

July 2026 MACROPHYLLUM

Siuslaw Chapter
American Rhododendron Society
P.O. Box 1701
Florence OR. 97439-0111



On the World Wide Web:

Chapter Website: [Siuslaw Chapter ARS](#)

Chapter Facebook Page: [Siuslaw Chapter - Florence - ARS](#)

Siuslaw Chapter ARS Mission Statement

The mission of the Siuslaw Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society is to promote the genus Rhododendron by:

- ✓ Creating enthusiasm for the genus Rhododendron through meetings, shows, publications, and social activities that provide the opportunities for members to share experiences and build friendships.
- ✓ Providing educational opportunities to successfully grow and enjoy these wonderful plants.
- ✓ Encouraging propagation and hybridizing of species and hybrid rhododendrons.
- ✓ Furthering the planting and use of rhododendrons in home, business, and public landscapes.
- ✓ Advocating the conservation and preservation of superior plants of our native rhododendrons and the habitat along the Oregon coast.
- ✓ Advancing and supporting the mission of the American Rhododendron Society

Chapter Officers:

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What's Happening

Chapter Meetings: The Siuslaw Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society will meet at the Presbyterian Community Church, 3996 Highway 101 in Florence, on the third Tuesday of every month from September through May (except as noted) at 6:30pm for refreshments, 7:00pm for the meeting.

Board Meeting: The next board board meeting will be held at Mike & Kathy Bones' house at 90379 Hwy.101 August 11th at 6:00pm.

Next Meeting: There is no meeting in July and August. We hope to see everyone back on September 15th.

President's Message: I hope you are all enjoying your summer. We had a wonderful June picnic at Honeyman State Park with great food, fun games, and our annual elections. I would like to offer my congratulations to our continuing Treasurer, Linda Farrald, and our Secretary, Kathy Bones. You two truly run our Chapter, and we thank you for everything you do both up front and behind the scenes. I also want to welcome Garland Alston to the board as a Director; Garland replaces Ken Diebert, who has finished his term. Thank you for your service, Ken.

Please mark your calendars for the third Tuesday of each month starting in September for our regular meetings. The only exception is our Christmas Dinner and gift exchange, which will be held on the first Sunday in December. Some of us gather for dinner prior to the meetings; if you would like to join the fun, please remember to RSVP to Board member Janet Von Toussaint.

As we move through the warmer months, remember that summer is the time to monitor your watering. Frequency depends on your soil—if you are in the Florence area with sandy soil, you will need to water more often. While plants need moisture, good drainage is vital as they should not be soggy. If your ground is so dry that water runs off, a few drops of liquid dish soap can help it penetrate.

Please also keep an eye out for leaf notching caused by the strawberry root weevil. While the damage to the leaves is cosmetic, the larvae underground can be fatal to a plant. To control them, you must break their life cycle by treating the foliage or the ground with products such as Malathion, Bonide Pyrethrin, Pestie, or Sevin. Please be sure to read and follow all label directions carefully.

Regarding maintenance, now is the time to decide whether to "dead head" your plants. Removing spent seed pods allows the plant to put its strength into new growth and next year's flowers rather than seed production. While it makes the plants look better, don't feel pressured to do them all if you have large plants that are difficult to reach. Finally, it is only eight months until our next flower show! We are looking for two people to lead each necessary task. Please reach out to one of the show organizers to see how you can help. There is a role for everyone, and it simply takes a little planning and commitment to make our two shows a success.

Thank you to everyone who helps make our chapter so fantastic.

~ Mike Bones, President

Pictures from the picnic:

