

SPRUCE VALLEY RANCH FOUNDATION
Newsletter
Spring 2008

Dear Property Owners,

We hope you find the following updates and seasonal rule reminders informative.

Board Meetings and Members: Owners are invited to attend board meetings. Anyone planning to attend a meeting should contact a board member to confirm the time and place. Our current board members are: Larry Andersen (970-453-7496, cell 210-262-1870), Georgie Fernandes (970-390-9159), Tom Roe (970-453-0190), and Pat Spears (303-423-7067).

SVR Forestry: Planning for the 2008 Pine Beetle Infestation Control Program at SVR is well in hand. You will recall that the fall 2005 inspection program found 29 trees on 12 private lots, while the 2006 inspection program found over 500 infected trees in the Ranch. This fall our survey found 578 infected trees, with 417 on private lots and the remainder on common ground. 200 of these were removed last fall. Removal of the remaining infected trees will be completed on the common areas as well as the private lots before flying season in June/July/August. Bighorn Tree Service (Brad Hoerter, 970.453.0930) has been contracted to remove the trees on the common areas and will do our annual survey again this fall. You will be contacted in the coming weeks and asked if you elect to participate in the SVR sponsored removal program as well as the spraying program. You are reminded that all infected trees MUST be removed before the summer flying season.

The Spraying Program will start in early June. As with the removal program previously discussed, you will soon be asked if you elect to participate again this year. Last year 39 lot owners participated in the program and we sprayed almost 7000 trees. Due to the success of the 2007 program we anticipate spraying more than 10,000 trees in the Ranch this spring. With an aggressive identification/removal program and an aggressive spraying program the Board is optimistic that wide spread devastation as seen elsewhere can be avoided. TenMileTree (Tom McCarthy, 970.389.3277) has been selected to do the spraying in SVR this spring as he did last year. The cost is \$9.00 per tree. If each owner will let Larry Anderson or Tom Roe know exactly what they want, we will get it done for you, as you want it done. If you go through Ten Mile, and ask for them to come out and count, they will charge you a fee for doing this. Ten Mile can survey and count "on the fly", as they spray and the cost will be \$9.00 per tree. Ten Mile will let us know the final count, we will plug it into our spread sheet so we have history of what has been done, and they will then send the owner an invoice which is appropriate to the work they have done. If you have any questions concerning the Pine Beetle Infestation Program, please contact either Larry Andersen (970-453-7496, cell 210-262-1870) or Tom Roe (tomeroe@gmail.com or 970-453-0190).

As previously indicated, SVR will again survey the Ranch for signs of beetle hits. The spring survey will be associated with the cutting program with the detailed survey to follow in the fall. We encourage all owners to inspect their own lots for signs of sap pustules and saw dust rings and of course red-brown dying trees and mark them accordingly. **AS INFECTED TREES HAVE ALREADY BEEN MARKED FOR REMOVAL, PLEASE DO NOT REMOVE THE SURVEYOR'S TAPE** from trees on your lots. The cost of a re-survey is expensive and time consuming and **will** be passed on to lot owners who remove the tape.

Beyond the infested tree removal we also encourage lot owners to consider thinning and slash removal. Thinning is the key to a healthy forest which goes a long way towards minimizing the impact of the beetles. Permits for this type work **ARE** necessary. Remember there are heavy fines for the removal of non-infested trees without a permit.

Trap and Skeet: The Trap and Skeet range should be open by June 1st. Last summer the fence was repaired and stained. Drainage will be improved around the upper skeet house this summer.

The locks will be changed again this spring and users will need to contact Larry Andersen or Tom Roe to get the combination and keys as well as to sign the Indemnification Agreement. As a reminder, the range is for the use of SVR residents only and their accompanied guests. **ONLY SHOTGUNS ARE ALLOWED.** Please do not give the lock combination or keys to others. As a courtesy to those who shoot after you, please remember to clean up the houses after you shoot and to collect your spent loads. The lack of clean-up was a very serious issue last year.

