

Oregon Small Woodland Association -Yamhill Chapter

September/October 2020



Hal and Elin Hagglund Stepping Down

Here it is October already! This has been a year I think we all will remember! We have had to accept many challenges and changes. Meetings were canceled, we missed out on some great get-togethers, and the greatest loss for many has been the devastating fires. We empathize with those who have suffered loss. It brings new urgency to those meetings stressing fire safety for our forests and homes.

There are still opportunities to stay connected if you have internet access. Go to www.knowyourforest.org or www.oswa.org to check out upcoming webinars, etc. And we can still get out in the woods. It is time to get ready for the rains. Check your culverts, water bars, etc.

Another change this year is that I am stepping down as president of Yamhill Chapter Small Woodlands Association. I have enjoyed meeting so many of you and the activities we shared. OSWA relies on volunteers, and we have a great group in Yamhill County. My special thanks to our county board members who put together our meetings, tours, outreach, and this newsletter! ***As most of you know we are all deeply indebted to my wife Elin, who does so much behind the scenes.*** I could not have otherwise served as president. But it is time to pass the baton.

Darcy Davis has joined the board and agreed to serve as co-president with current board member Nicole Wood. Many thanks!! You will enjoy this enthusiastic, hardworking duo, especially when things open up again.

A reminder - we need MORE MEMBERS. Ask your woodland friends and neighbors to join and reap the many benefits of membership with us as our organization moves forward.

Again, sincerest thanks for your support and participation. Wood is good!

Hal Hagglund

“I go to nature to be soothed and healed, and to have my senses put in order.”-John Burroughs

Contacts:

President: Darcy Davis
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Vice President: Mike Barnes (State Vice-President)
mbarnes@viclink.com

Secretary: Leonard Rydell
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Treasurer: Ken Nygren (State President)
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Web Master: Bill Spurling
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Other Board Members:

Terry Lane
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Dan Upton
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Susan Watkins
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Nicole Wood (Co-Chapter-President, & State President Elect)
cola@oregon.com

Committees:

-Membership: Bill Spurling
-Outreach (Newsletter): Bill Spurling, Susan Watkins, Nicole Wood
-Budget: Larry Stevens
-Merchandise: Terry Lane
-Legislature: Volunteer needed.
-Door Prizes: Volunteer needed.
-Meeting Snacks: Volunteer

Website:

State website: www.oswa.org
Chapter website:
<https://www.oswa.org/blog/yamhill/>

Incoming President: Darcy Davis

Hello friends, family, and new acquaintances that belong to the Yamhill Chapter of Oregon Small Woodlands Association. On September 24, Nicole Wood called me and asked if I would consider being co-presidents of our OSWA chapter. After a brief conversation, she assured me that our Board works well together and that between the two of us we could make this work. The next day the Board voted us in and here we are.



To be honest, I was content to let Hal & Elin Hagglund lead our chapter and offer my support from the back of the room. That being said, I love Hal and Elin's leadership style and am grateful they have offered to be our mentors. I feel like we are in good hands.

A brief history – I was raised on a 400-acre timber property west of Yamhill. Growing up we did lots of group projects – firewood, tree planting, and working on my dad's sawmill to name a few. When the boys left home, Darla and I became Dad's logging crew. He gave us the opportunity to run chainsaws, set chokers, yard logs with the skidder, and sell firewood. Living in the country wasn't all work, we also got to ride horses, explore deer trails, identify plants and animals, and enjoy family gatherings. We learned to appreciate nature, love trees, and solve problems.

My husband and I did not stray far from our roots living in Carlton, Gaston and then returning to Yamhill. We both come from large families that have a history of working the land – we spent a lot of time on his grandparent's cattle ranch and my mom's side of the family were/are loggers and equipment operators. We consider ourselves fortunate that we were able to raise our three children in the country - teaching them the responsibilities associated with owning animals, the benefits of knowing how to drive tractors and pull trailers, and foster in them the importance of hard work. We have six grandchildren. Twins are a thing – both my husband and I are twins, and we have two sets of boy/girl grandchildren.

