

**From:** Forest Lakes News [mailto:flnews@cox.net]

**Sent:** Thursday, May 25, 2017 12:43 PM

**Subject:** Forest Lakes Restrictions and Warnings

**Happy Wednesday!** There are quite a few things to address today. Some are very important announcements and some are "Housekeeping" rules that will help keep us safe during the upcoming holiday week-end, as well as all summer long. Most of us know how things "go" in Forest Lakes, but we get a lot of extra visitors on a holiday week-end and they need some education on how we do things here---you be their informant, please!

**The National Weather Service has issued a Red Flag Warning for today from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. that covers the entire Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests (THAT'S US IN FOREST LAKES!) due to strong winds and low relative humidity.**

A Red Flag Warning means that critical fire weather conditions are either occurring or are imminent.

On a RED FLAG DAY, the following restrictions are in effect during the above mentioned hours:

- Building, maintaining, or attending a fire or campfire. Propane heating and cooking devices are permissible.
- Smoking outside a vehicle or a building.
- Vehicle use off roads or trails.
- Driving a vehicle without an approved spark arresting device.
- Operating an internal combustion engine (unless the equipment has an approved spark arresting device AND is in an area completely devoid of vegetation) i.e. chainsaws, generators, hot saws, skidders, and other recreational or industrial equipment.
- Welding, or operating an acetylene or other torch with an open flame.
- Visitors to the Kaibab and Coconino national forests are advised to refrain from having a campfire when Red Flag Warning conditions exist. This advisory covers all campfires across the affected area, including in developed campgrounds.

For detailed weather information including warnings issued by the National Weather Service, visit [www.wrh.noaa.gov/fgz/](http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/fgz/).

### **BE AWARE OF WILDLIFE IN THE FOREST**

**Several residents who border the national forest have reported seeing wildlife this week. A bear, a coyote (that lunged at their small dog), and a Mountain Lion have been seen. The wild horses continue to be seen on both sides of the highway. With the holiday week-end fast approaching, and with lots of residents and guests and children in our community, please be aware of your surroundings. Here are a few tips that can help to keep everyone safe:**

1. **Keep your dogs within close sight at all times.**
2. **Don't leave small dogs out AT ANY TIME!**
3. **Keep all dogs on leashes AT ALL TIMES.**
4. **Don't leave people food or animal food sitting outside. That includes trash bags or cans.**
5. **DO NOT ENTICE THEM BY FEEDING THEM or encourage them in any way. Remember, they are wild. You don't know them and they certainly don't know you!**
6. **If you are going to an event that involves food, please leave animals at home. They cannot be in the area where food is served. That is a Health Department rule (service dogs are an exception). I'm sure they would enjoy a nap while you enjoy the event.**

## **LOST AND FOUND ANIMALS**

It would be wonderful to go through the holiday (or any time, for that matter) without any lost dogs or cats. Here are some tips on what you can do, however, in case it happens.

1. Remember that there is no facility in Forest Lakes where you can take a lost animal for safe keeping until an owner is found.
2. There is a chip scanner at the Fire Station.
3. Use the Forest Lakes Bulletin Board group page on Facebook to post Lost & Found. If you don't have a Facebook account, line up with someone who does so that it can be checked very quickly. You might want to be a member of the bulletin board by signing up in advance, if you aren't already on it. Send a request to "Forest Lakes Bulletin Board" to join.
4. Don't put an animal inside your house for safety, in case the owner is wandering in your neighborhood, looking for their lost pet. They will never find it that way.
5. I (Judy) am glad to help with getting out the word, but posting on the Bulletin Board is much faster. Sometimes I'm away from my computer and can't get to a post quickly.

## **WEEK-END EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES**

**Saturday, May 27<sup>th</sup>** – Pancake Breakfast at the Community Center, 1111 Merzville Rd. from 7 – 10 AM (see details on the [www.floa.org](http://www.floa.org) website)

- Also, occurring at the same time: Rummage Sale, Bake Sale, Fire District Auxiliary Logowear, Piecemakers Quilt Raffle Ticket Sales, and FLOA Information Table (get your Phone Directory) and a few "Cabin Hair, Don't Care" hats for sale.
- It's not too late to donate for the Bake Sale! Donations can be dropped off at the Community Center House Friday until 4 PM or bring to sale Saturday morning.
- Last minute opportunity to volunteer to help with Pancake Breakfast due to a couple of cancellations – reply to this email.
- Lisa, the Chili Lady, will be on location starting at 9 AM with Red Pork Tamales for sale. She will also have about 3 dozen Beef Tamales. Cost is \$2 each; \$24/dozen. I heard she is bring about 30 dozen! You can reserve in advance. Let me know at [floanews@cox.net](mailto:floanews@cox.net) and we'll hold them for you. Don't miss out. They go very quickly!

**Sunday, May 28<sup>th</sup>** – Ice Cream Social at the Fire Station from 2 – 4 PM. This is a fundraiser for the Fire District Auxiliary.

**Thursday, June 1<sup>st</sup>** – Highway Clean-up at 9 AM. Meet at the Community Center to get an assignment and equipment. Details were in last Eblast and a reminder will be sent again next week.

## **Just a few more things and then I'm done!:**

Follow the OHV rules on your ATV's!

Drive v..e..r..y s..l..o..w...l...y to keep the dust levels down.

Stop at all stop signs! This is close to my heart because last summer I was almost a statistic at Old Rim Road and Sheep Springs! Someone ran the stop sign and was going at least 50 mph. I still shake and shudder when I think about how close I came to my destiny. (If I EVER see that vehicle in our community again, I will be introducing myself to them!)

Take a hike but know how to get back home!

Enjoy lots of fun and food with family and friends!

Most of all, be safe in every way!

Judy (you know the rest!)

602-739-4369 (yes, you can call me any time!)