

'Next To Normal'
— B1



55K donation helps meal programs — A8



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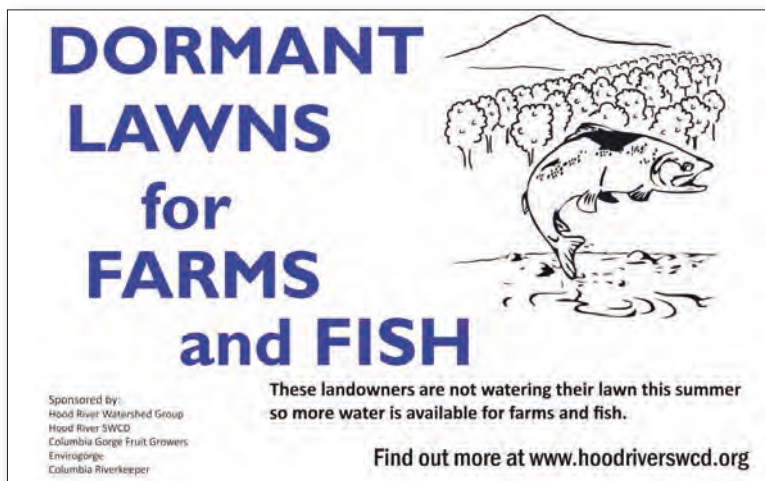
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HOOD RIVER, OREGON ■ WEDNESDAY, JULY 8, 2015

www.hoodrivernews.com

'For Fish and Farms'

Signs promote dormant lawns, water conservation



Interested in an easy way to use less water this summer? Consider not watering your lawn.

Not watering will allow more water to be left in-stream, which can help Hood River crops, fish, and other aquatic species through this drought.

During this low water year, every drop counts. The Hood River Watershed Group, Hood River Soil and Water Conservation District, and partners are providing free signs (donations welcome) to homeowners who voluntarily let their lawns go dormant this year. Dormant

grass is not dead; it will green up again with the fall rains.

This is not the first time local agencies have distributed "brown lawn" signs. In 2001, the idea debuted with a bright yellow version during that year's serious drought.

To kick off this signage campaign, the Hood River Watershed Group will be at the July 9 Hood River Farmers Market with freshly printed signs and more information on water conservation. Signs will also be available after July 9 at the SWCD Office, Columbia Riverkeeper, Farmers Irrigation Dis-

trict, East Fork Irrigation District, Middle Fork Irrigation District, and subsequent Farmers Markets. Sign sponsors are Columbia Gorge Fruit Growers, Envirogorge, and Columbia Riverkeeper.

To learn more about dormant lawns or, if your lawn must stay green, how to water efficiently, check out the website www.hoodriverswcd.org or contact Megan Saunders at megan@hoodriverswcd.org or 541-386-6063.

'MULCH IS A SPONGE': MORE SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Examples of readerboard or handmade signs promoting water conservation:

- "We support brown grass" — Western Antique Aeroplane and Automobile Museum.
- "Another brown lawn to help farms and fish." — Handmade sign at a home on 5th Street the Heights.
- "Roses are red, mulch is a sponge, use it to save water, come on take the plunge." — Good News Gardening

Get serious

Top tips for saving water — A4



Community 4th

Photo by Peter Marbach

LIONS FIREWORKS brighten the sky over Hood River and the Hood River bridge in this image captured by Hood River photographer Peter Marbach. The Eyeopeners staged a festive 25-minute show.



Photo by Kirby Neumann-Rea

HOOD RIVER resident John Brennan, left, watches as Boy Scouts raise the flag at the Jackson Park July 4 Celebration.



Photo by Trisha Walker

MEMBERS of Mid Valley Dancers laugh and toss candy to friends as they ride in the Odell July 4 parade. See pages A9-10 story and more photos.

Fatal crash in Cascade Locks claims Stevenson man

A Stevenson man died Sunday morning after his truck smashed through a guardrail on Forest Lane in Cascade Locks.

The driver, Victor F. Sanders, 65, of Stevenson was found dead on scene.

According to emergency crews, his 1998 Jeep Pickup was traveling on Forest Lane when Sanders lost control and left the roadway. The pickup struck the guardrail, which pierced its windshield, and de-

stroyed 35 feet of railing before grinding to a stop.

