



PROHORT

Vol. 11, No. 4

Autumn, 1993

ProHort Seminars are planned cooperatively by Center for Urban Horticulture/University of Washington, and Washington State University Cooperative Extension Service. South Seattle Community College and Edmonds Community College assist cooperatively.

PROHORT SEMINARS DESIGNING URBAN WILDLIFE HABITAT

Date & Time: Tuesday, October 26, 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Location: Center for Urban Horticulture

Fee: \$17

I. DESIGNING URBAN FOREST HABITATS

Steve Penland, Urban Biologist with the Washington State Department of Wildlife, describes wildlife habitat components of the urban forest. He will discuss how to select and design appropriate habitats for preferred species, how to integrate habitat into existing greenspace, and general management considerations.

II. DESIGNING RESIDENTIAL LANDSCAPE HABITATS

Landscape Architect Keith Geller addresses design considerations and plant selection and placement for creating wildlife habitat in large and small residential landscapes. Habitat management ideas will be shared.

III. DESIGNING URBAN WETLANDS HABITATS

Kirsten Krueger, of The ERC Group, Redmond, will discuss design considerations, appropriate plant selection and placement, and management issues for developing, restoring, or maintaining urban wetlands for wildlife habitat.

Registration Information,
See Page 3

URBAN PESTICIDE INITIATIVE SUMMIT

November 9 & 10

Meydenbauer Convention Center,
Bellevue; limited seating available

Summit participants will gain an understanding of the current issues, initiatives and systems, pest control alternatives, home customer education, and more. A separate flyer has been mailed to ProHort subscribers. For information, contact Don Priest, at 553-2584.

PROHORT PROGRESS

Recently, *ProHort* newsletter recipients were asked to respond to a detailed survey. The results were summarized based on job categories and are being used to refine or redefine our program and newsletter/publications. Examples of seminar preferences recorded include: seasonal preferences of seminars (landscape personnel prefer winter and fall programs, but urban ecologists indicated no preferences); length of seminars (landscape personnel prefer morning programs, arborists prefer all-day events); teaching formats (urban ecologists prefer lecture programs, arborists prefer hands-on/field work).

As a result of this information, and in support of our own research and teaching efforts at CUH (which include strong urban ecology and urban forestry components in addition to urban landscape horticulture), you will begin to notice a change in the frequency, distribution, and topics of future ProHort Seminars. Our goal is to remain an up-to-date, easily accessible, economical resource for our regional professional audience. We always welcome suggestions, feedback, and comments.

The **1993 ANNUAL TRAINING CONFERENCE** of the Pacific Northwest Chapter of the International Society of Arboriculture will be held October 5-8 at the Tye Hotel in Olympia. For further information, call the PNW ISA office at (206) 365-3901.

The **WESTERN CASCADE FRUIT SHOW** will be held November 6 & 7, CUH: fee is \$2.50. Exhibits and lectures will be offered.

EDMONDS COMMUNITY COLLEGE FALL COURSES:

Tools & scape Design I, Plant Insects, Plant Propagation, Native Plants, Turf Pest Management. For information, call 640-1679.

SOUTH SEATTLE COMMUNITY COLLEGE FALL

COURSES: Greenhouse Operations, Broadleaf Evergreen Identification, Landscape Design I, Maintenance Estimating & Bidding, Advanced Plant ID, Weed ID & Management, Introduction to Drainage, Small Business Management, Landscape Design IV. For information, call 764-5336.

LAKE WASHINGTON TECHNICAL COLLEGE FALL

COURSES: Fall Plant ID, Ornamental Plant ID, Pruning & Landscape Renovation, Native Washington Plants, Landscape Irrigation Basics. For more information, call 828-5600.

NEW CERTIFICATION PROGRAM FOR ARBORISTS

The first national certification program for professional arborists was recently initiated by the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA). The rigorous certification program is designed to ensure that arborists are educated and experienced in the fundamentals of tree biology, diagnosis, maintenance practices, safety, etc.

