



# SWANSON'S MOUNTAIN VIEW ORCHARD NEWSLETTER

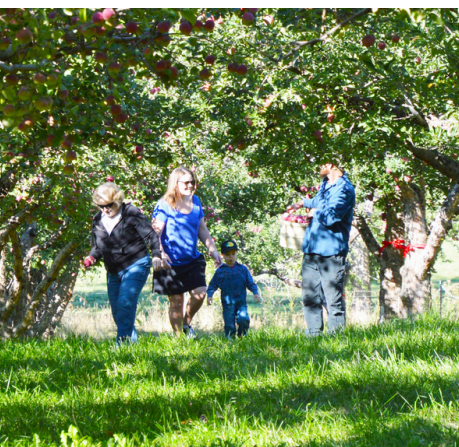


## WELCOME TO APPLE SEASON!

The trees are heavy with fruit, and we can't wait to share another harvest with you. This year's crop is shaping up beautifully, so here's a look at what's ahead and what we've been up to this summer.

## What's Inside?

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## U-PICK IS BACK!

Spend a fall day in the orchard picking your own Heirloom McIntosh apples, enjoying fresh cider donuts and slushies, feeding the animals, and taking in the autumn views. Read more on pg. 4.

**September 20-21 & September 27-28 | 10 AM – 5 PM**





## CROP UPDATE

### **WHAT IS KING BLOOM?**

In each apple blossom cluster, the central flower, or “king bloom”, is the first to open and often produces the largest, best-shaped fruit. We watch the king blooms closely to time pollination, thinning, and other key steps that set the stage for a great harvest. If you’ve ever noticed one apple on a branch that’s a bit bigger and more perfect than the rest, it was probably a king bloom!



Thanks to a great spring and some well-timed frost protection (we ran our wind machines about seven times this year), we were able to preserve many of our “king bloom” apples. These apples tend to be larger and of higher quality, and this year, size and quality are both improved compared to last season.

Heavy thinning earlier in the year has also helped ensure larger, well-shaped fruit.

Summer has been mild overall, and so

with consistent watering and care, the apples have shown exceptional sizing when compared to warmer summers previously.

Volume is expected to be in line with prior years. However, we have been working harder than usual to manage fire blight, likely spread by bees during our longer-than-usual bloom period, and have been proactively removing affected branches to keep the trees healthy.

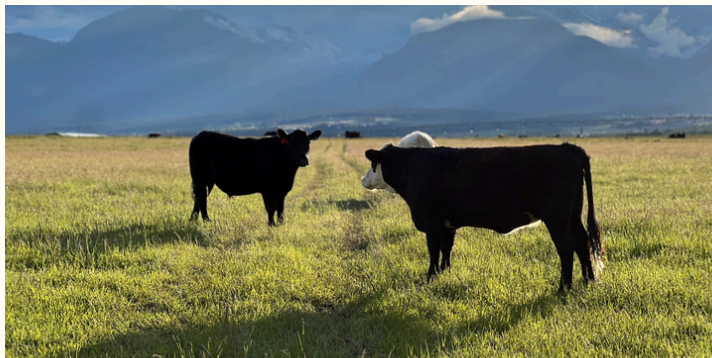




# SUMMER



# RECAP



**Apple & Grass-Fed Beef** – This fall, we're offering beef cuts for sale in our packing shed for the first time. If you enjoy the cuts as much as we know you will, you can sign up for 1/4 & 1/2 beef packages in the spring. Spots are limited, so sign up now! *Special thanks to our processing partners Bar MW Meats (local buyers) and Hamilton Packing (out of state deliveries).*

[swansonsmountainvieworchard.com/beef](https://swansonsmountainvieworchard.com/beef)



**Montana School Nutrition Association Summer Conference** – Hilka represented our orchard at the MTSNA Summer Conference. Schools can now order apples directly from our site or through our partners at Western Montana Growers Co-op or the DOJ system.

[swansonsmountainvieworchard.com/schools](https://swansonsmountainvieworchard.com/schools)



**MSU Research Project** – We're excited to host a Montana State University research project in our orchard, studying how targeted irrigation can help apples thrive. Scan the QR code to read more!



**Ground Apple Harvester** – We tested our ground apple harvester, which will collect apples for animal feed and for customers purchasing apples for feed or alcohol production, allowing virtually no waste. *Ground apples are not available for human consumption due to food safety regulations.*



**Donuts at Brewfest** – We debuted our apple cider donuts at Brewfest on July 26<sup>th</sup>, and it was a sweet success! Check pg. 4 to find events where you can try our donuts.



