

Show Low Monthly News



November 2003

www.ci.show-low.az.us

Creating a healthier community forest

All of us are acutely aware of the dangers lurking in our beautiful landscape. Drought, bark beetles and wildfire are familiar words to each of us living in the community forest. In a continuing effort to reestablish healthy forest conditions and mitigate fire danger to Show Low and the surrounding communities, the City is participating in a variety of thinning projects.

Show Low South Healthy Forest Project

The "Show Low South Healthy Forest Project" is a reimbursement program for private property owners, funded by a grant awarded in late September 2003 by the Arizona State Land Department. The targeted areas are in southern Show Low adjacent to U.S. Forest Service property, including both sides of the roadway along the US60 corridor south of the junction with SR260 (Clark Road), the corridor along Central Avenue and selected developed sites (see the map below).

The focus of this effort is large-scale (or landscape) treatments designed to maximize overall community protection. This approach — concentrating on larger parcels of land that can be thinned at lower costs than smaller, developed properties — maximizes the impact on forest health and fire safety to adjacent properties and the community at large. This grant has a cost-share provision to assist home and property owners in the targeted areas to restore their properties to sustainable forest conditions. No monies will be paid on projects that do not meet established standards of density and structure across the property and community landscape.

Participation by all property owners in a development or neighborhood is vital to the success of this effort. To receive grant assistance, the property must be thinned to 50 to 100 trees per acre. Each property owner may be reimbursed up to \$350 per acre or 50% of the cost of thinning, whichever is less. The community forester will verify compliance with grant guidelines prior to any fund disbursement.

To learn more about this program, check the City's Web site at www.ci.show-low.az.us. A downloadable application form is available for eligible property owners. Please complete the form and return it to Show Low City Hall, 200 West Cooley, or fax it to (928) 532-4009 by December 5, 2003. **Funds are limited and applicants will receive assistance on a first-come, first-**

served basis. Each application will be reviewed for eligibility and City staff will contact everyone with further information.

Chipping Program

A chipping program, co-sponsored by the City and the Show Low Fire District, begins in November 2003. Trained operators will haul a chipper to selected neighborhood locations and assist homeowners with chipping already-cut tree limbs and branches up to 14 inches in diameter.

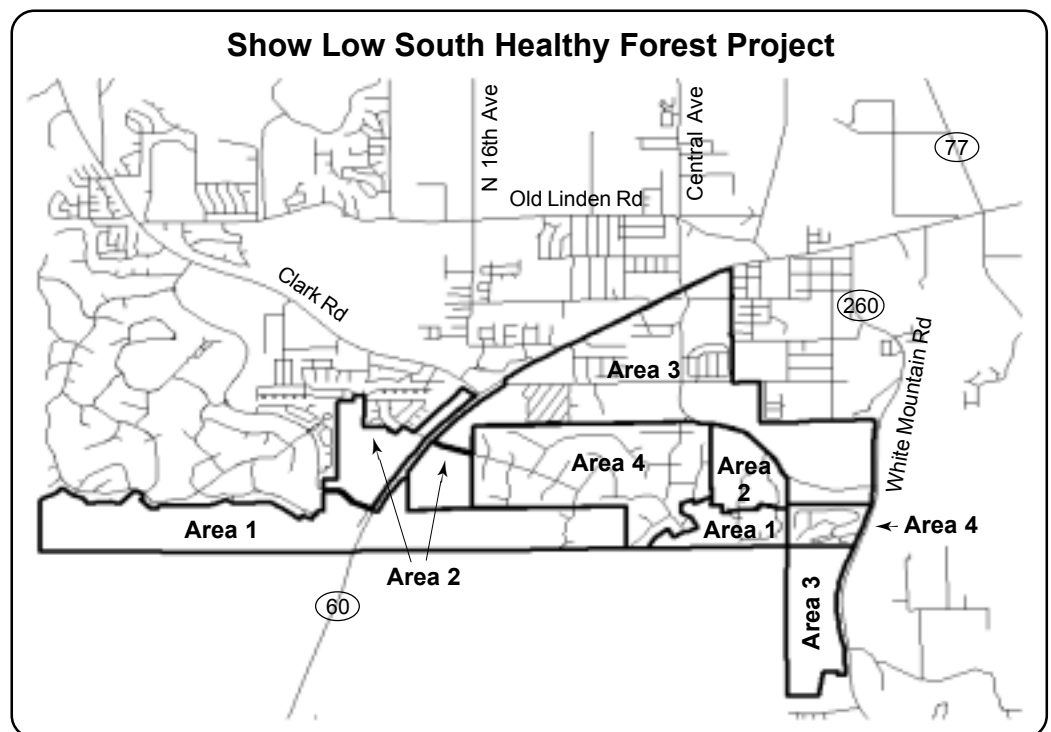
The program is open to homeowners' associations, subdivisions and groups of five or more neighbors. A central location must be chosen as a dumping site where residents can pile cut limbs and branches. Residents will be asked to help the operators toss the debris into the chipper. It will be the responsibility of the homeowners to dispose of the chipped material (it can be used as mulch or recycled but cannot be burned).

Interested groups will be put on a schedule, with the work done on Saturdays. Sign up at the Show Low Fire Department, 60 North 6th Street, from 9 to 11 a.m., Monday through Thursday.

