

Tracks

A Publication of the TrailMark HOA—A Covenant Controlled Community

APRIL 2009

EXTERIOR HOUSE PAINTING

Many homes will need a fresh coat of paint this year.

Is this the year for you to paint your house??

The Design Review Committee has samples of the TrailMark approved colors. You may borrow the color swatches by contacting the DRC at

designreview@trailmarkhoa.org or Client Services at Hammersmith Management, Inc. (303) 980-0700 or email: clientservices@e-hammermsith.com.

Written approval from the DRC is required <u>prior</u> to painting even if using the same color scheme.

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WWW.TRAILMARKHOA.ORG

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Board Members

President......Stephen McKeon Vice President.....Karen Millspaugh Vice President.....Mike McMahon Treasurer.....Sharon Gambrell Elms Secretary.....Michael Glade

TrailMark Committees

Area Development Committee
Chair.....Kim McMahon

Common Area Committee

Chair......Lesa Rangel

Covenants Committee

Chair.....Emre Baytok

Newsletter Editor.....Noreen Kelly

Design & Review Committee

Chair.....TrailMark Staff

Finance Committee

Chair.....Sharon Gambrell Elms

Social Committee

Chair.....Sandy Ocker

Website Development Committee

Chair.....Denise Kato

Safety Committee

Chair.....Mark Rogers

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ROUND-UP



Roundup of Current News and Events

Re: March 12th Regular Meeting:

A regularly scheduled meeting on Thursday, March 12th, of the **TrailMark Homeowner's Association**, **Inc. Board of Directors**, turned into something "not so regular." Because of a great deal of confusion generated by misreading, rumor and disinformation – a usual attendance group of approximately 10-15 homeowners turned into a "cast of thousands." There was a lot of anger expressed because of a **supposed decision of the Homeowner's Board to build additional facilities in TrailMark.**

Under the Homeowner Forum, **Tim Strunk**, president of the **TrailMark Metropolitan District Board** was the first to address the group, giving the exact timeline of events towards obtaining an okay to "share" the school site for possible additional facilities (please note the article on pages 5 and 6). Other Board members addressing the group was **Stephen McKeon**, current president of the Homeowners Association (HOA), and **Jeff Bushey**, past president of the HOA. Many homeowners, both pro and con towards the idea of additional facilities, were called upon to express their concerns. The biggest area of concern seemed to be the belief that a decision of building additional facilities had already been made, and what those facilities would be. Please understand, that at this time, **no decision has been made**, other than to get the okay to share the school site: and it is the TrailMark Metropolitan District (not the HOA) who is spearheading this effort.

Kim McMahon was introduced as the Chairman of the **Area Development Committee**, and homeowners were invited to participate on the committee. To contact the committee with either an offer to participate – or with a question – please contact areadevelopment@trailmarkhoa.org.

After much discussion about "additional facilities," the regular business of the HOA Board was resumed. Minutes from January and February were approved; financial reports were approved, the Management Contract with Hammersmith for 2009, as changed by the attorney; was approved; the Landscape Contract as okayed by the Common Area Committee was approved; and the request from the Common Area Committee to okay funds for the shelter and landscaping of the southwest corner of TrailMark was approved. As there were no homeowners present for hearings, the regular meeting was adjourned. The next regular meeting of the TrailMark HOA Board of Directors is scheduled for May 14, 2009, at the Learning Center.

Re: our Ponds and Reservoirs:

Blair Leisure is the biologist for our ponds and reservoirs. She is again suggesting that we in TrailMark use fertilizers that are low or no phosphorus on our landscaping. Please note the specific brands included in the **2009 TrailMark Summer Lawn Care** article. Also, please do not discharge any contaminated water (i.e. from hot tubs) into the storm drains or directly into any ponds, as they change the environment of the ponds.

Re: "Eggsellent" Fun and Food at South Suburban:

Please note the many fun activities being presented through South Suburban Parks and Recreation. April promises to provide egg hunts and egg scrambles, as well as a lovely Easter Brunch. There will be a "Hole-in-One" activity, as well as mini-tennis lessons. Also, please be aware that Blood Screenings will be done at the Lone Tree, Goodson and Buck Recreation Centers. Please check the SSPR article for further information.



APRIL 2009



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				Spring Break		
			April's Foods Day	2 Label Newsletters	3	4
5 Palm Sunday	6 Newsletters mailed	Common Area Committee Mtg 6:30pm Littleton City Council Mtg 7:00pm	Design Review Committee 6:30pm Passover (sundown)	9 Maundy Thursday	Opening Day for the Rockies 10 Good Friday	11
12	13	14 Board Work Session 6:30pm	15	16	17	18
19	20	21 Littleton City Council Mtg 7:00pm	Earth Day & Administrative Professional Day Design Review Committee 6:30pm	Shakespeare's Birthday 23 Greeley Jazz Festival	NO SCHOO24	Chatfield HS. PROM
26 NAT	Covenants 27 Committee Mtg 6:30pm	28 POE1	29			akespeare



MAY 2009



						O
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	Common Area Committee Mtg 6:30pm Littleton City Council Mtg 7:00pm	6	7	8	9
10 Mother's Day	Newsletter Articles deadline	12	13 Design Review Committee 6:30pm	14 TrailMark's Homeowners Association Mtg 6:30pm	15	16
17	18	Littleton City Council Mtg 7:00pm	20		Graduation at Red Rocks for Chatfield HS 9AM - No School Newsletter deadlines	
24 31	Covenants Committee Mtg 6:30pm	Finals for Cha	Last day of school for Falcon & Shaffer tfield - half days	28		30
NAT	IONAI	STRA	WBER	RYMO	HTM	

TrailMark Metropolitan District Information to Homeowners

Tax History and Financial Plan

In 1998, the **Metropolitan District Board** (staffed by Shea Homes) issued \$8.5M in bonds at 5.75%. From 1998 to 2003 the Metropolitan District Board did not have sufficient income to pay its bills, and so under the Service Plan, Shea Homes was required to loan the District money to pay those bills. In 2003, the District owed Shea Homes \$2.7M. This included \$1.7M at 7.5% and \$1.0M at 5.6%. That year, the District refinanced the bonds at a rate of 3.375% and used the excess revenue created by the refinancing to start paying off the Shea loans.

