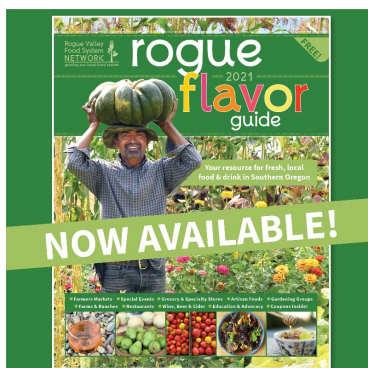




Your 2021 Rogue Flavor Guide

Find [it online](#) now and in print at businesses throughout the Rogue and Illinois Valleys!

New this year, you'll find 16 coupons for local businesses you already love or will soon!

This month:

[News and Events](#)

[Food & Farming Legislation](#)

[Local Food Jobs](#)

[Partner Spotlight: Rhianna Simes](#)

[Find Your Farmers' Market](#)

[Join a CSA](#)

[Funding Opportunities](#)

[Links from Around the Web](#)



Community News & Upcoming Events

Stay tuned in to the Rogue Valley Food System Network Instagram and Facebook pages for more upcoming events.

[Second Saturdays at Long Walk Vineyard](#)

May 8th 5:30-7:30pm

Join Rogue Valley Farm to School for a monthly benefit featuring estate wine from Long Walk Vineyard and assorted tapas prepared from our procurement specialist Deanna Waters-Senf. Featuring locally sourced seasonal ingredients. Tickets are \$20, proceeds benefit RVF2S.

[Building Community Food Webs Book Talk with Author Ken Meter](#)

May 12th at 1pm PT

Join The Wallace Center on May 12th at 4pm ET for a conversation with Ken Meter

Spring Seed Academy at Seven Seeds Farm

May 13-17

An in-depth, hands-on training for farmers, gardeners, educators, entrepreneurs, permaculturalists & anyone interested in becoming a part of the Seed Movement.

inFARmation Spring Series: Land & Capital Access

May 25th from 6:30pm-8pm

Are you a farmer that needs land to farm or a tractor to plow the fields? Are you a local food enthusiast looking for ways to get involved to preserve our farmland or help small farms thrive? In collaboration with Steward, the worlds first crowd-farming platform, we will talk about conventional and non conventional ways to access land and capital in Oregon. Virtual, free to the public, everyone is welcome!

Rogue Farm Corps Weekend Intensive: Farm Business Planning & Visioning

May 22nd-23rd (Sat-Sun)

Three tours of area farms (Wolf Gulch Farm, By George, plus one TBD), a talk about creating vision, value, and mission statements for a farm business, as well as a panel presentation on creating, using, and adapting a farm business plan. We'll hear from the farmers about the importance of visioning and goal setting, how to write your own business plan, and other tricks and tips about branding, niche marketing, value added products, and crowdfunding. We will be outside and socially distancing with masks required.

Save the Date! Online Auction Fundraiser for RVFSN

July 12th-July 19th

Stay tuned to the [RVFSN Facebook page](#) and this newsletter for more information and great auction items from your favorite local food and beverage businesses like gift baskets, hotel stays, memorable dinners, wine tastings, and more.

Rogue Valley Farm Tour

July 18, 10am-3pm

Save the date for the 2021 Rogue Valley Farm Tour! Step behind the scenes at participating farms and ranches in Jackson and Josephine counties and meet the makers, taste artisanal foods, and explore a vast array of local goods. [Sign up to volunteer](#) and enjoy lunch on us from your favorite local food co-op!



The 2021 Oregon State Legislative Session is underway, and there are several policies on the table addressing food and farming policies, hunger in our communities, and sustainable practices to preserve our lands. Our goal is to inform our readers of proposed bills and connect them with our partner organizations who provide great resources and ways to get involved.

Oregon Legislation

Of the upwards of 2,000 proposed bills this session, there are policies affecting meat, raw dairy, organic policies, racial justice, climate, land use, factory farms, hunger, water use and quality, and seeds. We'd recommend taking a look at [Friends of Family Farmers' 2021 Legislative Agenda](#), which outlines these bills and updates to their progress.

