



Tracks

A Publication of the TrailMark HOA—A Covenant Controlled Community

AUGUST 2008

TRAILMARK RESIDENTS

**WE LIVE IN A
WILDLIFE COMMUNITY**

SEE PAGES 6 & 7

**“Avoiding Conflicts
with Wildlife”**

ANNOUNCEMENT

**The Volunteer Appreciation
Dinner is postponed due to the
overwhelming conflicts with
individual schedules.**

**It will be re-scheduled
at a later date.**

REMINDER ABOUT TRASH

**CANYON WASTE PICKS UP TRASH ON MONDAYS.
CANYON WASTE WILL PICK UP TRASH ON
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2008
(LABOR DAY)**



WWW.TRAILMARKHOA.ORG

TrailMark Homeowners Association

P.O. Box 270566

Littleton, CO 80127

Board Members

President.....Stephen McKeon
Vice President.....John Birkey
Vice President.....Karen Millspaugh
Treasurer.....Sharon Gambrell Elms
Secretary.....Michael Glade

TrailMark Committees

Common Area Committee

Chair.....Lesa Rangel
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

Management Company

Hammersmith Management, Inc.
www.e-hammersmith.com

Phone

303-980-0700

Fax

303-980-0576

Main Office-DTC

**5619 DTC Parkway, Suite 900
Greenwood Village, CO 80111**

Community Manager

Beth Lovato, CMCA, AMS

A Roundup

The Beaver Pond Goes Solar!



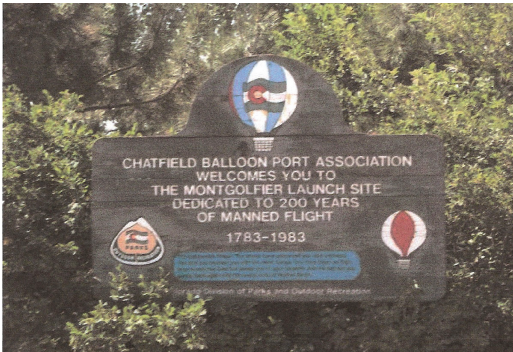
The TrailMark Metropolitan Board, the Metro Board Biologist and the TrailMark Design and Review Committee have just announced that plans have been approved for a solar aerator to be installed the first week of August, to the Beaver Pond. The solar-powered aerator will help pump air into the water to keep the pond healthier, while not using as many chemicals to kill the duckweed.

Denver Botanic Gardens at Chatfield Receive Approval for Expansion of a Concert Area.

Denver Botanic Gardens (DBG) at Chatfield received approval from the Jefferson County Planning Commission, on July 23, 2008, to expand a lawn/amphitheater within their grounds. The DBG plans to plant trees and grass in and around the area and position the stage so that sound from the stage is projected to the northeast towards C470 and Wadsworth. Family concerts are planned for 3-5 weekends during the summer season and will end at dusk. Other improvements at the DBG Chatfield site are the Red Barn Events Center, which can accommodate wedding receptions, family dinners and business events. The Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower addition around the Barn is wonderful to view and enjoy. Of course, the Corn Maze and Pumpkin Daze will continue in the fall.



TrailMark has its own night at the Corn Maze on **Thursday, September 18th**, with free admission, hotdogs and drinks for TrailMark families. Make plans now to join us on September 18th; and plan a visit to the Denver Botanic Gardens at Chatfield to view the Deer Creek School House and the Hildebrande's Ranch House.



Soon Balloons will Launch from Chatfield State Park for the Annual Balloon Fest!

On Saturday, August 23, the balloons will rise from the Chatfield State Park area. Mark your calendars for the continental breakfast (coffee, juice, bagels and more) located at the Kinder Care Facility. It is always an early time for the balloon-watchers, but a great time is enjoyed by all! Did you know that the Balloon Port at Chatfield was dedicated in 1983, and commemorated the first manned balloon flight by the Montgolfier Balloon 200 years earlier in France?

Balloonists and enthusiasts pack Chatfield State Park to watch the launching of all the balloons, and to take part in the beauty of the skies. Many balloon pilots volunteer on the Friday before the launch, to go to 7 – 10 different schools to educate children on balloons and balloon safety. So look to the skies, and have some continental breakfast at the daycare center, on the 23rd. It will be a sight to behold!

Submitted by: Karen Millspaugh
TrailMark HOA Board/Vice Treasurer

Common Area Committee Update:

Are you enjoying the new fountains for humans tall and small, and for their dogs, that we placed by the soccer field and playground area? Did you notice the new tot-sized playground equipment that was added to the play area – so that there would be more for the small tots to play on? I bet you may not have noticed the newly painted utility boxes, which not only match each other, but also blend better with the environment. We have added river rock to areas adjacent to the first turn on TrailMark Parkway to keep everyone on the road and off the landscaping. We are currently entertaining ideas for improving the southwest corner of TrailMark with added picnic tables, and maybe even a horseshoe pit.



Let us know what needs attention and improvement, and we will do our best to make it better for everyone.

