

Special Announcement

**Tuesday, May 20, 2008
7:00 PM
Anarchist Mountain Fire Hall**

Pine Beetle Information Session

The Anarchist Mountain Community Society, in co-operation with the Anarchist Mountain Firefighters Society, invite you and any interested persons to attend an informative evening to hear about the pine beetle infestation in British Columbia.

Across BC, over 13.5 million hectares of forests are now infested with Mountain Pine Beetle. This infestation has been termed by some as an environmental catastrophe in slow motion. Beetles have now been detected in Alberta and there is reason to believe that the spread of this pest will continue eastwards for decades to come. How might this problem impact our mountain community?

We have been fortunate enough to arrange an evening of informative presentations and discussion with several beetle professionals as follows:

**Ellen Simmons, BC Ministry of Environment, Penticton
Mountain Pine Beetle Outreach Coordinator - South Okanagan-Similkameen**

What is the current situation with pine beetle in BC, how did we arrive where we are with these pests, what impacts can be expected, how is Parks Management occurring, what are the pine beetle outreach program objectives.

**Mickey Werstuik
Southern Interior Beetle Action Coalition Manager**

Introduction to SIBAC program, expected impacts of beetle kill in the Southern Okanagan, forest trends, discussion forums

**Third Speaker (Jim Modesaw - to be confirmed)
BC Ministry of Forest & Range, Fire Protection Branch**

How will pine beetle kill affect FireSmart diligence. Discussion over fire safety in South Okanagan, due to impact of beetle kill.

• **Community information session to hear from the experts**

• **For more information contact Mark McKenney, 495-4519**