



October 2017

TrailMark News Update

TrailMark at Chatfield HOA's Newsletter

October Calendar

10/1 - TrailMark News Update

10/1 - Quarterly Assessments Due

10/7 - TrailMark Meet & Greet

Visit TrailMark.org for the most current neighborhood news.

Upcoming Elections

Elections for the Board of Directors for the TrailMark Homeowners Associations are upon us again. This year, two positions are open and candidates are needed! The HOA is looking for volunteers to join the Board! The elections will be held on November 9, 2017 at the HOA Annual Meeting. If you are interested in running for the Board of Directors, please complete a self-nomination form by Monday, October 9th. The self-nomination form can be found on the TrailMark website: www.trailmark.org. Submissions should be sent to the Property Manager (akelly@crsofcolorado.com) for inclusion in the Annual Meeting packet, which will be mailed October 10th. Please contact Angie Kelly, Property Manager, if you have any questions.

RV Update

There is still discussion taking place about the HOA policy and RV parking. The HOA wanted to clarify the status and the actions to be taken moving forward. The [policy](#) from January 1, 2012 regarding Recreation Vehicle Parking has been removed from the website and rescinded by a vote of the Board of Directors. The policy was in conflict with the Community Declarations and therefore, not enforceable. RV parking regulations will be left to the City of Littleton to manage and govern. Therefore, if you have a concern or would like to report an RV parking issue, please contact the Littleton Police Department non-emergency number at 303-794-1551 to report such vehicles.

New Policies Proposed

The Board of Directors is working hard to ensure the operations of the HOA are as efficient as possible. Two new policies have been drafted in relation to this: a communications policy and a committee policy. Drafts of each policy will be on the website for review and questions. Please contact the property manager should you have any questions regarding the policy. The proposed policies will affect the operation of the Board and the HOA Committees. However, the Board wants to ensure the community has time to review these policies before formal action is taken.

Pumpkins on Patios

Just as vegetable gardens can attract wild animals, so can pumpkins on your patio this time of year. The pumpkins can also possibly attract a bear. Please be aware, and a possible suggestion if you are concerned is to use artificial pumpkins or jack-o-lanterns for decoration.

One of TrailMark's smaller creatures attacked this poor defenseless pumpkin on Eden Drive. Photo by Ramona Caswell



Join Us



www.trailmark.org

TRAILMARK VOTERS - MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!

In November, we will vote for two (2) At-Large City Council members. The At-Large candidate receiving the highest number of votes will serve a four-year term, the At-Large candidate receiving the second highest number of votes will serve a two-year term.

TrailMark homeowners and residents have an opportunity to meet the candidates by attending the HOA sponsored Meet and Greet on October 7th. All four At-Large candidates have been invited. To help prepare, the following information is provided from the City's website. This "cheat sheet" is about issues concerning the Council:

The Council Goals & Objectives and Vision is:

To preserve a family-oriented and economically vibrant community that encourages citizen involvement, respects diversity, values community character, and enhances the quality of life of Littleton residents and visitors

What does this mean to you and TrailMark?

- What steps do you support to assure a financially-sound City government?
- How does the City Council provide for a SAFE community?
 - ◇ City Services: What's the plan to enhance and improve these services?
 - ◇ Police Protection: What is the plan to attract and keep our police force?
 - ◇ Fire Protection and Emergency Medical Services: Littleton historically has been understaffed and underpaid in comparison with other metro departments. What's the plan to improve this situation so that we attract the best candidates and keep those we train?
 - ◇ Support for public/private partnerships to foster safety and services. There have been attempts to consolidate fire protection and emergency services with other metro departments, to save money, attract and keep the best, benefit from economies of scale, and provide more responsive services. What is the justification for keeping a Littleton department when partners are leaving Littleton?
- Develop and maintain our Public Infrastructure - Our streets and roads.
 - ◇ Are we appropriately funded to maintain our street and roads?
 - ◇ There has been discussion about spending down our Reserves, which are already at a minimum level. Since this is not a sustainable funding source, why is it being considered?
- Preserve and Cultivate a Quality Community
 - ◇ Continuous improvement in service delivery – Fire Protection, Emergency and Community Services
 - ◇ Is there support for added TrailMark amenities?
- Enhance the quality of our parks, trails, and open space
- Pursue a balanced and sustainable local economy:
 - ◇ Recruit, retain and assist businesses
 - ◇ Work with community partners to increase the number and quality of events
- Support environmental sustainability
 - ◇ Foster Community Involvement, Communication and Trust by providing service delivery with unwavering integrity and ethics

Four Littleton citizens are registered to run for the At-Large seats:

Kyle Schlachter kyle4littleton@gmail.com
[Schlachter Candidate Affidavit](#)
[Schlachter Committee Registration](#)

Karina Elrod karinaforlittleton@gmail.com
[Elrod Candidate Affidavit](#)
[Elrod Candidate Affidavit - AMENDED](#)
[Elrod Committee Registration](#)

Doug Clark doug@clarkforlittleton.org
[Clark Candidate Affidavit](#)
[Clark Committee Registration](#)

Carol Brzeczek carolforcouncil@comcast.net
[Brzeczek Candidate Affidavit](#)
[Brzeczek Committee Registration](#)

<https://www.littletongov.org/city-services/city-departments/city-clerk/election-information/2017-general-election/2017-candidates>

Get involved in this election. It may mean the difference between getting the city services we deserve and pay for, or turning back the clock with those who are not strong TrailMark supporters. Learn about the candidates. Talk to them. Write to them. Most importantly -

GET OUT AND VOTE!!!

