

# Timberlake Times

July 2013



## Timberlake Ranch Landowner's Association

### *President's Ponderings*

By Steve Wills

As my second "pondering" as president of the TRLA board, I thought I would share some information on Fire Restrictions in New Mexico. Hopefully it will provide you with some insight of the definitions and some understanding on what you need to do as a landowner.

There are three basic levels of fire restrictions defined: Stage I, Stage II, and Stage III. I pulled the following definitions of each off the website <http://firerestrictions.us/nm/nm-mckinley-county/>.

#### Stage 1 Fire Restriction

The following acts are prohibited until further notice:

1. Building, maintaining, attending or using a fire, campfire, charcoal, coal or wood stove other than in a developed campsite or picnic area listed in the order.
2. Smoking, except within an enclosed vehicle or building, a developed recreation site/improved site or while stopped in an area at least three feet in diameter that is barren or cleared of all flammable materials.
3. For Tonto National Forest administered lands under Stage I Restrictions, discharging a firearm, except while engaged in a lawful hunt pursuant to state, federal or tribal laws and regulations.

Note: each agency/tribe must cite their actual regulations/laws; therefore the wording for the prohibition may be slightly different. Exemptions may vary according to specific agency laws and regulations.

#### Stage I Exemptions:

1. Persons with a written permit that specifically authorizes the otherwise prohibited act.
2. Persons using a device solely fueled by liquid petroleum or LPG fuels that can be turned on and off. Such devices can only be used in an area that is barren or cleared of all overhead and surrounding flammable materials within 3 feet of the device.
3. Persons conducting activities in those designated areas where the activity is specifically authorized by written posted notice.
4. Any Federal, State or local officer or member of an organized rescue or firefighting force in the performance of an official duty.
5. All land within a city boundary is exempted, unless otherwise stated in city ordinance.

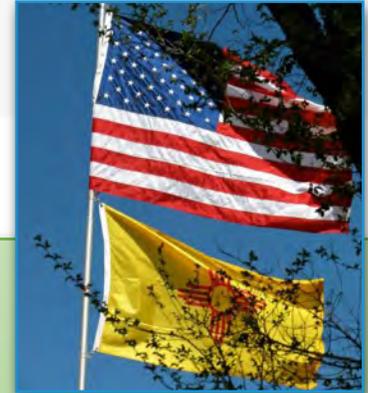


Photo by Nancy Dobbs

### *Upcoming Events*

#### Inspiration Series

#### Creative Project Demos

Tuesdays 1-2pm @ TCC Ranch House

**August 6-** Water Catchment and Storage

**August 13-** Quilting

**August 20-** Civil Rights Memoirs

**August 3, 2013 - Annual Yard Sale** - 8:00am Stagecoach parking lot in Ramah

**August 17, 2013 - TRLA Board Meeting** 10am @ TCC Ranch House

**September 1, 2013 - Annual Labor Day Barbeque and Silent Auction** 5-7 pm @ TCC Ranch House

**September 21, 2013 - TRLA Board Meeting** 10am @ TCC Ranch House

**September 24, 2013 - TRLA Book Room Closes**

**October 31, 2013 - Bath House and Well Close for Winter**



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## *...President's Ponderings*

5. All land within a city boundary is exempted, unless otherwise stated in city ordinance.
6. Other exemptions unique to each agency/tribe.

An exemption does not absolve an individual or organization from liability or responsibility for any fire started by the exempted activity.

### Stage II Fire Restrictions

The following acts are prohibited until further notice:

1. Building maintaining, attending or using a fire, campfire, charcoal, coal or wood stove including fires in developed campgrounds or improved sites.
2. Smoking, except within an enclosed vehicle or building.
3. Discharging a firearm except while engaged in a lawful hunt pursuant to state, federal or tribal laws and regulations.
4. Mechanical and Industrial Prohibitions
  - a. Operating any internal combustion engine.
  - b. Welding or operating acetylene or other torch with open flame.
  - c. Using an explosive.

Note: each agency/tribe must cite their actual regulations/laws; therefore the wording for the prohibition may be slightly different. Exemptions may vary according to specific agency laws and regulations.

