

Community Calendar

Applegate Valley Garden Club meets at 1:30 pm on the third Wednesday of the month from September through May. For meeting locations and programs call Sandra King at 541-899-9027 or Betty Lou Smith at 541-846-6817.

Applegate 4-H Swine Club meets on Tuesday following the third Wednesday of every month at 7 pm. For more information contact Charles Elmore at 541-846-6528 or Barbara Niedermeyer at 541-846-7635.

Applegate Christian Fellowship. For service times, call 541-899-8732, 24 hours/day.

Applegate Friends of Fire District #9 meets on the third Tuesday of each month at the Fire Station—1095 Upper Applegate Road—at 6:00 pm. New members are welcome. For more information, call Bob Fischer 541-846-6218.

T.O.P.S. (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) meets every Tuesday morning at Applegate Church, 18960 North Applegate Road (at the corner of Hwy. 238 and N. Applegate Road). Weigh-in starts at 8:30 am; the meeting starts at 9:00 am. Come join us!

Josephine County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD). Meets Thursdays at 6 pm. For meeting information, call Connie Young at 541-846-6051.

Applegate Valley Community Forum (AVCF) meets the third Thursday of each month, location alternating between Applegate and Ruch. For more information, call Pat Gordon at 541-899-7655.

Greater Applegate Community Development Corporation meets the second Wednesday of each month at 6:00 pm at the Applegate Library on North Applegate Road in downtown Applegate. For more information, call toll-free at 866-289-1638.

American Association of University Women (AAUW) Grants Pass area meets monthly from September to June. College degree required for membership. Days and locations vary. Contact Ann Kistler 541-471-1963 or Kathy Kirchen 541-846-9039.

AA Meetings Tuesday nights at 7 pm in Williams. Upstairs at the American Legion Hall. Contact Stan at 541-846-0734.

Applegate Library Hours
 Sunday closed
 Monday closed
 Tuesday 2 pm - 6 pm
 Wednesday closed
 Thursday closed
 Friday 2 pm - 6 pm
 Saturday 10 am - 2 pm
 (Storytime will be held Tuesdays at 2:30 pm.)

Ruch Branch Library Hours
 Sunday closed
 Monday closed
 Tuesday 11 am - 5 pm
 Wednesday closed
 Thursday 1 pm - 7 pm
 Friday closed
 Saturday 12 pm - 4 pm
 (Storytime will be held Tuesdays at 11 am.)

Friends of Ruch Library Board of Directors meets monthly. Check with the Ruch Library for schedule. 541-899-7438.

Food & Friends. Senior Nutrition Program invites local 60+ seniors to enjoy a nutritious, hot meal served at 11:30 am Monday through Friday at the Jacksonville IOOF Hall located at the corner of Main and Oregon Streets.

A donation is suggested and appreciated. Volunteers help serve meals or deliver meals to homebound seniors. For information about volunteering (it takes 40 volunteers to keep the Jacksonville program going) or receiving meals, call Food & Friends at 541-664-6674, x246 or x208.

Williams Library Hours
 Sunday closed
 Monday closed
 Tuesday closed
 Wednesday closed
 Thursday closed
 Friday closed
 Saturday closed

Josephine County Farm Bureau For meeting information, call Connie Young at 541-846-6051.

Upper Applegate Grange #839 Business meetings: first Thursday at 7:30 pm. Potluck/Social meetings: fourth Friday at 7:30 pm, open to the public. Join us for informative meetings, fun and involvement in community service. Sponsors of Boy Scout Pack #18. Call 541-899-6987.

Williams Rural Fire Protection District Meetings: fourth Wednesday of the month at 7 pm at the Williams Fire Department.

Williams Creek Watershed Council Meetings: fourth Wednesday of the month at 7 pm at the Williams Creek Fire Station. The Public is welcome. For more information, call 541-846-9175.

Williams Grange Pancake Breakfast, second Sunday of each month, 8:30 am to 11:00 am. Closed July and August. Bring the whole family! 20100 Williams Hwy, corner of Tetherow Road near the Williams General Store. For more information, call 541-846-6844.

Wonder Neighborhood Watch Meetings, second Tuesday of each month, 6:30 pm, Wonder Bible Chapel.

Applegate Fire District Board of Directors meets on the third Wednesday of each month at Station 1 – 18489 N. Applegate Rd. at 7:30 pm. Except for the months of March, April and May, which are held at Headquarters – 1095 Upper Applegate Rd. For more information, call 541-899-1050.

