

Timberlake Times

March 2020



Timberlake Ranch Landowners' Association

Timberlake Volunteerism

Nancy Ramm, editor of the Timberlake Times

One of the most impressive things I've found about living in Timberlake is the spirit of volunteerism. So much of what makes our community special is due to the generous men and women who offer up their time and energy. Here are just a few examples: Let's start with the group you probably think of first, our awesome and dedicated Volunteer Fire Department. Their skills in fighting fires, educating us on fire prevention, as well as their life saving EMT capabilities are truly a blessing for each and every one of us. Next, the Timberlake Neighborhood Volunteers who stage multiple events throughout the season, such as Trash Pick Up Day, Game Nights, Fly-In Breakfast, Ice Cream Social and the Labor Picnic and Silent Auction. But did you know that whenever money is raised, they turn around and use that money to buy the Ranch something it needs? They've paid for a drone for the Fire Department, grills, pop up tents, table, chairs, kitchen supplies, and so much more. That's where the money goes from the donation jars that are put out at their events. But there are other volunteer groups, such as the Book Room team, who make our comprehensive lending library possible. The Forest Restoration and Fire Mitigation team, who are acquiring grants for us to lessen the odds of a catastrophic wildfire in the area. The Neighborhood Watch group, who work so hard to develop a strong relationship between law enforcement and our landowners. The Timberlake Ranch House Stitchers, who teach classes in not only quilting, but crafts. There are others, such as the men and women who work registration, event set up, grilling, serving and clean up after our events. And let's not forget the Board, who make a 3 year commitment to volunteer for a position!

OK, so what's my point? There's a deep satisfaction in volunteering your time for your community, and what better way to meet your neighbors. It doesn't matter what physical limitation you may have, we can still find something where you can help. Alright, so you are not able to fight wildfires, but the fire house needs to be swept and there's always paperwork! The registration desk at the annual meeting needs multiple people, and the Book Room requires you to open the door and sit and read in a comfortable chair while others peruse the bookshelves. The point is that the more people who step up and get involved, the better our community becomes. You can volunteer for as little or as much as you want. There *is* something you can do to help, so get involved. We need you!



Upcoming Events



Mar 21, 2020 - TRLA Board Meeting -
Sat 10am @ TCC Ranch House

Apr 18, 2020 - TRLA Board Meeting -
Sat 10am @ TCC Ranch House

May 2, 2020 - Wildfire Preparedness
Day -time TBD - @ TCC Ranch House

May 23, 2020 - Annual Landowners'
Meeting & Potluck - Registration
begins Sat, 9am @ TCC Ranch House