Submitted by: Rick Handley
Common Area Committee



AUGUST 2008








Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5 Littleton City Council Mtg 7pm Common Area Committee mtg	6 Design Review Committee Mtg 	7	8	9
10	11	12 Primary Election Board of Directors Work Session 6:30pm School Begins for: Falcon & Schaffer and Freshmen only for Chatfield	13 School Begins for the remaining Chatfield students 	14	15	16 Volunteer Recognition Dinner HAS BEEN POSTPONED & WILL BE RESCHEDULED
17	18	19 Littleton City Council Mtg 7pm TrailMark Metro District Mtg 6:30pm 	20 Design Review Committee Mtg 	21	22	23 Chatfield Balloon Festival - Breakfast (6-8am) 
24 Final Concert "Hot Flash" 5pm 31 ENTRY DEADLINE For Golf Tournament	25	26	27	28	29	30



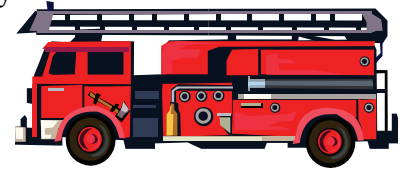
SEPTEMBER 2008



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Labor Day 	2 CAC Mtg Littleton City Council Mtg 7pm	3 Design Review Committee Mtg 	4	5 3rd Annual TrailMark Player's Classic Arrowhead Golf Club Shotgun start 8AM 	6
7	8	9 Board of Directors Work Session 6:30pm 	10	11 Patriot Day  HOA Mtg 6:30pm Pre-Registration for Corn Maze 5-7pm playground shelter	12	13
14	15	16 CAC Mtg Littleton City Council Mtg 7pm 	17 Design Review Committee Mtg 	18 TrailMark's 6th Annual "Night at the Corn Maze" 4:30pm-7:30pm 	19	20
21	22 Autumn Begins 	23	24	25 Article's Due for TrailMark Tracks Newsletter 	26	27
28	29	30				

Response Times for the Littleton Fire Department

It has been five years since the Star Canyon Condominium fire. Immediately after the fire, a large meeting was held at the Shea offices, and over 200 residents of TrailMark attended. Neighbors wanted to know why it had taken so long for the Littleton Fire Department to respond and why 8 homes were lost. Over the last five years, many residents, TrailMark HOA Board members and Safety Committee members have spoken to the issue, imploring the Littleton City Council to address the needs of the TrailMark area and to provide a means by which fire and medical response times could be brought into line with other areas of Littleton. Response times to TrailMark have been from 9-10 to an astonishing 29 minutes! The Littleton City Council has refused to build and staff a fire station in TrailMark, citing the number of calls for fire and medical emergency services are comparatively few and do not warrant a fire station in the area.



Are these response times adequate when property and lives are at stake? The closest fire stations to TrailMark are at C470 and Santa Fe, and also at Pierce and Coal Mine Road. Even though these fire stations are close, sometimes men and equipment are on other calls or are in training – thus men and equipment are called from stations further away.

How has the Littleton City Council responded to our needs? The Littleton City Council had a meeting with the TrailMark HOA Board and the Safety Committee in May of 2007, to discuss what should be done. In the hope of documenting response times, the City Council approved a *year's study in which response times would be documented, and hopefully improved*

For the last six months of 2007 and the first six months of 2008, a medic unit was placed at the C470 and Santa Fe station, 24/7. The cost of this study would ultimately be \$414, 000, paid for by the tax payers of the City of Littleton. A report was presented to the Littleton City Council on June 10, 2008, which indicated that during the past year, $\frac{3}{4}$ of the calls for emergency services were from Highlands Ranch and only $\frac{1}{4}$ of the calls from TrailMark. Highlands Ranch paid nothing for this service, and instead of improving (lessening) the response times to TrailMark – they actually increased by .27 seconds!

The Littleton City Council decided that staffing the Medic Unit at C470 and Santa Fe did not improve response times to TrailMark. Therefore, the Fire Chief was directed to work with the ambulance service, Action Care. When Action Care is closest to TrailMark they are directed to be the first responder in medical emergencies. This involves close radio contact between fire and medical personnel.

The TrailMark HOA Board and the Safety Committee invited Mayor Doug Clark and Councilwoman Debbie Brinkman to attend the July 10, 2008, meeting of the homeowner's association. Both Mayor Clark and Councilwoman Brinkman were present and discussed at length the problems faced by the City of Littleton in improving emergency response times to TrailMark. Currently, the fire department and the City Council are involved in an audit (or study) which involves all aspects of fire and emergency response (including response times, equipment, men on each truck, number of stations needed, training, etc.). The results of this audit will be presented to the Council in October, 2008. At that time, the Council will look at the budget and determine what changes need to be implemented for the Fire Department, and what will be the cost of the changes.

So, where are we after 5 years? Are we in the same place with response times only getting longer? The TrailMark HOA Board is soliciting suggestions/solutions from you, TrailMark neighbors and taxpayers. We would like to publish and use all of your ideas. **Please send your comments and suggestions addressed to the TrailMark Board at clientservices@e-hammersmith.com, Attention Beth Lovato.**

Submitted by: Karen Millspaugh
TrailMark HOA Board/Vice President

AVOIDING CONFLICTS WITH WILDLIFE

The following information is brought to you by the Colorado Division of Wildlife (DOW). Please check out their website for more information on the wildlife in our area: www.wildlife.state.co.us.

First and foremost, TrailMark residents need to understand that we live in a wildlife community. It is more than likely you will encounter wildlife and can learn to co-exist with the our wild neighbors. According to the DOW, "the Key is to respect the wildness of wildlife. Wildlife is just that—WILD. Most dangerous and potentially harmful encounters occur because people fail to leave the animals alone. Wildlife should not be harassed, captured, domesticated or - in most cases - fed. Intentional or inadvertent feeding is the major cause of most wildlife problems. It is illegal to feed deer, bighorn sheep, mountain goats, antelope and elk in Colorado."

The key to avoiding wildlife encounters is to keep them out of homes, buildings and yards. DOW offered these tips:

- ✦ Do not feed wildlife. Feeding songbirds is okay, but be aware it may attract other animals. Place bird feeders where they are not accessible to other wildlife species. Wild animals are capable of finding plenty of food on their own.
- ✦ Cover window wells with commercially available grates or bubbles. (Caution: be sure these are approved by the Design Review Committee).
- ✦ Close holes around and under the foundation of your home so that animals will not be tempted to homestead. Bury wire mesh 1-2 feet deep in places where animals might gain access.
- ✦ Don't give wildlife the opportunity to get into your garbage. Store it in metal or plastic containers with tight-fitting lids. Keep the cans in a garage or shed, and put trash out only when it's scheduled to be picked up.
- ✦ Keep pet food inside.
- ✦ Screen fireplace chimneys and furnace, attic and dryer vents, and kept dampers closed to avoid "drop-in" guests. Chimney tops should be screened from February to September to prevent birds and animals from nesting inside. To prevent fire and safety hazards, check with a knowledgeable source before attempting this.
- ✦ If birds are flying into windows, mark them with

strips of white tape.

