

Trailhead CC&R's require that we maintain our common areas in a fire safe condition. To that end the Board considered plowing, mowing, mastication and grazing of the meadow area located on 25 acres between Potter and the end of Birchwood.

We have decided to use the services of Flying Mule Farm to graze off the grass and brush through the utilization of approximately 90 head of sheep. Flying Mule Farm will start the grazing process on May 27th and will remain in the meadow for up to 4 weeks. During this period a portable electric livestock fence and dogs will control the sheep.

Homeowner's are encouraged to visit the meadow area and observe the sheep at work. However, Flying Mule Farms has asked that you leave your dogs at home. The sheep herding dogs are considered working dogs and will defend the sheep against predators as well as domestic animals.

In addition to the grazing efforts, a tree service will be removing several dead trees on the east side of the meadow. Also, numerous small pines will be thinned to provide for better forest health as well as fire protection.

The contractor has been asked to cut the trees into 18 inch rounds and deposit the rounds on the west side of the meadow where Birchwood Road dead ends. The rounds are available to homeowners on a first come first serve basis. Homeowners will be notified via e-mail when the rounds are available.

All remaining common areas will be reviewed this summer for herbicide treatment of brush and grass that has re-grown since we treated the common areas two years ago. If required, spraying will most likely occur in late August or early September. Association efforts to remove dead trees brush and grass in our common areas are critical to maintaining a healthy forest and reducing fire danger.

It is also important for each of us to survey our own property and make sure that it fire safe. To assist you in this effort, the Forest Hill Fire Department HAS conducted a survey our common areas as well as private lots within the Association to assure that everyone is in compliance with the State Fire Regulations