

2007 MAGA SUMMER TOUR

FRIDAY JULY 27, 2007

APPLE JACK ORCHARDS DELANO, MINNESOTA

The Minnesota Apple Growers Association (MAGA) www.minnesotaapple.org invites you to attend its 2007 Summer Tour on Friday July 27. The 2007 Tour will be hosted by Apple Jack Orchards in Delano, Minnesota.

Apple Jack Orchards www.applejackorchards.com is located approximately 30 minutes west of the Twin Cities just off State Highway 55 in Wright County.

Registration on the day of the tour will begin at 8:30 A.M. The program is scheduled to begin shortly after 9:30 and a lunch will be served at noon. Pre-registration cost of the tour for MAGA members is \$20.00 per person and includes one lunch ticket. (Non-members \$30.00) Children under 10 are free. Please note: Registration cost on tour day will be \$30.00. (Non-members \$40.00)

Pre-register before July 21 with Ralph Yates, Secretary, MAGA at P.O. Box 23, La Crescent MN. 55947. Telephone (507) 895-2388.

Apple Jack Orchards is a family operation. Jack Kelly and son-in-law Mike Dekarski made the first planting of 250 trees in 1983 on the banks of the scenic Crow river. Jack still helps out whenever possible while daughter Kit with husband Mike have now assumed responsibility for the 29 apple varieties (including MN. #1914) and 10,000 + apple trees along with plantings of strawberries and raspberries. They also market Michigan peaches, blueberries and cherries in season.

In the fall they are a 'family fun farm' destination. Entertainment, pumpkins, squash, apple bakery treats and pies, and Christmas trees complement the full line of apple varieties stretching from August to December.

Indoor activities are anchored by their 100-year old barn overlooking the Crow River. It contains not only a spacious Apple Market but also the Olde Barn Gift shop and the new Apple Pantry Café.

Outdoor activities include a 5 acre corn maze, a mini maze for tots, a hay bale pyramid with slide, a cow train and Apple Cannon.

In addition to walking tours of the orchard and retail facility, the MAGA Summer Tour will also feature various speakers from the University of Minnesota, the Minnesota Department of Agriculture and the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. Industry vendors, sales representatives and consultants will also be available to growers during the tour. A short program after lunch will officially kick-off the 2007 Minnesota apple harvest.

LODGING

For those wishing to stay overnight in the area, the closest accommodations are the Super 8 Motel in Buffalo MN, ten minutes west of the orchard. Rooms are available for \$54 - \$64 per night. Telephone (763) 682-5930.

Numerous other motels are located on Highway 55 as well as throughout the West Metro area.

DIRECTIONS

- **From I 494 and MN 55 (Plymouth)**

Take Hwy. 55 west through the towns of Plymouth, Medina, Loretto, Greenfield and Rockford. Approximately 15 miles west of Rockford, you will approach a junction with Wright County Road 32 (look for the blue Highway marker for Apple Jack Orchards at this turn). Turn left onto Wright County Road 32 (also called 37th St.) and drive one mile to Apple Jack Orchards.