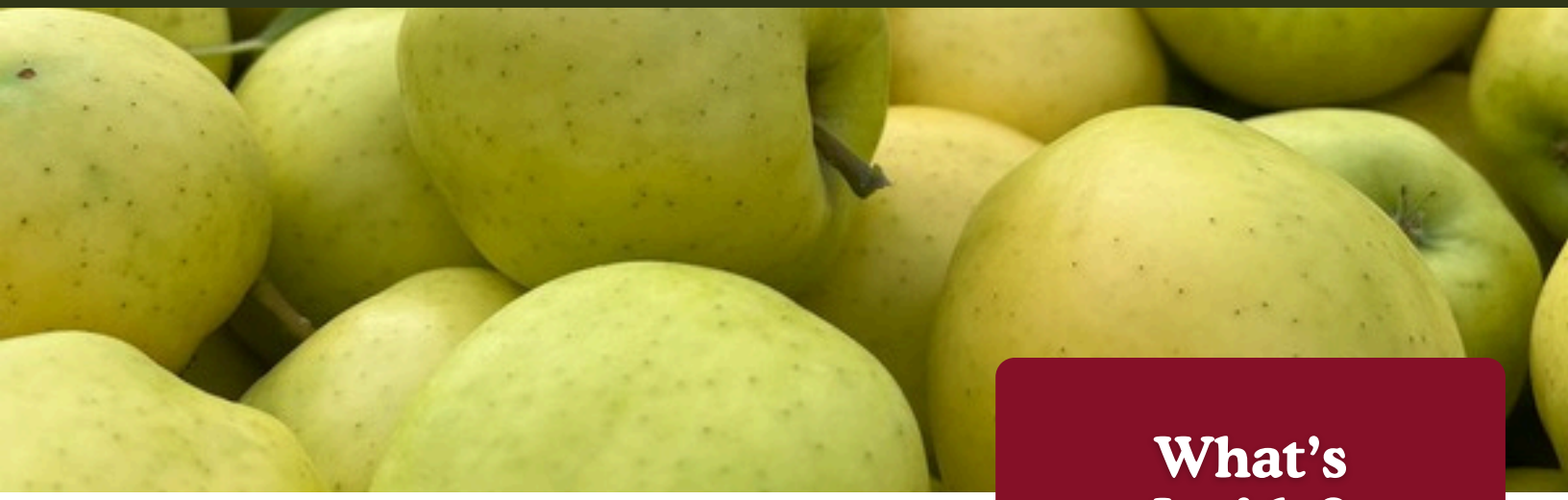
SWANSON'S MOUNTAIN VIEW ORCHARD NEWSLETTER



A FALL FULL OF APPLES

We're making the most of the crop that we have! There has been no shortage of fall memories at the orchard and around the Bitterroot Valley.

What's Inside?

Orchard Update..... 02
What's Next?..... 04
Events..... 05
Offerings..... 07
Deliveries..... 08
Locations..... 11

STOREFRONT EVENTS

Join us this fall for cider releases, warm apple cider donuts, and more at the Swanson's storefront! *More on page 4!*

1752 Mountain View Orchard Road, Corvallis, MT

AN UPDATE FROM THE ORCHARD

Fall is here at Swanson's, and the orchard is busy!

We know we've talked a lot about this year's spring freeze, but it's still an important part of our story, especially for anyone new to Swanson's. The freeze took a major toll on our crop, leaving us with roughly 20% of last year's harvest. Some varieties, including Empire, were lost entirely, and our McIntosh crop is down roughly 70-80%.

What we did harvest, though, was excellent quality McIntosh. This allowed us to send more apples normally set aside for cider to wholesale customers across Montana

Despite the difficult season, we also honored our commitment to Montana's public schools, supplying 450 bushel boxes of apples through the USDA Department of Defense Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (DoD Fresh). Getting Montana-grown apples to students remains a priority for our farm.

With more apples going to wholesale, we have less available for cider and will only be pressing two more batches this season (dates on pg. 4).

It's been a challenging growing season, but we're proud of what we've brought in and grateful for every apple that made it through. Thank you for continuing to support our family, our farm, and Montana-grown apples. Your support means even more in a season like this one.

