



Tracks

A Publication of the TrailMark HOA - A Covenant Controlled Community

JUNE 2009

Newsletter By E-mail

New - Newsletter by E-mail is becoming more of a Reality!

- **What** - To receive the TrailMark Tracks by E-mail rather than printed copy.
- **Why** - To reduce our carbon footprint and "Go Green".
- **Rational** - Newsletter by e-mail would reduce our printing and mailing costs, but still make community information available to all homeowners.
- **How** - Please stay posted for further information on how you, as a Homeowner/Resident can "opt-in" to receive your E-mail copy.
- **Currently** - The TrailMark Tracks is currently available online (less advertising and Teen Services) at www.trailmarkHOA.org.

PERIMETER TRAILMARK FENCE PAINTING

Bids are being accepted to paint the perimeter fencing of Filing #3 and the north and west fencing of Star Canyon. Painting is planned for some time in June. We request homeowners in these areas to remove any vegetation and other items from the fencing (this includes vines, birdfeeders, etc.).

If homeowners plan to paint their own side of the fence, the following is the formula for one gallon of paint color (Fawn) provided by Kwal:

Kwal Woodcraft #6230 Deep Base
Solid Color 100% Acrylic Latex Stain
B-4Y, C-6Y, F-Y24, T-Y

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WWW.TRAILMARKHOA.ORG

**TrailMark Homeowners
Association
P.O. Box 270566
Littleton, CO 80127**

Board Members

President.....Stephen McKeon
Vice President.....Karen Millsbaugh
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

Management Company

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Greenwood Village, CO 80111

Community Manager

Beth Lovato, CMCA, AMS



ROUND-UP

A Summary of the TrailMark HOA Meeting held May 14, 2009

Many concerns were brought to the Homeowner Forum of the TrailMark HOA meeting on Thursday, May 14th that individual homeowners wanted the HOA Board to pursue.

*A question regarding the planned **social events** for the year was brought up by a neighbor. She wondered why there weren't more social events planned for 2009. The Social Budget and lack of volunteers were the main reasons given by the Board for the smaller number of events that were scheduled for this year. The HOA Board strongly stated that if there were more volunteers to help with the events, they would then consider allocating more money to support an increased number of events in the coming budgetary years.

*Another neighbor brought up the question of an **electronic newsletter** instead of a paper one. She felt that this idea would make TrailMark a little more responsible to the environment and also reduce the cost of the newsletter for the community. The Board stated that they are required by the bylaws to present timely information via a newsletter to all of the homeowners in TrailMark. There was discussion as to how the email addresses could be captured and made safe. The HOA Board directed the Web Committee to come up with suggestions as to how an email version of the newsletter could be feasible and to report back to the HOA Board in July.

*The question of how to deal with **unsightly vehicles** was raised. There have been some vehicles in the neighborhood that have been parked in driveways and are leaking oil; some vehicles with blocks to keep them from rolling down driveways; some vehicles that are rusting and have not been moved for some time; and some vehicles that have expired license tags. The HOA Board will research the problem and let neighbors know what can be done by the Board and what can be done legally through the City of Littleton.

*One neighbor suggested that the Board publish, in the newsletter and on the website, a "**List of Jobs That Need Volunteers, Dates and approximate time commitments for the jobs.**" She said that if people knew what needed to be done and if it wasn't a year-long commitment, she believed more people would volunteer. The Board said that they would discuss, contact committees and see if this was a viable option for each of the committees. The Board will discuss this idea in July.

Fairview Reservoir #1 (Entrance Lake)

The TrailMark Metropolitan Board and members of South Suburban Parks and Recreation toured the north side of Fairview #1 to determine what improvements should be made to the bank and to the outlet. South Suburban Parks and Recreation staff stated that they seeded some of the areas on the north side of the shore. Tape will be placed around the areas to remind neighbors to stay off of the newly seeded areas to allow the areas to mature. The reservoir is very full at present and the repairs to the outlet are scheduled to take place in the Fall.







Fairview Reservoir #2 (Beaver Pond)

The solar aerator is working very well and the pond will be sprayed every six weeks as needed. The Common Area Committee has plans to place some plants around the fenced area surrounding the solar collectors. This plan is an effort to soften the fencing and make it look a little more natural. The TrailMark Metro Board will also be trying to seed-in a test site of bulrush into the pond in an effort to see if the bulrush will take over some of the cattails that are encroaching upon the pond.

