



Ridge Crest

Homeowners Association

May 2009

Trash Removal Service

Two proposals have been received, for reduced trash service rates. **Gallegos Sanitation** is offering a 65 gallon trash container, for \$8.50 per month, and a 95 gallon container for \$11.50 per month. Both container sizes include weekly pick-up and recycling service.

Gator Rubbish Removal offers a 96 gallon container with an 18 gallon recycle bin, for \$10.50 a month. This includes weekly trash pick-up, and bi-weekly recycling. A less expensive option, for \$9.25 per month, is weekly pick-up of trash from owner-provided containers, not to exceed 4-32 gallon containers. A third option includes weekly pick-up of a 96 gallon container provided by Gator, without recycling service, for \$9.25 per month. Service through Gator would require a two-year minimum contract.

Waste Connections currently serves most of the Ridge Crest Community, for a flat \$15.50/month fee. This includes a 96 gallon container, recycle bin, and weekly pick-up. Both Gallegos and Gator are offering Ridge Crest residents a reduced rate, based on a particular level of commitment, which varies by company. To help the Board gauge interest, please email your comments to the Board address in the sidebar. Results will be posted in the next newsletter.

Garage Sale, and Community Clean-Up

The date for our community garage sale has been set for Saturday, May 16th. The Association has arranged for advertising, and will create a map showing sale sites. Please email the board if you'd like to participate, to be sure that your address is included on the map. The deadline for notification is Tuesday, May 12th. Maps will be distributed to sale sites, and attached to signs posted at entrances to the community.

Dumpsters for household waste items will be available that weekend. They will be located in the parking lot west of the Prairie Ridge Elementary school, just north of the park. Please leave only household items. No toxic waste items will be accepted, including, but not limited to, computers or monitors, paints and stains, motor oil, and vehicle batteries.

The Salvation Army is available for donation pick-up on Wednesdays in Firestone. Call 1.800.728.7825 to coordinate a donation. To view a list of acceptable items, visit their website: http://www.satruck.com/donate_goods/

Beginning in June, monthly board meetings will no longer be held at the Sable Landing Event Center. Watch for an announcement regarding the new location, on the web site and future newsletters.

Plant Materials Discount

Local nurseries are offering Ridge Crest residents discounts on plant materials. The Tree Farm in Longmont, and Cimarron Nursery in Firestone, both offer a 20% discount. Next time you make a purchase at either retailer, mention that you are a Ridge Crest resident.



Board of Directors:
Wendy Osborn - *President*
Kelly Deitman - *Vice President*
Denny Usher
Laura Kocur

Direct Board Email:
board@ridgecresthoa.com

HOA Website:
www.ridgecresthoa.com

Arch. Control Committee:
Amber Nichols
Carl Kocur
Kelly Deitman

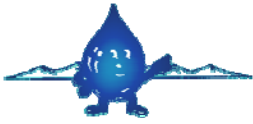
Welcome Home Committee:
Laura Kocur
Penny Gagliardi
Stacey Cummins
Mary Benson
Tina Urbanski
Jaime Hodgson
Jacqueline Peterson
Brenda Wagner

Management:
Ridge Crest Homeowners Assoc.
c/o Hammersmith Mgmt., Inc.
5619 DTC Parkway, Suite #900
Greenwood Village, CO 80111
www.e-hammersmith.com

Community Manager:
Todd Larson

Client Services:
303.980.0700
clientservices@e-hammersmith.com

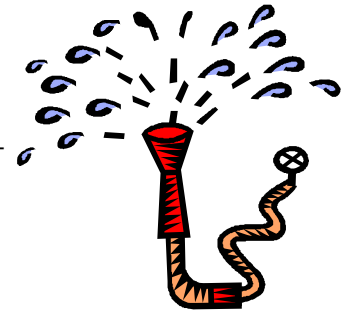
Board Meetings:
Board of Directors meetings are on the second Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm. Meetings are held at Sable Landing Event Center, 5691 Sable Avenue, (WCR 22), Firestone



