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Bulletin

Monthly meetings of groups and organizations will be published the last week of each month for the following month's agenda. Special meetings and events can be listed FREE by sending information to: BULLETIN BOARD, River Reflections, 59059 Old McKenzie Hwy., McKenzie Bridge, OR 97413, or by calling 822-3358. All information submitted must include a contact name and phone number. Material must be received by Friday to be in next Wednesday's paper.

Planting project at river confluence

Volunteers will gather on the Willamette River at 9 am on Saturday, February 7 to plant native vegetation as part of a comprehensive, long-term restoration strategy to return the confluence of the Willamette and McKenzie rivers to its former condition.

The confluence area includes the Willamette River from Beltline Road in Eugene to where the McKenzie River enters it about four miles downstream, and up the McKenzie to the Interstate 5 bridge.

To date, restoration projects have included the construction of an alcove along the Willamette River to provide habitat for juvenile Chinook salmon and other fish, and places for western pond turtles to bask and nest.

Participants in the Confluence Project include the McKenzie Watershed Council, the area's sand and gravel industry, local citizens, area landowners and a variety of government agencies. The planting will take place on Delta Sand and Gravel property.

Take a Walk in the Park

Students at McKenzie Junior High School are hosting "A Walk in the Park," a night of food and entertainment, on Wednesday, February 11. Events during the 5 pm to 7 pm event will include a spaghetti dinner and dessert, live entertainment, a silent auction and activity booths. The cost for adults is \$5.50 each or two for \$10. Children 8 years old or younger can attend for \$1.50 each. Tickets are on sale at the high school and elementary school offices as well as at several local supporting businesses.

Geologist to discuss Experimental Forest

Guest speaker Fred Swanson will discuss some of the research projects at the H.J. Andrews Experimental Forest and their importance to the future of the McKenzie River watershed at the next meeting of the McKenzie Watershed Council. The meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 12, from 5:30 to 8:15 pm, in the EWEB Training Room in Eugene. Members of the public are invited to attend.

A research geologist with the U.S. Forest Service at the Pacific Northwest Research Station in Corvallis, Swanson has been affiliated with the H.J. Andrews Experimental Forest, located near Blue River, for more than 30 years. He will discuss a variety of subjects affecting the watershed including hydrology, geology and landscape management studies aimed at managing forests to emulate natural pro-

cesses, such as fire, that create and maintain them.

"The idea," said Swanson, "is to blend resource extraction and environmental protection using historic disturbance regimes as a guide to management."

A variety of watershed council business will also be conducted at the meeting.

Learn about Christmas trees at workshop

The Pacific Northwest Christmas Tree Association (PNWCTA) will hold their annual Short Course Friday, February 27, at the Embassy Suites Hotel at the Portland Airport.

This year's program will appeal to anyone involved in the Christmas tree industry. Attendees will learn about Christmas tree research around the globe, the impact of regional regulatory issues for Northwest growers and the results of the Wirthlin Worldwide Survey. Also included in the program will be a session on legal issues to consider as an ag employer, what's happening with mite control and much more.

Members attending selected sessions will receive credit hours toward their Oregon or Washington pesticide applicator license.

Those interested or involved in the Christmas tree industry are invited to attend. For more information on PNWCTA membership or Short Course registration contact the Association office in Salem at (503) 364-2942.

All day garden workshop

Home gardeners with a little or a lot of experience can pick up practical pointers to make gardening easier at the annual "Insights into Gardening" workshop on Saturday, Feb. 28, at Oregon State University.

The day-long event, sponsored by the Benton County office of the OSU Extension Service and the Benton County Master Gardeners, will feature an array of gardening classes, demonstrations, displays and an on-site OSU bookstore from 8 am to 3 pm with a 10 percent discount on all books. The workshop will be held in OSU's LaSells Stewart Center.

Registration is \$15. Those registered may enroll in two of the classes listed below. Class space is limited and registration is first-come, first-served. Registrants must choose one class in each of three sessions during the day:

At 9 am, the sessions include: "Edibles in the Landscape," "The Uncommon Rose," and "Garden Structures."

Sessions at 10:45 am include "Four Season Gardening," "Berries You May Not Have Thought of Growing," and "Organic Soil, Plant Fertility and Disease Control."

At 1 pm, sessions include "Raised Beds: Extending the Season," "All About Bulbs" and "What Went Wrong? Diagnosis in the Garden."

The Native Plant Society, The Audubon Society, the OSU Extension Service, and many local nurseries and educational groups will have informative displays up for the entire workshop. Displays will include information on bats, bees and butterflies, well water testing, bonsai trees, container gardening, civic beautification and tree raffle, wildlife stewardship and rock gardening.

Registration and further information is available on the web at: <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/benton/>. Or pick up a registration flyer at selected Benton County nurseries, garden suppliers, the Benton County Extension office in Corvallis (541-766-6750) or the Corvallis-Benton County Public Library.