- ✦ Fence gardens and cover fruit trees with commercially available netting to protect your harvest.
- ✦ Finally, seal all cracks and holes larger than a one-quarter inch in diameter to keep out rates, mice, bats and snakes.

DOW offers some information about the "Wildlife" encounters in our area:

BATS

- ✦ Bats can squeeze through cracks as narrow as an inch wide. Some of their preferred entrances are loose vents, eaves, spaces around water pipes, electrical outlets, corrugated roofing, doors or windows.
- ✦ Caulking cracks is most effective if applied during dry weather when cracks are the widest. Weatherstripping - which seals spaces around doors and windows - is also effective in repairing cracks.
- ✦ If you're certain the noises in your attic are being made by bats, wait for them to leave, then seal the entrances before they return. Unfortunately, you'll need to do the work at night when bats depart for their nightly feeding forays. It's also wise to do this in the fall after the young have leaved to fly. Or, wait until winter when many bats have migrated south. Never handle a bat that appears sick or wounded.



GEESE



- ✦ DO NOT feed geese. Feeding compounds the overpopulation problem and invites disease.
- ✦ During fall and winter, noise-making tactics may discourage these birds from staying on your property. Also, remove old nests during this time to stop geese from returning in spring.
- ✦ The DOW helps control the population by rounding up molting geese in summer and transporting them to states that hope to increase their goose population. In residential areas, homeowners' associations must request trapping. Contact the DOW to have geese removed.



DEER

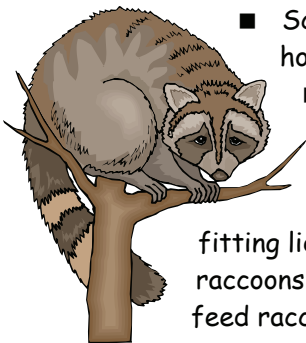
- ◆ If you see a deer-crossing sign, slow down and drive cautiously for the length of the crossing - especially at night. Remember, if you see one deer on the road, at least one more may be nearby.
- ◆ Leave deer alone. Deer and other large animals are usually injured or killed when people try to capture them in developed areas. In fact, tranquilizing deer, elk and other large animals is done only as a last resort.
- ◆ In areas where deer are common, shrub and tree damage may be a problem. Commercial deer repellents or mixtures containing eggs have proven successful in warding off deer. However, these solutions may need to be reapplied after rain or snow. Contact your local CSU Cooperative Extension office to learn what plants deer avoid. Also consider planting native flowers and shrubs.
- ◆ IT IS ILLEGAL TO FEED DEER IN COLORADO. PEOPLE MAY BE FINED \$50 FOR DOING SO.

PRAIRIE DOGS

New Commercial and residential developments often displace prairie dogs, causing them to wander into areas that are inappropriate habitat. If a prairie dog gets into a window well, it usually can be removed with little effort. First, try to get the animal to leave on its own by propping a board in the window well to provide an avenue of escape. If unsuccessful, lift the animal with a fishing net or a shovel and release it. It will usually make it's way back to the colony. If a prairie dog appears sick, don't approach it or try to move it. Contact a local animal control officer or pest control company to remove sick prairie dogs. For the safety of pets and wildlife, keep pets away while the prairie dog is in the yard to avoid encounters.



RACCOONS



- Screen chimneys and repair attic holes to prevent entry.
- Remove overhanging branches to cut off easy access.
- Make sure garbage and trash containers have tight-fitting lids and are clasped or tied to keep raccoons from tipping them over. NEVER feed raccoons.

SQUIRRELS



- Do not feed squirrels.
- Screen attic vents on the inside. Trim branches having over buildings.
- If a squirrel is loose in the house, block off the room it is in, provide a way out (open a window or door).
- Squirrel in the fireplace, close the damper immediately. Open the doors on the screen slightly and use a hand-held fishing net to capture the squirrel. Cover the net opening with a board and take the animal outside. (Be sure to wear appropriate protection, such as heavy gloves).
- Prevent squirrels from climbing trees by placing 18" metal cylinder on tree trunk.

SNAKES

Along the Front Range, we occasionally have problems with prairie rattlesnakes. Rattlesnakes have elliptical pupils. Distinctive, heat-sensing pits on each side of their face and rattles on their tails.

- Keep firewood in a covered box.
- Do not landscape with expanses of large rocks, especially in open sunny areas.
- Mow weeds and vegetation, and remove rocks, boards and debris.
- Reduce the rodent population on your property (major source of food for snakes).
- Seal entrances to crawl spaces and basements.

If you encounter a prairie or massasauga rattlesnake, simply back off. Rattlesnakes may be legally killed if they pose a threat.

WOODPECKERS



- These birds are protected by law.
- Provide an alternative drumming site. Nail two boards together at just one end and hang on a secure surface.
- Nail plywood over the excavated area.
- Hang aluminum foil strips, colored plastic streamers, hawk silhouettes or mirrors near the affected wood.
- Use noise-making tactics, such as clapping your hands or banging can lids together.
- Eliminate any ledges or cracks on which the woodpecker is able to stand while drumming.
- DON'T FEED THE BIRDS.

We live in a wildlife community and an encounter with these creatures is probable. If you have wildlife problems, call the DOW office during regular business hours (8-5) 303-297-1192.

