

Calendar of Events

National Wildfire Preparedness Day, Forestry Tour, and More!

❖❖❖ MAY ❖❖❖

May 2: Wildfire Movie Night

Liberty Theatre, Pagosa, 6:00 – 8:00 PM

Information: Bill Trimarco, archuletafirewise@gmail.com or (970) 264-0430

Wildfire related movies and interactive discussions with area firefighters, foresters, community planners and members of the TRES crew.

May 2: Ponderosa Pine Symposium, Dolores District

Dolores Public Lands Office, 29211 Hwy 160, Dolores, 6:00 – 8:00 PM

Information: 970-882-7296

Learn more and contribute to plans for ponderosa pine zone management on the Dolores District including bark beetles, logging, and the Lone Pine and Salter planned environmental analyses for timber sales and forest restoration.

May 5: National Community Wildfire Preparedness Day

La Plata Wildfire Mitigation Fair

Forest Lakes Community Center, 23489 N. East Rd., 10:00 – 3:00 PM

Information: Charlie Landsman at laplatafirewise@gmail.com or (206) 697-2613

Forest Lakes Metro District and FireWise of SW CO are teaming up to provide resources and demonstrations for reducing wildfire risk at interactive stations. The public is welcome!

Evacuation Drill

Cash Canyon / Stinking Springs and East Canyons, Montezuma County, 9:00 – 12:00

Information: Becca Samulski at montezumafirewise@gmail.com or (970) 739-7899

Voluntary resident evacuations to the Southwest Colorado Community College and Fire Department and Sheriff's office evacuation exercise ending with lunch. Register for emergency alerts and evacuation drill notice by texting your zip code to 888-777.

Pleasant View Fire Open House

15529 County Road CC, Pleasant View, 11:00 – 2:00

Information: Chief Yoder (970)739-6060

Free hamburgers & hot dogs, Fire Truck Rides, Air Care Helicopter, and Train rides for kids.

Turkey Springs Citizen Tree Marking Tour

Turkey Springs Trailhead, Pagosa Springs, 10:00 -2:00

RSVP and Information: Laurel at laurel@mountainstudies.org or (970) 387-5161

This tour will provide an inside look at what foresters do on a day-to-day basis to manage our local public forests. The workshop will begin with presentations on research conducted in the area, the methods for marking trees for removal, and the importance of tree thinning and prescribed burning. After a lunch break, participants will get a chance to mark trees that should be removed to improve the health and safety of the forest and surrounding communities.

In addition to large events, many individuals and neighborhoods are committed to wildfire preparedness activities on this Saturday, ranging from raking around their homes to neighborhood fuel reduction projects. For more information and to get involved in a Wildfire Prep Day activity near you, visit <https://www.nfpa.org/Public-Education/Campaigns/National-Wildfire-Community-Preparedness-Day> or contact FireWise or Southwest Colorado at 970-385-8909.

May 8 & 9: Connecting for Conservation Workshop

Fort Lewis College, Student Union Center, Durango, May 8, 8:30am - 9:00pm and May 9, 8:30am – 12:30pm

Information: Page Buono at page@mountainstudies.org or 970-387-5161

This two-day partnership event organized by Mountain Studies Institute is a workshop turned inside out. Agencies, non-profits, local businesses, landowners and decision makers will come together to improve existing partnerships and launch new ones for the future of conservation in the Four Corners.

May 15: Fire Council Meeting

Durango Public Lands Center, 15 Burnett Ct., Durango, 4:30-7:00 pm

RSVP and Information: Charlie Landsman at laplatafirewise@gmail.com or 206-697-2613

Bi-monthly fire council meetings bring professionals and concerned residents together to share best practices for being proactive about living in wildfire-prone areas.

May 15 & 16: Schools and Outdoor Learning Environments Family Nature Nights

May 15 at Mancos Elementary, May 16 at Park Elementary, 5:00-7:00 pm (invite only)

Information: Katie Doyle at Katherine.doyle@state.co.us

Colorado Parks and Wildlife organizes this festival style event for 3rd-5th graders and their families to learn skills and find resources to help them enjoy the outdoors, including archery, fishing, trivia, fire safety and more. Space is arranged for community partners to provide fun, interactive lessons for outdoor adventurers.

May 16: Dolores Watershed and Resilient Forest (DWRF) Ponderosa Pine Citizen Science Forest Trip

Details TBD. Information: Becca at dwarfcollaborative@gmail.com or 970-739-7899

This field trip is designed to help DWRF participants and residents better understand and evaluate forest health in the ponderosa pine forest.

May 23: Community Wildfire Preparedness Meeting in Silverton

Silverton Town Hall, 6:30-8:30pm

Information: Charlie Landsman at laplatafirewise@gmail.com or (206) 697-2613

❖❖❖ JUNE ❖❖❖

June 11 & 13: FireWise Neighborhood Ambassador Orientation Sessions 1 & 2

San Juan Public Lands Center, Durango, 2:30 – 5:00 PM

Information and RSVP: Rebecca at montezumafirewise@gmail.com or 970-739-7899

Join the growing network of Neighborhood Ambassadors in SW Colorado and learn how to engage and motivate your neighbors in wildfire preparedness efforts. Orientation to the program is presented in two 2½-hour sessions, including an introduction to the volunteer program, a wealth of resources, and professional presentations on fire behavior, forest health, and firefighter expectations during a wildfire response.

June 12: FireWise Chapter Meeting, Montezuma

Mancos Public Library, 5:30-7:30 PM

RSVP and Information: Amanda at mcfirewise@gmail.com or 970-364-3473

These bi-monthly meetings include a professional presentation on a wildfire preparedness topic and peer learning with other residents who are working to make their homes and communities more resilient to wildfires.