



FRONT RANGE LUMBER COMPANY

The news you need to make your project a success!

INDUSTRY NEWS

Lumber Pricing

Overall, across the whole range of building materials, we're seeing little significant movement in pricing. For example, you had better have a long memory to remember changes in steel product pricing. What we do see is pricing holding firm (where decreases could have occurred) &/or a slight increase bit by bit. An example of this is cedar in general. In the past, cedar prices slipped over the fall and winter, only to rebound in the spring and summer. The trend on cedar for a couple of years now is no winter decrease and a series of relatively small increases which over time add up. We remind everyone many factors impact not only lumber pricing but the whole range of products you buy – including a new pickup or services you receive. Mentioning a few: fuel costs, simple supply and demand, elections,

Economic News

Despite customers being very busy, the numbers we see reflect that busy-ness as fairly localized. Many parts of the country are not as busy. For example, national construction spending was down in August and September. Other major factors are trucking indexes: since much of the economy's freight is moved by trucks, this is also a good indication to watch. Tonnage hauled is uneven but slipping – a sign of lower demand and softness in the economy. The American trucking Association says volumes hauled are very volatile and seasonal patterns are not holding this year.

Another great example is in Boston where job fairs held for a new \$1.2 billion casino complex was packed with interested workers. Most of our customers complain of being short-staffed.

Overseas unrest, including Brexit is affecting the American economy. Brexit

alone will probably impact the American GDP by 0.2% next year.

Home sales (new and used) are lower than what they should be and the blame is not enough supply.

Bottom line: there are reasons why the Federal Reserve is holding off on increasing interest rates. While good in some respects, continuing low rates are a sign of their belief of a not-so-strong economy. Fed watchers mostly believe a rate increase will come later this year after the elections. Remember, the Federal Reserve had indicated in December 2015 that FOUR rate increases were likely in 2016.

The worldwide green building folks are hoping to have all major renovation and new construction projects designed for net zero energy by 2030. By 2050, they are shooting for the same standard for ALL buildings – this bodes for big changes in our industry.

Not related to wood, but very interesting: The US now holds more oil reserves than Saudi Arabia or Russia.

FRLCo NEWS

Delivery Capacity

You may not have realized this but since 1988, we've named our trucks after types of wood. Our current names include Blue Stain, Hemlock, Douglas, Cedar, Tulipwood, Alder, Walnut, etc. We also have two box vans for your door, window and trim deliveries.

In late September, we added another forklift equipped truck to our fleet. It makes two trucks capable of handling siding, decking, concrete and similar items faster, safer and with less damage. Placement of your delivery can be much more precise. The **FRONT RANGE LUMBER** team works very hard to deliver your needs quickly and completely.

Late-Breaking News

We just received the news **FRONT RANGE LUMBER** has been accepted into Pinnacle Assurance's Circle of Safety. This very selective award is given to just a few of their customers in light of their safety record and extensive safety practices. While rules and practices are important, being safe is far more important in both our business and personal lives.

We want to thank all of our staff for doing exactly that!!

Seedlings

Over the years, we've given away several thousand tree seedlings. We would love to have a present-day picture of any tree you may have planted and its current location and growth.

Holidays

We will be closed all day for the fall/winter holidays: Thanksgiving (11/24/16), Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year's Eve and New Year's Day. We will be open regular hours before and after each of those holidays.

We be social!

We are now using social media!

FOLLOW us on TWITTER:
www.twitter.com/frontrangelumbr

LIKE us on FACEBOOK:
www.facebook.com/frontrangelumberco

FOLLOW our BLOG:
frontrangelumber.blogspot.com

KENT'S CORNER

If you are a contractor, and you are not getting enough work, let us know. You probably realize that there is a glut of work out there. Also, if you know any old-fashioned "Handymen", let us know if they want referrals.

Please remember that "acknowledgments" or "confirmations" are just that:

final details of the door, window, lumber, etc., order you are placing. This is your chance and **obligation** to make sure we entered it correctly. We make the good-faith effort and really need your “extra set” of eyes on the details. This summer, we have had several problems with contractors approving confirmations and then admitting that they did not actually read them. Sorry, but if you state that the acknowledgement is correct and complete, any resulting mistakes are your problem. Please take this seriously!

Our sales staff signs paperwork from wholesalers all day. Once our signature and date are on there, orders are final and irreversible. Our wholesalers will not help us with our mistakes, like in the old days.

Four books on my desk are constant resources for me, with lots of helpful info in all of them. We are happy to review these catalogs with you if you ask:

RW SPECIALTIES. They sell Tyvek products, attic ladders, specialty cedar sidings, stair parts, and other fairly rare items.

SIMPSON STRONGTIE. This is the largest producer of metal connectors (joist hangers). Building departments defer to their specifications. In addition to stocking hundreds of their items, we place special orders with them all the time. Remember that if your specified connector is not in Denver, quick UPS is VERY expensive. Regular UPS (about a week) is not bad. Have us show you how to use code-approved screws in these installations as an alternative to nails.

