

# **Beetles and On-Farm Biodiversity: Creating Tools to Assess Them. Part One.**

**Corvallis-Benton County Public Library, Main Auditorium**

**2-5 PM Friday, February 25<sup>th</sup>**

Registration Required: [Gwendolyn@science.oregonstate.edu](mailto:Gwendolyn@science.oregonstate.edu) 541-737-6272

Join OSU researchers and local farmers as we meet to discuss the findings of several years of field studies on on-farm habitat and populations of predacious ground beetles here in the Willamette Valley and help us design helpful methods of assessing on-farm biodiversity.

During the first part of the meeting we will be discussing the participating farmers' practices, roles and expectations of the projects and what we have learned in their fields. The biology and nature of predacious ground beetles will be presented with our findings. In the second half of the meeting we will work together to develop simple tools and methods farmers might use to assess biodiversity in landscape and other terms. These assessments are meant to aid in planning for the ecological services beneficials bring to a farm (like pollination and biological pest management) throughout current and future seasons and to identify opportunities to enhance biodiversity on your farm, thus helping you meet ecological and organic certification requirements and personal farm goals.

In summer 2011 all meeting participants will be invited to a habitat assessment farm walk (Part Two) at one of the participating farms, which will be decided at the meeting, to field test the assessment measures and concepts we design and discuss at this meeting.

This meeting is a participatory project sponsored by OSU Integrated Plant Protection Center's, Farmscaping for Beneficials Project, OSU Horticulture Department and USDA's Western Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program in collaboration with area vegetable farmers. Both the meeting and the corresponding summer farm walk are free and open to all farmers.