



PO Box 3431
Evergreen, CO 80439
www.fomelc.org

March 2019 Newsletter



Spring may be on the calendar, however it is still winter in the high county. Guanella Pass Road closed about a mile past this trailhead. Snowing at the Pass.



Chairman:

Matt Komos
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Trail Projects Coordinator:

Steve West
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Weed Projects Coordinator:

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Secretary:

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Webmaster Team Lead:

Marketing Team:

Gordon Brown
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Trail Patrols & Hosts:

Dave Swinehart

Forest Service Liaison

Ralph Bradt
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UPCOMING EVENTS

Contact Project Lead:

Project Weeds: alan@fomelc.org

Project Trails: steve@fomelc.org

Project information will be updated with each newsletter

March:

27: Monthly Meeting at Evergreen Fire & Rescue , 1802 Bergen Parkway, Evergreen 6:30-8pm

Jim Ramey, Colorado State Director, The Wilderness Society.

Learn about the new legislation introduced to protect an additional 400,000 acres of Colorado lands including more than 73,000 acres of new wilderness designations.

April:

24: Monthly Meeting at Evergreen Fire & Rescue , 1802 Bergen Parkway, Evergreen 6:30-8pm

Mario Padilla, Entomologist at the Butterfly Pavillion

“It takes a lot of little critters to make a BIG wilderness”.

The role of invertebrates in the ecologies of Mt Evans and Lost Creek Wildernesses and will discuss the alarming losses of insect populations around the globe.

May:

4-5: **Crew Leader Training.** FOMELC looking for members interested in attending this class at the Mt Evans Outdoor Lab. Contact steve@fomelc.org

18-19: **Spring Training (for all members) & Monthly Meeting-** Shawnee, Colorado.

June:

TBD: Leave No Trace Train the Trainer Class. FOMELC looking for 2 members interested in attending this class. Contact admin@fomelc.org

8: Trail Project - North Ben Tyler Trail (Lost Creek Wilderness) Corridor Work

22-23: Crosscut Saw Certification Class for A & B Sawyers, Buffalo Creek

29: Trail Project: ALL HANDS DAY & Monthly Meeting BBQ Upper Rolling Creek Trail (Lost Creek Wilderness) Corridor Work and Weed Control

July:

31: Monthly Meeting at Evergreen Fire & Rescue , 1802 Bergen Parkway, Evergreen 6:30-8pm

August:

10: Trail Project- ALL HANDS DAY & Monthly Meeting BBQ (Mt Evans Wilderness) Beaver Meadows and Beartracks Lakes Trail Work and Weed Control

September:

25: Monthly Meeting at Evergreen Fire & Rescue , 1802 Bergen Parkway, Evergreen 6:30-8pm

FOMELC Marketing

By Gordon Brown

In 2019, FOMELC plans to exhibit in the following shows and events. We will need volunteers to help with booth participation for 2-4 hours as your schedule allows. Objectives will be to raise the organization's visibility, recruit additional members and fund raising. Please mark your calendars. Looking forward to a great turnout.

Mountain Area Home and Garden Show. Location: Conifer High School. Date: March 30-31, 2019

Bailey Day.	Location: Bailey.	Date: June 2019.
Evergreen Rodeo.	Location: Evergreen.	Date: TBD 2019.

2019 Foothills Home, Garden & Lifestyle Show March 30th and 31st

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR FOMELC'S BOOTH

Location:

Evergreen High School, 29300 Buffalo Park Road, Evergreen, CO 80439.

Staff Needs:

Friday March 29 Setup: 2 pm

Saturday Show Hours: 9 am - 5 pm

Shifts are 9-1 and 1-5

Sunday Show Hours: 9 am - 3 pm

Shifts are 9-12 and 12-3

We will need 3-4 volunteers for two/four hour shifts each day.

Sign up by email with shift preference to:

Gordon Brown - Brownny327@yahoo.com



FOMELC WEED ERADICATION PROGRAM

From the weed corner – *Alan*

As reported in the February Newsletter, FOMELC received a grant for the Colorado Department of Agriculture's Noxious Weed Program to the eradication of invasive species in Mount Evans Wilderness and this year for the first time in Lost Creek. We are also submitting a grant application to the National Wilderness Stewardship Alliance for an invasive species program in Lost Creek Wilderness similar to our grant-funded program. Unfortunately, our efforts to coordinate with Pike and San Isabel National Forest officials to re-invigorate the invasive weed program in Lost Creek

Wilderness have been jinxed so far. The first meeting was cancelled due the government shutdown and the second date was cancelled by the "bomb cyclone." We will meet sometime and the 2019 season will be our most ambitious weed program yet in Mount Evans and now Lost Creek Wilderness.

