



Wenatchee Naturalist's mission is to cultivate awareness, understanding, and stewardship of the Wenatchee River region by developing an active corps of well-informed community volunteers.



March 2017

A NOTE FROM SUSAN:

Spring really will come this year! I've included some ideas in this enews to get you ready for spring. If you're looking for new ways to engage, refer to the long list of options I compiled for the Jan.-Feb. enews, now posted on the Wenatchee Naturalist website.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:

■ Citizen Science Projects

WA Audubon's Sagebrush Songbird Survey. Join volunteers from 8 Audubon chapters in a citizen science breeding bird survey covering eastern Washington's public lands. Contact the NCW Audubon chapter coordinator, Richard Scranton (rscran4350@yahoo.com) to learn more and register for trainings on either March 22 or 23 and a weekend field training on April 1-2. Volunteers select survey dates (choose your date from two weeks each month) for April, May, and June. Mileage and hotel reimbursements available.

■ Stewardship

Conservation and Restoring Shrub-steppe Habitats Stewardship Course, offered by the Washington Native Plant Society in Wenatchee. A 30-hour course that begins April 20 with evening classes on Apr. 20, 25, 27, May 4, and a Sat. all-day field trip on Apr. 22. Apply [here](#). Participants plan to provide 15 hours of volunteer service after course completion. Partners are CDLT & Chelan County Weed Board.

■ Education

Review the long list of conservation education volunteering I listed in the [Jan.-Feb. enews](#), serving local school children between April-June.

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS:

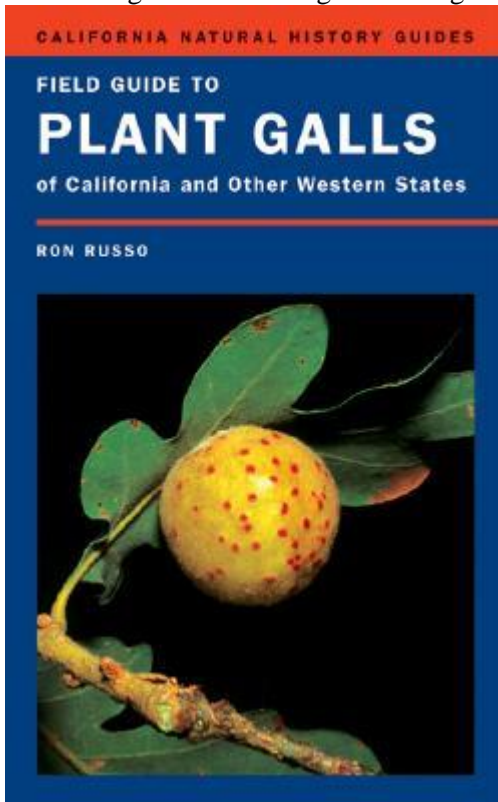
Introduction to eBird workshop with two options: In Wenatchee on Wed. March 22 (6-8pm) at the CDLT office or in Leavenworth on Thurs. March 23 (9-11am) at WRI. The training is designed for people interested in learning how to use eBird and how to engage as a citizen scientists. Presenter Wendy Connelly is the Washington Dept. of Fish and Wildlife Citizen Science Coordinator.

Two field-based botany workshops are coming up this spring in our area, offered by the Washington Native Plant Society for members. Consider joining in order to register now to attend either the Botany Washington "Late Spring in the East Cascade" field workshop, held at Tierra Retreat Center, Tumwater Canyon, Leavenworth, June 9-11 or the State Study Weekend, May 19-21, based at Eastern Washington University in Cheney. Learn more on the [WNPS website](#).

PROGRAMS & FILMS:

Thurs., March 9, 7-8:30pm. Plant Galls of Washington, by author Ron Russo. Join members of the Wenatchee Chapter Washington Native Plant Society for this free presentation, held at the museum, 129 S. Mission Street, Wenatchee. Russo is former Chief Naturalist of the East Bay Regional Park

District in CA and has spent over 45 years discovering over 100 new gall-forming insect species.



Tues. March 21, 7 PM film: *The Bluebird Man*, part of the Wenatchee Valley Environmental Film & Lecture series at the museum, 127 S. Mission Street. By donation. The film features a 91-year old conservationist and citizen scientist who has developed a string of 300 bluebird nest boxes in NE Oregon. After the film, Ken Bevis will talk about nest boxes and how to place them, and you'll meet Daniel Anderman, a local adult who has made over 2500 nest boxes!

FESTIVALS

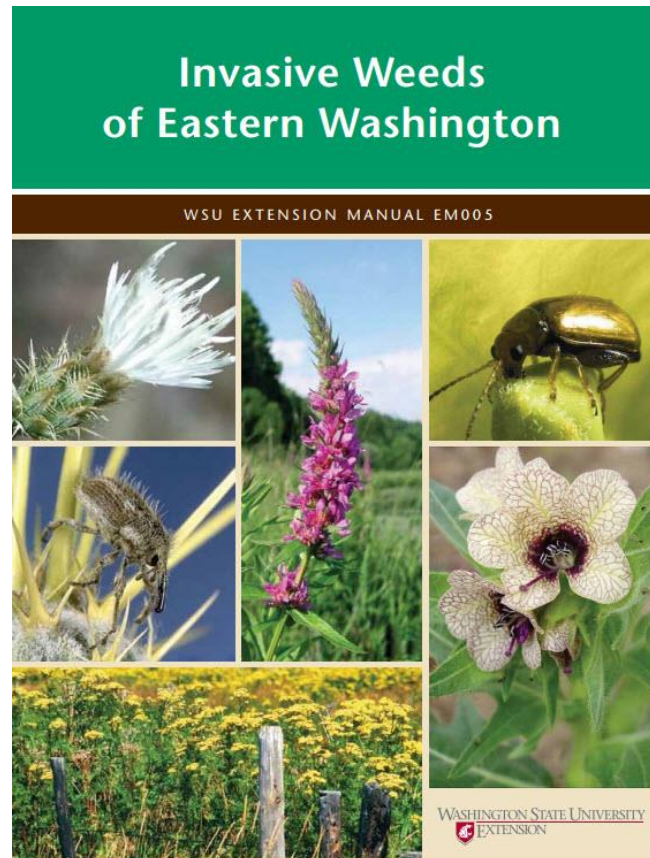
Othello Sandhill Crane Festival, March 24-26. Help celebrate the return of over 35,000 cranes to Othello every March as they migrate north. The festival offers tours with close-up views, and lectures on local flora, fauna, and geology, as well as children's activities. Learn more and register [here](#).

NEW RESOURCES:

Check out the TOPICS/RESOURCES Tab on the Wenatchee Naturalist website, including these about shrub-steppe ecosystems:

- Read some of the short articles about shrub-steppe plants and their adaptations [here](#).

- [Invasive Weeds of Eastern Washington](#) has terrific photos and nice narratives about the weeds you'll soon see popping up! This WSU Extension publication is actually a work of art and fun to use.



- Check out a great new [brochure](#) designed to help Eastern Washington homeowners landscape their properties using fire-wise and bird-friendly plantings. A [second brochure](#) focuses on landscape plants and what they can offer to birds.

