

The Renewable Resources Extension Act (RREA) in Oregon

Providing RREA support to faculty leverages more than a half million dollars of associated funds, expanding the program more than five times what it otherwise would be.

- “Backyard woodland owners” with 30 acres or less each are a growing segment of an increasingly fragmented landscape. A new curriculum, resource workbook, and series of workshops reach hundreds of owners with information about wildfire risk and the responsibility to protect home and property.
- “Tree Schools” offer a menu of topics spread over a day, allowing participants to learn from a broad array of relevant topics oriented to forest management, protection, and utilization. Nearly 1,000 private and family forest owners participate in a typical year.
- Two hundred forest owners and managers attend workshops on insect and disease to combat 30% annual forest growth losses through increased abilities to identify, treat, and protect forests from losses.
- Over 40 collaborative watershed groups in Oregon serve as the model for a current effort to establish a west-wide program involving Cooperative Extension, Cattlemen’s Association, and state environmental support agencies. Each group is composed of about 30 neighboring ranch families and community members for a total of 1,200 people engaged in active, ongoing, landowner education across the state. These groups learn about ecosystems while establishing shared goals and a commitment to a shared vision for their community wildland resources.

“I’ve attended enough schools/classes/courses to obtain 2 graduate degrees and I don’t believe I have had any ‘notebook’ or textbook to compare to this. I’ve recycled all my others. I would never part with this!” - Backyard Woodlands participant

“The RREA program serves homeowners who commit to managing their suburban ecosystems for health and resistance to wildfire risks” - Extension faculty member

“Great job! This was a very informative and useful mini-college” - Tree School participant



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