

Newsletter

of the

Crowsnest Forest Stewardship Society

A Helping Hand Partnership Caring For Our Environment



Spring 2005
www.crowsnestforest.com

The Crowsnest Forest Stewardship Society's 11th Annual Ed Gregor Memorial Stewardship Day is scheduled for Saturday June 4th.

Where: Blairmore Forestry Office

When: 7:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

Who: All Backcountry Users

The day traditionally starts off with a free pancake breakfast at 7:30 A.M. at the Blairmore Land and Forest Service yard. After everyone is fed, the volunteers choose their "job groups" and head out to their assigned projects (see project work sheet attached or visit website: www.crowsnestforest.com).

At the end of the day when everyone is gathered up for the free supper, draws will be made for terrific prizes of a Husqvarna H340 Chain Saw & a Unique Crafted Log Bench – donated by Rocky Mountain Mechanical & the Wood Butcher. Awards are also made for the youngest/ oldest volunteer, traveled the furthest, and for the most unique piece of garbage picked up through the day, as well as many other donated prizes. All of the food and prizes are donated by local businesses, cooked and served by the Coleman & Blairmore Lions Clubs.

Everyone, young and old, are welcome to participate. Remember to bring your work clothes including gloves, hat and boots. Bring your own water, lunches, digital camera and suntan lotion for the day. We always seem blessed with great weather. Also any trail clearing or trail repair equipment you have would be appreciated.

Please register on our website so that we will have a head count for meal planning and project support. Also log any volunteer hours on our site.

**Please copy the Poster and pass it along
See you all on the 4th!**

Door Prizes!

***All Participants are automatically entered into the draw. Increase your chances by purchasing more tickets for \$1. (You must be present to win) All proceeds go towards Stewardship Society projects.** At last year's Stewardship Day, a raffle / door prize of a Adult Season Ski Lift Ticket was donated by Castle Mountain Resort. Bill Kinnear donated a beautiful hand carved walking stick to the eldest participant. Many other great donated prizes were enjoyed by all the winners. CFSS T-Shirts will be available for purchase at the Stewardship Day for \$20.00 each.

Renew your free membership by e-mail and receive one chance on the Hand Crafted Unique Log Bench!

Projects Completed

In the past 10 years, we've contributed a great deal towards management of the Forest Reserve within the C-5 area of the Southern AB. Rockies- all volunteer!

- Over \$340,200.00 in donated volunteer hrs, equipment & supplies by over 1440 volunteers.
- Over 8000 tree seedlings have been planted
- Over 25 tons of garbage and debris have been collected & thousands of kilometers of roadside and riverside have been cleaned.
- Trail maintenance, repair, reclamation & enhancement; bridge installation/repair, walkways reconstructed, benches, sign kiosks & pilot projects undertaken.
- Hundreds of random campsites have been cleaned up.
- Hiking, Biking and Cross-Country Ski Trails at Allison Lake, Beaver Mines Lake, Syncline Valley, Table Mountain, Star Creek and Lost Creek have been improved. Bridging projects and trail maintenance on the Old Miners Path and Star Creek.

Over the years, your CFSS has been very involved with maintaining sustainable multi-use in our public lands. We have made many presentations-written and verbal-to government agencies, committees, organizations and the public, always maintaining our vision and mandate.

AGM Approaches

The Crowsnest Forest Stewardship Society's **Annual General Meeting** will take place on **May 24th at 7:00 PM** in the downstairs meeting room in the Blairmore Forestry Office. Primary on the agenda will be election of officers and finalizing plans for Stewardship Day.

Renewal Membership Info Required

To stay informed about your Stewardship Society, please renew your free membership today at www.crowsnestforest.com or e-mail to: lbandcroft@telus.net or post to: Box 1602, Pincher Creek, AB. T0K 1W0. Info required: all family names, address, postal code, phone, e-mail (please!)

Executive - Directors 2004-2005

Andrew Rusnyk.....564-4242	Eric Bruder.....627-2172
Leah Bandcroft627-9144	Gail Simmons.....627-2796
Tracy Arbuckle.....562-7773	Terry Aris.....628-3744
Brent Barbero.....627-2808	Neil Chalmers.....563-3215
Brendan Carter.....563-1108	Robert Johnson.627-3794
John MacGarva.....628-2447	Bruce MacPhail..562-8302
Gary Nicolson.....627-5587	Cameron Welsh..628-3186

Thank you to all of our many Sponsors

Over the past 10 years – all of the work accomplished could not have happened without your support! See the attached listing of 2004 Sponsors and please support them!

Donations gratefully accepted.

All moneys are spent on sustainable projects in our Crowsnest Forest. Income tax receipts available for donations over \$25.00 sponsors from 2004 and support everyone involved.

Leave No Trace Camping

*Rules are what you follow when someone is watching
Ethics are what you follow when no one is watching*

The 6 Leave No Trace Principles:

- Plan ahead and prepare
- Camp & travel on durable surfaces
- Pack it in - Pack it out
- Properly dispose of what you can't pack out
- Leave what you find
- Minimize the use and impact of fire

Anyone interested in a 'Leave no Trace' course, please contact: Terry Aris L.N.T. Instructor 403-628-3744

Mandate of the C.F.S.S.

1. To develop, produce, and distribute materials and programs focused on public education regarding proper stewardship of public lands within the Crowsnest Forest.
2. To participate with Land Management Agencies on enhancement, maintenance and reclamation projects within the Crowsnest Forest.
3. Promote the continuation and sustainability of multiple-use opportunities while maintaining environmental protection objectives within the Crowsnest Forest.

President's Message - Andrew Rusnyk

Wow, almost a full year has passed since the changes in the executive of the CFSS. It has been an incredibly exciting and challenging time and I hope everyone has enjoyed it as much as I have. The Ed Gregor Memorial Stewardship Day was a huge success again, our website is up and running, the initial stage of the motorized trail mapping/inventory project has been successfully completed and best of all there was no fire here last summer. As a new president for the CFSS, there will be a learning curve for me to get to the level of competency of past presidents and I always welcome suggestions and ideas. I will always strive to uphold the mission of the CFSS and hope to help heighten the awareness of the Society throughout Alberta. Please feel free to contact me or any of the Executives at anytime, as we are interested in the members' thoughts and solutions. I look forward to another exciting year and to seeing everyone on June 4th, 2005 for the next Ed Gregor Stewardship Day.

CFSS Mission Statement

As stewards, we are committed to active participation with land management agencies and other users, and to the promotion of public education regarding the responsible use of public lands within the C-5 Forest.

A Big Thank you goes out to the Honorable David Coutts, our MLA and Minister of Sustainable Resource Development. Dave has always supported the CFSS and in particular with his Silent Auction 03/04!

Web Sites of Interest

CFSS- www.crowsnestforest.com

Castle area and C-5 DFMP (CROWPAC) are on:
www3.gov.ab.ca/srd/regions/southwest