In 2006, the District arranged to have South Suburban Parks and Recreation District (SSPRD) take over the maintenance of the Open Space and Trails System which up until that point had been the responsibility of the Metropolitan District. This agreement between the District and SSPRD saved the District approximately \$200,000 per year. The extra revenue was used to pay down the Shea Loans.

In 2008, the District paid off the last of the Shea Homes loans and initiated a Fee and Tax Reduction program for the homeowners. The district eliminated the "Recreation Fee" and cut taxes by 7.6 mills or 11%.

In 2009, the Metropolitan District again cut taxes, this time by 12 mills or 18%. The current mill levy of 46.653 mills breaks down to 30 mills to pay the bonds or the "debt service" and 16.7 mills for operations. In the year 2018, the bonds will be paid off and in the year 2019, the 30 mills will be eliminated from your taxes.

At the current mill levy for operations of 16.7 mills, the District will collect approximately \$200,000 in excess of its planned expenditures for 2009. This money will be added to past reserves to produce a sum of approximately \$500,000 to be used to fund a possible Community Center/Pool (**if it is approved in the upcoming poll**). This same excess will be used in future years to pay off the debt and operate the facilities, **if they are built**. Once the exact debt and operational costs are known, the District would look at reducing the taxes to match operational costs and again reduce taxes when/if there is a construction loan to be paid off.

The short version is that the District does not need, nor does it plan to raise your taxes from the current level to fund a possible facility development in TrailMark. If no development is approved, the District would again look at reducing taxes to better match the operational expenditures.

Currently, the TrailMark Metropolitan District Board is operating on 3 facts:

1. The TrailMark Metropolitan District polled the community in the summer of 2007.

The **text** of the yellow postcard that was mailed by the Metro District was this: "Should the Metropolitan Board move forward to acquire the land and allocate \$10,000 to develop various options, funding profiles, operating concepts and costs?"

The results: 561 of 799 homes polled which was 70.21%

386 of the 561 answered **"yes"** or 68.81% 175 of the 561 answered **"no"** or 31.19%

And there has been no decision made by the TrailMark Metropolitan District Board on whether to build or not to build up to this point.

- 2. The <u>District will put together a Data Package</u> that will be mailed out to all homeowners. It will include all of the facts and all of the costs of building a Community Center or Community Center/Pool or building nothing.
- 3. There will be a <u>Poll of the Homeowners</u>. Neighbors will have all of the information that they will need in the Data Package to make an informed decision. A Polling Card will be included in the package that must be mailed back to the Metropolitan District.

To help you with this most important decision, an Area Development Committee (comprised of TrailMark homeowners) was formed and will advise both the TrailMark Homeowner's Association and the TrailMark Metropolitan District.

More Recent History: When the TrailMark Metropolitan District received the results of the 2007 poll, they commissioned a consultant to pursue acquiring the land from the City of Littleton and Jefferson County Schools. It took a year and a half to get the parties to agree to "share the land with TrailMark." The City of Littleton, in its negotiations, would not agree to rezone the land to possibly include a Paramedic Bay. That is why the District was not able to include a Paramedic Bay in its plans for the land that was presented to the City of Littleton and Jefferson County Schools.

It has been the wish of the TrailMark Metropolitan District Board to go back to the TrailMark homeowners at each step of the way, to determine the will of the majority of the neighbors in our community. Therefore, at the Metropolitan District meeting on February 17th and at the last HOA meeting on Thursday, March 12th, the community voiced their opinion that they wanted more input into advising the Metropolitan District Board. The District and HOA Boards asked that a new committee be formed to do just that. The Area Development Committee was commissioned at the meeting on March 12th, and will have had at least one meeting as of the printing of the April issue of the newsletter. If you have any questions or want to know more about this committee, please go to the TrailMark website @www.trailmarkhoa.org. A FAQ column will be placed on the website to answer commonly asked questions and to give information. Homeowners will be able to get some questions answered just by visiting this website.

The Charter for the Area Development Committee is stated below:

NOTE: This charter is in effect now. There is an expectation that the charter could change after the District poll results are finalized. Any change will be discussed at that time.

The Area Development Committee is formed to assist the TrailMark Metropolitan Board and the TrailMark HOA Board in the development of the school site within TrailMark. The charter may change over time as situations in the community change; however, any changes in the charter will be at the direction of the TrailMark Metropolitan District Board and the TrailMark HOA Board.

As of March 2009, the Charter of the TrailMark Area Development Committee (ADC) is as follows:

*The ADC is the voice of communications for the Metro and HOA Boards relative to activities on the development of the school site in the community.

It will provide a communication portal between the residents of the community and the Metro and HOA Boards.

It will provide communications via available avenues (i.e., TrailMark *Tracks*, TrailMark website, meetings, etc) with the residents on the activities relative to the development within the community.

*The ADC presently will provide information to the Metropolitan District Board relative to the School Site by:

- O Reviewing the Data Package as prepared by the Metropolitan Board to ensure that it meets the informational needs of the community.
- O Reviewing the poll questions as prepared by the Metropolitan Board and providing feedback on suggestions and improvements.

A STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR	ded to help neighbors obtain information and have questions to attend one or both of the following meetings.
April 21, 2009	Metropolitan District Meeting, 6:30 pm @ the TrailMark Learning Center.
Week of April 27 th	Information Packet and Polling Card will be mailed to all homeowners in TrailMark.
May 6, 2009	Special Meeting of the TrailMark Metropolitan Board to answer any questions regarding the information contained in the Packet and Polling Card.
Week of June 8 th	Results of the Poll will be tallied by an independent auditor and announced in the Newsletter.
1	Please educate yourself and plan to participate in this very important decision!



Covenant Corner

A space for the Covenant Related Information

Highlighted Covenant: 3.28 Recreational, Commercial, Junk, and Restricted Vehicles

With camping and boat season upon us, the Covenant Committee wants to remind you of the covenant and the guidelines for our neighborhood. This covenant is fairly far reaching and the restrictions for parking are dependent on the type of vehicle.

