

OCTOBER  
2023

DISCOVER  
*Kalispell*  
MANUFACTURING  
ALLIANCE

**SIGN UP  
FOR TOURS  
TODAY!**

CELEBRATE FLATHEAD  
**MANUFACTURING**

SPONSORED BY

 Weyerhaeuser

 **NOMADGCS**

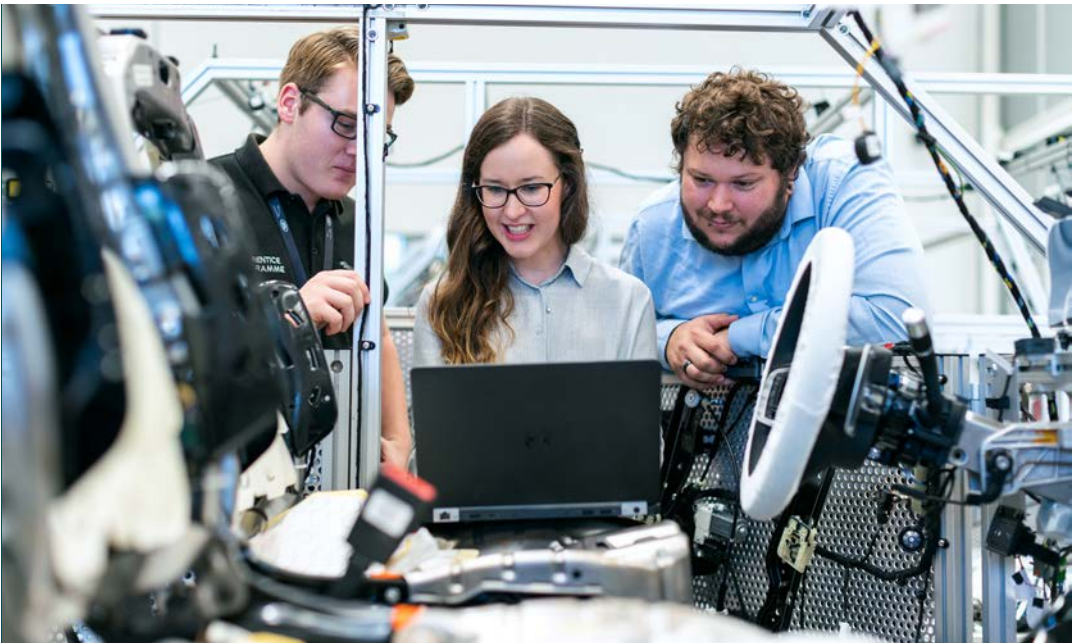
EVENTS  
SURROUNDING

**MFG**  
**DAY**

# FALL 2023

Welcome to Manufacturing Month! The Manufacturing Alliance, a program of Discover Kalispell Chamber, is delighted to invite you to participate in celebrating the breadth and quality of products made right here in the Flathead Valley. Throughout the month of October there will be exclusive facility tours and events with the leading businesses and employers in the Flathead.

Manufacturing plays a vital role in our local economy. This sector comprises 28% of Flathead County's basic industry earnings according to the University of Montana Bureau of Business and Economic Research. These Kalispell Chamber member manufacturers represent an incredibly diverse array of companies producing a wide variety of products including those in machining, communication equipment, firearms, skin care, food and beverage, supplements, building materials, semiconductor, furniture, timber products, electrical, concrete, and more.



Manufacturing Month is for the entire community. We look forward to sharing the quality products made here, how Montana fits into the national manufacturing stage, the educational paths that can lead to a career in manufacturing, and what high-quality, high-paying jobs are available right here, right now. Sign up today!



## FLATHEAD MFG MONTH IS PRESENTED BY:

### TITLE SPONSORS



### GOLD SPONSORS



## DAILY INTER LAKE



### BRONZE SPONSORS

PROOF Research



# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

We have THREE different types of “behind the scenes” tours this year!  
Learn more and sign up at: <https://business.kalispellchamber.com/mfgtours>  
or call 406-758-2806.



## COMMUNITY

Community Tours: The Flathead Valley community is invited to learn more about these manufacturers, their products, and distinct manufacturing process.

