

# Archery hunters urged to beware of fire danger

The last full weekend in August means the start of archery season for deer and elk. And like every start to hunting season, bowhunters will be faced with high to extreme fire danger across Oregon.

“It’s already been a tough fire season,” says Oregon Department of Forestry’s Fire Prevention Coordinator Tom Fields. “While we have been fortunate with minimal lightning-caused fires, our concern is with human-caused fires.”

Close to 90 percent of the nearly 600 fires started on ODF-protected lands in 2016 are attributed to people. That compares to the 10-year average of about 65 percent.

The concern among the hunting community is with campfires, smoking, and off-road vehicle use, all of which are either prohibited or restricted to certain areas. Hunters are encouraged to check fire restrictions before

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# Miller Irrigation helps keep Sisters green

By Jim Cornelius  
News Editor

A good irrigation system keeps your landscape green and your flowers colorful. It can also save you money by saving water.

Miller Irrigation has come to Sisters with those twin purposes in mind.

“Our goal is to save as much water as possible,” said Scott Miller, owner of Miller Irrigation.

Though Miller Irrigation is based in Bend, Scott has recently moved his family to Sisters and is expanding his client base here in Sisters. He’s offering free assessments of irrigation systems, noting that clients can save as much as 33 to 50 percent of their water use with the right nozzles set up and maintained correctly.

Minor adjustments to a system can make a big difference in the success of your plants, Miller notes. More uniformity of spread equals a healthier landscape. And water savings is important in an often drought-afflicted Sisters Country.

“We see more houses out east of town having to drill their wells a lot deeper now,” Miller noted.

Scott Miller has been around long enough to recognize the changes that have occurred in Central Oregon

— both in the landscape and in the way people live.

He worked for Anderson Landscaping in Bend in high school, and he continued to work in the field while he went to flight school in Eugene. Deciding that a career in aviation wasn’t for him, he returned to Bend and started Miller Irrigation.

“I opened it up with pretty much no money in my bank account and just worked up from there,” he recalled.

The business has grown as more people seek quality irrigation for their landscape. Scott employs five people.

Two months ago the Miller family moved to Sisters.

“I wanted my kids (ages four and seven) to grow up in a more community-based atmosphere, like it was for me in Bend back in the day,” Scott said. He also noted that “schools are a large part” of the attraction of Sisters.



PHOTO PROVIDED

Scott Miller has moved to Sisters.

As he settles into his new community, he’s building a client base in Sisters Country. In addition to irrigation, Miller Irrigation also offers heated horse-watering systems, an attractive feature for the Sisters Country equestrian community.

For more information contact Miller Irrigation at 541-388-0190.

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★ Are you interested in being an ambassador for Deschutes County Fair & Rodeo?

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★ Can you ride a horse?

★ Will you be 17 years old by January 1, 2017 and not yet 21 years old by July 25, 2017?

★ Do you live in Deschutes, Crook, or Jefferson County?

★ Things to consider: Application, Reining Pattern, Flag Run-in & Queen Run-in, Speech, Interview

Tryouts will be held Monday, September 19 at 5 p.m.

Juniper Arena & North Sister Building

Deadline to apply is September 9 at 4 p.m.

For more information contact Carol Shull Zimmerman, Deschutes County Fair & Rodeo Queen Advisor, at 541-389-2529 / 541-480-2140 or cshull@ykwcc.net