

July 26, 2010

ARE YOU READY? 'FIRE READY MONTANA' INITIATIVE LAUNCHED

Helena, MT – The Governor's Office of Community Service announced today the 2nd annual statewide 'Fire Ready Montana' initiative. This initiative promotes 'fire-wise' tips and family preparedness steps for all Montanans.

'Fire Ready Montana' is featured on the website: <http://ready.mt.gov> and the public can now follow us on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/ReadyMontana> for fire ready updates and events.

"While this year has been a great year for moisture, it's always important to be prepared for wildfire season, especially with so many red trees posing an additional risk," said Governor Brian Schweitzer. "We all can pitch in and take personal responsibility with simple steps to create 'fire-wise' zones around our own homes; the time to act is now."

The 'Fire Ready Montana' initiative emphasizes 'fire-wise' tips, including; mowing your lawn, keeping gutters free of debris, creating a family contact list and putting together an emergency supply kit that includes water, food and a battery-powered radio. The public is encouraged to visit the website: <http://ready.mt.gov> for more information.

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"Fire Ready Montana is designed to educate Montanans about the importance of having a preparedness plan, should danger from wildfires occur," said Jan Lombardi, Executive Director of the Governor's Office of Community Service. "I encourage the public to go to our website <http://ready.mt.gov> and follow us on Twitter for fire preparedness tips."

The 'Fire Ready Montana' initiative is supported by a federal grant from the Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and its Citizen Corps' grassroots program (<http://citizencorps.gov>) aimed at bringing together government and community leaders to engage citizens in emergency preparedness.

The Governor's Office of Community Service (<http://serve.mt.gov/>) was created in 1993 to expand national service and volunteer opportunities for all Montanans.

Find us on Facebook at Serve Montana.

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