

Friends of the Eagles Nest Wilderness

The Friends of the Eagles Nest Wilderness is a non-profit corporation formed in May 1994 to raise in-cash, in-kind, and in-service resources to help the Dillon Ranger District of the White River National Forest maintain the Summit County portions of the Eagles Nest and Ptarmigan Peak Wilderness areas. The Eagles Nest Wilderness consists of 82,484 acres of Summit County, while the Ptarmigan Wilderness has 13,175 acres. Only a few wilderness rangers patrol this vast area during the summer – a season that sees hundreds of thousands of visitors. No rangers patrol these Wilderness areas in the winter. With an extremely limited Forest Service budget, help is needed to prevent significant use-based environmental degradation, and the FENW is dedicated to helping.

Your membership helps us raise funds for all types of projects. We are an all-volunteer group with no paid staff – so almost every penny of our budget goes into the field. As an FENW member, you will receive a newsletter to keep you abreast of our events and successes. Volunteers for trail work and office projects are greatly appreciated, whether a member or not!

PHOTO

Projects to Help Protect Our Wilderness

Trail Crews – Since its inception, the FENW has completed dozens of cleanup and trail projects in the Eagles Nest and Ptarmigan Peak Wilderness areas. This work has included building new bridges, campsite reconstruction, revegetation, removal of illegal camps, fixing and rerouting many miles of badly eroded trails, and carrying out literally truckloads of trash.

Signage Projects – The FENW purchases and installs Trail Junction Signs, Bulletin Boards, Registration Boxes, Interpretative Posters, and Wilderness Portal Signs. These serve as vital reminders to forest visitors that they are entering a Wilderness area, a very special place.

Forest Service Support – The FENW has donated considerable cash resources to the Forest Service. These funds have been used to help pay stipends and salaries for seasonal volunteers and Wilderness Rangers during budgetary shortfalls. This has provided additional coverage in the more heavily used parts of the Wilderness and during hunting season.

Wilderness Education – In addition to providing additional personnel to educate visitors about Wilderness FENW has also installed an interpretive display at the Dillon Ranger District Office and aided the USFS with providing Wilderness Box curriculums for the Summit School District. Future Wilderness education projects will be implemented based on available funds.

Advocacy – FENW has participated in the White River National Forest Revision process, conducted workshops for the State Trails Symposium, contributed lobbying efforts directed to the U.S. Congress in support of the Slate Creek Land Exchange, and participated in outreach

programs to assist similar Colorado Wilderness advocates establish land stewardship entities.

Thanks to Our Members & Supporters

The FENW has received grants from The Summit Foundation, Great Outdoors Colorado/State Trails, Summit County Government, The Towns of Silverthorne and Frisco, the Colorado Mountain Club Foundation, and the Pembroke Foundation. Generous in-kind support has also been received from many businesses and large resorts in Summit County. This funding has enabled ENW to accomplish many projects and help reduce the trail and resource maintenance backlog in Wilderness areas administered by the Dillon Ranger District.

There is still a great deal of work to do. Hundreds of miles of trails are in need of repair. Numerous bridges and trailhead bulletin boards need renovation or replacement. More trails need to be adopted. Volunteer opportunities are numerous, especially to help with social monitoring on trails and at trailheads. In the near future, we will also be taking part in air and water quality & wildlife studies within the Wilderness areas.

By joining the Friends of the Eagles Nest Wilderness, you have a chance to make a genuine difference. If you truly love the Wilderness in general and the Eagles Nest and Ptarmigan Peak Wilderness areas in particular, help us help the Forest Service manage these National Treasures. Even if you don't have the time to volunteer for specific projects, please take the time to join. **The Wilderness needs you!**

For more information on the FENW, contact Currie Craven at 970-453-9056. Our mailing address is P.O. Box 4504, Frisco, Colorado 80443.

For more information on the Eagles Nest and Ptarmigan Peak Wilderness areas, contact the Dillon Ranger District of the White River National Forest at 970-468-5400.

Pembroke Foundation appreciation??
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Friends of the Eagles Nest Wilderness Membership Form

Yes! I want to Join Friends and help preserve Summit County Wilderness. Sign me up at the:

Trailhead Level (\$10 per year)

Buffalo Mountain Level (\$20 per year)

Cataract Lake Level (\$30 per year)

Red Buffalo Pass Level (\$50 per year)

Eagles Nest Level (\$100 per year)

Mount Powell Level (\$500 per year)

Name: _____
Mailing Address: _____
Telephone: _____
Email Address _____

Are you willing to work on volunteer projects? _____
I can best work _____ weekdays _____ weekends

Please mail your membership form to: Friends of the Eagles Nest Wilderness, P.O. Box 4504, Frisco, Colo. 80443.