



P R E S S R E L E A S E

September 8th, 2009

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MISSOULA COUNTY ANNOUNCES ADDITIONAL OFFICE LOCATION FOR SEVERAL COUNTY FUNCTIONS

Missoula County is proud to announce a new north County office location in Seeley Lake that will house several County departments and enable service delivery to the Swan Valley and Seeley Lake areas. Missoula County will lease office space from the Seeley Lake Fire District which purchased the facility from Plum Creek Timber Company in August. The County will provide monthly office hours for several departments including Motor Vehicles, Recording, Elections, Rural Initiatives, Buildings Codes, and the Commissioners' Office. The location will also provide office space for Seeley Lake and Swan Valley's resident deputies, and a back up 911 center.

"We're thrilled to be able to reach out to residents in this part of the County and offer them a chance to run some County errands closer to home," said Chief Administrative Officer Dale Bickell. "Providing a satellite location for some of these core County functions is something we've wanted to do for quite a while. The opportunity to partner with the Fire District was too great to pass up."

Residents in the Seeley Lake and Swan Valley areas will be able to access a variety of services once a month from renewing their vehicle registration to meeting with the County Commissioners. The County is still in the process of finalizing a monthly calendar that will accommodate the schedules of the participating departments. Staffing the offices and providing services will take some time, but residents are encouraged to check the County website for updates.

The location also allows the County and other Seeley area emergency response agencies to co-locate. The Sheriff's Department resident deputies, Search and Rescue, Seeley Lake Fire District, and 911 back up and emergency operations will all occupy space in the newly acquired facility enabling enhanced communication and increasingly important redundancies in emergency response.

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The Seeley Lake Fire District and Missoula County are pleased to invite interested members of the public to the grand opening and open house for the new site on Monday, September 14th, 2009 between 1:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. at 3360 Highway 83 North. County officials and Fire District representatives will be available to answer questions. Light snacks and drinks will be provided.

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