

An apple tree branch with several green apples. Two cloth covers, one white and one pink, are held in place by wooden clothespins on the branch. The background is filled with green leaves and other branches of the tree.

♥ Your William's
Pride:
June
Drop
Then
Cover
& Thin

the Urban Scion Post

a publication of the Seattle Tree Fruit Society,
a chapter of the Western Cascade Fruit Society

Here's a summary of recent and potential upcoming STFS activities:

STFS's May 20th member/board meeting was online zoom only and featured STFS Board Member Melinda McBride's talk on fruit plant growing in hügelkultur raised garden beds. Thanks, Melinda. Melinda declined the speaker honorarium. Following the online meeting, Melinda hosted several STFS members observing the fruit plant hügelkultur in-person. For those STFS members who missed this zoom talk, Melinda is working on a short article for an upcoming USP newsletter covering the talk's contents and including some of the talk's overheads.

Thanks to STFS members and friends (Bob, Mike, Melinda, Chris, Patrick, Danielle, Brian, Christy, Trent) who thinned then covered fruitlets with netting and footies as well as



Chris draping net over freestanding apple tree



Brian hauling pruned damaged branches



Photo credit: Mike E.

performed other maintenance tasks at the Magnuson Park demo orchard on June 3rd. Additional thanks to Mike for bringing refreshments (please submit receipts soon for reimbursement by STFS) and taking pics of this event.

Back on rainy, cool June 10th, [City Fruit](#) invited STFS members to attend an IPM (integrated pest management) talk by NW Fruit President Bob Baines at NW Seattle's Broadview Library's meeting room. Thanks, City Fruit, for doing venue logistics and providing refreshments. Bob accepted speaker honorarium from both City Fruit and STFS, the latter as a combination of a monetary check and STFS membership dues covered until spring 2026. Thanks, Bob. Some of the resources listed in Bob's "IPM Decision Making for Tree Fruit in the Pacific Northwest" talk are: [WSU Extension EM101E Pest Management Guide for Apples in Washington Home Orchards](#) , [WSU Extension EM066E Organic Pest Management in Backyard Fruit .pdf](#) , [WSU Extension EB0419 2023 Crop Protection Guide for Tree Fruits in Washington](#) , [UC IPM Program Pests of Landscape Trees and Shrubs an Integrated Pest Management Guide](#) , [Pacific Northwest Pest Management Handbooks](#) , [OSU Extension 2023 Pest Management Guide for Apples: Willamette Valley](#) , [OSU Extension Crop Production Resources](#)



Melinda's hügelkultur bed extending onto an existing bed already planted with two apple trees and some strawberry plants. Photo credit: Melinda M. spring 2023.



Bob talking 'bout IPM.

Urban Scion Post

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On the cover
 William's Pride fruitlets covered with maggot barriers (secured by wooden spring clothespins) on [combo disease-resistant apple tree from Raintree Nursery](#) also grafted with Pristine and Belmac varieties. The "PRI" in William's Pride (1988) as well as Pristine (1994) is stealthy branding that identifies the origin of these modern apple varieties introduced by the cooperative [PRI disease resistant breeding program of Purdue University, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, and the University of Illinois](#). Some of PRI's additional disease-resistant

Next scheduled STFS event: Saturday August 12th City Fruit/STFS hands-on summer tree fruit pruning workshop at Magnuson Park demo orchard. Details will be emailed to STFS members a week prior to this event.

Potential STFS member outings not already scheduled: During the May 20th zoom STFS board meeting, potential STFS summer outings were floated including tours of STFS member gardens/backyard orchards. Garden Tours typically are low-key affairs requiring some (but not a lot unless the host wants) preparation by the host STFS member. If you're on the fence about hosting a future tour of your garden of eatin' possibly still in August or September 2023, check details of last years' tours at Tracey B's and Gudrun U's in [USP 40 07 2022 Jul](#) and [USP 40 08 2022 Aug](#) in order to gauge time and effort needed on your part. STFS members can provide assistance. (FYI: Gudrun and Tracey went above and beyond last year by offering visitors tasty treats they prepared from fruit grown onsite. Thx again, Gudrun and Tracey) If any STFS member is interested in hosting, please contact either STFS Pres. Mike E. or STFS Board member Ia D.

In the recent past, STFS member meetings have been scheduled for the morning of the second Saturday of each month from September to May. Following that schedule, STFS's next member meeting should occur on Sat Sept 9th. Co-incidentally on that date, [Seattle's P-Patch \(community garden\) program will celebrate its 50th Anniversary](#) at the Magnuson Park P-Patch which nearly abuts the STFS demo orchard. The Magnuson Park Community Garden representative has contacted STFS and suggested that STFS have representatives available to participate in celebration activities which could include orchard tours and hands-on activities. Though not confirmed, the adjacent Brig building may be open that day and staffed by Seattle Parks' representative which hopefully can facilitate a room rental by STFS for a member meeting with presentation speaker (none has been scheduled at this time).