# COMING THIS FALL



## APPLE U-PICK

20  
SEP

21  
SEP

27  
SEP

28  
SEP



September 20–21 & September 27–28 | 10 AM – 5 PM

1752 Mountain View Orchard Road, Corvallis

- Pick Heirloom McIntosh apples from the orchard

- Have a picnic among the trees with **apple cider donuts** and **apple cider slushies**
- Feed Scotty the mini Highland and our kune kune pigs ground apples

[swansonsmountainvieworchard.com/offerings/u-pick](https://swansonsmountainvieworchard.com/offerings/u-pick)

## STOREFRONT OPENING

1  
OCT

October 1 | 10 AM – 5 PM

1752 Mountain View Orchard  
Rd., Corvallis

We'll open with our early varieties — Zestar, Snow Sweet, Paula Red, Viking, Early Gold, Transparent — while supplies last (quantities are limited for some). Bulk apple varieties that you'll love, like McIntosh, Empire, and Spartans, will also be available, with Golden & Red Delicious to follow later in October.

## APPLE DAY

4  
OCT

October 4 | 9 AM – 2 PM

205 Bedford St., Hamilton

McIntosh Apple Day at the

Ravalli County Museum marks the official start of cider season! We'll be pouring our first fresh-pressed cider of the year and selling a variety of our locally grown apples, picked straight from the orchard. Cider will be available in our storefront starting October 6th.

## LIQUID APPLE NIGHT

4  
OCT

October 4 | 5 – 9 PM

205 Bedford St., Hamilton

We'll have our **apple cider donut** truck serving up warm treats to pair perfectly with your cider tastings.

## HALLOWEEN PARADE

31  
OCT

October 31 | 4:30 – 6:30 PM

205 Bedford St., Hamilton

Enjoy **apple cider donuts** and **slushies** while you watch the Downtown Hamilton Halloween Parade and trick-or-treat!

*Please note that apple cider donuts & apple cider slushies are only available at the select indicated events and not in our storefront.*





## APPLE TASTE PROFILES

**September Wonder\*** – Crisp and sweet with honey and citrus notes.

**Zestar\*** – Sweet and tangy with hints of brown sugar.

**Empire** – Juicy and crisp, balanced sweet-tart flavor.

**Ruby McIntosh** – Firm, crisp, and sweet-tart.

**Snappy McIntosh** – Spicy-sweet flavor.

**Spartan** – Crisp texture with a sweet finish.

**Red Delicious** – Sweet and crisp, a classic favorite.

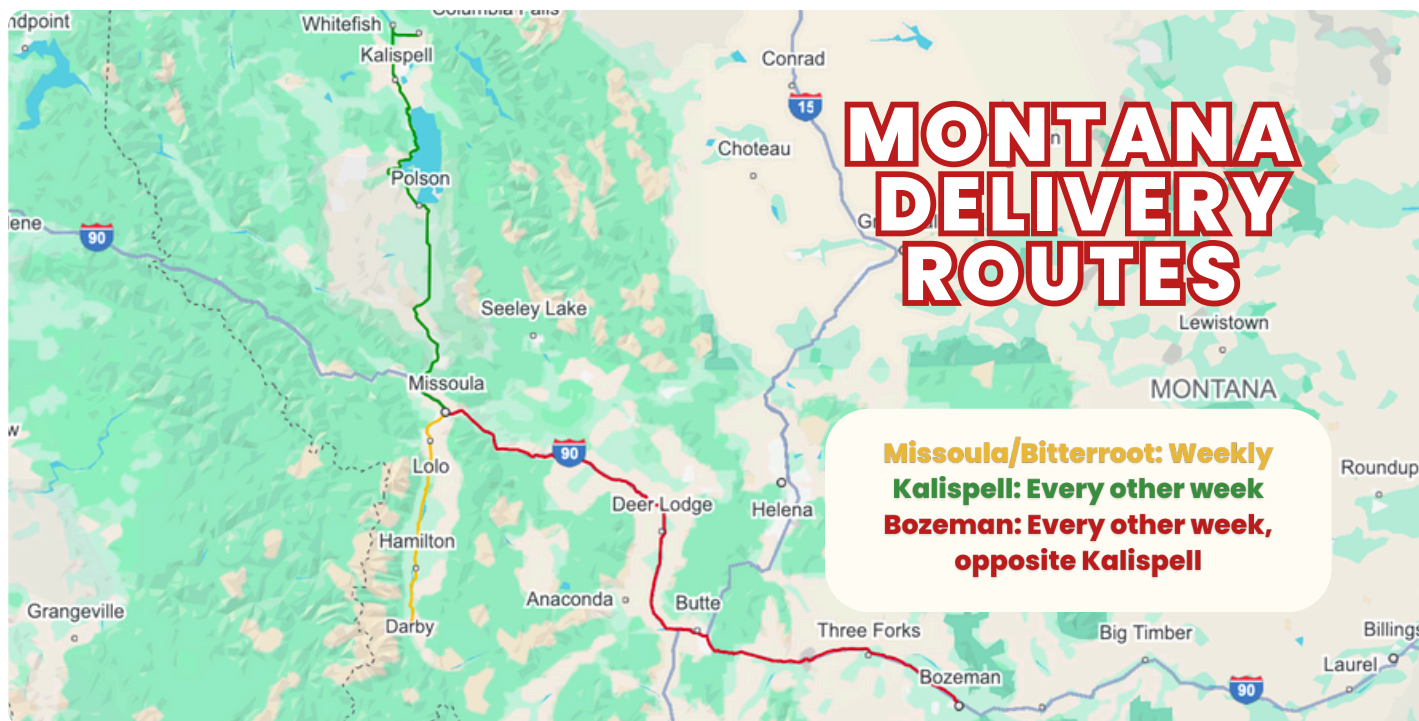
**Snow Sweet\*** – Sweet with a hint of tartness and rich undertones.

