

Oregon Vegetation Management Association

2026 Conference Agenda

CELEBRATING OUR 40TH YEAR

Seaside Convention Center • February 17, 18 & 19, 2026

“Helping to keep Oregon beautiful.”

Agenda subject to change

Tuesday, February 17

10:00 County Weed Control Association Meeting
Room: Riverside B

11:00 Registration Opens

OVMA appreciates this years coffee sponsor: The Orion Companies

Session 1

Session Moderator: Shannon Wenick - OVMA

1:00 - 1:10 Welcome
Shannon Wenick - OVMA Project Manager

1:10 - 2:00 Legislative Update
Dani Lightle - OFS

2:00 - 2:50 Statewide Policy and Program Updates
Troy Abercrombie - Oregon Department of Agriculture

2:50 - 3:10 Break - Sponsored by envu

Session Moderator: J.P. Mischkot - Glass Tree Care & Spray Service

3:10 - 4:10 Vegetation Management to Control Weeds & Help Bees
Andony Melathopoulos - OSU

4:10 - 5:00 ODA Pesticide Knowledge Quiz Bowl
Andrea Sonnen - Oregon Department of Agriculture

5:00 - 5:30 The Science of Control: Accurate ID, Smart Timing,
Clear Expectations
Harrison Hapgood - Wilbur Ellis

**Join us for our appreciation night as
we celebrate our 40th year.
Sponsored by: Wilbur Ellis, envu, Corteva**

Wednesday, February 18

AM - Session 2

Session Moderator: Warren Gawlik - Corteva

8:00 - 8:30 Alligare Product Updates
John Westerdahl - Alligare

8:30 - 9:30 Talking with the Public About Herbicides
Kaci Buhl - OSU

9:30 -10:30 ODA Lessons Learned
Andrea Sonnen - Oregon Department of Agriculture

10:30 -10:50 Break - Sponsored by Corteva

10:50-11:50 Different Herbicide Sites of Action and What Weeds They Control
Jerry Ellis - envu

11:50-1:30 Lunch on your own
Enjoy one of Seasides many dining locations

Wednesday, February 18

PM - Session 3

Session Moderator: Harrison Hapgood - Wilbur Ellis

1:30 - 2:00 Intro to The Orion Companies - Bare Ground Treatments
Hugo Mertens - The Orion Companies

2:00-2:30 Keeping Accurate Spray Records with GPS Spray Mapping
Jeremy Zerr - SpraySync

2:30 - 3:30 Personal Protective Equipment; an Oregon OSHA Perspective
Randy Westmoreland & Russ Reasoner - DCBS-Oregon OSHA

3:30 - 3:50 Break - Sponsored by Wilbur Ellis

3:50 - 4:30 Methods of Application
Tracey Kelly - Norstar

4:30 - 5:00 Corteva Vegetation Management
Warren Gawlik - Corteva

5:00 - 5:30 envu
Controlling Russian Thistle and Kochia with the Herbicides
Altify and Porfolio Tank Mixes Both Pre and Post Emergent
Jerry Ellis - envu

5:30 Adjourn

Thursday, February 19

**Join us for breakfast served at 7:00 AM
Sponsored by: Helena**

Final Session 4

Session Moderator: Jerry Ellis - envu

8:00 - 8:30 How Adjuvants Aid in Professional Spraying Applications
Don Frantz - Wilbur Ellis

8:30 - 9:30 *Clematis Orientalis* project & *Orobanche cumana* - the first
known site in North America
Susan Bird - Yakima County Noxious Weed Board

9:30 -10:15 Grass Identification & Management
Harrison Hapgood -- Wilbur Ellis

10:15-10:40 Break - Sponsored by Helena

10:40-11:30 Calibration and Operation of Spray Trucks for
Vegetation Management
Ryan Kuster - Ag Enterprise

11:30-12:30 Noxious Weeds of Oregon: Plant ID
Troy Abercrombie - Oregon Department of Agriculture

12:30 Closing Comments - Adjourn
Shannon Wenick - OVMA Program Director