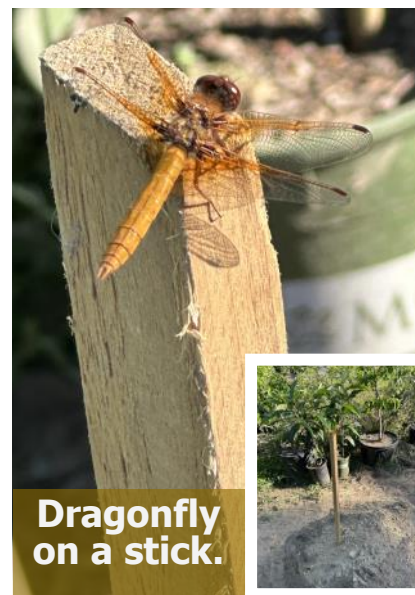
In coordination with other onsite STFS demo orchard tasks, the current degraded demo orchard's irrigation system should be fixed. STFS member Ruth C. has already inventoried damage to this system followed up with observations by Trent E. who is floating the relatively easy re-design idea found on the following newsletter pages to hopefully minimize future upkeep issues.

Is this IPM, 2? Or IPPM? Or nothing?

I is for "integrated", **M** is for "management" (both ill-defined) and the **P** in between has stood for "pest" but now might also mean "pollinator" or both. IPM resources often seem chock full of vague, abstract feel-good concepts leaving the content consumer afterwards wondering whether the time spent yielded any practical applications for their local fruit growing efforts.

The adjacent pic inset shows a wood lathe temporarily set during yard leveling activities with an insect-devouring dragonfly perched between food finding flights over adjacent fruit trees. [Dragonflies are found throughout the PNW](#) and most likely fly over all STFS members' fruit growing efforts.

Does driving longer stakes very close to apple and pear trees encourage loitering by dragonflies who might develop a taste for apple maggot flies or at least establish a landscape of fear deterring apple maggot fly activity? Or how about similar stakes set in a SWD-infested raspberry patch (W/o SWD, raspberries are so easy to grow with prolific, extended-season production of healthful fresh fruit)? These are simple "citizen scientist" experiments that STFS members might try and then help other STFS members by passing along their findings.



Dragonfly on a stick.

Summer Solstice 21 June 2023 Marilyn Tilbury

rapidly expanding while trees are also setting up flower buds for next year's blossoms. Do try to deep water trees now. When watering, take note of the location of suckers around the tree trunks. Summer is a good time for ripping or pruning them out. *(Editor's note: fruit tree watering/soil water retention advice in [USP 40 06 2022 Jun](#))*



STFS demo orchard mason bee block with numerous mud-plugged nesting channels being removed 10 June 2023 to be stored in warm, dry interior space in a mesh bag.



By now fruit you wish to harvest should be protected by barriers against apple maggot and codling moth. Starve these enemies by removing all fruit not protected and bury it or ship it out in clean green. *(Editor's note: To lessen, though possibly not eliminate, apple and pear fruit damage by apple maggot larvae and later generations of codling moth larvae, it's still not too late to cover and thin fruitlets. See [USP 39 05 2021 May](#) for thinning/covering suggestions and apple maggot/CM pests)*

Mason bee nests should long have been removed from outside shelters and placed hole side up in a warm place in your home or screened if stored outside. We hope some of your holes were filled. People are reporting little to no return in some areas.

Tho it has been cold, weather may be sunny when you read this. Many of us now have battery powered yard equipment which might be left sitting in the sun. Just as children and dogs shouldn't be left in a sunny car, we shouldn't let those lithium-ion batteries sit in hot sun, particularly if the battery is in a clear enclosure.

They might not be damaged by a heat soak but longevity could be compromised. A worst case scenario is a damaged battery catching fire during recharging. Consider recharging them in a location where you will notice when they're charged up. Most manufacturers recommend removing them as soon as they're charged. Especially don't leave charging batteries where they could catch fire overnight in an out of the way place. A lithium-ion fire is intense and the fumes are unhealthy.

This is being written on the longest day of the year, the summer solstice. The start of summer but also the start of days becoming shorter again. Today will see nearly 16 hours of daylight. But did the furnace just fire up?

Long timers say that summer typically starts on July 5. With an El Niño developing now and slowly getting stronger, surely we will experience summer warmth soon. We may even have the bonus of a warm fall and ripened tomatoes.

Today's news told of Mormon crickets, *Anabrus simplex*, swarming around Elko, NV in such numbers as to make highway travel hazardous from slick, very unpleasantly smelling road surfaces from all the little crushed bodies. These insects erupt in huge numbers periodically, particularly during times of drought. They don't bite, they don't fly, but they smell terrible when squished.