### OCTOBER 2ND

Sacred Waters Brewing Company – 3:00pm  
Applied Materials (Reserve) – 4:00pm

### OCTOBER 3RD

Defiance Machine - 12:00pm  
Mountain Meadow Herbs – 3:00pm

### OCTOBER 4TH

Connector Tech – 2:00pm  
SunRift Beer Company - 3:00pm

### OCTOBER 5TH

Whitefish Handcrafted Spirits - 3:00pm

### OCTOBER 6TH

Nomad GCS - 2:00pm

### OCTOBER 9TH

Meissenburg Designs – 4:00pm

### OCTOBER 10TH

PROOF Research - 12:00pm

### OCTOBER 11TH

Glacier Precast Concrete - 12:00pm & 4:00pm

### OCTOBER 12TH

Weyerhaeuser - Plywood & Lumber  
- 10:00am & 12:00pm  
Waters Edge Winery Kalispell - 3:00pm  
Daily Inter Lake - 4:00pm

### OCTOBER 13TH

Bias Brewing – 3:00pm

### OCTOBER 16TH

Weyerhaeuser (MDF) – 12:00pm

### OCTOBER 18TH

F.H. Stoltze Land & Lumber  
Timber Tour – 11:00am



## JOB SEEKERS

Job Seekers Tours: Have you always wondered what it would be like to work for a local manufacturer? Want to learn more about their operation, products produced, company culture, benefits, and more? If you are seeking employment, this tour is tailor-made for you.

### OCTOBER 3RD

Mountain Meadow Herbs – 3:00pm

### OCTOBER 4TH

Connector Tech – 2:00pm

### OCTOBER 6TH

Nomad GCS - 2:00pm

### OCTOBER 11TH

Glacier Precast Concrete - 12:00pm & 4:00pm

### OCTOBER 12TH

Weyerhaeuser - Plywood & Lumber  
- 10:00am & 12:00pm  
Daily Inter Lake - 4:00pm

### OCTOBER 16TH

Weyerhaeuser (MDF) – 12:00pm



## STUDENTS & EDUCATORS

Student & Educator Tours: Calling students of all ages, their families, and teachers! Learn about the products produced, the manufacturing process, and the educational pathways and skills needed for a career in the manufacturing industry.

### OCTOBER 2ND

Applied Materials (Reserve) – 4:00pm

### OCTOBER 3RD

Mountain Meadow Herbs – 3:00pm  
Defiance Machine – 4:00pm

### OCTOBER 4TH

ClassOne Technology – 10:00am  
Connector Tech – 4:00pm

### OCTOBER 6TH

Nomad GCS - 4:00pm

### OCTOBER 10TH

PROOF Research – 4:00pm

### OCTOBER 11TH

Glacier Precast Concrete - 12:00pm & 4:00pm

### OCTOBER 12TH

Weyerhaeuser - Plywood & Lumber  
- 10:00am & 12:00pm  
Daily Inter Lake - 4:00pm

### OCTOBER 16TH

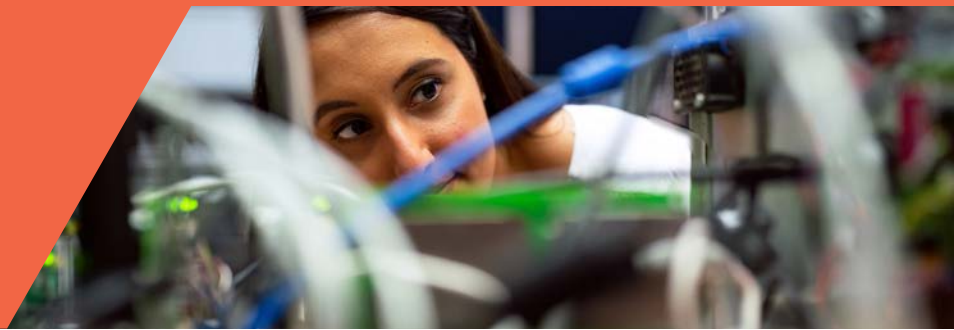
Weyerhaeuser (MDF) – 12:00pm

### OCTOBER 18TH

F.H. Stoltze Land & Lumber  
Timber Tour – 11:00am

**HURRY, SPACE IS LIMITED!** Most tours will not accept walk-ins! Sign up for the tours ahead of time by registering at <https://business.kalispellchamber.com/mfgtours> or by calling the Kalispell Chamber at 406-758-2806