ARCHITECTURAL APPROVAL

ARTICLE 4 OF THE DECLARATION OF COVENANTS, CONDITIONS AND RESTRICTIONS FOR TRAILMARK lists the requirements each homeowner should follow when making any improvements and/or changes to the exterior of any residence. This article outlines the duties of the Design Review Committee and its authorization to approve, condition and/or decline requests. This requirement includes painting the exterior of a residence with the same color scheme.



TRAILMARK DESIGN GUIDELINES (revised: April, 2002) were adopted to maintain consistency in the use and development of TrailMark. The Design Review Committee, when making a decision on any application follows these guidelines.

The **Design Review Committee (DRC)** meets often enough that any application received will have a decision within the allotted 30 days. Hammersmith Management, Inc., AAMC notifies the homeowner in writing upon receiving an application for review and notifies the homeowner in writing of the **DRC's** decision. A homeowner must receive both written notifications.

A word of advice - It is the homeowner's **responsibility** to obtain DRC approval **before** any improvements begin. It is unpleasant for the DRC to decline a completed improvement and have the homeowner remove or make changes voluntarily or with litigation.

Information provided by: Sherm Steed

STAR CANYON PATIO HOMES **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

- * For homeowners living in Star Canyon Patio Homes, you must submit approval from both the TrailMark HOA DRC and the Star Canyon DRC.
- * Submission of the Star Canyon Homeowners Design Review Request Form to the Star Canyon HOA does not constitute submission to TrailMark HOA (read article above).
- * The TrailMark request form is available at **www.trailmarkhoa.org**.
- * We have included a copy of the Star Canyon Design Review Request Form on page 18.
- * If you have any questions, please contact Hammersmith at 303-980-0700.

ALTOGETHER RECYCLING™

In-Depth Altogether Recycling™ Program Information

The *Altogether Recycling™* program is the most comprehensive recycling program available. Here is a list of acceptable items that can be mixed “Altogether” in one container:

- | | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| * Newspapers (including inserts but remove plastic bag) | * Corrugated Cardboard | * Brown Paper Bags |
| * Office Paper | * Chipboard (Cereal & Tissue Boxes) | * Aluminum |
| * Mixed Paper | * Plastic (#1 through #7) | * Glass Bottles & Jars |
| * Phone Books | * Empty Aerosol Cans | * Detergent Bottles (Tide) |
| * Steel or Tin Cans | * Pie Tins | * Bulk or Junk Mail |
| * Aluminum Foil | * Magazines | * Vitamin Bottles |
| * Plastic Milk Jugs | * Butter Tubs | |
| * Yogurt Containers | | |

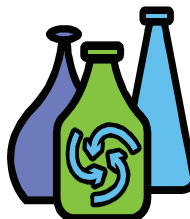
You NO Longer Have to Sort - To prepare your items to be recycled, please rinse out containers to remove as much of the food residue as possible. Also, please discard lids, caps, and pumps on bottles. In addition, please make sure there are **NO PLASTIC BAGS** mixed in your recyclables.

Here are some more helpful hints when deciding whether you can recycle the item:

PLASTIC

Don't worry about the numbers (**we do accept 1-7 plastics**), just check the size of the neck or opening of the container. If the opening of the container is smaller or equal to the base, it is okay to recycle. Also, most bottles have a screw-on top. These are okay to recycle as well. Here are some examples of plastic that are okay to recycle:

- Soda, water, and juice bottles
- Liquid detergent and other cleaning supply bottles
- Condiment bottles (ketchup, mustard, etc.)
- Milk jugs and orange juice plastic jugs (no paper cartons)
- Shampoo bottles and liquid soap dispensers
- Peanut butter jars (please rinse out)
- Vitamin bottles
- Yogurt containers
- Butter Tubs
- Any #1-7 numbered container



Plastic items **NOT** accepted:

- **NO PLASTIC BAGS**
- **NO** clamshell or “to go” plastic containers
- **NO** plastic egg cartons
- **NO** six-pack ring holders
- **NO** plastic plates

(more information continued on the next page)

Altogether Recycling continued...

STEEL

Please make sure any Aerosol cans are totally empty. This would include containers such as shaving cream and hairspray cans. Labels are okay.

CARDBOARD

Make sure to flatten cardboard. No wax-lined cardboard is accepted in the recycling mix. Wax-lined cardboard can be composted.



BROWN PAPER BAGS

NO PLASTIC BAGS

CHIP OR PAPERBOARD

This type of material includes items such as:

- Cereal boxes
- Soda carrier boxes
- Tissue holders
- Other food boxes such as popcorn or microwave food boxes (not the cooking sleeves)
- Paper egg cartons are okay
- Paper towel and toilet paper tubs



NEWSPAPER

We accept the entire newspaper including the inserts and ads



OFFICE PAPER

All types of office paper are accepted. If you can tear it, we can take it. All colors are fine as well. Don't worry about paperclips, staples, tape, and sticky notes. These are all ok in the mix. NO TYVEK (polyethylene fiber) plastic, over-night mailing folders.

BULK OR JUNK MAIL

This material is okay as well. Do not worry about any stamps or staples or sticky notes in this material, either. Remember, if you tear it, we can take it. Again, NO TYVEK (polyethylene fiber) plastic, over-night mailing folders.

MAGAZINES, CATALOGS, PHONE BOOKS



Please discard plastic bags around these items and items such as CDs and magnets. Everything else is okay.

Read page 21 for "How To Uncode the Hidden Dangers Of Plastic Bottles"

Sizzling Summer Events!

2008 Annual TrailMark Garage Sale

Thanks to all who participated in this year's annual TrailMark Garage Sale on Friday, June 6th and Saturday, June 7th. The neighborhood was packed with shoppers snatching up garage sale bargains. Special thanks go out to **Lori Ross of Colorado Home Realty and Mortgage**, for her continued organization and sponsorship of this event!



Fun Fest/Safety Day
June 21st, 2008
1:00 pm ~ 4:00 pm



Balls, a blasterbouncer, a giant inflated slide, golf challenge, can "knock-down", inflatable bowling, Kettle Korn and lots and lots of water and juice ~ made Fun Fest a Fun (and hot!) afternoon.

