

# A WORD OF WARNING

*Beware the shining geranium*

A small but perniciously invasive plant is headed to a yard near you. And trust me, this is not a plant you want in your own garden. One yard in my neighborhood (planted with natives, ironically) is currently blanketed with a near-continuous sheet of shining geranium's glossy, bright green leaves.

Around 1989, Tom LoCascio, site manager at Mount Pisgah Arboretum, collected a plant specimen near Buford Park that was later identified by David Wagner (botanist, and writer and artist of *EW*'s "It's About Time" column) as *Geranium lucidum*.

Within six years this plant was showing up elsewhere around Mount Pisgah and in other places throughout the state, and it was soon placed on the Oregon invasive species list.

According to Emily Steel of Parks Planning and Ecological Services, one of the first patches found locally by Eugene city staff was on Mount Baldy in 2005, and the plant was probably already established near a tractor shed at Hendricks Park by the early 2000s. Just a decade or so later it was found displacing other plants in many local parks and open spaces, and also in gardens.

*Geranium lucidum*, commonly known as shining geranium or shiny geranium, is a small, inoffensive-looking annual weed that appears after fall rains in a broad range of habitats. It can even grow where there is little or no soil — almost any substance that retains some moisture is good enough.

The roundish, glossy, bright-green leaves with scalloped edges are about an inch across. In winter the plants are close to the ground but they grow quickly, producing tiny, bright-pink flowers in April or May on branching stems that may reach 20 inches. Both the slender leaf stems and the brittle flowering stems are often red. Towards the end of the plant's life cycle, the red stems can make dense colonies conspicuous even from a distance.

A single shining geranium plant can produce hundreds of seeds that its explosive capsules will shoot up to 20 feet. Thus a single plant can colonize a substantial area in one season.

Once shining geranium sneaks into a new area, it starts displacing whatever non-woody plants grew there before with such efficiency that some people suspect that it may be allelopathic, defined as the chemical inhibition of one plant by another through the release of substances that inhibit growth or germination.



**SHINING GERANIUM  
GERANIUM LUCIDUM**

The seeds can be passively carried much farther than 20 feet: on the clothing and footwear of people, the feet and fur of pets and wild animals, and also on vehicles and machinery.

If you like to hike or bike anywhere in Lane County or, for that matter, anywhere in western Oregon, California or Washington, the chances are you'll eventually bring shining geranium home. And if you allow it to proliferate on your property, you can spread it to new territory yourself.

Staff at Hendricks Park and Mount Pisgah as well as several conservation agencies have tried many methods of control without coming close to eliminating shining geranium or even slowing its spread. Ed Alverson, natural areas coordinator for Lane County Parks, says, "It is pretty universally agreed that it is way beyond the possibility of eradication from the region."

Efforts are now usually directed to removing small new colonies, treating infestations that threaten rare plants and treating areas adjacent to trails, parking lots and roadsides from which *Geranium lucidum* could easily be spread by visitors.

At Hendricks Park, a valiant effort is ongoing to prevent shining geranium getting established in the forest. Visitors to the park can help by cleaning their footwear, sticking to trails and keeping dogs on leash. Learn to identify this plant, and avoid walking through the areas where it grows. If you want to know what it looks like, take a look at the area around the rock restrooms on Fairmount and across the road, west of the picnic area.

One piece of good news for gardeners: It appears that certain organic methods are as effective as glyphosate (aka Roundup) at knocking back small patches of shining geranium. The best control is digging out any and all plants, roots and all. Repeated flaming works. In one study, vinegar and hot water (1:2) reduced infestations by 99 percent. The bad news is that any method of control must be repeated several times a year. And, of course, if there are other populations nearby, you can never let down your guard. ■

*Rachel Foster lives and gardens in Eugene. There is an excellent U.S. Fish and Wildlife report on shining geranium you can find by searching online for "Summary of Biology and Control Methods in the Pacific Northwest for Geranium Lucidum."*

## CLASSIFIEDS

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### BULLETIN BOARD

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**INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY EVENT** sponsored by Sophia Sanctuary, Sat. March 10, 9:30a - 5p, Garden Club, 1645 High Street. Admission: \$13+ donations welcome. Open to those who gender identify as women.

#### Pets

**GREENHILL HUMANE SOCIETY** Everybody Deserves a Good Home. Open Fr-Tu 11a-6p, closed We/Th. 88530 Green Hill Rd 541-689-1503 and 1st Avenue Shelter open Tu-Fr 10a-6p & Sa 10a-5:30p, closed Su/Mo. 3970 W. 1st Ave 541-844-1777. [greenhill.org](http://greenhill.org) See our Pet of the Week!

**SHELTER ANIMAL RESOURCE ALLIANCE** S.A.R.A.'s Treasures Gift & Thrift Shop. Volunteer, Donate, Shop, **ADOPT!** 871 River Road, Open Daily 10am-6pm. 541-607-8892 [saratreasures.org](http://saratreasures.org) **LOOK FOR THIS WEEK'S RESCUED CAT.**

### FOR SALE

#### Lawn & Garden

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### RENTALS

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**SEEK HOME.** Willing to caretake, rent or buy. Rock hound with 5 cats. Starting July. John: 541-344-3953.