Prescribed Burn Program

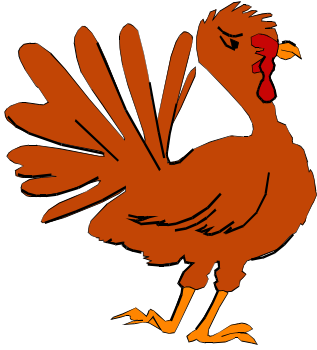
The Forest Service and Bureau of Indian Affairs have launched their fall burning programs. Both agencies will use ground-applied fire and thinning treatments on public and reservation lands.

Let's all work together to do our share in keeping our communities safe and our forests healthy!



Calendar of Events

Family Aquatic Center: 532-4130 • Recreation: 532-4140
Public Library: 532-4070



11/04 6 p.m., Council Chambers
City Council Meeting (NEW)
starting time for meetings)

11/05–11/15 7 p.m., Show Low
School District Auditorium
Charley's Aunt, performed
by High School Drama Dept.

11/18 5 p.m., Hon-Dah Resort
Casino & Conference Center
Show Low Youth Recreation

& Sports Foundation Annual Banquet (featuring Matt Williams, retired Arizona Diamondbacks third baseman); tickets: 537-0914

11/11 Veterans Day (City offices CLOSED)

11/12 1:30 p.m., Public Library
Book Discussion Group (book: The Color of Water)

11/12 6 p.m., Council Chambers
City Council Special Meeting

11/12 7 p.m., Council Chambers
Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting

11/13 Noon, call 532-4070 for location (public welcome)
Show Low Library Friends Monthly Meeting

11/18 6 p.m., Council Chambers
City Council Meeting (NEW) starting time for meetings)

11/17–11/22, Public Library – get a FREE bookmark (all ages)
Celebrate **Children's Book Week** (enter your name in a drawing for a free prize at the end of the week)

11/19 2:45 p.m., Recreation conference room
Fall Craft Class (grades 2-6)

11/24 6:30–8:30 p.m., Family Aquatic Center
FREE Family Swim Night – celebrate National Family Week (free t-shirts to first 100 people)

11/25 7 p.m., Council Chambers
Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting

11/27 & 11/28
Thanksgiving (City offices CLOSED)

12/05 & 12/06
8 a.m., Licano's Conference Center, 573 W. Deuce of Clubs
Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest County Partnership Restoration Symposia (theme: "Building Trust for Forest Restoration through Collaborative Partnerships") – registration form, due 11/28, available at www.ci.show-low.az.us

12/06 6 p.m., Festival Marketplace
Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony

12/06 6:30 p.m., along the Deuce of Clubs
Electric Light Parade (theme: "Home for the Holidays")

Check out **City 4 Television** and the **City's Web site** at
www.ci.show-low.az.us for more information

Pool to close for repairs

The Show Low Family Aquatic Center will be closed for repairs and maintenance beginning Monday, November 3, 2003. The pool will reopen on Monday, November 24. All pool activities during this period will cease, except for the Fall Craft Class scheduled for November 19 in the Recreation conference room. Join us when the pool reopens on the 24th for a FREE family swim night in celebration of National Family Week.

2004 municipal elections

In October, the Show Low City Council chose to hold next spring's elections in the traditional way, with voters going to the polls. It's a change from 2002, when the City's first-ever ballot-by-mail election was held. The primary election will be held on March 9, 2004.

Voters in 2004 will notice two changes. The first involves the ballots themselves. In 2002, federal lawmakers passed the Help America Vote Act (or HAVA), which banned the use of punch-card ballots across the U.S. Now, ballots must be optically scanned. They look similar to the answer cards used in school aptitude tests, using a special marker to color in the appropriate "bubbles."

The second change is that voters will directly elect Show Low's next Mayor, an option passed by the voters in 2002. Historically, since Show Low's 1953 incorporation, the Mayor and Vice Mayor were nominated and voted in by the Council members themselves.

Voter registration forms are available at Show Low City Hall and the Navajo County complex in Holbrook. If you moved your physical residence, changed your name or want to change your party preference, you must re-register to vote. If you're not sure of your status, call the City Clerk's office at (928) 532-4060 or 532-4061 and we'll be happy to check Navajo County's voter registration rolls for you. Or, you may contact Navajo County directly by calling (928) 524-4192. Voter registration for the March 9, 2004 primary election closes February 9, 2004.

Are you interested in becoming a candidate for the City Council or the Mayor's seat? Three Council seats plus the Mayor's position will be on the 2004 ballot. (Also on the ballot will be the alternative expenditure limitation issue. An explanation of this proposition will be included in future newsletters.) To qualify as a candidate, you must be at least 18 years old, a qualified elector and have resided in the City for at least one year preceding the election. Candidate packets will be available at City Hall beginning November 10, 2003. The completed documents must be filed with the City Clerk's office by December 10, 2003.

Election questions may be directed to the City Clerk's office at (928) 532-4060 or 532-4061.

Show Low Monthly News is produced by the City of Show Low, 200 West Cooley, Show Low, AZ 85901. Direct comments to the City Clerk's office at 532-4061 or, for general information, call 532-4000. Office hours are Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.