THERMATRU. Largest steel and fiberglass door manufacturer with many choices.

SIMPSON DOORS. Largest quality wood door supplier with many standard and custom choices.

PROFIT SHARING

Joist Hangers

There are literally thousands of joist hangers available. In many cases, we see customers using a far more complex and expensive hanger than what the situation requires. While no one wants a failure or problem, plan your needs carefully before spending extra money and time installing an “overkill” hanger.

BUILT RIGHT...

Wood Shingles Installation

We’ve included these as an example of fairly detailed instructions generally required when installing wood products. Although cedar shingles are not the most common item used today, these details provide a great example of the need to follow installation instruction for warranty coverage, good appearance and long product life. :

Proper application plays a large role in determining roof system integrity.

FASTENERS: two nails (only) for each shingle approximately 3/4” from edge and approximately 1 1/2” above exposure line. Each shingle should be applied with two corrosion-resistant fasteners, such as stainless steel (type 301 or 316), hot-dipped zinc coated, or aluminum nails or other fastener as accepted by your local building official. Fasteners shall be long enough to penetrate into the sheathing at least 3/4” or all the way through and driven flush with the surface of the shingle.

SPACING: Spacing between adjacent shingles (joints) should be a minimum of 1/4” and a maximum of 3/8”. Contact your local building official for side lap installation requirements in your specific area.

Under driving or overdriving any fastener will affect the integrity of the roofing system.

Fasteners

Remember stainless steel fasteners are the only steel fasteners (screw, staple or nail) that won’t bleed or stain the surrounding wood. **FRONT RANGE LUMBER** carries a selection of stainless steel nails and screws for all your fencing, siding and exterior trim uses.

Miratec Exterior Trim

Speaking of exterior trim, we believe the Miratec brand of exterior trim is simply the best in the marketplace. Unlike virtually all of its competition, Miratec is a one piece construction – all others are a laminated (two piece) product. Being one solid piece avoids any possibility of delamination. Exterior trim comes in both a 4/4 and thickness thicknesses – measuring 3/4” and 1-1/16” respectively. Miratec comes in 16’ lengths to minimize waste and joints in long runs. Widths available are similar to wood boards (2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12 and 16” nominal widths). We’re now stocking the 16” for arch top windows and other similar applications.

Decking

We’re seeing the next logical evolution in decking related to the use of composite decking materials. No, it’s not another new item, it’s seeing deck substructures starting to fail when composites were installed over existing framework or the framework was built incorrectly or with inadequate materials. Just as the introduction of composite decks caused installers to build more correctly, this delayed lesson is re-doubling the need to construct a long-term post and frame to match what will be a very long-term project/addition to your home.

TAKING STOCK...

Molding

We’ve expanded our selection of moldings, specifically finger-jointed, primed styles. These are a great, low cost moldings to use for baseboard and door casing. Ready to paint in your choice of color, they come in longer lengths to minimize joints and loss from an unusable short piece. When replacing molding, a great tip is to use a taller molding to cover up caulk marks or damage caused by the removal of the older molding. For example, in the “Anderson” style of baseboard, **FRONT RANGE LUMBER** stocks the 2-1/2”, 3-1/4”, 4-1/4” and 5-1/4” heights. Very commonly the 3-1/4” height was used for baseboards; consider replacing it with a 4-1/4” height.

Hardwoods

FRONT RANGE LUMBER continues to grow our selection of hardwoods. One species – walnut – is a great example. We carry the 4/4, 5/4, 8/4 *and* 12/4 thicknesses in a variety of random widths. We also have 4/4 thickness in a knotty grade and 1/4" and 3/4" walnut plywoods – with the iron on edging tape to match! Finally, we have s4s boards in random lengths in 1x6 and 1x8 – these boards are great for a simpler project and/or if you have limited tool access.

Treated Lumber

Watch for the latest evolution in treated lumber in 2x8 and larger 2x sizes (all lengths). The chemicals used will be changed going forward to provide better penetration in the wood and longer decay resistance. This change is required because many applications (for example – deck framing) has wood joist members in close-to-ground contact. The new version - MCA - has better preservative distribution, broader mold protection, and water repellency.

Treated lumber still provides the best combination of easy workability, more economical than other materials, readily available and is aesthetically preferable.

Cedar

FRONT RANGE LUMBER continues to expand its cedar selection. The best reference point is our website—FRLCO.COM—to view our complete size, length and type chart. One key area we've expanded this year has been more items and lengths in clear grades. These include 1x8 boards, 1x6 T&G V groove and 2x4 smooth sawn rail and deck components.

Redwood

We've managed to obtain a late season shipment of B grade redwood in 2x6 decking in 8' to 20' lengths. Redwood remains a great WOOD choice in decking and other exterior applications. The B grade which **FRONT RANGE LUMBER** stocks is a close to clear (no knots) board, containing both heartwood and sapwood (red and white colorings), with minimal knots. Of course, we have the 2x4, 4x4 and other components for a complete project.

