



SWANSON'S MOUNTAIN VIEW ORCHARD NEWSLETTER



FALL AT THE ORCHARD

It's busy season at Swanson's! Harvest is going strong, cider is flowing, the storefront is open, and we've got exciting events and partnerships to share.

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STOREFRONT HOURS

We're now open for the season! Stop by for **apples**, Montana-raised **beef**, and **apple cider** pressed every Monday!

Monday – Saturday, 10 AM – 5 PM

1752 Mountain View Orchard Rd., Corvallis, MT



HARVEST UPDATE

WHEN DO WE HARVEST?

Every apple variety has its own ideal sugar level for harvest. To determine when we pick, we test each variety using a sugar meter (refractometer) to measure its Brix level, the percentage of natural sugars in the juice. When the Brix reading and flavor both reach their sweet spot, it's harvest time!



This year's crop is one of our best yet. The fruit is sizing beautifully, color and flavor are exceptional, and overall quality across the orchard has exceeded our expectations.

The harvest momentum has been so strong that we actually ran out of bins mid-pick! With all 450 of our bins full at once, we had to make an emergency run and borrow a few extras from our neighbors just to keep up with the steady stream of apples coming in from the field. It's a good problem to have this time

of year, and one that speaks to the strength of this season's crop.

All of our McIntosh, Empire, and Spartan apples are now picked and heading out to stores across Montana. This week, we're beginning harvest on our Golden Delicious and Red Delicious varieties, which are showing excellent color and sweetness. A few Snow Sweets and September Wonders are also nearing peak ripeness and should be available in our storefront the week of October 13th.



THE SEASON SO FAR



APPLE U-PICK

Thank you to everyone who came out for four wonderful U-Pick events! Families, friends, and neighbors filled the orchard, making this season a highlight for us. We'd also like to thank McClain Mell for her wonderful photography and for another year of family photos in the orchard!

MSU RESEARCH

Our research collaboration with MSU continued this month, including with new drone work over the orchard. Part of the goal is to study tree structure and growth patterns under different water treatments.



CORVALLIS PRIMARY FIELD TRIP

On September 26, we welcomed students for a hands-on day in the orchard, sharing how apples grow and what harvest looks like.

Contact Kendall to schedule a field trip for your students!

kendall@swansonsmountainvieworchard.com



STOREFRONT OPENING

Our storefront reopened for the season on October 1st! We're selling apples, beef, merchandise, and fresh apple cider, so make sure to stop by and stock up!

APPLE DAY

McIntosh Apple Day at the Ravalli County Museum on October 4th marked the official start of cider season! We sold out of our first batch of the year, over 1000 gallons of fresh-pressed cider, and also shared our apples and donuts at Liquid Apple Night.



HARVEST FESTIVAL

We joined the Fort Missoula Historical Museum for their Fall Harvest Festival on October 5th with another batch of cider and apple cider donuts!

WESTERN CIDER

Ryan and Michael with Western Cider pressed our McIntosh apples on October 6th for their 2025 McIntosh Hard Cider, coming soon! We're proud to be the farm that supplies all of the apples for Western Cider's McIntosh Hard Cider.





COMING UP: EVENTS



SCHOOL NUTRITION TEAMS MEET & GREET

30
OCT

October 30 | 2 – 5 PM

1752 Mountain View Orchard
Rd., Corvallis, MT

We're connecting with Montana school nutrition leaders to showcase how local apples and cider can support healthy lunches across the state. To RSVP, email grace@rceda.org by October 27th.



UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA FARM TO COLLEGE EVENT

16
OCT

October 16 | 11 AM – 4 PM

1752 Mountain View
Orchard Rd., Corvallis

We'll be in Missoula sharing apple and cider samples with students, staff, and community members.