### Stage II Exemptions:

1. Persons with a written permit that specifically authorizes the otherwise prohibited act. This process can be utilized in cases where public utility emergency repairs are necessary.
2. Industrial operations where specific operations and exemptions are identified and mitigation measures are implemented as outlined in an agency plan.
3. Persons using a device fueled solely by liquid petroleum or LPG fuels that can be turned on and off. Such devices can only be used in an area that is barren or cleared of all overhead and surrounding flammable materials within 3 feet of the device.
4. Operating generators with an approved spark arresting device within an enclosed vehicle or building or in an area that is barren or cleared of all overhead and surrounding flammable materials within three feet of the generator.
5. Operating motorized vehicles on designated roads, so long as you park in an area devoid of vegetation within 10 feet of the roadway.
6. Persons conducting activities in those designated areas where the activity is specifically authorized by written posted notice.
7. Any Federal, State or local officer or member of an organized rescue or firefighting force or other authorized personnel in the performance of an official duty.
8. All land within a city boundary is exempted unless otherwise stated by city ordinance.
9. Other exemptions unique to each agency/tribe.
10. Discharging of firearms is allowed on agency designated shooting ranges.

An exemption does not absolve an individual or organization from liability or responsibility for any fire started by the exempted activity.

### Stage III Fire Restrictions (Closures)

The Geographic Agency Administrators within the Southwest Area should review these evaluation guidelines and determine threshold levels that substantiate the need for closures.

Examples include:

1. Potential loss of life due to extreme fire conditions.
2. High potential for extreme fire behavior.
3. Stage II restrictions are not effective in reducing the number of human-caused fires.
4. Resources across the geographic area are at a critical shortage level.

The following standard exemptions will be allowed during closure and will be noted on all closure documents.

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President's Ponderings continued from page 2

### Closure Exemptions:

1. Persons with a written permit that specifically authorizes the otherwise prohibited act.
2. Persons conducting activities in those designated areas where the activity is specifically authorized by written posted notice.
3. Any Federal, State or local officer or member of an organized rescue or firefighting force or other authorized personnel in the performance of an official duty.
4. All land within a city boundary is exempted, unless otherwise stated in city ordinance.
5. Other exemptions unique to each agency/tribe.

In general all landowners have an exemption to travel on defined roads to go to and from their property doing their normal activities. This exemption is generally applied to all restrictions, even to Stage III Fire Restrictions (Closure).

On March 18<sup>th</sup>, we went to Stage I. At our annual meeting, we were at Stage II. On July 1<sup>st</sup>, we went to Stage III (Closure). Due to the recent rains, both Stage III and Stage II restrictions were rescinded, which leaves Stage I still in place.

Special exemptions are generally included, which are additional to the ones listed above. For example, when we were at Stage II, chain saw usage was allowed prior to 10AM or after 9PM. Also, some listed exemptions may be removed. The only way to know what exemptions are in place is to check the website.

For McKinley County - <http://firerestrictions.us/nm/nm-mckinley/>

For Cibola County - <http://firerestrictions.us/nm/nm-cibola/>

Hope this pondering reduces some confusion and gives you some insight on how fire restrictions work.

*Till the next time.....*



## Timberlake Landowners Annual Meeting 2013



Photo by Nancy Dobbs



Photo by Nancy Dobbs



Photo by Nancy Dobbs



Photo by Nancy Dobbs



Photo by Nancy Dobbs





## Fire Danger

Whether there are fire restrictions in place or not, please be extremely careful with combustible materials, chainsaws, BBQ grills and campfires. It only takes one mistake to irreparably damage our beautiful, wilderness community.



## Respecting Our Common Lands and Wildlife

Lately, there have been a rash of incidents of people on quads violating common land rules by driving off the designated roadways, particularly in the dry lake bed of Ramah Lake. This is extremely dangerous because the surface may seem dry and solid, but in effect, just below the surface, the ground is quite unstable. Driving off road also destroys the natural beauty of our area.