[Hunger is a Problem We Can Solve Together](#): A printable guide from Oregon Food Bank of who makes the decisions that affect us in federal, state and local government.

[Friends of Family Farmers' 2021 Mid-Session Update](#)



Friends of Family Farmers is currently looking for a half time Executive Director! Please email your resume, and a cover letter to board@friendsoffamilyfarmers.org no later than May 10, 2021.

Volunteers needed for the Rogue Valley Farm Tour on July 18th. [Sign up here](#) and enjoy lunch at the Ashland Food Co-op or Medford Food Co-op on us!



Vincent Smith of [SOU](#)

RVFSN's council comprises up to 15 members representing all aspects of a food system, from production to waste management. We work with our members in cross-sector collaboration to share resources, strengths, and knowledge for collective action to improve our food system. Vincent Smith represents Southern Oregon University and The Farm at SOU on our council.

RVFSN: Tell us about yourself and your work in the food system.

VS: *I am a professor of Environmental Science & Policy and Sociology at Southern Oregon University. My research explores the complex coupled human-environment systems that shape the world in which we live. I am currently exploring the potential for carbon sequestration, nutrient loading, and pest reduction through Biologically Enhanced Agricultural Management. I was previously exploring the impacts of the cannabis industry on food systems in Oregon and collaborating on long-term research to monitor the impacts of macroalgae development in the Mexican Caribbean. I am the founder and Director of The Farm at SOU: A Center for Sustainability and a member of the SOU Sustainability Council. My work spans several traditional disciplinary boundaries including human ecology, environmental sociology, landscape ecology, agroecology, and human geography.*

RVFSN: What does your vision of a resilient and sustainable local food system look like?

VS: *I see farm profitability and protection at the heart of a resilient and responsible food system. In economies where farming is both profitable and appropriately valued, community food production thrives. Our current agricultural system relies too heavily on externalizing costs and antiquated subsidization. In an economy where rural livelihoods, farmer success, and environmental/equity costs are all valued, each of us will find food security.*

RVFSN: Can you describe an experience in which you saw that vision take place or become reality? (Or, alternately, how do you imagine that vision being accomplished?)

VS: *My vision for a resilient and sustainable food system exists in isolation here in the Rogue Valley and throughout the world. I see my vision become reality when farmers have the buying power to purchase the foods they grow, the ability to provide for their families, the desire to see their children educated, and a long-term vision for agriculture that respects both people and planet.*

VS: *At the moment, my favorite in-season produce is asparagus.*



NEW! Applegate Evening Market

Wednesdays 5-8pm • May 5—November

Electric Gardens Flower Farm, 8035 Highway 238, Jacksonville OR 97530

New this year in Ruch, featuring live music!

Grants Pass Growers Market

Saturdays 9:00am to 1:00pm

JoCo Fairgrounds in Grants Pass

Rogue Valley Ashland Armory Growers Market

Tuesdays 8:30am-1:30pm through November

Ashland Armory, 208 Oak St, Ashland

Rogue Valley Medford Growers Market

Thursdays 8:30am-1:30pm through November

Hawthorne Park, 501 E Main Street, Medford

Rogue Produce

Convenient, flexible, economical, and available year-round, Rogue Produce is an online market that delivers the freshest, highest-quality local and organic produce directly to your door!

Rogue Valley Ashland Growers Market

Saturdays, 8:30am-1:00pm, May 1st through October 30th

Oak Street, Downtown Ashland

JVille Farmers Market

Sundays 9AM – 1:30PM from May–October,

Live Music at 11:30AM

206 N 5th St, Jacksonville, OR 97530

Corner of 5th and C downtown Jacksonville.



USDA Invests \$92.2 Million in Grants for Local, Regional Food

Producers Affected by the Pandemic Grants will be awarded through Farmers

Market and Local Food Promotion Program (FMLFPP), Local Food Promotion

Program (LFPP), and Regional Food System Partnerships (RFSP) program. Grant

Danone Institute for North America is [welcoming applications](#) for its initiative "One Planet. One Health" to promote sustainable local food systems. Applications are due June 6th.