# MANUFACTURING EVENTS & TOURS



## APPLIED MATERIALS (RESERVE DRIVE)

[www.appliedmaterials.com](http://www.appliedmaterials.com)

655 West Reserve Drive, Kalispell

Community Tour | Students & Educators Tour



The Reserve facility is the HQ for the Applied Materials PPC Business Unit in Kalispell. Approximately 800 individuals are employed between Applied Materials' three Flathead Valley sites. There will be a short presentation on Applied Materials and some specific information about the PPC Business Unit in Kalispell. The tour will be about 45 minutes. It will highlight the manufacturing areas, the process lab, and the R&D area.

## BIAS BREWING

[www.biasbrewing.com](http://www.biasbrewing.com)

412 Main Street, Kalispell

Community Tour



Bias Brewing is a brewery, taproom, and restaurant. We make a wide variety of ales, sours, seltzers, kombucha, and barrel-aged beers. We self-distribute our products to bars and restaurants in Flathead, Lake, and Lincoln counties. We have 30 employees including brewers, packing/distribution professionals, and restaurant staff. Our mission is to build community through craft brewing by partnering with non-profits and creating a welcoming space for all. In 5 years, we have founded events to raise over \$200,000 for non-profits. *\*Must be 21+ to participate in tasting.*

## CLASSONE TECHNOLOGY

[www.classone.com](http://www.classone.com)

109 Cooperative Way, Kalispell

Students & Educators Tour



ClassOne Technology develops high tech process equipment for the rapidly growing semiconductor industry. We ship our systems to chip manufacturers all around the world. Our customers use our Solstice and Trident products to help them develop and manufacture next generation chips. We play an important part in enabling the surprising technologies that define

our future. All headquartered right here, in Kalispell, MT. Join our manufacturing month tour to see the amazing equipment made right here in the Flathead Valley.

## GOLD SPONSOR

### CONNECTOR TECH

[www.cctlmt.com](http://www.cctlmt.com)

135 Industrial Court, Kalispell

Community Tour | Students & Educators Tour | Job Seekers Tour



BJG Electronics Group/ FDH / Connector Tech LLC is a well-recognized franchised distributor of interconnect products from leading connector OEMs. Connector Tech specializes in cable assembly and plastic injection over-molding. Markets served include commercial, aerospace, military and harsh environment. Visitors will have the opportunity to tour their entire facility, learn about specialized cable and over-mold assembly, and see product lines in various stages assembly processes. *Closed-toe shoes are required and NO cell phones or camera devices. Must be a US Citizen to tour the facility.*

## GOLD SPONSOR

### DAILY INTER LAKE

[www.dailyinterlake.com](http://www.dailyinterlake.com)

727 East Idaho, Kalispell

Community Tour | Students & Educators Tour | Job Seekers Tour

## DAILY INTER LAKE

Even before Montana gained statehood, the Daily Inter Lake has been serving Northwest Montana residents and businesses with award-winning journalism and marketing. As the largest news-gathering operation in the region, the Daily Inter Lake is the Montana hub of the family-owned group of Hagadone newspapers, supporting the publishing of the six day Daily Inter Lake, seven weekly newspapers, as well as dozens of magazines



and ancillary publications covering NW Montana. Combined, these newspapers reach about 75% of the households in the region in print and online. Peek behind the curtain on the oldest manufacturer in the Flathead Valley. Delve into our building to witness the actual printing process complete with the smell of hot ink and the hum of the machines. Leave with a special publication hot off the press. Share in the energy of a working newsroom, and see where the team comes together to publish a daily newspaper without fail.

### DEFIANCE MACHINE

[www.defiancemachine.com](http://www.defiancemachine.com)

3881 MT Hwy 40 West, Columbia Falls

**Community Tour** | **Students & Educators Tour**

**DEFIANCE** Defiance Machine is a firearms manufacturer that has a worldwide reputation for visionary design and precision manufacturing. Step out onto the shop floor to see where the nation's first-choice in rifle actions are made. You'll be able to see the entire manufacturing process from start to finish, look inside, and see the most technology advanced, top-of-the-line CNC machines, as they work, while learning how bolt actions are manufactured for complete accuracy. Tour is limited to 30 people. All participants must be US citizens with official ID, have no criminal convictions, and must complete a non-disclosure agreement prior to the tour.