We have our very own insect eruption occurring now on Guemes Island, a short (very short) ferry hop from the town of Anacortes. Western tent caterpillars are completely covering surfaces. You can hear individual caterpillars falling from trees. Frequent walks become slick from all the squished bodies. One huge difference here from the Elko insect invasion is that there is no awful smell.

If you find the tents from these caterpillars in your fruit trees, it's easy to tear them apart. Yellow jackets will happily consume any caterpillars they can access in a damaged tent. Tent caterpillars are always here in small numbers but will occasionally erupt in huge numbers before disappearing again from predation and disease.

It's been dry! Right now is when tree fruit is

Fix or Re-design Demo Orchard Irrigation?

STFS members who thinned and covered fruitlets on the dry, sunny morning of June 3rd, 2023, may have gotten wet feet as the automated irrigation system watered some, but not all, of the Magnuson Park demo orchard. Copious amounts of water flowed inside 5/8" internal diameter black polyethylene tubing then through emitters watering each espaliered pear and apple trees as well as the freestanding apple, pear and plum trees planted in several eastside rows. But, at the same time, due to numerous tubing punctures, the last three westside rows of freestanding fruit trees weren't receiving any irrigation water. Even worse, a section of tubing with installed emitters had been completely severed and was lying in a grass alleyway. Deep tire ruts nearby suggested the tubing had been damaged by a Seattle Parks rider mower which had bogged down in the continually wet, low, northwest corner of the demo orchard.

Until he passed back in April 2020, STFS Board and longtime member Jerry P. invested considerable time and effort maintaining the STFS demo orchard irrigation system. Though you're no longer with us, thank you, Jerry. Jerry and his wife were also P-Patch gardeners so Jerry was well-connected with the other organizations comprising the Magnuson Community Garden non-profit. And Jerry lived nearby and visited their P-Patch so Jerry was readily available and willing to quickly make himself available to patch irrigation tubing punctured by an errant weeding tool. The current irrigation system contains numerous couplers where pierced tubing had been removed and the two ends of good tubing reconnected with a bulbous coupler installed by Jerry.

The City of Seattle drinking water irrigating the STFS demo orchard comes from a faucet installed in a small below grade vault located next to the Children Garden's tool shed (water source). The Children's Garden abuts the eastside of the demo orchard with the irrigation waterline entering by the pear espalier (trellis south). The below grade vault also appears to contain a programmable timer controlling water flow to the demo orchard.

The current irrigation system is one long length of plastic tubing snaked back and forth and pierced with emitters positioned next to each fruit tree's trunk. With this configuration, the plastic tubing crosses the grass alleyways on the orchard's north lower side three times. These crossings have been problematic in the past possibly because of the high water table of this low area pushing upwards on the buried plastic tubing. Currently, the irrigation system appears to be completely severed at one of these crossings. Also with this single train configuration, cumulative damage to tubing results in very low or no water flow to the fruit trees on the orchard's west side. To address these issues and hopefully minimize future maintenance activities, the irrigation system could be reconfigured as a branched system with a main trunk waterline running east to west parallel with NE 74th St. on the orchard's higher south side and branches teeing off and directed northward for each of the 6 existing fruit tree beds. Amenities might include garden hose threaded faucets at each branch 1) to attempt balancing of flow to each branch, 2) to allow easier troubleshooting for maintenance and 3) to experiment with different soaker hoses and hoses with different emitters.

Existing Damaged Irrigation



Fix or Re-design Demo Orchard Irrigation?

Current irrigation system components can be gathered, inventoried, repaired and repurposed as some or all of the irrigation branches with emitters extending into each fruit tree planting bed. Other irrigation components like soaker hoses from different vendors can be tried in some planting beds and evaluated.

Suggested inventory of new purchased, donated, repurposed or built components needed:

