



MARCH 2024

BLACKBERRY MOUNTAIN ASSOCIATION

OFFICE MANAGER
Linda Black

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After Hours Water and Gate Systems Emergencies
(leave name, phone # and brief message)
706 889-5640

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EMAIL
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WEBSITE
www.BlackberryMountainAssociation.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

David Galusha, President
Dave Teffeteller, Vice President
Doug Colburn, Secretary
Rich Baker, Treasurer
Rebekah Montgomery, Member at Large

DESIGN COMMITTEE

Barbara Dunson
Jennifer Fontenot
Dave Teffeteller



2024 Roadside Chipping



Blackberry residents may begin now to prepare for the roadside chipping that will begin the week of April 8. This is a great opportunity for us to clean up our properties and to share the cost equally through our Association membership assessments. **Please read the following guidelines carefully.**

- This chipping is for fallen, dead limbs and branches only. Trimmed branches and trees, leaves and **live growth will not be picked up.**
- Limbs and branches must be **less than eight inches in diameter and ten feet in length.** You do not need to cut longer limbs into piles of shorter limbs.
- Stack debris so that all the limbs are facing in one direction in the **right-of-way along the Blackberry Mountain roadsides** where it is easily accessible but does not encroach onto the roadway. **Workers will not come onto your property or driveway to pick up your brush.**
- The mulch from the chipped limbs will be blown back onto your property.
- **Once the chipping is completed, do not place any more limbs, branches and debris along the roadways. Violators will be subject to fines and responsible for the cost of removal.**

Remember that any tree work, other than removing downed trees, branches and debris from your property, requires Design Committee approval. Workers and tree services are not permitted to perform any cutting or removal of standing trees and vegetation without this approval.

If you have any questions, contact Linda Black, blackberry@ellijay.com or Dave Teffeteller, dave@ellijay.com.

We Are a Firewise® Community

Blackberry Mountain Association is a recognized Firewise® Community. The National Fire Prevention Association's Firewise USA® program teaches folks how to adapt to living with wildfire and encourages neighbors to work together and take proactive action to prevent losses. There are no costs associated with membership. While encouraged, it is not mandatory that all homeowners in the Association comply with implementation of the risk reduction steps necessary to make their homes safer during a wildfire event.

If you're interested in having a Firewise® assessment of your property, contact Anthony English, (706) 754-2354, of the Georgia Forestry Commission and request that an onsite Firewise® Risk Assessment Survey be conducted on your home and property. There is no charge,

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and you do not have to be present for the survey. Following the survey, you will receive a written report identifying any areas where attention is recommended.

Pamphlets are available at the Association office providing an overview of wildfire risk reduction measures that can make your home safer during a wildfire. The major threats during a wildfire in the North Georgia mountains are airborne embers and radiant heat. Historical and empirical data confirm that taking the following simple steps will greatly increase the probability that the integrity of your home will be maintained.

- Maintain a perimeter around your home free of flammable vegetation such as fallen leaves and twigs.
- Clean roofs and gutters of dead leaves, debris and pine needles.
- Replace or repair loose or missing shingles.
- Clean debris from exterior attic vents and install 1/8-inch mesh screening over the vents.
- Repair or replace damaged or loose window screens or broken windows.
- Clean areas under patios and decks of debris and screen or box in those areas.
- Remove all flammable material away from the foundation such as mulch, flammable plants, leaves and firewood – anything that could burn.
- Remove anything flammable from underneath decks and porches.
- Ensure the area around your propane tank is free of any flammable material.
- Trim branches that overhang the home, porch or deck.
- Store firewood no closer than 30 feet from the home.



To learn more, go to www.firewise.org. If you have any questions or desire additional information, please contact Rich Baker, BMA Board Member, at bakerr1@aol.com or (706) 889-6989.

Are You Ready For A Power Outage?

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Food | <input type="checkbox"/> Propane |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water | <input type="checkbox"/> Flashlights |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Firewood | <input type="checkbox"/> Batteries |

Also, check out www.ready.gov for more preparedness information.

Who Do You Call?

Law Enforcement	911
Fire	911
Animal Control	706 635-2166
Report Power Outages	706 276-0359
Track Power Outages	www.amicalolaemc.com

Calling the Blackberry office instead of the appropriate agency will only delay the response.

DON'T FEED THE WILDLIFE!

If you're one of the Blackberry residents that continues to feed the wildlife (this includes the deer), **PLEASE STOP!** Blackberry's deer over-population has become a serious problem. The deer are destroying our understory of new trees and plants. Feeding also attracts bears, raccoons, possums, rats and mice.



Visitors and Workers

If you are expecting visitors or service providers, remind them to use the keypads located at the office and service gates. Also, please remember that **the office/Mulkey Road gate and bridge are not for use by service, repair and construction vehicles.** These vehicles must use the Timber Falls Trail service gate. Maps and directions to that gate are available on the Blackberry website.

Also, any vehicle parked at the office/mailbox parking area without proper identification is subject to being towed.

All property owners' vehicles should have stickers adhered to the lower driver side area of their windshield.



These stickers are available, free of charge, at the Association office during weekday hours. Daily guest parking passes are also available if you have guests that need to park at the office.

Mark Your Calendar

2nd Quarter Assessment Due	April 1
Roadside Chipping	Week of April 8
3rd Quarter Assessment Due	July 1
4th Quarter Assessment Due	October 1
Annual Meeting	December 7