Applegate Neighborhood Network (ANN) meets on the last Wednesday of every month at the Ruch Library. All interested persons are welcome to attend. ANN is a community organization dedicated to protecting, preserving, and restoring the Applegate watershed. For more information about ANN, call Duane Bowman, 541-899-7264.

Women Helping Other Women (WHOW) meets the second Thursday of the month at 10036 Hwy 238 (Gyda Lane) at 6:30 pm for a potluck meeting to plan work parties at each other's homes. New members are welcome. For more information, call Thalia Truesdell at 541-899-8741 or Sioux Rogers at 541-846-7736.

Applegate Lake Cub Scouts Pack #18 (Ruch Region) Outdoor activity (fishing, rafting, hikes, etc.) the first Friday of each month; regular meeting the third Friday of each month. Upper Applegate Grange from 10 am to 1 pm. All boys in grades first through fifth including homeschooled, Ruch students, and non-Ruch students are welcome. For more information, contact Cub Leader Vic Agnifili at 541-899-1717.

Email calendar information to gater@applegater.org.



Jackson County Master Gardener Association and Oregon State University Extension Service

Become an OSU Master Gardener

Learn the latest in gardening and horticultural skills. Be confident in vegetable gardening, landscape situations and environmentally sound gardening practices. No previous horticultural skills are required.

What: OSU Master Gardener training is both lecture and hands on training in basic horticulture skills and practices. The purpose of the training is to equip students in gardening and be able to answer questions from the general public at the OSU Extension office in Josephine County.

When: The training is offered once a year. Classes are every Thursday starting January 15 thru April 2, 2009. All classes start at 9:00 AM and end at 4:00 PM. Bring your lunch.

Where: Classes are held at the OSU Extension Auditorium at 215 Ringuette Street, in Grants Pass.

Cost: The training cost is \$100.00 which covers the Gardening Handbook and additional class materials.

Requirements: In exchange for training, participants contribute time as volunteers, working through the OSU Josephine County Extension Service to provide horticulture-related information to their community. Master Gardeners intern for 70 volunteer hours.

Registration: You can register at the OSU Extension Office on Ringuette Street in Grants Pass. An application can be downloaded at: <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/josephine/Horticulture.htm>

Questions: If you have any questions or would like to discuss the program in more detail call 541-476-6613.

Lorena Becker • 541-476-6613
 Lorena.Becker@oregonstate.edu

Special Classes

Saturday February 7
GRAPE PRUNING
 Chris Hubert, Quail Run Vineyard

The emphasis of this class will be growing grapes in the home garden especially how, when, and where to prune. Participants will also learn terminology that applies to growing grapes, care of grapes, and solutions for common grape problems in the home garden. The class will conclude with outdoor practice in pruning grapes so dress for the weather and bring gloves and clippers. This class counts toward Master Gardener recertification hours.

Saturday February 21
FRUIT TREE PRUNING
 Terry Helfrich, Bear Creek Corp.

The emphasis of this class will be growing fruit trees in the home garden especially how, when, and where to prune. Selection of trees and planting site, tree structure, planting requirements, spacing, tree training, will also be discussed with the goal of producing more fruit. The class will conclude with outdoor practice in pruning fruit trees so dress for the weather and bring gloves and loppers. This class counts toward Master Gardener recertification hours.

The Jackson County Master Gardener Program, a program of Oregon State University Extension, educates local gardeners on the art and science of growing and caring for plants. Trained Master Gardener volunteers extend sustainable gardening information to their communities through educational outreach programs.

There is a fee of \$5.00 per class unless indicated otherwise. The classes are held at the OSU Extension Center located at 569 Hanley Road, Central Point, Oregon. 541-776-7371.

Saturday classes 9am-12pm • Weekday classes 7 pm-9 pm
 To learn more about Jackson country Master Gardener Association go to: <http://extension.orst.edu/sorec/mg>

Chris Greene • 541-664-5898 (after 10 am)
 cgreene00@juno.com

What's Inside the Gater

Applegate Outback: In life a little rain must fall p. 22
Back in Time: Fir Glade guard stations p. 21
Behind the Green Door: A botched forest plan..... p. 6
Birdman: Magnificent Montana..... p. 23
Dirty Fingernails and All: Full-life living p. 5
Earl's Pearls: Libations, calories, chocolate and exercise p. 19
Heard it on the Grapevine: Organic and biodynamic wines—
What's the difference? p. 4
Letters to the Editor p. 16
Opinion: Change, hope and wildfire..... p. 17
Tall Tales from the Editor: Losing a best friend or Puppy garble..... p. 16
The Starry Side: The four seasons..... p. 10
Trends: Life's surprises p. 7
Veterans' Corner: Bah humbug and Happy New Year..... p. 18