

# THE AGRICULTURE QUARTERLY

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## Charpilloz Hanson excited to return and lead agency

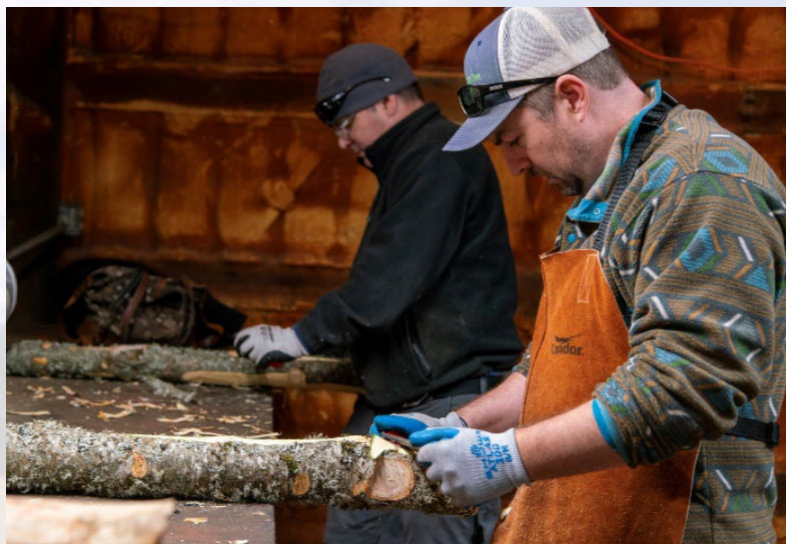
My name is Lisa Charpilloz Hanson, and I am the new Director of the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA). The Oregon Senate confirmed my appointment on February 8, 2024. I am honored and truly grateful for Governor Kotek and the Oregon Senate's confidence in me. As Director, I look forward to building partnerships and supporting collaborative solutions to benefit Oregon's agriculture, the environment, the economy, and local communities. Agriculture and public service are my passions, and I'm so excited to be back at ODA.

I was first hired at ODA in 1996 as the commodity commission manager. Over the years, I served in various programs and leadership roles, and in 2005, I was appointed deputy director. I served in that role for 16 years. During that time, I created many wonderful relationships in the agricultural community and worked on many difficult and controversial issues facing agriculture. My career at ODA and working in agriculture was a dream come true; in 2021, I received an offer I could not refuse. I left ODA to lead the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB). It was a huge leap of faith, but I learned so much in my two years there. I had many lightbulb moments, recognizing how the conservation and agricultural communities have many of the same goals, including water quality, soil health and habitat improvement. We can find solutions that work for agriculture and the environment.

I grew up on a small family farm in the heart of the Willamette Valley. Oregon agriculture is a part of everything I do, and I look forward to serving Oregonians and leading the nearly 500 employees committed to promoting, protecting, and helping Oregon agriculture prosper.



*Lisa Charpilloz Hanson*



Since Oregon's first confirmation of emerald ash borer (EAB) June 30, 2022, a coalition of state and local organizations have been working in Washington County to study and reduce the spread of the invasive insect. The Oregon Department of Agriculture found the infested ash trees mostly in and around Forest Grove. The trees were immediately cut and chipped.