Oregon State Police troopers responded to the scene at about 6 a.m. Sunday after hearing a report from a resident on Forest Lane who witnessed the crash. Hood River County Sheriff's Office and Cascade Locks Fire and EMS also responded to the scene.

Oregon State Police said "contributing factors" are still being considered.

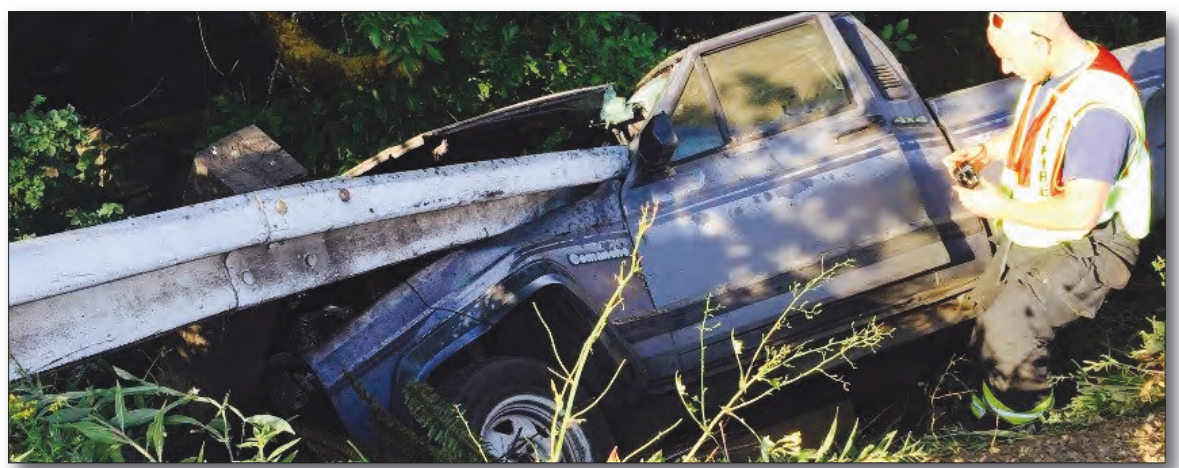


Photo courtesy of Oregon State Police

A STEVENSON MAN died Sunday when his truck burst through 35 feet of guardrail off Forest Lane in Cascade Locks.

Four To Go

Cherry Celebration returns

It's the time of year when businesses throughout the Hood River Fruit Loop share the bounty of the Hood River valley, starting with the annual Cherry Celebration July 18-19.

Cherry celebration provides activities for everyone. Farms offer many varieties of fresh-picked and u-pick cherries, wines, lavender, jams and other cherry treats. Many farms feature picnic areas. Some Fruit Loop farms serve up special activities or attractions for Cherry Days. Admission to most attractions is free, and most are open from at least 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.



Leos bottle drive day is July 11

Hood River Valley Leos have their monthly bottle and can collection on the first Saturday of each month — normally.

However, with the Fourth of July parade and other festivities, the club rescheduled July's collection to July 11. The collection site is at the south edge of Rosauers parking lot.

Leos, along with the HRV Robotics team, will be collecting, sorting and redeeming containers with a nickel deposit from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. to support the Robotics team's activities.

Kiteboarding 4 Cancer this weekend

The 9th annual Kiteboarding 4 Cancer event takes place at the Hood River Waterfront July 10-11. KB4C has something for everybody: live music, pop-up art studio, beer garden hosted by Full Sail, local food carts, and lots of eye-catching kiteboarders showing off their best moves.

All proceeds benefit Athletes 4 Cancer, a nonprofit that offers weeklong adventures retreats for cancer survivors to gain the confidence and healing needed to face life with, or after, cancer.

For more info on events or to make a donation, visit kiteboarding4cancer.org.

'Landscaping with Less Water'

OSU Extension Service, Columbia Gorge Master Gardeners, Hood River Soil and Water Conservation District and Hood River Watershed Group for "Landscaping with Less Water" on July 11 starting at 9 a.m. at the Learning Garden at the Extension grounds. This is one in a series of presentations on water conserving landscapes. Highlighted features to include bioswales, a native plants garden, hellstrip garden, herb garden, and water efficient lawns, followed by a primer on drip irrigation.

The class is free and open to the public. Call 541-386-3343 for more information.