June 14, 2020 - Trash Pick Up Day

June 20, 2020 - Game Night - Sat
6pm @ TCC Ranch House

July 4, 2020 - Ice Cream Social - Sat
2-4 pm @TCC Ranch House

July 17, 2020 - Game Night- Sat 6pm
@ TCC Ranch House

Aug 8, 2020 - Game Night- Sat 6pm
@ TCC Ranch House

Aug 22, 2020- Mystic Bluffs Fly-In -
Sat. @ Flats Landing Strip

Aug 30, 2020 - Labor Day Picnic -
Sun 4:30-7pm @ TCC Ranch House

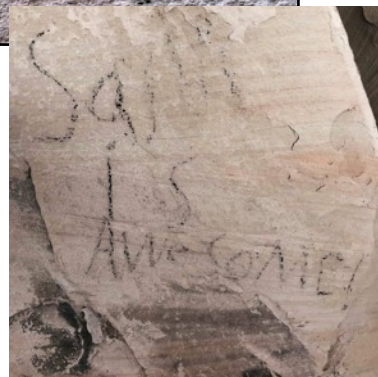
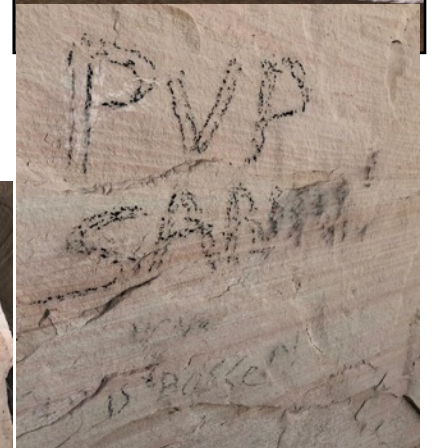
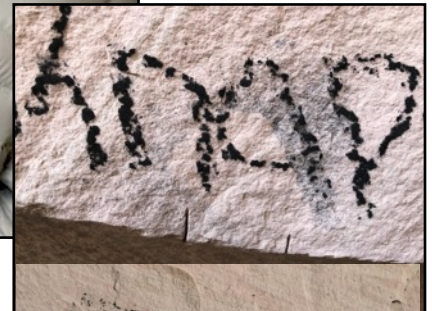
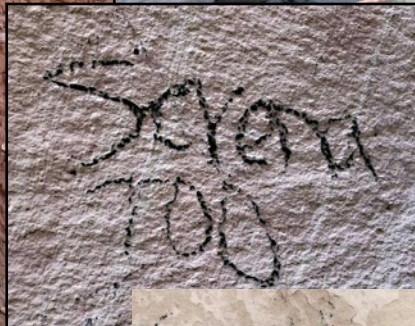
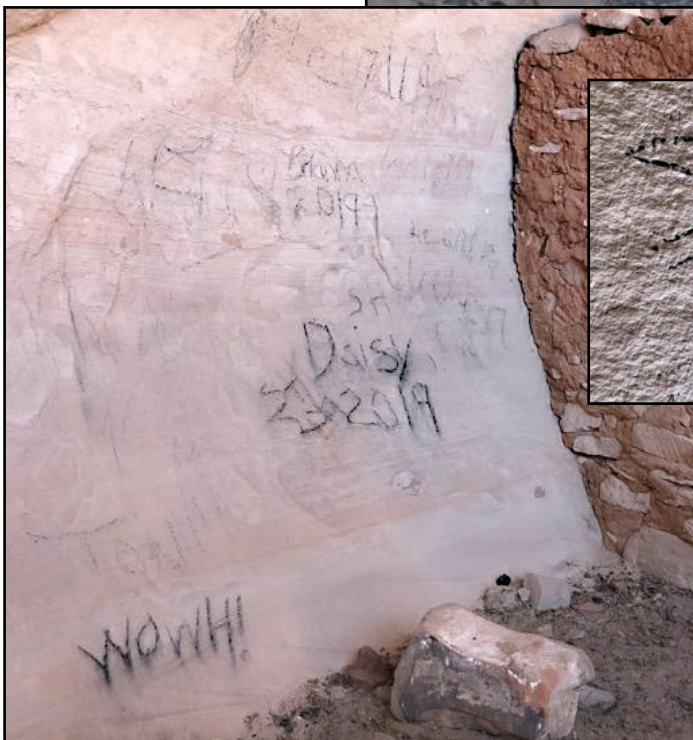
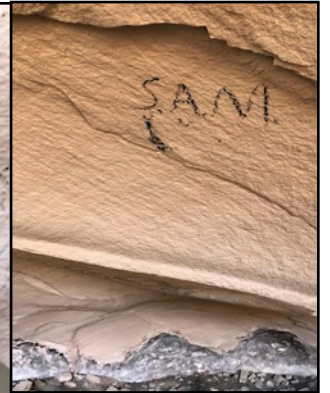
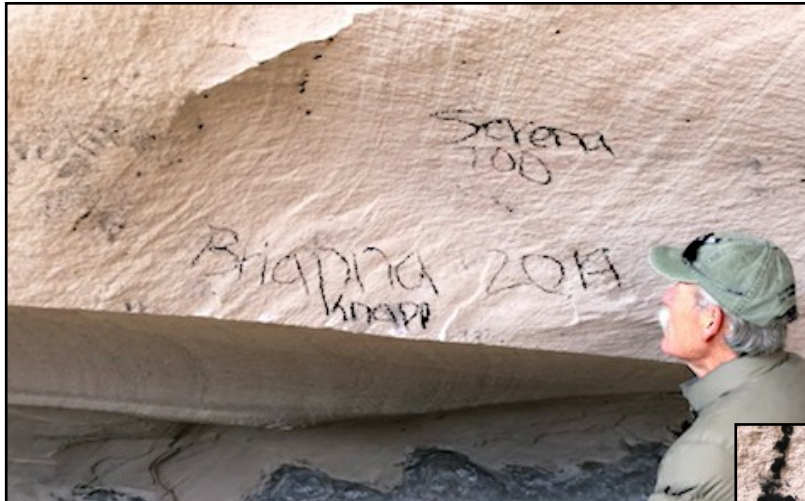
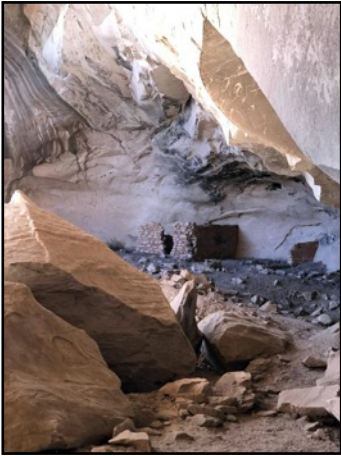