**Join us at the TrailMark Meet and Greet
Saturday, October 7th, 9:00-11:00 am at the TrailMark Playground**

Fall Monthly Lawn Care Tips

It is important to remember that your lawn needs care in the fall and winter months as well as the spring and summer months. To give your lawn the best head start in the spring and looking healthy in the summer please see the monthly tips below provided by the Colorado Arborists and Lawn Care Professional of Colorado.

September - Fertilizing for Winter

One of the most important times for fertilizing occurs in the fall for cool season grasses (Blue grass, Rye grass, Fescue). A “winterizer” fertilizer is considered to have higher amounts of potassium and/or phosphorous. However, there is no evidence to suggest that extra “P” or “K” in the fall is beneficial to Blue grass, Rye or Fescue. The most important nutrient for fall is nitrogen. The amount of nitrogen needed depends on turf type and maintenance. For high maintenance (ball fields) one to two pounds of nitrogen can be needed for 100 square feet of lawn area. For normal maintenance (homeowners) one pound is recommended. For Blue grass, Rye grass and Fescues the requirement are basically the same.

October - Shutting Down Your Sprinkler System

October is the month where you may be getting ready to shut down your sprinkler system for the winter. As the days get shorter, lawns are under much less stress from the sun and therefore require much less water. Watering should be done occasionally if dry weather persists where once per week should be adequate. Before shutting down your sprinkler systems, water heavily to help prevent root damage to your lawn that can occur over the winter. You may need to water a few times with a hose over the winter during periods when there is no snow cover and especially in those areas that are mostly exposed to the sun. Fall is a good time to aerate your lawn, as the soil is opened up allowing water and fertilizer to get to the root system which will increase winter hardiness. Cores will slowly break down over the winter and work their way back into the soil. You will want to do this before the soil freezes and after the lawn has been adequately watered which will ensure deep cores.

November - Clearing Leaves

First of all, be sure your lawn is cleared of any leaves and grass clippings. This will allow more exposure to winter moisture and light. The lawn should have been fertilized for the last time by now with a pound or so of nitrogen, with some portion of that being in a slow release form. Also, mow for the last time, leaving the height a little longer than a normal cut. This will allow for more leaf surface for photosynthesis to continue. Weeds should have been treated by now, particularly perennial weeds for next season. While very little is happening from a pest standpoint, the most important thing is to monitor all trees, shrubs and lawn areas for soil moisture. If snow or rain has been absent, a deep thorough soaking of landscape areas once every two to three weeks will help maintain plant health.

December - Winter Care Instructions for Your Lawn

Watering: Your lawn will continue to require moisture all winter long. If there is no snow cover, you must water thoroughly every 4-5 weeks any area of the lawn that dries out. Please pay particular attention to:

1. Hills with a southern exposure
2. Areas regularly swept by winds
3. Areas subject to heat reflection from windows or light colored walls

The south side of evergreens (they will take available moisture from the soil)

For additional information please visit - <https://www.treeandlawncareco.org/monthly-tips/>

Night at the Lights Change for 2017

During the Winter Holidays the Denver Botanic Gardens Chatfield Farms will only be open Fridays-Sundays and they are turning the gardens into Santa's Village. There is no option to have a private TrailMark event as the barn is now Santa's workshop with vendors, reindeer, Mr. and Mrs. Claus, elves, etc. Please note they are willing to offer everyone in TrailMark member pricing of \$15 per person for the **first weekend** of the event as it is usually \$20 per person. Look to the November newsletter for exact dates of the discounted weekend.



Photo by Robert Cannady

TrailMark Neighbor of the Month

Congratulations to our September "Neighbor of the Month" winners! They were nominated by TrailMark residents for the following:

Juli Hill and Gabrielle Handley - for going above and beyond as bulletin board managers.

Thank you for all you do!

Nominate someone for a good deed in our "[TrailMark Neighbor of the Month](#)" by simply posting their name and the action you wish to congratulate them for on the [TrailMark HOA Facebook page](#) (images welcome!).

HOA Assessments Due October 1st

Sunday, October 1st

As a reminder, HOA Assessments are due October 1st. If you have any questions, please contact Angie Kelly at Community Resource Services, 303-381-4980

TrailMark HOA Board

TrailMark Meet & Greet

Saturday, October 7th
9:00-11:00 am

TrailMark Playground

Meet your Littleton City Council candidates!

TMMD/HOA Special Board Meeting

Thursday, November 9th
Fire Station 19, 8490 W TrailMark Pkwy

6:30 pm - TMMD Special Meeting & Budget Hearing

7:00 pm - HOA Annual Board Meeting

All are welcome.

If you have content that you would like to contribute to the newsletter, please contact board@trailmarkhoa.org with requested copy for approval.