

Oregon Tilth Organic Land Care Training and Accreditation
Clackamas Community College
January 23 – 27, 2012

1/23/12

8:15 - 8:45am Continental Breakfast/Networking

8:45 - 9:00am Introduction to Oregon Tilth Accredited Organic Land Care , David Alba

This presentation includes an introduction to Oregon Tilth, a brief history of Organic Land Care and an overview of Organic Land Care accreditation. Accreditation is offered to all individuals who attend the annual 5-Day Oregon Tilth Accredited Organic Land Care Training, pass the OLC examination, and agree to abide by the program requirements and standards. Accreditation may be renewed in two- year increments through twelve (12) hours of continuing education and a biennial renewal fee of \$175.

David is the Oregon Tilth Accredited Organic Land Care Program Manager.

9:00 – 10:30am Keynote Presentation: The Soil Food Web, Jeff Lowenfels

Healthy soil is the foundation of Organic Land Care. This presentation will relate the importance of the soil food web and offer a glimpse into the complex and diverse world of soil-dwelling organisms. Jeff will show how organic soil practices cultivate and strengthen the soil food web, which in turn, nurtures healthy, vigorous plants.

Jeff is an award-winning garden writer, international leader in the soil food web movement and author of "Teaming with Microbes, A Gardener's Guide to The Soil Food Web." His weekly gardening column has run in the Anchorage Daily News for over 35 years. He is the former president of the Garden Writers of America, was made a GWA Fellow in 1999 and was inducted into the GWA Hall of Fame, the highest honor a garden writer can achieve, in 2005. Jeff is the founder of "Plant a Row for Bean's," a soup kitchen in Anchorage, which is now a national program, "Plant A Row for The Hungry." Jeff is also a lawyer, which in combination with garden writing, has earned him the moniker of "America's Dirtiest Lawyer."

10:45 – 12noon Ecology-based Landscapes and Native Plants, Rick Martinson

The planning, design, installation, and maintenance of created landscapes based in ecological principles drastically reduces the need for artificial inputs, substantially reduces water use and provides ecological services not normally associated with more conventional landscapes. This lecture will provide general concepts, issues, concerns, and benefits of ecology based landscapes, discuss application of these techniques to LEED, Earth Advantage, and Living Building certification and present case studies from ten years of experience by the speaker.

Rick's background in plant ecology and environmental management spans over twenty years. His experiences range from working as a botanist for potential Wilderness Area studies under RARE II in the Northwest, to leading a team studying human impacts on presettlement conditions and completing studies as an ecologist for Wild & Scenic River analyses in the upper Midwest. Rick designs and installs award-winning landscapes focused on ecological principles and resource conservation. Rick is president of WinterCreek Restoration in Eastern Oregon, which specializes in native landscapes and restoration.

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12:00- 1:00pm Lunch

1:00 – 2:30pm Sustainable Parks Information Network, Josh Vincent

This presentation will review the Northwest Coalition for Alternatives to Pesticides' (NCAP) recent work on the Sustainable Parks Information Network, an online peer-to-peer community designed for professional collaboration on IPM topics.

Josh is an organizer with NCAP's Pesticide-Free-Places campaign, a program that seeks to advance urban IPM strategies for use in public parks, as well as low-income housing and schools.

2:45 – 3:00pm Introductions: Name, Business or Association, Reason for Participating.

3:00 – 5:00pm Organic Arbor Care, Suzanne Spencer

This presentation will focus on aspects of organic tree care, including planting, pruning, mulching, selection, pests and disease, and weed management. This class will involve outdoor observations.

Suzanne is an Oregon Tilth Accredited Organic Land Care Practitioner, an ISA Certified Arborist and co-owner of Northwest Nativescapes. Suzie majored in Sociology and Anthropology at Lewis and Clark in Portland. She has a degree in horticulture and is currently working to bring a portion of the Lewis and Clark College campus under the Oregon Tilth Organic Land Care Program.

