

**Ticket Packet • Dragonfest
2013
Rebirth, Regrowth, Reconnecting**



August 7-11, 2013

Please be sure to read the whole packet. There is a lot of important information in it!!!

This packet contains your ticket to enter the gate. **Do not lose your ticket. It is your only way to get in the gate!** The ticket is non-transferable. If your name is not on it, you cannot use it! If, for some reason, you cannot attend, you must send it in if you want a refund. You cannot give it to someone to go in your place.

Remember! We'd like to honor our theme "**Rebirth – Regrowth – Reconnecting. Join us for the return and rebirth of our beloved retreat as we explore regrowth for Dragonfest & ourselves in our 27th year! Let us reconnect to the land and as a community!**

Clothing Optional: "Clothing Required" areas, including the community pavilion, merchant space, kidspace, and any areas visible to non-members, shall have a "beachwear" minimum clothing standard. Application of this requirement should err on the side of caution (to include people with kids and conservative ex-spouses.)

A link to a map of the site, including the changes to clothing optional, can be found at the Dragonfest.org website. There will be maps available upon check-in at the site. **We thank you for your patience, our new site is magical and beautiful, and we are working on a new map.**

Dragonfest Media Policy: "Got Film?" Check out Dragonfest's media policy before you pack your equipment. The policy can be found in the Policy section of our website.

FIRE: At this time there is a **Stage 2 Fire Ban, PROPANE FIRES ONLY**. Smoking is allowed inside your car only. Please check the website for updates; even if the fire ban is lifted the Property Owner may decide to continue the ban for safety.

Please observe the following guidelines:

- **DO NOT** under any circumstances dig your own fire pit. Doing so could result in permanent expulsion from the property. Only elevated fire pits are allowed.
- Be safe and observe all fire precautions for campfires. Unattended fires are not allowed. **THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS TO THIS RULE!** Please use substitutes such as propane stoves for cooking. Propane stoves can be quickly turned off if you get called away from your camp.
- When you are finished with the campfire each evening it must be completely out.
- Please do not smoke under the Community Center, Kitchen or Kiosk tarps. **Do Not** under any circumstances drop your cigarette butts on the ground. Smoking is allowed **ONLY** in your car.
- For all of our safety please tell someone on the Safety team or a staff member of illegal fire pits or unattended fires.
- The property owner has asked we do not bring in outside firewood to the property. There will be no wood shed. **HOWEVER**, the owner is more than happy to allow us to collect as much of the dead fall wood as we like.
- This site has no improvements found at a typical campground so please be aware of the following when considering attending: there are no established utilities, meaning no power, no phone and no well water:
- There is no reliable cell reception anywhere on the property; however the communications tent will have a phone for emergencies. People have had luck getting reception in odd places, so you could try your luck if so desired.
- Limited potable water will be provided, but please bring as much with you as is feasible. (Recommendation: 1-1.5 gallons per person per day.)
- In order to help prevent the spread of the pine beetle blight, please do not bring your own firewood – ample firewood is available on the site.

Special Safety Issues:

- Bears (and others of Mother's children) are fond of human food, but it isn't good for them and can be dangerous for all concerned. Clean camps do not attract bears. Coolers and all tidbits, including toiletries and clothing, which have bits or stains of food need to be stored in secure vehicles at sunset. Safety team volunteers sweep the campground at dusk searching for errant coolers and foodstuffs. If they find yours, they will confiscate it. You may claim it at the community center after you complete an additional work shift (and listen to a stern lecture).
- Be watchful of children, particularly around the ponds and on the rocks.
- Drive slowly through the site. Where there is little traffic, pedestrians have little caution. Bicycles must be used with discretion. **Parents:** please monitor your children on bicycles and discuss safety with them.
- Respect clothing required boundaries.
- **No Driving through festival after 6pm – Except those with mobility issues (handicap placard or a sticker from Dfest Med tent is required).**
- Do not cut live trees or pick wildflowers.
- Do not go to the bathroom in the woods. The landowner has a few dogs that have free range of the land & should never have to clean human poop out of their fur.
- Please bring cardboard or plastic sheeting to place under your vehicle(s) to catch fluids.
- If the landowner should speak to you, please listen and comply. Failure to do so could result in expulsion.

