

August 6, 2011

Put on your reading glasses, pour a glass of ice tea and find a comfortable chair to read the following epic!

Several folks have mentioned that there is a promise of fall in the air this morning. And more than one has also noted that we've had many such days through the entire summer.

The Crystal Lakes Greenbelt Management Committee presents:

A Free Open Community Meeting

Date: Saturday, August 13, 2011

Time: 8:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Place: Wapiti Room at Crystal Lakes Basecamp Community Building  
300 Tami Road, Red Feather Lakes, CO 80545

Topic: Seminar on Forest Health Topics

Speakers: Wes Rutt, Colorado Tree Farmers Outreach & Education Chairperson  
And Greg Zausen, Forester with the Colorado State Forest Service

We will help us identify threats to forest health and will list methods that small landowners can employ to make a difference in our community. Greg will recap lessons learned from the bark beetle infestation experiences in Grand County, with emphasis on the aftermath and the recovery progress.

For more information or questions contact: [clbeetlebusters@gmail.com](mailto:clbeetlebusters@gmail.com).

## CRYSTAL LAKES PHOTO CONTEST

The 33rd Annual Crystal Lakes photo contest is coming to a close, but there is still time to submit your photos! The contest ends on August 14, 2011. There are four categories this year including Wildlife (in natural settings only), Nature & Landscapes, Seasons, and the Faces of Crystal Lakes. The last category is a new "people" category and it was added at the suggestion of several property owners. The prizes for the winning entries include bragging rights; gift certificates to The Restaurant for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in the amounts of \$50, \$30, and \$20 for each category; recognition on the Crystal Lakes website and in the Wapiti Bugle; and the winning photos displayed in The Restaurant for everyone to admire.

Photos must be submitted by email by registered property owners who can also submit on behalf of family members. Property owners can submit up to eight photos (a maximum of two per category). The winners will be announced at an awards ceremony that will take place at The Restaurant on Saturday, September 3rd, at 11:00 a.m. All participants are invited to attend the ceremony. Additional information, including the rules, format for email entries, and submission guidelines can be found on the Crystal Lakes website ([www.crystal-lakes.org](http://www.crystal-lakes.org)).

Good Luck!

The New Owners Orientation is scheduled for August 13, 2011, at 1:00 p.m. in the Wapiti Center. Everyone is welcome.

Crystal Lakes will host the County Seat for a Day on August 17, 2011, in the Wapiti Center from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. County Commissioners and several departments will be represented to answer your questions and hear your concerns.

Remember that the Crystal Lakes Community Fund Association (CLCFA) has prepared a "Neighbor to Neighbor" letter for your use if you are concerned about a property in close proximity to yours which is impacted by the Mountain Pine Beetle and which appears to be infrequently visited by the owners. Property owners reside across the country and around the world, and may not be aware that there are problems with beetle-kill trees or beetle infestation on their lot. The Neighbor to Neighbor letter is a friendly way to bring the concern to the attention of those folks who haven't visited recently to know the condition and threat to their property. Check with the office if you wish to send this letter to a neighbor.

Also, from the CLCFA, the latest edition of The Roads of Crystal Lakes, by CL property owner Grace Zach, is now available. This edition includes the information about the re-named road names, which were the result of the Larimer County Rural Addressing project. Also, you will find a Crystal Lakes map tucked into the back pocket for quick reference. This delightful book is available at the office and The Restaurant, as well as at various events such as the Craft Sale, scheduled for September 4, 2011. The book sells for \$15.00 and all monies from the sale go to benefit the Community Fund.

Tract J in Filing 11 has been reclaimed and seeded following the Basecamp project sponsored by the Greenbelt Management Committee. The area where the de-barking process was conducted has been cleaned, seeded, and grasses are already sprouting. The fence at the end of the cul-de-sac has been re-built with signage installed indicating the platted easement.

#### CL FIRES

A date change for the Annual Fish Dinner: Scheduled now for September 5, 2011.

CL FIRES is reviving the Annual Fish Dinner, held on Labor Day weekend to benefit the Crystal Lakes Fire Department and other efforts. The event is set from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. in The Restaurant at Crystal Lakes. Please join us Monday, September 5th to celebrate the end of summer. Treat your family and friends to a dinner of salmon or tilapia, (hot dogs - child's dinner), biscuit, corn, "Koller's" coleslaw, fruit, dessert, and coffee, ice tea or lemonade. This is a great way to end the Labor Day weekend, and we'll do the dishes!

Check out our website [www.clfires.org](http://www.clfires.org) for more details about times and tickets. Tickets are available for purchase in the CLA office or online. Drawings will be held during the event in the Wapiti Room, for very special door prizes. CL FIRES will need many

volunteers to make this event successful; please contact any CL FIRES Board member if you can help. The following groups have offered their help: Crystal Lakes Community Fund Association, the Fishing Board, the Greenbelt Management Committee, and the Crystal Lakes Volunteer Fire Department.

#### ATV Safety

Members and staff have noticed an increased number of reckless ATV riders, underage riders, and riders without plates and flags. Stop by the office if you have questions about what steps you must take in order to operate your ATV in Crystal Lakes. All ATVs operated in Crystal Lakes must belong to CL property owners. All vehicles, including ATVs, must be operated by a person holding a valid vehicle operator's license. All ATVs must have a plate issued through the CLA office with a current year sticker, and must display a flag for visibility. I have heard from a driver in an SUV who became aware that ATVs were approaching around a blind curve because he could see the flags above the willows. He stopped by to comment on his appreciation for that safety requirement. Congratulations and thanks to all who have their visibility flags and their ATV plates. There are still dozens of plates waiting to be picked up. Be sure you come back and get your license plate and sticker after ordering them.

These regulations were established to help prevent further tragic ATV accidents after a horrible fatality involving a youngster some years ago. All vehicles must obey the 20 mph speed limit on the roads, and the 10 mph speed limit on Wapiti Drive. ATVs are not allowed on hiking trails or greenbelts. The manufacturer lists the capacity of riders on each vehicle – please don't load up you precious grandchildren and endanger them. I have seen a photo of an adult and three kids on one ATV. Folks, this is dangerous. Help teach the youngsters to follow rules because they have been established for everyone's safety. You are the best role models for our children – protect and teach by example.

All drivers should watch out for pedestrians and wildlife. We have loads of fawns and several moose calves on property, not to mention the tiny critters that think when a vehicle approaches that must be the time to dash across the road. Please remind your contractor(s) of our speed limits and safety precautions also. Contractors are your invited guests. Drive safely, and on the right side of the roadway.

I'll keep you posted.  
Jody