### LEGAL NOTICES

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR LANE COUNTY CASE NO. 17PB09444 NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS** in the matter of the Estate of Gregory Frank Sale, Deceased. **NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the undersigned has qualified and has been appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate. All persons having claims against the estate are hereby required to present them, with proper vouchers, within four months after the date of first publication of this notice, as stated below, to the Personal Representative at 836 W. Military, Suite #206, Roseburg, OR 97471, or the claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings of this estate may obtain additional information from the records of the Court, the Personal Representative, or the

attorney for the Personal Representative. Dated and first published this 1st day of March, 2018. **PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE:** Sandy K. Bratton. **ATTORNEY FOR PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE:** Randy C. Rubin, OSB#991029, 836 W. Military, Suite #206, Roseburg, OR 97470, Telephone: [541] 677-7102. Pub. Dates: March 1, 8 and 15, 2018.

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR LANE COUNTY PROBATE DEPARTMENT** In the Matter of the Estate of: Patricia Ann Clinton, Deceased, Case No. 18PB00375. **INFORMATION TO INTERESTED PERSONS NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the undersigned, Donald A. Clinton, has, on January 18, 2018 been appointed Personal Representative. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them, with vouchers attached, to the Personal Representative, Donald A. Clinton, C/O James A. Palmer, Attorney at Law, 101 E. 14th Ave., Eugene, OR 97401, within four months after the date of first publication of this notice, or the claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings may obtain additional information from the records of the Court or the Personal Representative. Date and first published February 15, 2018. By Personal Representative Donald A. Clinton.

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR LANE COUNTY** Probate Department. In the Matter of the Estate of: STELLA LUCINDA HODGES, Deceased. Case No. 18PB01132 **NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS NOTICE IS GIVEN** that LaMonte Hodges has been appointed personal representative of this estate. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them, with vouchers attached, to the personal representative c/o Robert Cole Tozer, Attorney at Law, 975 Oak St., Suite 615, Eugene, OR 97401, [541] 345-0795, within four months of the date of first publication of this notice, or the claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings may obtain additional information from the records of

the court, the personal representative, or the personal representative's attorney, Robert Cole Tozer. DATED and first published February 22, 2018. Personal Representative /s/ LaMonte Hodges

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR LANE COUNTY** Probate Department. In the Matter of the Estate of: JESSE DANIEL HODGES, Deceased. Case No. 18PB01131 **NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS NOTICE IS GIVEN** that LaMonte Hodges has been appointed personal representative of this estate. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them, with vouchers attached, to the personal representative c/o Robert Cole Tozer, Attorney at Law, 975 Oak St., Suite 615, Eugene, OR 97401, [541] 345-0795, within four months of the date of first publication of this notice, or the claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings may obtain additional information from the records of the court, the personal representative, or the personal representative's attorney, Robert Cole Tozer. DATED and first published February 22, 2018. Personal Representative /s/ LaMonte Hodges

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that Janet E. O'Neal has been appointed personal representative of the Estate of Dorothy Ann McKee, Lane County Circuit Court No. 18PB00879. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them, with vouchers attached, to the undersigned personal representative at: c/o Gardner, Potter, Budge, Spickard & Cascagnette, LLC, 725 Country Club Road, Eugene, OR 97401, within four months after the date of first publication of this notice, or the claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings may obtain additional information from the records of the Court, the personal representative, or the lawyer for the personal representative. Dated and first published: February 22,

2018. Janet E. O'Neal, Personal Representative. Jennifer Klingensmith, Attorney for Personal Representative, 725 Country Club Road, Eugene, OR 97401, [541] 687-9001.

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that Rose Bullert has been appointed personal representative of the estate of Marie Coonradt, deceased, Lane County Circuit Court case number 18PB00882. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them, with vouchers attached, to the personal representative in care of Andrew M. Ross, Attorney at Law, 220 E. 11th Ave., Ste. 12B, Eugene, OR 97401, within four months after the date of first publication of this notice, or the claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings may obtain additional information from the records of the court, the personal representative, or the attorney of the personal representative, Andrew M. Ross. Dated and first published March 8, 2018.

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that Scott Logan has been appointed personal representative of the Estate of Karyn Louise Logan-Bronner [aka Karen Louise Logan-Bronner], Lane County Circuit Court No. 18PB00481. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them, with vouchers attached, to the undersigned personal representative at: c/o Gardner, Potter, Budge, Spickard & Cascagnette, LLC, 725 Country Club Road, Eugene, OR 97401, within four months after the date of first publication of this notice, or the claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings may obtain additional information from the records of the Court, the personal representative, or the lawyer for the personal representative. Dated and first published: February 22, 2018. Scott Logan, Personal Representative. Jennifer Klingensmith, Attorney for Personal Representative, 725 Country Club Road, Eugene, OR 97401, [541] 687-9001.