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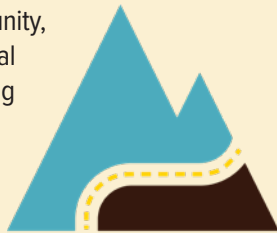
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SPRING 2024

LAUREL RIDGE COMMUNITY NEWS

ROAD FUND NEWS

Funded by annual contributions from Laurel Ridge property owners, the Road Fund is a volunteer organization that oversees maintenance of the private roads winding through our mountain community, and plays a pivotal role in maintaining access to our mountain for residents and visitors alike.



LAUREL RIDGE ROAD FUND

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Beginning Balance 1/1/2024 **\$4,488.39**

Expenditures

Administrative Costs	\$447.65
Road Maintenance & Materials	10,941.36

Income

Contributions from 39 of 78 cabins	\$21,325.00
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Ending Balance 5/14/2024 **\$14,424.38**

MAKE YOUR CONTRIBUTION TODAY!

Please help keep our mountain roads drivable! The suggested contribution amount for 2024 is \$500 per cabin. When making your contribution, please indicate your cabin address in the memo section. Thank you for your support!

Pay electronically with **Zelle**

Payee: Laurel Ridge Community Road Fund, Inc.
Phone number: (912) 337- 9937

Mail a Check



Make your check payable to Laurel Ridge Community Road Fund, Inc., and mail it to:

Laurel Ridge Community Road Fund
173 Laurel Mountain Road
Blue Ridge, Georgia 30513

New Road Fund web site coming soon!

laurelridgeroads.com

YOUR ROAD FUND CONTRIBUTIONS AT WORK...

As we all know, road conditions in parts of our community are less than ideal. Fear not, your **Laurel Ridge Road Fund** committee members are hard at work developing short- and longer-term plans to improve and maintain the roads in our community.

HAPPENING NOW...

As a first step, the Road Committee requested bids from several licensed and insured contractors for ongoing road maintenance. **Marek Bass Construction**, a well-respected, local grading and paving contractor, was ultimately selected for the work because of their stellar customer references. Marek Bass recently completed their first round of periodic road maintenance on the mountain, clearing drainage and applying seven truckloads (120 tons) of gravel to problem areas.

Marek Bass
Construction LLC



PROJECT TIME: 3 days • GRAVEL: \$3,250 • EQUIPMENT/LABOR: \$3,500-\$4,500

You can already see a major difference throughout Laurel Ridge — even the hill above the Polks' house! Marek Bass will inspect our roads around Memorial Day to see how they are holding up — and then provide longer-term maintenance recommendations.

LOOKING FORWARD...

The ultimate goal — rebuilding of the road beds throughout the community with a solid base and adequate crown to facilitate effective drainage, and clearing/creating ditches to handle the resulting runoff — is monumental but not insurmountable. This will be an ongoing, multi-year process, addressing the areas most in need as our level of neighbor/owner participation permits. It's important to note that these repairs and improvements are funded solely by contributions from Laurel Ridge owners.

THE BOTTOM LINE — LAUREL RIDGE ROADS DEPEND ON YOU!

Each property owner's participation in the Road Fund is vital to keeping our roads drivable. If there's a specific reason you aren't contributing, please get in touch with a Road Fund committee member to discuss your concerns.



ADOPT A DITCH! Did you know that keeping our ditches clear and free of debris is one of the most critical steps in maintaining our roads? If we all routinely check and clear the ditches adjoining our properties, we will see a significant reduction in the erosion of our roads caused by rainstorms.

[read more](#) →



NEW NEIGHBORS! Several properties on Laurel Ridge Mountain are for sale or have recently sold. If you have a new neighbor, please let them know about the importance of the Road Fund, and ask them to share their contact information so we can welcome them to our community and keep them up-to-date! New neighbors can email info@laurelridgemountain.com, or submit their contact information via the New Neighbor form on laurelridgemountain.com once the website is live (hopefully by June 2024).

SPOTLIGHT ON LAUREL RIDGE COMMUNITY ROAD FUND

Take a moment to read our mission statement in the sidebar on page one — that really sums it up. The **Laurel Ridge Community Road Fund** is at a critical juncture — participation is down, and the roads continue to deteriorate. However — we have a smart, dedicated group of people who are committed to doing everything they can to ensure that the roads in our community are properly maintained. Now all we need is neighbor participation in the fund. It is our responsibility as Laurel Ridge property owners to make that happen. Annual contributions to the Road Fund benefit both individual property owners and the community as a whole. Here are some key advantages:

Improved Roads: The primary objective of the Road Fund is to maintain and improve the roads within the community. Your contributions to the fund help to ensure that the roads are regularly maintained, repaired, and improved — resulting in better access to your property, reduced wear and tear on your vehicles, and enhanced safety for all residents and visitors.

Increased Property Values: Gravel roads are scary for potential home buyers and short-term rental guests. Well-maintained gravel roads contribute to the overall appeal of our community and can help mitigate those fears — encouraging rental guests and friends of cabin owners to visit our mountain, and ultimately increasing our property values as well.

Accessibility / Safety: Maintaining quality roads — repairing potholes, managing road crown, addressing water runoff, and clearing ditches — helps to ensure unhindered access for essential services such as emergency response, mail delivery, and propane suppliers. All of this helps to create a safer environment for everyone.

Cost Savings in the Long Run: Investing in regular road maintenance and upgrades can help prevent costly repairs in the future. By contributing to the Road Fund now, you can help avoid more significant expenses down the line that may arise from neglecting infrastructure maintenance.

The Bottom Line: Your contribution to the Road Fund is an investment in the long-term sustainability and vitality of our community.

OUR VOLUNTEERS AT WORK!

Vance McMillan, Ed Krupp, Mike Coovert, and Frank Alfano purchased 30 bags of cold patch and spent a long day repairing several major issues near the top of Laurel Ridge Drive.

Doug Rink single-handedly laid down three pickup truck loads (3,000 lbs.) of cold patch material on the “paved” hill above the Polks’ house, and recently applied another 1,000 lbs. of cold patch to other paved areas around the community.

If you see any of these dedicated unofficial road crew volunteers, please stop and thank them for their dedication to our community.



LAUREL RIDGE COMMUNITY HISTORY WORKSHOP

Ever wondered about the history of the meadow that the Benton MacKaye trail traverses, or the origins of the cabins in Laurel Ridge? We’re considering hosting an inaugural community history seminar, provided there’s enough interest. The seminar will be conducted by DJ Carder from Sisson, Dupont & Carder, and is planned for either August or September. This exclusive event for Laurel Ridge residents will take place at the Sisson, Dupont & Carder community center, situated behind their new premises on 515, just north of Laurel Ridge.

DJ will share fascinating historical insights about our community and Sisson log cabins. Additionally, he will delve into the correct methods of cabin maintenance and overall property care — from verifying that your contractors are staining your cabin appropriately, to understanding our water system and the right way to winterize your cabin. There will also be a chance for you to ask questions and mingle with your fellow Laurel Ridge Mountain residents. Refreshments will be available.

If you’re interested in attending this workshop, please express your interest on the Laurel Ridge Facebook page or via email.

