

Spring 2012
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Canyon Lakes Ranger District

Volunteer News

Correction! The final tally is in- and drumroll... YOU provided an eye-opening **ONE MILLION dollars** worth of value-added service to the Canyon Lakes Ranger District in FY 2011.

And for those of you tracking your phenomenal success across the nation, last year the District ranked number two* in volunteer hours Forest Service wide.

Thank you!

Kristy

*The number one District? Red Rock on the Coconino National Forest in Sedona, Arizona.

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Contact Us:

Kristy Wumkes
Partnerships Coordinator
kwumkes@fs.fed.us
970.295.6721

Andrea Von der Ohe
Recreation Department
Manager
avonderohe@fs.fed.us
970.295.6720

Website:

[http://www.fs.usda.gov/
goto/arp/volunteers](http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/arp/volunteers)

Message From the Ranger

Since coming to the Canyon Lakes Ranger District in 2009, I've known our volunteer program was worth a million. But in 2011 you literally were. It is an astounding accomplishment and each of you should be proud of your contribution.

With more and more people living along the Front Range, the services you provide are critical to our mission. The education and ethics you promote help not only the natural resources of the Roosevelt National Forest, but our visitors. The services you provide are too numerous for me to mention and at times challenge us to track them all, although each makes the Canyon Lakes Ranger District a better place to work and recreate. I am consistently impressed by your professionalism and dedication.

Our volunteer program is top-notch. Other forests in our Region of the Forest Service have even asked Kristy Wumkes to share how she does it- working with so many of you so successfully. Other recognition beyond this district includes the Poudre Wilderness Volunteers who have provided a framework for other Wilderness groups across the country to follow. I want you to know that you've helped provide a much needed catalyst to volunteer efforts in other parts of the country, as well as the immeasurable help you provide locally.

Our volunteers are the best of the best and I want to thank you for all that you continue to do for the Canyon Lakes Ranger District.

Kevin Atchley
Canyon Lakes District Ranger

Volunteer Calendar 2012

Does your group have an event to post? Let us know!

Apr 19	5:30 PM- Cameron Pass Nordic Ranger end-of-year event-Mulligans
Apr 25 & 28	Volunteer Trail Crew Leader Training, free ~ * Registration required Apr 25- 6-9 pm, CLASSROOM training Apr 28- 8-2 pm, FIELD - free BBQ afterwards
Apr 28	Adopt-A-Trail ~ Loveland Mountain Club ~ Round Mountain
May 1	6-9 PM- Good Host training for Diamond Peaks Mountain Bike Patrol and Northern Colorado Mounted Patrol members * Registration required
May 18-20	Poudre Wilderness Volunteers- Training Weekend
May 26	Arrowhead Lodge & Redfeather Visitor Centers open for the summer Hewlett Gulch Trail reroute ~ * Wildlands Restoration Volunteers
June 1	Stub Creek Visitor Center opens for the summer
June 2	NATIONAL TRAILS DAY- Lion Gulch/Larimer County Horsemen
June 21-24	Adopt-A-Trail ~ Backcountry Horsemen ~ Fish Creek Trail
June	Deadman Fire Lookout Volunteers training- date TBD
July 1	Deadman Lookout Tower opens for the summer- tentative!
Aug 11	Adopt-A-Trail ~ Larimer County Horsemen ~ Lion Gulch Trail
Aug 25 & 26	Road Restoration Project ~ * Wildlands Restoration Volunteers
Sep 3	Arrowhead and Stub Creek Visitor Centers close for the season
Sep 15 & 16	North Fork Poudre stream restoration~* Wildlands Restoration Vols
Sep 20	Road Restoration Project ~ * Wildlands Restoration Volunteers
Sep 29	NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS DAY- Public & District Volunteer Event * Registration required
Sep 30	Redfeather Visitor Center closes for the season
Oct 20	Hewlett Gulch Trail restoration ~ * Wildlands Restoration Vols

* Register with Kristy Wumkes at kwumkes@fs.fed.us or (970)295-6721

* Register with Wildlands Restoration Volunteers at www.wlrv.org

Volunteer Trail Maintenance Training: April 25 & 28



This two-part training provides basic trail maintenance skills to volunteers and professional outfitters under permit with the Forest Service.

While geared towards volunteer crew leaders, anyone that does trail work for the Forest Service will benefit. Training consists of an evening classroom session and hands-on field practicals on a Forest Service trail. Instructors include Forest Service staff and experienced volunteer crew leaders.

