



Black Forest Together News Flash #80 April 1, 2015

Plan to attend the Slash/Mulch Program annual meeting: Saturday, April 25

No matter how long you've lived in Black Forest, plan to attend the annual meeting of the Black Forest Slash-Mulch Program. This fun, FREE, educational event will be held 9:00-11:00 am Saturday, April 25 at the Black Forest Community Hall, on the northwest corner of Black Forest and Shoup Roads. You'll get good information to help you manage your land and reduce your wildfire risk. You'll also have a chance to win some great door prizes - even a chainsaw!

For 20 years, the Slash/Mulch Program has promoted fire mitigation and responsible forest management by providing a safe and inexpensive way to dispose of tree slash (branches and saplings). For only \$2 per load, you can bring slash to the program's site on Herring Road, between Burgess and Shoup Roads. The slash is ground into mulch, which is free if you load it by hand. (For \$5, you can have a front-loader quickly fill your truck or trailer).

The slash/mulch site will open for the 2015 season at 7:00 am Saturday, May 2. [Click here to get the site schedule, and the details](#) about what you may bring to the slash/mulch site.

This highly successful and collaborative program is co-sponsored by the Black Forest Slash-Mulch Committee (SAMCOM), El Paso County Environmental Division, Colorado Forestry Association and the Black Forest Fire Department, in cooperation with the Colorado State Forest Service and the State Board of Land Commissioners.

Resource Center will be closed on Good Friday

The Resource Center will be closed this Friday, April 3, in observance of Good Friday. On Monday, April 6, the Center will return to its normal hours of 9:00 am to 1:00 pm Monday-Friday.

Black Forest Easter Egg Hunt is this Saturday, April 4

Black Forest Fire/Rescue will present its annual Egg Hunt at La Foret Conference and Retreat Center, 6145 Shoup Road. Bring a basket for each child, and arrive no later than 9:45 am. The hunt starts promptly at 10:00.

Grant funds can cut your mitigation cost in half

You have a rare opportunity to reduce the cost of wildfire mitigation by 50%, through a grant that Black Forest Together has received from the Colorado Department of Natural Resources. [Click here to get more details on our web site](#), or contact Scott MacDonald, our Program Director for Forest Recovery and Restoration, between 8:00 am and 4:00 pm Monday-Friday: (719) 495-2630, (719) 321-2359 or scottmacd.bft@gmail.com

Lutheran Family Services Disaster Response is winding down Black Forest Fire case management

The Lutheran Family Services Disaster Response office has been grateful to serve the survivors of the Black Forest Fire. After 18 months of providing individual case management support, including financial assistance, **LFS Disaster Response will be closing on Friday, May 1, 2015**. The last day for new client appointments was Monday, March 1, 2015. If you would like to make an appointment, please contact Denise Dawson at 719-495-2554 or denise.dawson@lfsrm.org as soon as possible.

Need help? Want information? Contact the Resource Center:

Resource Center Hours

Mon - Fri: 9 am - 1 pm
(Closed Good Friday, April 3)

**1st and 3rd Saturdays:
By appointment**

Appointments must be made by the preceding Thursday at noon. To make an appointment, call 495-2445 or [send us an email](#).

Weather Delays or Closures:

The Resource Center will follow [School District 20's delay or closure policies](#).

Case Management for Unmet Needs

The [Lutheran Family Services Disaster Response Program](#) continues to provide professional and confidential services to meet the uninsured needs of Black Forest fire survivors. If you have needs that have not been met by insurance, [send email to Denise Dawson](#) or call her at the Resource Center: 719-495-2554.

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Black Forest Together Resource Center

(719) 495-2445

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In the Forest Center, just west of Subway - [\[MAP\]](#)

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Black Forest Together is a 501 (C) 3 tax-exempt charitable organization.

Mission Statement

To help the people of the Black Forest region to recover, rebuild and restore their lives, protect the Forest's water quality and ecological health with an emphasis placed on community values, economic stability and the richness of our natural environment today and in the future.