NRCS Oregon is Now Accepting Proposals for 2021 Conservation Innovation Grants

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) announced up to \$150,000 of funding is available in Oregon for eligible individuals, local and state government, non-governmental organizations and tribes through the [Conservation Innovation Grants](#) (CIG) program. Project proposals are due May 7, 2021. NRCS Oregon invites potential applicants to attend a CIG webinar March 25 at 10 a.m. PST.

Restaurant Revitalization Fund provides emergency assistance for eligible restaurants, bars, and other qualifying businesses impacted by COVID-19.

Visit the [Good Food Funding Guide](#) from New Venture Advisors, which lists sources of grants, loans, and equity for businesses and programs promoting sustainable food and agriculture and local economies.



Support a local farm by joining its community supported agriculture (CSA) program, which awards members boxes of fresh produce or other farm goods, weekly, biweekly or monthly — in different sizes and durations. Signing up in winter and early spring lends financial support when farms need it most. Some deliver while others drop boxes at farmers markets or near your workplace. Ask if your CSA accepts Oregon Trail Cards and WIC packages.

Banyan Farm

Weekly pickup in Ashland, Grants Pass and at the farm in Williams • 541-263-8787

Barking Moon CSA

20-week summer CSA with pick-ups in Ashland and on-farm in Applegate. Summer Market Shares also available.

Beebe's Farmstand

Free delivery of weekly shares within two miles of the farm in Central Point. For delivery in Jacksonville, Medford and White City, add \$100 to the price of \$499 for the 16-week season. beebesfarmstand@gmail.com

Daily Blessings Farm

Weekly or biweekly home or office delivery and pickup in Grants Pass; pickup in Cave Junction add or swap items as desired; vacation holds and rescheduling available. dailyblessingsfarmLLC@gmail.com • 530-304-4754

Electric Gardens Flower Bouquet Subscription

Weekly on-farm pickup for eight weeks: April — June, June — August or August — October • 541-761-6502

The Farm at SOU

Twenty weeks from Thursday, May 27 through Thursday, October 7. Weekly Pick up will be held at the SOU Farm Stand in Ashland. Support SOU students by purchasing a share of our 2021 harvest!

Flora Flower CSA

Organic seasonal flowers weekly beginning in April. Pick-up on Tuesdays in Williams at Takubeh, in Murphy at Woodland Charter School, and in Grants Pass at Wild Grapes Bistro. Thursday pick-up at Jefferson Farm Kitchen in Jacksonville.

Fry Family Farm

Spring CSA: Thursdays, March 4th-May 28th. Summer CSA: Thursdays, June-November. Home delivery or pickup in Ashland, Central Point, Jacksonville,

Port Orford Sustainable Seafood Community Supported Fishery

Pick up available at Jefferson Farm Kitchen in Jacksonville every third Wednesday year-round.

Red Buttes Farm CSA

For info, email Patrick at redbuttesfarm@gmail.com

Wildfoot Flowers CSA

Full-shares (20 weeks) and half-shares (10 weeks) of veggies or flowers available starting June 11th. Pick ups in Ashland, Talent, Medford, Jacksonville, Grants Pass, Provolt, & Applegate.



Links

Links to make you think.

Have a link you want to share with the RVFSN community? [Send it to us](#) to be included in next month's newsletter!

LISTEN

[Food by Design Podcast](#) (20-25 minute listens from IDEO)

READ

[USDA Seeks Comments on Food System Supply Chains by May 21 in Response to President Biden's Executive Order to Support Resilient, Diverse, Secure Supply Chains](#)

[Queer, BIPOC Farmers are Working for a More Inclusive and Just Farming Culture](#) (Civil Eats)

[How young farmers are navigating climate change on their farms](#) (NBC)

The Rogue Valley Food System Network is a nonprofit collaborative that brings together businesses, nonprofit organizations, government entities, farmers, and passionate community members to improve the food environment in our region.

***Love this email? Please [forward it on to a friend!](#)
[Sign up here](#) if this newsletter was forwarded to you!***

SUPPORT RVFSN

Your donation supports us in building a robust food system for all in and around the Rogue & Illinois Valleys

[Donate Now!](#)

RVFSN ELSEWHERE

 FACEBOOK

 INSTAGRAM

 VISIT US ONLINE

 GET IN TOUCH!