U-Pick Returned

Our third annual U-Pick weekends wrapped up in September, with more than 750 families joining us for four days of picking McIntosh apples right from the tree.

We loved seeing returning families, first-time visitors, kids exploring the orchard, and plenty of full baskets heading home. The crop was lighter this year, but the U-Pick block still gave our community a chance to enjoy one of our favorite parts of apple season: picking your own fruit and spending a fall day in the orchard.

And, of course, our apple cider donut trailer was there with warm donuts and frozen cider slushies to complete the experience. Thank you to everyone who came out and made this year's U-Pick season so special.

McIntosh Apple Day kicked off cider season

On October 3, we joined the Ravalli County Museum for McIntosh Apple Day in Hamilton. This event is always especially meaningful because it marks the release of our first fresh-pressed apple cider of the season. We brought our McIntosh apples, cider, and plenty of fall spirit to the museum for a day celebrating one of the Bitterroot Valley's most beloved apples.

That evening, we headed back to the museum for Liquid Apple Night, where our apple cider donuts made an appearance alongside the local cider.
We were also able to set aside 50 cases of apples for the museum's Apple Day apple pie fundraiser!

We're grateful to be part of these community traditions and to get to share the products that come from our orchard with our neighbors.

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CIDER RELEASE

17 OCT

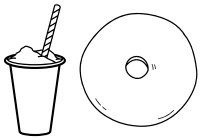
14 NOV

October 17 | 10 AM – 5 PM

1752 Mountain View Orchard Rd., Corvallis

Since cider is limited this year, we will only have it in our storefront on two days. Once it's sold out, that's it! It's not available in stores this year. Limited to four half-gallons per customer.

APPLE CIDER DONUT DAYS



24 OCT

21 NOV

October 24, November 21 | 10 AM - 5 PM

1752 Mountain View Orchard Rd., Corvallis

Visit us at the orchard for Apple Cider Donut Days! Enjoy fresh apple cider donuts, hot apple cider, and shop our storefront for fresh apples, cider, and locally raised, apple and grass-fed beef.

On cider release days and Apple Cider Donut Days, *individual beef cuts will be discounted 20%*

Apple cider donuts & hot apple cider cups are only available at the Donut Days events and not in our storefront.

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 ¼" diameter (Large)
- US Grade A Combination Fancy/Extra Fancy: 2 ⅝" - 3" diameter (Medium)
- US Grade A Combination Fancy/Extra Fancy: 2 $^{5}/_{16}$" - 2 ⅝" diameter (Small)
- Cooking Grade - peelable, minor surface defects, no color requirement, 2 ⅝" min. diameter

Look for our Three-Pound Bags

This year, McIntosh and Spartan varieties are available in 3 lb. bags **in stores only.**

Storefront Hours: Monday-Saturday, 10 am - 5 pm

1752 Mountain View Orchard Rd., Corvallis, MT
Monday - Saturday, 10 am - 5 pm

FALL APPLE CIDER

Swanson's Mountain View Orchard also offers fresh apple cider, this year by the half gallon, and only on select days. Cider release dates are on pg. 4.

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

APPLE TASTE PROFILES & CROP QUANTITY UPDATE

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 *(no supply due to frost)*
Ruby McIntosh – Firm, crisp, and sweet-tart
Snappy McIntosh – Spicy-sweet flavor
Spartan* – Crisp texture with a sweet finish
Winter Banana** – Tangy, juicy, and refreshing
Red Delicious – Sweet and crisp, a classic favorite (no supply due to frost)
Snow Sweet* – Sweet with a hint of tartness and rich undertones
Golden Delicious – Exceptionally sweet
Early Gold** – Sweet yellow-green, first harvested each fall

Limited supply due to frost
Limited supply

Deliveries are different this season. These are the stores to look in:

The Bitterroot Valley:

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

Missoula:

- Pattee Creek Market
- Orange Street Food Farm

Ronan:
Harvest Foods

Bozeman:
Town & Country Foods – all Bozeman stores

Town & Country Foods
Billings, Bozeman, Livingston, Belgrade, & Dillon

Super 1 Foods
Kalispell, Whitefish, Hamilton, Polson, Stevensville, & Columbia Falls locations

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

Find us on