth larvae feed on the older needles as well as young ones. Trends indicate another outbreak is due.

Western oak looper: the looper has been causing significant defoliation of oak stands in the Willamette Valley in the past few years. The Oregon white oak is the primary host, but the larvae have also been observed feeding on Douglas-fir, Bigleaf maple, Oregon ash, and other species. Outbreaks tend to be sporadic and are short-lived with a defoliation lasting 2-3 years.

Western tent caterpillar – this larva feeds on a wide variety of hardwood tree and shrub species. A 2014 outbreak in the Coast Range was the largest documented in the past two decades. – 11,000 acres. The primary species affected was red alder, but many other hardwoods were also defoliated. Historically outbreaks last 1-2 years, with only minor growth loss.

Balsam woolly adelgid – This *non-native* species feeds on true firs, primarily subalpine and Pacific silver, and generally at higher altitudes.

Asian gypsy moth – a *non-native* species that has not yet become established in Oregon or Washington, though small pockets of the species have been detected and treated to prevent its spread and establishment. Related to the European gypsy moth that has been responsible for extensive damage of hardwood forests in the East, the Asian variety has much more potential to be a threat to the West Coast because it can also feed on Douglas-fir. This spring several hundred acres were treated in the Portland-Vancouver area to eliminate a small population believed to have entered from shipping traffic.

Next month – Part 3 of this Forest Health Conference series will cover **forest tree diseases**. Other future topics will include: wildlife, storm, fire, and drought damage (Part 4), and management issues, barriers, and resiliency (Part 5)



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Ecological Forestry 101: Intro to Silviculture & Wildlife Habitat (<http://ecological-forestry-or.eventbrite.com>) McMinnville, OR: Saturday, June 4, 2016

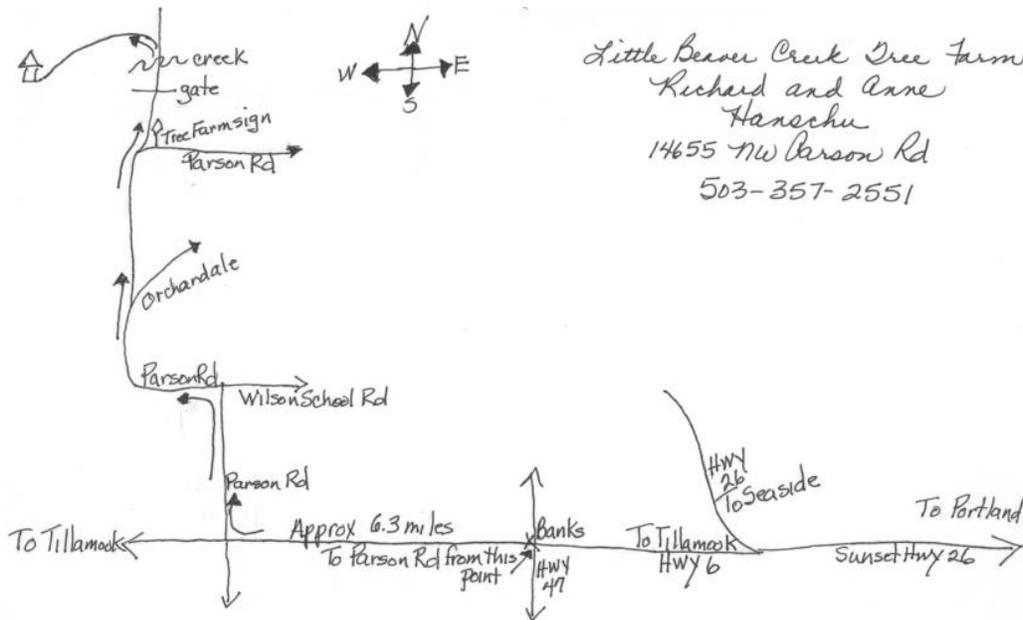
Many forest owners in the Pacific Northwest are interested in maintaining forests that provide a broad range of economic and ecological values. This workshop will introduce you to the principles of ecological forestry as well as tools to implement it successfully on smaller parcels. Topics include: Forest dynamics, forest health, young stand management, uneven-aged management, hardwood management, maintaining & enhancing wildlife, habitat, and much more!



