



## Black Forest Together News Flash #86 May 21, 2015



### Great volunteers made the tree giveaway a success

The Black Forest Fire recovery got a boost last Saturday, May 9, more than 200 Black Forest families received free tree seedlings to help restore their burned land. A total of 10,000 trees were donated to fire survivors, through the combined efforts of the Colorado State Forest Service (CSFS), the Arbor Day Foundation's Community Tree Recovery program, FedEx, the National Wildlife Federation, and Black Forest Together.

At Black Forest Fire Station Two, volunteers worked tirelessly to direct traffic through the pickup area, and load each family's pre-reserved trees. Black Forest Together volunteers worked side-by-side with volunteers from FedEx, the Tri-Lakes United Methodist Emergency Preparedness Group, CSFS personnel, and Black Forest Fire/Rescue firefighters. Black Forest Together greatly appreciates the help and support of all these fine organizations.

All seedlings were grown in the Colorado State Forest Service Nursery in Fort Collins. The cost of growing the trees was funded by two major grants the CSFS received to aid in the re-forestation effort in the Black Forest Fire burn area.

The cost of growing 5,000 of the seedlings was provided by the Arbor Day Foundation's Colorado Community Tree Recovery campaign. This campaign is a part of the larger Community Tree Recovery program, whose ongoing efforts are currently supporting community disaster recovery in 11 states. FedEx is a National Program Sponsor of the Community Tree Recovery program, providing funding and other support for all Community Tree Recovery campaigns in 2014-2015.

The other 5,000 seedlings were made possible by the National Wildlife Federation, through a grant from its Wildlife Enhancement Program. The Wildlife Enhancement Program helps individuals establish wildlife habitat by re-vegetating lands disturbed by natural disasters.

### The Resource Center will be closed for Memorial Day

The Resource Center will be closed on Monday, May 25, in observance of Memorial Day. We will re-open for our regular hours at 9:00 am Tuesday, May 26.

### Your help is always needed!

There's still lots of fire recovery work to do this summer (when it eventually stops raining), and we always need volunteers to help. To volunteer, as an individual or a group, contact Volunteer Coordinator Donna Arkowski at [darkkorch@msn.com](mailto:darkkorch@msn.com) or 495-2892.

### Veterans Small Business Conference offers discount to Black Forest vets

Are you a veteran interested in starting a business? The Veteran's Small Business Conference, hosted by the Small Business Development Center, is your chance to learn from the best while networking with fellow veterans from southern Colorado. This all-day event will take place Thursday, May 28 at the Pinery on the Hill (downtown). **Black Forest attendees can get a \$10 discount if you register before May 22** and use the promo code "BFT". [Click here for details](#)

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**Need help? Want information?  
Contact the Black Forest Together Resource Center  
(719) 495-2445**

11590 Black Forest Road, Suite 30, Black Forest, CO 80908  
In the Forest Center, just west of Subway - [\[MAP\]](#)

**Hours: Mon/Tues/Thurs/Fri 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. Wednesday 3 pm - 6 pm.  
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](#).

[BlackForestTogether@gmail.com](mailto:BlackForestTogether@gmail.com) | [www.BlackForestTogether.org](http://www.BlackForestTogether.org)

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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.