VANDALISM OF TRLA COMMONS

"It's natural for human beings to draw, paint and decorate their environments, but when it comes to doing this on another person's property without permission, it's referred to as **vandalism** and it's unlawful. Many acts of **vandalism** are misdemeanors, meaning the maximum penalties include fines and up to a year in the local jail. However, **vandalism** that results in serious damage to valuable property over a thousand dollars is a felony. Defendants charged with a felony can face more than a year in state prison and significant fines." Under Penal Code 594(b)(1), a felony conviction for **vandalism** can be punished by up to three years in county jail. A misdemeanor conviction for **vandalism** can be punished by up to one year in county jail. Under section 594(b)(1), the court may also impose a \$10,000 fine.

This graffiti (Case # 20-0109) appeared in late 2019 on the cave walls of ancient ruins located in the Cloh Chin Toh Subdivision.

If you have any information of "Daisy", "Serena", "Brianna Knapp", or the other names shown on pictures, please contact 505.783.2457 and use the Case #20-0109. Your name will be confidential and a reward will be given for the apprehension and conviction of these vandals.



BOARD MEMBER NEEDED

Do you want to make a difference here in Timberlake? Do you have leadership skills that you would like to share? Do you have a desire to help make Timberlake a better place? If you said yes to any of these questions, then please think about joining the TRLA Board.

There is one open Board position that expires May 2023. If you are interested in being a part of the TRLA Board, please let any Board member know or call President, Steve Wills, at 505.783.2457.

If you are interested in being on the Nominating Committee, please notify Sharon Axtell at trlasecretary@gmail.com or Steve Wills at trlapresident@gmail.com or 505.783.2457.



FOREST RESTORATION & FIRE MITIGATION SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT AS OF 2/29/2020

Since our Committee was formed over a year ago, we have learned a lot about forest health and fire mitigation. As a result, we changed our name to reflect this broader view to include "Forest Restoration". As more landowners become involved, we are becoming a "Fire Adapted Community" consisting of informed and prepared citizens collaboratively planning and acting to safely coexist with wildland fire. Finding solutions to reducing wildfire risk must be on-going and forest health is an important aspect. One of the reasons we all moved here is to live in a wooded area; however, in areas where there are too many trees, not enough water is available for the health and growth of the trees.

The Committee recently presented a five-year budget plan to the Board and an inventory of the side roads that needs to be completed this year (ladder fuel project that was started last year). **We got approved for a \$500 grant from State Farm to be used for a chipper day that will include demonstrations, education and training on May 2nd, Wildfire Preparedness Day. If you would like any chipping performed on your property, please contact Mary Jo Wallen ASAP since we will need to set up a schedule. Please call 1-505-269-5022.** Seven more applications for risk assessments on lots have been forwarded to the New Mexico Forest Service for consideration. Starting this March In addition to provide information on the TRLA website we will provide brief updates/links on the Timberlake Facebook page.

Last fall, Thomas Marks, Contract Forester, prepared a very extensive Forest Stewardship Plan for Timberlake. This plan needed to be prepared in order to apply for future grants. Thirteen management recommendations are summarized in the Fire Mitigation section on the TRLA website under #7 Sub-Committee Reports. If you do not have Internet, please contact Mary Jo Wallen at mrsdw19dw@aol.com or [1-505-269-5022](tel:1-505-269-5022) if you would like a copy. The Committee and Board will be reviewing these recommendations to determine what is feasible, establish priorities and include discussions at future meetings with landowners this summer for YOUR input.

