

JANUARY 2019 HAPPENINGS

Happy New Year 2019!! Hope your new year is off to a good start. What kind of resolutions did you make (besides anything to do with food)??

The year in Forest Lakes, as well as much of Arizona, has started off with SNOW and COLD WEATHER! Many of our residents have taken advantage of the holiday time to go to their cabins to play in the snow. One of the articles below is entitled "Winter Preparedness Tips". I hope everyone will find them helpful.

News just in for Larson Waste customers ----

Please, this is for customers who pay for monthly service. If you do NOT pay for waste pick-up, please pack out your trash as you do any other time of the year.

Due to the snow and not being able to get to all customers to pick up trash today, Larson Waste has brought in a roll-off dumpster and placed it at the Fire Station on Merzville Road. Please take your trash to the roll-off; it is the only way it will get picked up. Continue to dispose of your trash in this manner **until further notice**. If you have your trash container out at your driveway, it will NOT be getting emptied anytime soon. Please don't leave them out at the street. To repeat, this is until further notice.

Here's a picture of what you want to be looking for.....



Winter Preparedness Tips

For your home, always have on hand:

Three days of non-perishable food and water (one gallon per day per family member)

First aid kit and extra supply of medication

Personal hygiene supplies, extra clothing, footwear, gloves, blankets, sleeping bags

Extra food for pets and livestock

Flashlight, extra batteries, candles and a battery operated radio

Alternate heat source (kerosene, wood, etc.)

Full propane tank (if applicable)

Extra set of car keys, cash, credit cards

Snow shovels and a snow breaker for driveway windrows

An emergency plan for the entire family

For your vehicle, follow these preparedness tips:

Winterize your vehicle (antifreeze, wipers, battery, snow tires)

Carry an emergency kit consisting of tire chains or cables, blankets, tow strap, jumper cables, flashlight, water, first aid kit, ice scraper, extra clothing, and appropriate tools

Keep the gas tank at least half full

When traveling, let someone know your intended route and expected time of arrival

Allow extra time for travel

Extra blankets and food.

Additional Tips....

1. As you well know, snow storms can create inherently hazardous driving conditions regardless of snow removal operations. Having four-wheel-drive or tire chains are helpful tools for motorists, but when the weather is bad and visibility poor, everyone is encouraged to drive only when necessary and then to drive for the conditions of a given storm.
2. Be prepared in advance with the phone numbers of people who offer snow removal. You can find them listed in the Forest Lakes Phone Directory Business Directory under "Snow Removal". The same business directory is listed on the www.floa.org website.

3. **County Ordinance 86-6 prohibits parking on county roadways beginning on Nov. 1 of every year.** Failure to comply carries a minimum fine of \$200, plus your vehicle may be towed out of the right-of-way.
4. Because we are an unincorporated community and in a remote location, remember that all stores and restaurants, plus various services, are closed in the wintertime.
5. Be considerate of your neighbors and **don't trespass** on other people's property, especially when it's tempting to use their hills and driveways for sledding when there is snow.
6. U. S. Forest Service roads are closed and gates up so that no one enters from the highway. It's dangerous to drive around in the forest on snowy or muddy roads. Besides, if you get stuck or stranded, who is going to come and get you??

Do remember that our fabulous Forest Lakes Fire District has an on-duty crew available 24/7 for emergency and medical needs.

Do remember that we have a fabulous Coconino County Sheriff's Deputy who lives in Forest Lakes whose duty is to be sure everyone obeys the law.

VERIZON Service Update

Submitted by Wayne Rothwell, FLOA President

BACKGROUND:

Verizon formally received our petition Sept 20,2018, which consisted of +t- 567 residential signatures. The business approach utilized with Verizon was that the FLOA management teamed with our Forest Lakes Fire Department Operational management seeking Verizon's formal support to improve / upgrade their emergency wireless communication system in the Forest Lakes Fire District as well as our Fire District's operational response demographic region. So where are we now?

Current Actions / Status

- In Oct., Verizon assigned a Systems Engineer to perform analysis of wireless communications existing in the Forest Lakes demographic area. They also performed an actual site visit to visually survey existing facilities and meet with our Fire District management.
- In Nov. Verizon notified both FLFD and FLOA management that Verizon was recommending two wireless solution improvements. The short term solution was that Verizon would position a *lice II on wheels*" (cow) thus immediately improving wireless capabilities. This mobile tower platform would be positioned on fire

district property and emplacement permitting would also be coordinated through the Coconino County Planning & Zoning agency.

The long term solution is to erect a (monopole type) permanent 150' tower at a site to be determined within the Forest Lake's Fire District station property boundaries / area. This emplacement would also require formal "Conditional Use Permit" coordination and approval with our Coconino County Planning & Zoning Department.

- Dec. has been a very productive month. Verizon notified both FLFD and FLOA that Verizon assets for the short term solution (portable cell on wheels / mobile tower) were available. Verizon had awarded two contracts for emplacement of both towers. Both contractors conducted planning meetings with FLFD & FLOA representatives and performed potential on site survey assessments. Both contractors initiated coordination processes with Coconino County Planning & Zoning Department, developed preliminary tower (concept) site plans to be presented at the Temporary/ Conditional Use permit pre-application meetings that shall be scheduled in the very near future. Per the Verizon contractors site assessment and tower emplacement engineering specifications the tower site location for both temporary and long term solutions is the existing FLFD station property.
- Jan. (2019) begins the formal coordination processes with Coconino County governmental departments, and then formal notification of Forest Lakes property owners, based on County defined permit requirements. The pre-application meetings, by the Verizon contractors, with the County Planning & Zoning representatives shall be able to establish an event "milestone Schedule" for ordinances (tasks and functions) needing accomplishment. When those events are successfully completed then appropriate documents (temporary / conditional permits) can be approved and published by the County Planning & Zoning Department.
- The "target" date for completion of the temporary solution, erection and activation of the "cow" is April / May 2019 or sooner. The permanent solution, erecting and activation of the planned wireless monopole tower system is based on the Conditional Use Permit process stipulated by the County Planning & Zoning ordinance requirements. While the long term solution is being addressed, the "cell on wheels" will remain in place.

Here is a picture taken by our son Jay about 11 AM today as he and my husband John arrived at our cabin to spend a couple of days. It's beautiful! It's cold!

We're off to a great start for 2019! What events, activities, and adventures await us this year in Forest Lakes?? Stay tuned in!

Judy Nelson, Editor