Colorado Wilderness Conference

May 10-11, 2019 Buena Vista, Colorado

Colorado Mountain Club is returning to Buena Vista to discuss the state's most pressing Wilderness topics such as new designations, current management strategies, and grassroots organizing skills.

- Advocacy, Stewardship and Protections for Colorado's Wildest Landscapes
- Workshops, Speaker Panels, Networking & Field Trips
- Volunteers, Staff and Wilderness Lovers Welcome!
- Food, Drinks & Entertainment

Register at: <https://www.cmc.org/wild>



Front Range Crosscut Saw Skills Training and Certification Workshop

June 22-23

This course will cover crosscut techniques, procedures, and best practices for clearing trail safely and effectively in challenging situations. It will also cover basic tool care and maintenance. Certification will be a recommendation that must be approved by each local agency or land manager where work with saws is performed. We hope to get everyone evaluated and certified, but this will depend on the number of participants as well as the number of qualified certifiers available to help.. All participants must have a **valid basic first aid certification** for the crosscut certification or recommendation to be given.

Online registration: <https://www.voc.org/project/front-range-crosscut-saw-skills-training-and-certification-workshop-2>

Dates: 6/22/19 to 6/23/19

Location: Buffalo Creek Area



Running the Wilderness Trails –

by Peter Vrolijk, FOMELC Volunteer and Trail Runner

Gratitude for the existence of trails in Wilderness areas is common among trail ultra-runners, so much so that volunteer commitment to trail maintenance is a prerequisite of some trail races. The Friends of Mount Evans and Lost Creek (FOMELC) is a charitable organization that assists the U. S. Forest Service in the stewardship of these two Wilderness areas through trail surveys, trail maintenance projects, invasive species identification and treatment, and public education and outreach on the principles of Wilderness and ‘Leave No Trace.’

One especially attractive opportunity for trail runners is to combine a trail survey with a trail run. While it can add about 25% more time to a trail run to stop and make and record observations, there is a tremendous sense of satisfaction once a run is finished in a beautiful remote area while recording data that helps the continued stewardship of the area.

Opportunities for Involvement

- Participate in FOMELC volunteer training May 18-19 to learn how to do your own trail surveys
- Accompany a trail runner on a survey
- Participate in a trail maintenance project
- Contribute to FOMELC to help support trail maintenance and education activities

Come meet the FOMELC at the Mountain Area Home and Garden Show on **March 30-31** at the Evergreen High School. Check out the Friends’ website to learn more about the group and discover tremendous resources for learning about the trails in the Wilderness areas (www.FOMELC.org). (Event information on the website is old because the site is currently undergoing significant upgrade). Or contact the Friends (admin@fomelc.org) to learn more about how to support our local Wilderness areas.



Running the Cub Creek Trail
Left Picture by Peter Mar 16, 2019, Cub Creek Trail at about 10,000 feet, 4-5 feet of snow.
Right picture taken (by Peter) same location March 2018. Quite a difference in the snowpack for 2019.

Do you know your **Leave No Trace Principles?**

(Part 4 of a 7 Part FOMELC Newsletter Series)

www.Lnt.org



The **Seven Principles** of Leave No Trace were developed to help educate and guide recreationists in sustainable minimum impact practices that mitigate or avoid recreation-related impacts. These Principles are the most robust and widely utilized minimum impact outdoor practices. The Principles are based not only on a respect for nature and on other visitors.

Leave What You Find (Principle #4)

- Preserve the past: examine, but do not touch cultural or historic structures and artifacts.
- Leave rocks, plants and other natural objects as you find them. Carving initials into trees is unacceptable.
- Avoid introducing or transporting non-native species.
- Do not build structures, furniture, or dig trenches.
- Take only memories ... leave only footprints.



FOMELC looking for members, who would like to attend a 2-Day LNT, Train the Trainer Class in June. Class paid by FOMELC. Interested? Contact admin@fomelc.org



FOMELC Mission Statement:

The Mount Evans and Lost Creek Wildernesses encompass 194,400 acres with over 170 miles of trails in Colorado's Pike and Arapaho National Forests.

We work in partnership with the US Forest Service, engaging in education, outreach and stewardship activities to preserve the wilderness character of these lands for current and future generations.

I Have a Question!

Got a general or specific trail question? Admin@fomelc.org email will go to all board members and one of us will get back to you.

How do I become a volunteer with FOMELC?

Check out our website to sign up. www.fomelc.org

Like your Newsletter?

Let Us know!

admin@fomelc.org