



Hello Again!

with Bob Quinn

It is the time of year that we like to start giving out all kinds of helpful information about your water well, pump system and the quality of your water. We hope you enjoy our weekly columns. Please feel free to call if there is a subject you would like to hear about.

Our phone has been ringing like crazy with questions like, *How can I possibly get water out of my well if I don't have power?* We have the solution to that problem. There are hand pumps that can be installed with your current pump and it can be used to put water directly into your pressure tank. No more back breaking trips with a bucket full of water to flush your toilet!

Technology has changed a lot over the years and we are finding that this new system exceeds our expectations. If you have a concern about not having water during a power outage, call your favorite well and pump service to inquire.

Don't be a "Fish Out Of Water"! Our knowledgeable staff is in the office 8-5pm, Mon.-Fri. to take your call!



Bob Quinn is the owner of **Quinn's Well & Pump Service** located at 6811 Williams Hwy. We install, maintain and repair complete water pumping systems, and we offer a complete line of water filtration equipment. Contact our professional staff by phone, e-mail, or visit our office. quinnswell.com CCB #192047

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Have you seen the Gater's online calendar? www.applegater.org

Applegate outdoor options

BY JACOB HOLDEN

It's still summer! You wake up, it's beautiful outside, and you're wondering, "What am I to do this beautiful afternoon?" Fortunately, living in the Applegate surrounds you with a wide variety of outdoor adventure. Whether you are looking for swimming, hiking, mountain biking, fishing, even paragliding, the day is yours for the taking.

Here are a few recreational opportunities half an hour from Applegate: Enchanted Forest, Jacksonville Woodland Trails, Sterling Mine Ditch Trail and Kenney Meadows are a short drive to get to the outdoor day you're looking for. Enchanted Forest is an easy walk through lush green forest with a sun umbrella to keep you cool. This short walk, which gives you a certain sense of mysticism, also connects you to Felton Memorial Trail, which is dedicated to three men who lost their lives in a helicopter accident. Jacksonville Woodland Trails, my favorite, offers hiking, mountain biking, sightseeing, and interpretive trails. Off the trail, you can walk directly into Jacksonville to grab a quick bite to eat after a day in the sun.

Sterling Mine Ditch Trail and Kenney Meadows are relatively close to one another off Little Applegate Road. Sterling Mine Ditch is an extensive 18.2-mile trail system primarily for hiking and equestrian use. It has beautiful wildflowers February through May, and offers picturesque views if you have the fortitude to go up Wolf Gap. Wolf Gap Trail, though only a couple of miles long, is an uphill shot to a beautiful view. The trail recently was cleared by the local job council, making navigation and use much easier. The parking area at the

Tunnel Ridge trailhead for Sterling Mine offers a day-use area for picnicking and wading in the nearby stream. Kenney Meadows is a great place for a daytime picnic with friends. Located right next to Yale Creek, wading in the water is a



quick way to cool down. Also, be sure to check out the reconstructed cabin on the opposite side of the road, which mimics a shelter used by Christian J. Kenney, who conveyed the property to the US government.

How about an overnight trip? Hyatt Lake, outside of Ashland, offers a wide range of activities and facilities to suit the needs of any individual. With camping fees as low as \$7 nightly, this is a highly affordable camping destination. The Hyatt Lake Recreation Complex provides sightseeing, swimming, hiking or biking, horseback riding and fishhook tying. Near Hyatt Lake you will find access to the Pacific Crest Trail (PCT), the most famous trail on the West Coast. If you're looking to do some overnight backpacking

or a day hike, the easiest place to access the PCT in the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument is at the Greensprings Summit. From I-5, take exit 14 near Ashland and turn on Highway 66 toward Klamath Falls. Take Highway 66 for 17 miles to the Greensprings Summit. A trailhead and parking area are located at the summit. From there, follow the PCT six miles north to Hyatt Reservoir or south to Soda Mountain, Hobart Bluff, and Pilot Rock (12 miles).

For some, getting to spend a day in nature can be compared to recharging a battery. Being able to escape the everyday hustle-bustle of our fast-paced society could be just what you need. Maybe you're an outdoor enthusiast who has been there, done that, and is looking for something new to try. Do you have kids and want to get out of the house for a day and teach them a little about nature? Or you might long to get out and enjoy this beautiful southern Oregon weather. Go for it!

All these recreational opportunities, along with many others, can be accessed through the BLM website at <http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/medford/recreation/>. Here you can find thorough directions, more descriptions, and browse for other wilderness escapes within a short drive. You can also navigate the website to find more information about the PCT as well as important matters to consider when engaging in outdoor activities.

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News from the Williams Community Forest Project

Williams Community Forest Project (WCFP) has been actively involved with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to achieve ecological watershed and forest restoration with two BLM activities affecting the Williams watershed, but we hope that BLM will also engage the WCFP in their long-term plans for public forests around the Williams community.

In April 2012, the proposed Williams Integrative Management Project (IVM) was available for public comments. IVM is a 6,604-acre forest management project to be conducted by BLM from 2013 to 2023 in the Williams watershed for the objectives of restoring forest ecological systems, reducing wildfire danger and contributing to continuous timber production. WCFP coordinated two educational sessions and field trips given by BLM for the Williams community and submitted comments from the community during the comment period. After BLM has evaluated the comments, an environmental analysis will be done, which will be available for a 30-day public review in September. WCFP's objectives are to continue to work with BLM to achieve the Williams watershed forest health.

In March of 2012, BLM announced its intent to revise the 20-year management plans for 2.5-million acres of public forests in western Oregon. The planning process will take place through 2015. The Resource Management Plan's (RMP) intent is to address forest health, recovery of endangered species and socioeconomic needs. The comment period ended July 5. The alternatives will be formulated from July to October and analyzed from November 2012 to July 2013. Representing Williams, WCFP submitted the following letter to BLM during the comment period for the RMP requesting that BLM accept a Williams Watershed Community Alternative.

Letter to BLM

The Williams Community Forest Project, WCFP, has notified our local Williams Creek Watershed Council and the elected officials of the Williams Citizen Advisory Council of our intention to create a "Williams Watershed Community Alternative" for the BLM RMP process. These agencies know the WCFP will be working with Williams residents and will remain transparent during this planning process. Williams, Oregon,

is located in the BLM Applegate AMA (Adaptive Management Area). With broad community support from residents of our watershed, we request that BLM accept:

The Williams Watershed Community Alternative (WWCA) will be submitted by the WCFP to BLM by October 31, 2012.

We do not want to be known as a "no action" alternative in Williams. The WWCA assessment will be based on restoration, fuels management, and stewardship contracts. These items will be addressed in the Williams Watershed Community Alternative:

- Preservation and promotion of old-growth forest
 - Water and Salmon conservation
 - Transportation management, including roads and off-road vehicles
 - Cumulative affects with private and BLM lands management
 - Port Orford cedar management
 - Wildlife and plants with a focus on threatened and endangered species
 - Local stewardship contracts
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