We also had Rick and Gabrielle Handley, providing maps and telling everyone about Jefferson County Open Space.

Some of our favorite guys and gals from the police and fire departments were on hand to demonstrate the fire engine and police car, and to promote safety.

(Check out page 14 for more fun pictures)



Annual TrailMark Independence Day Parade

July 4th, 2008

Bikes, wagons and scooters were dressed-up and decorated for the Independence Day Kids Parade and Picnic.

What a great way to celebrate our country's birthday; to show our true colors (Red, White and Blue), and to get together with neighbors for a picnic.

Thanks to the sponsorship of **Sunny Puckett and Land Title Guarantee Co.** Our colors were further demonstrated by a display of flags at our front entrance, and along TrailMark Parkway.

This special Tribute was provided by **Sunny Puckett of Re/Max Professionals, Inc.**

Music, Music, Music!

Our **Summer Concert Series** began on June 29th, with **Wendy Woo**.

The concert began at 5:30 pm, but residents began to come much earlier, to select a good spot for their chairs or blankets, and to pull out their picnics or snacks, and especially their special libations.

Our second concert of the summer was held on Sunday, July 20th.

The tunes of **Chris Daniels & The Kings** were heard around the entire area, as residents were able to sit on their porches and decks and enjoy the music.

A big "Thank-you" to everyone who has helped to clean up after the concerts.

Coming Up!

The 3rd of our Concerts in the Park Will be on Sunday, August 24th, 2008.

Back Again – Join Us For...

Hot Flash!

Classic Rock –n– Roll

Pack a picnic supper or support our vendors, and grab a place for your blanket or chairs.

Remember – this concert will begin at 5 pm, rather than 5:30 pm.

Just a reminder – Glass bottles are not allowed on the grounds. Lost and Found – Several items have been collected after the concerts. We have blankets to shoes. The items will be at the last concert, and if not claimed, will be donated to Goodwill.





Golf Anyone?

The 3rd Annual Player's Classic to Benefit Children's Hospital

will be held on Friday, September 5, 2008.

Play will begin at 8:00 am – with a shotgun start

Get a group together and enjoy a day at the beautiful Arrowhead Golf Club

Registration is \$125.00 per person

Hole Sponsorship is \$150.00

Registration Forms were printed in the June 2008 TrailMark Tracks – or for further information please call Lou Royston at 303-748-7504 or lroyston@prestigerealtygroup.com

Entry Deadline is August 31, 2008



Balloon Festival Breakfast Social

To be held on Saturday, August 23, 2008

6:00 am – 8:00am

Kinder Care at TrailMark
(9743 S. Carr Way)

Join your neighbors for coffee and refreshments on your way to Chatfield State Park for the Balloon Festival.

Or, just enjoy the number and color of the many balloons rising in the air, from the Children's World field.

Either way, it will make getting up so early very worthwhile!

See you there!

Annual TrailMark - Night at the Corn Maze

On Thursday, September 18, 2008 – from 4:30 pm – 7:30 pm

At the Denver Botanic Gardens at Chatfield

Join us for family fun, hay rides, barrel rides, Kettle Korn, food, beverages and other special treats for the kids.

Again this year – Mark your calendar to pre-register and avoid the lines on the 18th.

Pre-registration on Thursday, September 11, from 5:00 – 7:00 pm at the playground shelter

Please be aware of the Corn Maze Rules

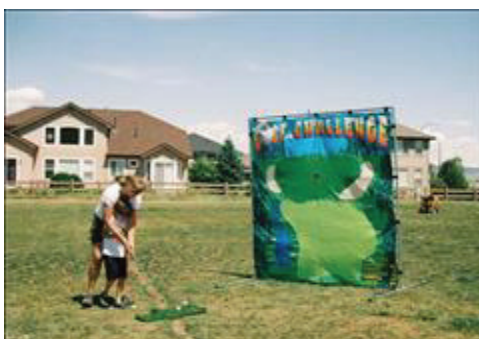
- Last maze admission at 6:30 – must exit by 7:30
- No admission to the park after 7 pm
- Participants must stay on designated paths
- No running, smoking or alcohol permitted
- No picking or throwing of corn
- No food or beverage will be allowed inside the maze
- No pets allowed



Look At All The Fun We Have At TrailMark Social Events!!!

We could not do this without our **VOLUNTEERS & SPONSORS.**

Thanks for giving to our Community!!!



Community News

Chatfield State Park

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

Denver Botanic Gardens at Chatfield

303-973-3705

Open Daily from 9:00-5:00

\$5 per passenger vehicle



SOUTH SUBURBAN PARKS AND RECREATION

Noxious Weeds or Nice Flowers? South Suburban Knows the Difference

There are many plants used in backyard landscaping that can invade South Suburban Parks and Recreation's natural areas. Some of these plants, such as Dame's Rocket, Oxeye Daisy, Purple Loosestrife, Tamarisk, Yellow Toadflax, Scentless Chamomile, St. Johnswort and Russian Olive have beautiful flowers and were innocently planted in local landscapes. However, they are aggressive invaders without natural enemies. Only one flowering stalk of Purple Loosestrife can produce nearly 300,000 seeds. These invaders' seeds are carried away by birds, wind, and water into natural areas creating challenges to valued ecosystems. Local wildlife use native plants for food, shelter and nesting, while these invasive ornamentals displace native plants at an alarming rate and are costly to manage requiring herbicide and the labor to apply it. When the native plants are gone, the wildlife also leaves the area.

What can you do? Start by removing existing invasive ornamentals and noxious weeds from your property and replacing them with native plants. Make certain to bag all removed plant parts and throw them into the trash to avoid further distribution of seeds. To find out more about the noxious weeds that might be in your yard visit the Colorado Weed Management Association (CWMA) website at www.cwma.org.

