

Meadowlark

2nd Quarter 2012

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Contact Us

Phone:
303-991-7699

Email:
board@emha.us

Website:
<http://www.emha.us>

Letter from the President

by Glenn Vandine, EMHA President

It's amazing to think that Spring is already here and Summer is just around the corner. With that in mind, please see the article later in the newsletter for tips on fire mitigation. Additionally, I've had a number of folks in our community show interest for a concerted effort to make a big impact to slash removal and creating defensible space along Armadillo Trail. If you're interested in learning more about what we have in mind with our multi-phase approach, please contact me.

It's not all doom and gloom, there are a number of other articles that you may find interesting as well:

It's that time of year again where we're conducting our membership drive and while the membership fees are voluntary, please strongly consider paying the very inexpensive dues of \$35 per year to help keep the volunteer Board funded.

While the Easter Egg Hunt was a great success, there are a number of summer time events to keep in mind: summer picnic (great way to meet someone new in our community), garage sale (nice way to sell those unwanted treasures in the garage), neighborhood cleanup (let's see

if we can pickup 2 trailer loads of garbage this year), and our very popular Berrian Mountain hike.

Matt Armbruster has volunteered to host some training geared (pun intended) towards chainsaw safety, this is an event that I would strongly encourage the chainsaw owners to attend.

In light of the recent fire situation in Conifer and a number of home burglaries in Evergreen and Conifer over the past several months, we are seeking several volunteers to revive our Neighborhood Watch program.

Keep in mind that we offer residents an opportunity to inexpensively advertise in the Meadowlark. Please join me in welcoming some new advertisers to our quarterly newsletter.

We know a lot of people who make trips to and from the airport. Is there any interest for coordinating a ride share program? If so, please contact me directly.

I've recently heard about a case of a dog in our community passing on due to contracting chronic hepatitis. As you probably know, this can be contracted from foxes or bears and it's important to be aware of this as your pet is interacting with this and other wildlife.

Additionally, it's a great idea to sanitizing your pets food dishes often. Speaking of wildlife, since it's that time of year and to

avoid email alert fatigue, we'll plan to send a bi-weekly email alert announcing the various bear, coyote, and mountain lion sightings.

While I'm super appreciative of the volunteers that are currently serving on the Board, we are still in need of volunteers to help us in a number of critical areas. Additionally, we also welcome your feedback and questions. Please don't hesitate to call me at 303-670-7903 (home office) or send me an email at president@emha.us.

I'm looking forward to hearing from you if there's anything I can do to help and seeing you participate in the various summer events or attending the upcoming Board meeting.

Neighborhood Watch-ers?

by Karen Kitchner

Why did you move to this neighborhood? Well, I moved here because we have beautiful scenery, a great house and a yard (with a mountain) for my kids to play in. Recently, this idyllic scene I had created for myself and my family was threatened by the Lower North Fork Fire. This is my first time living in fire-prone country. Honestly, it scared the day lights out of me. Despite the miles of terrain

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Neighborhood Watch-ers (cont.)

and the four lane highway it had to cross to get to my home, it SCARED me.

Fear is a great motivator. I have registered our home phone, our cell phones and our emails with every agency I could find that would help to keep us informed should there be a blazing terror screaming its way toward us anytime in the near future. One of the places I found was our neighborhood alert system. I signed up for the emails, ran into our volunteer EMHA members at the recent Easter Egg Hunt and now, here I am telling you about it.

One of the things that neighbors at the recent Easter Egg Hunt were buzzing about was reinstating our Neighborhood Watch. Improving upon it, updating it and putting it back into effect. Guess what? If you didn't already know it, we have an updated "Watch" system in place. All we need is for informed neighbors to keep sending information as it happens. Send an email to alerts@emha.us or call 303-991-7699. It's so easy!

