



**American
Red Cross**

Pikes Peak Chapter

Pikes Peak Chapter
1040 South 8th Street
Colorado Springs, CO 80905
www.pparc.org

News Release
NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Jennifer Mariano
Phone: 719-785-2711
Cell: 719-641-6365
Email: jmariano@pparc.org

DISASTER RELIEF TRAILER STOLEN OUT OF RED CROSS PARKING LOT

Colorado Springs, CO – Employees of the American Red Cross Pikes Peak Chapter discovered Tuesday morning that thieves struck the Red Cross yet again. Last summer and again in the fall, two of the Chapter's Disaster Response vehicle's fuel tanks were drilled into and all of the gas siphoned out. This time, thieves hit the Red Cross in a major way with a devastating loss not only to the Red Cross but to the entire Pikes Peak Region.

Sometime between Friday evening and Saturday afternoon someone stole one of the Chapter's Disaster Relief Trailers filled with Disaster Relief supplies. Pikes Peak Chapter Disaster Services Director, Jaici Murcia estimates the loss to the Red Cross at about \$10,000. The trailer and its contents was purchased 6 months ago utilizing grant funds provided by the Wal-Mart foundation. The trailer costs about \$4,000 and the supplies, utilized to respond to disasters, cost between \$5,000 and \$6,000. "This hampers our ability to respond quickly to larger disasters until the trailer and contents can be replaced."

"When something like this happens to anyone it is devastating. For this to happen to the Red Cross is unthinkable. Finances are incredibly tight this year, the need from our clients is greater, and the number of donations that we have seen this year are down significantly. We must turn to our community at a time like this and ask for help," said Jennifer Mariano, Director of Community Relations and Support.

The Red Cross is asking anyone that may have information about the whereabouts of the Disaster Relief Trailer to please contact the police.

The American Red Cross helps people prevent, prepare for and respond to emergencies. Last year, almost a million volunteers and 35,000 employees helped victims of almost 75,000 disasters; taught lifesaving skills to millions; and helped U.S. service members separated from their families stay connected. Almost 4 million people gave blood through the Red Cross, the largest supplier of blood and blood products in the United States. The American Red Cross is part of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. An average of 91 cents of every dollar the Red Cross spends is invested in humanitarian services and programs. The Red Cross is not a government agency; it relies on donations of time, money, and blood to do its work. Contributions to the American Red Cross may be sent to American Red Cross Pikes Peak Chapter, 1040 S. 8th Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80906.
WWW.PPARC.ORG

####