Recreational Vehicles

- Definition: Boat, camper, motor home, or other vehicle of which the primary purpose is recreational.
- Restriction: May be parked on the Homeowner Lot or the street for a period not exceeding 72 hours in a 7 day time period or 96 hours in a 14 day time period.

This is 3 days during one week or 4 days over two weeks. This is written to provide ample time to prepare for a trip, but to also prevent a recreational vehicle from being parked on the Homeowner's Lot every Thursday, Friday, Monday, Tuesday during the year.

Commercial Vehicles

- ➤ Definition: Greater than 1-ton truck, van, or similar vehicle. A vehicle with lettering and/or logos, a vehicle with exterior attachments such as ladders, or a vehicle used primarily to haul or carry material and equipment for one's work with or without signs or lettering on the vehicle.
- Restriction: May not be parked in view including the driveway or street.

Junk Vehicles

- Definition: Unable to be driven or unlicensed.
- **Restriction:** May not be parked in view including the driveway or street.

Other Restricted Vehicles

- Definition: Trailer, tractor, towed-trailer unit, mobile home.
- Restriction: May not be parked in view including the driveway or street.

So that we can accommodate neighbors because of special circumstances, please call Hammersmith and notify them if a truck or trailer is parked in your street because it is there for painting or work being done to your house.



Highlighted Covenant: 3.32 Basketball Hoops

In a nutshell, basketball hoops need to be out of the way of pedestrians who use the sidewalks; they should be kept out of the street; and free standing hoops should be put away when not in use. The covenants further state that backboards cannot be attached to the garage and that any basketball hoop (permanent or free standing) must be perpendicular to the street.

Highlighted Covenant: 3.1 Maintenance

The covenant states: "You cannot allow your property to fall into disrepair and your property shall be maintained in a clean, attractive, and sightly condition." As our neighborhood gets older, our fences are getting older, too. We need to maintain them – which means staining. The dry climate in Colorado and the sprinklers make the problem more noticeable. We took some pictures to show you examples of fences that need staining. The Covenant Committee will be monitoring for violations. If you see an example of what looks like your fence here, you should plan on applying a coat of stain.







TRAILMARK BUDGET 2009

		Actual	Projected	Total Actual	1
	Budget 2008	Thru 7/08	8/08 - 12/08	and Estimate	Budget 2009
ASSESSMENTS	307,200	230,400			307,200
LATE FEES INCOME	10,000	7,000	3,500	10,500	10,000
LEGAL FEES-REIMB INCOME SOCIAL EVENTS SPONSORS	15,000 1,000	4,056	2,028 0	6,084 0	6,000 500
NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING	1,000	735	368	1,103	1,000
BANK INTEREST	0	, 00	0	0	0
TOTAL INCOME	334,200	242,191	82,696	324,887	324,700
MANAGEMENT	32,750	19,112	11,945	31,057	32,750
LEGAL - GENERAL	7,200	4,728	2,955	7,683	7,200
LEGAL - COLLECTION	15,000	4,056	2,535	6,591	6,600
COLLECTION EXPENSE	4,800	3,345	2,091	5,436	5,440
INSURANCE	1,800	1,548	0	1,548	1,800
AUDIT/ACCOUNTING	2,050		1,675	1,675	2,050
ADMINISTRATIVE	6500	4,826	3,016	7,842	7800
POSTAGE	5500	5,221	3,263	8,484	8490
COPIES	1600	1,442	901	2,343	2345
NEWSLETTER	6000	9,885	6,178	16,063	12000
SOCIAL	24,000	11,664	7,290	18,954	12,000
COMMON AREA	18,000	11,168	6,980	18,148	12,000
SAFETY	1000		0	0	1000
DESIGN REVIEW	1000		0	0	1000
COVENANT	1000	558	349	907	1000
COVENANT PATROL	0	0	0	0	10800
FINANCE	1000			0	1000
TAXES	3000	5,118	3,199	8,317	8400
MISCELLANEOUS	2400	145	91	236	1000
LANDSCAPE CONTRACT	19,000	8,615	5,384	13,999	30,449
SPRINKLER REPAIR	8,000	405	253	658	4,000
SNOW REMOVAL	12,000	8,337	5,211	13,548	12,000
TRASH REMOVAL	91,000	41,720	26,075	67,795	115,596
	1 000				1 000
GAS & ELECTRICITY	1,800	769	481	1,250	1,800
WATER & SEWER	30,000	10,974	6,859	17,833	24,000
TRANSFER TO RESERVES	37,800	25,200	15,750	40,950	2,180
TOTAL EXPENSES	334,200			291,316	324,700
Running Total					
INCOME LESS EXPENSES	0			Г	0
		5 0		-	

Notes from the Common area Committee

TrailMark is truly a unique area to live, with open space all around us. The Common Area Committee (CAC) values this open space and is committed to improving the natural environment and keeping the open space open. Did you notice the new trees by the small parking area at Hogback Park Soccer Field? We had these trees planted to shield from view the inevitable portolet that appears for the spring and summer.

We are currently mapping out all the utility boxes in TrailMark for either shielding from view with fencing, planting shrubbery or painting them to blend in better with our arid Colorado environment.

The shelter for the picnic table at the far Southwest corner of TrailMark has been approved, and with the help from two separate grants and matching funds should begin installation in April. We will be planting a few additional trees in areas that were originally planned for trees. Some areas had trees die, or were never planted as in the original TrailMark architectural plans. We do not have a large budget for these trees, so we are adding them as the budget allows and doing a few every year.

The orphan areas (for lack of a better name) have been identified and we are currently planning what to do with each area based on irrigation availability and other factors. We appreciate, and listen to your input regarding our beautiful open space and will continue to work diligently to offer improvements to our natural environment.



Star Canyon Patio Homes

The HOA Board Meeting was held on March 17, 2009. Items in the **Board Banter** from Jerry Mastenbrook include:

Board Banter

Please circle Wednesday May 13^{th,} 2009, 6:30 pm, on your calendar. This is the evening that a *Special Meeting* will be held, at Mortensen Elementary School, to discuss and vote on an amendment to the covenants which would change the responsibility of some exterior maintenance items. A recent reserve study revealed that the replacement of siding, stone facing and window wells will cost \$832,000. Since Colorado law mandates that homeowner associations collect sufficient funds to cover all anticipated future expenses, the retention of these items under Association responsibility will result in a substantial increase in our monthly fees. This, coupled with the potential for our operating expenses to also grow, causes the board to strongly recommend the transfer of these responsibilities from the Association to private responsibility. Two-thirds of our homeowners (46 homes) must approve this covenant change for it to take effect. If you can't make the meeting, vote by mail or by giving your proxy to a board member or neighbor to take to the meeting. Watch your mailbox for more details.