We are all interested in keeping our privacy. At the same time, it sure is nice to know that our neighbors are on the look out for anything amiss trolling about the neighborhood, be it fantastic but potentially dangerous wildlife or smoke filling the air in the yard across the way. We need your eyes and your information to keep us all informed. Let's learn our lesson from the Lower North Fork fire tragedy and keep ourselves informed instead of relying upon a system that may not work (reverse 911 anyone?).

So, do your part and join up! We look forward to having everyone feel a little more connected and a little bit safer.

To join or submit an alert to the EMHA, email us at alerts@emha.us or call us at 303-991-7699

Defensible Space

from <http://csfs.colostate.edu/pages/ffc-wildfire.html#wfem>

Your first defense against wildfire is to create and maintain a defensible space around your home. This does not mean your landscape must be barren. Defensible space is an area around a structure where fuels and vegetation are treated, cleared or reduced to slow the spread of wildfire toward the structure. It also reduces the chance of a structure fire moving from the building to the surrounding forest. Defensible space also provides room for firefighters to do their jobs. Your house is more likely to withstand a wildfire if grasses, brush, trees and other common forest fuels are managed to reduce a fire's intensity. The following are a few key steps to creating a defensible zone, but is not a comprehensive list.

- Actively manage your roof. Clean roof and gutters of pine needles and leaves at least twice a year to eliminate an ignition source for potential fires.
- Stack firewood away from your house. Locate firewood at least 30 feet uphill from your home. Do not stack firewood under the deck.
- Remove unhealthy vegetation. Trees and shrubs that are stressed, diseased, dead or dying should be removed so that they do not become a fuel source for potential fires.
- Create defensible space on flat ground a minimum of 70 – 75 feet around a home. Increase this distance if the structure is located on a slope.
- Thin out continuous tree and brush (shrub) cover around structures. Remove flammable vegetation from within the initial 15 feet around structures.
- Beyond the initial 15 feet, thin trees to achieve a 10- to 12- foot crown spacing. Occasionally, clumps of two or three trees are acceptable for a more natural appearance, if additional space surrounds them.
- Mow grasses and weeds to a height of six inches or less for a distance of 30 feet from all structures.
- Prune tree branches within the defensible space up to a height of 10 feet above ground.
- Dispose of all slash and debris left from thinning by either chipping, hauling away or piling and burning. Contact your local fire department or local CSFS forester for burning restrictions and/or assistance.
- Remove shrubs and small trees or other potential ladder fuels from beneath large trees. Left in place, these fuels can carry a ground fire into tree crowns.
- Trim any branches extending over roofs, and remove branches within 15 feet of chimneys.
- Clean pine needles, leaves and other debris from roofs and gutters. This eliminates an ignition source for firebrands, especially during hot, dry weather.
- Stack firewood and woodpiles at least 30 feet from any structure. Make sure they are uphill or on the same level as structures, and clear away flammable vegetation from within 10 feet of these woodpiles.
- Place liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) containers at least 30 feet from structures. Clear anything flammable, including vegetation from within 10 feet of all tanks.

2012 Slash Drop-off Options for Mountain Residents

All times 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

June 16 & 17

Location: Conifer High School @ 10441 Hwy. 73

Host: Elk Creek Fire Dept.

June 23 & 24

Location: 11583 Camp Eden Road

Host: Coal Creek Fire Dept.

August 11 & 12

Location: Near station #3 on Settler's Drive @ 8445 S. Hwy. 285

Host: InterCanyon/Indian Hills Fire

Fees for 2012 Remote Slash Collection Program

Small Pickup - Bed High: \$5

Small Pickup - Cab High: \$8

Small Pickup - Above Cab High: \$10

Large Pickup - Bed High: \$8

Large Pickup - Cab High: \$10

Large Pickup - Above Cab High: \$12

Trailer - Single Axle: \$10

Trailer - Double Axle: \$15

Dump Truck - Cab High: \$20

Dump Truck - Above Cab High: \$25

Collection site will accept the following items:

Slash / limbs / tree debris / pine needles

Maximum length: 8 Feet

Maximum diameter: 6 Inches

Collection site will NOT accept the following items:

Household trash / tree stumps

Construction material

Refuse from commercial operations

Questions? Please call Emergency Management at 303-271-4900.

