



## Changing seasons and other changes in the park

BY JANIS MOHR-TIPTON

Fall showers have brought the park welcome moisture for recovery from the hot, dry climate of summer. You may have noticed just before we got our first good rain that areas of lawn were brown and dry. The aging irrigation system had developed major leaks and gave out.

The good news from Brien Dallas, Jackson County Parks operations supervisor, is that early next year the county will begin installing an upgraded variable-pressure irrigation pump, with up-to-code electrical power to it. "We will also be running all new main lines throughout the park to help mitigate the

constant irrigation leaks and breaks we've had from the aging lines," Brien says.

Comfort stations have been placed near the playground for park users' convenience while the water system is undergoing improvement.

Meanwhile, the park manager has approved the location for the new hiker/biker site at the campground. The Park Enhancement Committee and the Applegate Partnership and Watershed Council (APWC) are designing a structure for the site and are sharing the costs of timber and other materials and doing any needed restoration around the site.

The Monarch Waystation (aka pollinator garden) is getting a new garden bed near the park entrance and monarch sculpture. Thanks to a grant from the Endangered Species Coalition, we will be able to replace the plants we lost and again encourage monarchs to stop in before the next part of their journey south to lower California.

If you would like to help with assembling the hiker/biker structure or with developing the monarch and pollinator garden area, contact me or APWC. (See contact information below.)

With the new year approaching, it's time to think about buying an Annual Season Pass (ASP), good for all Jackson County parks and registered to the purchaser, so it can be used in any vehicle. Purchases of seasonal passes help maintain the parks and keep them open.

**Caution.** The parks department cannot replace lost passes, so be sure to reclaim yours if you lend it to a friend.

Revenue from the \$4 day fee helps maintain the specific park



The Monarch Waystation sign will be moved to the new location.



Volunteers work on the Cantrall Buckley pollinator garden during the SOLVE event in September. All photos by Janis Mohr-Tipton.



The new location for the monarch. The red flags in the background mark the boundary of the planned long oval pollinator garden.

where you purchase the day pass, and Cantrall Buckley Park certainly needs your support.

ASPs purchased any time after January 1, 2024, will cost \$45. The Jackson County Parks website promises a discount (of an unspecified amount) for passes bought in December 2023.

Here are several ways to purchase a seasonal pass:

- Pay cash to the Cantrall Buckley Park hosts.
- Call Jill at the Jackson County Parks department office at 541-774-8183 to pay by credit card. You will be mailed your pass in one to two days after the transaction has cleared.
- Buy your pass at Ruch Hardware, Blackbird, REI, Sportsman's Warehouse, or the Southern Oregon RV Park office (just north of the fairgrounds).

AGA's park committee is looking forward to next year and continuing

good relationships with our partners at Applegate Partnership and Watershed Council and Jackson County Parks. As the current projects wind to an end, we will be shifting our focus to the many restoration and regeneration needs of the park and working together to keep this "gem of a park" a place of beauty for all of us.

Keep an eye on the donor mural as it changes with the addition of new panels over the next few months. We don't have a final date, but the artist is looking at adding a panel or two with each visit. He's excited to see completion coming.

If you have any questions regarding Cantrall Buckley Park, please contact me.

Janis Mohr-Tipton  
Chair, A Greater Applegate Park Enhancement Committee  
Cochair, APWC Cultural Committee  
janis.agapark@gmail.com  
contact@apwc.info



**Thank you for a great year in the Applegate!**

**A GREATER APPLLEGATE**

Scan to learn more about our work and to pledge your support.  
[www.agreaterapplegate.org](http://www.agreaterapplegate.org)