### F.H. STOLTZE LAND & LUMBER CO.

[www.stoltzelumber.com](http://www.stoltzelumber.com)

600 Halfmoon Road, Columbia Falls

**Community Tour** | **Students & Educators Tour**



**F.H. Stoltze**  
Land & Lumber

Established in 1912, F.H. Stoltze is the oldest family-owned, continuously operating forest product company in the state of Montana.

We use cutting-edge technology coupled with old-fashioned know-how to transform logs into not only lumber, but renewable energy and feed stock for the other engineered wood products as well. For over 100 years, Stoltze has meant quality lumber. Sign up for a tour of our Halfmoon sawmill facility in Columbia Falls during the Timber Tour and learn more about the Stoltze team!



### GLACIER PRECAST CONCRETE

[www.glacierprecast.com](http://www.glacierprecast.com)

175 Alder Drive, Kalispell

**Community Tour** | **Students & Educators Tour** | **Job Seekers Tour**



Glacier Precast Concrete produces a wide variety of poured concrete products ranging from architectural products, homes, utility buildings, noise walls, well houses, water tanks and more. Watch their extensive manufacturing process, including batching their own concrete, quality control testing, and pouring day-to-day molds as they manufacture their products during the tour. *Tour limited to 20 people, closed-toe shoes required. Please dress for the weather as a portion of this tour is outside.*

### MEISSENBURG DESIGNS

[www.oldwoodsigns.com](http://www.oldwoodsigns.com)

11890 Hwy 83, Bigfork

**Community Tour**



Old Wood Signs by Meisenburg Designs, run by Loyd and Laura, is a full-service design and fabrication company. They design it, make it and ship it, right here in Northwest Montana - All Montana Made, All American Made. They've grown from making homemade inks in a microwave and duct-taping makeshift equipment, to over 40 employees and a state-of-the-art facility. They have over 3,000 signs in their collection and have had the unique opportunity to work, collaborate and partner with national beer companies, theme parks, wineries, and not-for-profit conservation groups. Collaboration and a can-do attitude go a long way. Over the years, they've tackled projects, large and small, challenging and growing our capabilities beyond anything we could have imagined. Being stubborn has its rewards! As the industry morphs into what's next, our appetite for originality and newness keeps us ahead of the game. Even vintage designs need a little fresh paint now and then!



## GOLD SPONSOR

### MOUNTAIN MEADOW HERBS

[www.mmherbs.com](http://www.mmherbs.com)

1019 Hard Rock Road, Somers

**Community Tour** | **Students & Educators Tour** | **Job Seekers Tour**



With a mission to provide pure, natural products that change lives, Mountain Meadow Herbs has perfected its manufacturing process- providing high quality supplements- every time. We manufacture more than 40 proprietary blends and formulas made of fresh, pure, herbal extracts to support overall health. At our manufacturing facility in Somers, you can get a “behind the scenes” tour and see first-hand how we create our products from start to finish.

## TITLE SPONSOR

### NOMAD GCS

[www.nomadgcs.com](http://www.nomadgcs.com)

5414 US Hwy 2 West, Columbia Falls

**Community Tour** | **Students & Educators Tour** | **Job Seekers Tour**



**NOMADGCS**

In the fall of 2002, four Flathead River raft guides saw an opportunity to make a difference. The group launched Nomad Global Communication Solutions with a simple but important goal; keeping people connected. Two decades later, Nomad GCS builds cutting-edge mobile operations centers for public safety, disaster response, healthcare, telecom, and defense... Customers like NASA, FEMA, Verizon, and every branch of the U.S. military. Visit the Nomad facility to see how the world’s most advanced mobile operations centers are designed, manufactured, and integrated. On your tour, look at the state-of-the-art equipment and jaw-dropping projects in progress. *Closed toe shoes required, tour limited to 20 people.*

## BRONZE SPONSOR

[www.proofresearch.com](http://www.proofresearch.com)