Chainsaw Safety

Spring is here and with it comes time to take care of the forested areas on your property. This usually means cleaning up damaged trees and fire mitigation projects. If you are a "do it yourself-er" you probably have a chainsaw and other tools to maintain your property.

The chainsaw is arguably the most dangerous tool in your home. There are approximately 40,000 chainsaw related injuries and deaths each year. The average chainsaw injury requires 110 stitches and the average cost for medical treatment is \$12,000 to \$15,000.

Matt Armbruster, owner of Matt's Tree Services, and Evergreen Meadows resident will be giving a free safety briefing on chainsaw and tree worker safety. Please join us, meet some neighbors, and learn something about chainsaw safety and safe work practices for working on your property.

Chainsaw Safety

When: Saturday May 19, 2012 at 10:00 am

Where: Evergreen Meadows ball field.

Please contact Matt (Mattstree@q.com , 303-884-2058) if you plan to attend.

Upcoming Events

Thanks to some nice weather and neighbors who volunteered their time, we had a great turnout at this year's Easter Egg Hunt! The Easter bunny made an appearance and surprised everyone by bringing along some friends - mama and baby bunnies.

If you're interested and need more information about the bunnies you saw at the Easter Egg Hunt please contact Garrison Vandine at (720) 352-2422. He is a local entrepreneur starting up his own small business raising rabbits.

The next few events include a Neighborhood clean-up day (May 26), the Neighborhood Garage Sale (July 13th and 14th), and the Summer Picnic (August 18th). All neighbors are welcome and encouraged to participate and/or volunteer!

If you have any ideas or would like to help for any events please contact Cathy Goodheart at thegoodhearts@gmail.com

EMHA Community Clean-Up Day Set for Saturday, May 26th, 10am

By Andy Potter

The second annual (or every-other-annual!) EMHA Community Clean-Up Day is set for 10am on Saturday, May 26. The goal of the event is to walk the roads in Evergreen Meadows (after the snow has fully melted) and clear the neighborhood of rubbish and debris that has collected over the winter. This is a fun, low commitment way to help clean up your community, and a great introduction to community service for your kids! Expect a one- to two-hour commitment depending on how many volunteers show up.

There are 490 homes in Evergreen Meadows; we will break the neighborhood into even sections based on how many people volunteer. We'll pull volunteer geographies out of a hat to make sure we cover all of Evergreen Meadows; if you prefer to clean up near your house you can trade with other volunteers. EMHA will provide garbage bags and a central location to dispose of oversize garbage (if needed).

If you are interested in participating, send an email to membership@emha.us, leave a message at 303-991-7699, or show up at the ballfield at Grizzly and Prairie Dog at 10am on Saturday May 26th. We hope to see you there!



Berrian Mountain Hike scheduled for Saturday August 18, 9am-noon

Did you know there is beautiful undeveloped Denver Mountain Park land immediately adjacent to Evergreen Meadows? Berrian Mountain is the peak that towers over Armadillo Trail on the eastern side of our subdivision. The Denver Mountain Park property encompasses 80 acres and intersects with Evergreen Meadows at 'upper' Armadillo Trail (north of Chipmunk; south of Wolverine). There is an unmarked trailhead there that leads to the peak.

The EMHA will lead a hike to the top of Berrian Mountain on Saturday August 18th, leaving the trailhead at 9am. The hike takes roughly 1 to 1 ½ hours. It is a fairly strenuous uphill climb with an elevation gain of roughly 1000 feet. Assume this is a 3 hour commitment (or longer if you want to take your time and enjoy the views at the top). If it is a nice day we encourage you to bring a bag lunch to enjoy at the peak, where you can see Denver to the east, Indian Peaks to the north, Mt Evans to the west, and the 'Conifer Town Center' to the south! There is a small 'parking area' (really just a flat spot) with room for ~3 cars opposite the trailhead.

