



Front Range Lumber Company

The news you need to make your project a success!

INDUSTRY NEWS

Lumber Prices

All wood products continue to slightly climb in price, mainly due to the outstanding issue of the lumber agreement we've addressed in the last couple of newsletters. The due date for the "final" announcement will be made on April 26th. We're also seeing a confusing mix of shipments being made early and prices going up in general. Then, news of short supplies and long lead times on key items. The best advice is the usual advice – plan ahead, be flexible and keep on top of fast changing price changes.

3,878

That's the entire volume of homes for sale in February in Colorado, a record low inventory going back as long as records have been kept. And that's even including a 19.25% increase in the number of condos in the state since last year.

Costs!

We're seeing a wide range of products increasing in costs. EWP items like glulams, LVLs, and wood I-joists are increasing within the next few weeks.

Fuel Costs

Even though gas and diesel prices are relatively low, watch if and when they increase, those increases will ripple directly into oil related products like plastics, roofing, insulation, and others. A little more subtly, higher oil prices will affect virtually all products as of course, oil impacts a huge variety of merchandise because so much is hauled by trucks (diesel!).

Cedar Feedback

With the deck building season fast approaching, is your company ready for 2017?

The Western Red Cedar Lumber Association—the nonprofit voice of the cedar industry—is seeking your feedback via a brief survey. The purpose of which is to learn how and why US home builders and decking contractors consider and select different types of decking products while protecting their margins.

All responses are anonymous and will be held in strict confidence by a third party company. In appreciation for your



Darah, our bookkeeper of 10 years, is retiring.

Thank you, Darah, for everything!

Congratulations and good luck!



participation, WRCLA will conduct a drawing for \$500 that will take place at the end of the survey March 31, 2017.

Thank you in advance, your feedback is greatly appreciated.

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WRCLA_Decking_Survey

FRLCO NEWS

We Cut Circles!!!

We cut custom circles out of plywood, MDF or OSB. Next time you need a circle, give us a few days and we've provide the custom size you need.

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

KENT'S CORNER

On a daily basis, we see a very significant number of hurried jobs – jobs where even the basic information has not been looked at or checked, jobs where the site hasn't been visited or jobs where there are no plans. Inevitably, these jobs end up going far backward before they move forward.

Materials are ordered and delivered, wood gets cut before measurements are taken and work starts before permits or plans are obtained. The old adages of penny wise, pound foolish OR measure twice, cut once OR a job worth doing

is a job worth doing well all get lost in the shuffle. A recent example is a framer we dealt with who assumed 2x4 exterior walls. He had most of the first floor walls framed out before the homeowner

caught him and made him restart the construction in the called for 2x6 thickness.

I urge you to check out things, get two sets of eyes on it and ask questions. We can assist with many subjects and provide tons of information – ask any of our staff.

Do it right the first time - think, plan and measure to avoid costs and lost effort on your end

BUILT RIGHT

Penofin deck stain

We've expanded our selection of Penofin deck stains. We carry an extensive color range in both the blue and red label. The red label is more expensive, but provides one coat coverage and contains more "solids" – this means longer life between re-coatings.

Gate Hardware

Front Range Lumber can fulfill all your gate hardware needs. This includes unusual items like split rail gate hinges, cane bolts for double gates, controlled entry latches, butt style hinges, NO-sag gate kits and decorative accents.

PRODUCT NEWS

OZCO

FRONT RANGE LUMBER stocks the widest selection of OZCO products in the area. We even stock items not available otherwise outside of Texas. Ever wonder why we say OZCO's hardware is GREAT? Here are 10 reasons why the OZCO product is best:

