

From Our President

Free Green Waste Dumpster Day

Craft Faire /Chili Cook-Off

Cleaning Up Gold Ridge Forest

Book Club

Finance Update



Your Quarterly Newsletter – September 2025

Gold Ridge Forest

A Hidden Gem in Nature's Wonderland



Free Green Waste Dumpster Day

Saturday, September 20th

9:00 am – 1:00 pm

Behind the Lodge

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Book Club

Friday, September 26th

6:00PM @ Lodge

**A Novel of the French Revolution
Annette Vallon by James Tipton**

Craft Faire / Chili Cook-Off

October 4th 10:00 am -3 pm

@ the Lodge

Board of Directors -2025

President/Greenbelt- Jack Mermod

VP/Secretary – Bill Simonson

Finance – Joan Fuquay

Communications/ Greenbelt
Mark Weiner

Recreation – Austin Favero

From our President

Dear Neighbors,

As we transition into the fall season, I'd like to share a few updates from your POA Board.

First, a big thank you to everyone who made use of the community pool this summer. It was great to see so many residents enjoying the space. As a reminder, the **pool officially closed for the season on September 14th**. We appreciate your cooperation in keeping the area clean and safe throughout the summer months.

We're also happy to announce that the **new walking paths in the recreation area have been completed**. Additionally, the parking lots and basketball court received much needed patchwork, sealing, and striping.

Thank you for helping to make our neighborhood a great place to live. As always, we appreciate your continued support and involvement.

Warm regards,
Jack Mermod
President, Gold Ridge Forest POA



FIRE SAFE COUNCIL

FREE GREEN WASTE DUMPSTER DAY

The Gold Ridge Forest Fire Safe Council will be hosting a green waste dumpster on **Saturday Sept. 20th from 9:00 am - 1:00 pm** (or until dumpster(s) are full) behind the GRF clubhouse. Come dump your load and meet your neighbors!

We will have Drinks and Snacks available to keep you going.

A dumpster and chipper will be available to GRF residents only (Bring proof of GRF residency (POA bill, PGE with address....) Leaves, brush, branches will be accepted. Stumps, construction debris, household waste and hazardous materials will not be received. No plastic bags (Paper leaf bags are acceptable) If you bring in plastic we will have to empty into the dumpster.

One pickup load per customer unless otherwise authorized. Check back later in the day. If not full, we will allow for additional loads.

Volunteers Needed!!!

We could really use some volunteers to help transfer green waste from vehicles to dumpsters, pick up loads from residents that do not have trucks or experienced chippers.

The funds for this event are brought to you by Title III funds from the El Dorado County Fire Safe Council.

If you have any questions, please call (707) 888-9331 or email GoldRidgeForestFSC@yahoo.com.

IMPORTANT

Please be sure to fill out the paperwork when delivering and let us know the hard work you put in. All working hours by our residents count towards our Firewise certificate renewal.

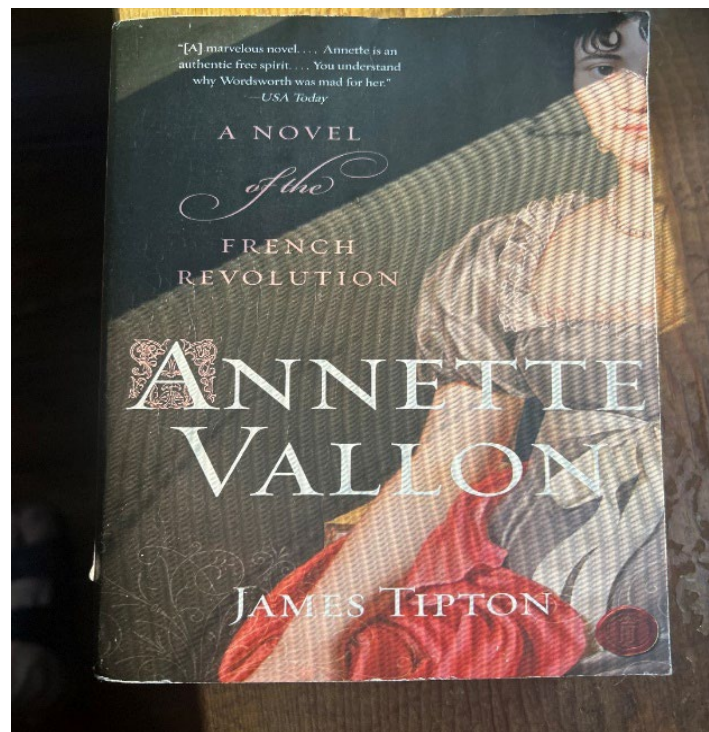
With the cost of dumpsters on an incline, we will gladly accept donations so we can continue to have more programs like this. (\$10.00 suggested donation).

