




Landscape Restoration Calendar for the Maritime Northwest

- by Dennis "Whitey" Lueck (September 2000)

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| <p>January:</p> <p>Cut off unwanted, established blackberries and other woody plants at ground level; chip, remove from site, and/or pile for wildlife cover</p> | <p>February:</p> <p>Have bare-root plants delivered, and heel in with moist sawdust until planting time; keep containerized plants tightly packed and/or sunk in moist sawdust to prevent freezing of soil ball during cold spells</p> <p>Plant shrubs/trees after mid-February, after danger of hard freeze is past</p> | <p>March:</p> <p>If young trees are too lanky (or to encourage new, vigorous growth of species such as Oregon white oak), prune now almost to ground level to stimulate dormant buds at base</p> |
| <p>April:</p> <p>Stand back... and watch everything grow!!</p>  | <p>May:</p> <p>Mow Good Neighbor Strips (or "fire lines") around grassland perimeters, if necessary, before summer drought</p> <p>To control bindweed (a warm season weed) on relatively small sites, cover heavily infested areas with black plastic until October; on less infested areas, simply remove new green tops at least twice a month</p>  | <p>June:</p> <p>If young trees were pruned back in March, eliminate all but one or two shoots now, so plant's energy focuses on just them (and monitor tree bases to rub off any additional shoots that arise)</p> <p>Remove any unwanted herbaceous plants that appear through leaf mulch; or pull away leaves, place a piece of cardboard atop the plants, then push leaves back over the cardboard area</p> <p>Remove weeds (e.g., dock, thistle) in established landscapes by digging, and continue through September</p> <p>Remove stump suckers from unwanted trees/shrubs; cover stumps with black plastic to kill, or simply continue to remove suckers on a regular basis to starve the roots and kill the plants</p> <p>Water new woody plants every 7-10 days, and second year plants twice a month</p> |
| <p>July:</p> <p>Cut off at ground level all new canes of blackberries cut off last winter, and just leave these relatively soft canes on-site to decompose</p> | <p>August:</p> <p>Order plants now for winter plantings</p> | <p>September:</p> <p>Labor Day mowing of grasslands; consider leaving perhaps 20% of the grassland area uncut each year, so there will always be some standing grassland through the winter for wildlife cover, and rotate the uncut area to somewhere else the following year</p> |
| <p>October:</p> <p>Plant grasses and cover crops such as poppy and crimson clover, after lightly raking/tilling exposed soil to ensure good seed/soil contact</p> <p>Arrange for leaves to be delivered, if necessary</p> | <p>November:</p> <p>Apply a 6-inch layer of leaves (or else thick black plastic) to areas where unwanted herbaceous plants need to be killed</p> | <p>December:</p> <p>Confirm plant orders with nurseries</p>  |