Noise Curfew is 2:00 am every night. Please use drumming/bard circles late in the evening for the sake of those who wish to sleep. **Please be polite to your neighbors and keep voices at a reasonable level late at night.**

Health & Medical: Altitude changes can affect prescription medication dosages. You may want to check with your doctor or pharmacist before coming. If you have a medical condition that could create an emergency for you, be sure your companions know about it and know what to do about it. Remember, this is high altitude and rugged terrain! Also, be prepared for any type of weather. Highs in the 90s, lows in the 30s, rain, sleet, hail, high winds, and intense sun can happen (all in the same day)! Hydrate yourself! Drink plenty of water. Beer and sodas dehydrate you, so be careful. Know where your children are; please feed and water them regularly. Remember to bring enough prescription medications, medical supplies, testing strips and any other medical equipment that you may need as these are not readily available in the area.

Emergency Contact and Cell Phones: Dragonfest is held in a valley in the national forest, so your cell phone probably won't get service. Let your friends know you'll be out of contact for a while. There will be a cell tower set up at the Communications tent which provides limited cell service. There will be someone checking our voicemail several times a day, so people can leave a message and it will be heard within a 4 hour time period during the day. We will not check messages between 10pm and 8am. If you need to be contacted in an emergency, calling instructions will be posted at <http://dragonfest.org/> In the days before the retreat, most Dragonfest board and staff members will be on site and unreachable by email or voice mail. The last opportunity to receive an official response from dragonfest@dragonfest.org will be noon on Friday, Aug 2nd, 2013. If you have any last-minute issues with tickets or registration and have not heard a response, please come to the retreat and work with the gate staff.

Radios at Dragonfest: Dragonfest safety and medical staff are on call around the clock. If you need help, find a staff member with a radio or come to the safety/medical tents. If you have a personal FRS radio, you can get help by calling for "Dispatch" on channel 6. If you and your family are using FRS radios, please don't use channels 4 through 6, which are reserved for use by Dragonfest staff.

Pet Policy: We know you love your pets, and we do too, just not at the Retreat! Please leave them at home as they will not be allowed into the Retreat.

Parking: There will only be one vehicle per campsite allowed, all other cars are being parked in a meadow up behind the landowner Deb's house. The exception to this are people with mobility issues, in which case their handicap placard must be displayed or they must get a waiver sticker from the Med tent (as we know not all medical or mobility issues need an official placard) that will need to be displayed on the driver side dash.

RV Campers: Special note for anyone planning on bringing an RV to Dragonfest this year! We have made improvements this year for RV campers to ease entry, parking and exit from the retreat. However, the ground is still relatively soft compared to a developed campsite. We strongly recommend that every RV include skids for their levelers. If you have a large RV, something more substantial than plywood would be a good idea. Generator hours are between 10:00 am to Noon and 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm. Please honor these hours and be courteous of your camp neighbors.

Toilet Protocol: You are not bears - Do not S**T in the woods!!! Anyone who is camped a distance from the toilets needs to bring a port-a-potty. Finding waste and toilet paper scattered about could jeopardize our future use of this site. Please do not put any camping trash into the port-a-potties. It makes the job harder for the wonderful people that provide our toilets and we want to keep them happy.

Gate: When coming into the Retreat have your photo IDs and tickets ready to be checked (This will make the process faster for all involved and others waiting to enter.). The gate staff will be confirming ticket and ID matches as well as attaching Retreat wristbands. Additionally, you will also get all of your publications, important updates and your work shift sticker. Gate hours are **10 AM to 10 PM** on Wednesday, **8 AM to 10 PM** Thursday thru Saturday, and **8 AM to 4 PM** on Sunday. The gate will be physically locked at all other times. You need to log in and log out at the gate when leaving and returning to the site. For your safety, please let others know if and when you leave the site, whether by vehicle or on foot. The gate entrance to the site is closer to the camping area. The Staff will assist in organizing parking to manage an even flow of traffic into the Retreat area. Please follow their directions. Admittance to the site will not begin before 10 AM on Wednesday. Due to parking restrictions on the forest roads, we ask that you do not arrive before 8am.