The program is self-regulating, administered by ISA, and provides a measurable assessment of an individual's knowledge and competence. Contact the Pacific Northwest Chapter of ISA at (206) 365-3901 for further information.

PROHORT BOOKSHELF

by Valerie Easton

All books cited are available at the Miller Library. Library hours are Monday, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., Tuesday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

O'Keefe, John M. *Water-Conserving Gardens and Landscapes*. Pownal, VT: Storey Communications, Inc.; 1992.

An inexpensive, current guide to using less water in the garden, this book is especially valuable for its emphasis on soil improvement and plant health. The chapter on installing drip irrigation in home landscapes is clear and thorough. All plant lists give hardiness information and include a wide variety of plants such as vines, grasses and colorful perennials.

ALSO RECOMMENDED:

Healthy Harvest: A Global Directory of Sustainable Agriculture and Horticulture Organizations. Davis, CA: agAccess, 1992.

Burrill, Larry C.; Ray D. William, and Dan Ball. *Pacific Northwest Weed Control Handbook*. Corvallis, OR: Extension Services of Oregon State University, Washington State University, and the University of Idaho, 1993.

Fisher, Glenn; Art Antonelli, and Hugh Homan. *Pacific Northwest Insect Control Handbook*. Corvallis, OR: Extension Services of Oregon State University, Washington State University, and the University of Idaho, 1993.

Koepsell, Paul A., and Jay W. Pscheidt. *Pacific Northwest Plant Disease Control Handbook*. Corvallis, OR: Extension Services of Oregon State University, Washington State University, and the University of Idaho, 1993.

Smith, Roberta H. *Plant Tissue Culture: Techniques and Experiments*. San Diego: Academic Press, 1992.

Taylor, Nigel J. *Ornamental Grasses, Bamboos, Rushes & Sedges*. London: Ward Lock, 1992.

Taylor, Patrick. *The 500 Best Garden Plants*. Portland: Timber Press, 1993.

Thomson, William Thomas. *Agricultural Chemicals, Book IV: Fungicides*. Fresno, CA: Thomson Publications, 1991.

Thomson, William Thomas. *Agricultural Chemicals, Book I: Insecticides, Agaricides and Ovicides*. Fresno, CA: Thomson Publications, 1992.

Thomson, William Thomas. *Tree, Turf and Ornamental Pesticide Guide*. Fresno, CA: Thomson Publications, 1992.

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PLANT PROFILE

BEAUTYBERRY FOR FALL COLOR

by Gael Varsi,
CUH Graduate Student

Callicarpas are deciduous shrubs grown primarily for their magenta to violet fruits borne in clusters along arching branches in late fall to early winter. Aptly called beautyberries, they are a welcome addition to the garden at an often gray time of year in the Northwest. The beautyberries are medium-sized shrubs with

opposite, simple lance-shaped leaves, varying in pubescence among species. They flower and fruit on new growth.

The North American species, *Callicarpa americana*, American Beautyberry or French Beautyberry, is native from Maryland to Texas. It is used widely in southern gardens but is only marginally hardy in the Puget Sound region.

There are several species from northeast Asia that do perform well in the Northwest. All of the following species can be found in the Witt Winter Garden at the Washington Park Arboretum.

Callicarpa japonica, Japanese Beautyberry, native to Japan, grows four to six feet in height and spread. It is upright in habit and a fast grower. The flowers are small and appear hidden under the leaves in summer, and then are followed by a spectacular display of violet to metallic purple 1/6" berry-like drupes which are persistent on bare branches after the autumn leaf drop. The cultivar 'Leucocarpa' has striking white fruit.