Please remember the tree we want to plant in memory of Bill Flenner. For info please contact Gabrielle Handley at ghandley@comcast.net, or Joy Carlson at jearlson1347@comcast.net.

If you need information about the Star Canyon Patio Homes, please contact a member of the board via email to: Milagros Matos, MMatos@associacolorado.com, and copy to jeff.pugh@hispanic-contractors.org (Jeff Pugh), jobsrus@qwest.net (Jerry Mastenbrook). You can also reach Milagros at: 303/232-9200.

Our Community website is: www.associacolorado.com - Click on "Community Websites" & choose Star Canyon. You must set up your personal account. Your street number is your User Name to register. This website is a good tool to obtain information such as Covenants & Bylaws. Be informed!



<u>TrailMark Trivia</u>: 6% of people say they have lost this on vacation. See answer below.

SOCIAL HAPPENIGS:

The **Lunch Bunch** scheduled for March 27th was cancelled due to snow. No plans have been made for April, so keep a look out in your e-mail.

The **Star Canyon Dinner** Group resumed home dinners on March 14. A wonderful evening was enjoyed by all. Thanks are extended to our hosts; Barb & Dennis Brown, Marilyn & Harry Hubbard, and Joy and Rob Carlson. Watch your E-mail for info for the next dinner on **April 4**.

The Star Canyon Book Club will meet April 14th at Donna Shuford's to discuss <u>Thirteenth Tale</u> by Diane Setterfield. The next book will be <u>Beneath a Marble Sky</u> by John Shores. Meetings start at 10:00.

Bunko (or Zilch/Farkel) is the first Tuesday of each month. Upcoming hostesses are: April 7, Donna Shuford; May 5, Judy June 2, Carol Mulligan and on July 7, Rose Blaylock. Bev Zier is the contact person for this activity, if you would like to be put on the substitute list. You might be the winner of one of the "big" money prizes.

Mahjongg is now the 4th Tuesday of the month at 1:30. Contact Marilyn Hubbard for more information.

Movie Club: Contact Joan Flenner or Karen Milspaugh for information on a movie outing

Men's Breakfast is the 2nd Tuesday morning of each month. Bernie Gehan is the contact person



Trivia answer: A tooth !! (not including kids)

News From the Star Canyon Condominiums

From the Board:

Our Annual Meeting was held on February 2, 2009, at the TrailMark Learning Center, beginning at 6:30 P.M. It was established that we did have a quorum of at least 15 homeowners present (either in person or by proxy), and we proceeded to conduct the business of the Association. Current Board members were introduced; Shelley Sendelbach, Lynn Ester and Kim Hayes. Diane Miller of our property management company, Caron Realty, Inc. was also introduced Kent Beichle, of the accounting firm of Beichle and Associates. Inc. gave the auditing report which indicated that our financial records were in order and our Association was financially viable. (Our updated Reserve Study, done for the Report Period of 1/1/2009 – 12/31/2009 indicated that we are 89% funded for future capitol expenditures.)

The minutes from the February 5, 2008 Annual Meeting had been previously distributed, and were approved as presented.

The budget for the fiscal year 2009, which had been previously mailed to all condominium homeowners along with the Agenda and Proxy forms, was discussed and accepted as presented. The good news was that there was to be NO INCREASE IN FEES for 2009! If any homeowner did not receive a copy of the budget, or has additional questions, please address them to Caron Realty, Inc. at communityQuestions@att.net.

Bruce Hayes presented copies of his report entitled, "Star Canyon Condominium HOA Energy Review and Solar Power Investigation".



We held the election for a new board member, and Tom Moulton was elected as he had earlier expressed an interest in serving. While we gained a new board member - Kim and Bruce Hayes have sold their unit and moved, and Kim has resigned her position on the Board. Therefore, a new board member will be selected to complete the last year of that term. Information just in! Trent Miesner has been designated to fill the one year Board position, and will begin his duties immediately!

Other Board News:

According to the *Declaration of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions of the Star Canyon Condominiums*, "no sound shall be emitted from any portion of the condominiums that would reasonably be found by others to be offensive" (or even prevent them from sleeping at 3 a.m.). Please be a conscientious neighbor and keep your music turned down.

The painters have finished the painting on the last of the three (3) buildings scheduled for this spring. Building 9815 was the first, followed by 9876 and then 9896. The painters have done an excellent job, and the finish should look very good for several years!

When our Landscape Committee Chairman, Betty McGinnis, returns from California our landscaping will really start to pop (!), including the spring clean-up and fertilization of our common areas. Currently, those homeowners who have been asked to water some of our new trees have been diligent in their efforts. A thought to remember, our landscapers can refuse to work on our grounds if they are littered with pet refuse. Please be thoughtful and clean up after your pets.

You have probably noticed that the last few trash pick-up days have been *windy!* To avoid losing your trash can or recycling bin altogether, please write your name or address on your receptacles in permanent pen/ ink. That way you will know if yours ended up in Kansas or Nebraska!

Social News:

Our Wine Tasting Party on February 13, 2009, was much fun and yours truly even won a bottle of brandy filled chocolates for my "best label"! Many thanks go to Lynn Ester for (yet again) hosting the party.

The condominium book club will be meeting on March 27, 2009, to discuss *The Queen's Fool* by Philippa Gregory. The group will be meeting at 9796 W. Freiburg Drive, at 1 P.M. Please call (303) 862-8834 if you have any questions on future books and meeting sites.



It is very important that all condominium homeowners attend the TrailMark HOA and Metropolitan District meetings, and pay attention to all information pertaining to the possible building of additional facilities in the TrailMark area. This will directly affect your tax base!

Be Aware! Be Informed!







