



2948 Memorial Highway
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Town of Lake Lure Declares State of Emergency as Forest Fire Spreads

Nov. 7, 2016. Lake Lure, NC: The Party Rock Fire that began Nov. 5th at Rumbling Bald Mountain in Lake Lure has crossed over some of the established fire lines. As a result, it has now spread beyond the initial 60 acres and is moving north toward some areas of Rumbling Bald Resort.

Residents in the areas of Quail Ridge including Huntington Road may be asked to evacuate in the next 24-48 hours. A map of the area is attached. All residents in those areas have already been alerted. If evacuations take place, residents will be notified door-to-door and will need to leave immediately. Please begin preparations now by getting together personal possessions, including medications, important documents and pets. Temporary housing for evacuees will be arranged through Rumbling Bald Resort by calling 828.694.3046.

Due to changing weather conditions, very challenging topography, and despite best efforts by local and regional firefighters to contain the blaze, sections of the wildfire continue to spread.

As a result of these rapidly changing developments, Lake Lure Mayor Bob Keith has declared a State of Emergency for the Town of Lake Lure, effectively immediately. The declaration of a State of Emergency allows for evacuations, restriction of access to the area of the emergency and it initiates the Town's emergency action plan.

The fire is being managed by the NC Forest Service with round-the-clock support from multiple cooperating agencies including: NC Forest Service Aviation Resources, NC State Parks, Lake Lure Fire Department, Rutherford County Emergency Management, Lake Lure Police Department, Chimney Rock Fire Department, Bill's Creek Fire Department and Fairfield Mountains Fire Department. Helicopters from the Forestry Service have been dropping water on the fire each day from nearby Lake Lure since the fire broke out.

The fire is specifically located in Lake Lure, NC on public and private property. The Rumbling Bald Climbing Access and all backcountry accesses to Rumbling Bald Mountain remain closed until further notice. A burning ban is in effect for all of Western North Carolina until further notice. Individuals are asked to avoid this area if at all possible.

Please follow the Town's Website, Town's Facebook Page and the Fire Department's Facebook Page for further updates.

For more information, contact the Lake Lure Fire Department, 828.625.9333.
townmgr@townoflakelure.com

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