Rhubarb Cherry Conserve

Yield: approx. 7, ½ pint jars

- 1 large orange, washed, seeded and chopped (not peeled)
- 1 cup water
- 4 cups rhubarb, sliced
- 4 cups pitted cherries, coarsely chopped
- 1 cup dried cherries
- 5 cups sugar
- ½ teaspoon kosher salt
- 1 cup hazelnuts, peeled and chopped

Method:

Cook orange in cup of water until peel is tender. Add remaining ingredients, except nuts. In a large pot bring to a boil. Boil, stir and reduce until mixture starts to thicken. Spoon some on to a plate, should not have watery edge. Add nuts in the last five minutes. Pour into hot sterilized jars. Leave ¼ inch head space. Wipe rim. Secure lid with ring. Process fifteen minutes in a boiling water bath.

(by Chef Dan Brophy, Summer Food Preservation Series 2013, Portland Nursery / Stark)