

SUBJECT: ACTION ALERT! Your response is needed

LITTLE THOMPSON JOURNAL – Issue 4, March 12, 2014

DON'T SPAM ME:

This will be the last newsletter from gordon@bigthompson.org. All future newsletters will be sent from info@ltwrc.org. Please update your SPAM filter.

TWO URGENT ACTIONS NEEDED FROM ALL PROPERTY OWNERS ALONG THE LTR:

1. Please count the number of downed trees, as well as large or hazardous items of debris, in the river or within the flood-prone area of your property. As a rule of thumb, count any item larger than one person can drag or carry that is below the expected high water line for spring runoff. You can report this information (along with details about the location of your property) to info@LTWRC.org. You can also estimate the size of debris piles that should be removed.
2. If you have not done so already, please print and sign the attached permission form. You can also find the form online at <http://www.ltwrc.org/page32.html>.

Please fax completed forms to 877-495-9157

OR

Scan completed form and email to info@ltwrc.org

OR

Mail to: Big T CD/LTWRC
P.O. Box 441
Berthoud, CO 80513

These two steps are critical to preparations for spring runoff, for your own safety and the safety of your neighbors. The information you provide will help us determine where to deploy equipment and volunteers as effectively as possible.

Starting on March 17, teams of volunteers and equipment will begin removing potentially hazardous items from the river and flood-prone areas below the estimated spring high-water line (in most areas this will be 3 to 4 feet above base flow). Whenever possible, trash will be taken to the nearest pickup point; small woody and vegetative material will be taken to the nearest chipping site or left in a designated spot on your property, if you wish; and large trees and root wads will be placed beyond the water's reach, where directed by property owners, for later use in stream restoration.

Be prepared for the teams when they arrive:

- Clear a path for ingress and egress for pedestrians, vehicles, and backhoes, and mark it well.
- Mark utility lines, septic systems, and other infrastructure so it isn't damaged accidentally.
- Indicate where you want stream restoration materials to be stored.

- If you indicated on your permission form that you must be present, then be sure to check your email and the website, <http://www.ltwrc.org>, frequently for updates. If you aren't there when the teams move through, your property will be skipped!
- Keep track of your own related time, travel, and expenses, and report them to info@LTWRC.org. Your work counts towards matching funds that are required for many grants, and some of it may be reimbursable.

DO YOU HAVE EQUIPMENT OR VEHICLES THAT CAN BE USED DURING CLEAN-UP?

Let us know if you have machinery or trucks that you are willing to use for debris removal. Contact us at info@LTWRC.org.

WE HAVE A WEBSITE! – www.LTWRC.org

We have our very own website. It's still under construction, but there's already a lot of useful information there, including downloadable forms, the restoration RFP, and links to data on precipitation and the snowpack. More is being added all the time.

WE HAVE A FACEBOOK GROUP! - www.facebook.com/groups/LTWRC, or just log in to Facebook and search Little Thompson Watershed Restoration Coalition, and ask to join the group. This is a great way to share stories, comments, and photographs, ask and answer questions, and get to know your fellow denizens of the watershed.

INDIVIDUAL ASSISTANCE

Each County now has a Long-Term Recovery Group (LTRG) for handling individual needs for assistance. This includes guidance, a variety of financial programs, and volunteer crews. The State and Counties are continuing to seek additional funds and extensions from agencies such as FEMA, and much of the money designated for individuals and communities is being allocated via the Long-Term Recovery Groups.

Even if you don't have immediate, flood-related needs, or even if you aren't eligible for existing programs, we urge you to register with your local LTRG. That is your best chance for receiving aid and helps the entire Coalition to qualify for funding to restore the river.

Boulder

Long-Term Flood Recovery Group Office
4775 Walnut St. Suite A
Boulder, CO 80301

- Phone: 303-895-3429
- Email: floodrecovery@unitedwayfoothills.org.

Larimer

Loveland office:
House of Neighborly Services
1511 East 11th Street
Loveland, CO 80537

- Phone: 970-461-2222

- Hours: Monday – Friday; 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
- Email: LCFloods2013@gmail.com

Estes Park office:

The office recently moved. We'll post the new address and phone on our Facebook page as soon as they're available.

Weld

- Phone: 970-590-8401

JUST ANNOUNCED: DEBRIS PICK-UP EXTENDED

Larimer County will continue its right-of-way debris clean-up program past the March 12th deadline, as funding allows, because the Colorado State Office of Emergency Management has issued a six month extension for the FEMA right-of-way debris removal program.

To schedule a debris pick up, please call the **Debris Hotline at 970-498-7140**.

Debris questions can be directed to Lori Hodges at lrhodges@larimer.org.

Larimer County and its hired debris removal contractor, TFR Enterprises, are currently picking up ELIGIBLE flood debris from the county maintained right-of-ways only, per FEMA regulations. This FEMA program is for residential private property owners who are removing debris from their property themselves, or with the assistance of volunteers and not paid contractors. In accordance with the FEMA guidelines, flood qualified debris does NOT include unimproved land, farm and ranch land, and commercial property.

LOST & FOUND

Did the river deposit someone else's treasures at your doorstep? Did it sweep away something you're hoping to get back? You can now report lost and found items to lost.found@LTWRC.org, and we'll try to facilitate a happy reunion.

RUMORS, RUMORS, RUMORS

Did you hear that the flood unearthed dinosaur bones? Chipped wood is radioactive? They're giving money away to farmers? Report what you've heard through the grapevine to rumors.LTWRC.org and we'll try to sort out the urban legends from the legitimate news.