Purple Beautyberry, *Callicarpa dichotoma*, is native to China and Japan and is a smaller plant than *C. japonica*. It is considered to be the most graceful and refined of the species with arching branches that touch the ground. The medium green leaves are borne in one plane along the stem rather than radiating in the manner of the other *Callicarpa* species. The small pink-lavender flowers are borne on stalks above the leaves throughout the summer. As the leaves turn shades of purple in the fall, they provide an interesting foil for the metallic lilac-violet berry-like drupes.

Callicarpa bodinieri var. *giraldii* is native to China and has more erect branches than *C. dichotoma*. It can reach six to ten feet in height. The cultivar 'Profusion', a Dutch selection, is a more fruitful form with 1/6" blue-violet fruits that occur in clusters of 30 to 40. The leaves turn rose-purple in the fall.

All callicarpa species prefer full sun to light shade and well-drained soil. Avoid excess fertility. Callicarpas are most effective in the landscape when planted in groups (which also

ensures a better fruit set). Callicarpas are propagated easily from softwood cuttings or division and are generally available at local nurseries.

POROUS PAVING

by Anita Drake, CUH Public Education Intern

Impervious paving on our freeways, runways, parking lots and sidewalks increases run-off, soil erosion, flooding, and creates an imbalance of siltation in our waters. Moreover, impermeable surfaces do not allow soil to absorb rainfall, which in turn neglects to nurture plants and animals alike.

Today, most of our city streets are paved with a mixture consisting of sand-sized particles (called fines), and either an asphalt or cement binder. The sand-sized particles do not create pore-spaces in the paving surface. Instead, the fines fill up the pore spaces and create an impermeable surface.

An article by Kim Sorvig in *Landscape Architecture*, vol. 83, no. 2, reviews current engineering developments, such as the use of porous paving instead of impermeable, ecologically disruptive barriers. Porous paving consists of stone aggregates 3/8" in diameter or larger, with either portland cement or asphalt binders. Selection of large-sized aggregates instead of fines is important in creating spaces or "voids" in which water can seep.

The installation of porous paving is different from conventional methods of pouring asphalt or cement. Porous paving is underlain with a gravel base and surrounded by filter-fabric. This combination of materials creates a reservoir to hold precipitation until it can percolate into the soil. While water is passing through these layers, large amounts of water-borne pollutants are filtered out through the filter-fabric.

Another advantage of porous paving is that in many cases it can eliminate

PROHORT Seminar Registration

DESIGNING URBAN WILDLIFE HABITAT \$17.00
TOTAL: \$_____

Group Rates: five or more persons, less 20%. Group registrations must be accompanied by ONE check or purchase order at least one week in advance.

Portion of fees may cover refreshments and speaker expense.

Make checks payable to the University of Washington; receipts available at the door. Mail payment and registration to: Center for Urban Horticulture/ProHort, University of Washington, GF-15, Seattle, WA 98195. For information, call 685-8033.

Company Name _____

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To request disability accommodation contact the Office of the ADA Coordinator, at least ten days in advance of an event: 543-6450 (voice) 543-6452 (TDD); 685-3885 (FAX) access@u.washington.edu (E-mail)

the installation of features like storm drains or detention basins. Although the cost of porous paving material is approximately ten percent more than conventional paving, the ability to potentially eliminate these water-conducting features can offset the price of the porous paving. In addition, the concept of designing an underground reservoir can provide further usable space for the building or landscape associated with it.

Porous paving has been installed in freeze-thaw conditions and has withstood several cycles without heaving or breaking. The pore space allows for freeze expansion and would permit the occasional Seattle snow to fall into the pores, melt, and drain into the underground reservoir.

As with any new engineering development there are obstacles to overcome and further refinements yet to be made. However, familiarity with porous paving offers landscape professionals options for site design, construction, installation and maintenance.

For further information, request the bulletin entitled *Porous Paving for Urban Runoff Control* (# PB2227516) from the National Technical Information Service, U.S. Department of Commerce, (703) 487-4650.

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 PAID
 Seattle, Wash.
 PERMIT No. 62

Autumn 1993