Near Ramah Lake, quad riders have been seen chasing the deer. This is unacceptable. Most of us have chosen to live on the ranch because of the virtually undisturbed wilderness and the joy of viewing the animals of the forest. Going forward, the Sheriff's Department, as well as the Game & Fish Warden will be notified immediately and steps may be taken to prosecute the offenders. If you see a violation, contact 911 immediately to report the incident. They will contact the appropriate county agency. Then contact Steve Wills, president of the TRLA at 505.783.2457. He has agreed to be the focal point for this issue and will work with the Game & Fish Department to put a stop to this behavior.

**Landowners, please be sure your guests and children are aware of ranch rules.** Quads and other recreational vehicles are to remain on established roads. Common areas are for hiking and equestrian use, only.



## Burn Pile Notice

If you bring items to the burn pile, please be sure to **close and lock the gate** when you are done. If you do not have a key to access the burn pile, please contact Nancy Ramm at [nancyramm@wildblue.net](mailto:nancyramm@wildblue.net) to purchase a key

The Book Room will remain open through September 24th

Timberlake Times can be viewed or downloaded from [www.trnews.info](http://www.trnews.info)

## Cost Saving Effort

In an effort to control newsletter costs, we would like to reduce the number of printed copies mailed out to Landowners. Our preferred method is to send them out via email. The electronic version is in full color and saves, not only considerable money in printing, but also the volunteers' time in prepping the hard copies.

## Important Notice

- ☉ If you have been receiving a hard copy of the newsletter, but now have an email address **or** if your email address has changed contact: [Nancy Ramm at nancyramm@wildblue.net](mailto:Nancy Ramm at nancyramm@wildblue.net)
- ☉ If you wish to continue receiving a hard copy of the newsletter, please send your request to:

TRLA  
HC 61 Box 767  
Ramah NM 87321-9611

## 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.

## ROADS REPORT

by Jack Mansperger

The following roads have had gravel: Yucca, 1/2 of Copperweed, Aspen Loop South, Elk, Lobo, Oak Court, Pinetree, Sagebrush, Ash, Buttonwood, Sunflower, Shorecliff, Cliffrose, Deer Run, Lake View. Work continues on the following roads: Aspen Loop, Cottonwood, Cuervo, Juniper and Cliffside.

Rusty did the following hours in May: 57 hours grading, 4 hours ditching and 22.5 hours doing maintenance and repairs on vehicles.

Rusty did the following hours in June: 32 hours grading. 21 hours doing repairs on the vehicles. 4.5 hours doing stump removal on the Timberlake Road at the Box S entry.

## Architectural & Maintenance Report

By Steve Wills

- One complaint / violation in progress
- One set of house plans in review

**To become a member of PHI Air Medical, visit the TRLA website for details and the application form. The cost is \$40, under the Group Name of Timberlake Ranch Landowners Association**

**For more information on PHI go to [phicare.com](http://phicare.com)**

**To Report A Game Law Violation Call  
OPERATION GAME THIEF  
1.800.432.4263**

## Timberlake Neighborhood Volunteers

### Ranch House Breakfast



### Ice Cream Social



## Timberlake Neighborhood Volunteers Present the "Inspiration Series"

**Fused Glass**



**Handmade Cards**



**Stained Glass**



**Hand-Built Ceramics**



**Machine Embroidery**



**Straw Bale Construction**



**Gourd Art**



**Prose & Poetry**



**NEW**

### Inspiration Series Sharing Our Creative Inspirations

Timberlake Ranch is well-known for its artisans, whose creativity spans a diverse cross-cut of talents. Beginning in June, your Timberlake Neighborhood Volunteers have been sponsoring FREE demos and discussions with our local talented artists, chefs and creative innovators. The "Inspiration Series" are one hour presentations with different topics each **Tuesday at 1:00PM** at the TCC Ranch House. The presenters will show a sampling of the type of items that can be created with their medium, they'll discuss materials and tools needed to create the projects and where you can purchase them, and of course, they'll answer all of your questions. Unless noted, these are not hands-on classes, so no experience is needed to enjoy the creativity-inspiring presentations.

