



## Annual Maintenance Overturns Murphy's Law #10 with Bob Quinn

*The Murphy's Law for wells & pump systems is—they will cease to function primarily at a time when the need for them is the greatest.*

This same law applied to the family car, of course, and if you think it makes you mad to be without transportation for a time, you don't even want to know how it feels not to be able to run the tap for a drink of water, or for a shower or, even worse, to flush the toilets. Oh, did I mention that this usually happens when you have out-of-town guests in your home? The answer is an annual maintenance check and service for your well's pump system.

Similar to the annual tune-up for your vehicle or regular oil changes, the annual pump maintenance helps to ensure the smooth functioning of your water system. A qualified service technician should examine the pump, check to see that it is functioning properly, make certain that the amperage is neither too high or low, and check the points on the pressure switch. Such annual maintenance can help avoid future problems and should also reveal whether the pressure tank is waterlogged.

Bob Quinn is a member of the Oregon Ground Water Association and owner of **Quinn's Well and Pump Service** located at 6811 Williams Hwy. As part of a tradition of information that began more than 50 years ago, these columns are provided to help take the mystery out of well drilling and groundwater.

Visit Quinn's web site at [www.quinnswell.com](http://www.quinnswell.com)—it's a tremendous source of information. We install, maintain and repair complete water pumping systems. Contact our professional staff by phone, e-mail, or visit our office.

**862-9355**

**Happy Thanksgiving!**

# Williams pétanque club wins big in Portland

BY BRIAN BARTON

On August 20 and 21, the Federation of Pétanque USA NW Region Doubles and Triples Pétanque Tournaments were held in Portland. Players from seven of the dozen clubs in the northwest region made this a true regional tournament.

The Williams Rogue Bouligans, one of the finest pétanque clubs on the west coast, was well represented. Brian Barton (team president), Peter Paul Montague, Paul Porter, Louisa Lenz Porter and Paul Sherer played in both the doubles and triples, and brought home a total of three medals and prize money.

The Rogue Bouligans have 13 active players. They have summer and winter courts and welcome any and all interested in learning the game. It's fun, healthy, local, and the equipment is not very expensive. There is plenty of extra equipment for anyone who wishes to give it a try. No special athletic ability required. No age limitation. Come join us!

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Members of the Williams pétanque club are top row, left to right: Triples first-place winners Van Woolfe, Shaughn McClurg and Johnny Prince; third-place winners twins Joe and Bob Cortright and Wally Peppel. Bottom row, left to right: Triples second-place winners Brian Barton, Paul Zemanek and Paul Sherer. Paul Zemanek and Paul Sherer are also doubles third-place winners.

## What on earth is pétanque?

Pétanque, pronounced "pay-tonk," one of Europe's most popular outdoor games, is a cousin of both horseshoes and of the Italian bowling game called "bocce." The game originated in the South of France in the early 1900s.

The aim is to toss, or roll a number of hollow steel balls ("boules") as close as possible to a small wooden target ball, called "but" or "cochonnet" (French for "piglet"). Players take turns and the team that ends up nearest the target ball when all balls are played, wins.

Unlike horseshoes, where the aim stake is fixed, pétanques' target ball may be hit at any time, which can completely upset the score at the last second.

And whereas official bocce rules call for a smooth, prepared court with markers and sideboards, pétanque can be played on most outdoor surfaces without any setup.

Source: <http://www.petanqueamerica.com/>



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Barney McGee

## The New 'Ornamental Trees and Shrubs' Garden Guide for the Rogue Valley

Many gardeners in our area are familiar with the Garden Guide for the Rogue Valley. This invaluable reference has been around since it was first published in 1984. (A greatly revised and updated version featuring vegetables, melons, and berries, was published in 2007.) Written by Master Gardeners, it is perhaps the single most-consulted gardening manual used by our Master Gardeners.

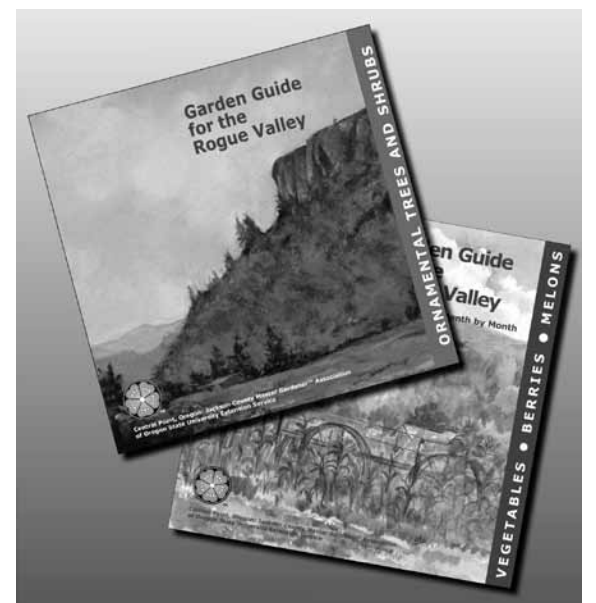
Now there is a companion to that book: *Garden Guide for the Rogue Valley—Ornamental Trees and Shrubs*, which is very likely to be equally popular. Like the previous garden guide, it is presented by the Jackson County Master Gardener Association of Oregon State University Extension Service.

This new garden guide is the ideal reference for all those "permanent" plantings that define, decorate, dramatize, or even produce edible rewards for us. It explains the distinctive characteristics of the Rogue Valley—soil, rainfall, weather patterns and geographic features, as well as providing the gardening know-how to implement the necessary strategy in order to achieve the results you desire.

For those who are new to this area, or have been here all their lives, this guide provides the right information for what trees and shrubs to plant for:

- Wildfire Home and Property Protection
- Providing Wildlife Habitat
- Little or no Watering Requirements
- Making the Most of Small Areas
- Adaptation to Climate Change

The various sections of this guide provide information for evaluating your



soil, planning what to plant where, selecting varieties best suited to our climate zone, and gardening with native plant varieties, as well as meeting your expectations for beauty, low maintenance, and enhancement of the value of your property.

And after you have all your plantings in place, the section on "Maintaining Your Trees and Shrubs" covers watering, pruning, fertilizing, insect and animal problems, and weed control. Since October is the ideal time to plant trees and shrubs, this would be a good time to purchase the new trees and shrubs garden guide.

So whether you are a new home owner, or simply want to make improvements to your home surroundings, the new *Garden Guide for the Rogue Valley—Ornamental Trees and Shrubs* will serve as the reference you will want to read, keep handy, and rely on for many years to come. Both books are available at most local nurseries and garden stores, or at the Extension Service at 569 Hanley Road, Central Point.

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