In 2008, Don and I purchased the thirty-acre home place from my mom and share it with her today (she still owns the other 370 acres). In twelve years, we have had three small harvests to remove sick and dying trees. My primary interest in becoming active in OSWA was to learn how to take care of my forest. I have learned that OSWA provides more than just classes on tree health – the presenters are diverse, and the information shared beneficial. They also lobby for issues and initiatives that affect us as timber owners, and OSWA partners with other forestry centered organizations to promote the long-term health of our forests.



Our challenge moving forward is to stay connected, grow our organization, and stay abreast of current forestry concerns. The recent fires have reiterated the need for forest management and how quickly things can change. My hope is that as we network and pull together, we will thrive in the coming years.

Looking forward,

Darcy Davis

Oregon Wildfires – By Dan Upton

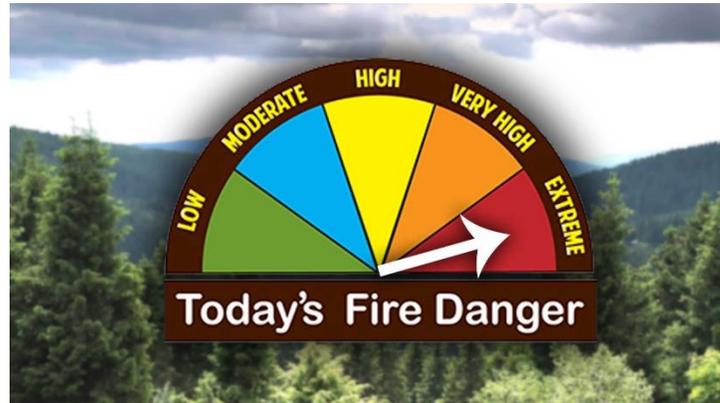
Historical Wildfires:

Western Oregon has a history of wildfire. The most memorable fires based on acres burned range in time from the 1776 Coos County Millicoma Fire at 200,000 acres thru the 2002 Josephine County Biscuit fire at 500,000 acres.

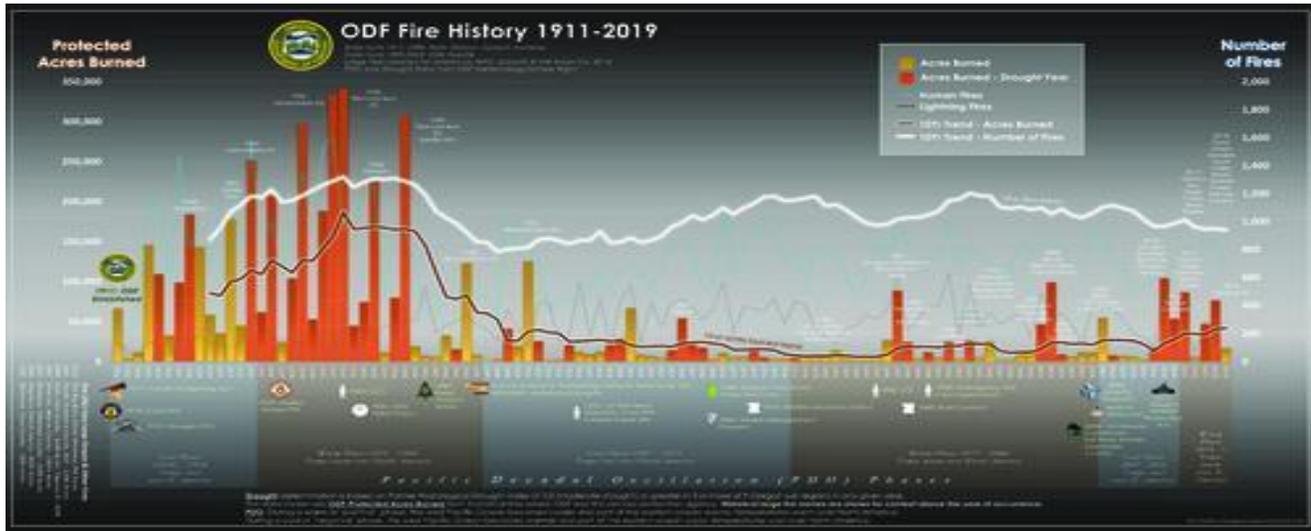
The Yacolt Burn in August 1910 burned 500,000 acres.