10 Western Village Lane, Columbia Falls

**Community Tour** | **Students & Educators Tour**



PROOF Research is a science-based company that has brought together the finest minds, experience, and innovations in the industry to produce game-changing stainless steel rifle barrels, carbon fiber barrels, and complete rifle systems that are more durable and accurate than anything on the market. Step inside PROOF’s manufacturing facility to see the entire process of making barrels, carbon fiber stocks, and complete rifles before visiting their 100-meter indoor test facility. This tour is limited to the first 10 registrations. *Each participant must be a US citizen with official ID, and must*

*complete a non-disclosure agreement prior to the tour. Closed toe shoes are required, no photography.*

### SACRED WATERS BREWING COMPANY

[www.sacredwatersbrewing.com](http://www.sacredwatersbrewing.com)

3250 Hwy 2 East, Kalispell

**Community Tour**



Open and operating since November 2018, Sacred Waters Brewing Company is a celebration of wild places and good people. It’s a reflection of everyone’s special place outside, everyone’s Sacred Waters. During this tour of the brew house, you’ll get an overview of how their beer is made and see the ingredients and equipment that make it happen. They love showing people the process behind their locally handcrafted beer! *Closed toe shoes are required. Tour limited to 30 people. Must be 21+ to participate in beer tasting.*

### SUNRIFT BEER COMPANY

[www.sunriftbeer.com](http://www.sunriftbeer.com)

55 1st Ave. WN, Kalispell

**Community Tour**



SunRift Beer Company is a family-owned brewery and restaurant with locations in Kalispell and Whitefish. All our beer is produced at our Kalispell location utilizing ingredients from the Flathead and around the Northwest. SunRift is family friendly, specializing in smoked tri-tip and chicken, offering sandwiches, salads, and kid’s options. Sign up for our manufacturing tour to learn more about our brewing operations and how we craft our local brews! *\*Must be 21+ to participate in beer tasting.*

### WATERS EDGE WINERY & BISTRO KALISPELL

[www.wewinerykalispell.com](http://www.wewinerykalispell.com)

2593 U.S. Hwy 2 East, Unit 8, Kalispell

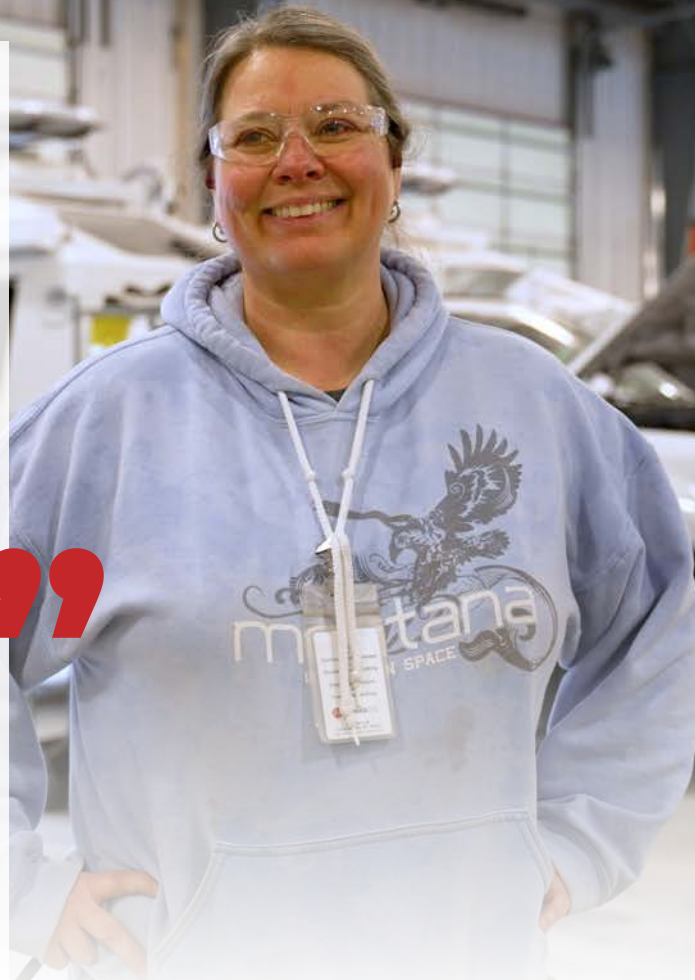
**Community Tour**



Waters Edge Winery & Bistro is a full production urban winery offering varieties of wine made from grapes sourced across the globe. Waters Edge Winery imports raw grape must that has undergone a process called thermal vinification. This allows the product to travel safely across the world. The must is then fermented in stainless steel, oaked (if desired), finished, blended and aged on site. The result is world-class wines made in Montana. Waters Edge Winery & Bistro has won Best of the Flathead – Best Winery in 2021, 2022, and 2023 and also Best Wine Selection in 2022 and 2023; they were also named Discover Kalispell Chamber’s Small Business of the Year in 2021. *\*Must be 21+ to participate in tasting.*

