

Ponderosa News



The Newsletter of the Ponderosa Hills Civic Association

2nd Quarter 2015

Calendar of 2015 Upcoming Activities

Pancake Breakfast — Saturday, June 27th



Ponderosa Park at Woodland Trail and Piney Creek

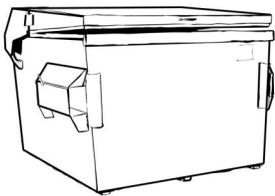
9am to 11am

Pancakes, bacon, sausage, pastries

Firemen, Sheriff's deputies, Neighbors

Plan to come and join us, we always have a Great Time!

Dumpster Day — August 8th



Ponderosa Park at Woodland Trail and Piney Creek

8:30 am to 11am

First load free with your membership.

Dumpsters, Chippers, Metal Recycling, Donation Truck

Annual Meeting and Board Elections — Sept 16th



Location and time to be determined later.
Join the PHCA Board and support your Community.

Wild Fire Training

South Metro Fire conducted Wildfire Training here in Ponderosa Hills April 13-18, 20, 21, 23. The weather resulted in activities being cancelled on the 16, 17 and 18th. Ponderosa Park was used as the staging area and I noticed several trucks in the area of the park and on the far end of Antelope. Several residents volunteered their homes for exercises, not all were used, but South Metro extends a Sincere Thanks to all of you.

XCEL Update

Installation of higher power lines approved but the PUC requested that alternate routes be investigated, and the implementation delayed to 2020. The original competition date was scheduled for 2016 and is now delayed to 2020.

Additional routes such as along the I470 corridor is being investigated but is unlikely. The current proposed route along the east and south of Ponderosa Hills has the advantage of being on easement property that XCEL already owns.

XCEL will be holding Open Houses again this June to provide updates and information to the public.

XCEL was asked if they would investigate putting in a bike trail along their easement and perhaps working with the County on the NorthWest Trail system which has been proposed in the Douglas County Master Open Space Plan for 2030.

East Mainstreet Project Underway

Property on the northwest corner of Main St. and Pine Dr. is being developed to provide a stormwater detention pond. Property on the east of Pine Dr. will be the location of the new Parker Library.

Committee Reports

New Website—Check it out!

**** If you have pictures of our area or community activities you would like to contribute please send them to Board@ponderosahills.com.**

Roads— Ponderosa Dr. is on a possible list for paving by the county. Residents will have to approve by a 70% margin.

Meeting with the new leader for the Rocking Horse East and West developments is being considered. **Any interest in attending?**

PHCA 2014 Board

The 2014 PHCA Board is currently made up of 6 members.

Cathy Lichty, (President), Bruce Conklin, (Vice President), Carmen Wilkes, (2nd Vice president), Sandy Fish, (Secretary), Janet Finer, (Treasurer), Steve O'Connor (Committee Chair). Welcome Janet and Steve. Thanks for serving.

Fire on Spring Creek

A newly built garage on Spring Creek went up in flames early this April. A heat-lamp used to warm some baby chicks started the fire which quickly consumed a garage full of stored items and two cars. The Smith family had moved into the home about 18 months earlier and had had the garage built.

They report that the time from 911 call to water on the flames was about 15 minutes. South Metro responded with several units including one tender, one tower truck, three engines and three ambulances. Aurora Fire and Rattlesnake Fire also sent firefighters and apparatus. They created a pool of water that they pumped from to extinguish the blaze.

Firemen commented positively that the grass had recently been mowed even though it was early in the season and that the trees had been limbed up. These things helped to keep the fire from spreading. Luckily the fire did not spread to the house but it did damage the water system so the Smiths were forced to live elsewhere for awhile.

The firemen stayed for 4 to 5 hours continuing to look for hot spots and monitor the situation. They left their cards with the home owners in case they had any questions.

Treasurer's Report 2015 Q2



Checking Account Total			\$ 6,998.79
Savings Account			\$ 2652.97
CD			\$18,868.97

PHCA Board Update

There are currently many open positions on the board. Please consider joining the board this year.

Elections will be held in September for a new board for 2016, please consider serving.



Septic Tank Tips

Tips to Avoid Trouble

DO

- DO inspect your septic system every year
- DO pump out septic tank every four years
- DO keep records of pumping, inspections and other maintenance
- DO repair leaking faucets and toilets
- DO conserve water to reduce wastewater
- DO divert roof drains and surface water away from the absorption field
- DO call a professional when you have questions

DON'T

- DON'T drive or park over any part of your septic system
- DON'T use commercial septic tank additives
- DON'T dig or build on top of your septic system
- DON'T plant anything over the absorption field (non-irrigated, native grasses are ok)
- DON'T flush non-biodegradable items into your system, such as diapers, tampons, etc.
- DON'T dump harmful chemicals down the drain

Tri-County Health Department Offices

Aurora

15400 E. 14th Pl., Suite 309
Aurora, CO 80011
(303) 341-9370

Castle Rock

4400 Castleton Ct.
Castle Rock, CO 80109
(303) 663-7650

Commerce City

4201 E. 72nd Ave.
Commerce City, CO 80022
(303) 288-6816

Greenwood Village

6162 S. Willow Drive, Suite 100
Greenwood Village, CO 80111
(720) 200-1670

Colorado Trees showing damage

An excerpt taken from an article written by Ryan Lockwood, Mar 2015

Tree damage is visible from Fort Collins to south of Denver, and from Boulder to points much farther east. In some cases, the needles on entire conifer trees are fading, and the needles of many ponderosa pines are displaying a stark white color not typically seen – which foresters believe is solely due to the fall cold snap.

Red-to-brown needles also are present on many evergreen trees and shrubs, including Scotch, Austrian and limber pines; junipers; and spruce trees, mostly on the south-facing side. This likely is due to the November cold snap as well, but may also be related to winter scorch conditions observed each year.

Additionally, many deciduous tree species were slow going into dormancy last fall, with green leaves still attached to hardwoods like pear, oak, elm and linden when the freeze hit. And some broad-leafed evergreen shrubs have been damaged.



JUNE 11 - 14, 2015

PARADE. FOOD. CARNIVAL RIDES. FOUR CONCERT STAGES WITH FREE MUSIC.
IT'S THE PERFECT FAMILY WEEKEND!

HOURS: THU >> 5pm - 10pm | FRI >> 5pm - 12am | SAT >> 9am - 12am | SUN >> 8am - 10pm

BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE PARKER AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

Ponderosa Hills Services Directory

This directory of services is provided as a service to PHCA members and does not constitute an endorsement by the PHCA Board of Directors. Send your ad requesting or providing a service to board@ponderosahills.com If you no longer need the service, please let us know. The editor retains the right to edit or reject any advertisement.



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