- 1) Thicker Steel – most of their connectors and products are 3/16"
 - a) The thicker the steel, the stronger the connection will be.
 - b) OZCO's steel thickness is scaled to be more pleasing to the eye.
 - c) Pays homage to the history of this type of timber construction.
- 2) Hot Dipped Galvanized (HDG)
 - a) Not all galvanizing is created equal. Pre-galvanized steel does not perform as well as HDG because of thickness of the coating and other chemical reactions with pre-galvanized.
 - b) Galvanizing after production ensures that all areas of the steel is uniformly coated with zinc.
 - c) HDG is the same process used in the nation's highway guardrails, an area that is subjected to some of the harshest environmental conditions.
- 3) Powder Coated
 - a) OZCO hardware features high grade exterior power coating.
 - b) All OZCO hardware has the same black powder coated finish assuring the uniform look and performance for the entire project.
 - c) Powder coating performs better than liquid paint typically used by steel fabricators.
- 4) Adjustable
 - a) Lumber dimensions vary tremendously. There is rough cut, smooth cut, reclaimed... combined with types of wood that are often utilized with OZCO connectors.
 - b) Many connectors require the user to bend the brackets or determine the size of material before placing orders. Neither option is ideal. OZCO connectors are truly adjustable making them easy to adjust onsite to the exact size necessary.
 - c) Connections where the steel is very tight to the wood produces the highest level of strength and performance.
 - d) 4-sided adjustability beats two sides that are not adjustable – more connection is better.
- 5) Load Rated
 - a) OZCO hardware is not only attractive but also structural.
 - b) At OZCO, they don't strive to make their products to perform to the industries minimum performance standards. They could manufacture their products for a lower cost but they would suffer performance reductions.
 - c) Drawings/load data are listed on our catalog for easy access.
- 6) Complete Kits
 - a) There is enough to think about and remember when constructing any project. Whenever possible they include the necessary fasteners to keep your list short and save time and money.
 - b) Well packaged to remain in excellent condition from our store to your jobsite.
 - c) Packaged in job-sized quantities.
- 7) Wide Range of Connections
 - a) The OZCO product line offers a wide range of connectors for all types of projects.
 - b) Let your imagination run wild; chances are they have a connector that can be used for your next masterpiece.
 - c) Because of the adjustability and connecting design their OZCO line features – you can do more with them – tables, chairs, literally hundreds of different ideas flow in every year.
- 8) Use Screws or Bolts
 - a) OZCO timber screws feature performance and strength that is second to none. Offered in a wide range of popular lengths for all kinds of projects
 - b) Screws can be used successfully when the force is predominantly shear load. For connections that have both shear and tensile forces, OZCO offers bolts with greater tensile holding power.
 - c) Use OZCO's heavy duty washer for connections for added strength and beauty.
- 9) Original and Best
 - a) OZCO is the inventor of the building category of decorative wood connectors.
 - b) OZCO is proud to be known as the leader in this category and flattered that some have tried and will continue to attempt imitate their designs.
- 10) Affordable
 - a) Custom cut steel is typically raw steel, primed and painted, and won't last as long. It's more expensive and delayed.
 - b) Compare total cost of installation including all manufacturers recommended hardware.

TAKING STOCK...

Clear Cedar

Front Range Lumber carries a variety of clear cedar boards in 1x4, 1x6, 1x8, 2x4 and 2x12 sizes. The next time your project calls for clear cedar, your go-to location is Front Range Lumber.

4x4 Posts

Front Range Lumber carries a wide variety of posts in lengths from 8' to 16'. We attempt to carry a better grade to ensure the best looking post at a reasonable price. In fir, we carry a mostly smooth sawn clear grade. We also stock treated and redwood. In cedar, the inventory is in both smooth and rough sawn, appearance grade. One of the bottom lines to timbers, like so many other item and categories we deal with – making a purchase decision by price alone is a dangerous proposition.

Toxic Gases

In January a “HAZMAT” incident in Amarillo, Texas, left four children dead. The deaths of four family members said was due to fumes from a rodenticide has put the spotlight on a chemical called aluminum phosphide, which can turn into a deadly gas called phosphine gas.

Aluminum phosphide is often used in pellet form to kill burrowing rodents. “The moisture in the ground will convert that [buried] pellet into gas and kill the rodent.” Family members said they had used a pesticide containing the chemical to kill mice. The chemical turned deadly when a family member sprayed water on the pesticide to try and clear it from under their home.

A family member tried washing the chemical from underneath the house with water. When this chemical comes in contact with water, it creates phosphine gas, which is highly poisonous and can cause pulmonary edema and respiratory failure. All four reported deaths were minors and six other people in the family were hospitalized.

Due to the toxic nature of the pesticide, those using it are supposed to have a license. The authorities did not believe the family member who spread the pesticide was licensed to use it.