Slurry Coating All of TrailMark Streets

The City of Littleton has contracted with Quality Resurfacing to seal all of TrailMark's public streets. Danzig and Cambridge will be the temporary storage place for all of the gravel material that will be used. This area was chosen in lieu of damaging the fragile native grasses in the open space tracts. The slurry seal coating will protect TrailMark's paved surfaces from drying out for several years to come.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 Design Review Committee 6:30pm	4 Communications Committee Mtg	5  Newsletter to be mailed	6  Southwest Plaza Farmer's Market Saturdays 8AM - 2PM Now - October
					Chili Peppers & Brew Fest—Snowmass TEVA MTN GAMES—VAIL	
7  Highlands Ranch Farmer's Market Sundays (now - Oct 25th) 10Am-2PM Highlands Ranch Town Center	8	9 HOA Board work Session 6:30pm Common Area Committee Mtg 6:30pm	10	11 Breckenridge Festival of Film starts today through Sunday	12  Country Festival in Parker begins today thru Sunday 303-841-4268	13 Palsade Bluegrass and Roots Festival through Sunday
14 Flag Day 	15	16 TrailMark Metropolitan District Mtg 6:30pm Day Care Center	17  Design Review Committee Mtg 6:30pm New Aspen Grove Farmer's Market Wednesday June 17 - Oct 28 7301 S Sante Fe 11AM - 3PM	18	19   Telluride Bluegrass Festival	20
21 First Day of Summer Father's Day 	22 	23	24	25	26  Salida Art Walk June 26 - 28 719-221-3113	27 Colorado Brewfest Ft Collins June 26 - June 29 Helen Keller's Birthday 
← 15th ANNUAL BICYCLE TOUR OF COLORADO →						
28 #1 CONCERT "PARROTT"	29 Covenant Committee Mtg 6:30pm	30	NATIONAL SMILE MONTH 			

JULY 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Design Review Committee Mtg 6:30pm	2	3 	Independence Day 4  Annual TrailMark July 4th Bike Parade 9:30am Cherry Creek Arts Festival
5 Cherry Creek Arts Festival	6	7 Common Area Committee Mtg 6:30pm Board Work Session 6:30pm ESTES PARK ROOFTOP RODEO	8	9 TrailMark's Homeowners Association Mtg 6:30pm At Children's World	10 	11 29th Annual Hot Air Balloon Rodeo/35th Annual Art in the Park Steamboat Springs 877-754-2269
12 ESTES PARK ROOFTOP RODEO	13	14	15 Design Review Committee Mtg 6:30pm	16	17  Fat Tire Classic - Winter Mile High	18
19 #2 CONCERT "RHYTHM ANGELS" Park, CO Music Fest	20	21 	22	23	24 	25 National Day of the Cowboy 
26	27 Covenants Committee Mtg 6:30pm	28	29	30 Steamboat Wine Festival	31  July 31 - August 2: Covered Wagon Days, Del Norte - 719-657-2170	August 1 Olathe Sweet Corn Festival 
NATIONAL GRILLING MONTH						

TrailMark Metropolitan District Polling Results

The TrailMark Metropolitan Board was given the task of polling the TrailMark Community concerning the development of the school site land. It took more than a year and a half to meet with the City of Littleton and Jefferson County Schools to determine that TrailMark could "share the land."

A series of meetings were held in the spring of this year to determine whether the community wanted to go forward with development. A Data Package and Ballot were prepared and sent to all homeowners in TrailMark. The ballot was due to Community Resource Services by May 15th, to be counted on Monday, May 18, 2009. The results were as follows:

Ballot Question #1	Leave the School Site as it is today.	<u>246 votes</u>
	Build a Community Center on the School Site.	<u>320 votes</u>
Ballot Question #2	If a Community Center is built, should a Pool be included in the improvements?	Yes <u>314 votes</u>
		No <u>247 votes</u>
Ballots sent out		<u>810</u>
Ballots undeliverable		<u>7</u>
Ballots returned		<u>566</u>

The TrailMark Metropolitan District Board wishes to thank the Area Development Committee - Kim McMahon, Chairman and the Website Committee who worked tirelessly to get all of the information out to the residents of our community.

**The next regularly scheduled meeting of the TrailMark Metro Board will be on
Tuesday, June 16th at the Daycare Center at 6: 30 pm.**

Statistical Information supplied by: Certificate of Election Results

TrailMark Metro District Manager Change: The Metro District has changed management companies. Our former District Manager, Toni Burns, left Special District Management Inc. and the Metro Board decided to change management companies as part of our on-going cost-cutting efforts. Our new District Manager is Cathy Noon @ Community Resource Services, 3855 N. Lewiston Street, Suite 140, Aurora, CO. Her phone number is 303-381-4960 and her email is cnoon@crsofcolorado.com.



Picture provided by: John Birkey

05/05/2009

Trailmark Homeowners Association, Inc.