### "Inspiration Series"

**Tuesdays 1:00-2:00PM @ TCC Ranch House**

**August 6 - Water Catchment & Storage - Susan McNabb**

**August 13 - Quilting - Susan Ackermann**

**August 20 - Civil Rights Memoirs - Jim Zwerg**

**More to Come...**

If you would like to present an Inspiration project, contact [nancyramm@wildblue.net](mailto:nancyramm@wildblue.net) or submit your ideas to [lovintimberlake@hughes.net](mailto:lovintimberlake@hughes.net)

## Timberlake Commons Report

By Don Parry

- Painting of the Ranch House fence is complete.
- Painting of the Bath House walls in white is complete.
- New light fixtures in all of Bath House, replaced with brighter lights.
- Repaint of porch ledges at Ranch House complete.
- Repainting of all window ledges and north alcove walls of Ranch House complete.
- New pine tongue and groove ceilings in office and work rooms at Ranch House complete.
- Cleaning of storage rooms in progress
- Installation of Hughes Internet Wi-Fi at Ranch House. (Contact Steve Wills for access.)
- Work continues on Handicap drive on North Ranch House alcove area.
- Old picnic tables removed.
- Survey work completed on Juniper and Cuervo so work can begin.
- Survey work completed at cattle guard area to allow possible replacement of cattle guard and rework of roadway.
- Fence repair in horse pasture complete.

## Wilderness Wives

### The Unique Challenges of Life in the Mountains

By Nancy Ramm

For those of use who live in the mountains, the word "FIRE" can spark fear in our hearts. We've all seen the tragic devastation that a forest fire can bring to an area. The impact on the environment, the wildlife and landowners' financial investments can be impossible to overcome.

It only takes one mistake, one moment of bad judgement to engulf a wilderness in flames. Yes, some forest fires are caused by lightning strikes. And there, our only defense is our alertness and willingness to report the incident. But many fires can be averted simply by following the rules. Common sense can also be an ally. Think about the worse case scenario and have a plan in place.

If you see smoke, don't assume someone else will call it in. Make the call. A fire is *much* easier to contain in its early stages.

**The natural beauty of Timberlake is a priceless resource. Please protect it.**

<http://nmfireinfo.com/>

## Equestrian Easements and Some of Our Common Lands

by Clint Burleson

During the summer of 2013, we will be constructing a parking area for Cloh Chin Toh 74. This lot is TRLA Common Land and contains a prehistoric ruin within a cliff alcove. It is reached by an easy 10 minute hike off Cliffside Drive and is a fine example of the extensive culture that flourished in this area hundreds of years ago. When visiting, please do not disturb or remove anything from the archeological site.

With an interest in hiking and trails, I was pleased to have some of the other members approach me after our annual meeting, sharing similar interests and asking questions about trails and easements. From these discussions two trends emerged:

1. A desire to construct a trail through Common Lands to the top of the red and white southern cliff (the Hogback).
2. Information about the location and uses of the Equestrian Easements.

At the July 2013 Board Meeting, I intend to address the board concerning these. If approval is granted, I would welcome any input and assistance from fellow members on these projects.

Cheers,  
Clint Burleson

[Cburleso@yahoo.com](mailto:Cburleso@yahoo.com)