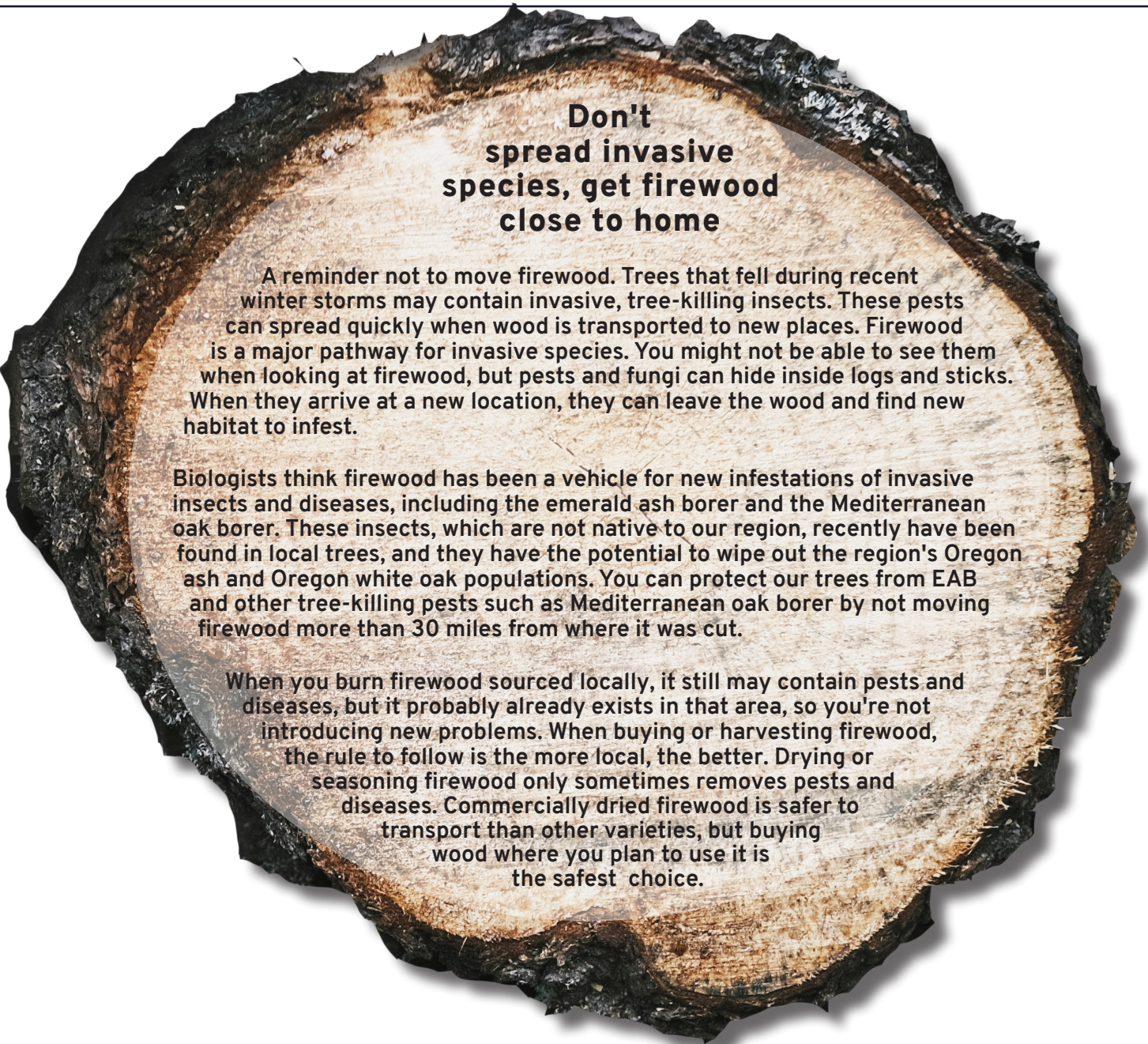
## ODA adds permanent quarantine in Washington Co. to aid EAB fight

State officials continue to work to determine how far and how fast this destructive insect is spreading statewide. In response to the discovery of emerald ash borer, the Oregon Department of Agriculture has adopted an EAB permanent quarantine, limiting the movement of ash, white fringe, and olive tree materials from Washington County.

Since the first detection, a coalition of organizations that include Tualatin Soil and Water Conservation District (TSWCD), Clean Water Services (CWS), Metro, ODA, and the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) has been working in Oregon's Washington County to study and reduce the spread of EAB.