The Tillamook Burn from 1933-1951 burned 355,000 acres. Fires started every 6 years leading to the term of the six-year jinx. 13.1 billion board feet burned. 7.5 billion board feet were salvage logged.

Currently the Labor Day fires in Western Oregon and Southern Oregon resulted in a total of one million acres burned with many homes and buildings lost. Historically, September is the driest month of the year.



All these fires had the common denominators of dry fuels resulting from low humidity and strong, dry winds.



Graph from: <https://digital.osl.state.or.us/islandora/object/osl:938188>

There are indications average temperatures are rising with the implication fires will occur more frequently and may exhibit increased intensity when burning. Fuels dry out quicker, stay dry longer and burn hotter, increasing the risk of fire for residents who live in wooded areas.

How to Prepare:

- In the woodlands, develop and maintain a useable road system.
- Create water supplies where possible.
- Annually, test fire pumps and inspect fire equipment including fire hose and hand tools.



Contacts:

Keep phone numbers handy for your county rural fire department and the Oregon State Forestry office in your area.

Defensible Space:

With an increased risk of damage from wildfire, this is a good time for revisiting some proven suggestions for decreasing the risk from fire to homes and woodlands.

Think of your home at the center of a bullseye.

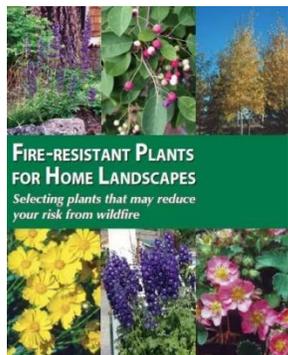
Radiating out from the center, establish three treatment zones.

Zone 1: 0'-5' from house:

- Use fire resistant building materials when building or remodeling/replacing siding, deck, or roof.
- Keep 0'-5' area cleaned of leaves, sticks, and remove plants.

Zone 2: 5'-30' from house:

- Lawn grass 4" high or less promotes low flame heights.
- Walks and driveways are good for interrupting fire spread.
- tree limbs up to 6' above the ground.
- Stack firewood 30' from the home, preferably uphill from the home or buildings.
- Remove flammable plants & replace with fire resistant species.



Fire Resistant Plants: <https://catalog.extension.oregonstate.edu/pnw590>

Zone 3: 30'-100' from the house: Zone 3 is first line of defense for approaching fire.

- Prune all trees up 10' from the ground for reducing ladder fuels.
- Space planted trees 10' apart.
- Conduct pre-commercial thinning or commercial thinning for maintaining adequate spacing between trees to help minimize the rate of fire spread.
- Remove slash piles and brush.



Access:

- Make sure your address is well marked.
- Roads/driveway need turnouts or turnarounds for large fire trucks.
- Develop and practice an evacuation plan. Have it ready & rehearsed.
- Coordinate evacuation plans with your neighbors.

Resources: Especially for fire damage:

- ***Oregon Department of Forestry:** Timber salvage/replanting as well as other recovery programs. <https://www.oregon.gov/odf/Pages/index.aspx> or <https://www.wildfire.oregon.gov>
- ***Keep Oregon Green:** <https://keeporegongreen.org/prevent-wildfires/at-home/>
- ***Oregon Forest Resource Institute:** <https://oregonforests.org/>

And, as my friend Dave Bateman used to say, service something...