2009 TRAILMARK SUMMER LAWN CARE

LAWN CARE - FERTILIZER SELECTION

The TrailMark ponds are beautiful amenities to live near and enjoy both during the summer and winter. The ponds also provide high quality wildlife habitat. Water quality testing at the ponds has been completed annually during the past seven years and is managed by the TrailMark Metro District Board. Water quality test results show that the overall surface water quality at TrailMark is good. These results also reveal that phosphorous concentrations in some of the ponds have been occasionally higher than ideal. Phosphorous is likely entering the ponds through storm water run-off of landscaped areas at or around TrailMark. Phosphorous and nitrogen are found in chemical fertilizers which are often used for lawn care. Most chemical fertilizers contain a certain percentage of phosphorous, and the amount of phosphorous in the fertilizer can be read in the chemical composition indicated on the bag. The nitrogen content is the first number, followed by the phosphorous and then the potassium number content. If the fertilizer composition numbers read 26-3-12, then the nitrogen content is 26, the phosphorous content is 3, and the potassium content is 12.

Excess fertilizer containing nitrogen and phosphorus may wash into TrailMark ponds and promote unsightly and odorous algae blooms and aquatic weed growth while reducing dissolved oxygen levels in the water. Therefore, TrailMark homeowners are urged to fertilize their lawns with organic fertilizers or chemical fertilizers that are low in phosphorus and that have slow-releasing nitrogen (see Table 1). Storm water

run-off from adjacent lawns may enter the ponds and if high in phosphorus, may cause plants within the water column to establish more quickly and in greater quantity. The pond will soon become green with plant growth and may begin to smell due to plant death and decay in the water over time.

The TrailMark common area landscaper (Rocky Mountain Landscaping) will be applying a fertilizer in 2009 called "Dimension" that has zero percent phosphorus, slow-releasing nitrogen and low potassium (see Table 1 below).

South Suburban Parks and Recreation District and the Star Canyon Homeowner Board will also work towards use of a zero or low phosphorus, low and slow-releasing nitrogen fertilizer on remaining TrailMark common areas and Star Canyon properties in 2009. We will be testing surface water quality at TrailMark in the beginning of the 2009 growing season, and we will compare water quality results to the previous 7 years whereby higher concentrations of phosphorous in fertilizers were used.

When you buy your spring lawn and garden fertilizer at the store, look for a label on the bag that lists three numbers in a row, such as 22-3-14. These numbers correspond to the amount of nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium that is in that specific brand. We are requesting that TrailMark homeowners purchase and use fertilizers in 2009 that have zero or low phosphorus at or below 3% phosphorus content is recommended and low, slow-releasing nitrogen content. This may assist in reducing the amount of phosphorus accumulating in adjacent TrailMark ponds and help to reduce duckweed and algae blooms in ponds such as Fairview #2 (Beaver Pond). Thank you for your assistance with this.

Table 1: Low-Phosphorus Recommended Fertilizer

Brand Name	Nitrogen (N)	Phosphorus (P)	Potassium (K)
Scotts Superturf, Summergard	26	3	4
Scotts Superturf Wintergard	24	3	12
Abby Science Phosphate Free	10	0	3
Abby Science Low Phosphate	10	3	3
Vigoro Ultra-Turf - Turf Builder	29	3	4
Vigoro Ultra Turf - Turf Fertilizer	29	3	4
Greenview – Low Phosphorus	24	4	12
Greenview – Zero Phosphorus	27	0	12
Safer Lawn Restore	10	2	6
Safer Natural Turf Program	8	1	1
Ringer Lawn Restore	10	2	6

Bus Stop Behavior



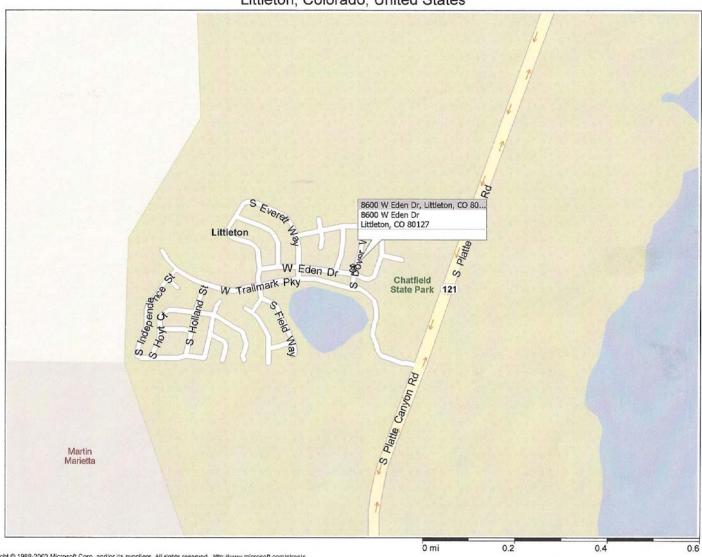
It has come to the attention of the Board of Directors, that some students who use the bus stop at 8600 W. Eden Drive, have been taking landscaping rocks and throwing them. We hope that the rocks have not been thrown at other students, because that would be very dangerous. We hope that they have not been thrown at street lights or traffic signs as that would be destruction of property.

In any event, most of the rocks have ended up in the street, and have had to be reclaimed (picked up and replaced) by homeowners whose property adjoins the bus stop.

As bus stops are considered public (school) property – students can be reported to their schools for malicious mischief.

Please leave the rocks in the landscaping – where they belong!

Littleton, Colorado, United States



School News

Chatfield High School

http://jeffcoweb.jeffco.k12.co.us/high/chatfield/

303-982-3670

April 10 – Progress Reports available

April 22 – ACT Testing (Juniors Only) attend in a.m.

