

Weather Watch

Cave Junction

Thursday, July 14

sunny

High -- 85 Low -- 58

Friday, July 15

Sunshine

High -- 86 Low -- 59

Saturday, July 16

Mostly Sun

High -- 83 Low -- 60

Sunday, July 17

Partly Cloudy

High -- 78 Low -- 57

Monday, July 18

Partly Cloudy

High -- 84 Low -- 60

Tuesday, July 19

Some Clouds

High -- 85 Low -- 61

Wednesday, July 20

Mostly Sunny

High -- 83 Low -- 59

Fire Danger moved to Moderate July 1

Following are the high & low temperatures, and rainfall recorded in Selma by Chris Granville

July	High	Low	Rain
2	77	51	0
3	76	50	0
4	74	56	0
5	73	58	.46
6	74	59	.08
7	88	52	0
8	87	51	0

YTD Rain: 45" Moderate drought

ROSIE'S

INFERNO

WOOD FIRED PIZZA

TRY

ROSIE'S

PIZZA

TODAY

458-212-0444

OPEN

Thurs - Sun

At Chevron in CJ

11 AM - 7 PM

Closed

Mon - Weds

Crawlies with Cri: by Christy Solo



(Photo by Christy Solo, Illinois Valley News)

Forest alligator lizard (*Elgaria multicarinata multicarinata*)

It's time to revisit and learn more about a crawly we met several years ago. Meet the forest alligator lizard (*Elgaria multicarinata multicarinata*). The forest alligator is a southern alligator lizard and contrary to their name, they live all along the Pacific Coast.

Northern alligator lizards live in the same area, but they also live a tiny bit further north and up over into Idaho and Montana.

All alligator lizards are "look do not touch" crawlies. This is partially for your safety, largely for the lizard's safety. Alligator lizards will often bite if handled, and who can blame them? They'll also express bodily fluids on you, and no one wants that.

Like many lizards, alligator lizards can drop their tails as a defense mechanism and while their tails do grow back, they don't grow back quickly and generally a

regrown tail isn't as nifty as their original. Often their tails are longer than their bodies and they are semi-prehensile allowing the lizards to use them for climbing. Those tails are important.

As handling them can easily cause them to drop their tails from fear – look, don't touch.

If an alligator lizard does drop their tail to avoid becoming a predator's lunch, the tail will continue to wriggle for several minutes, distracting the would-be predator and allowing the lizard to escape.

They also use their tails to avoid being eaten in another way, young alligator lizards have been seen pulling an "ouroboros maneuver," biting their own tails and holding on to make themselves too large for snakes to swallow.

Alligator lizards can be found throughout our area. Habitats include grassland,

open forest, and chaparral. They are common in foothill oak woodlands. They spend their days hiding under rocks, logs, in brush, under boards, trash and other surface cover. They are variable in color, they can be brown, gray, green or golden.

Seeing one is lucky as they move quickly. At a glance, you might think you're seeing a snake because alligator lizards tuck in their rear legs and pull themselves with their front legs in an undulating motion to appear more snake-like.

When not hiding or fleeing from potential predators, alligator lizards are predators in their own right. Their diet includes small arthropods, slugs, snails, lizards, small mammals and occasionally bird eggs.

Speaking of eggs, female lay clutches of up to 20 eggs in early summer. She will usually lay them in rotting wood

or decaying plant matter to keep them warm. She guards the eggs until fall when they hatch. Baby alligator lizards hatch out fully formed and about four inches long. They get right to eating before they hibernate through the winter.

Alligator lizards are generally secretive, tending to hide in brush or under rocks, although they are often seen foraging out in the open or on roads in the morning and evening. They are most active early in the morning and at twilight, though they will forage at night when temperatures are especially high.

You have a good chance of spotting an alligator lizard anytime over the summer, but your odds may be better late in the fall when they start moving back near buildings to find shelter for the winter. Don't worry, they won't take up any space inside your house, but maybe under it.

BY THE YARD:

- DG & Sand
- Granite, River & Shale
- Bark-O-Mulch
- Pumice (2 sizes)
- Washed Steer Manure
- OMRI Compost
- Compost'N Pumice
- Compost Chicken & Pumice
- 50/50 Mix (Chicken & Steer)
- Oregon Mix
- Coco Peat (fluffed)
- WSDA Composted Chicken Manure
- OMRI ROCK'N SOIL POTTING SOIL
- OMRI 1 LOVE POTTING SOIL



BY THE BAG/TOTE:

- 1 Yard Tote
- Perlite (4CF)
- Perlite (60CF)
- Peat Moss (3.8 CF)
- Peat Moss (55 CF)
- Premium Worm Castings

BY THE BLOCK:

- Coco Peat Blocks

BY THE PALLET:

- Peat Moss
- Coco Peat Blocks

DOWN TO EARTH AMENDMENTS

CULVERTS - GARDEN, GREENHOUSE, HARVEST, IRRIGATION & LANDSCAPE SUPPLY - ROAD FABRIC

3/4 MINUS, DRAIN, DRIVEWAY & GRAVEL ROCK

ROCK'N SOIL

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Locally Made and Family Owned - Be Green One Tote or Truck at a Time