

Control tent caterpillars early

An unfortunate event that closely follows the appearance of new leaves or ornamental trees and shrubs each spring is the appearance of tent caterpillars.

They are commonly found on fruit trees, rose bushes, willows, cottonwoods, birches, alders and other ornamentals.

These pest feed on leaves and can be a serious problem in unsprayed orchards and in ornamental trees that don't receive regular spray program. At their worst, tent caterpillars are capable of completely stripping a tree of its leaves. Although this won't kill the tree, it makes it

more susceptible to damage from diseases.

Currently, serious infestations of tent caterpillars have been reported in some areas of western Washington.

Because tent caterpillars are colorful insects, they are not difficult to identify. They are hairy and about one-and-a-half inches long when full grown. They have brown bodies rows of blue and yellow spots on the back.

Tent caterpillars eggs start hatching when the weather warms up in Mid-April. As they hatch, the caterpillars feed on nearby leaves and begin forming a webbing in which

they spend a great deal of time, especially at night.

During the day the caterpillars leave the web to feed on nearby leaves. As they eat the leaves close to the nest, they move farther away.

Applying control measures early is most effective because that way you'll catch most of the caterpillars near the webbing.

Tent caterpillars can be controlled by pruning or spraying with insecticides. Single nests can be cut out of a tree or shrub and burned.

If the infestation is heavy or hard to reach, spraying is the best method.

Several common insecticides are recommended. Malathion, diazinon, Orthene and Sevin are registered for use against tent caterpillars. Sevin should not be used around flowering plants because bees may carry the residue back to the hive and destroy the whole bee colony.

All these sprays are best used in the early morning or late evening when temperatures are lower and bees are less active. Evening and rly morning are also the best time to spray or prune because the caterpillars tend to congregate in the web overnight.



The Warm Springs Extension Service provides equal access to all its activities and programs.

Eraina Palmer Secretary
Joni David Program Aide
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Mollie Marsh Extension Agent
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Students attend Salem conference

Oregon 4-H members including Bridgette Scott, Roy Tulee, Lisa Briseno, Lois Tewee, Alfredine

Smith, Gabriel Sohapp recently participated in the 4-H Know Your State Government Conference held

recently in Salem. The 93 4-H delegates who participated in the conference met state

officials and learned about how the state government operates.

"The high point of the conference was meeting with our Senator Ken Jernstedt and Governor Goldschmidt," said Bridgette Scott a 4-H member from Warm Springs.

"It was exciting to practice debating issues and writing bills just like our state legislators," reported Lois Tewee from Warm Springs. "I understand the legislative hearings and the process of how a bill becomes a law so much better after this conference."

Joni David Extension 4-H/Youth aide with 4-H responsibilities reports that the Know Your State Government conference is just one of the ways 4-H members can increase their citizenship and community involvement. Many of these 4-H members are active in their communities and are working to improve the communities in which they live.

The Know Your State Government conference is a citizenship program sponsored by Oregon State University and the Extension Service.

The JOM Committee sponsored these young adults.



Spilyay Tymoo photo by Miller

Register now for camp

The Extension office is now accepting applications for 4-H camp.

"Fun in the Sun" Camp, at Roundlake, will be June 22 to 27.

Cost is \$25. 4-Hers will be taken to camp and parents must pick up their child Saturday, June 27.

Camp Morrow will be held June

23 to 27 at Camp Morrow near Wamic. Cost is \$30. 4-Hers will be taken to camp and parents must pick up their child June 27.

These camps fill very quickly. It is advised that you contact Joni David at 553-1161, ext. 238 or 239 as soon as possible.

Safe lawn mowing tips

A lawn mower can be a dangerous machine, particularly if the individual using the mower is careless.

Unsafe handling of either small lawn mowers or the larger four-wheel tractor-type mowers can result in injury to the operator, or bystander.

Treat tractor lawn mowers with the same respect you would show any four-wheel vehicle such as a car or truck.

The extension service recommends the following checklist for safer operation of both small and tractor lawn mowers.

For a safer lawn mower:
 Inspect the mower for loose nuts and bolts. Make sure all fuel line fittings are tight.

Check the mower blade for dullness, nicks and imbalance.

Be sure to service the mower regularly according to instructions in the owner's manual. If a problem arises take the mower to an authorized service person.

For safe operation:
 Know the rules of safe operation recommended for your mower. Read the owner's manual.

Do not refuel a hot engine. Always fill the mower gas tank before starting to trim the lawn.

Clear the area to be mowed of children and pets. Do not allow

children to operate the mower. Always keep hands and feet clear when starting and operating the mower.

When mowing, do not pull the mower towards you, always push it.