April 24 – Staff Development – No School

April 25 – Prom

May 14, 15 – Senior Finals (Periods 1,2,6&7 on

Thursday; 3,4,&5 on Friday) - Regular Schedule for

Freshmen, Sophomores & Juniors

May 15 – Seniors' Last Day

May 21 – Graduation Practice and Senior Awards Night

May 22 – Graduation at Red Rocks, 9 A.M. - No School

May 25 – Memorial Day – No School

May 26, 27 – Final Exams (half days)

June 1 – Report cards mailed

Falcon Bluffs Middle School

http://jeffcoweb.jeffco.k12.co.us/middle/falconbluffs/303-982-9900

April 22, 23 – Portfolio Conferences with Students, 9:00

AM - 8:00 PM

April 24 – Comp Day for Conferences – **No School**

April 27-May 1 – 6th Grade Outdoor Lab

May 25 – Memorial Day – No School

May 26 – 8th Grade Continuation

May 27 – Last Day of School, Early Dismissal at 1:05

Shaffer Elementary School

http://sc.jeffco.k12.co.us/education/school/school.php?sectionid=242

303-982-3901

April 16 – PTA Spring Fling Spaghetti Dinner, Basket

Raffle, and Choir Performance

Science Fair, Grades 2-5

April 24 – Staff Development – **No School**

April 28 – Accountability Meeting, 6:00 PM

April 29-May 5 – Spring Book Fair

April 30 – Young Writer's Celebration

May 1 – Spring Flex Day for Testing

May 4 – Spring Flex Day for Testing

May 6 – Early Release, 1:00 PM

May 7 – Field Day, Grades K-2

May 8 – Field Day, Grades 3-5

May 11, 12 – Field Day Alternate Days

May 25 – Memorial Day – No School

May 27 – Last Day of School, 1:00 Release



Community News

Chatfield State Park

http://parks.state.co.us/Parks/Chatfield

Denver Botanic Gardens at Chatfield

 ${\bf http://www.botanicgardens.org/content/our-gardens-chatfield-location} \ 303-973-3705$



SOUTH SUBURBAN PARKS AND RECREATION

Hunt Up Some "Eggsellent" Fun & Food

Hop on down to two South Suburban recreation facilities on **Saturday, April 11** for a basketful of fun. Bring your baskets to the *Great Egg Scramble* in deKoevend Park, off the Goodson Recreation Center parking lot at 6315 S. University Blvd. in Centennial, at 9:30 am or Sheridan Park, 3325 W. Oxford Ave. in Sheridan, at 1:30 am. Both of these **FREE** events are for children up to 10 years of age.

For the more elegant scrambled egg hunter, Lone Tree Golf Club and Hotel, 9808 Sunningdale Blvd., will host a lovely *Easter Brunch* on **Sunday, April 12**, 10 am -2 pm. A giant seafood display with all-you-can-eat fresh oysters, shrimp and crab will complement imported cheeses, tropical fruits, carved prime rib as well as traditional breakfast menu items. And to top it all off there will be plenty of exotic desserts all for \$29.95 per adult and \$15.95 for children 4-10 years plus tax and 20% gratuity. For



reservations call 303-790-0202. For other special family activities visit South Suburban online at www.sspr.org.

South Suburban Hits a Hole-in-One with 50¢ Range Balls

On Friday April 17, 2009, South Suburban Parks and Recreation celebrates 50 years of service with 50¢ Friday at the all four South Suburban Golf Courses. Warm up your swing and get into your game with a bucket of balls for only 50¢ all day on Friday, April 17.

- ★ Littleton Golf and Tennis Club, 5800 S. Federal Blvd., 303-794-5838
- * Family Sports Golf, 6901 S. Peoria St., 303-649-1115
- ★ Lone Tree Golf Club and Hotel, 9808 Sunningdale Blvd., 303-799-9940
- ★ South Suburban Golf Course, 7900 S. Colorado Blvd., 303-770-5500

Visit <u>www.sspr.org</u> and check out the monthly 50¢ Fridays at your neighborhood recreation facilities and other exciting 50th anniversary celebration activities.

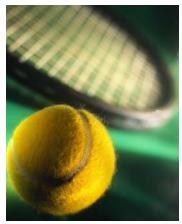
South Suburban Recreation Centers Host Blood Screenings

South Suburban Parks and Recreation is hosting comprehensive blood screenings conducted by the University of Colorado Hospital from 7 to 9:30 am at the following recreation centers:

- * Lone Tree, 10249 Ridgegate Cir., 303-708-3514, Tuesday, April 14
- * Goodson, 6315 S. University Blvd., 303-483-7082, Wednesday, April 15
- ₱ Buck, 2004 W. Powers Ave., 303-730-4610, Thursday, April 16

This high-quality laboratory screening with rapid turnaround of results consists of 30 tests, including a lipid profile. Test results will be sent directly to your home. Supplemental tests can be requested for an additional cost. Participants must be at least 18 years old and 12 hours of fasting are recommended before blood is drawn. Fee is \$40 per person and no reservation is required. For more information call 303-730-4610 and for other South Suburban wellness activities visit www.sspr.org.

Swing into Spring at Holly Tennis Center Carnival



Grab your racquet and tennis balls and head to South Suburban Parks and Recreation's Holly Tennis Center, 6651 S. Krameria Way, Centennial, for a few spring swings. Individuals, ages 6-adult, and families can celebrate at Holly Tennis Center's **FREE** carnival on **Saturday, May 2**, from 10 am-12 pm. Try a mini-lesson, check your serve speed on a radar gun, use the ball machine, demo a racquet and enjoy other tennis games and contests. Please pre-register for class # 800141, at www.sspr.org or 303-347-5999. All ages and abilities welcome.

Starting May 1, the Pro Shop at Holly Tennis Center will be open Monday-Friday, 10 am-5 pm, for reservations, program/lesson assistance and merchandise sales. Visit the six-court, lighted tennis center and Pro Shop, and sign up for adult or junior classes, leagues or tournaments. Holly Tennis Courts are open dawn to dusk. Open play is available as long as courts are not previously reserved or programmed. For more information call 303-771-3654. South Suburban Parks and Recreation has several other convenient tennis facilities located throughout the community. Find out where at www.sspr.org.

TrailMark Community Social Events for 2009!!!

Clean out those Closets, Basements and Garages It's time for

The Annual TrailMark Garage Sale!!!

Friday June 5th & Saturday June 6th 8:00 am - 4:00pm

Maps will be provided at the TrailMark entrance. To get on the map,
Please contact Lori Ross your neighborhood Realtor.
By phone 303-437-4563 or email her at: rosslori@juno.com.

See Garage Sale on the next page for more information.

Thanks to our neighbor Lori Ross for continuing to sponsor and organize this event!