Poudre Wilderness Volunteers Training: May 18-20

Volunteers spend a weekend in the woods, camping out at night and spending the day in a variety of courses. Learning and team building is made fun via an “experiential” trail practical lead by experienced volunteers using Authority of the Resource techniques.





Adopt - A - Trail



The Forest Service Adopt-A-Trail (AAT) program was created to bridge the gap between trail maintenance needs and the lack of Forest Service resources to take care of those needs. The Canyon Lakes Ranger District has approximately 360 miles of official trails to maintain.

Once a trail has been adopted, volunteer crew members are taught basic trail maintenance techniques and provided with tools, hardhats, and even Forest Service staff members to help until group leaders feel confident enough to lead their own crews.

The goal is to build up leadership capacity within each organization, so crews can be self-led, and more trails can get adopted.

Basic maintenance consists of clearing the trail of downed trees, limbs and brush; and cleaning and repairing erosion control.

Of the 109 official trails on the District, 17 have been adopted by 12 different community groups. These groups represent a wide variety of entities, and include businesses, schools, clubs and churches.



One of our AAT groups is the Larimer County Horsemen's Association. They maintain their adopted trail, Lion Gulch, three times a year. Like many that adopt a trail, their members say they do it

for a variety of reasons. A chance to get outdoors in the mountains and breathe the fresh air; the feeling of accomplishment at day's end; and knowing they are making a difference in the stewardship of the trails they enjoy.

Interested? Training is coming up on April 25 and 28. See details on page 2.

Hewlett Gulch Trail Reroute

Yep, we're still hard at it!

Last year volunteers completed approximately 90% of the reroute-hooray! Still to go is completion of the connecting ends, finish work on the tread, and restoration of the old trenched trail.



Want to help? Contact:
John Giordanengo, WRV
john@wlr.org

Our partners, Wildlands Restoration Volunteers (WRV), Overland Mountain Bike Club, and New Belgium Brewing, are looking for folks wanting to get their hands a little dirty for two trail days this year: May 26 on the reroute and October 20 as a restoration date for the old trail.

You're Invited!



Save the date! September 29, 2012

National Public Lands Day
A National Environmental Education Foundation Program

2012 Public Lands Day at Mountain Park Campground

2012 National Public Lands Day

A Tree Planting Extravaganza!



Please contact Kristy Wumkes at kwumkes@fs.fed.us or (970) 295-6721 for more information or to register.

Join us on **September 29** at a new location!

The District-sponsored event will be held at historic **Mountain Park Campground**, along Colorado Highway 14 in the Cache la Poudre Canyon.

Volunteers are invited to spend half a day (9 AM - noon) to help us plant ponderosa pine seedlings in a variety of locations within the campground. This project is part of our ongoing tree restoration efforts during the current mountain pine beetle epidemic.

This family-friendly project welcomes kids ages six and up, and their parents.

Participants will receive a free hot lunch, served by Poudre Wilderness Volunteers and donated by the Arapaho Roosevelt Pawnee Foundation.

Pre-registration is required.

Historic Mountain Park Campground features structures- and trails- built by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) in the 1930s.

You will be enjoying lunch near a beautiful stone shelter built by CCC workers.



Shelter, pre-restoration

It was restored to its original luster in 2011- by volunteers of course!

Forest archeologists will be on hand to share a little of the fascinating history of this location during and after lunch.

Stay... and play!



After tree planting, stay awhile to enjoy nearby fishing, hiking or camping opportunities.

The Cache la Poudre River is Colorado's only designated Wild & Scenic River, and Colorado Highway 14 is a designated state Scenic & Historic Byway.

Mountain Pine Beetles & Forest Safety

Many trees fell this winter during high wind activity. Hazard Tree Awareness (HTA) training was released in 2011, and as part of our awareness program about hazard tree safety, all employees and field-going volunteers must view the self-study presentation. Volunteers must check off the associated box about this training on page two of the volunteer agreement. Contact your Forest Service liaison to have this presentation emailed to you or your organization.

Don't forget...volunteers and Forest Service crews alike are required to carry a two-way radio or SPOT receiver if working in or traveling through designated hazard tree areas. The HTA describes use and check-out locations for these devices, as well as the location of the designated hazard tree zone.

Forest Service crews and contractors removed many dead trees along roads and parking areas last fall, and we will continue with these efforts. We continue to rely on your patrol reports to monitor the forest. To learn more about the mountain pine beetle visit: www.frontrangepinebeetle.org.

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