HALLOWEEN PARADE

31
OCT

October 31 | 4:30 – 6:30 PM

205 Bedford St., Hamilton

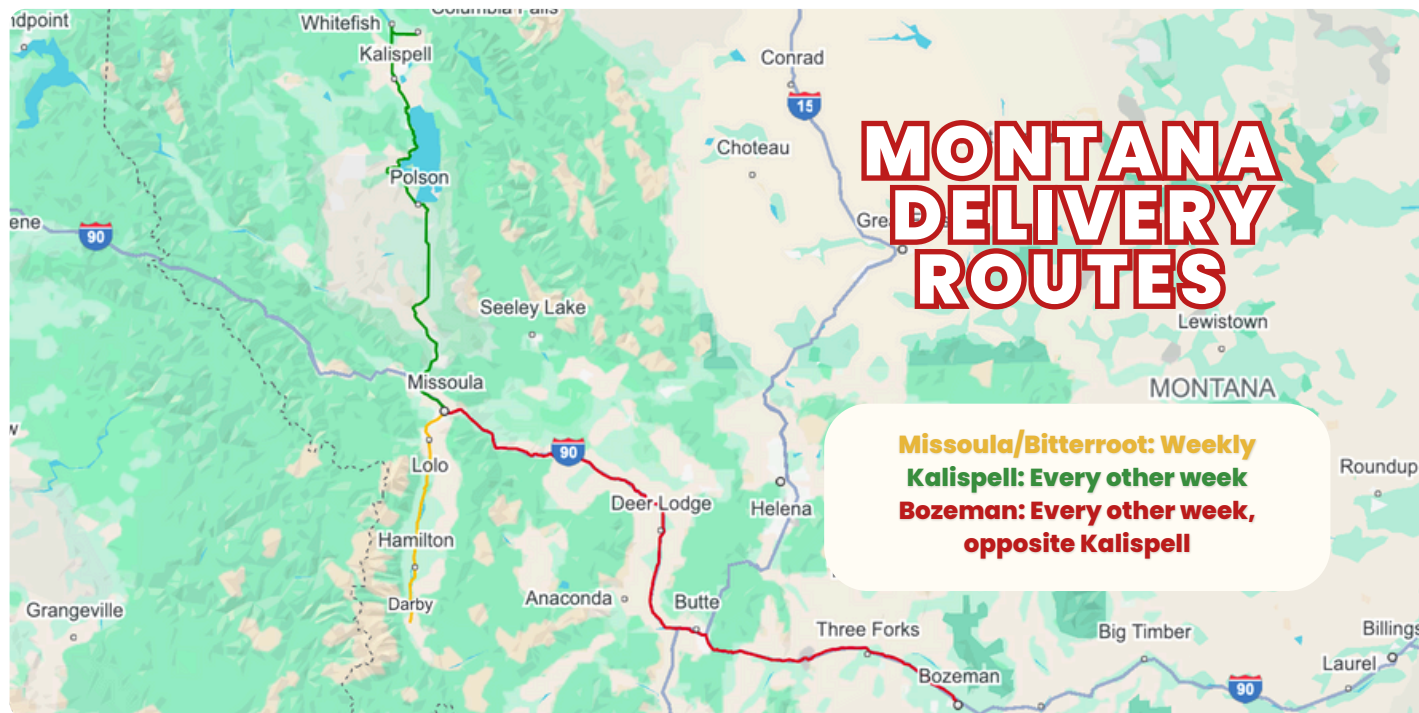
Enjoy **apple cider donuts** while you watch the Downtown Hamilton Halloween Parade and trick-or-treat!



MONTANA CRUNCH OFF

Registration is open for Montana Crunch Off, a free, statewide event celebrating local foods all October long. **Register now!**

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



Store Deliveries

Our apples are reaching more shelves than ever. Look for Swanson's at new locations in:

- Bozeman – Albertsons (23rd St), Safeway (Main St)
- Belgrade – Albertsons (Jackrabbit Ln)
- Butte – Safeway (Massachusetts Ave, Front St)
- Deer Lodge – Safeway (Main St)

Deliveries are ongoing now, and by October 7, our apples should be on shelves at every partner store across Montana.





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**.

Montana Beef

For the first time, we're selling individual cuts of our Montana-raised, apple-fed beef from our storefront! If you love it as much as we know you will, you can sign up for **spring quarter/half beef sales**.



Our Storefront is open Monday-Saturday, 10 AM-5 PM

APPLE CIDER

Swanson's Mountain View Orchard also offers fresh apple cider by the gallon and half gallon, made with only one ingredient: Apples!

*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
- Safeway (Massachusetts Ave)
- Safeway (Front Street)

Belgrade:

- Albertsons
- Town & Country Foods

Bozeman:

- Town & Country Foods – all Bozeman stores
- Bozeman Community Food Co-op
- Albertsons (23rd St.)
- Safeway (Main St.)

Polson:

- Super 1 Foods

Ronan:

- Harvest Foods

St. Ignatius:

- Rod's Harvest Foods

Deer Lodge:

- Valley Foods
- Safeway

Kalispell:

- Super 1 Foods – both locations
- Rosauers

Town & Country Foods

Billings, Lewistown, Livingston, Belgrade, Helena, Dillon

Super 1 Foods

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



STAY IN TOUCH

-  **1752 Mountain View Orchard Road
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Visit our website for more updates!
www.swansonsmountainvieworchard.com

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