To engage in protection of public spaces, volunteer for a "weed pull" at your local open space. You will learn to identify weeds, outsmart them by understanding their growth strategies and gain knowledge about easy removal methods. To find out about pulling weeds at South Suburban Parks and Recreation's South Platte Park, 3000 W. Carson Dr., Littleton, call 303-730-1022. To find an open space area near your neighborhood to visit log onto www.sspr.org.

Board Seeks Public Input on 2009 Budget

South Suburban Parks and Recreation has begun the annual planning process for its 2008 budget. Individuals are welcome to attend the Wednesday, August 13 Board meeting and address the Board of Directors with comments regarding fees, requests for new programs or facilities, or improvements to existing facilities, parks, trails and open spaces. The meeting will be held at 7:30 pm at Goodson Recreation Center, 6315 S. University Blvd. (between Arapahoe Rd. and Orchard Rd.)

Citizens will have an additional opportunity to address the Board with 2008 budget comments on Wednesday, September 10. Staff recommended program and facility fees will be the subject of the October 8 Board meeting.

Please call 303-798-5131 for details or watch the website at www.sspr.org.

South Suburban Presents Pool Time for Furry Friends

South Suburban Parks and Recreation invites you and your furriest family member to Harlow Pool, 5151 S. Lowell Blvd., on Sunday afternoon, August 17 from 3-5 pm or to Holly Pool, 6651 S. Krameria Way, on Saturday afternoon, September 6, from 2-4 pm to frolic and play in the water at South Suburban's third annual Puppy Paddle. This event has expanded to two convenient locations in 2008 and a pre-registration discount is available reducing the per-dog fee. The whole family is invited to romp with rover and a dog supervisor at least 16 years old must be present to handle the furry family friend. Giveaways and special activities will be offered.

To register and receive the early bird discount for Puppy Paddle visit www.sspr.org. For other questions or information call Betsy Evans at 303-483-7078.

News From the Star Canyon Condominiums

From the Board:

The Board has been active this year preparing for some much needed activities and work. An Audit of the year ending December 31, 2007, was kicked-off in June. Beichle & Associates, Inc. will be performing the Audit, and Kent Beichle has agreed to attend our Annual Meeting to answer any homeowner's questions, with regards to the Audit. Caron Realty has sent out request for bids for concrete repairs throughout our property. The Board is also reviewing bids for maintenance to crack-seal, repair, and seal-coat Freiburg Drive. Notices will be posted in the "flyer boxes" to keep residents informed, once maintenance dates are scheduled. Also a friendly reminder that our units are now over 6 years in age....please repair any faucet drips or leaks within your unit to eliminate any water waste – Thanks!

PLEASE DON'T FORGET to fill out and send your
Directory information sheets to Diane at CommunityQuestions@att.net.

Landscape Update:

The Landscape Committee has been working diligently all spring and summer with no help from "Mother-Nature"! This year we have experienced very little rain, and have been infested with a wide range of "critters". Our property has been sprayed for aphids, mealy bugs, leaf hoppers and mites. We also discovered that eight of our ash trees were infested with ash tree borers, and will have to be replaced.

But, on a positive note, the area around our waterfall received a facelift recently by removing some over grown willows, which had been hiding the water feature. Our shrubs have been trimmed and grass seed sown on the hill besides building 9815. Replacement plants have been planted throughout or property, and in the area around the "Star Canyon" sign. **Many thanks** go to Betty McGinnis, Tracy Stainbrook and Bruce Hayes for their hard work!

From the Reserve Study Committee:

On Tuesday, July 22, 2008, the Reserve Study Committee, consisting of Lynn Ester, Bruce Hayes, Betty McGinnis and Sharon Gambrell Elms, met to revisit the Reserve Study completed in 2006. The study was accomplished by Aspen Reserve Specialists, and serves to identify common current and future capitol expenditures for the homeowner's association. At the time of the initial Reserve Study, it was determined that our reserves were 71% funded. Our goal is to have a reserve fund that is 100% funded. The Reserve Study as well as the operational (monthly) budget, dictate the **necessary** level of our homeowner's monthly fees. It is recommended that a specific percentage of our monthly budget be allotted to reserves. This is to insure that we, as individual homeowners, are not faced with "Special Assessments" for necessary capitol improvements. Capitol improvements include such things as asphalt, concrete replacement, roofing, exterior building painting and other major improvements. These improvements ensure the physical well being of our property, and protect each homeowner's investment.

Every item identified in the Reserve Study was discussed and updated, and a new item of major capitol landscaping needs (especially trees) was added to the report. The next meeting of the committee will be on August 19, 2008, at Lynn Ester's unit.

Social News:

Put the date of Saturday, September 13, 2008, on your calendar! Betty McGinnis and her committee are putting together a **Block Party**, which will be held under canopies near Betty's place at 9796 W. Freiburg Drive B (nearest the pond/waterfall). All homeowners and residents are invited to come and partake of barbeque sandwiches and other goodies. You will need to bring only yourself (and any special liquid refreshment), and perhaps a chair to sit on if you prefer other than grass. This is a great way to meet your neighbors and get a "free lunch". The time will be from 12 Noon until around 4 P.M. We look forward to seeing everyone there!

The **Book Group** meets every month on the last Friday afternoon of the month, to discuss varying book selections. We have read everything from *Team of Rivals* and *Pillars of the Earth* to *Playing for Pizza*.

However, you do not have to have read the book to come and enjoy the discussion. The book for August is *Jackdaws* by Ken Follett. We meet around 1 P.M. at various units in the area. Please call Penni Moulton at (303) 862-8834 if you desire further information.

If you play **Bridge** (even if you have not played for years), you are welcome to play with the Afternoon Bridge Group. We have previously scheduled playing on the second Thursday afternoon of the month and are trying to get a group together who will play fairly consistently. The next Afternoon Bridge Group is scheduled for August 14, 2008, at 1 P.M. Please call Susan Zeeb, (303) 670-0890 for further information.