“

**As a woman in this field, I'm not just making products - I'm making an impact that resonates beyond these walls.**

”

# WOMEN DRIVE MANUFACTURING **FORWARD.**

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In the world of manufacturing, you are not just breaking barriers – you're building the future. Your expertise, dedication, and unwavering spirit are weaving a new narrative of innovation and excellence.

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**NOMADGCS**

// Explore career opportunities at: [nomadgcs.com/careers](https://nomadgcs.com/careers)



## TITLE SPONSOR

### WEYERHAEUSER – MDF PLANT

[www.weyerhaeuser.com](http://www.weyerhaeuser.com)

105 Mills Drive, Columbia Falls

**Community Tour** | **Students & Educators Tour** | **Job Seekers Tour**



Visitors will tour the largest Medium Density Fiberboard (MDF) plant under one roof

in North America which showcases state of the art technology and Weyerhaeuser's dedicated workforce. The plant uses residual wood fiber which is refined and processed into engineered wood products used across North America. These include specialty products in niche markets such as architectural doors, cabinets, engineered wood flooring, store fixtures, and office furniture. At Weyerhaeuser MDF, teams work to reliably lead the industry in safety, quality, service, and financial results, while developing their people and supporting local communities. Employees serve on local advisory committees for Weyerhaeuser's Giving Fund and development funding priorities with four focus areas to support and meet unique needs in local communities. *Closed toe shoes required. No loose fitting clothing.*

### WEYERHAEUSER – PLYWOOD & LUMBER PLANT

75 Sunset Drive, Kalispell

**Community Tour** | **Students & Educators Tour** | **Job Seekers Tour**

Visitors will tour both the Plywood and Lumber plants, which showcase unique products with exceptionally aesthetic qualities and Weyerhaeuser's dedicated workforce. Mainly Douglas fir and Western larch are used at Weyerhaeuser due to their ability to produce fine grain and smooth faces. This Kalispell plant manufactures plywood products to various grades, dimensions, and performance standards appropriate for a wide range of customer end-uses, while the lumber plant manufactures solid sawn studs, available in various lengths to domestic markets coast-to-coast. *Tour is limited to 25 people. Closed toe shoes are required. No loose fitting clothing.*

### WHITEFISH HANDCRAFTED SPIRITS

[www.whitefishspirits.com](http://www.whitefishspirits.com)

2134 U.S. Hwy 2 East, Kalispell

**Community Tour**



Come visit us and see the process of distillation and canning Montana's finest, and first, canned cocktails. Manufacturing 100% grain to bottle spirits, then combining them with the finest ingredients to make a 300 gallon

cocktail, just as fresh and delicious as if it were the single serving we would hand you at the #1 rated cocktail bar in the state of Montana... Matt and Tom will walk you through the process, talk about the history of what we do and why we do it... *\*Must be 21+ to participate in tasting.*

## UNWIND

**Business After Hours with Weyerhaeuser**  
Tuesday, October 10th, 5:00 – 6:30pm

One of the best ways to grow your business is by building relationships and connecting with other business owners, managers, and employees from all edges of the Flathead. At the Kalispell Chamber's October business after hours, the UNWIND, hosted by Weyerhaeuser, you'll make business connections while Uncovering What's Interesting, New and Developing with Weyerhaeuser. Event location is pending. Contact Jenn Cronk at the Kalispell Chamber at 406-758-2801 or [j.cronk@kalispellchamber.com](mailto:j.cronk@kalispellchamber.com) for more information about the event.



## KALISPELL CHAMBER MANUFACTURING LUNCHEON

Tuesday, October 17th at FVCC  
11:30am – 1:00pm

Join the Kalispell Chamber as we shine a spotlight on the Flathead Valley's robust and vital manufacturing industry. October is Manufacturing Month! \$30 for Kalispell Chamber members/\$40 for non-members.