GET OUT THERE AND PRACTICE!!!

The TrailMark 4th Annual Charity Golf Tournament is in full swing

Thursday, September 10, 2009 South Suburban Golf Course 7:30 AM Shotgun Start

The Event to Benefit the Children's Hospital!



Grab a foursome and come join the fun, meet your neighbors, play a round and raise money for a great cause! It's low key with a scramble format. After the golf there is lunch, prizes and a silent auction. All levels of golfers are welcome, and if you don't play,

PLEASE come and volunteer, donate prizes/auction items or sponsor a Hole! Hole sponsorship will be \$150.

Entry Fees to be announced soon.

For more information, contact our neighbor and sponsor Lou Royston, at <u>lroyston@prestigerealtygroup.com</u> or 303.748.7504.

The Social Committee is always looking for new ideas and events. If you have an idea, please contact the committee at <u>social@trailmark.org</u>. We look forward to hearing from you. Just a reminder that we can't do these events with out your help!!! Please VOLUNTEER... we have a lot of fun and it is a great way to meet your neighbors.





Fri & Sat June 5th & 6th

8:00-4:30

Get rid of your spring cleaning clutter or promote the products or crafts that you sell.

I'll do the advertising for you!

*Ads will be run in the Post & the Columbine Courier.

*Community signs will be posted (following city and county guidelines).

*Maps will be provided for shoppers at the entrance to the neighborhood.

Sponsored By:

Lori Ross

303-437-4563 TrailMark's Neighborhood Realtor

If you wish to be included on the community map, please forward the following information to me:

Name:		
Address:		

Would you like price tag labels provided for you? Yes No

Please send the above information no later than May 29th

Fax to:303-945-7957

or email: RossLori@Juno.com

The TrailMark 4th of July Parade & Picnic!

Mark your calendars for the Annual 4th of July Celebration!













Saturday July 4, 2009

Hogback Hill Park and Athletic Field

Kids of ALL Ages!! Decorate your bikes and show your patriotic spirit and participate in the 4th of July Parade! Pack your lunches and enjoy a picnic with your neighbors afterwards!

There will be goodies and many other fun events!

Look for more details in June's Newsletter.

Special thanks to our sponsor Sunny Puckett of Re/Max Professionals, Inc for continuing to sponsor and organize this fun event!



The Social Committee is working hard on the Fall activities.

Please check with the June newsletter for all the details.

Come join the fun!!

Here's a preview of what we're working for this year:

The **Concert dates** have been set and we have a great summer in store.

Save the following dates:

June 28th, 2009... we are starting off the summer with the group Parrott - a Jimmy Buffet tribute band that should really get the summer off to a great start



July 19th, 2009...Rhythm Angels

And

Aug 23rd, 2009.....back by popular demand is Opie Gone Bad



SPORTS INJURIES

Preventing and treating foot and ankle injuries:

One thing all athletes look forward to is a healthy playing season. Because playing sports involves miles of running with quick starts and stops, it's important we know how to keep our feet and ankles safe. Practices involve repetitive drills, running and stopping, and speed. Because of the nature of all sports, players have an increased risk for toe, foot or ankle injuries.

To help minimize the risk of foot and ankle injuries, we recommend proper stretching and warm-up before and after workouts, practice and before games. In addition to the stretching you do with your team before games and practices, make sure you stretch at home too. Warm-up and cool-down exercises should take five to ten minutes and should be done in a stretch/hold/relax pattern, without any bouncing or pulling. When muscles are warmed up properly, there is much less strain on the muscles, tendons and joints.

Footwear is an important factor for a player's safety. The exact footwear you should wear varies according to the turf you are playing on, so you should check with your coach. When buying shoes, try them on in the afternoon when your feet are naturally slightly swollen.

Quick changes in direction, kicks in the shin and body contact happen in many sports. If you do experience a twisted ankle, bruised foot or other injury, you should follow the "RICE" formula: Rest, Ice. Compression, Elevation.

When you should be seen by a professional:

- $\sqrt{}$ If you feel a crack or heard a pop
- √ If the area is really swollen
- $\sqrt{1}$ If the area over the bone is tender to the touch
- $\sqrt{}$ If you can't bear weight on the foot or leg
- $\sqrt{}$ If you are still favoring the injury the next day
- $\sqrt{\ }$ If you have any doubt about the severity of the injury

Source: Centennial Medical Plaza

NEIGHBORHOOD CONCERNS

Children are beginning to spend more time outside and a great concern is unsupervised children playing in the front of homes or on the streets.

Please drive cautiously through the community. Children are walking and riding bikes throughout the community. Children are also well known for retrieving balls and other items in the street with no regard for vehicles. Allow ample stopping and reaction time

to avoid these incidents. Please stop at all stop signs. **Stop** means to stop - not slow down and drive on through.

Insure that children are being properly supervised. Accidents can happen quickly and leaving small children unattended in the front yard could possibly have negative results. Provide supervision for children when they are playing near streets or in the front yard.

Every member of the TrailMark community is important and with the summer months approaching, it is very important the community make a collective effort to insure safety within the neighborhood. Drive slowly and cautiously within the community and make sure children are adequately supervised.

TrailMark Teen Services



This listing is a free service for TrailMark residents. If you would like your name added/deleted/or changed, please email communications@trailmarkhoa.org. Appearance of an individual in this publication does not constitute a

recommendation or endorsement by the publisher or the association of the information, goods or services offered therein.

- (B) Babysitting (L) Lawn care
- (P) Pet/House sitting (S) Snow removal

ATTENTION TEENS!!

It has been brought to our attention that some of the Teen Services listing information may be incorrect (ages, phone numbers, etc).

Please review your information listed under the TrailMark Teen Services listing.

Please send any additions or corrections to your listing to: communications@trailmarkhoa.org.



TrailMark Mommies Club

Do you have an infant, toddler or preschooler?? TrailMark Mommies club is a great place to connect with other Moms and Children in the neighborhood for fun play dates, outings and information on local happenings! We are always welcoming new members, stay at home or working Moms, and are hoping to get more activities going soon!

To join go to: http://groups.yahoo.com/group/
TrailMarkMommies
and Click on the blue button that says "Join this group" or Call Sarah Russell at (720) 839-1015 for more information.

