



LAVENDER NORTHWEST

Summer Quarter 2026 Newsletter

Lavender Northwest Invites You To Enjoy Lavender All Year Round!

Bloom & Bounty: Managing Lavender Season

Welcome to lavender season! If you have lavender in your gardens, you aren't just growing a plant; you are managing a miniature essential oil factory. Many people plant lavender for the scent but feel a bit lost once the flower spikes actually appear. When do you pick them? How do you dry them? And why does the plant look so "woody" after a few years? Let's walk through the annual "work-cycle" of your lavender and how to transition from a casual observer to a confident harvester.

Click [HERE](#) to read more.



PC: RavenCroft (above) / PC: Deb Davis (below)

BONUS TIP SHEETS

Click to get useful advice for:

[Drying Lavender Bundles](#)

[Recovering & Using Dried Lavender
Buds](#)





PC: Mountain Lavender

SAVE THE DATE

The 2026 SEASON REVIEW Online Member Meeting

Summer Members' Meeting

Date: Thursday, August 20, 2026

Time: 6:30 PM PST

Location: Online

Lavender Northwest members will share highlights and trends of the 2026 lavender season, with an emphasis of the evolving customer base and what lavender products and experiences are holding their interest.

LNW's TRIO OF EDUCATIONAL BROCHURES

Whether you're a dedicated grower or simply a fan of the flower, there's always something new to learn about the science and soul of lavender. To help you get the most out of your own harvest, three educational brochures are now available at participating local farms. You can pick up our foundational guide on **lavender cultivation and general uses**, a deep dive into the versatile world of **lavender hydrosol**, and our newest addition: a demystified look at the **nature of lavender essential oil and its safe usage**. There's no better way to expand your knowledge than by visiting a lavender farm in person—grab your copies, enjoy the view, and bring a bit of expert insight home with you. LNW members may access all three brochures in the *LNW Store* or on the members' *Documents* page.



PC: RavenCroit



LNW Welcomes Our Newest Honorary Member

Having started planting lavender in 2015 at his East Wenatchee and Upper Crescent Bar locations in Washington, **Joseph Downs** earned his "Lavender Man" stripes while managing over 20,000 plants (more than a hundred different cultivars) on 20 acres. He developed a myriad of health & beauty as well as culinary lavender products. The generous sharing of his accumulated knowledge as mentor to many new regional lavender farmers, coupled with the success story of his groundbreaking lavender enterprise, made him a much-loved member of the *Lavender Northwest* community. While Joseph is retiring

from the lavender fields, expectations are running high that his unique expertise and goodwill shall continue to inspire and motivate his successors. LNW salutes the "Lavender Man" and wishes him all the best.

PC: Lavender Ranch

FEATURED LAVENDERS

Chris Mulder,
[Barn Owl Nursery](#)

Dark & Bright Blue Flowering Lavenders

In the Pacific Northwest, we are fortunate to have many different *Lavandula angustifolia* ("English" lavender) cultivars and a few *Lavandula x intermedia* ("French" lavandin) cultivars that produce dark purple-blue and bright blue-violet buds and flowers. You may be searching for some of the darkest and brightest blue flowering lavender plants to grow in your garden. Would you like one that retains a nice blue color when it is dried to use in arrangements, bouquets, swags, wreaths, and other craft products? Perhaps you want one to supply fresh and dried culinary lavender to flavor and garnish your favorite summer foods and beverages? If so, check out this helpful [LIST](#) focused on the dark & bright blues.

REMINDER: Now is the time to delight your senses by visiting Northwest lavender farms and events where you can see, smell, feel and taste Northwest grown lavender. Discover over 100 kinds of lavender cultivars that flourish in the Northwest. Choose from a soothing spectrum of fragrant lavender flowers in dozens of shades of purple and violet blue.

Click [HERE](#) to read more and to access a complete **Lavender Selection Guide**.



Lavandula angustifolia 'Big Time Blue'

PC: RavenCroit



Lavandula angustifolia 'Tucker's Early Purple'

PC: RavenCroit

MEET THE FARMER Heidi & David Skagen Synnøve Lavender Farm Kent, Washington

My farm is named Synnøve Lavender Farm. Synnøve (pronounced sin-nova) is Norwegian for "Kissed by the Sun". It's a funny story about how the name came about. My husband and I couldn't agree on a name, and the ones we did agree on were already being used. I remembered how Dr. Seuss would just make up words to suit his purposes, so I decided to do that as well. I came up with a word and thought I should run it through Google to make sure it wasn't already a legitimate word that I had just never heard of

before. When I put it in, Google asked me “did you mean Synnøve?” It wasn’t the word I had thought of but I really liked it and I thought the meaning was perfect for a lavender farm.

PC: Heidi Skagen

Click [HERE](#) to read more.



PC: Willamette Valley Lavender Farm

Looking for a Lavender Farm to Visit?