There’s no real antidote...

Many incidents involve workers at factories where the chemical is used. In a 2013 ten workers were exposed at a pistachio plant. Six of the workers exposed to the gas had respiratory distress as well as chest pain, shortness of breath. In some cases, they had decreased oxygen saturation.

Phosgene is so dangerous it was even used as a chemical weapon during World War I.

Any family concerned about properly using a rodenticide should call their local poison control center, which can advise them on how to use it safely.

The national number for the American Association of Poison Control Centers is (800) 222-1222.

1. Bleach + Vinegar = Toxic Chlorine Gas

While the combination does create a good disinfectant, these two common

cleaning agents should never be used at the same time.

Why: Adding any weak acid to bleach will release toxic chlorine and chloramine vapors.

The worst that could happen: You can get a nasty chemical burn, especially of your eyes and lungs or worse.

2. Ammonia + Bleach = Toxic Chloramine Vapors

Be sure to check the ingredients lists of your cleaning products to ensure you’re not unknowingly using these products together. For instance, Windex comes in both ammonia and ammonia-free formulas. Certain formulations of Drano contain bleach.

Why: Inhaling the vapors could cause respiratory damage and throat burns.

The worst that could happen: If ammonia is present in excess, toxic and potentially explosive liquid hydrazine may be formed.

3. Rubbing Alcohol + Bleach = Chloroform

Why: “Ordinary household bleach contains sodium hypochlorite, which reacts with ethanol or isopropyl alcohol to produce chloroform, hydrochloric acid, and other compounds, such as chloroacetone or dichloroacetone.”

The worst that could happen: You could damage your nervous system, eyes, lungs, skin, liver, and kidneys. Extremely high levels of chloroform exposure may result in death, while lower levels could result in dizziness and nausea.

4. Hydrogen Peroxide + Vinegar = Parecetic Acid

These two ingredients are commonly touted as natural cleaning methods, but combining the two in the same container could result in a corrosive acid.

Why: You can use them on the same surface separately while cleaning, but don’t mix them in the same container. You’ll create paracetic acid which, despite being an effective sanitizer, is potentially corrosive and irritating.

The Best Smart Alek Answers

Smart Ass Answer #6

It was meal time during an airline flight. ‘Would you like dinner?’ The flight attendant asked John, seated in front. ‘What are my choices?’ John asked. ‘Yes or no,’ she replied.

Smart Ass Answer #5

A flight attendant was stationed at the departure gate to check tickets. As a man approached, she extended her hand for the ticket and he opened his trench coat and flashed her. Without missing a beat, she said, ‘Sir, I need to see your ticket, not your stub.’

Smart Ass Answer #4

A lady was picking through the frozen turkeys at the grocery store but she couldn’t find one big enough for her family. She asked a stock boy, ‘Do these turkeys get any bigger?’ The stock boy replied, ‘No ma’am, they’re dead.’

Smart Ass Answer #3

The police officer got out of his car as the kid who was stopped for speeding rolled down his window. ‘I’ve been waiting for you all day,’ the officer said. The kid replied, ‘Yeah, well I got here as fast as I could.’ When the cop finally stopped laughing, he sent the kid on his way without a ticket.

Smart Ass Answer #2

A truck driver was driving along on the freeway and noticed a sign that read:

Low Bridge Ahead. Before he knows it,

the bridge is right in front of him and his truck gets wedged under it. Cars are backed up for miles. Finally a police car comes up. The cop gets out of his car and walks to the truck driver, puts his hands on his hips and says, ‘Got stuck, huh?’

The truck driver says, ‘No, I was delivering this bridge and I ran out of gas.’

Smart Ass Answer of the Year

A college teacher reminds her class of tomorrow’s final exam. ‘Now class, I won’t tolerate any excuses for you not being here tomorrow. I might consider a



Never forget that justice is what love looks like in public.

Cornel West



nuclear attack or a serious personal injury, illness, or a death in your immediate family, but that's it, no other excuses whatsoever!' A smart-ass student in the back of the room raised his hand and asked, 'What would you say if tomorrow I said I was suffering from complete and utter sexual exhaustion?' The entire class is reduced to laughter and snickering. When silence was restored, the teacher smiled knowingly at the student, shook her head and sweetly said, 'Well, I guess you'd have to write the exam with your other hand.'

