



Blackhawk Ranch Newsletter

PROPERTY OWNER PERMISSION

When called on, we hope every property owner will give permission along their road easements and will grant us permission to work 75 feet in from the road, producing a shaded fuel break. This thinning will offer the added benefits of creating a park-like environment along our roadsides and enhancing wildlife habitat. This thinning allows for more sun in winter to melt snow and opens up visibility on our winding roads.



SEASONS GREETINGS!

Newsletter Editors
Susanne Bloomfield
Cissy Severence
skbloomfield65@gmail.com

If you do not want to receive this newsletter, please contact the editors, and your name will be removed from the list. Feedback as well as ideas for the newsletter are welcome!

December 2014

Blackhawk Ranch Receives \$89,073 in Fire Mitigation Grants

Blackhawk Ranch will receive \$69,400.00 from the Wildfire Risk Reduction Grant Program from the State of Colorado as well as another \$19,673 grant coordinated through ForestWise and the Colorado State Forest Service. These grants will help us follow our Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP). Thanks to Terry Bloomfield and Tom Severance of Blackhawk and Kassie Carley of ForestWise LLC for their work on the grant proposals to further efforts at creating shaded fuel breaks along major exit roads.

ForestWise will supply teams who specialize in the fields of land management and tree thinning, and Blackhawk Ranch volunteers will continue fire mitigation efforts as part of the soft match for the grant. They will be working along road easements to create shaded fuel breaks to aid firefighters and to make a safer exit route for residents in case of fire.

ForestWise will be using a



Vermeer BC900 9" chipper as well as hand sawyers to thin the easements.

Twice during 2014, our previous fire mitigation efforts from the 2012 grant on the south end of Four Mile Canyon Road paid off when our shaded fuel breaks aided firefighters in containing fires on several properties.

THANKS!

Thank you to all of the Blackhawk residents who helped on the fire mitigation work days in 2014, either in cutting and chipping or providing food for the workers.

(In alphabetical order) Terry and Susanne Bloomfield, Rick Brandenburg and Debi Patch, Roger and Gina Buttignol, Gordon Carpenter, Charles and Ruth Anne Goza, Gary Hanks, Terri Haverty, Mike and Heide Hinzman, Art and Wendy Jackson, Dennis Keading, Paul and Lee Kimball, Paul and Deb Kenney, Rick Mraz, Roger Nulph, Nancy Pasternak, Don Savage, Tom and Cissy Severance, Darrell Tate, Rich Thompson, Dave Vigil, Don and Diane Wassom, Mike and Kevin Wedgworth, and Joe and Beatriz Weivoda.

Chipper Rental for Blackhawk Residents

Part of the Wildfire Risk Management grant was earmarked for the purchase of a Vermeer BC900 9" chipper that could be used for both the community fire mitigation work days as well as by individual property owners.

Vermeer twice delivered and provided the machine for the

work crews to try out before the decision was made.

Property owners are encouraged to join in on the work days to familiarize themselves with the machine before they take it to work on their own property.

In addition, owners must sign

a Rental agreement and a liability waiver. Chipper rental will be \$15 an hour with a minimum of two hours and must be returned full of gasoline. This fee will go toward maintenance of the machine as well as blade sharpening.