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8:45 – 12noon Organic Weed Control and Integrated Pest Management, Weston Miller

Sponsored by Metro Natural Gardening Program, this presentation will focus on the application of Integrated Pest Management to common pest problems in the Northwest and how to advise clients on practical management options using practices and products approved by the National Organic Program, with particular focus on organic weed control techniques. Learn to use Oregon State University and other research-based information to help diagnose and find answers to pest and disease problems.

Weston serves as Community and Urban Horticulture Faculty for OSU Extension Service in the Portland metro area. He has a wealth of landscape experience, from design to maintenance in both commercial and residential settings.

1:00-2:30pm Designing the Organic Landscape, Vanessa Nagel

Vanessa, author of Understanding Garden Design and owner of Seasons Garden Design LLC in Vancouver, Washington, is an award-winning, eco-conscious garden designer with thirty years experience in, initially interior design, and then landscape design. She is APLD (Association of Professional Landscape Designers)-certified and NCIDQ (National Council for Interior Design Qualification)-certified. Vanessa is a professional member of the Oregon and Washington Chapters of APLD, a member of APLD's international board, and Garden Design Magazine' Advisory Board.

2:45 – 4:00pm Storm Water Management, Dawn Hottenroth

This presentation will cover the basics of storm water management, including rain gardens, bio-retention, and the pollution prevention. Presentation includes discussion of the environmental impact of pesticides and chemical fertilizers that enter water systems.

Dawn is an Environmental Policy analyst for the City of Portland Bureau of Environmental Services and the chair for the Landscape Services Ecological Business Program. She has worked as a stormwater professional for over 18 years and has a degree in Environmental Health and a minor in geography from San Diego State University. She holds a variety of certifications for hazardous waste operations, is a professional in erosion control and stormwater quality and began her career as a registered health sanitarian for Multnomah County. Dawn has implemented a variety of on-site stormwater management projects and is a founding member of the Pollution Prevention Outreach Team who developed the EcoBiz program.

4:00 – 5:00pm Watershed Protection: The Tabor to River Program, Anne Nelson

The Tabor to the River Program is a large scale urban watershed improvement project that is installing 500 sustainable stormwater facilities, 3,500 street trees and 81,000 linear feet of pipe, along with 100 stormwater facilities on private property. The Tabor to the River project area

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extends from the Willamette River to Mt. Tabor between SE Hawthorne and SE Powell boulevards, and covers about 2.3 square miles. This project is also removing invasive plants in key natural areas and is working closely with the community in all aspects of this work.

Anne is an Environmental Program Coordinator with the City of Portland Bureau of Environmental Services. Her work focuses on linking watershed health, policy development, community initiatives and research to help implement the Portland Watershed Management Plan. Anne developed and leads the outreach and education strategy of the Tabor to the River Program.

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8:15 - 8:45am Continental Breakfast/Networking

8:45-12:00pm Organic Foundations, Jim Toler

Soil health is the primary focus in Organic Land Care. This presentation will focus on soil biology and fertility, including a discussion of progressional soils, soil testing, and soil inputs.

Jim, an Oregon Tilth Accredited Organic Land Care Practitioner, founded Willamette Organics in 2003 to serve the farming and landscape industries and has been instrumental in helping Oregon Tilth develop the Accredited Organic Land Care program. He has attended the Northeast Organic Farming Association's organic land care training and wrote the initial draft for the Oregon Tilth Organic Land Care Policies and Standards. He lives on a small historic farm in the Willamette Valley with his wife Erika where they raise chickens, sheep, milk goats and horses.

12:00- 1:00pm Lunch

1:00-2:00pm Stormwater Management Using Permeable Pavers, Gale Schroeder

This presentation will provide a general overview of engineering, installation, cost and maintenance of permeable interlocking concrete pavers used in permeable paver street, cul-de-sac and driveway construction.

Gale is a Architectural Sales Representative at Willamette Graystone.

2:00 – 3:30pm Organic Land Care Products and Information Tabling Event

3:45 – 5:00pm Edible Landscaping: A Permaculture Approach, Karen Wolfgang

This presentation will focus on permaculture-based design of functional, aesthetically pleasing edible landscapes, as well as tips and tricks for integrating edibles into existing plantings. Specific topics will include site assessment, client engagement, plant selection and care, and problem-solving. Several case studies will also be shared.