UNAUDITED REPORT

Budget Variance Report

PREPARED BY

For Period Ending 04/30/2009

HAMMERSMITH MANAGEMENT, INC

Level of Detail - Account

Apr Act	Apr Bud	Apr Var	Account	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	YTD Var	Tot Budget
REVENUE							
INCOME							
76,800	76,800	0	ASSESSMENTS	153,600	153,600	0	307,200
3,164	0	3,164	OTHER INCOME	3,381	0	3,381	0
1,535	833	702	LATE FEES INCOME	4,211	3,332	879	10,000
650	500	150	LEGAL FEES-COLLECTION INCOME	3,211	2,000	1,211	6,000
75	0	75	FINES/VIOLATIONS INCOME	150	0	150	0
0	0	0	LIEN FILING FEE	800	0	800	0
0	42	-42	SOCIAL INCOME	0	168	-168	500
1,100	82	1,018	NEWSLETTER REVENUE	1,435	332	1,103	1,000
83,324	78,257	5,067	TOTAL INCOME	166,788	159,432	7,356	324,700
83,324	78,257	5,067	TOTAL REVENUE	166,788	159,432	7,356	324,700
EXPENSES							
ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES							
2,730	2,729	-1	MANAGEMENT	10,921	10,916	-5	32,750
0	600	600	LEGAL-GENERAL	0	2,400	2,400	7,200
650	550	-100	LEGAL-COLLECTION	3,211	2,200	-1,011	6,600
700	0	-700	LIEN FILING	800	0	-800	0
375	454	79	LATE FEE EXPENSE	1,560	1,816	256	5,440
0	0	0	INSURANCE	0	0	0	1,800
0	0	0	AUDIT	0	0	0	2,050
0	0	0	INCOME TAX	4,881	0	-4,881	8,400
995	650	-345	ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSE	2,627	2,600	-27	7,800
534	708	174	POSTAGE	1,645	2,832	1,187	8,490
239	196	-43	COPIES	532	784	252	2,345
1,624	2,000	376	NEWSLETTER	3,843	4,000	157	12,000
45	0	-45	BANK CHARGES	190	0	-190	0
0	1,000	1,000	SOCIAL	689	4,000	3,311	12,000
1,230	0	-1,230	BAD DEBT EXPENSE	1,311	0	-1,311	0
0	83	83	COVENANT COMMITTEE	750	333	-417	1,000
920	900	-20	COVENANT PATROL	3,020	3,600	580	10,800
0	83	83	DESIGN REVIEW COMMITTEE	0	333	333	1,000
1,105	1,000	-105	COMMON AREA	19,544	4,000	-15,544	12,000
0	84	84	SAFETY COMMITTEE	0	333	333	1,000
0	83	83	FINANCE COMMITTEE	0	333	333	1,000
0	100	100	MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSE	214	400	186	1,000
11,147	11,220	73	TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES	55,738	40,880	-14,858	134,675
GROUNDS MAINTENANCE							
3,272	2,538	-734	LANDSCAPE CONTRACT	4,708	10,146	5,438	30,449
0	1,000	1,000	SPRINKLER REPAIRS	895	1,000	105	4,000
10,100	9,633	-467	TRASH REMOVAL	40,414	38,532	-1,882	115,596
0	2,000	2,000	SNOW REMOVAL	2,432	8,000	5,568	12,000
13,372	15,171	1,799	TOTAL GROUNDS MAINTENANCE	48,449	57,678	9,229	162,045
UTILITIES							
20	150	130	GAS & ELECTRICITY	89	600	511	1,800
22	2,000	1,978	WATER & SEWER	44	8,000	7,956	24,000

Notes from the Common Area Committee

Community Garden Plots are a great way to grow your own organic vegetables, meet your like-minded neighbors, and build community within TrailMark. Please see the separate article in this newsletter about starting our own community garden area. YOU MUST LET US KNOW YOUR LEVEL OF INTEREST BY E-MAILING commonarea@trailmarkhoa.org.

Spring has sprung in TrailMark! We all enjoy the green, and we are continuing to beautify our community by more planting. Thanks to the TrailMark Metropolitan District (TMMD), we have funds to plant around the fence built for the solar panels at the "Beaver Pond". Due to matching grants from South Suburban, we will be planting up to ten new trees in the next month.

Grates have been placed over the large drainage culverts at the "Beaver Pond" to prevent children from exploring this potentially dangerous area.

The Southwest Corner improvements should be completed by the 4th of July. They include much needed shade cover for the relocated picnic table, plantings around the new area, and a horseshoe pit for the enjoyment of the community.

Thank you to all the many dog owners in TrailMark for keeping their dogs on leash at all times. We also appreciate your cleaning up after your pooch. Please place your plastic bags in the trash and **NOT** by the trails. There are dog-off-leash areas available in Jefferson County. The closest is the northern part of Chatfield State Park. There is also a remarkably beautiful off-leash area of 105 acres in the mountains at Elk Meadow, Jefferson County Open Space Park.