PWSD IRRIGATION & LAWN CARE GUIDELINES FOR HOMEOWNERS

Practicing the following guidelines can decrease water use by up to 30% over the course of the growing season:

- ◆ Wait to activate your sprinkler system as late into the season as possible depending on the weather. Due to recent heavy precipitation, sprinkler systems should not be set to run until late May at the earliest. By starting later, you will encourage grass roots to seek water and grow deeper. When hot, dry summer days arrive, the deeper root system means the grass can go longer between waterings. Watering now will kill deep turf roots, making the lawns less drought tolerant this summer!
- ◆ When you start up your system, go through each zone to check for problems and make repairs. Be sure to check for any leaks in the system, especially at the backflow preventer and in the valve boxes. This is the time to adjust all the heads to ensure the water is being applied to the correct areas, and not to the sidewalks and driveway!
- ◆ Set the controller to water only half the amount your landscape will typically need in July. Consider decreasing the number of days in half and not the time per zone. As an example, if you typically are running your irrigation for 10 minutes per zone every 3rd day in July, set the controller to run 10 minutes per zone every 6th day in spring and fall. This way, the water applied always goes to the same depth, keeping the depth of your turf roots consistent throughout the year.
- ◆ When determining the watering needs of planted areas, dig down about 4 to 6 inches to determine the moisture content of the soil. Do not worry about the dryness of the top inch of soil. If the soil is too dry to form a ball when squeezed in the hand, it needs water. Never water if the soil is still wet.
- ◆ Water all plants deeply but infrequently to encourage deeper, healthier rooting. Prolonged intervals between watering (short of drought damage) will provide maximum encouragement of plant growth.
- ◆ Aerate the lawn in the **spring** and again in the **fall** to obtain these benefits:
 - Improved water penetration into compacted soils and through thatch and mat layers.
 - Compacted soil is loosened, increasing the availability of water and nutrients.
 - Enhanced soil oxygen levels, which stimulates root growth and the activity of thatch-decomposing organisms.
 - Enhanced turfgrass shoot and root development.
 - Reduced water runoff.
 - Increased turf drought tolerance.
- ◆ Check thatch depth occasionally to determine the need for corrective procedures. More than ½" will be problematic.
- ◆ Make sure aeration plugs are at least 2" to 3" in length for best results (the longer the plug, the better!).
- ◆ Use core-type aerators to loosen the soil, rather than spike-type aerators, which compact it.
- ◆ A properly fertilized lawn requires less water. Applying more fertilizer than is needed can deplete other nutrients and cause deficiencies.
- ◆ Generally, for low-maintenance bluegrass lawns (common throughout Colorado), apply one pound of actual nitrogen per 1,000 sq. ft. in the fall (October) and fertilize lightly (one-half pound of N/1,000 sq. ft.) in the late spring (@ Memorial Day) and again in early summer (@ July 4th). 20-10-10 fertilizer contains 20% nitrogen (N). A bag that weighs 25 pounds would contain 5 pounds of N, applied to 5,000 square feet of turf = 1 pound of actual N/1000 sq. ft. Half the bag would provide ½ pound of N/1000 sq. ft. Mow the lawn no lower than 2 ½ inches (3" to 4" better!). The higher the lawn is mown, the deeper the roots. Sharpen your mower blades regularly!



New Paint Colors Coming Soon

The Architectural Control Committee presently uses a binder of approved exterior paint colors, to review painting requests. Several homeowners have recently suggested that the Association update the approved paint palette. So, for the past 6 months, board members have been reviewing new colors, and working with the local Sherwin Williams store, for professional binders. New colors will be available this summer. The previous colors will still be available, but updated colors will be an option, for members interested in more choices.

Paint Discount

Considering painting your home? Did you know that as a Ridge Crest resident you qualify for a 30% discount on Kwal Paint? There's a Kwal store at 1197 Ken Pratt Blvd. in Longmont, and all you have to do is mention that you live in Ridge Crest when you make your purchase. If you haven't yet filled out your DRR paperwork for painting, please do so prior to starting your project. The ACC has a binder which contains all the approved paint colors, available for homeowner review. Contact the Board or our manager to see the binder.