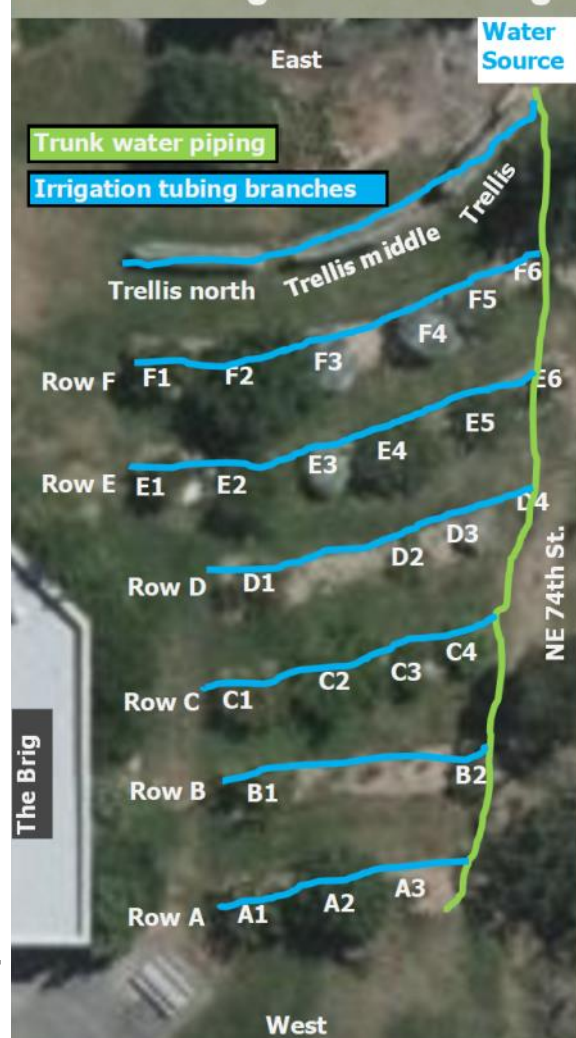
- Adaptor fitting for connection between incoming Children's Garden waterline and demo orchard irrigation trunk water piping
- Piping for demo orchard irrigation trunk (length needs to be measured)
- 6 ground-mounted valve boxes for demo orchard irrigation trunk water piping
- 6 "T" fittings for demo orchard irrigation trunk water piping
- 6 garden hose faucets for demo orchard irrigation trunk water piping to connect with 6 irrigation tubing branches
- 6 irrigation tubing branches which could consist of 6 new soaker hoses or 6 re-used existing water tubing with emitters or a combination of both (length needs to be measured)
- Up to 6 adaptor fittings for connection between 6 garden hose faucets and 6 irrigation tubing branches
- 1 endcap for trunk water piping
- 1 pressure gauge with garden hose threading for setting faucet flow

The 6 ground-mounted valve boxes listed above could be constructed of overlapping free repurposed black plastic nursery pots with holes drilled/cut to accept water piping/tubing.

A quick internet search suggests higher quality round soaker hoses (some w/ 7-year warranties) are produced by Rocky Mountain Goods, FloriAx, Secbulk, Keiweig, and Linchoc. Additional vendors: Linex, Hlinker, Laveve. Round soaker hoses typically are rated for water pressures of 10 to 20 psi while residential drinking water systems usually have water pressures of around 50 psi. Hmmm...is an adjustable water pressure regulator needed to reduce water pressure and prevent blowout of round soaker hoses? And what's in the fine print of those 7-year warranties?

Although repurposing existing irrigation components and other existing building materials will be pursued, STFS coffers have a healthy balance for purchase of any new components that might be needed. Please contact Trent (email trclwing@gmail.com phone/text 206.517.3118) with thoughts, ideas and/or suggestions. Work on the irrigation system could be conducted with the proposed Sept 9th STFS event and potential Oct 14th STFS in-person meeting.

Possible Irrigation Re-design



U of Maine Cooperative Extension online blueberry resources

Here's a sidebar that should have flanked Ed S.'s article on old blueberry bush pruning in [USP 41 05 2023 May](#). Way back at the in-person March 4th STFS Sky Nursery meeting, longtime member Dave H. suggested the online U of Maine's Cooperative Extension blueberry pruning resources. Links include: [Bulletin #2253](#), [Growing Highbush Blueberries - Cooperative Extension Publications - University of Maine Cooperative Extension \(umaine.edu\)](#), [Site Selection: How to Grow Blueberries - YouTube](#), [Planting Blueberries - YouTube](#), [How to Prune a Blueberry Bush - YouTube](#), [David Handley - University of Maine Cooperative Extension \(umaine.edu\)](#)

**PRE-CAUTION:
Don't Eat
Bright Orange
Saskatoons**

If you have a cedar or juniper tree growing near your backyard orchard (heck, who doesn't in the PNW), you probably are al-

early in the morning when fruit is dry and cool. Serviceberries are high in fiber, iron, calcium, magnesium and manganese. Uses include jams, jellies, pies, syrup, breads and muffins, pastries, sauces and salad dressings.

If you've noticed bright orange fruit on your serviceberry, read on: Gymnosporangium rusts rarely cause severe damage and are more of an aesthetic issue. They produce yellow-orange leaf and

fruit lesions as well as gelatinous galls on leaves, stems and fruit. Depending on the alternate (aecial) host, these rust fungi could include Hawthorn Rust, Quince Rust, Cedar-Serviceberry Rust and Juniper Broom Rust. Gymnosporangium rust fungi are heteroecious, meaning they need two different hosts to complete their life cycle. In this case the primary, or telial, host species is Juniperus and the secondary, or aecial, host is Rosaceae. By removing the primary host, you can eliminate rust from serviceberry by interrupting the disease life cycle. If that is not possible, make sure to avoid planting eastern red cedar or juniper plants within 200 yards of Rosaceae species to reduce chance of infection. Once infected, rust can be controlled by pruning away diseased material.

that a number of rust fungi hosted by these trees can negatively impact fruit produced by Rosaceae species including serviceberry.

