



OCTOBER 2022

BLACKBERRY MOUNTAIN ASSOCIATION

OFFICE MANAGER

Linda Black

CONTACT

Phone 706 273.3100

Fax 706 273.3201

After Hours Water and

Gate Systems Emergencies

(leave name, phone # and brief message)

706 889-5640

MAILING ADDRESS

Blackberry Mountain Association

25 Blackberry Mountain Drive # 8101

Ellijay, GA 30536

EMAIL

blackberry@ellijay.com

WEBSITE

www.BlackberryMountainAssociation.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

David Galusha, President

Dave Teffeteller, Vice President

Carolyn Sewell, Secretary

Rich Baker, Treasurer

Doug Colburn, Member at Large

DESIGN COMMITTEE

Barbara Dunson

Jennifer Fontenot

Dave Teffeteller

FIREWISE COORDINATOR

Rich Baker



Winter Is Coming

Now is a great time to take a few simple measures to lessen potential weather-related hardships this winter.

Fuel and Heat

Check your propane tank fuel level. Don't rely on your propane company to routinely check your tank. During the winter months it's a good practice to keep your tank no less than 25% full.

It is not uncommon for portions of Gilmer County to be without electrical service for extended periods of time due to fallen trees brought on by wind, heavy rain, snow and ice. Remember your furnace must have an electrical source to operate.

Do you have an alternative heat source for your home? If you have a fireplace, make sure that it is functioning properly, the chimney is clean, and you have a good supply of dry, seasoned firewood, kindling and fire starters.

If you have a gas range, learn to light the burners manually. If you have a generator, make certain that it is functioning properly and that you have sufficient fuel for several days of continuous operation.

Water

Blackberry's wells are equipped with electric pumps. When there is a community power outage, the pumps will not function and water will not be pumped to your home.

Make sure you have a supply of potable water for drinking and cooking. FEMA recommends the storage of a minimum of 1 gallon of water per family member per day for no less than 14 days.

Many residents collect gray water in rain barrels to use for flushing toilets. Filling bathtubs with water prior to a snow or ice event is also a good idea.

Also, protect outside spigots and water pipes with insulated covers.

If you plan to be away from your home, consider shutting off the water supply and draining the inside water lines. Set thermostats at 50 degrees or above and open cabinet doors where water pipes are located.

Roads

If you're concerned about getting out of your home due to ice or snow, make sure you have an accessible supply of ice melt to apply to your porch, sidewalk and driveway.

Blackberry's roads, as well as most of Gilmer County's secondary roads, are not plowed. If you think you will need to drive on Blackberry and county roads, ensure that you have a properly equipped vehicle. Four-wheel drive, snow tires and chains may be necessary.

In case of an emergency, remember that Gilmer County EMS and Sheriff's deputies will enter Blackberry, so don't hesitate to call 911.



Are You Winterized?

- Protect outside spigots and pipes with insulated covers
- Make sure heating system is in working condition
- Set thermostat at 50 degrees or above
- Open cabinet doors where water pipes are located
- Shut off water to house and drain lines (optional)

Take Your Leaf Blower for a Walk

This time of the year, our roadways tend to accumulate leaves and pine needles. The next time you're blowing leaves from your driveway, why not take a few more minutes and clear the road along your property - and maybe your neighbor's too. This will improve the appearance of our roads and make them safer as well.



Annual Meeting Notice

The Blackberry Mountain Association Annual Meeting will be at **9:30AM, Saturday, December 10th** at Cartecay United Methodist's meeting room. The church is located at 7629 Hwy 52E at the corner of Hwy 52E and Roy Road.

Approximately **three weeks before the annual meeting** you will receive a packet containing the annual report, proposed budget, board candidates' profiles, and a proxy. This is a general proxy and gives the holder the authority to cast votes on your behalf on any matter that requires a vote at the meeting.

If you choose not to attend the meeting this year, **please return your proxy.**

The terms of two board members, David Galusha and Dave Teffeteller expire this year. They have agreed to serve another term. Additional nominations for these two board seats may be made. Written nominations must be received by the Association office manager no later than Monday, November 14. Please remember that all nominees must be property owners and in good standing with the Association. Nominations may also be made from the floor at the annual meeting.

Mark Your Calendar

4th Quarter Assessment Due	October 1, 2022
BMA Annual Meeting	December 10, 2022
1st Quarter Assessment Due	January 1, 2023

Property Owners' Handbook

If you're a new property owner and did not receive a Blackberry Mountain property owners' handbook at closing, please contact the office at blackberry@ellijay.com and request one.

The handbook contains a little of the history of Blackberry, contact information, rules, design committee forms, bylaws, CCRs and maps. All of this information, and much more, is also available at www.BlackberryMountainAssociation.com.



Let's Be Good Neighbors

From time to time, we all need assistance - picking up groceries and prescriptions, getting a ride to appointments, clearing a fallen tree, or completing small tasks or yard work around our homes.

If you would like to be available to provide help to your neighbors, notify Linda, blackberry@ellijay.com.

Likewise, if you're in need of assistance, please let her know as well.

Your Help Is Needed

To better respond to water outages, we're in the process of developing a comprehensive map of the water lines in Blackberry. You can help by identifying the location of the curb stop valve for your property. Generally these valves are located along the main water line and are encased in a pvc pipe or box.

Blue utility flags to mark your valve's location are available at the office.



Please remember that Blackberry Mountain Association does not allow any outside burning, fire pits or campfires. Also, the use of firearms and fireworks of any kind are also prohibited.



Blackberry windshield stickers are available at the Association office.

www.BlackberryMountainAssociation.com