CSFS volunteers ended 2011 with some festive events. One assisting CSFS in Golden with the annual tree cutting event in Denver Mountain Parks. Some of the trees were brought back for delivery to needy families in Ft. Collins for the organization Gift of a Green Christmas. Storm damage clean up was also done in December at the Environmental Learning Center.

CSFS Volunteers kicked off the spring with some great training opportunities in addition to some fun community service projects. Thirty volunteers attended the spring CSFS Volunteer Orientation. They enjoyed a very informative evening with special presentations from Lisa and Courtney on outreach opportunities in environmental education, as well as a presentation on professionalism from Ann Randall (one of Ann’s last official CSFS acts, which seemed appropriate since she started the CSFS Volunteer program).

Guadalupe Storm Clean-up
On March 4, volunteers enjoyed the sunshine in Greeley, CO. We assisted the Guadalupe Community Center to clean-up storm damaged trees. Volunteers pruned back damaged branches, removed several overhead hazards and chipped the material. The center offered a tour of their facility, which is primarily a homeless shelter. Aside from some time spent pulling the chipper out of mud – it was a wonderful and safe day! We plan to return to the center to complete chipping and will also be making plans to help them get some trees planted at a
future date.

On March 6 & 8, CSFS partnered with the USFS to offer a Project Learning Tree (PLT) Workshop in Ft. Collins. CSU & Front Range Community College students, CSFS volunteers, educators and natural resources professionals participated. The workshop was a huge success and all benefited from the range of backgrounds and perspectives that both instructors and students brought to the training. Students peer taught PLT activities, including a new activity tied to the Lorax book and movie.

On March 14 a beautiful day was spent at the Ben Delatour Scout Ranch (BDSR) near Red Feather Lakes cutting trees and chipping the slash to help with mitigating problems from beetle infestation, and also to prepare for the Boy Scout Forestry Field Day.

On March 15 volunteers helped with cutting and sanding tree cookies that will be sent to schools across the country. Students will be decorating the cookies and they will accompany the Capitol Christmas Tree this year. We also need cookies to stock craft supplies for educational outreach at various summer events.

BS Forestry Field Day

On April 28, over 30 volunteers teamed up to educate over 170 Boy Scouts about forestry. Volunteers taught several stations including: wood utilization, plant identification, tree planting, tree cookies and forest management. Both Boy Scouts and Webelos got a chance to explore the ponderosa pine forest. CSU F430 students demonstrated forest management techniques for the Scouts.

Boy Scouts (ages 11-17) got to see a sawmill in operation; investigated mountain pine beetle (MPB) damage; identified trees and shrubs; studied various tree stumps; visited an active forest management area; and planted seedlings in areas where many MPB-hit trees were previously harvested. Webelos (ages 9-10) participated in Project Learning Tree activities;
identified plants and trees; used wildland fire tools; and investigated various wood properties and uses. Special thanks to the participants from CSFS, CoWood and Longs Peak Chapter of the SAF, who supported our annual Boy Scout Forestry Field Day!

**Workday on the Woodland Park District**

CSFS Volunteers kicked off May with a trip to Woodland Park where they joined forces with Matt Matwijec and local a trails association to haul and chip slash along a trail in the Black Forest. We plan to do a similar work day in August. Thanks to Matt and our student interns Nancy Dadisman and Jef Hanson for coordinating this effort!

**Crystal Fire: Let’s Get Growing!**

On May 12, volunteers planted more than 200 seedling trees on private land burned during the April 2011 Crystal Fire. Colorado Tree Farmers partnered with the Colorado State Forest Service to organize the *Crystal Fire: Let’s Get Growing!* event. Community members Deb and Dennis Pedersen, Linda Masterson and Cory Phillips donated the trees.

Over 100 people attended the event held west of Fort Collins. The City of Fort Collins, the Colorado State Forest Service, Division of Parks and Wildlife, Larimer County Emergency Services, Project Learning Tree, Rist Canyon Volunteer Fire Department, Society of American Foresters and the U.S. Forest Service provided forestry information to community members. At various stations, participants learned about forest management, proper tree planting methods, wildland fire and wildlife habitats. Those who visited all stations received a certificate and a CSFS Nursery seedling tree to take home and plant. Children also helped decorate "tree cookie" ornaments that will accompany the National Capitol Christmas Tree to be transported from Colorado to Washington D.C. later this year.
Other Volunteer Happenings
Volunteers have also been active with other tasks. Several volunteers have been coming regularly to assist the nursery with grading and weeding.

A few volunteers assisted with 2 different educational programs at the annual Children’s Water Festival hosted by the City of Fort Collins Utilities Department on May 15. CSFS led Project Learning Tree activities. Volunteers assisted with teaching third graders from the area using this environmental education program.

On May 24, CSFS Volunteers helped to cut and move downed trees on the Pingree Park campus, in preparation for classes starting there soon. Volunteers enjoyed a beautiful day at 9,000 feet, with a little snowfall.

CSFS Volunteers helped the Bristlecone Foundation in Breckenridge, Colorado to plant hundreds of seedlings on a mountain side that overlooked town, on June 2. The hospice and home care organization planted limber and bristlecone pine, and Engelmann spruce to renew land affected by mountain pine beetle. The seedlings were purchased in memory of loved ones and planted around Summit County.

CONGRATULATIONS Jef Hanson!
Jef Hanson, who started out as a volunteer and then became a student hourly in the Volunteer Program, received accolades as a 2012 Outstanding CSU Graduate. Jef was a non-traditional student who overcame many challenges to pursue his forestry passion. Way to go Jef!

THANK YOU! High Park Fire Volunteers
CSFS Volunteers stepped up to assist with the High Park Fire. Special thanks to Cynthia Cox Cottam for her work with ARES (Amateur Radio Emergency Services) at the Incident Command Post. Jim Barrington also gave his time as Chaplain serving along side of the Samaritan Purse workers. Thanks to Jim and Cynthia and all others who assisted in some way! There is certainly more work to do and we will be engaging CSFS Volunteers to help with clean-up and rehabilitation efforts.

Visit our website to learn about upcoming events, and please share this site with others to help us recruit:
http://csfs.colostate.edu/pages/volunteers.html