The spectacular Northwest lavender bloom is just around the corner, but this breathtaking season is naturally fleeting! To make sure you don't miss out on the magic, now is the perfect time to plan your summer visit. Head over to the *Lavender Northwest* website to use the convenient farm locator tool. You can easily browse for local lavender farms in your area that are open to the public and those that offer convenient "You-pick" experiences. Don't wait until the vibrant purples fade—find a farm near you and schedule your visit today while the bloom is at its peak!

[Click HERE](#) for the regional farms that are open to the public during lavender season.

[Click HERE](#) for the lavender You-Pick opportunities.

IN THE KITCHEN WITH LAVENDER

EASY LAVENDER BROWNIES

Elevate a pantry classic using some simple RavenCroft techniques to transform a familiar Ghirardelli base into a sophisticated botanical treat through layers of lavender-infused chocolate. By pairing a dense, aromatic brownie with a luscious whipped ganache, this recipe provides gourmet results that are entirely accessible for any home cook. It's a beautifully balanced, reliable way to bring a touch of artisanal elegance to your dessert

tray without the stress of a high-wire kitchen act.



PC: RavenCroft

Click [HERE](#) to see the ingredient list and instructions.



PC: Rob White

CRAFT PROJECT

Rob White, proprietor of *Lavender La Center*, had a mission: to share the fragrance of his *Lavandula x intermedia* 'Abrialii' essential oil in a form that people would actually use and appreciate. He notes in his article: "The appeal of a **lotion bar** is that it stays solid until warmed in your hands, where it melts into a lotion that can be applied easily."

To read Rob's charming story about his development of a reliable *Lotion Bar* recipe, along with instructions on its preparation, click [HERE](#)

A Case for Lavender Agritourism

Lavender Northwest member Mike Sullivan was featured in a podcast sponsored by the Kalispell (Montana) Chamber of Commerce. From the introduction: "At Longview Lavender Farm in the Flathead Valley, Mike turned a stubborn specialty crop into a thriving agritourism business, one that creates local jobs, keeps farmland open, and gives the region something worth stopping for. We talk about how he cracked the code on Montana's soil and climate, why direct-to-consumer beats commodity farming, and how agritourism can keep farms thriving." Get access to the podcast [HERE](#).



PC: Longview Lavender Farm



gardeners.

PC: LNW

COME VISIT US IN NEWBERG, OR!

Smell. Learn. Grow. Bring your friends and stop by the **Lavender Northwest Showcase & Education Booth** at the *Willamette Valley Lavender Festival!* From essential oil testing to cultivation secrets, we're revealing everything you've ever wanted to know about lavender. Saturday & Sunday, July 11-12 at the Chehalem Cultural Center in downtown Newberg! Check out festival details [HERE](#). Look for our short July 11 presentation on the basics of lavender cultivation and management for Northwest

IN THE NEWS

For Lavender Growers and Enthusiasts Rules and Regulations for Farm Sales

Links for Oregon Farm Sales

Update on Farm Stores in Oregon

What is House Bill 4153? HB 4153 is a bipartisan House Bill that modernizes land use laws to: empower farmers, reduce "gray areas" in law, and keep agricultural land in production. If you have questions about this bill, please use the link to this resource to stay updated.

[Oregon Property Owners Association](#)

Link for [Washington Farm Sales](#)

Link for [Idaho Farm Sales](#)

LNW members in Idaho should consult with the Department of Agriculture.

Link for [Montana.gov](#)

PC: Barn Owl Nursery

**Oregon State University (OSU)
Extension Land Steward Program**
Oregon State University offers a variety of affordable, educational online and in person classes throughout the year.

Link: oregonstate.edu/program/all/land-steward/events



Find Lavender Northwest Members, Events, and Products

There are several places on the [Lavender Northwest website](#) where you will find information about our members' lavender farms, businesses, and services in Oregon, Washington, Idaho, and Montana.

When you go to the Lavender Northwest website, you will discover many of the outstanding lavender resources that our Northwest regional members have to offer.

You can start your search by clicking [Access Lavender](#) and then going to:

[Find a Member](#) - see LNW Professional [Members' Profiles](#)

[Lavender Happenings](#) - see the [Events](#) our members attend or offer on their farms

[Lavender Marketplace](#) - see [Members' Products and Services](#) that they offer.

You will find LNW members' websites and their online stores, the farms and stores that are open to the public, farms that offer u-pick lavender, lavender plants, essential oils, and many more NW Lavender, culinary and fragrant lavender products. Some of our members are wholesale providers, culinary specialists, and product creators.

BECOME A MEMBER

Have you thought about being a member of Lavender Northwest?

[Join Us](#)

Visit our website for more information: lavender-nw.org

STAY CONNECTED!

Follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#)

Do you have a recipe or photo you'd like to share? Please send them our way.

We'd love to include them in the Quarterly LNW newsletters.

Contact: info@lavender-nw.org

And finally, dear readers...

"The fragrance of lavender is like a gentle reminder of the beauty that exists in the world.
Lavender's scent is a true reflection of its beauty, delicate and enchanting."

"Lavender represents tranquility, healing, and calm in the language of flowers."

~Authors unknown



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