<b>2012-2013</b>	<b>Fiscal Year Actuals</b>	<b>Budget 2012-2013</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 177,089.71</b>	<b>\$ 158,857.00</b>	\$12,253.64 collected from previous year's dues
<b>OUTFLOWS / EXPENSES</b>			
Board	\$ 7,068.64	\$ 7,860.00	Includes Annual Meeting, Director's Insurance, Office Supplies, Postage, Dues and Mileage
Communications	\$ 600.00	\$ 700.00	Newsletter, Website
Financial	\$ 13,406.75	\$ 11,069.00	Includes Real Estate Taxes, Income Taxes and Bad Debt Expenses
Legal	\$ 11,902.08	\$ 18,500.00	Three foreclosure procedures in process with legal counsel
Ranch Operations	\$ 8,192.00	\$ 8,800.00	Worker's Comp. and Liability & Bond
Employee Wages & Taxes	\$ 10,494.40	\$ 21,900.00	Grader time, snow plowing, Ranch Hand wages
Taxes	\$ 818.79	\$ 2,224.00	Under budget because of less hours/wages.
Buildings & Commons	\$ 9,291.80	\$ 4,500.00	Bath House & Common Land Maint. Ranch House remodel.
Equip Maintenance & Repairs	\$ 5,470.94	\$ 5,800.00	Grader and tractor maintenance under budget. Present Ranch Hand is capable of performing some maintenance instead of local shop or dealer, resulting in savings.
Fuel, Oil & Grease	\$ 5,079.91	\$ 6,000.00	Under budget
Roads	\$ 61,986.68	\$ 65,000.00	Gravel budget in line.
Utilities	\$ 2,714.60	\$ 2,700.00	
Notes Payable	\$ 23,933.40	\$ 10,720.00	\$15,000 deposit on purchase of Kubota tractor. Ford F550 now paid off.
<b>TOTAL OUTFLOWS</b>	<b>\$ 160,959.99</b>	<b>\$ 165,773.00</b>	

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.





## We Have Internet!

That's right, Timberlake Ranch House now has a Wi-Fi Internet connection, so bring your laptop or tablet and stay connected to family and friends.

To get on-line, you'll need to send Steve Wills a request via email at [scw@hughes.net](mailto:scw@hughes.net). He'll send you a password and instructions to get logged on. (You must be a member in good standing.)

There are a few rules you should know:

1. **Do not share the password or login with others.** Each person using the Wi-Fi must contact Steve Wills to get a password. We want to keep a list of users in order to update them, if we change the logon.
2. Do not download or stream movies at the Ranch House and please limit the amount of music you download. We have a fixed monthly allowance of data downloaded. If exceeded, others will have limited or no access to the Internet.
3. Do not connect to questionable or pornographic websites.
4. Do not pass along questionable or spam content e-mails.

If you have questions or trouble getting connected, please contact Steve Wills at 505.783.2457 for assistance.



## Have You Ever Asked?

### Questions and Answers About Timberlake

**Q:** How do I know if there are fire restrictions on Timberlake Ranch?

**A:** A good website for the most current information on fire restrictions in the area is <http://nmfireinfo.com/>. They also have information on-line for protecting your family, home and property against fire.

**Q:** Can I rent the TRLA Community Center Ranch House for a private function?

**A:** Yes. The request form/information is available for download on the TRLA website at <http://www.trnews.info/TRLAindex.htm>.

**Q:** Who do I call if I have an issue with wildlife?

**A:** Contact the Game Warden, Craig Sanchez at 505.379.5340 or after hours, call the Dispatcher number 505 827-9376 or 505-222-4700. Other numbers are:

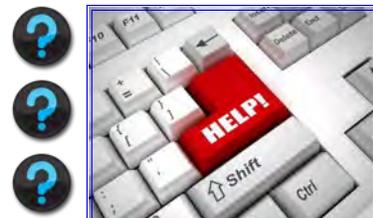
Gallup Animal Control 505.756.1453  
Grants Animal Control 505.285.4012

**Q:** I need to purchase a key for the Bath House, Well and Burn Pile. Where do I find the request form?

**A:** The request form/information is available for download on the TRLA website at <http://www.trnews.info/TRLAindex.htm>.

**Q:** Can we ride ATV's on Common Land?

**A:** This is a big "NO". ATV's should only be driven on the main and side roads in Timberlake. If you ride in the Cibola National Forest, remember that all motorized off-highway vehicles (ATV, dirt bike, UTV, mule type vehicle, recreational off-highway vehicle or snowmobile) must be registered with the State Motor Vehicle Division. Registration is \$50 every two years. If you are a non-resident, Permits are \$48 for two years or \$18 for 90 days. Permits can be obtained online at: [www.B4uRide.com](http://www.B4uRide.com) or [www.wildlife.state.nm.us](http://www.wildlife.state.nm.us) or by calling 505.476.8140.



RETURN SERVICE  
REQUESTED  
-----  
Ramah NM 87321-9611  
HC 61 Box 767  
TRLA



## *Your 2013-2014 TRLA Board of Directors*

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