If you are interested in participating email membership@emha.us, leave a message at 303-991-7699, or show up at the trailhead at 9am on Sat Aug 18. Depending on the level of interest we may do some carpooling to minimize parking problems at the trailhead. If you know the trail well and would like to help leading the hike we'd love your help.

Real Estate in the Neighborhood

Lisa Hoffman, Broker Associate
Keller Williams Foothills Realty

INVENTORY IS LOW! There are currently only 7 active listings in the neighborhood (less than ½ of what I reported back in the fall), and priced from the mid-\$300s to almost a million. There were 8 MLS sales over the last 6 months, with an average sales price over \$379,000, plus 4 houses currently under contract. The additional good news is that the neighborhood has shaken off most of the Short Sale/Foreclosure struggles that I reported on last fall. The front page of the Denver Post recently announced "Buyers must act fast to get dream home", in relation to parts of the Denver metro area, so there is optimism for finally starting to turn the corner in 2012.

Contact me with your real estate questions, or if I can provide you with a free analysis to determine the value of your home. You can reach me at 720-891-8502 or Lisa@ColoradoFoothillsRealEstate.com.





Cabinetry, design, and contracting for the entire home.

*Please visit our showroom in Conifer
above the UPS Store, between King Soopers and Big R.
Joe Hoelsken, Owner and Evergreen Meadows Resident*

Phone: 303-838-4433 • www.BlueMountainBuilder.com



Neighborhood Garage Sale

The Neighborhood Garage Sale is set for July 13th and 14th (Friday and Saturday) and please be current on EMHA dues in order to participate. We typically have folks email whether they are having a sale, and then put their addresses on a map. The maps are posted at the two main entrances for "buyers" to pick up. Look for more info to come!

I am a long time Evergreen Meadows resident and a neighborhood specialist.

Call me today to learn the value of your home.



**Lisa Hoffman, GRI, CMAS
720-891-8502**

Call me when you're ready to make a move!

Moving Sale

27203 Armadillo Way

Saturday, May 12, 9-5

We are having a one day moving sale in mid May 2012, all proceeds fund the Alex Gilmer Flight School Scholarship-nonprofit 501c3.

Please go to Alexgilmerscholarship.org to learn more about Alex, and Scholarship Application and Donation Procedures, and a detailed list of items for sale.

Big Items include:

- 2002 Chevy Tahoe~7500.00,
- 2003 ATV Honda Rancher ES with accessories~2800.00,
- 2007 Sears lawn Tractor 20.OHP, 46" Mower~900.00 OBO

The Rocky Mountain Music Festival



**The Charlie Daniels Band
Eric Burdon & the Animals**

plus 10 local bands and vendors!

August 12 - Clement Park - Littleton

'Earlybird' Discount Tickets now ON-SALE

First 1000 tix only \$30

TheRockyMountainMusicFestival.com .com

**Evergreen Meadows
Homeowners Association
(EMHA)**

P.O. Box 2228
Evergreen, CO 80437

Phone & Fax:
303-991-7699

E-Mail:
board@emha.us

Checkout our website as the content
changes frequently:
<http://www.emha.us>

Advertising

The Meadowlark newsletter reaches almost 500 homes in the area. Are you interested in advertising or continuing to advertise in the Meadowlark? If so, please call 303-991-7699 or send an email to secretary@emha.us.

Outdoor Work - Hardworking 10th grader and Boy Scout available for odd jobs. Mitch Hoffman @ 303-670-4697

Red Cross Certified Babysitter - Experienced high school senior student available to babysit. Red Cross certified and references available. Katie Hoffman @ 303-670-4697

Baby-sitting - Responsible middle school babysitter available. Experienced and trained. Please call Reece Nagel at 303-674-4717.

Pet/Plant Sitters- Call Nicholas or Rachel Mizenko at 303-670-1716 to take care of our pets and/or plants while you are away.

As an ongoing effort to reduce printing costs, if you're receiving this newsletter via paper copy, but have an email address and are willing to receive this newsletter by email, please let us know and we'll update our records.

