

PRESS RELEASE/OVERVIEW OF CHRISTOPHER KOHL'S FIRE DISTRICT 2007-2008 FUEL REDUCTION GRANT

HOW YOU CAN PARTICIPATE

Christopher Kohl's Fire District received a \$400,000.00 grant for the reduction of forest fuels within the private land of the district. Part of this grant must be matched with labor from residents of the area. Additionally, residents may apply for funds from the grant to help clean up their properties. Most associations and groups have a representative that will assist you in completing the process. If your association has no representative, why don't you volunteer to help us out?

If you are working on your property personally, please obtain a **Labor and Equipment Form** from the Fire Department in Christopher Creek. Complete it and return it and your hours will be counted for the match for which we are responsible. This year's grant requires \$150,000.00 match of our labor.

Briefly, to receive funding, a resident must apply for an "Assessment" of their property. Certified State Assessors perform this. It is a mandatory assessment and helps homeowners understand why some of the trees and underbrush should be removed and certain things on their homes should be corrected. All of the recommendations need not be carried out at the same time and some projects can be ongoing for several years. An **Assessment Permission Form** is available at the Fire Department or in the Grant Packet.

After the assessment has been conducted and delivered to you, you obtain as many bids as you wish to have the work done. A sheet with **Contractors and Suppliers List** is available to help you find workers for your project. An assessment by a contractor is not valid unless reevaluated by a State Land Certified Assessor.

Next, you obtain a **Grant Application Form**, complete it, return it with assessment, **Original Invoices marked Paid and signed by Contractor**, and pictures.

The reimbursement will be 80% of \$1500.00 (or \$1200.00) for each lot/acre/parcel – up to a maximum of 5 acres/lots/parcels (\$7500.00) X .80 = \$6000.00 paid out.

A dump trailer is available for residents of the district to use in cleaning up their property. Please call the 928-478-4877 after 4 p.m. for scheduling. Weekend pickups will be drive-by only – you must have people to load the trailer. Volunteers will not help you load the trailer. On weekdays, you may arrange to have the trailer take several trips to the brushpit. The trailer will not be left on your property. Again, you must have labor to load the trailer. Adequate space for turn-around is a must. If you can't access your property with the truck and trailer, we can't get a fire engine in there either.

RECAP

1. Arrange for Certified Assessment, take "before" pictures
2. Have Contractor perform work
3. Take "after" pictures.
4. Complete Grant Application; return with assessment, invoices and pictures.
5. Pay Contractor
6. Submit packet to CKFD