



**For Details, Contact:
Floyd O'Neil**

Manitou Springs Chamber of Commerce
& Visitors Bureau
354 Manitou Avenue
Manitou Springs, CO 80829
Phone 719-685-5089 or
1-800-642-2567
Fax 719-685-0355
E mail: floyd@manitouchamber.com

For immediate release

Fruitcakes Fly Again IN MANITOU SPRINGS!

The 17th annual **GREAT FRUITCAKE TOSS** returns to Manitou Springs at the **Manitou Springs HIGH SCHOOL TRACK** where Fruitcakes can fly into the wild blue yonder!

Saturday, January 14, 2012

Registration begins at 9:00 am and the Competitions begin at 10 am.

Entry Fee - non-perishable food items for Westside Care.

We are asking all who attend and participate to bring non-perishable food items.

This is our biggest food drive of the year and we really need all of your support!

RULES:

1. Participants should bring their own fruitcakes. Fruitcakes must contain glazed fruits, nuts and flour. They cannot contain anything inedible. Fruitcakes will not be "taste tested". Fruitcakes must be visible to the inspectors, no duct tape, foil, etc. All Fruitcakes will be examined by the "Fruitcake Toss Tech Inspectors."
2. A limited number of fruitcakes will be available to rent for \$1.00 if you were not fortunate enough to receive one of your own or if you were unable to find the time or recipe to bake one. **BUT PLEASE TRY TO BRING YOUR OWN!**
3. For the **distance competitions there will be only one weight class., Standard 2 pound only!**
WE NO LONGER HAVE THE 4 lb HEAVY WEIGHT.

We NO LONGER have a distance limitation! Distance will be measured at the final resting spot of the Fruitcake, NOT where it first lands.

4. For the **Fruitcake Launch** the device used to launch the fruitcake must not be powered by fuel (ie: no motors, engines, gasoline, diesel, etc.) The maximum length of the hurling device will be 10 feet.
Safety is the most important issue. Any device deemed not to be safe by the organizing committee will not be allowed to compete.

5. **Pneumatics or air powered devices** will be a separate competition. Only pneumatic spud guns can be used. Guns must be made entirely out of either ABS pipe or PVC pipe. **DO NOT MIX PIPE TYPES.** Length of air powered device is up to the contestant keeping in mind the contestant must have complete control of spud gun at all times. Only compressed air from bicycle pumps will be allowed on the field. No 12 volt tire or big air compressors.

6. The following competitions are now in place: The distance competitions are as follows:
Kids Toss - 3 age groups (3-5, 6-9, 10-12) One Girl & One Boy winner in each age group. **No weight classes for Fruitcake in Kids Toss.**

The Fruitcake Toss - One person physically throwing a **1 pound** fruitcake.

The 60+ Fruitcake Toss - **If you are 60 or over you now have your own division for the 1lb toss!**

Standard Weight Division for distance - You must use a **2 pound** fruitcake for the standard weight distance competition.

The following methods may be used for this competition

The Fruitcake Launch - Using a mechanical device brought to the event by the contestant.

The Pneumatic Gun or Canon- Using pneumatic spud gun brought to the event by the contestant.

The fruitcake that goes the longest distance will determine the winner in each division

Catch The Fruitcake - Team members (not to exceed 3) must be placed out in the park and are required to catch fruitcakes tossed by their **device**. **NO HAND TOSSING IN THIS DIVISION!** Fruitcakes **MUST** be a minimum weight of 1lb. There will be a maximum of 4 Fruitcakes launched per team. The use of nets, baseball gloves, or other devices for catching the fruitcakes may be used, however no device can exceed 24 inches in diameter. All team members are required to wear protective eye gear and a helmet. You may provide your own or goggles and helmets will be provided for up to two team members. The award will be presented to the team catching the most fruitcakes.

Accuracy with Targets - Targets will be placed out in the park at distances of 75 feet, 125 feet and 175 feet at varying angles. The goal is for each team to land in or as close to as many targets as possible. Fruitcakes **MUST** be a minimum weight of 1lb. There will be a maximum of 4 Fruitcakes launched per team. The Team with the most direct hits (land in the target) wins. If no targets are hit then the team with the most fruitcakes closest to the targets would win the competition.

7. **Participants may enter in any and all categories.**