Town Grant

The Town of Firestone will be offering another grant for community improvements this year. The Association will apply for grant funds to replace turf along St. Vrain Ranch Blvd. with rock and organic mulch. This area has always been the source of maintenance and irrigation issues. The grant request has already been prepared, and will be submitted to the Town in June.



As some of you have witnessed, improvements in the Taylor detention area are nearly complete. New soil amendment and irrigation systems have been installed. New seed will be applied soon. The goal is to improve the native grasses in this area, and increase property values for adjacent homeowners. This process was implemented in the Stagecoach detention area last year, to great success.

Pet Pick-up Bags

We can train dogs to help the blind across the street and to assist the physically disabled, but we will probably never get the average dog to tote around a pooper-scooper and clean up it's own mess. That puts the responsibility on you, the pet owner, to clean up after your dog. There are several dog stations located throughout our community. Each contains plastic pick-up bags, along with a trash can. Please use them!

Call for Volunteers

Spring is right around the corner! Ridge Crest HOA has several committees, including the Architectural Control Committee, the Beautification Committee, and the Welcome Home Committee. As many of you have learned, the Architectural Control Committee (ACC) reviews your Design Review Requests (DRRs), for presentation to the Board for final approval. The Beautification Committee, chaired by Board President Wendy Osborn, designs and implements landscaping improvements throughout our community. The Welcome Home Committee plans the annual HOA party, and smaller-scale social events during the year. Committees are open to any Association member, and all of them could use your help! To join any of these groups, contact Hammersmith Management, or the Board of Directors, thru the email links in the sidebar.



Foreclosure Counseling Workshop

The Colorado Foreclosure Hotline announces its third Foreclosure Assistance Fair in Northern Colorado, in conjunction with the Larimer County Foreclosure Prevention Task Force and the Town of Milliken Housing Authority. The Fair will be held on Saturday, June 20 from 9:00 a.m. to noon at The Ranch, 5280 Arena Circle in Loveland.

Homeowners facing foreclosure or in danger of falling behind on mortgage payments can attend the event to ask questions of housing counselors and gain general information about such organizations as the Colorado Foreclosure Hotline; Consumer Credit Counseling Services; the Colorado Housing and Finance Authority (CHFA); and local housing organizations. Local housing counseling agencies affiliated with the Colorado Foreclosure Hotline will be available to schedule one-on-one appointments for more detailed assistance. The foreclosure fair also will feature seminars on topics such as "How to Communicate with Your Mortgage Company" and "Options When Facing Foreclosure." For more information on the Foreclosure Assistance Fair, please visit

www.coloradoforeclosurehotline.org or call Sarah Kincheloe at 303-866-2838. The Colo-

rado Foreclosure Hotline is an initiative committed to referring homeowners in some state of delinquency or foreclosure to a toll-free phone number (1-877-601-HOPE) that connects callers with local housing counseling agencies for free assistance.



Firestone Information

Fire Department

Frederick-Firestone
Fire Protection District
303.833.2742

Firestone Police Department

303.833.0811

Carbon Valley Medical Ctr.

303.833.3888

Brighton Community Hospital

303.651.1513

Carbon Valley Animal Hosp.

303.651.7387

Coal Ridge Animal Hosp.

303.833.1137

Xcel Energy

303.659.0551

Kinder Morgan

800.563.0012

Tri-Area Sanitation District

303.833.2977

303.776.9570

Waste Connections Inc.

303.708.8359

Postal Service

303.833.2412

800.275.8777

Carbon Valley Rec. District

303.833.3660

Carbon Valley Library

720.685.5100

Tri-Area Senior Center

303.833.4300

Prairie Ridge Elementary

720.494.3641

Coal Ridge Middle School

303.833.4176

Carbon Valley Academy

303.774.9555

Imagine Charter School

303.772.3711

Weld Library District

303.833.3510

Town of Firestone

www.ci.firestone.co.us