

# NEWS RELEASE

## Kaibab National Forest

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For Immediate Release

Contact: Jacqueline Banks, 928-635-8314

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### Forest Service Announces Dates for Public Use of Moonset Pit

WILLIAMS, Ariz. – The Kaibab National Forest is announcing dates when Moonset Pit will be open to the public for the disposal of natural, woody debris.

On open pit dates, members of the public can deposit forest debris such as tree limbs and pine needles from their private property at the cinder pit, which is located on the Kaibab National Forest west of Parks and east of Spitz Springs on the north side of old Route 66.

“We encourage our local community members to rake, prune and gather debris from their property and deposit it at Moonset Pit,” said Williams District Ranger Martie Schramm. “This is an important step in reducing the risk of wildfire damage to your home.”

On open pit dates, fire personnel and community volunteers staff the pit from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. to ensure access and prevent disposal of unauthorized materials. Only natural, woody debris may be deposited at Moonset Pit. Open pit dates for 2013 are as follows:

- May 11
- May 25
- June 8
- June 22
- July 13
- July 27
- Aug. 10
- Aug. 24
- Sept. 14
- Sept. 28

The use of the pit is a community service provided to help private citizens create defensible space and improve forest health in their communities. This service is offered by the Kaibab National Forest and the communities of Parks and Sherwood Forest Estates in coordination with the Rural Communities Fuels Management Partnership. The RCFMP provides assistance in protecting private property from wildfire through tree thinning projects. Information on the RCFMP is available by calling (928) 523-8676 or by visiting <http://redrockcountry.org/rcfmp/>. For more information on Moonset Pit or to volunteer to staff the pit on open dates, call Ray Raetzl at (928) 635-0059 or Anne Dudley at (928) 635-0417.

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