Register at: <http://bit.ly/mfgluncheon> or call 406-758-2806.

Sponsored by



**NOMADGCS**



# WEYERHAEUSER IS NOW HIRING!

We are looking for enthusiastic individuals who are safety minded and ready for a career. We offer a variety of positions including entry level production associates, forklift operators, electricians, millwrights and various other skilled trades.

*Entry level opportunities start at \$22.05 an hour and provide a variety of benefits such as two weeks of vacation, eleven paid holidays, gainsharing, medical, dental, HSA, life insurance , parental leave and 401(k).*



Weyerhaeuser  
**Growing  
Our Team!**

If interested in applying, visit our careers website at [wy.com/careers](http://wy.com/careers).

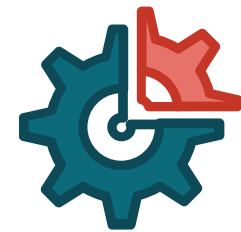
# TOP 20 EXPORT MARKETS

## FOR MONTANA MANUFACTURING EXPORTS



**OVER 4,100**

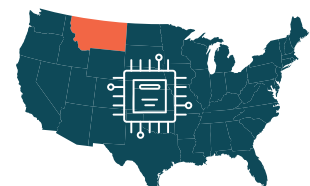
manufacturing firms are in operation in Montana, including sole proprietors



Manufacturing accounts for

**OVER 20%**

of Montana's economic base



Montana manufacturing employment and output growth was **MORE THAN DOUBLE** the national average in 2021



Manufacturing jobs paid about

**\$57,000**

in earnings, compared to the state average of just under \$51,000



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# DAILY INTER LAKE

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**MANUFACTURING MATTERS!**  
• FLATHEADMANUFACTURING.COM •





## FLATHEAD TIMBER TOUR

Wednesday, October 18th 11am – 5pm

**Community Tour** | **Students & Educators Tour**

The Flathead Timber Tour is held annually during Montana Forest Products Week. The purpose of the Timber Tour is to invite the greater Flathead Valley community to learn about the value and importance of natural resources to our economy and quality of life.

This year participants on the Timber Tour will learn about forest management, from harvest to production, during a tour of F.H. Stoltze's Columbia Falls lumber mill followed by a visit to an active Weyerhaeuser logging operation.

Founded in 1912, F.H. Stoltze is the oldest family-owned sawmill in Montana. On your tour you will witness our random length Sawmill processing logs into lumber from 6' to 20' in length and up to 12" in width. The tour will also see our Planer Mill which has a newly installed Auto grader featuring A.I. Also, Stoltze has the only Co-generation plant in Montana. Using renewable wood energy, we are able to dry our lumber, heat our sawmill and put enough energy back on to the grid to power 2500 homes per day.

Participants will trace the product back from mill to the forest. Foresters will present on current and projected forest conditions, as well as active forest management objectives and sustainable harvest. They will visit an active site, discuss history and the advancing technology of mills, programs available, and how they as landowners can play a role in improving forest health while supporting local wood products industry.

*Participants will board a school bus that will depart from the Kalispell Chamber. Tour participants should bring snacks and water, wear closed-toe shoes, long pants, have no loose clothes, and be dressed for the weather. To register for this tour, please visit <https://business.kalispellchamber.com/mfgtours> or contact the Kalispell Chamber at 406-758-2801. Pre-registration is required, and tour is limited to 38 people.*



Weyerhaeuser



**F.H. Stoltze**  
Land & Lumber



FIND OUT MORE ABOUT  
THE KALISPELL CHAMBER



15 Depot Park  
Kalispell, MT 59901  
(406) 758-2800  
[info@kalispellchamber.com](mailto:info@kalispellchamber.com)  
[www.kalispellchamber.com](http://www.kalispellchamber.com)



**CATALYST**  
FOR BUSINESS GROWTH

**CONVENER**  
OF BUSINESS LEADERS & INFLUENCERS

**CHAMPION**  
FOR OUR COMMUNITY

- Build Connections with businesses, elected officials, community leaders, and customers
- Make a difference in the community
- Be an integral part of a successful, vibrant community
- Be recognized and build credibility in the business community
- Access networks, information and resources