Ron Schali and Mary Jo Wallen have been named FAC Leaders (Fire Adapted Community Leaders) thru the Forest Stewardship Guild. In addition to being able to share ideas and success stories with other Leaders throughout the State, we are supposed to be given extra consideration for grant opportunities. Please check the website for up-coming events. We will have information available at the Annual Timberlake Meeting on Saturday, May 23rd.

Our Committee members are: Tim & Eileen Domer, Ron & Rachel Schali, Mary Jo Wallen and Shirl Henderson as our Board Rep. Contact us if you have questions or suggestions. If we all work together, a greater impact can be achieved to protect our homes, trees and landscaping around us.

LEGAL, LIENS AND FORECLOSURES

TRLA currently owns 2 Lots. One of these lots is under contract. Sale information is on the TRLA website for anyone interested.

Last November there were two lots in the foreclosure process. Currently one remains in foreclosure process and the other lot was made whole by payment of all back dues, interest and legal fees. There have been four lots liened and three lots had their liens released. Currently there are a total of seven lots liened not with the law firm of Hays & Friedman.

CIBOLA COUNTY COMMUNITY WILDFIRE PROTECTION PLAN

UPDATE AS OF 2/26/2020

A planning meeting was held on February 26th in Grants. Ron Schali and Mary Jo Wallen represented Timberlake. The Cibola CWPP had not been updated since 2006 and Timberlake was not recognized in the previous report. As a result of increased communications with Cibola County and the survey, which I hope you filled out, we are now officially recognized as a “high risk area” on their maps. Another meeting will be held in May and we will provide the date on the website when it is set. The Plan will be finalized in May and then submitted to the New Mexico State Forestry in June. The State will then have six months to review the plan.

Of the nine priority fuel reduction projects in the County, Timberlake is mentioned as a high priority in the WUI (Wildland Urban Interface) areas of Timberlake and El Morro ranches. Priority Actions include: Community Involvement, Reducing Structural Ignitability, Fire Responders & Equipment, Evacuation Planning, Communication and Water Resource Protection.

Thirty-seven (37) ideas are being considered, some of which, we have already been recommending to landowners, ie: promote accurate signage of addresses to aid in firefighter response, conduct home hazard assessments of property and creating evacuation plans. One major priority that was identified is to improve radio communications and remove dead spots. We intend to pursue the availability of a loud alarm system that could be heard at least 3 miles from our Volunteer Fire Dept.

The most exciting news from the meeting is that Cibola County has finally opened up discussions with the BIA about the BIA road maintenance, which, as we know, is non-existent. Ron and I want to thank the six Timberlake landowners who expressed their concern for this problem by filling out the survey at: foreststewardsguild.org/cibola-cwpp. We have approximately 170 structures in Timberlake, so we need EVERYONE to express their concerns via this survey. Information is still on the front page of the website.

On a funny note, while we were discussing the problem of our “one-way in and one-way out” situation on Canyon Road, I asked if helicopters could get us out and the answer was “Yes” and the “Air Force” could even be brought in to help. I know they are close because last week a military helicopter flew about 100’ above my house. I have never seen one before so close to the ground in Timberlake.

If anyone wants more information about the CWPP plan, please contact Mary Jo Wallen. Ron and I also met Bob Kuipers, Council of Governments, Gallup, NM. He indicated he is a grant writer and can help us in the future.



ROADS REPORT

by Don Ouellette

The weather this winter has been hard on our roads. The rain followed by wet snow and little freezing of the roads has caused the snow plowing to put ruts in the roads and more importantly the removal of gravel from the roads. With the cost of gravel this is a problem. IT IS BEST IF WE PLOW ONLY WHEN WE HAVE 6 OR MORE INCHES OF SNOW.

This being said, it is evident we will be putting a lot of gravel on spot areas, as needed. If you know of problem areas, please feel free to contact me or another member of the board. The culvert work we did last year has held up well and helped to minimize damage to the roads.

The grader was given a complete service and is running well. We will need to purchase snow chains this year, as the one’s we have now are wearing out.

