

## Meet Our Family

### Our Heritage

The orchard has been in production for over 35 years. The first trees were planted by the Midland Coal Company in the early 1970s. Later, when the orchard began producing, Elmwood school's FFA organization was asked to manage the crop. As a high school student, Kurt Christ was integrally involved in the care of the orchard. Upon Kurt's graduation, he first rented and ultimately purchased the orchard in the mid-1980s.

### Our Family

Kurt and his wife, Connie, have been the co-owners of Christ Orchard for nearly 30 years. As their children, Beth, Lena, Molly, Karl, and Amy, grew up, the small orchard grew as well. Now the 2nd generation joins the business, and we will continue to work together to provide quality fruit and farm fresh products to our customers. We look forward to serving you in the future.



## Apple Storage

- Apples ripen 6-10x faster at room temperature. For optimal freshness, apples must be kept at 33-38°
- Some varieties store better than others. Typically the late season apples are the best keepers. The weather also affects storing capabilities. Ask us for details and recommendations.
- To keep your apples fresh & crisp for months, follow these simple steps:
  1. Put about a dozen apples in a plastic grocery bag.
  2. Sprinkle less than a tablespoon of water in the bag.
  3. Loosely tie the bag. (They need ventilation.)
  4. Place bag in fridge at 33-38°

## Looking for more?

- Tasty apple recipes
- Tips for baking squash
- Facts about our farm animals
- Detailed chart of apple varieties & their best uses
- Directions to our orchard
- And much more!

You will find it all when you  
visit our website  
[ChristOrchardOnline.com](http://ChristOrchardOnline.com)



Christ Orchard  
4321 N. Texas Road  
Elmwood, IL 61529  
**Phone: 309-446-3324**  
[www.ChristOrchardOnline.com](http://www.ChristOrchardOnline.com)



Christ Orchard, located near Elmwood, Illinois, has been committed to growing high-quality farm fresh items since 1977.

## Orchard Hours

### August

Monday through Saturday 8 am to 5 pm

### September and October:

Monday through Saturday **8 am to 8 pm**

### November:

Monday through Saturday 8am to 6 pm

**Always CLOSED on Sundays**

Christ Orchard  
4321 N. Texas Road  
Elmwood, IL 61529  
**Phone: 309-446-3324**  
[www.ChristOrchardOnline.com](http://www.ChristOrchardOnline.com)

## Apple Varieties



Please Note: Depending on the weather, harvest can vary +/- a week or more. Also, This is only a **partial** listing of the many varieties we grow. Don't see your favorite? Just ask!

Apple Varieties	Description	Harvest
Early Crisp	Similar to Jonathon	mid Aug
Ginger Gold	Sweet-tart	mid Aug
Blondee	Similar to Gala	mid Aug
Zestar!	Similar to Honeycrisp	mid Aug
Gala	Sweet, crunchy	late Aug
Golden Supreme	Sweet-tart	early Sept.
Honeycrisp	Juicy, crunchy, sweet w/ a tang	early Sept.
Cortland	Sweet-tart, white flesh	mid Sept
Jonathon	semi-tart, pies	mid Sept
McIntosh	Sweet-tart, soft	mid Sept
Red Delicious	sweet, good in salads	late Sept
Yellow Delicious	sweet, all purpose	October
Jonagold	sweet-tart, all purpose	October
Chieftain	sweet, crunchy	mid Oct
Cameo	sweet, great keeping	mid Oct
Melrose	sweet/tart, firm	mid Oct
Suncrisp	tangy, crunchy	mid Oct
Braeburn	tart, crunchy	mid Oct
Fuji	very sweet, crunchy	late Oct
Granny Smith	tart, hard	late Oct
Firmgold	mildly sweet, crisp	late Oct
Winesap	tart, hard	late Oct
Gold Rush	tart, hard, sweetens w/ storage	early Nov

## Pick Your Own Apples

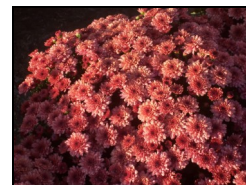
From **Mid-September to Mid-October**, we allow our customers the privilege of pick your own apples.



### U Pick Rules

- No vehicles** are allowed in the orchard. There are plenty of wagons to put apples and small children in while picking apples.
- Overfull bags will be charged extra!**
- Pick carefully.** You must purchase what you pick.
- Follow our recommendations** for what is ripe.
- Please **respect our orchard.** Don't climb the trees— it hurts them and it might hurt you!

## Caring for Mums



- Plant it ASAP. The sooner it gets in the ground the better.
- Water it through the fall.
- Before the ground freezes, place mulch or lots of leaves around the plant for the winter.
- Leave the old foliage until new growth starts next spring.

## Freezing Cider

1. Pour one cup of cider out of the gallon and place remainder in freezer. It stays in freezer for 1 year.
2. When you're ready to drink the cider, let it thaw completely in the fridge or, in a pinch, on the counter overnight.
3. Shake vigorously before drinking. (Note: Do not drink as thawing. Contents settle!)



Not enough room in the freezer?

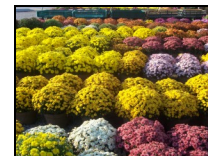
**Call ahead** in the off-season & you can stop by for frozen cider, as well as honey, preserves & more.

## Products

Christ Orchard offers a wide variety of products and gifts. See our list below for some of the things you will find.

**Pure Honey** - From area beekeepers.

**Fresh Pressed Apple Cider** - Ask for a free sample.



**Hardy Mums** - Many beautiful fall colors to choose from.

**Fruit Butters and Preserves** - Traditional and new flavors, some available with no added sugar.

**Soy Candles** - Locally made Soy Candles by Sharon

**Apple Appliances** - Corers, slicers, sauce masters and more.

**Fall Decorations** - Straw bales and corn stalk bundles complete your autumn display of pumpkins & mums.

**Cookbooks** - We have a wide selection, from Gooseberry Patch to helpful guides on fruit preserving, & more.

**Squirrel Corn** - Sold in large brown paper grocery bags, we can supply your little critters all year round. Call before you come in January through August.

**Pumpkins and Squash** - We offer pumpkins for all of your fall decoration needs. You can choose a pumpkin from the rack or venture out into the patch during the u-pick season. We also grow many varieties of edible squash.



**Dried Gourds** - For your birdhouses and beyond, we have a wide variety for your crafting needs.

## Apple Measurements

- 1 Bushel = 42 lbs.
- 1 Peck = 10½ lbs.(4 Pecks = 1 Bu)
- 2 lb. Apples = one 9" pie
- 1 Bu Apples = 16 to 20 quarts of canned or frozen apple slices or sauce