Karen, owner and project coordinator at Independence Gardens, LLC, is a Portland, Oregon native. She earned a BA in Anthropology and Environmental Studies from Princeton University and received her MA in Educational Leadership with a specialization in Leadership in Ecology, Culture, and Learning at Portland State University. Karen is certified in Permaculture Design; she sees her business as a prime opportunity to connect to and strengthen relationships with individuals and organizations in the greater Portland area.

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8:45am- 12noon IPM in the Landscape and Nursery, Carrie Foss

Managing pests with an integrated approach will be explained, including a description of techniques with examples of when they are used. Accurate diagnosis of plant problems is essential to achieve effective pest management and reduce pesticide misapplications. The systematic approach to plant problem diagnosis will be covered in a lecture and a hands-on workshop. Participants will practice using microscopes, hand lenses and references and the diagnostic approach to determine the causes of many common and uncommon plant problems. IPM strategies that work well for common problems in the Pacific Northwest will be discussed. Presentation will not contain any specific pesticide product or active ingredient information.

Carrie is the Urban IPM Coordinator at WSU Puyallup. Carrie manages the WSU Urban IPM and Pesticide Safety Education Program in western Washington. She recently provided the leadership for construction of the Structural Pest IPM Training Facility where structural pest inspectors and pest managers will learn hands-on about inspecting and managing wood-destroying organisms and other indoor pests. Carrie also works with landscape and turf professionals, teaching them about integrated pest management, plant problem diagnosis, environmental protection and personal safety. Carrie earned a Bachelor of Science degree in botany from the University of Washington and a Master of Science degree in plant pathology from the University of Hawaii. Her background includes plant problem diagnosis, research on beneficial microorganisms and management strategies for turf and ornamental diseases.

12:00- 1:00pm Lunch

1:00 - 5:00pm IPM in the Landscape and Nursery, Carrie Foss (Continued)

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8:45- 11:00am Transitioning to Organics - Willamette University, Mickey Cochrane, Dean Wentworth and Jim Andersen

Willamette University has been managing its landscapes organically for almost five years now. In this presentation, we will hear about the successes in organic management on the campus.

Mickey Cochrane is a groundskeeper at Willamette University in Salem. He is also an Oregon Tilth Accredited Organic Land Care practitioner.

11:00 – 12noon Market Opportunities for Sustainable Landscaping, David Alba

Current industry trends indicate a rise in demand for sustainable landscaping. Also, the organic sector is growing steadily, even amidst a weak, national economy. This presentation will focus on how landscape professionals can utilize specific marketing tools to take advantage of these trends and convince consumers that sustainable landscapes are safe, beautiful and affordable.

David is the Oregon Tilth Accredited Organic Land Care Program Manager. He coordinates organic land care trainings for landscape professionals and manages the accreditation program. In 2009, he helped edit and publish the Oregon Tilth Organic Land Care Field Guide and the Oregon Tilth Organic Land Care Policies and Standards. David has 20 years experience in organic horticulture, specifically in the areas of horticultural therapy, small farm management, and restoration.

12:00- 1:00pm Lunch

1:00 – 2:30pm Considering Function and Embodied Energy, David Barmon

This presentation will focus on sustainable landscape practices, including making decisions based on the embodied energy of a product or practice and working to make landscapes serve social and ecological functions in the urban environment. David will speak about how he makes decisions to affect greater sustainability and relate his experiences creating landscapes that focus on food production, health and nutrition education and cultural heritage.

David, co-owner of Fiddlehead Landscape Design and Installation, is drawn to permaculture's philosophy of interconnectedness and intuitive nature and is interested in Northwest native plants and their ethnobotanical uses. David is a Portland Food Policy Council member where he has been able to help city and county representatives realize goals for urban food production.

2:30 - 2:45pm Closing Summary

3:00 - 5:00pm Accreditation Examination