From [Montana State University Extension](#):

SERVICEBERRY

(AMELANCHIER SPP.), ALSO known as juneberry, saskatoon, shadbush, sarvisberry or just sarvis, is a member of the rose family and native to North America. Easy to grow, serviceberries are one of the first specimens to bloom in spring. They provide delicious fruit all summer long as well as dramatic fall color. Serviceberry fruit is not a true berry, but rather a pome fruit which looks like a rose hip. Most serviceberry are self-fruitful and will only produce marginally for the first 2 years. Heavier yields begin when the plant is 3-5 years old, with full production at 8 years and up to 20 years. Serviceberry fruit ripens in late June through July. The more mature the fruit is the sweeter it will be. The fruit will continue to ripen after harvest, so refrigeration is recommended. Hand pick

ready aware number of fungi hosted



Let ripen until deep blue then deposit in mouth.



The colors of ripening serviceberry fruits



Overripe serviceberry fruits will mold

See also: [How to Plant and Grow Serviceberry \(bhg.com\)](#)

Serviceberry varieties that generally do well in the PNW: Regent, [Thiessen](#), [Smokey](#)

Filed under "the more I learn, the dumber I feel."

Polygamous mulberry trees stake out middle ground in plant kingdom's gender continuum.

During a break at Bob's IPM talk back on June 10th, STFS Board Member Melinda M. mentioned recently purchasing a mulberry plant (possibly a Pakistan variety) followed by a short discussion whether mulberry plant has a gender. A quick check of online resources left me even more confused than usual. The [Burnt Ridge Nursery website](#) states: "The American landscape industry has done a disservice to the public and for wildlife by promoting fruitless (no messy fruit) mulberry trees as shade trees. They're not especially ornamental & male mulberries are notorious pollen producers as many allergy sensitive people are aware. The named varieties of mulberry we (Burnt Ridge) sell are all females, producing little or no pollen, but loads of sweet, nutritious fruit. Without a male, female mulberries produce seedless fruits that many people, birds, and other creatures find delicious. ..." Alright then, I'm all in with treating mulberries as dioecious just like kiwi vines, right? Several more lazy clicks, however, revealed a complex truth rather than the simple lie that I was ready and willing to believe. Add to your vowel-laden botanical lexicon "[Androdioecious](#)", "[Gynodioecious](#)", and "[Polygamodioecious](#)" (aka [polygamous](#)) then chew on mulberry trees being polygamous. From [CAES Newswire](#): "A polygamous tree has cosexual, male and female flowers on the same tree or in different combinations on different trees. Red maple, sugar maple, black ash, locust, mulberry, tupelo and sumac

Growing Mulberry

are examples of polygamous trees." "Cosexual" is the new "perfect" term for a single flower having both functioning female and male parts. The same CAES Newswire online article drops more mindbenders about the distribution of male and female flower parts on a single tree changing dramatically as the tree matures. Even the gender of a single tree changing in

Learn more about Saskatoons
Tues July 25th 4:30 PM to 6 PM PDT.
ZOOM monthly online NAFEX Interest Group meetup on growing Amelanchier species (Serviceberry / Shadbush / Saskatoon). NAFEX member Eric Bina will facilitate the conversation. FREE with your \$19 NAFEX membership.

A Growers Meetup 2/28/2023

NAFEX
North American Fruit Explorers

GROWING MULBERRY
2.28.23 - 6:30 CST
Types, Temps and Tricks for Success


A GROWERS MEETUP: COME TO SHARE AND COME TO LEARN
Online via Zoom/Phone

response to environmental stressors though many trees maintain the same sexual system their entire life. A relevant backyard orchard question could be: Will that female mulberry tree just planted in my small backyard eventually grow into a big bush or tree that produces fewer female flowers and consequently less seedless fruit than I had hoped? If so, consider eating the nutritious leaves yourself as well as feeding livestock. NAFEX members participating in the [28 Feb 2023 Growing Mulberry online meeting](#) offered several ways they consume mulberry leaves. Has anyone brined mulberry leaves like grape leaves used to roll dolmas?