Gold Ridge Forest POA

4101 Opal Trail

Pollock Pines, CA 95726

530-644-3880 grfoffice1@gmail.com



Book Club
Friday, September 26th
6:00 PM Lodge
ALL Members Invited to attend!

Cleaning Up at Gold Ridge Forest

Our Gold Ridge Forest property has seen some significant clean-up work done this summer of 2025. First, the Association hired Cornerstone Land Services to conduct defensible space clearing in Common Area #10 (i.e., “C-10”), which is the 37-acre parcel that parallels the open space between Amber Trail and Topaz Drive. The land traces the beginnings of the North Fork Weber Creek on the Amber side and tall steep inclines on the Topaz side. The area had been inundated with heavy trees and shrubbery growth. It was not accessible to pedestrians of any sort. The Cornerstone crew worked for eight full days focusing on reducing overcrowded trees, thinning the canopy, and chipping or mulching flammable debris. The greenbelt defensible space work is consistent with the recommendations of USDA biologists on how to maintain a healthy forest and wildlife habitat while reducing fire hazard.

In addition, the crew cleared the access road from the “Topaz Peace Rock” down into the depths of what might now be called the Gold Ridge Canyon. The access road will allow a Type $\frac{3}{4}$ Fire Engine to drive down deep into the parcel in case of fire. Now, with the work completed for this year, members can cross through this greenbelt to enjoy the stunning old trees and interesting topography. (There is currently no designated trail, and the terrain is not for easy walking, but like all Gold Ridge greenbelts, the property is commonly owned by all us members of the Association.) The Association board of directors viewed the completed work and discussed the potential for a more designated trail. What do you think? Take a view of the property (maybe from the top, looking down, from the north side of Topaz Drive) and let the board know your thoughts.

Second, and speaking of designated trails, the part-time employees of the Association used our new tractor to improve the skid trail that connects Topaz to Amber. The work widened the trail, created a smoother walking surface and generally cleaned up debris. This trail is $\frac{4}{10}$ of a mile one way and serves as a way to immerse oneself into the forest. Looking good!

And finally, the work performed by El Dorado County to clear growth on the sides of the roadways has been most welcome. It has been around 20 years since the county last completed such comprehensive work and we should not expect it again for another 20 years. Now, the visibility on the roadways is much better and much ladder fuel for fire has been reduced. All in all, Gold Ridge Forest has had much clean-up in the past few months, but there is always clean-up work to be performed by everyone, including individual homeowners. Be sure to take advantage of the Green Waste Dumpster Day on Saturday September 20 sponsored by our GRFPOA Fire Safe Council. It is free and a great way to rid your property of excess green waste.

Mark Weiner

Free firewood for Gold Ridge residents at the corner of Opal Trail/Jade Dr, thanks to our hardworking POA employees Dan & Larry. Mix of cedar and pine cut into rounds, first come first serve.



Gold Ridge Forest new and improved walkways in the Recreation Area and Lodge Entrance. Additionally, newly resealed and striped parking lots.



Finance Update

...and now a word from the finance director. In short, we are doing well financially. We are recovering from the pool renovation project and we are in good shape for future projects.

The board is tasked with maintaining and improving our community assets and ensuring that the funds are available to accomplish that directive. Currently, as some of you may know, we have undertaken the task of replacing all the asphalt walkways in the community area. Some may choose not to use these amenities; however, they do speak to the value of the community of which you are a member.

My focus has been to make sure our savings are secure by dividing them among several banks, so they are within the FDIC insurance limits. Another endeavor has been to make certain the funds grow by investing them in certificates of deposit. In so doing, we hope to be able to reduce some of the burden on our members as inflation continues to grow.

We are now in the process of preparing the budget for 2026. This is a task that we undertake carefully and thoughtfully. We take a deep dive into amount of the funds necessary to provide the amenities you expect.

Joan Fuquay,

Finance Director