Kiosk/Info Booth/DJC (Dragonfest Job Center): After you are checked in at the front gate, your next stop should be the Retreat Job Center at the Kiosk to sign up for your work shift. A work shift is a two-hour donation of time that we require of all Retreat attendees 16 and up. Our non-profit Retreat would not happen without the support and work of our community. We have many jobs that need filling, for all ranges and abilities, from low to high physical effort. Due to our lower numbers this year, we are encouraging members to sign up for additional work shifts. When Dragonfest was a young festival, members were required to participate in two work shifts of two hours each in order to help keep the festival running smoothly. As the festival grew in size, the work shifts were cut to a single shift per member as there were more people shoulder the burden. Now that our festival is experiencing a rebirth and our numbers are once again more intimate, we are asking that the members recognize their sense of COMMUNITY and donate more of their time to this event that we all love.

The DJC hours of operation are: Tuesday: TBA (for merchants and family members of staff) Wednesday: 10 AM to 6 PM, Thursday and Friday: 8:30 AM to 11 AM and 3 PM to 6 PM and Saturday: 8 AM to 10 AM. Please note: popular work shifts/times fill up fast. The earlier you sign up the better chance you have of getting your choice! Thank you from the DJC staff.

Community Center: The Community Center is a gathering place, a sort of hearth circle for the Retreat. If you are new to the Retreat, this is a great place to meet people. Volunteers are needed in the mornings to prepare coffee and breakfast snacks, clean up and monitor throughout the day refilling the water and lemonade dispensers throughout the day. Breakfast is the largest non-ritual gathering of folks at the Retreat. If you want to meet fellow "festers" and have a great time, sign up for a work shift in the Community Center. The Community Center will close at 10 PM each evening. If you wish to gather for an evening potluck, feel free to use the pavilion, but no kitchen access or service will be available in the evenings.

Nearest Grocery/Convenience Store/Ice: Groceries can be purchased in Conifer, Evergreen, or the nearby town of Bailey. A convenience store is located in Bailey where you can purchase ice and other basic supplies.

Kitchen: Currently our registered attendees are far fewer than what we hoped for. Please bring your breakfast and join us for a cup of coffee, tea, or hot chocolate and the morning announcements.

Heraldry Services: Hear Ye! Hear Ye! Heralds will be announcing scheduled events. If you have a special short announcement (e.g. a Handfasting, invitations, etc.) and you would like the entire camp to know about it, you must get the information to the Heralds before the work shift during which you want it announced. Your short announcement must be recorded and signed by you in the Herald's Sacred Book of Announcements located at the Communication Center. Include the date, time, place and purpose. Write your short announcement exactly as you wish it spoken or risk the Herald's humor and invention. The Herald's will shorten any lengthy announcements due to the limited length that their voices can last on a given day.

Shuttle: We will be providing shuttle transportation for Retreat goers again this year. The shuttle service extends from the Community Center throughout the site. To sign up as a shuttle driver, you must be at least 18 years old and show your current driver's license at the beginning of the work shift. Please be kind to the vehicles and remember the speed limit is 5 miles per hour and PLEASE, no smoking on the shuttles.

Land Fund Booth: Open daily at 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM Wednesday through Friday and from 10am until 4pm on Saturday so that our volunteers can attend our main ritual as well. Land Fund booth is closed on Sunday for inventory and pack up the booth. Please come and pick up your pre-ordered t-shirts or purchase your lovely land fund items by 4:00 PM on Saturday. The Land Fund booth also sells a limited number of t-shirts from this year and previous years, canvas tote bags, and embroidered hats with Retreat art on them. So be sure to bring some extra spending money and stop by the Land Fund Booth when you get to the Retreat.

Recycling: This year we are pleased to announce we will have commercial recycling containers onsite! Please help us by putting your recyclable materials in the containers marked for recycling. If you are unsure about what materials can or cannot be recycled refer to the signs posted on every recycling container and at the Kiosk. Corrugated cardboard boxes should be flattened so they take up less room. As always, please be mindful and considerate of your hauling staff and volunteers by not putting trash in the recycling containers. We are trying to minimize our impact on the Earth and need your help and cooperation.