NAFEX
North American Fruit Explorers

A Growers Virtual Meetup
GROWING AMELANCHIER
Serviceberry / Shadbush / Saskatoon


An unusual fruit for the Americas: the Mulberry



Mulberry trees were well known in the civilizations of the ancient world. They were famous fruit trees, because of the delicious berry-like fruits, abundantly produced by fast growing trees. The large green leaves were eaten by livestock, along with the berries, and the leaves were used in the Orient to fatten silkworms for the silk trade. The Asian mulberry was an early immigrant to America. General James Oglethorpe, considered to be the founder of the state of Georgia, in 1733, imported 500 white mulberry trees to Fort Frederica in Georgia to encourage silk production at the English colony of Georgia. William Bartram, a well-known, early American explorer and botanist, described his encounter with mulberry trees near Mobile, Alabama, in his book "Travels" in the year 1773. The Prince Family Nursery in 1774 offered for sale 500 white mulberry trees (*Morus alba*) and 1,000 black mulberry trees (*Morus nigra*) at Flushing, New York. Documents show that America's first president, George Washington, bought fruit from [Robert Prince's nursery](#). Mulberry trees were planted in the landscape of President Thomas Jefferson 20 feet apart, and the fruit trees lined both sides of the road ([Mulberry Road](#)) that extended around the house at Monticello, Virginia.

Mulberry trees are still considered to be a very important fruit tree in gardens of the Orient, Europe and the Middle East.

New cultivars are adaptable throughout most of the US except some of the drier southern areas. However, mulberry trees can be difficult to garden under because of shallow roots. Plant away from pavement or buildings to provide adequate room for the shallow roots that grow extensively near the soil surface around the trunk. Many pests of mulberry trees proliferate in warmer climates like California, but the mulberry is not usually bothered by pests in the Puget Sound area. The fast-growing mulberry tree can grow as much as 10 feet in one year. The mature height can be as large as 30 to 60 feet, depending on the variety. Mulberry trees can be



grown in all but the coldest parts of the Northwest. The white mulberry (a native of China) and the red mulberry (a native of the continental US) have fruit of variable quality. The black mulberry is less hardy, restricted to the milder parts of the Northwest, but it yields the best fruit.

Generally mulberry trees will bear a few fruits the first year. After several years, the fruit will be prolific. The berries ripen to a brilliant black color, or red, pink, or white and they are about two inches long, quite fragrantly sweet, the flavor somewhat between the taste of raspberry and strawberry. The mulberry is excellent for fresh eating and for cooking pies and preserves. Some mulberries when dead ripe are so soft that just picking them breaks the fragile skin, staining your fingers purple with juice, like marionberries and loganberries. This limits their commercial viability, but nevertheless, mulberries are good garden fruit. Mulberry fruit has seeds so small, they are practically seedless. You may have to share your mulberries with neighborhood children and birds! Sometimes mulberries are even planted as a decoy for birds, who will desert other fruits, such as cherries, in favor of the mulberry. The dessert quality berries contain high concentrations of fruity sugar that makes the berries useful to process for jams, jellies, and pies. Mulberries are even used in savory dishes, such as stuffing mixtures for game birds.

Not a fan of the latest maggot barriers? Maybe try organza bags or similar bags made of natural, biodegradable fibers

STFS member Danielle B. used [drawstring organza bags](#) last year on espalier medium-sized apple fruits and liked the easy application/removal as well as easy of handwashing them for reuse the following year.

Also, [Uline sells a number of different organza bags](#) of different materials, colors and sizes.

PREVENTING ATOMIC MELT-DOWN DURING THE DOG DAYS OF SUMMER



**TASTY
TREAT
AHEAD**

Peanut Butter Blackberry Pupsicles

To chill your dog this summer, all you need are four ingredients for homegrown pupsicles: [blackberries](#), frozen [bananas](#), [peanut butter](#), and [yogurt](#). Don't fetch traditional wood sticks, which could be a [choking](#) hazard and dangerous if consumed; Instead, use dog bone treats as an edible pupsicle stick. From [dailypaws.com](#) along with [more summer slobbering frozen dog treats](#). PHOTO: DAILY PAWS / JASON DONNELLY

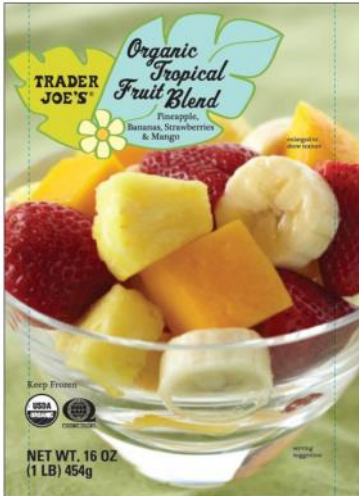
Ingredients

- 1/2 Cup blackberries
 - 2 sliced bananas, frozen
 - 1/2 Cup natural creamy peanut butter*
 - 1/2 Cup plain unsweetened yogurt*
 - 10 Dog bone-shaped treats
- *Do not select items that contain the ingredient [xylitol](#). Xylitol is a sweetener that is sometimes found in peanut butter and yogurt products. It can be very [toxic to pets](#), even in small amounts.

