

FOREST AG CONTRACTOR LIST Colorado State Forest Service — Golden Field Office

The Colorado State Forest Service – Golden Field Office maintains this list as a service to its customers only. CSFS does not specifically recommend any of the contractors on this list. No endorsements and no representation for services are implied by the presence or absence of a possible contractor name. Please contact the contractors directly for pricing, bonding or insurance, professional qualifications, and previous customer referrals.

COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

Company Name	Main Contact	Phone Number	Contact Email	Website	1-10 acres	10-50 acres
303 Tree	Ehren Weiss	303-565-6541	info@303tree.com	303tree.com		YES
Ace Tree Care, Inc.	Griff Gehring	720-556-4922	griff@acetreecareservices.com	Acetreecareservices.com	YES	YES
Colorado Forestry & Fire Mitigation	Danny Showers	303-877-1890	danny@cofiremitigation.com	www.COFireMitigation.com	YES	YES
Colorado Forestry Management LLC	Jason Bullis	303-906-2914	jason@coloradoforestrymanagement.com		YES	YES
Deer Creek Forestry	Easton Eisele	720-940-1036	Easton108@gmail.com		YES	YES
Dove Creek Forestry	Brian Curry	303-918-2908	dovecreekforestry@gmail.com	dovecreekforestry.com	YES	YES
EZ Forestry	Scott Appel	720-320-7374	sfappel@gmail.com	ezforestry.com		YES
Firewood to Logging	Dana Roe	303-838-7377	gottwood1@gmail.com		YES	YES
Johnny Apple Tree Care	Patrick Kenney	303-885-1203	trees@johnnyappletreecare.com	johnnyappletreecare.com	YES	YES
LAM Tree Service	Ryan Reed	303-674-8733	ryan@lamtree.com	lamtree.com	YES	
Lisscojan Acres	Scott Halladay	303-378-1678	lisscojan@gmail.com		YES	
Mammoth Mitigation	Ben Prentner	720-272-2104	benprentner@gmail.com	Mammothmitigation.com	YES	YES
Markit!	Patrick Gayner	719-948-8220	pat@markitforestry.com	markitforestry.com		YES
Matott Tree Service	Jim Matott	715-579-3130	jimmatott@gmail.com		YES	YES
Ottel Enterprises	Jacob Oettel	970-310-8271	oettelenterprisesllc@gmail.com	OettelEnterprises.com	YES	YES
P and A Forestry	Frank Grzesk	970-406-0228	mtntreeservice@yahoo.com		YES	YES
Prefire Solutions	Adam Rodriguez	303-905-8132	adam@prefiresolutions.com	prefiresolutions.com	YES	YES
Splintered Forest	Brad/Kara Huddleston	303-819-9840	sales@splinteredforest.com	splinteredforest.com	YES	YES
Summitt Forests, Inc.	Ron Schmelzer	541-535-8920	summittforests@gmail.com	summittforests.com	YES	YES
Three Trees Tree Service	Erich Barber	303-679-8801	ebarber.threetrees@gmail.com	threetreesonline.com	YES	YES
Wildfire Protection Pros	Tony Buckler	303-915-6418		wildfireprotectionpros.com	YES	YES
Wood Ticks Tree & Grapple	Bryan Boatman	720-400-9765	thewoodtick.tandg@gmail.com		YES	

Following are some important considerations when selecting a contractor. Choosing a reputable contractor will help ensure a productive business relationship that offers

some legal protection and safety while protecting natural resources. It also will help preserve aesthetic and property value.

References: Request and check at least three references from past customers. It is advisable to obtain references for work conducted over the last one to three years in order to ensure company stability and good hiring and work practices. It also is a good idea to request references for work that is similar to the work being proposed for your property.

Insurance: Make sure the contractor is fully insured and in compliance with local, state and federal laws. At a minimum, contractors should have automotive liability, commercial general liability and comply with workers' compensation laws. For large, long-term projects, it may be advantageous to consult a lawyer regarding specific insurance concerns. Colorado state law requires employers who employ one or more persons to carry workers' compensation insurance. Statutory limits for coverage and general guidelines for insurance carriers are established by the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment—Division of Workers' Compensation. Hiring a contractor and/or subcontractor without insurance could mean you will be held personally liable for an accident and/or loss on your property, a risk that many landowners may not be able to take.

Credentials: Check on the contractor's certifications. Is the contractor a Certified Arborist, Certified Forester or Master Logger, etc.? In some areas of Colorado, specific licenses are required to perform certain types of forestry work. Does the contractor have a business license? If you have trees sprayed or use pheromones, the contractor should have a Commercial Pesticide Applicator's License. Are the contractors you're considering members of organizations such as the Association of Consulting Foresters, Better Business Bureau (BBB), local Chamber of Commerce, Colorado Timber Industry Association, International Society of Arboriculture or the Society of American Foresters? Some of these organizations require members to follow a code of ethics or membership guidelines. The BBB allows you to check a company's background on its website at <u>www.bbb.org</u>. The Colorado Secretary of State's website, <u>www.sos.state.co.us</u>, also allows you to check a company's "Certificate of Good Standing."

As you are researching your candidate contractors' credentials, you will develop an overall profile and "feel" for each company. Pay particular attention to the condition and type of equipment/technology that the contractor advertises and uses. The contractor's equipment will affect operating costs, efficiency, production and, ultimately, the resource impacts on your land. A reference check should help you determine each operator's level of experience.

Quotations: Get at least three written estimates. Make sure you provide all contractors with the same information so they can estimate costs. Be as specific as possible in the scope of the work. To save time, try to arrange for all contractors to meet together at the project area so everyone receives identical information.

Remember, this is only one aspect of the contractor selection process. One of the biggest mistakes is to settle for the "bottom line" (i.e. take the lowest quote). At this point, your research on references, insurance and credentials should be considered. Sometimes, a higher quote may reflect that a contractor pays higher wages and benefits in order to retain a more stable, quality workforce, or perhaps the contractor uses higher-cost, lower-impact equipment to provide a better end result with less environmental damage or impact. In some cases, operating costs may be high simply due to the fact that one contractor's equipment is newer.

Contract: Get everything in writing before signing any written agreement or contract. The contract does not need to be detailed; it will depend on the scope of the project. The size of the contract can range from a one-page project estimate to a multi-page timber sale agreement. If you are not comfortable with any aspect of the contract, seek legal counsel or speak with a consulting or CSFS forestry professional familiar with forest operations.

When you consider each of these points in the contractor selection process, you will know what to expect. In turn, your contractor will understand what you, the customer, expect, which will achieve the desired outcome.

* For more information pertaining to marketing local wood products, reference csfs.colostate.edu/cowood/cfp/