

Big Mountain Fire District

Fire Wise and Fire Safe

June 2023



This year's annual brush collection day was a great success. Thank you to the fourteen volunteers who showed up with seven pickup trucks and trailers. Noel Huettich and Robert Gjullin - Elk Highlands, Doug & Julie Brinkman, and Justin, Ronda, & Treyson Steinbach - Northern Lights, Brett & Sue Oemichen (not pictured) and coordinator Paul Silverman - Sunrise Ridge, Kim Jensen and David & Suzanne Burrow - Wood Run, and our Fire Chief Ben Devall. They collected 14 trailer loads and 7 pickup truck loads of debris. Thanks to WMR for allowing the debris to be added to their burn pile, and thanks to all of you that took the time to clear brush and leave those piles at the road for pickup. If you are still clearing your property, or if you were unable to clean up in time for brush collection day, the County Landfill on Hwy 93 happily collects brush and debris at no charge to local residents.

Personal fireworks can be extremely dangerous in areas like Big Mountain Fire District which is heavily timbered and situated on a predominant south facing 21%-30% slope. Our District also has higher, adjacent, and lower steeper slopes, ravines, and canyons which are susceptible to fast growing wildfires. **The BMFD Board of Trustees has adopted a policy strongly discouraging the discharge of personal fireworks within the boundaries of the district.** If called out on a fireworks complaint, BMFD will give a copy of the policy to the party involved; **log the address of property involved in case a wildfire is started and a source investigation is required, and to cover the cost of suppression** if fireworks are the source.

As we approach the **Fourth of July**, please make your guests and renters aware of the **NO FIREWORKS** policy. **"FIREWORKS ARE NOT ALLOWED on Whitefish Mountain Resort and USFS properties; and Big Mountain HOA personally owned property and HOA common areas at any time."** If an HOA would like to purchase a **No Fireworks** sign for your subdivision, please contact Fire Chief Ben Devall bendevall@hotmail.com

More information will be forthcoming, but please mark your calendars for the **Big Mountain Community Picnic on July 20th from 6 - 8pm** at the Big Mountain Fire Hall. All BMFD property owners and WMR employees are invited.

Your BMFD Firewise Board:

Ben Devall, Fire Chief
Robert Sharp, BMFD Firefighter
Paul Silverman, BMFD Board Rep
Josh Witt, WMR Rep
Woody Hust, Community Rep, Sub 1

Sue Oemichen, Resident Leader, Sunrise Ridge
Marylou Patterson, Community Rep Sub 2
Diana Tague, Community Rep, Northern Lights
Suzanne Burrow, Community Rep, Wood Run