Tasks

1. Using a food processor, puree blackberries until smooth. Remove puree from food processor and set aside in mixing bowl; rinse out food processor. Combine remaining three ingredients in food processor. Process until three ingredients have a soft-serve ice cream texture. Slowly add water as needed to reach this consistency.
2. Layer the blackberry mixture and peanut butter mixture in 10 popsicle molds or small disposable paper cups, swirling as desired. Insert dog bone-shaped treats and freeze at least 4 hours or until frozen solid.
3. Pupsicles can be stored, tightly covered, in freezer for up to 1 month.

-Treats should make up no more than 10 percent of a dog's daily calorie intake.



From FDA: [Scenic Fruit Company Recalls Organic Pineapple Because of Possible Health Risk.](#)

June 22, 2023, Scenic Fruit Company of Gresham, Oregon is recalling frozen organic pineapple and frozen fruit blends containing organic pineapple as the product has the potential to be contaminated with *Listeria monocytogenes*, an organism which can cause serious and sometimes fatal infections in young children, frail or elderly people, and others with weakened immune systems. Although healthy individuals may suffer only short-term symptoms such as high fever, severe headache, stiffness, nausea, abdominal pain and diarrhea, listeria infection can cause miscarriages and stillbirths among pregnant women. Recalled products were sold at Trader Joe's retail stores nationwide. Consumers should not consume the recalled products. Consumers who have purchased the products are urged to destroy or return it to the place of purchase for a full refund. Consumers with questions may contact the company at customer.service@scenicfruit.com.

BeeLine Editor still needed after long vacancy

BeeLine editor assembles the quarterly newsletter from other authors' articles. The 9 WCFS chapters are expected to provide content. BeeLine editor also needs to find additional content from other publications like Good Fruit Grower. Ideally, the new BeeLine editor is proficient with Microsoft Publisher which is similar to PowerPoint and other Office software. Past BeeLine editions are available for review at the WCFS website (www.WCFS.org) under the "Resources" tab. Marilyn Couture, former BeeLine editor, emailed on 6/12/21 that BeeLine editor activities are rewarding and educational to all. Marilyn offered some initial mentoring for the new editor. Interested? Contact Ron (email ronweston09@comcast.net) or Marilyn (email marilyncouture1@gmail.com) directly. Past editors have volunteered their time, but with the position still open now for many months, WCFS representatives may realize that a nominal stipend may be necessary to fill this position. You won't know if you don't ask.

BeeLine

& Still Needed NOW: WCFS Treasurer

Longtime WCFS Treasurer, Jerry Gehrke, had hoped to retire from this volunteer position effective January 2023, but a replacement hasn't been found yet. WCFS doesn't have the luxury of going without a WCFS Treasurer. Jerry will coach any potential replacement candidate on what the job entails and see that she or he is equipped with the knowledge to succeed. For now, it is imperative that WCFS find the person for Jerry to mentor. Interested? Or know of someone who might be? Please contact Ron Weston, WCFS President, directly via email (ronweston09@comcast.net) ASAP.

Good Home for your old, old Printed USPs

Upcycle your ancient printed USP newsletters. If you are doing some late spring cleaning and are about to recycle your old, old USP newsletters, please contact me (trelwing@gmail.com or 206.517.3118) instead so I can make arrangements to pick them up. No digitized archive of USP newsletters exists, but thankfully the library at UW's center for urban horticulture maintains an incomplete printed archive (which is inconvenient for me living in Port Orchard).

Do Demo Orchard Participation Survey by 8/31/23

Following STFS board discussion on May 20th, Board member Melinda M. set up an online survey to gauge STFS member interest and potential involvement in demo orchard activities.

Thanks, Melinda.

If you're inclined to participate, please complete the survey no later than August 31, 2023.

Results will be reviewed and hopefully will offer guidance for future STFS demo orchard activities. Estimated survey completion time is 1 minute with a nearly 3-in-4 chance of completion.

Here's the link to the [STFS Demonstration Orchard Participation Survey](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/DCMQ9NZ): <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/DCMQ9NZ>



STFS: Who Are We & What We Do

Western Cascade Fruit Society (WCFS), a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, was founded in 1980 & is made up of nine Western Washington chapters, including STFS, full of helpful hobby orchardists & backyard fruit growers.

STFS members receive automatic membership in WCFS. WCFS publishes a quarterly BeeLine electronic newsletter to inform members of events, tours, articles & reports. WCFS provides other member services, including an online member forum, an online chapter-wide event calendar & an online home for chapter sites. See www.wcfs.org.

Seattle Tree Fruit Society (STFS) is a chapter of WCFS. The purposes of STFS are listed in Article II of STFS By-laws amended & restated as of 18 January 2014:

STFS will bring together people ...