Merchants: Merchant arrival is Tuesday August 6th 10 AM to 8 PM. No late entries will be allowed after the gate is closed. Merchants will be limited to two helpers. Helpers must be on the Merchant early arrival list. Registered children under 18 of a merchant must also be on the early arrival list. All merchants and helpers MUST sign up for a work shift. EACH MERCHANT MUST HAVE A SMALL FIRE EXTINGUISHER FOR THEIR BOOTH! Please remember to bring extra stakes and rope to secure your booth, as sometimes the weather can be a challenge. Please also remember to bring a copy of your Colorado tax license and any other required permits or licenses.

Fire Circles: There will be three evening circles at the Retreat this year. All the fire circles will be once again using our propane fire rings, as these are safer, more efficient and of course better for the environment. In either case remember, it's the gathering, the connecting and the energy that counts!

1. **Freedom Circle:** Clothing optional circle and no one under 18 years of age will be allowed. The circle closes at 2 am every night.
2. **Trance Circle:** For more "spiritual" drumming and dancing. It is a clothing optional circle and people under 18 years of age are welcome as long as a parent accompanies them. The circle closes at 2 am every night. This is in a new location this year. Check with the Kiosk to find the location on the circle.
3. **Heart of the Dragon Circle:** Clothing required for a more family atmosphere. Located in the main ritual area, every night chanting, drumming and stories have been planned so bring the whole family by.
4. **Phoenix Circle:** is a drug and alcohol free space for those looking for recovery support. Families and friends of those with drug and alcohol problems are also encouraged to join us. We have daily recovery meetings and plenty of fellowship. We also have a nightly fire circle until 10 PM. If you would like to help with gatherings at Phoenix Circle, contact ops@dragonfest.org.

Centering Plaza: Feeling overwhelmed? Energy overworked? Need someone to talk to? Come to the Centering Plaza where you'll find warm caring folks who are happy to listen or to help you ground energy should you need it. We are always happy to just sit with you or to help you get reconnected. The Centering Plaza is located with the Medical tent. This helps us share similar resources without renting more equipment, gives the member a private place to lay down, meditate, or ground and has the added bonus of having medical staff nearby if the member requires such attention.

Dragonfest Events

Pre-Registration Required Workshops, Rituals, & Other Happenings

Every morning during breakfast there will be announcements of onsite events that are not on this schedule as well. Please feel free to provide the ops team with information about your event!

Thursday: Teen Meet and Greet **6pm Community Center** – Potluck style; bring a dish and come and meet someone your age and explore our new hang out!

Visit the **Lavender Pavilion from 10am-5pm, Wed-Sat** located next to the Land Fund Booth. Discuss and learn about *LGBT*A topics with your *LGBT*A friends and family! Afternoon Tea each day from 3-4pm, where we discuss a hot/popular topic of the day-Tea and munchies provided (you may want to bring your own chair).

Shaman Hoop Drum making workshop w/ Phil Catalano. Phil has been taught by 2 different teachers, has made more than 20 Drums, and has been teaching classes for 7 years. This workshop will concentrate on a particular design made popular with the availability of pre-made hoops and the availability of skins and hides. The techniques are taken from the traditional methods and updated for the use of more contemporary hoops and preparation methods. Prices range from \$95.00 for 10” Deer hide to \$200.00 for 24” Elk hide hoop drums. Contact Phil at wizard1phil@gmail.com or (303) 838-3018 for more information on hoop or octagonal frames sizes and Deer and Elk hides. Individual classes can be arranged almost anytime throughout the Festival on a case-by-case basis – depending on availability of materials. Pre-made Drums will be available in Merchant Row. All ages.

Youthfest/Tweenfest: Welcomes children of all ages to come play with us! Due to our limited resources this year, our hours are changing this year. We will be open from 12:30 pm to 6:00 pm on Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Please remember that an adult family member needs to complete an extra 2-hour work shift at Youthfest so your children can play.

Teenfest: The Teenfest Meet and Greet will be Wednesday evening at 5:00 PM. All family members of the teens are welcome and please bring a side dish to share. We will be serving hot dogs and burgers. There will be a squirt gun event between the teens and the tweens only on Friday at 11 AM, weather permitting.