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Directions: Hanschu's Little Beaver Creek Tree Farm and WCSWA Potluck



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Family forestland owners Dale Cuyler and Brenda Woodard.

DNA Convicts Timber Thieves

DNA profiling technique has helped the U.S. government to convict timber thieves involved in a landmark case. Four suspects pleaded guilty for illegally taking away Bigleaf maple wood in the Gifford Pinchot National Forest.

What made the case monumental is the fact that it is the first instance the U.S. government summoned a party for unlawful interstate commerce of wooden goods under the Lacey Act. The Lacey Act was created in 1900 to prosecute illegal traffickers of wildlife materials, and amended in 2008 to include plants and plant products such as timber and paper.

The technique was developed by the forest DNA forensics team at the University of Adelaide in Australia. Australian researchers came up with a method for creating DNA markers for the Bigleaf maple. They collaborated with the U.S. Forest Service, World Resources Institute and timber-monitoring experts from the Double Helix Tracking Technologies. Together, these teams created the world's first DNA profiling resource index for the said wood species. Their work is recognized to be the only technique that has been verified for court use.



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LEED Change a Boon to Forest Industry and Small Woodland Owners *Forests@Markets, April/May, 2016*

U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) recently initiated significant certification changes that will have an extensive, positive impact on America's forest products industry as well as private forest ownership. The USGBC, the governing body for the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) green building rating and certification structure, announced that it will officially recognize wood and paper certified under the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) and other programs affiliated with the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC) within its LEED building standard. The goal of this new pilot Alternative Compliance Path (ACP) is to encourage environmentally responsible forest management and eliminate illegal wood from the building materials supply chain. The new LEED credit structure will encourage builders to use wood from all credible certification systems operating in the US, including the American Tree Farm System (ATFS), SFI and the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC).

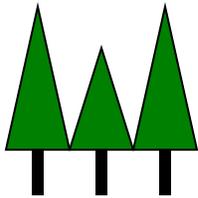
Responding to the news, Tom Martin, president and CEO of the American Forest Foundation (AFF) said, "This is a milestone for family woodland owners, Tree Farmers, and forest conservation in America. Family landowners are a critical group of individuals that steward our forests, providing local sustainable wood fiber while also conserving clean water and air, wildlife habitat, and ensuring the overall health of our forests." The ATFS certification, which is run by AFF, is celebrating its 75th anniversary this year and supports nearly 80,000 Tree Farmers in sustainably managing more than 21 million acres of forest. Private timberland owners voluntarily maintain sustainability and conservation efforts and protect clean water and wildlife habitats on their properties. Family landowners make up the largest forest ownership group in the US, collectively owning more than one-third of the forests across the country—more than the federal government or corporations.

"Markets for wood products help us conserve our forests," noted Dr. Salem Saloon, ATFS member from Brewton, Alabama. "We as landowners have annual costs for management and taxes. Markets that want sustainably managed wood encourage landowners to earn income to replant, restore and keep forests as forests. This recognition could have a real impact in the marketplace as some estimate that half the commercial buildings in the U.S. are being built to a green standard today."

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Forest Forum



COUNTY CHAPTER OF THE
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Potpourri

New Members: Welcome to new member **Edward Vaisbort** of Wilsonville. 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.

Amy Grotta, the Oregon State Extension Forester for Columbia, Washington, and Yamhill Counties, is undergoing medical treatment and will be on leave for the next few weeks. Brandy Saffell, the Education Program Coordinator who works with Amy will be filling in for her while she is gone. Brandy reports that Amy's treatments are progressing well.

Not Interested in the WCSWA Potluck? There is an option – a public meeting on the new Chehalem Ridge Nature Park master plan.:

Join Metro on May 17 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Forest Grove High School, 1401 Nichols Lane, Forest Grove, OR 97116, for a presentation and opportunity to share your ideas with the Chehalem Ridge Nature Park planning team. Come out with your neighbors, friends and family (kids welcome), have a slice of pie and cup of coffee on us, and shape the future of the next nature park near you.

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>