Partners, including the Tualatin Soil and Water Conservation District, Clean Water Services, Metro, and the Oregon Department of Forestry, use a slow ash mortality (SLAM) system, which centers around creating and felling trap trees. A trap tree removes a section of bark around a tree's middle (a process called "girdling"). After girdling, the Tree slowly dies and

***Emerald Ash Borer, Continues on next page***



## **Don't spread invasive species, get firewood close to home**

A reminder not to move firewood. Trees that fell during recent winter storms may contain invasive, tree-killing insects. These pests can spread quickly when wood is transported to new places. Firewood is a major pathway for invasive species. You might not be able to see them when looking at firewood, but pests and fungi can hide inside logs and sticks. When they arrive at a new location, they can leave the wood and find new habitat to infest.

Biologists think firewood has been a vehicle for new infestations of invasive insects and diseases, including the emerald ash borer and the Mediterranean oak borer. These insects, which are not native to our region, recently have been found in local trees, and they have the potential to wipe out the region's Oregon ash and Oregon white oak populations. You can protect our trees from EAB and other tree-killing pests such as Mediterranean oak borer by not moving firewood more than 30 miles from where it was cut.

When you burn firewood sourced locally, it still may contain pests and diseases, but it probably already exists in that area, so you're not introducing new problems. When buying or harvesting firewood, the rule to follow is the more local, the better. Drying or seasoning firewood only sometimes removes pests and diseases. Commercially dried firewood is safer to transport than other varieties, but buying wood where you plan to use it is the safest choice.

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### ***Emerald Ash Borer, Continued from front***

releases a volatile organic compound to which female EAB are attracted. Nearby, EAB will lay their eggs in the dying tree. After infestation over the summer, partners cut down the trap trees in the fall, stripping the bark and looking for eggs or larvae. This winter, ODA will burn all the downed wood in its new air curtain incinerator close to Forest Grove to prevent any larvae that are present from emerging this summer.

This joint effort is the first to occur where EAB has yet to become widespread. Partners will use the collected data to inform local land managers on where and how fast EAB spreads so they can better prepare. You can see the entire process in the photos accompanying the article on SLAM posted online by Tree For All.

In addition, ODF is providing ODA funding to hire contractors to remove trees in the Forest Grove area, which is heavily infested with EAB. The removals will take place on 36 different properties on the south side of Forest Grove. About

five dozen trees will be cut. The removals are planned to occur this winter and spring before the emergence of adult EABs. The downed trees will be burned nearby in the ODA's new air curtain incinerator. This will help reduce the overall numbers of EAB that take flight next summer, hopefully slowing the spread of the insect to surrounding areas. The grant will allow the removals to be done at no cost to landowners and will include funds to plant this fall with replacement trees that do not get infested and killed by EAB.

Once trees are leafed out this spring, ODA will be able to use the grant money to see if any ash trees in heavily infested areas are good candidates for insecticide treatments to keep them from becoming infested or to stop infestations that have started but not yet caused too much damage. ODF obtained the funds from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law for the removals and the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) for the replanting. Both sets of funds came to ODF through the federal USDA Forest Service.

For more information please visit [www.OregonEAB.com](http://www.OregonEAB.com).

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## Help Wanted: Two producers to join the Board of Agriculture

The Office of Oregon Governor Tina Kotek is accepting applications to fill partial terms for two Oregon State Board of Agriculture producer positions. The two open producer positions require the applicant to produce agricultural commodities in Oregon actively.

Term lengths on open positions are:

- Producer Position 02, partial term ends Oct. 31, 2026, eligible to serve at least one additional four-year term.
- Producer Position 06, partial term ends Oct. 31, 2026, qualified to serve at least one additional four-year term.

In addition to new producer applications, previous eligible producer applications with interest forms on file with the Governor's Executive Appointments office will also be considered. Ideal candidates for producer positions will reflect the diverse nature of agriculture production in Oregon, including geographic and commodity representation.

Top candidates may be contacted for additional information during the interest form review process. Applicants must submit their applications by the close of business March 29. This will be an abbreviated process to ensure the Board has full membership by the meeting in June 2024.

### To apply:

You must complete an interest form and include supplemental information such as a resume, statement of interest, and a short bio by March 29 end of day. Please visit the State of Oregon Boards and Commissions webpage for complete steps and details.