4x4 Doug Fir

We stock about the best grade of 4x4 smooth sawn 4x4 available. These generally nearly free of knots timbers are suitable for finer projects like furniture, stair railings, and turnings. Available in 8', 10', 12' and 16' lengths, we suggest you take a look.

CONSUMER NEWS

Why Choose Wood?

As a building material, wood has three important attributes making it an excellent choice for sustainable construction: it's natural, it's renewable and it's beautiful. We don't run out of lettuce; we grow more. It's the same with wood products, it just takes longer.

Fall Home Maintenance Tips

ELECTRICAL. Check your A/C and HVAC units and all lighting around the house.

CLEAN GARBAGE DISPOSAL. To clean your garbage disposal, run it with baking soda and citrus rinds or crushed ice

MAINTAIN YARD GROWTH. Trim any trees, bushes, shrubs, and apply fertilizer to lawn.

DEEP CLEANING. Power-wash windows and siding, clean lint from dryer exhaust vents, and clean/organize garage.

GROUT. Check and replace, where needed; grout around bathroom sinks, tubs, toilets, and kitchen sinks.

PLUMBING. Inspect all plumbing around the house for leaks and clean aerators on faucets.

BASEMENT CRAWL SPACE. Inspect basement crawl space for any type of moisture issues and repair as needed.

KITCHEN MAINTENANCE. Vacuum refrigerator coils and clean hood fan and lights.

DECK. Check and replace rotting or loose boards and re-stain deck if needed. Give your porch a face-lift with new lighting, seating, decorations, and thoroughly check and clean your grill.

Safety Tips for Halloween

- Do not allow a child to go "Trick or Treating" alone. Be sure older children TAKE A FRIEND and an ADULT accompanies young children.
- Be certain to accompany young children to the door of every house they approach.
- Be certain parents are familiar with every house and all people from which the children receive treats.
- Children should be cautioned that they should NOT enter any home without prior permission from their parents.
- Children should be cautioned not to approach any vehicle, occupied or not, unless they know the owner and are accompanied by a parent.
- Have children carry a glow stick or wear reflective clothing.
- When using facial masks, make sure that children can see and breathe properly and easily.
- All costumes and masks should be clearly marked as flame resistant.
- Children should be warned to NEVER approach any house that is not well lit and does not have a porch or "outside" light on.
- Children should be cautioned to remember any suspicious incidents and report them to their parents and/or the proper official.
- Children should be cautioned to run away from people who try to trick them with special treats.
- Children should be instructed to scream and make a scene if anyone tries to grab them or force them, in any way, to go with them.
- Parents should inspect all treats and dispose of anything that seems to have been tampered with, has been opened, or is not wrapped.
- A good alternative to "Trick or Treating" is for parents to organize parties at home, in schools, or in community centers.

For more information on child safety call the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children at 1-800-the-lost ([1-800-843-5678](tel:1-800-843-5678)) www.missingkids.com

HAVE A SAFE AND FUN HALLOWEEN!

FUNNIES

Q. How do you survive on a dessert island?

A. First, check the spelling. If it's correct, enjoy!

Q. A celebrity chef took over Amtrak?

A. Yup-tickets are still pricey, but the trains run on thyme.

Boy: Mom, can I have a dollar? I've been good all week.

Mom: A whole dollar, just for being good? Why can't you be good for nothing, like your father?

Dan: I posed naked for a magazine today.

Jan: How'd that go?

Dan: Not so well. The guy at the newsstand said he would accept only cash.

John: Is it true you are addicted to brake fluid?

Joe: No, I can stop any time.

Q. What's the lazy man's favorite exercise?

A. Diddly-squats.

Amazing

- A comet's tail always points away from the sun.
- Everything weighs 1% less at the equator.
- An ostrich's eye is bigger than its brain.
- Your tongue is the only muscle in your body that is attached at only one end.

C	A	L	E	N	D	A	R
<i>You can count days or make everyday count.</i>							
November							
6 th	Daylight Saving Time ends <i>fall back...</i>						
8 th	Election Day— VOTE!						
11 th	Veteran's Day— <i>Thank you one and all!</i>						
24 th	Thanksgiving (Front Range Lumber will be closed)						
25 th	Front Range Lumber will be OPEN normal hours						
December							
7 th	Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day						
21 st	Winter solstice – shortest day of the year						
24 th	Hanukkah begins						
24 th	Christmas Eve (Front Range Lumber will be closed)						
25 th	Christmas Day (Front Range Lumber will be closed) Merry Christmas!!						
26 th	Front Range Lumber will open at 7AM (regular hours)						
26 th	Kwanzaa (until Jan 1)						
31 st	New Year's Eve (Front Range Lumber will be closed)						
January							
1 st	New Year's Day (Front Range Lumber will be closed) Happy New Year!!						
2 nd	Front Range Lumber will open at 7AM (regular hours)						