

Glenda Wiles

From: McKay, Tod G -FS <tod.mckay@usda.gov>
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Attachments: Smokey Bear's 75th Birthday Party.docx

Celebrate Smokey Bear's 75th Birthday

Hamilton, Montana (July 29, 2019) – The Bitterroot National Forest invites kids and their families to celebrate Smokey Bear's 75th birthday with activities for all ages on Friday August 9, 2019. The celebration will take place at the Bitterroot National Forest Supervisor's Office in Hamilton at 1801 N. First Street, just north of Mildenerger Motors, from 12pm - 3pm. Come join the fun with games, prizes, and birthday cake. Participate in activities that will help you understand the relationship between wildfire and our forests. Smokey Bear will also make a special appearance.

The Hamilton Volunteer Fire Department will also participate in the celebration by having an engine on display and firefighters available to meet with the public. Other participating agencies include Montana DNRC, Bitter Root RC&D, and Ravalli County Environmental Health to talk about local smoke impacts.

For 75 years, Smokey Bear has been there to help the Forest Service remind America that "Only you can prevent wildfires." That's an important reminder, considering most fires aren't started by nature. In fact, 90% of wildfires are human caused -- by people leaving fires unattended or coals burning. From his first day on the job, Smokey has been there to help Americans understand how their actions can affect the future of one of our most important national treasures.

Be sure to check out Smokey's [website](#) for more information on his history and birthday.

For more information contact Anna Bateson, Fire Prevention Specialist at 406-363-7150.

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