### Meeting and compensation:

The 10-member Board meets every quarter at locations

throughout the state as the chairperson determines. Compensation and travel expenses for time spent performing official duties are permitted based on the Oregon Revised Statute (ORS) 292.495.

The Governor is responsible for appointing nine Board of Agriculture members. The Oregon State Board of Agriculture is a 10-member board that advises the Oregon Department of Agriculture on policy issues, develops recommendations on key agricultural issues, and advocates for the state's agriculture industry in general. The Board is established by Oregon Revised Statute (ORS) 561.372.

### Board membership requirements include:

- Seven board members who are actively engaged in the production of agricultural commodities.
- Two board members who are not actively engaged in the production of agricultural commodities.
- Chairperson of the Soil and Water Conservation Commission (ex-officio, voting).
- Director of the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ex-officio, non-voting).
- Dean of the College of Agricultural Sciences of Oregon State University (ex-officio, non-voting).
- Members appointed to the Board must be Oregon residents.
- Not more than five members appointed to the Board may belong to the same political party.

### Appointment terms:

- Term length: four years; may serve two consecutive terms.
- Confirmed by Senate: No

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## Drainage channel maintenance program is helpful tool for landowners

The Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) is working to educate, and attract more Oregon farmers and ranchers about the opportunities provided by the Agricultural Drainage Channel Maintenance (ADCM) program. The ADCM program was born out of a request for a quicker, more user-friendly option to maintain field drainage channels for agriculture. Maintaining drainage on agricultural lands is critical for agricultural production in much of Oregon. The Legislature directed ODA to create and manage the program in 2019.

Before the creation of the ADCM Program, landowners and water districts were unhappy with the permitting process, or they were unaware they needed a permit to work on drainage channels. Now, landowners and water districts can utilize the free ADCM Program to get a permit, called a Notice. The entire process takes 45 days or fewer. A Notice is good for five years after it has been approved by ODA. This means a landowner could have a Notice validated in 2024 and do maintenance work on the channels outlined in the application until 2029.

To be eligible for the ADCM Program, the landowner must have a routinely maintained channel, could have provided drainage in the past five years, be dry at work, and not be designated as Essential Salmonid Habitat (ESH). A landowner can check online with the Department of State Lands (DSL) or contact ODA to determine whether their channel is ESH-designated. If a channel doesn't qualify for the ADCM program, landowners still can undergo a DSL permit process.

Maintenance of channels must protect, maintain, or improve ecological functions of the channel, uphold state objectives for fish recovery, and protect wetlands, waterways, and fish and wildlife habitat. There are standard, mandatory conditions for work. The conditions include timing of work, equipment use, and vegetation treatment to protect the channel's ecological functions and adjacent, undisturbed wetlands.

For information, go to [oda.direct/AgChannelMaintenance](https://oda.direct/AgChannelMaintenance) or contact Brittany Mills, program specialist, at [Brittany.Mills@oda.oregon.gov](mailto:Brittany.Mills@oda.oregon.gov) or 971.218.1409.

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@ORDeptAg

## COMING SOON

### **CAFO ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**

APRIL 11, 2024 • 1:30-3:30 P.M.

In-person & virtual meeting

Oregon Department of Agriculture

635 Capitol St. NE, Salem 97301

503.986.4792, <https://oda.direct/Meetings>

### **SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING**

APRIL 17-18, 2024 • 1-4:30 P.M. (APRIL 17),

8:30 A.M. TO 12:30 P.M. (APRIL 18)

In-person & virtual meeting

Sunriver Resort

17600 Center Drive, Sunriver

971.304.8312, <https://oda.direct/SWCC>

### **OREGON STATE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE MEETING**

APRIL 29, 2024

Location TBD

See website for meeting agenda and details

<https://oda.direct/BoardAgriculture>

### **PESTICIDE ANALYTICAL & RESPONSE CENTER (PARC) BOARD MEETING**

MAY 15, 2024 • 9 A.M.-NOON

Location TBD

<https://oda.direct/PARC>