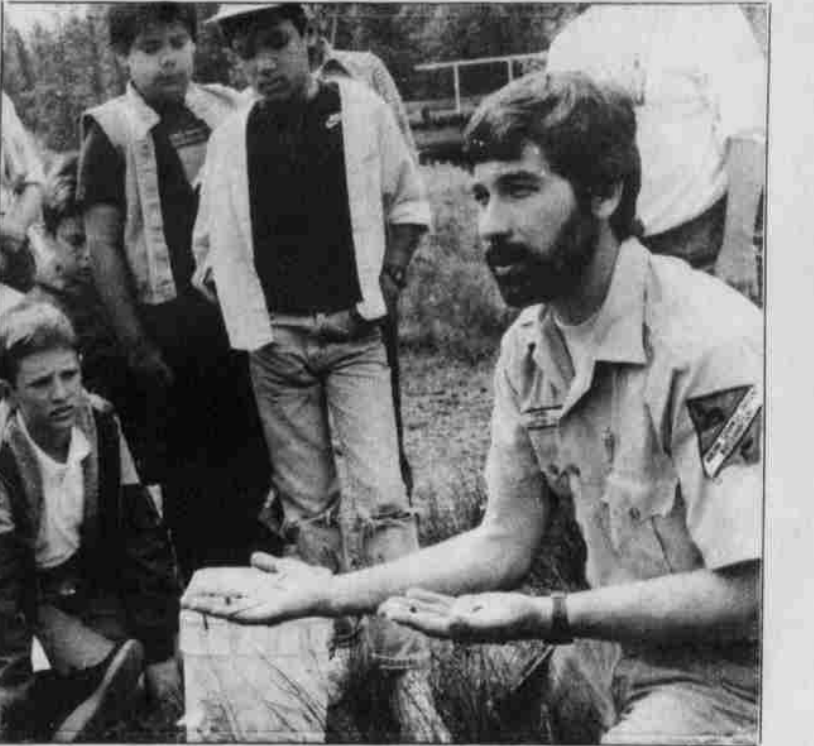
If wheeling the mower from one surface to another, or if the mower becomes clogged, turn the mower engine off. Also stop the engine and disconnect the spark plug wire when repairing or cleaning the mower.

With a small walk-behind mower, mow steep slopes sideways. With a riding mower, mow steep slopes up and down.

For safe grounds:
 Clear the area to be mowed of rocks, bones, toys or other small objects that could get caught in the mower blades.

Try to avoid mowing steep slopes. Keep loose gravel from nearby areas off the lawn and keep all surfaces level that the mower will pass over.

In addition to these guidelines, operators of tractor mowers are advised to look behind before backing up the mower, to be careful of traffic near roadways, to disengage the mower mechanism before crossing drives and walks and to avoid carrying passengers.



Spilyay Tymoo photo by Shewczyk

Warm Springs fisheries biologist Mark Fritsch shows students aquatic insects found in streams.

Sod helps to establish lawn from seed

Planning to install a home lawn? There are two ways to get the job done. You can plant seed and wait six to eight weeks for the turf to become established, or you can take a shortcut and put in a sod

lawn. Sodding is the best solution where growing a lawn from seed would be difficult or impossible.

Lawn sod does best when correctly installed. Site preparation and choice of grass variety are also

important. Be sure to choose a grass that is suited to local growing conditions.

Rototill, grade, fertilize, roll and rake the area where the sod will be planted. Slope the area so water will drain away from the house.

Sod placed directly on subsoil or worn out topsoil won't thrive. If more topsoil is needed, grade the area first, then add the topsoil and rototill it lightly into the top inch or so of the planting bed.

Fertilize the planting area with a fertilizer that supplies two pounds of actual element each of nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium per thousand square feet.

Remove all trash, rocks and other debris from the soil surface before laying the sod. Just before the sod is delivered, do a final light raking of the planting bed and pack the soil surface lightly with a roller.

Recommendations are to install the sod immediately after delivery. Sod doesn't keep well in a stack. Establish a straight line through the length of the area and lay the sod along it. Irrigate the soil lightly just before installation. Dry soil beneath the sod will pull moisture from the new grass and increases the risk danger.

Fit the pieces of sod together as tightly as possible taking care not stretch or overlap them. This will prevent air spaces between the sod sections that cause the roots to dry out.

Roll the sod after installation to make sure it is in firm contact with the soil. Then add a top dressing of nitrogen fertilizer at a rate of one pound per thousand square feet and then water.

Apply enough water to moisten the sod and the soil below to a depth of several inches. Keep the sod moist until the lawn is established. During the spring and summer this may require two or three waterings a day.

Containers offer gardening alternate

Lack of yard space needn't keep you from growing a vegetable garden. Many home gardeners grow vegetables successfully in containers.

