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NEWS RELEASE

Nov. 4, 2009

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RURAL LAW WEEK SET FOR NOV. 9-13 AT UM

MISSOULA –

The Rural Advocacy League based at The University of Montana School of Law will host a series of free public events during its annual Rural Law Week, held Monday through Friday, Nov. 9-13, at UM.

All events will take place in Law Building Room 101. Continuing legal education credits are available.

This year's Rural Law Week will focus on environmental issues and their effects on rural communities. Local and national experts will discuss three topics:

- **“Updates in Groundwater Permitting”** – noon Monday, Nov. 9. Presented by Jim Nave, water resource specialist with the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, Missoula regional office. One CLE credit.
- **“Cap and Trade Policy and its Effect on Rural Communities”** – 7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 10. Panel discussion featuring Steve Running, Regents Professor of Ecology, UM College of Forestry and Conservation; Richard Opper, director, Montana Department of Environmental Quality; Kyla Wiens, energy advocate, Montana Environmental Information Center; Chuck Magraw, attorney, Natural Resources Defense Council; Ted Dodge, executive director, National Carbon Offset Coalition; and Gary Wiens, assistant general manager, Missoula Electric Cooperatives' Association. The moderator will be Kristen Juras, assistant professor, UM School of Law. Two CLE credits.

- **“Rights of Surface Owner when Minerals Owners Exercise their Rights”** – noon

Thursday, Nov. 12. Presented by Steve Brown, partner with Garlington, Lohn & Robinson and adjunct instructor in the UM law school. One CLE credit.

UM’s Rural Advocacy League is committed to empowering rural areas through effective legal advocacy, increasing awareness of rural issues and improving communications between rural residents and public policymakers.

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