- 1) to promote & stimulate interest in growing fruit bearing trees, shrubs & vines in urban areas,
- 2) to encourage propagation of desirable fruit varieties suited to the local climate,
- 3) to disseminate pertinent horticultural information to its members & the general public through the use of fruit shows, orchard tours, meetings, seminars, workshops, publications & other media,
- 4) to provide financial & other support to our area's fruit research and/or projects, &
- 5) to join with other organizations in promoting tree fruit in the Western Cascade region.

STFS members share an interest in growing fruit & nut trees, berries, kiwis, grapes & other fruit. We offer information on adapted varieties, current growing techniques & share our own experiences growing fruit.

STFS members meet monthly from Sept to May usually in-person on a Saturday morning in Seattle's Magnuson Park. In-person meetings typically include speakers presenting on topics such as grafting, pruning, pest control, plant health & fruit preservation tailored to Western Washington growers. STFS members receive both the STFS online monthly newsletter Urban Scion Post (USP) & the WCFS online quarterly BeeLine. STFS is online at www.seattletreefruitsociety.com and www.facebook.com/SeattleTreeFruitSociety/

The STFS membership is Seattle Tree Fruit Society. The goals of STFS are achieved by STFS members. Please contact STFS representatives listed in this newsletter and communicate what STFS can do for you and what you can do for STFS. When more STFS members get involved, STFS does more & attracts more STFS members who get involved.

Background: Fruit developing way overhead on 611 8th Ave \$ loquat tree looming over iconic Chinatown-International District (C-ID) street lamp. Photo taken 03 June 2023 in Seattle's C-ID neighborhood.

Seattle Tree Fruit Society

seattletreefruitsociety@gmail.com

www.seattletreefruitsociety.com

www.facebook.com/SeattleTreeFruitSociety/

PRESIDENT Mike Ewanciw 206.683.9665

(2-year term expires Jan 2025)

VICE PRES. Tracey Bernal 206.913.3778

(2-year term expires Jan 2025)

SECRETARY Vacant—please volunteer

(2-year term expires Jan 20??)

TREASURER Trent Elwing 206.517.3118

(2-year term expires Jan 2025)

MEMBERSHIP Trent Elwing 206.517.3118

HOSPITALITY Judy Scheinuk 206.200.1483

scheinukj@gmail.com

STFS DIRECTORS

#1 - Laure Jansen

(3-year term expires Jan 2024)

#2 - Linda Sartnurak 425.271.6264

noilinda@yahoo.com

(3-year term expires Jan 2024)

#3 - Ed Scullywest 425.286.4030

(3-year term expires Jan 2024)

#4 - Melinda McBride

(3-year term expires Jan 2026)

#5 - John Roach

(3-year term expires Jan 2025)

#6 - Ia Dubois

(3-year term expires Jan 2026)

#7 - Vacant—please volunteer

(3-year term expires Jan 20??)

USP NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Trent Elwing trellwing@gmail.com

STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Orchard - Vacant—please volunteer

Events - Vacant—please volunteer

Programs - Vacant—please volunteer

NEW MEMBERSHIP & RENEWAL FORM

Seattle Tree Fruit Society

www.seattletreefruitsociety.com

A Chapter of the Western Cascade Fruit Society

www.wcfs.org

Name:

Phone:

Address:

City, State, ZIP:

Email address:

DUES (includes STFS and Western Cascade Fruit Society)

New Member – Regular Rate – \$25	_____
New Member – Limited Income or Student Rate – \$15	_____
Renewing – Regular Rate – \$25	_____
Renewing – Limited Income or Student Rate – \$15	_____
Optional: Donation to support fruit research (\$5 min)	+ _____
Optional: Donation (other purpose) (\$5 min)	+ _____

TOTAL _____

make checks payable to STFS., and mail with this form to:

STFS, c/o Trent Elwing,
1035 Alaska Ave E, Port Orchard, WA 98366

Our STFS club is run by and for our members - volunteers make things happen. If you would like to help, contact any Officer or Board member (see your newsletter) or email seattletreefruitsociety@gmail.com

How do I know when my annual STFS membership will expire?

Back in March 2020 before the COVID-19 pandemic took hold, printed USP newsletters were USPS-mailed, and the STFS membership renewal date was printed above the mailing address of each member’s hardcopy printed newsletter.

To minimize spread of the coronavirus causing COVID-19, USP newsletters are now electronic and emailed. A reminder to renew your STFS membership no longer is printed above the mailing address.

Depending upon when a STFS member joins, annual memberships expire at the end of March, June, September or December each year.

Trent Elwing, STFS membership coordinator, will email STFS members one month prior to an expiring STFS membership reminding of the need to renew shortly and how to renew.

**Need to know now? Contact Trent
(phone/text: 206.517.3118 email: trelwing@gmail.com)**