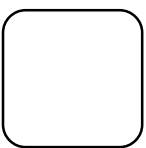




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Fall is finally here. Time to finish those fall chores before winter sets in. We need to clean up all of those fallen leaves and remove any loose bark and moss from the trunk. You don't want to provide any hiding places for insects and fungus. Check your wire! Trunks and branches thicken this time a year and if not watched closely training wire will cut into the bark and leave a nasty scar. October is your last chance to give your trees a light dose of 0-10-10 fertilizer. This helps harden off summer growth to protect it from the cold weather to come. It's also time to do some work on our Japanese Black Pines (Pinus Thunbergii pronounced: PIE-nus thun-ber-jee-AY-nuh).

This month John Lust will demonstrate fall care for Japanese Black

Pines. John would like for us to bring a Japanese Black Pine with as few whorls (opposing branches) and as many branch choices as possible. If you do not have a Japanese Black Pine, we can apply the techniques to Mugo, Red, Shore Pine or most any *two* needle pine with some modifications. John will draw a lot of diagrams, so if you want to copy down some of these drawing you should bring a drawing pad and pencil.



At this time of year we do needle plucking and wiring. John will demonstrate this on a demo tree he will bring and will help us with our trees. John will also outline the rest of the steps we must do through the rest of the year. I will put reminders in

upcoming newsletters so all of the steps will get done when they need to. In order to dwarf needles, you can't skip any of the steps or you lose the whole year's work.

Last month's tour of Weyerhaeuser was splendid. It was great to see behind the scenes and get a look at those perfect trees when they aren't at their peak. Many thanks to Scarlet Gore the Master Gardener at Weyerhaeuser for the wonderful tour.

As usual I am always looking for new content for the newsletter. If you have anything you would like to contribute please let me know.

Thanks and see you all this Friday.

This month's meeting will be held at Olympic College in the shop area room 114 on Friday October 17th 7:00