Timberlake Neighborhood Volunteers

MARK YOUR SOCIAL CALENDAR

The Timberlake Neighborhood Volunteers have set the 2020 summer schedule for activities.

June 14th Road Clean Up
June 20th Game Night at the Ranch House 6 pm
July 4th Ice Cream Social 2-4 pm
July 11th Game Night at the Ranch House 6 pm
August 8th Game Night at the Ranch House 6 pm
August 22nd Mystic Bluffs Fly-in
August 30th Labor Day Barbecue/Silent Auction

The Landowner Yard Sale date is yet to be set. We welcome new “faces and hands” who want to help, have new ideas, and create venues to meet and greet their neighbors.

Stitchers

The Timberlake Ranch House Stitchers will begin the 2020 summer season in late May or early June, meeting every Thursday at 10:00 am. The group has decided to continue to focus on crafts, as well as sewing again this year. We have so many talented people on the Ranch, if you are one of them and have a special craft or sewing project that you would be willing to teach us, please let us know so we can fill the calendar throughout the summer.

The 2020 raffle quilt is in the works, and will hopefully be ready for display and ticket sales by the 4th of July's ice cream social. The drawing will take place at the annual Barbeque in September.



Commons Report by Charley Haverstick

1. Bath House/shower floor in Men's room – I have epoxy coating to repair the peeling area (and perhaps coat women's shower walls) before opening the building/when warmer in March.
2. I have purchased a replacement facet set for the men's sink, as cold water does not shut off unless the facet is placed in the “sweet spot”, and that facet set will be replaced in March.
3. Rock Room – I was advised that the ceiling lights were not functioning, I replace light bulbs and that did not help, I purchased a new light switch and that did not help, so replacement light fixtures will be purchased and installed in March.

Other items listed under “Old Business”:

1. Prairie dog problem – I have talked with some exterminators about this problem and have some suggestion/directions. This situation will be undertaken again in March/early spring.
2. Ranch House porch/roof replacement – plans have been reviewed and priced by two bidder and I have asked the low bidder to join the Board at the March 21st meeting to discuss this matter.



Alerts!

COVID-19

Notice From McKinley County

If you have symptoms or difficulty breathing and a temperature of 100.4, call this hotline number **855.600.3453** *before* calling 911. Dispatch will ask you a number of questions. These are used to determine your condition and to protect our first responders. If there is a possibility you have the virus, the EMTs need to follow very rigid precautions and processes. They are here to protect us.

Burning on the Ranch

Summer is almost upon us, as is the danger of a destructive wildfire on our beautiful ranch. **It only takes one mistake!** Wildfires are a year round issue. Please be extremely careful with fire and spark producing items, even if there is not a burn ban in place.

Instead of burning on your property, consider utilizing the Burn Pile down at the Ranch House. It's free of charge.

Protect our Forest

TRLA Landowners

Please remember to notify the TRLA Board when your address, phone number or email changes **OR** when your property is transferred to another owner.



Notes

LIEN COSTS TO INCREASE

For several years the total cost of a lien and release of a lien was \$25. Both Cibola and McKinley County have increased their charges for recording. It is now \$50. Each time a lien is filed or released \$25 is charged to the lot. This means that there has not been any payment of HOA dues for at least 18 months. The lien is now an encumbrance on the land and can restrict the owner's ability to transfer title to the property or lessen its value. It also can reflect on the owner's credit rating.

Neighborhood Watch Group

If you experience a break in or vandalism of your property, PLEASE be sure to notify the police and make a report. Reporting illegal activity on the ranch is the only way to ensure our law enforcement teams know we need their presence and support. After reporting to the police, please notify the Neighborhood Watch Group via email. timberlakewatch@gmail.com

If You See Something - Say Something!

Congratulations Ramah Post Office!

They recently were #1 in their District (New Mexico and Arizona) for their size of post office. Revenue, customer service and scanning was the criteria for winning. Did you know that they even handle more packages than the Gallup post office? Special thanks and appreciation goes to our very own Pam Mansperger and her boss Lisa.

Request from the Fire Department

Due to safety concerns, Timberlake's Volunteer Fire Department has asked that landowners avoid driving on the Fire Department's driveway. When checking your mail, please only use the entrances on Timberlake.

