

2008 MAGA SUMMER TOUR

FRIDAY JULY 25, 2008

APPLEWOOD ORCHARD LAKEVILLE, MINNESOTA

The Minnesota Apple Growers Association (MAGA) www.minnesotaapple.org invites you to attend its 2008 Summer Tour on Friday July 25. The 2008 Tour will be hosted by Applewood Orchard in Lakeville, Minnesota.

Applewood Orchard www.applewoodorchard.com is located just south of the Twin Cities Metro area in Lakeville, Minnesota.

Registration on the day of the tour will begin at 8:15 A.M. The program is scheduled to begin at 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 19 with Ralph Yates, Secretary, MAGA at P.O. Box 23, La Crescent MN. 55947. Telephone (507) 895-2388. Fax (507) 895-8353.

Our hosts for the day will be Mark and Kathryn Parranto and family. Mark writes:
“We planted our first trees at Applewood Orchard in 1995. Those first 1500 trees were easy and a great start to a hobby. But somewhere along the line things got out of hand! We now have about 7000 trees spread over 30 acres. Our operation caters to pick-your-own family entertainment. We start in June with strawberries, continue with raspberries and finish with apples and pumpkins in the fall. Currently we grow 20 varieties of apples in the orchard – including a few for hard cider only, such as Kingston Black. During apple harvest we feature hayrides on real hay wagons pulled by my collection of antique John Deere tractors. Kids can play in the evergreen hedge maze or on the haystack. We do lots of school tours which are the best advertising we ever got paid for. We believe that ‘we sell entertainment, you get the apples for free.’ Come visit us in July and give us your ideas for improvement. We can use all the help that we can get.” - Mark Parranto

In addition to 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 2008 Minnesota apple harvest.

DIRECTIONS TO APPLEWOOD ORCHARD

- **From Minneapolis or St. Paul**

Drive south on Cedar Ave. (77) through Apple Valley. Keep going south past County Road 50 & 70. Turn right on 225th St. W. and come in ½ mile to Hamburg Avenue. Turn left. There are signs on Cedar & 225th St. and on 225th St. & Hamburg Ave.

- **Alternate Route**

Stay on Southbound I-35. Take the County Road 70 exit which also says Lakeville, Farmington on the highway sign. This exit is the 4th one after the Burnsville Center. Turn left (east) on County Road 70 and go about 5 miles until it comes to a “T” intersection at a stop-and-go light. This is Cedar Avenue. Turn right (south) on Cedar Ave. In about ½ mile the road will narrow from 4 lanes to 2 lanes. 225th St. is the next Street. Turn right and follow the signs.

- **Traveling From the Southeast:**

Going North on Highway 52 toward St. Paul...Exit at Highway 50, Hampton. Go west (right) to Farmington. Highway 50 turns north at the stop light at the intersection with Highway 3. At the next stop light, turn left and follow Highway 50 through Farmington. The 4th stop light (about 5 miles west of Farmington) is Cedar Avenue/County Road 23. Turn left (south). In 1 ½ miles the road narrows from 4 lanes to 2 lanes. Take the next right on 225th St. and follow the signs.