Sharon Gambrell Elms
Gambrellelms@aol.com

Star Canyon Patio Homes

No news this time from the HOA Board. Our officers are Jeff Pugh, Lou Zier, and Jerry Mastembrook. If you need information about the Star Canyon Patio Homes, you need to contact either a Board member or **Mike Chapman** at mcahpman@associacolorado.com with cc: jpugh@springair.com; louzier@hotmail.com; and (Jerry) jobsrus@qwest.net. You can also reach **Mike Chapman** at 303/232-9200 x244.

Our Patio Homes community website is: www.associacolorado.com. Click on "Community Websites" & choose Star Canyon. You must set up your 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!

SOCIAL HAPPENINGS:

The **Lunch Bunch** finds the neatest places to go for lunch. They always pick places that can accommodate the large group that usually attends, as well as being willing to do separate checks. On July 12, ladies enjoyed lunch at Carlos Miguels at Kipling and Chatfield. On August 19, we will meet at Kay Schans' house in Fairplay. Beverages and utensils will be provided. The plan is to leave around 9:00 a.m. Contact Gabrielle Handley so carpools can be arranged. Keep September 18 open; more information on that luncheon to follow. For more information, contact Gabrielle Handley at 303-979-6934.



The **Star Canyon Dinner Group**, will discontinue dinner in homes until August 2, when we get together at the picnic shelter at the Athletic Field for a potluck BBQ. Please bring your own dishes, utensils, beverages, glasses etc., as well as meat to grill and a dish to share. E-mail Peggy Fitzgerald with your food contribution at copegg@msn.com. We will also meet for one more BBQ on Sept. 6.

The **Star Canyon Book Club**, this group meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month. In August we will meet at Betty Harris' house for a discussion of Leap of Faith, Memoirs of an Unexpected Life by Queen Noor of Jordan. In September, the book is Kabul Beauty School, An American Woman Goes Behind the Veil by Deborah Rodriguez and Kristin Ohlson, at Joan Chamberlin's house. For those of you who want to read ahead, October will be Evening Class by Maeve Binchey. As always, reading is optional. Contact Joy Carlson at 303-972-5116, for more information.

Bunko (or Zilch/Farkel) is the first Tuesday of each month. Connie Sobek will host in August, Peggy Fitzgerald in September, and Marilyn Hubbard in October. Bev Zier is the contact person for this activity if you would like to be put on the sub list. You might be the winner of one of the "big" money prizes.

Mah Jongg continues to be the 4th Wed afternoon of the month, 1:30 – 4:00 p.m. The August meeting will be at Mary Ann Gehan's house. Marilyn Hubbard and Joan Flenner are the gals to contact for more information. It is such a fun, fun game!

Movie Club is always looking for recommendations for good movies to view together. They try to catch the first showing of the day to get the good ticket prices. Contact Joan Flenner or Karen Milspaugh for information or movie input.

Men's Breakfast is the 2nd Tuesday morning of each month. Bernie Gehan is the contact person. The guys like to try different places each month.

Star Canyon Homeowners Design Review Request

This form must be used to obtain the approval of the Star Canyon Design Review Committee (DRC) for external changes or additions to your property. You must have approval from both Star Canyon DRC and Trailmark HOA architectural review committees before commencing work. Submission of this form to the Star Canyon HOA does not constitute submission to Trailmark. The Trailmark request form is available at www.trailmarkhoa.org.

Colorado Association Services Mail completed form to: 14062 Denver West Parkway, Suite 250 Lakewood, CO 80401	Phone: (303) 232-9200 Fax: (303) 232-3240 Email: mchapman@associacolorado.com
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Please complete the following section

Property owner name(s):	
Address:	Primary Phone:
	Alternate Phone:
	Email address:

Use the space below to briefly describe your request or project. If additional space is needed, please attach a separate description and/or sketch plan. A brochure, specification sheet or website may be helpful to the reviewers. When color is an option, such as an awning or door, you must describe your color choice accurately and/or attach a suitable sample. If your project extends beyond the existing building perimeter, attach a site plot plan showing the project outline.

I/we understand that approval of this request by the Star Canyon HOA Design and Review Committee is necessary before commencing work. Furthermore, I/we understand that the approval of the DRC does not constitute implied approval by other local governing boards, City or County Building Departments, and applicable construction codes. Appropriate Building Permits will be obtained by me/us prior to commencement of work to satisfy such requirements.

Property owner signature(s) / date:

Design Review Committee Section

Date Received:	DRC Sequence Number	
Date Reviewed:	Additional information required	
Approved as submitted		Not Approved:
Conditionally or partially Approved as follows:		
DRC member signature / Date:		
Date Property owner notified:		SC-DRC-03

School News

Chatfield High School

<http://jeffcoweb.jeffco.k12.co.us/high/chatfield/>
303-982-3670

Opening School Information:

Start of school procedures have changed. The traditional "registration" schedule pickup process will not be done. Instead, all families are asked to use the Payschools program to pay fees for the 2008-2009 school year. That can be done any time before August 4. On that date, schedules will be available through Infinite Campus for those students whose fees have been paid. This will allow families more flexibility with summer schedules.

The other aspects of the registration process will be completed through classes during the first week of school. School pictures for ninth graders will be done during Freshman Orientation on August 12. Pictures for all other students will be taken on August 13. Also on August 13, student information sheets will be collected and students will sign the conduct code agreement.

The only schedule change opportunity will be Friday, August 8. Students can come to school that day or turn in a request form to the counseling office. As always, schedule changes will be done on a space available basis, and making a request does not guarantee a change can be made.

All sophomores, juniors, and seniors new to Chatfield for the 2008-09 school year are invited to an orientation and Barbeque on Tuesday, August 12; from 12:00 to 1:15 pm. Students will meet current Chatfield students, receive information about life at CSH, tour the building and meet staff members.