2nd Qtr 2019-20120	YTD	BUDGET 2019-2020	Difference
December 31,2019			
TOTAL INCOME	173,763.55	170,890.00	\$2,873.55
OUTFLOWS/EXPENSES			
Board	5,701.71	0.00	\$5,701.71
Communications	828.77	1,225.00	(\$396.23)
Financial	11,356.27	20,100.00	(\$8,743.73)
Legal	130.86	11,000.00	(\$10,869.14)
Insurance	13,839.00	14,000.00	(\$161.00)
Wages & Taxes	2,486.49	9,530.00	(\$7,043.51)
Buildings & Commons**	34,275.32	44,350.00	(\$10,074.68)
Equip Maint. & Repairs	1,834.22	5,700.00	(\$3,865.78)
Fuel, Oil, Grease	1,288.34	3,700.00	(\$2,411.66)
Roads	66,095.50	80,000.00	(\$13,904.50)
Utilities	1,028.87	2,700.00	(\$1,671.13)
TOTAL OUTFLOWS	138,865.35	192,305.00	(\$53,439.65)

Buildings & Commons**

\$20,000.00 added from last years budget for Fire Mitigation

BANK BALANCE: 09/30/2019	
Deposit	134,445.74
Checking	19,447.88
Rewards	1,524.75
Contingency Funds:	
Ranch House Restoration	100,000.00
Emergency Reserve	44,079.46
Total Balance	299,497.83

Treasurer notes:

Significant Expenses:

Buildings & Commons: \$34,275.32* *includes -Forest Fire Mitigation

Insurance : \$13,883.00 * *includes - Ranch/Auto Liability & Board & Officers Liability

Roads: \$66,095.50* * includes - Gravel/Road Maintenance

Collections Due: Association Dues owed YTD	\$36,073.13
Association Dues owed prior years	\$4,323.55
Total Dues Owed	\$40,396.68

Monthly financial reports, including line by line details, can be found on the TRLA website.

<http://www.trnews.info/TRLAindex.htm>

If you need a copy mailed to you, please send your request to:

TRLA Treasurer
HC 61 Box 767
Ramah, NM 87321



Ponderosa Forest Health and Fire Prevention

By rachel.schali@gmail.com

There are programs available to prevent crown fires in New Mexico that Timberlake recently qualified for with our new forest management plan. This is an attempt to explain how it can be applied to our densely treed areas that contain Ponderosa in northern Timberlake and pockets throughout the subdivision. I'll be looking at how to preserve animal habitats and native plant species that prevent fire and preserve the ecology of the area. My main reference being:

ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION OF SOUTHWESTERN PONDEROSA PINE

ECOSYSTEMS: A BROAD PERSPECTIVE

Ponderosa forests have been suffering from crown fires during the last few decades due to natural fire suppression, drought, non native and invasive species ladder trees, which are more prone to fire. Ponderosas tend to be fire resistant compared to juniper, pinyon and fir species. Yet it's healthy to have a diversity of species, size and age. So it seems it's about balance, with a preference to ponderosa and oak.

Mr. Marks, the author of our forest plan, told us the Colorado Juniper is invasive in Timberlake. It's the blue green juniper. Junipers around oaks are generally a problem because they take the water thirsty oaks need. Oaks are also places animals like to live. Oaks like sun, so clearing around them keeps them healthy and gives animal habitats. Oaks are another fire resistant species. Juniper or pinyon that act as fire ladder trees, adjacent or crowding ponderosa should also be cleared. Some dead trees away from homes can be preserved for animal habitat, as well as tree stumps. Different kinds of eco systems support different animals Abert's squirrel and other bird and animal species like ponderosa tree canopies where they can go from one tree to another. Some tree clumping supports them. Other animals and birds like foraging in open meadows which also help to stop fire. Our forest plan encourages water tanks or drinking areas throughout Timberlake for elk, deer and fire suppression.

If you want to read the entire article about Ponderosa Pines, you can go to the TRLA website under Fire Mitigation, #5 - Links to Internet Resources.

Thank you everyone for keeping the area fire safe and healthy.