Bonus Extra

A woman is standing nude looking in the bedroom mirror. She is not happy with what she sees and says to her husband, 'I feel horrible; I look old, fat and ugly. I really need you to pay me a compliment.' The husband replies, 'Your eyesight's damn near perfect.'

"There was a safety meeting at work today. They asked me, "What steps would you take in the event of a fire?" "----- big ones" was the wrong answer.

Wanna Retire?

You can retire to Phoenix where ...

- You are willing to park three blocks away from your house because you found shade.
- You've experienced condensation or blisters on your rear-end from the hot water in the toilet bowl
- You can drive for four hours in one direction and never leave town.
- You have more than 100 recipes for Mexican food.
- You know that "dry heat" is comparable to what hits you in the face when you open your oven door at 500 degrees.
- The four seasons are: tolerable, hot, really hot, and YOU'VE GOT TO BE KIDDING!!

OR You can retire to California where...

- You make over \$450,000 a year and you still can't afford to buy a house.
- The fastest part of your commute is going down your driveway.
- You know how to eat an artichoke.
- When someone asks you how far something is, you tell them how

long it will take to get there rather than how many miles away it is.

- The four seasons are: Fire, Flood, Mud and Drought.

OR You can retire to NYC where...

- You say "the city" and expect everyone to know you mean Manhattan.
- You can get into a four-hour argument about how to get from Columbus Circle to Battery Park, but can't find Wisconsin on a map.
- You think Central Park is "nature."
- You believe that being able to swear at people in their own language makes you multilingual.
- You've worn out a car horn. (IF you have a car.)
- You think eye contact is an act of aggression

OR You can retire to Wisconsin or Minnesota where...

- You only have three spices: salt, pepper and ketchup.
- Halloween costumes have to fit over parkas.
- You have 100 recipes for casseroles that all look beige when they are cooked.
- Sexy lingerie is anything flannel with fewer than eight buttons.
- 5 The four seasons are: almost winter, winter, still winter, and road repair.
- The highest level of criticism is "He is different," "She is different," or "It was different!"

OR You can retire to The Deep South where...

- You can rent a movie and buy bait in the same store.
- "Y'all" is singular and "all y'all" is plural.
- "'He needed killin'" is a valid defense.
- Everyone has two first names: Billy Bob, Jimmy Bob, Joe Bob, Betty Jean, Mary Beth, etc.
- Everything is either: "in yonder," "over yonder" or "out yonder."
- You can say anything about anyone, as long as you say "Bless his (or her) heart" at the end.

OR You can move to Colorado where...

- You carry your \$3,000 mountain bike atop your \$500 car.
- You tell your husband to pick up Granola on his way home, so he stops at the day care center.
- A pass does not involve a football or dating.
- The top of your head is bald, but you still have a pony tail.

OR You can retire to Nebraska or Kansas where...

- You've never met any celebrities, but the mayor knows your name.
- Your idea of a traffic jam is three cars waiting to pass a tractor.
- You have had to switch from "heat" to "A/C" on the same day.
- You end sentences with a preposition; "Where's my coat at?"

FINALLY, You can retire to Florida where...

- You eat dinner at 3:15 in the afternoon.
- All purchases include a coupon of some kind – even houses and cars.
- Everyone can recommend an excellent cardiologist, dermatologist, proctologist, podiatrist, or orthopedist.
- Road construction never ends anywhere in the state.
- Cars in front of you often appear to be driven by headless people.

C A L E N D A R

You can count days or make every day count.

April	
18 th	Income taxes due! [see IRS.gov] Earth Day Celebration
22 nd	Come by Lakewood's Heritage Center for more information
22 nd	Earth Day How BIG is your carbon footprint?
28 th	Arbor Day – plant a tree!
May	
2 nd	National Teacher Day – Thank one!
5 th	Cinco de Mayo
6 th	Nurses Day
14 th	Mother's Day (and the unofficial day to start planting your garden!)
20 th	Armed Forces Day
29 th	Memorial Day (Front Range Lumber will be closed)