Rituals

Wednesday:

Opening Ritual: Wednesday 6pm Main Ritual Area

Come and join the Operations Team and the Board of Directors in creating sacred space and opening our Festival. Come celebrate the Community Spirit of our Festival as we begin another year at our new site. Come learn about new space open and available to us!!

Thursday:

Flower Frenzy: Thursday 11am Hecates Grove – Pre-registration required

This is modeled after a Mayan bathing ritual. This is a woman's mystery and you need to have had your first moon time to participate. Those participating will need to bring a bucket, a cup, and flowers or herbs of plants they want to wash into their lives. We recommend in threes, so three stalks of each thing, either 3, 6, or 9 different ones. Harvest consciously thanking the plant if you can harvest yourself, but choose with thought. Healing might be rosemary, love roses, etc. It is the meaning you assign that works the best. They can be fresh or dried. This will be the first day of the waxing crescent moon this year, so you want to choose plants that bring INTO your life things that you want. Also, if any can bring flowers to help define the circle, that would be appreciated as. Please check in with either

Janie Felix or Tanna Sage to make sure you are on our list. This is or can be a skyclad ritual, however not required, if you wish to wear a swimsuit under your clothes, please do so and bring a towel and a chair if you wish. Sign up with Janie @ pentacat22@gmail.com or Tanna @ tannasage@gmail.com

Girls Coming of Age Moon Rite: Thursday 5pm Pre-registration required

This is a powerful life passage for any young maiden who has reached their first moon time. The Maidens are asked to pre-register whenever possible so that we may know how many to prepare for. They and their “sponsor”, (parent or otherwise) are encouraged to let the priestess, Janie Felix know prior to D-fest (pentacat22@gmail.com) that they will be attending. The Maidens are encouraged, along with their female sponsor or parent, to take part in the Flower Frenzy the afternoon prior to their ritual that evening. The Maidens are asked to bring to Fest, a white outfit for ritual, a journal for noting the experience, their sleeping bag and flashlight, as they will be camping in the Moon Tent for the night of their passage. Please have the Maidens check in with Janie when they arrive on site, because they will be making their cord prior to their rite evening and will also be given directions as to where to come the evening of the ritual.

Friday

Croning Ritual: 2 pm Friday Trance Circle

The Croners of Dragonfest invite any woman who considers herself to be a Crone to participate in this ritual, whether or not you have had a Croning ritual at another time or place. We would like to honor you at this important time of your life. If at all possible, please attend the Workshop for Croners if you plan to take part in this ritual. If you are unable to come to the workshop, please talk with one of us at Croners’ Attic, our booth on Merchants’ Row.

Boys Coming of Age: 6pm Friday Meet at the Community Center – Pre-registration required

The Boys Rite will be Friday night and the boys participating will be first in line for Drawing Down that night. Each boy will need a male sponsor to escort him to the circle. They will also need to have black robes. The sponsor will also need black robes if they would like to join the boys in circle. If there are any questions and to pre-register please e-mail me at tannasage@gmail.com. Boys and sponsors will need sleeping bags and flashlights and if weather turns sour a tent to sleep in for the night. If you desire to journal about it please bring necessary equipment.

Multiple Drawing Down: 5:30 Friday Hecates Grove

Since the beginning of time, Priests and Priestesses have offered themselves up to the Divine to become a vessel in order to bestow messages unto those brave enough to seek the truth. In this long standing Dragonfest tradition you will be enveloped by the Mystery of this experience. Most will walk away deeply shifted and profoundly changed. Please bring your Mirth, Reverence and Respect to this ritual, but most of all, an open mind, body and spirit.

Saturday

Corporate Meeting – 10 am Community Center

Main Ritual and Cauldron Soup – 5pm Community Center

As we return to our roots this year, a Cauldron Soup will be the foundation for our Harvest Rite. Everyone please bring a dish to our ‘harvest ritual’ to share and something to throw in the Cauldron! Please make sure the items are cleaned and chopped if needed. Let us see what magickal concoction we can create to feed our bodies and our souls. Lughnasadh – Also known as Lammass is the time to begin reaping what we have sown throughout the past year, and recognize that the bright summer days will soon come to an end. The Wheel Turns – we recognize and celebrate our growth, celebrate the first fruits of the harvest. The God of the Harvest is the Green Man, so while this is a celebration of the first fruits, it is also the beginning of the Sun’s decent. Sacrifice, transformation, death and rebirth are also part of Lughnasadh. This will be a traditional Harvest Feast Rite, as noted above; we ask that participants bring food to share in our Harvest Ritual.