BRUSH PILE BURNED

On December 28th the Timberlake Volunteer Fire Department successfully burned both monster brush piles to the south of the Ranch House Community Center. Weather conditions were finally optimal. The brush pile had to be closed late fall due to the tremendous amount of heavy fuel load removed from 10 miles of side road easements. Thank you to Isaac Wilson Julie Farrell, Rick Farrell, Kathy Waller, Dale Waller, Cheri Sanders, Bill Sanders, Andy Wilson, Ryas Wilson and photographer Wade Aubuchon.

The Timberlake Volunteer Fire Department is asking for your cooperation in not using the cut across through their parking lot to Wolf Road from the mailboxes. This has become a major safety issue for fire equipment/personnel and includes all vehicles such as cars, trucks, ATVs and UTVs.



THANKS!!!

Timberlake Volunteer Fire Department

Communications Report

By Shirl Henderson

TRLA Official Website: <http://trnews.info/index/html> Has all information, forms, photo gallery, History of Timberlake Ranch, emergency information, Fire Mitigation and Minutes and Financials. Also properties for sale, maps, Rules and Regulations, CC&R's, Up-Coming Events, and Volunteer's information.

The Burn Permit can be obtained on the Home Page under Forms to Burn Permit.

For Sale by TRLA

If you are a landowner or have a friend/relative interested in acquiring land in Timberlake, the following land is for sale through the Association. The prices include all escrow costs. Pictures are posted on trnews.info website. Interested persons can contact Steve Wills, TRLA Board of Directors, President.

- Unit 8 Block 25 Lot 4 Lobo Dr. 5 acres \$6800 (Firm) McKinley County
- Unit 5 Block 10 Lot 22 Cottonwood Dr. 6 acres \$15,000 (Negotiable) McKinley County

How Can I Contact.....?

TRLA has now made it easier to contact the Board of Directors for their specific roles via a generic email account. These email accounts will remain in place, even as Board members change.

TRLA President - trlapresident@gmail.com
TRLA Vice President - trlavp@gmail.com
Commons Director - trlacommons@gmail.com
Roads Director - trlaroads@gmail.com
Treasurer - trlatreasurer@gmail.com
Secretary - trlasecretary@gmail.com
Director of Accounts - trlaacct@gmail.com
Architctural & CCRs - trlaarchccr@gmail.com

Other emails you may need:

TRLA Webmaster - webmastertrla@gmail.com
TRLA Bookkeeper - mray321@yahoo.com
Timberlake Neighborhood Watch
timberlakewatch@gmail.com



Architctural and Maintenance Report

- 2 Sheds approved
- 1 Residence plan approved
- 1 Covenant violation closed
- 1 Covenant violation pending agreed action
- 1 Covenant violation open

Have You Ever Asked?

Questions and Answers About Timberlake

Q: When does the Book Room open again? Also who do I call if I want to volunteer to help with the Book Room?

A: The Book Room will open Tuesday, May 5, at 1:00 pm. If you're interested in helping, contact Barbara Duncan @ baliceduncan@gmail.com.

Q: Does my quad have to be registered to drive it on Timberlake Road?

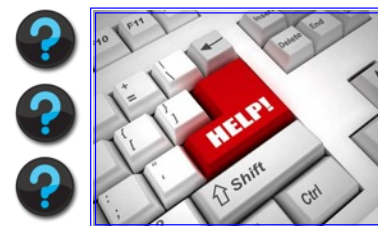
A: Yes. All off-highway vehicles, such as quads, ATVs, dirt bikes and snowmobiles must be registered to legally operate on public roads.

- New Mexico residents can register their vehicles at the state Motor Vehicle Division. The cost is \$50 every 2 years (\$53 for initial registrations and \$50 thereafter)
- Nonresidents, whose off-highway vehicles are registered with another state, must still obtain a use permit to legally operate on public lands and roads. Permits cost \$48 for 2 years or \$18 for 90 days

Permits and additional information are available at www.B4uRide.com or www.wildlife.state.nm.us or any Department of Game and Fish office or by calling 505.476.8140

Operators and passengers under the age of 18 yrs. must wear safety helmets. If the vehicle is not equipped with a protective windscreen, approved eye protection must also be worn.

Fines for noncompliance range from \$71 to \$450.



TRLA
HC 61 Box 767
Ramah NM 87321-9611



2019-2020

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Please be
careful with
fire