



Tips from the Well Pump & Water Filtration Guru!

with Tami Quinn Hollenbeck

Trying to get the best “Bang for your Buck”? Keep in mind when getting an estimate for work to be done on your property that money should not be the only factor to consider.

Make sure you can trust the company you are working with. How long have they been in business? Protect your property by ask for references, check their licensing, bonding, and insurance.

Before looking for water filtration equipment, have your water tested. Make sure the person giving you the estimate has been out to physically look at your system before giving you a price. Has the company representative taken the time to thoroughly explain the work to be completed or are they just trying to sell you something? What brand/quality of equipment is being recommended? Does the contractor warranty any of their workmanship?

Paying a little bit more money is worth the peace of mind to know you are working with a trustworthy company.

Water is a geological cocktail, so DRINK MORE WATER!

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Quinn's Well, Pump and Water Filtration is located at 6811 Williams Hwy. We install, maintain and repair complete water pumping systems, and we offer a complete line of water filtration equipment. Contact our professional staff by phone, e-mail, or visit our office. www.quinnswell.com CCB #192047

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Pacifica in pictures

BY PEG PRAG

It's hard to believe, but Pacifica just celebrated its 20th Anniversary! We celebrated with a full day of free classes, hikes, and demonstrations on art, nature, horses, wildcrafting, dogs, plants, and history. All were great, and we thank the teachers for sharing their time and knowledge.

Pacifica will soon have an efficient array of solar panels—installed by Kirpal Khalsa of Oregon Solarworks—with the essential and appreciated help of a Blue Sky grant from Pacific Power. There will be a ribbon cutting on June 16 at 2 pm. Come celebrate with us! Alternative energy is important in so many ways, e.g., our electricity bill will be going down!

The restrooms that Pacifica has needed and worked toward for so many years are finally under way. Being constructed by local contractor Richard Cassidy, they will hopefully be completed by July, when the

Native Plant Society of Oregon is holding their state meeting at Pacifica.

Pacifica is excited to be starting its second season of Outdoor School with fifth- and sixth-graders staying for three days and two nights of outdoor study and fun. Vanessa Redding and Shauna Sorce and their incredible team have developed a terrific curriculum, including special campfire activities and night hikes. Pacifica hosts 250 to 300 children at its Outdoor School and 4 - 5,000 at Caterpillar and field trips.

Pacifica was thrilled to share an Americorps Team with the Williams Community Forest Project earlier in the year. With the help of Rodger Miller, volunteer extraordinaire, one of the things the team did at Pacifica was fix and create the Bumblebee, a hay-wagon trailer fixed up for field trips and events.

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Outdoor school campfire at Pacifica. Photo: Peg Prag.



Bumblebee hay wagon for field trips and events. Photo: Ray Prag.



Top photo: Josephine County Historical Society member Leta Niederhauser playing Martha Messinger (Pacifica's original homesteader) with the real Joyce Messinger (Martha's great-granddaughter) and her granddaughters. Photo: Peg Prag. Middle photo: Blue Sky solar under construction. Photo: Ray Prag. Bottom photo: Restroom under construction. Photo: Ray Prag.

Motorcycle riders keep trails open

BY CHUCK STEAHLY

The Motorcycle Riders Association (MRA) has been helping the US Forest Service (USFS) maintain trails in the Applegate for over 25 years. A number of trails in the mountains around Applegate Lake are multiuse, open to motorcycles (not ATVs) and happily shared with nonmotorized users since they were built decades ago. Many are old mining and fire lookout supply trails that are now used for recreation. MRA does the majority of fallen tree removal, brush clearing, and drainage repair on all of these shared trails.

Some of these trails are popular with hikers and mountain bikers as well as motorcyclists, such as the Stein Butte Trail, Boundary Trail, Little Grayback, Summit Lake, and Cook and Green Trail. Other more remote or difficult trails, such as New London, Carlton Pasture, and Charlie Buck, have light hiker use but offer the challenge that motorcycle riders with advanced ability enjoy.

Motorcycles are a great way to access trails while carrying tools, such as chainsaws, McLeods (large rakehoes), handsaws, and pruners. Being able to reach trouble spots quickly makes maintenance much more efficient than on foot.

In 2017 portions of the Cook and Green Trail were exposed to wildfire, which weakened the roots of many trees, causing unusual amounts of trail damage and fallen trees. In June 2018, MRA teamed up with Southern Oregon Trail Alliance (SOTA) to hold a work party to reopen Cook and Green, with a combined effort of nearly 100 man-hours to get the popular trail usable again. Without groups like MRA and SOTA, some trails would become unusable to the average hiker or mountain biker.

Donna Mickley, district ranger for the Siskiyou Mountains Ranger District, says, “The MRA has been a longstanding, reliable partner in our efforts to accomplish much-needed trail maintenance in the Applegate Valley and has assisted with trails

Felled trees were removed on the Cook and Green Trail in 2018.



of all kinds, including nonmotorized. The USFS relies more and more on user groups to help keep up with trail-maintenance needs all across the forest. And in turn, those groups have started to work closely together, combining both their people power and their skill sets. We look forward to continuing our partnership with the MRA and support their work with other partner organizations to maintain trails.”

The MRA was created in 1965 to promote the responsible use of off-road motorcycles and ATVs. We are a nonprofit, family-oriented club centered in Jacksonville and serving all of southwest Oregon. MRA partners with the US Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management to help maintain trails. We own about 1,000 acres next to the Jacksonville Woodlands and work with the City of Jacksonville to offer a wide range of recreation opportunities, motorized and nonmotorized, to the public.

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Motorcycles carry chainsaws to trouble spots.



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