August 12 is the first day of school for freshmen only.

All students will attend starting August 13.

August 19 – Back to School Night, 6:30

September 1 – NO SCHOOL – Labor Day

September 19 – NO SCHOOL – Non Student Contact Day

September 24 – Make Up Picture Day

September 25 – Homecoming Game

September 26 – Progress Reports available

September 27 – Homecoming Dance

October 1 – Parent Teacher Conferences, 4:00 to 8:00 pm

October 2 – Parent Teacher Conferences, 3:00 to 6:00 pm

October 22 – NO SCHOOL – Comp Day for Conferences

October 23-24 – NO SCHOOL – Fall Mini Break

Falcon Bluffs Middle School

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

Schedule pick up is August 5 & 6

First day of school is August 12

August 21 – Back to School – Curriculum Night, 7:00 pm

September 1 – NO SCHOOL – Labor Day

September 19 – NO SCHOOL – Inservice Day

September 26 – Picture Re-take Day

October 20 – Early Dismissal, 12:55; Parent/Teacher Conferences, 1:30-8:00

October 21 – Early Dismissal, 12:55; Parent/Teacher Conferences, 1:30-8:00

October 22 – NO SCHOOL – Comp Day for Conferences

October 23-24 – NO SCHOOL – Fall Mini Break

Shaffer Elementary School

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

303-982-3901

First day of school is August 12

August 18 – K-2 Curriculum Night, 6:00-7:00

August 19 – 3-5 Curriculum Night 6:00-7:00

September 1 – NO SCHOOL – Labor Day

September 10 – Early Release Day 1:00pm/Day Care with reservations (buses at 3:00)

September 12 – Fall Flex Day for Testing

September 15 – Fall Flex Day for Testing

September 19 – NO SCHOOL—Non-Student Contact Day

October 1 – Early Release 1:00pm/Day Care with reservations (buses at 3:00)

October 20 – Fall Conferences (Chatfield Area)

October 21 – Early Release for Fall Conferences -buses run at 1:00pm

October 22 – NO SCHOOL-Conference Comp Day

October 23-24 – NO SCHOOL - Fall Break



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

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.



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.**

How To Uncode the Hidden Dangers Of Plastic Bottles

#1: Most soft drinks, including Poland Spring, Dasani carry this number to reflect that they are bottles made of polyethylene terphthalate (PET), which is approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for consumer use. The narrow-necked bottles are not made for repeated use. The design of the bottle means they are difficult to clean. That means bacteria, from your hands and mouth, can grow in the bottle over time. Always wash out with soap and water before reusing.

#2: In your grocery store when you come across one gallon plastic containers and 2.5 gallon jugs of water, you will see this number on the plastic. This means the bottle contains phthalates that have been shown to leach into water over time,. Phthalates have been linked to health problems, including inducing early puberty, and are banned for toys in California and in 14 countries. Wash with soap and water too, only do not reuse too many times.

#3: Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC) are environmentally hazardous and not recyclable.

#4: Bottles with this number are considered safe and are made using low density polyethylene. Not only is it used for some water bottles, but it is a common oil-based plastic that's used for containers that are squeezable. If properly cleaned, there are ok to reuse.

#5: If you pop plastic in the microwave, it is usually this number because it is made with polypropylene. Again, be sure to properly clean before reusing.

#6: Used for egg cartons and Styrofoam cups.

#7: This type of polycarbonate bottle can have many "other" materials. It's a catchall bottle number (this bottle may have been used with phthalates or bisphenol A, or not). Bisphenol A is restricted in Canada. It may be a number you want to avoid if you don't know the content. May not be safe to reuse again.

The bottom line is, these bottles are out there and we probably use them in our daily lives. The caution is to always make sure before you reuse them, clean them thoroughly with soap and hot water.

Source: Bottlemania, by Elizabeth Royle

Bare and under-protected feet are common causes for emergency room visits

Emergency personnel see many injuries in both children and adults because they are either walking barefoot or wearing improper footwear outside. Common injuries include stubbed and broken toes, cuts from broken glass, and lawn mower injuries caused by mowing barefoot or in sandals (you can get burned from the hot mower parts and if the mower goes backwards it can mow over your feet, leading to fractures and amputations). Other sources of foot injuries that are seen often enough to discuss are:



Injuries from landscape edging are very common for both people and their pets. Hard to see and easy to step on, landscape edging easily causes bruising and deep cuts on the unsuspecting. Landscape industry experts suggest that all metal edging in your yard be covered by a plastic safety strip or cap to reduce injuries. Another thing to watch out for are lawn mowers and power edgers. They hit the metal edging and cause metal fragments to shoot into your feet and legs and toward any children, adults or pets within 30 to 50 feet.

Improper footwear. Crocs, sandals and flip flops are all fashionable and comfortable shoes many of us wear year round. And while comfort and style are enjoyable, these shoes do not offer the needed support for riding a bike, using playground equipment, mowing the lawn or even rough housing with the family dog. Improper footwear often results in twisted ankles and other injuries.

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
¼ 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 August 2005, there will be a 2 page ad limitation, which will be decided upon how many requests are received, 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 e-mailed 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. All ads must be black and white only, and copy ready.

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 Submitter:

Name of Company:

Mailing Address:

Contact phone number:

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

Ad Size/Check #/ and Amount:

The TrailMark Tracks Newsletter is published bi-monthly by the TrailMark HOA board, Hammersmith Management, Inc. and the Communication Committee. Newsletters are published on even months, and the deadline for articles and advertisements is the **15th of each odd month. PLEASE NOTE: ALL ARTICLES AND ADS 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

AUGUST
2008



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.**

September 11, 2008

&

November 13, 2008

**Meetings are held at the Kinder Care @ TrailMark
9743 S. Carr Way**

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