If you have any suggestions or comments give Larry a call and ...**ALWAYS SHOOT SAFELY!**

Trash Containers: As always, we remind you not to put your trash containers out the night before pickup. They are attractive to many animals (especially bears) during the night and are easily opened. In order to lessen the attraction of wildlife, the Town of Blue River has enacted an ordinance requiring the use of wildlife-resistant refuse containers and limiting the time period that trash containers may be left at curbside. The Town requires the refuse containers to be fully enclosed, metal or plastic, and with latching lids to prevent access to the contents by wildlife. Refuse containers may be placed at the curb only on the day of pickup. The containers must be removed from the curb by 6:00 p.m. on the day of pickup. The Town intends to enforce the ordinance and issue citations for noncompliance.

Amenities Update: Due to unpredictable weather conditions, we cannot guarantee a date on which the Ranch's amenities will be available for use.

Trap and Skeet: First time users wishing to use the trap and skeet range should call Larry Andersen for access and usage instructions.

Tennis court: The combination for the tennis court is 2000. Please remember to lock the court when you leave. Contact Tom Roe with any questions.

Trails: We hope you enjoy the Ranch's summer trails. Immediate access to some trails may be limited based on snowmelt.

Picnic area: If you would like to reserve the picnic area for personal use, please use the sign-up sheet located in the mailbox on the post at the picnic grounds. If you are planning a major event (like a wedding), please contact Tom Roe.

Stables: All property owners who desire to keep horses at the stables this summer should call Patti Swartz (970-453-2225)

Boathouse: The boathouse is open. As a reminder, storage is restricted to canoes, kayaks and rowing shells that fit on the racks. No storage is allowed on the floor or in the ceiling rafters. When parking at the boathouse, please use the same parking indicators you were given last season and park in the designated parking area. **The turn-a-round is for the Red, White and Blue. The Sheriff's department can give citations for parking on the turn-a-round. Please do not block the drive to the Tarn or drive ON the ramp.** If you have any questions, please contact Tom Roe at the following email address or either of the phone numbers (email is preferred): tomeroe@gmail.com, 970-453-0190, 405-615-2002.

Use of Ranch Amenities: Questions have been raised as to whether non-owners can use the Ranch's amenities. As a reminder, the Board of Directors reconfirmed its policy to allow owners to reserve the picnic area and trap and skeet range for their own limited specific use where such use does not unduly interfere with the rights of other owners. For community and goodwill reasons, the Board of Directors will consider the use of such amenities by nonprofit groups on a case-by-case basis. The Board of Directors does not encourage the use of any of the Ranch's amenities by unaccompanied, non-owner individuals.

RV Parking: Recreational vehicle parking is not permitted on Spruce Valley Ranch roads. Owners' RVs must be parked in a garage or otherwise screened in a manner consistent with the Architectural Standards. Parking of guests' RVs should be limited to less than three days or owners should seek storage outside the Ranch. (Please do not use the stable parking lot.)

July 4th Picnic: The July 4th picnic will take place at noon on July 4, 2008, at the SVR picnic grounds. Please bring your own entrée to grill, a side dish to share, and plates, napkins and utensils for your group. Beverages will be provided.

Stocking the Tarn: Over the past few years, a number of SVR owners have taken the initiative to help stock the Tarn with fish. These individuals made generous cash contributions to the Town of Blue River for the purpose of adding larger fish and new species to the Tarn for our fishing enjoyment. **Catch and release of all fish is encouraged by the SVR Board.** If anyone is interesting in contributing this season, please contact Howard Smith at 970-453-4203.

We hope that you enjoy your summer at beautiful Spruce Valley Ranch. Please do not hesitate to call any member of the board with questions or concerns.

Sincerely yours,
Spruce Valley Ranch Foundation
Board of Directors