

06-01-04

Dear Property Owner,

Congratulations on achieving compliance with Village Ordinance 2004-04. Section 42-70 of the ordinance states: "It shall be the duty of every owner, occupant, and person in control of any land or interest therein or premises which are located within the jurisdictional limits of the Village, to control and/or abate there from all flammable vegetation that constitutes a fire hazard which may endanger or damage neighboring property."

The actions you have taken will reduce the risks of wildfire on your property and surrounding properties and will help protect Ruidoso's community values. These include public safety, economics, watershed values, recreational opportunities, wildlife habitat, scenic vistas, historical and cultural sites, community peace-of-mind, and public support of local government. In addition, your actions increase the overall forest health by availing more water to remaining vegetation and will encourage native grasses, forbs and wildflowers to reestablish themselves as groundcover. This begins the process of returning plant and animal ecosystems to a more natural balance.

Enclosed is your property's **Certificate of Compliance**. It will be valid through July of 2006 and is transferable if the property is sold. Recertification is required every two years and will focus on maintenance elements such as pine needle raking and removal of flammable material around structures. Keeping ladder fuels, such as scrub oak and dead branches, in check will also be required on structured and vacant lots.

On behalf of the Village and Forestry Department, I thank you for your contribution to Ruidoso's **Community Forest Management Plan**.

Sincerely,

Rick Delaco
Director of Forestry

Encl: Village Ordinance 2004-04, Certificate of Compliance