Container gardening basically means turning a patio, porch, balcony or windowsill into a small but productive garden.

The only drawback is that where garden space is limited, vegetable selection is also more limited than is the case for a regular garden. For example, growing corn on a balcony may not be practical. However, many other crops do work well in container gardens. Tomatoes, peppers, eggplant, carrots, beans, squash, radishes, watermelon, chard and spinach are possibilities.

Dwarf and miniature varieties when they are available and if they are adapted to local growing conditions. Vine crops can be put in hanging baskets or trained vertically on stakes or railings.

The amount of sunlight should determine the choice of crops. Root crops and leaf crops (beets, turnips, lettuce, cabbage, mustard greens) can tolerate light shade. Vegetables grown for their fruits, on the other hand, must have at least six hours of direct sunlight each day.

Almost any type of container can be used. Bushel baskets, metal drums, gallon cans, plastic tubs, wooden boxes, flower pots and

cut-off bleach jugs are examples.

The size of the container will vary according to the crop selection and the space available. Six to ten-inch pots are good for green onions, parsley and herbs. For plants with larger root systems, such as tomatoes, peppers and eggplant, five-gallon containers are best.

No matter what type of container is used, adequate drainage is a must. We advise placing an inch of coarse gravel in the bottom of the container and drilling drain holes along the side about one-half inch from the bottom.

Vegetables can be grown from seed, or they can set in the containers as transplants.

Hedges need a bit of spring care

Even though hedges in the home landscape are mostly maintenance free, some spring hedge care is necessary.

The healthy and attractive hedge is one that has been fertilized and pruned regularly.

Hedges are generally trimmed to promote compact growth and to

make the individual plants making up the hedge blend with one another.

The best time to trim a hedge is after the flush of spring growth. The hedge will hold its desired shape longer since growth later in the summer will not be as dramatic.

When shearing the hedge, remember to make the bottom wider than the top so that light can reach all

the leaves.

Young hedges require an annual application of a nitrogen fertilizer to keep foliage a rich green color. Mature hedges need a complete fertilizer, such as an 8-8-8 formulation, only once every two years. Follow instructions on the fertilizer package for application rates.

Tips for bedding plant success

Planting transplants, whether they be of the vegetable or flower variety, is a quick way to get results in the garden or flower bed. Here are some tips for bedding plant success.

Don't plant outside until the season in your area has warmed enough for the plants to grow.

Select plants that are well-established in their containers, but are not overgrown. Bedding plants often transplant better if they are not yet blooming.

Allow plants to harden off (adjust) to outside conditions before planting. Bring the plants home and set them outside in a protected place, but exposed to temperature and humidity conditions, for several days.

Protect the bedding plants roots from drying until planted.

When planting, set plants at the recommended spacing.

Plant in late afternoon or early evening. Plant into moist soil.

Plant bedding plants at the same depth at which they were previously growing.

Retain as much soil on the roots as possible.

Firm the soil around the roots when planting, then water.

Protect the young plants from drying until they are established.

A day or two after planting, water with a booster fertilizer solution to give the plants a little push.

Young weeds try to take over shrub and flower beds in the spring.

Keep weeds under control by hoeing or mulching. The back side of an iron rake will wipe out young

weed seedlings quickly and efficiently.

Then follow up with an inch or so of barkdust mulch to shade the ground. A granular herbicide, Casoron, can be used to eliminate weeds in beds where only woody shrubs and trees are growing. Be sure to follow all label directions for use of this herbicide.

Kids have many needs

Adults are often surprised by the number and cost of items that a child may need. Kids often complain that their allowance isn't enough. Parents might consider having their child keep a record of the money spent over a two to four week period to determine exactly what he or she is spending and how much money is needed. Kids often try to convince their parents they need the same amount of money as their friend with the biggest allowance. Children need to understand that their is a relationship between family income and allowance size from the start.

After all necessary costs are itemized, the child should have a small additional amount to allow for some personal choices. If no additional funds are provided, the

child will not have the opportunity to make financial decisions. The amount of the allowance should not be excessive. The purpose is to teach the child to live within the constraints of the money available.

The child should be allowed to make the decisions on purchases. This does not mean that parents should not provide guidance. It does mean that children should know that they can make choices that the parents would not recommend. But children must also know that parents will not buy them out of their mistakes. Teenagers also may be encouraged to earn extra income outside the home. Two-thirds of the teenage population in this country own stereos, and almost 90 percent own radios.



Spilyay Tymoo photo by Shewczyk

District fifth grade students gained resource knowledge during annual field trip to He He. Sponsored by the Oregon State Extension Service and 509-J District students-acquired geological information from local geologist Mel Ashwill during the May 15 trip.