**Winter Banana\*** – Tangy, juicy, and refreshing.

**Golden Delicious** – Exceptionally sweet.

**Early Gold\*** – Sweet yellow-green, first harvested each fall.

\*Limited supply.



**Week of October 6th** – First deliveries to stores (all routes). After that, Bozeman and Kalispell deliveries will alternate every other week and Missoula deliveries will occur weekly.





# OFFERINGS

All varieties in our storefront are available in 5 lb. bags, 1/2 bushel (+/- 20 lbs.), and full bushel boxes (+/- 40 lbs).

- US Grade A Combination Fancy/Extra Fancy: 3" - 3 1/4" diameter (Large)
- US Grade A Combination Fancy/Extra Fancy: 2 5/8" - 3" diameter (Medium)
- US Grade A Combination Fancy/Extra Fancy: 2 5/16" - 2 5/8" diameter (Small)
- Cooking Grade - peelable, minor surface defects, no color requirement, 2 5/8" min. diameter

## Three-Pound Bags

McIntosh, Spartan, and Empire varieties are also available in 3 lb. bags **in stores only**.

These bags debuted during our Fall 2024 season, and sales outpaced our expectations the stores across the state.



**Our Storefront opens October 1st!**

## FALL APPLE CIDER

Swanson's Mountain View Orchard also offers fresh apple cider by the gallon and half gallon. Cider will be available in the storefront on October 6<sup>th</sup>, following Apple Day on October 4<sup>th</sup> (see pg. 5).

*All natural with no additives or preservatives  
UV treated in accordance with FDA regulations*





# LOCATIONS

## *Where can you find Swanson's apples and cider?*

### **The Bitterroot Valley:**

- Hamilton's Marketplace – Hamilton
- Albertsons – Hamilton
- Safeway – Hamilton
- Super 1 Foods – Hamilton, Stevensville
- Burnt Fork Market – Stevensville
- Gary & Leo's – Florence
- Lolo Harvest Foods – Lolo
- The People's Market – Darby

### **Missoula:**

- Albertsons – Reserve Street, Russel Street, Oxford Street, & Broadway
- Pattee Creek Market
- Orange Street Food Farm
- Rosauers

### **Butte:**

- Three Bears

### **Bozeman:**

- Town & Country Foods – all Bozeman stores
- Bozeman Community Food Co-op

### **Polson:**

- Super 1 Foods

### **Ronan:**

- Harvest Foods

### **St. Ignatius:**

- Rod's Harvest Foods

### **Deer Lodge:**

- Valley Foods

### **Kalispell:**

- Super 1 Foods – both locations

### **Town & Country Foods**

Billings, Lewistown, Livingston, Belgrade, & Dillon

### **Super 1 Foods**

Kalispell, Whitefish, Hamilton, Polson, Stevensville, & Columbia Falls locations

## *We're working toward adding the following locations:*

Bozeman – Safeway & Albertsons  
Balgrade – Albertsons

Livingston – Albertsons  
Helena – Town & Country Foods



# STAY IN TOUCH

-  **1752 Mountain View Orchard Road  
Corvallis, MT 59828**
-  **kendall@swansonsmountainvieworchard.com**
-  **(406) 961-3434**

***Visit our website for more updates!***  
[www.swansonsmountainvieworchard.com](http://www.swansonsmountainvieworchard.com)

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