Children’s Parade

Each year the true heart of the Dragon is awoken by the sounds of giggling children bedecked in their finest Youthfest-made costumes as they parade down and around our Merchant row. Again this year the children request your participation and enthusiasm as they escort you down merchants’ row.

Sunday

Closing Ritual: 11am Sunday – Main Ritual Area

The closing ritual is where we say thanks and goodbye to our friends and family. As always it is presented by our Teens. Please join them in closing our wonderful retreat.

Giving Tree: Follows Closing Ritual

The Giving Tree is a ritual that signifies the love and sharing that is Dragonfest community. Bring a gift to hang on the Giving Tree, something that calls for a new home to bring love and peace, growth and magick. Please join us for this wonderful event following the Closing Ritual.

**Merry meet, merry part and merry meet again!
Dragonfest Staff and Board**

What to bring:

- Tickets and info packet!
- Camping gear (all of it)
- Fire Extinguisher
- Cold and warm weather clothing
- Sleeping bag and extra blankets
- Raincoat/poncho, boots
- Shoes for hiking, dancing, wading
- Water bottle for hikes
- Sunscreen/hats
- Prescription medicines
- O-T-C medicines and vitamins
- Insect repellent
- Biodegradable soap/toothbrush, etc.
- Towels/washcloths
- Condoms/dental dams
- First aid items
- Extra rope and tent stakes
- Extra toilet paper
- Food and beverages
- Food for the Harvest Ritual
- 5 gallons water per person
- Ice chest and ice
- Cooking equipment (stove, pans, etc.)
- Plates, bowls, flatware, cups, etc.
- Trash bags
- Recyclables containers
- Flashlights/lanterns
- Non-amplified musical instruments
- Lightweight or folding chairs
- Sacred dress/jewelry/ritual tools
- Magickal gift for the giving tree
- Items for workshops and rituals
- Duct tape
- Mirth and Reverence
- A good attitude!

Add your own items in the space below, maybe a bicycle, or other items for comfort or fun.

WHAT NOT TO BRING!!

- Anyone not registered!
- Amplified music sources
(Personal tape/CD players with headphones are OK)
- Firearms & Fireworks
- Illegal stuff
- Pets

**Have fun!
Make new friends!
Learn something new!**

Dragonfest Standards:

- All things in moderation
- We need to be considerate.
- Let's honor all commitments.
- We need to respect the property, space and persons.
- Parents are responsible for their children. Adults are responsible for themselves.
- We need to honor diversity.
- Let's help each other.
- We need to respect Sacred Space and those within.
- We must walk lightly on Mother Earth.

Directions from Denver

- From C-470 and US-285 in Lakewood/Morrison, take US-285 South 27.7 miles south to Bailey.
- At the bottom of Crow Hill, turn left (southeast) on Park County Road 68/Wellington Lake Road. Zero your odometer as Dragonfest is 8 miles from this turn.
- After 6.8 miles, turn left (east) on Forest Road 550/Redskin Creek Rd. Drive slowly on this road, there are several big bumps.
- After 7.9 miles from US-285, this road forms a T-intersection. Turn right (south).
- 0.1 miles later, Dragonfest is the first driveway to the right. You made it!
- If you reach a sign for Camp Fickes Rifle Range, turn around—you went one driveway too far.

Directions from Colorado Springs

- From I-25 and US-24, take US-24 West 18 miles to Woodland Park.
- Turn right (north) at Colorado 67.
- At Deckers (after 23.1 miles), turn left on County Road 126.
- After 11.1 miles, turn left at Redskin Creek Road/Forest Service Road 550.
- After 7.4 miles, look for the Dragonfest sign on the left side of the road, shortly after the Camp Fickes Rifle Range sign. You made it!
- If you reach the "Leaving Buffalo Creek Recreation Area" sign, turn around—you just missed the driveway.