



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Five Years After the Calwood Fire, a Mountain — and a Mission — Reborn

Cal-Wood Education Center marks five years of forest and community renewal

JAMESTOWN, CO — Five years after the devastating Calwood Fire swept across the foothills of Boulder County, Cal-Wood Education Center is marking an extraordinary story of recovery, resilience, and renewal.

Since the fire in October 2020, Cal-Wood's 1,200-acre outdoor classroom has transformed from blackened slopes into a thriving landscape once again filled with the sound of children learning, families exploring, and wildlife returning.

"Five years of recovery have shown us what's possible when a community believes in renewal," said **Rafael Salgado, Executive Director of Cal-Wood Education Center**. "Thanks to the generosity and hard work of countless volunteers, donors, and partners, Cal-Wood is stronger than ever. The same mountain that burned has become one of Colorado's most powerful outdoor classrooms for teaching about wildfire, resilience, and stewardship."

In the years since the fire, Cal-Wood has:

- **Restored trails, forest areas, and learning spaces** to host more than 5,000 students annually.
- **Partnered with local agencies, universities, and researchers** to expand wildfire and forest ecology education for schools across the Front Range.
- **Emerged as a regional leader** in wildfire recovery and education, helping communities understand how nature heals and how to live sustainably with fire.

This fall, Cal-Wood is launching its *"Five Years of Recovery — and So Much to Be Thankful For"* campaign, celebrating the land's renewal and honoring the supporters who made it possible.

— more —

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“The Calwood Fire changed everything,” Salgado said. “But it also deepened our purpose. Every day we see new growth — in the forest, in our programs, and in the students who learn from this land.”

To mark the anniversary, Cal-Wood is offering **media tours** of its mountain campus near Jamestown to showcase the forest’s regrowth, restored outdoor classrooms, and ongoing wildfire education work. Interested reporters and photographers can contact **Rafael Salgado** to arrange a short guided visit.

Cal-Wood will also share a series of reflections, photos, and a short video tribute across its social media channels throughout the week.

About Cal-Wood Education Center

Founded in 1982, Cal-Wood Education Center connects diverse communities to the wonders of nature through immersive outdoor experiences at its 1,200-acre mountain campus near Jamestown, Colorado. Cal-Wood’s mission is to expand access to environmental education for youth and families, offering bilingual family camps, school programs, and community events that inspire a lifelong love of the outdoors and a commitment to stewardship.

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