Public Service Announcements

District IV Community Meeting • Saturday, April 18

Noon – 1 p.m., self guided tour of the Mineral building • 1 p.m. – 3 p.m., discussion 1101 W. Mineral Avenue, Littleton, CO (this meeting only)

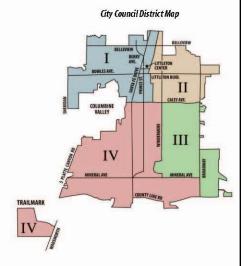
The Topic: Space Needs of the Littleton Police Department



- $\sqrt{\,}$ Review the options Mineral building or addition to City Center
- $\sqrt{}$ Are there options we have not considered?
- $\sqrt{}$ What are the current and future space needs of both the police and the city administration
- $\sqrt{\text{What can we afford to do? What should we spend?}}$

I want to hear from you. Please bring your questions, thoughts and ideas and join me for an afternoon of lively debate. See you there!

Debbie Brinkman Littleton City Council, District IV dbrinkman@littletongov.org 303-734-8315





Get ready for dazzling ball-handling tricks, high flying slam dunks and hilarious family comedy. Join the Harlem Ambassadors as they challenge local residents and celebrities at Chatfield Senior High School (in Littleton) on April 18th at 6:30PM.

All proceeds benefit the Fetal Hope Foundation. Advance tickets available at www.fetalhope.org/charity-basketball-game.html or call 303-932-0553 for more information.

City of Littleton Senior Property Tax Refund

Some (owner or renter) qualifications/requirements:

- Applicant must have resided within the City limits for entire year of 2008
- Applicant must be 65 or older in 2008
- Must have paid rent or property taxes for the year 2008

If a applicant's dwelling is part of a structure containing more than one dwelling unit and property taxes are paid on the entire structure. Then the applicant's refund will be adjusted accordingly.

For additional information and application contact

City of Littleton, FINANCE DEPARTMENT, 2255 West Berry Ave. (303) 795-3765.

Refund can be up to \$100.



Classified Advertising

The newsletter committee is excited to announce classified advertising will be back in your bi-monthly newsletter. The service is for TrailMark residents only and the following rates apply:

- \$1.00 per line
- Maximum 3 lines (personal ads only)
- Each line has 50 characters maximum
- No enhancements available

Mail payment to: TrailMark HOA, P.O. Box 270566, Littleton, CO 80127. Please e-mail your advertisement, nkelly@mywdo.com.

ADVERTISE FOR AS LITTLE AS







A key has been found on the gravel path around the big pond at the entrance to TrailMark. There is a name on the key. If you think it might be yours, please email Sharon at: gambrellelms@aol.com.



TrailMark Tracks Advertising Pricing

The TrailMark Newsletter is a free bi-monthly publication exclusively for the 800 plus residents of the TrailMark HOA.

Rates Per Issue

Business Card Size	3 ½"(w) x 2"(h)	\$25.00
1/4 Page	4"(w) x 5"(h)	\$50.00
½ Page	8"(w) x 5"(h)	\$75.00
Full Page	8"(w) x 10 ½"(h)	\$100.00
(Please note: Effective	e August 2005, there	will be a 2
. •	hich will be decided	•
many requests are red	eived, first come first	serve.)

NEW INFORMATION ABOUT INSERTS:

We are no longer accepting advertising or other material as an insert into the newsletter.

Ad copy: It is preferable advertisements be emailed in the form of a .JPG, .DOC or Publisher 2003 to communications@trailmarkhoa.org. Payments are to be mailed to: TrailMark HOA, P.O. Box 270566, Littleton, CO 80127. Payments must be received at the P.O. Box by the submission deadline. Please write on the outside of your envelope that the payment is for advertising in the newsletter.

Do not fax ads, as we cannot guarantee quality of reproduction. Ads can now be submitted in color.

The TrailMark Newsletter is scheduled to be published in February, April, June, August, October & December.

Make checks payable to: TrailMark HOA, **NO CASH** - Please mail your check to TrailMark HOA, PO Box 270566, Littleton, CO 80127.

If you have any questions or concerns, please email the committee at:

communications@trailmarkHOA.org.

Thank you to all of the TrailMark advertisers for helping to support our community newsletter!!



TRAILMARK AD PLACEMENT FORM

When submitting an ad for publication in the *TrailMark Tracks* newsletter, please fill out this form and include it with your check. Ads can be in three formats (electronic – sent directly to communications@trailmarkhoa.org - as a jpeg or word doc file or Publisher 2003). Filling out this form ensures that your payment will be properly credited and that you will receive a copy of the newsletter in which your ad is placed. Thanks!

Name of Company:
Mailing Address:
Contact phone number:
Email address (if you'd like e-mail notification

Email address (if you'd like e-mail notification that Your ad payment was received):

Ad Size/Check #/ and Amount:

Name of Submitter

The TrailMark Tracks Newsletter is published bimonthly bν the TrailMark HOA Hammersmith Management, Inc. and the Communication Committee. Newsletters published on even months, and the deadline for articles and advertisements is the 15th of each odd month. PLEASE NOTE: ALL ARTICLES AND MUST BE IN THE 24TH TO BE INCLUDED IN THE FOLLOWING MONTH'S NEWSLETTER. All items must be approved by the TrailMark HOA board. Please submit items to the TrailMark HOA in the form of a Word/JPG/PDF file attachment, to communications@trailmarkhoa.org or mail to P.O. Box 270566, Littleton, CO 80127. Appearance of an advertisement or article in this publication does not constitute a recommendation or endorsement by the publisher or the association of the information, goods or services offered therein. It is intended as informational only.

TrailMark Homeowners Association, Inc. P.O. Box 270566 Littleton, CO 80127 PRSRT STD US POSTAGE PAID LITTLETON, CO PERMIT NO. 547

April 2009



PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR

TRAILMARK HOA MEETINGS

Meetings are held every other month on the 2nd Thursday of the month and always at 6:30 P.M.

May 14, 2009 & July 9, 2009

Meetings are held at the TrailMark Learning Center 9743 S. Carr Way

Please remember there are no adult chairs available, bring your own if you like.