

# GARDEN

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Many can survive in western Oregon in a protected spot, Edmunds said. Those bought in hanging baskets are usually more tender. If you still have the label, check that for information. Or, if you're not too attached, an experiment might be in order. Leave the plant out this year, see what happens and keep a record. If it dies, switch to a hardier variety next year that will survive outside.

To keep fuchsias safe from too-cold temperatures, move hanging baskets or pots into a cool spot between 40 to 50 degrees. A cold frame or cool greenhouse will work, and, since fuchsias don't

need as much light as geraniums, a garage or shed will accommodate them. A cool room in the house is fine, too. They'll want more water than geraniums, so check often to make sure the soil is moist, but not soggy. Pruning isn't necessary, but will allow plants to be stored closer together. Don't over prune and cut off all the green wood, however.

"Lots of people treat fuchsias and geraniums like annuals and don't go through the trouble of bringing them inside," Edmunds said. "But if you want to baby them a bit, they'll come back to life in spring."

Many people dig up dahlias in fall, more because of rot than cold, Edmunds said. Before dig-

ging, cut plant down to soil level. Be sure to use the shovel carefully as nicks and scratches will cause them to dry out faster. Wait until spring to separate tubers. Store clumps of dahlia tubers in a dry, dim spot in a cardboard box with plenty of air circulation. Check periodically and remove any tubers showing rot.

In spring, fuchsias and geraniums should be trimmed back, fertilized and moved back outside. Plant dahlia tubers when all threat of frost is over and soil has warmed up to about 60 degrees (use a soil thermometer available at garden stores to check), usually from mid-April through May.

Taking cuttings is another option for overwintering gerani-

ums, Edmunds said. The process isn't as daunting as some people think. Simply cut a 4- to 5-inch portion of stem with a couple of growth buds, which look like tufts of very small leaves. Also, leave a couple of large leaves.

Fill small pots or a seed flat with a light potting or seed mix. Remove lower leaves from the cutting. Dip stem into a rooting hormone if desired and stick into the mixture with at least one bud above the soil. Keep evenly moist but do not overwater. Cover with plastic, but don't let it touch the cuttings. Keep part of the plastic open to encourage air circulation. As the roots start to grow, usually within eight weeks, transplant gradually into larger pots.

# FISH

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Fork in the spring of 2014.

"There were a few fish caught in 2014, but not enough to really get people excited about searching for them," he said.

But greater numbers were seen there in May of this year, and Ziller said anglers reported catching them all the way into August. After their journey back to this area, evidence that many of the fish had successfully spawned here in the late summer and early fall — in the form of their redds, or spawning beds, in the streambed — could be seen, with 19 redds reported in the Coast Fork, 10 in Mosby Creek and 13 in the Row River, according to Ziller. He added that the tally of fish caught by anglers in these waterways won't be fully known for another year, after salmon tags turned in by anglers are counted, tags that bear a special code identifying where the fish were caught.

Pam Reber, outgoing director of the Coast Fork Willamette Watershed Council, estimated that between 500 and 1,000 Chinook salmon made their way back into the local river system.

"We heard about plenty of people pulling fish out, and there were carcasses observed in the Row and Mosby Creek, which is important because decaying fish carcasses are an important

part of the river's food chain," she said. Reber said that salmon carcasses also help prove that the fish have spawned and then died, thus completing their life cycle and providing nutrients for the eggs they deposit in the river. The Row River around Row River Nature Park was a popular place for successful angling, she said.

And there will be more salmon introduced in the fishery, according to Ziller, who said that

ODFW is confronting a shortage of Chinook eggs to try and complete a plan to introduce an additional 267,000 smolts into the Coast Fork in the spring of 2016. The return of the fish this year seems to have convinced ODFW that its efforts to re-establish the local salmon fishery have proved successful, efforts that could have been altered if the return had proved less robust.

"It will be interesting to watch, to see the fishery develop," he

said. "We obviously hope it continues, but there are no guarantees. Everything points to a downturn of ocean conditions because of El Nino and other factors, but we're keeping our fingers crossed."



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## Vision 2037 Vision Keepers Committee Members Needed

The Vision Keeper Committee welcomes applications from interested persons who would like to serve a two year term as an "at-large" member of the committee (3 positions available). Applicants will be interviewed and then confirmed by the Cottage Grove City Council.

The role of the Vision Keepers is to monitor progress of the Cottage Grove 2037 Vision Action Plan, encourage implementation of actions, provide technical assistance or support where appropriate, produce annual progress reports, and recommend minor modifications to the plan as necessary. The Vision Keepers will hold quarterly team progress meetings, and will develop annual awards to recognize individuals or organizations for exceptional service toward promoting achievement of the Cottage Grove 2037 Action Plan.

Applications are available at City Hall and at the Cottage Grove Public Library, and should be returned by Friday November 27, at 5:00 PM to: Teresa Cowan, City of Cottage Grove Community Coordinator, 400 Main Street, Cottage Grove, Oregon 97424, Email: [volunteers@cottagegrove.org](mailto:volunteers@cottagegrove.org), Phone: 541-942-1185.



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Cottage Grove Sentinel



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