

Beetle Busting Contact: Colorado
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Colorado Tree Farmers

Press Release

Beetle Busting

Bellvue, Colorado July 23, 2010:

BEETLE BUSTERS WANTED

"The bark beetles' destruction spread across 524,000 new acres in Colorado and Wyoming last year, much of which was in Larimer County, as the beetles began to heavily infest forests east of the Continental Divide." – Fort Collins Coloradoan Jan, 23, 2010

"If the beetles continue to spread and jump from Lodgepole pines to ponderosa pines, which grow throughout the foothills, much of the Front Range could be affected, and it could produce "a very devastating circumstance," U.S. Forest Service regional forester Rick Cables said.

SOMEBODY should do something!

How about YOU?

Help slow the beetle infestation and the damage that could result from the next big wildfire!

Become a Beetle Buster!

Follow the lead of Larimer County Commissioners

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Steve Johnson, Tom Donnelly and Lew Gaiter

To volunteer, register for the Larimer County “Beetle Buster” Workshop

on September 25, for FREE classroom and field training, register at:

[www.treefarmer.com/Larimer County Beetle Busters.html](http://www.treefarmer.com/Larimer%20County%20Beetle%20Busters.html)

or call (970) 482-6912

Sept. 25 won't work? Call for additional training dates

Neighbors,

Thanks for your hard work, it benefits us all!

Many thanks to all of you who have been laboring so hard to treat beetle infested trees and reduce the fuel loads in your forest.

- Each infested tree that is cut and treated will save 4 or more healthy trees from becoming infested next year.
- The lower the fuel loads in your forest, the smaller and less intense the next wildfire is likely to become.

More needs to be done

Unfortunately the pine beetles are flying again and much more will need to be done. It is plain to see that many of you are already overwhelmed and simply can't do more by yourselves. Others don't know what to do and are simply hoping that things won't get too much worse. A quick trip to the site of the “Bobcat Gulch” fire of ten years ago should confirm that things can get much worse and stay that way for decades. We need to get more people involved before the next wildfire starts here!

- Read: Loveland Daily Reporter-Herald story “Former Bobcat Gulch residents recall their land's past glory” at

http://www.reporterherald.com/news_story.asp?ID=28287

Help us get more people involved

Fortunately, we have some excellent examples of communities that have successfully organized their citizens to slow the spread of the pine beetle and significantly mitigate the damage that could be caused by the next wildfire.

- Larimer County, The Colorado State Forest Service, The Larimer County Tree Farmers and the Colorado Forestry

Association have formed a partnership to invite the leaders of one such group to help train and organize volunteers in Larimer County to achieve similar results.

- Become a Beetle Buster at [www.treefarmer.com/Larimer County Beetle Busters.html](http://www.treefarmer.com/Larimer%20County%20Beetle%20Busters.html) or call (970) 482-6912

- Register for the FREE September 25 Beetle Buster Training (same as above)

This is an excellent opportunity to work together and avert a potential disaster. A huge wildfire will affect air and water

quality and may disrupt electrical transmission for some time, so ALL of our citizens should be involved in the effort to

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avert it. Now they can be. Volunteer to become a Larimer County Beetle Buster. Invite your friends, neighbors, and family to join you.

Many people on the gulf coast are organizing their communities in such volunteer efforts now. The difference is that you

have the opportunity to make a difference before disaster strikes.

Don't be one of those people who will be arguing that "someone should have done something." YOU can do something right now!

For more information or to register visit [www.treefarmer.com/Larimer County Beetle Busters.html](http://www.treefarmer.com/Larimer%20County%20Beetle%20Busters.html) or just call me right

now! Thanks.

Wes Rutt, stumpmaker@gmail.com

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