

To Larimer County Tree Farmers,

Below is the new release that has gone out regarding the 2nd Annual Estes Park Tree Symposium coming up on Wednesday, May 7, 8:30 am – 12:30 pm. We decided to direct mail this to you, because we feel it will be an extremely information-rich learning opportunity for all landowners. The coming MPB bark beetles will be the main topic concern. Please take the opportunity to participate in this FREE Symposium and also share this information with your neighbors! Thank You!

The Fort Collins District of the Colorado State Forest Service

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NEWS

For Immediate Release
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Contact for reporters:
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Mountain Pine Beetles are Main Topic of 2nd Annual Estes Park Tree Symposium on May 7

Estes Park, Colo. — Mountain pine beetles (MPB) are making front page news in many Colorado communities these days, and for good reason. The current MPB-epidemic in Colorado is the largest in the state's recorded history, and it has landowners and communities asking what they can do about it on a local level.

To help answer these questions, the Town of Estes Park Tree Board and the Colorado State Forest Service are holding the 2nd Annual Estes Park Tree Symposium from 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. on May 7 in the Town Hall Board Room at the Estes Park Town Hall, 170 McGregor Ave, Estes Park.

The doors open at 8:15 a.m. and the program begins at 8:30 a.m. with a presentation on "Mountain Pine Beetles and the Estes Valley" by keynote speaker Dave Leatherman, who will discuss beetle biology, prevention and treatment options for beetle-killed trees, all in the context of forest management.

Leatherman is widely recognized as a leading authority on pine beetles. During his 31-year career with the Colorado State Forest Service, he traveled more than 1,000,000 miles throughout Colorado studying and tracking pine beetles, western spruce budworms and other forest pests.

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Additional speakers and their topics include:

- 9:45 a.m.: Dave Lentz, Larimer County forester, will discuss aspects of the law as it relates to beetle-killed trees. The law requires removal of infected trees before the beetles fly and attack other trees. Lentz will cover enforcement of the law and his experiences in dealing with landowners to achieve compliance.
- 10:30 a.m.: Diana Selby, a forester with the Fort Collins District of the Colorado State Forest Service, will present "Managing Trees on Your Property." Her presentation will focus on how to apply established forestry practices to keep trees healthy. She also will discuss what to plant to create diversity in the landscape as a way to protect the local landscape and maintain property values.
- 10:55 a.m.: Laura Pottorff, pesticide applicator coordinator, Colorado Department of Agriculture, will discuss state licensing of preventive tree sprayers.
- 11:15 a.m.: Sue Pinkham, Estes Valley interagency fire education coordinator, will conclude the symposium with a discussion about what private landowners can do to protect their homes and trees from wildfire. Her presentation will emphasize the benefits of creating a defensible space.

In addition to the formal presentations, informational displays will be available in the Board Room foyer, and speakers will be available between presentations to answer questions. Recent beetle-killed trees also will be on display outside the building to help landowners recognize infected trees so they can take appropriate action on their own properties.

For more information about the May 7th symposium, contact Scott Roederer, Town of Estes Park Tree Board, at 970.586.8812. For more information about mountain pine beetles, contact Diana Selby, Colorado State Forest Service, at 970.491.8839.

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