Join Oregon Season Tracker: Contributing to Community-based Science

Do you like being outdoors and the idea of contributing to scientific research? If so, become a community-based citizen scientist volunteer with the OSU Extension *Oregon Season Tracker Program* that connects local community volunteers with state and national researchers studying weather and the effects on native plant vegetation.

*We train volunteers to collect and report local data (right from your home and woodlands) on precipitation and seasonal plant changes using simple protocols and low-cost equipment.

***Order a CoCoRaHS-approved rain gauge (approx. \$35)**

*Data collected is reported online to be archived and shared with researchers at OSU and across the country

*Fall is the start of the new water year and a great time to join.

***Free Online Self-Paced Training:** fall 2020 (self-paced open September through November) Approximately 2 hours.

Optional Zoom Sessions (attend one):

Date: Thursday, October 29, 2020

Time: 6 pm – 7 pm

Or

Date: Tuesday, November 17, 2020

Time: 2 pm – 3 pm

To register go to the OSU Extension Oregon Season Tracker website:

<https://extension.oregonstate.edu/ost>

For more information:

jody.einerson@oregonstate.edu or call

541-713-5014

Yes! There Still is Joy to be Found -By Mike Barnes

Julie and I were sitting at home one evening recently and we heard a cricket begin to make his noise. We have crickets each evening this time of year but this one was singing to us from inside. I discovered the sound came from behind the microwave. Julie said I should leave him alone so he could sing to us each night as we went to bed. He is very loud, and I suppose sometime soon his sound will be silenced. For now, he will sing a cheerful sound of joy to us.

As the grandfather of 24 grand kids it seems I receive considerable joy from those young people. Eli is 8 years old and has a very tender heart and loves the little creatures around him. He has some pet roly-polies, a pet hermit crab and recently he caught a dragon fly. He held it by the tail and was amazed at how fast his wings moved. He said he wanted to tie a string around its long tail and keep it for a pet. His mother convinced him that would not work so he watched as it joined its dragonfly friends.

During our campout at the cabin and tent spaces in the forest here at home we welcomed 5 of our children, spouses, and many grandchildren. During one afternoon we took a group of the kids to a fellow Yamhill Chapter member's (Dave Heida) home close by. Dave is an avid rock collector and works magic in his shop with the rocks he collects. He taught the kids about various rocks, where they are found and how he cuts and polishes them. The highlight of the visit was when he turned the kids loose in his vast rock collection near his home. He told each kid to collect a rock to keep. They would bring the rock to "Uncle Dave" and he would describe the rock and the wonder that was within each rock. I am sure some rockhounds were born that day.

OSWA-Yamhill Chapter
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LeLand Payne: Tree Farmer of the Year Video and Neighbor to Neighbor WebEx Tour

Look for the postcard and email with the date and time of the WebEx!!!

Expected Date will be in NOVEMBER!

LeLand Payne was selected for 2020 Tree Farmer of the Year, representing Yamhill County.

Due to Covid19, he was unable to host an in-person tour. OSWA has been working with LeLand in effort to create two videos. The Tree Farmer of the Year video is a standard video that is created each year for the honored recipient. This typically is a five-minute video.

The Neighbor to neighbor WebEx will be a virtual tour. During this tour, LeLand will be sharing his vision for his 111 acres. He will share recent actions that have been taking place on his property. The focus of his tour video is on seedling planting all the way through a clear-cut harvest, with logging action footage. The other main topic of his video is regarding culvert replacement. Three culverts have been replaced this season on LeLand's property. There will be action footage of a four-foot culvert being replaced with a 9.5-foot culvert. LeLand collaborated with multiple agencies to ensure he was compliant with updated regulations and maintained his level of integrity for his property.

Organizations that will be present for the WebEx are Oregon Department of Forestry, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Greater Yamhill Watershed Counsel, Laughlin Logging, Weyerhaeuser, and OSU Extension agent, Brad Withrow-Robinson.

Don't Miss IT!!!