Information submitted by: Rick Handley

Community Garden at TrailMark

**Interested? Let us know &
we'll see if we can make it happen...**

Have you thought about starting your own vegetable garden? Have you been wishing you had the space to grow all those yummy fresh vegetables and herbs? TrailMark Common Area Committee is exploring interest to create a community garden in our neighborhood.



Benefits of being part of a Community Garden in TrailMark:

- Grow your own fresh, healthy vegetables and herbs
- Opportunity to "grow community" as you meet other neighbors who share your interest here in TrailMark
- Learn gardening techniques such as composting (organic recycling)
- "Green" and environmentally appealing idea
- Add another outdoor amenity to TrailMark as a whole

What is a "Community Garden"? It is a place in your community where you can rent a garden plot to grow your own vegetables and herbs. You add your vegetable seeds, tend them, clear your plot and along the way you will meet others in the community doing the same.

Community gardens have been growing in popularity over the past decade or so. Locally, Denver Urban Gardens (DUG - <http://www.dug.org/>) is just one example of a large successful community garden program. "Over 80 DUG gardens can be found throughout Denver, Lakewood, Aurora, Commerce City, Englewood, Westminster, Edgewater, Arvada, Golden and Sheridan."

Closer to home, the Ken-Caryl Ranch community recently began building their own community garden. There are also three community gardens in the Highlands Ranch community.

We are interested in your feedback. Let us know if you would like to see a community garden in TrailMark. Let us know if you would like to help plan this new addition. Send us an email at: commonarea@TrailMarkhoa.org

Brought to you by the TrailMark Common Area Committee

Star Canyon Patio Homes

Board Banter:

A **Special Meeting** of the Patio Homes was held at Mortenson Elementary School, on May 13, 2009. The purpose of the meeting was to vote on an amendment which would change the responsibility of some exterior maintenance items. A recent Reserve Study had revealed that the replacement of siding, stone facing and window wells would 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 HOA responsibility will result in a substantial increase in our monthly fees.

This, coupled with the potential of our operating expenses to also grow, causes the Board to strongly recommend the transfer of these responsibilities.

The consensus at this special information meeting was to exclude exterior siding and stone facing from HOA responsibility. However, window well repair/replacement responsibility will be retained by the HOA.

Patio Homeowners must now vote/revote to make these changes official. Watch your mailbox for further details. Sixty-seven percent (46 units) must now give their consent in order for this modification to the Association By-Laws to occur.

The new 15 mph speed limit signs have been installed at the entrances to both Johnson and Iris Court. Hopefully, they will contribute to our continued safety.

Exterior painting of our homes will continue this year in three phases during June, July and August. The owners of all fifteen designated homes have been notified. If you have questions regarding the schedule, please contact Milagros Matos at mmatos@associacolorado.com.

Also, our community website is: www.associacolorado.com. Click on "Community Websites" and choose Star Canyon. Use your street number as your User Name to register and to set up your own account.

Our good friend and neighbor, **Dennis Reynolds**, is having a park named after him!! Dennis was Mayor of Littleton from 1993-1997: and a member of the South Suburban Parks and Recreation Board from 200-2008. **Reynolds Landing** is located north of the Carson Nature Center near Mineral and Santa Fe streets. The dedication will be June 13th, around 9:30 or 10 a.m. Go to www.SSPR.org for all information. Come out and celebrate our neighbor.

Please remember that we want to plant a tree in memory of William (Bill) Flenner. For further information, please contact Gabrielle Handley at ghandley@comcast.net.

Trailmark Trivia: Seven percent of people say they do this for their pets...see answer below.

Social Happenings:

The Lunch Bunch: No plans for June have been made.

The Star Canyon Dinner group: Beginning in June, we will move out of host homes and on to other venues (possibly to a restaurant or outdoors for a BBQ).

The Star Canyon Patio Homes Book Club will meet on June 9th to discuss *Beneath a Marble Sky* by John Shors. Meetings begin at 10:00 a.m.

Bunko (or Zilch/Farkel) is held the first Tuesday of each month at 6:45 P.M. Two dates scheduled are June 2nd and July 7th.

Mahjongg now the fourth Tuesday of the month at 1:30 P.M. "Competition" will be June 26th and July 23rd.

Movie Club: This club does not have a regular "outing" day. If there is a movie you would like to see with the group, please contact Joan Flenner or Karen Millsbaugh.

Men's Breakfast is the second Tuesday morning of each month, when the gals are having book club. Bernie Gehan is your contact person.

Trivia Answer: Throw a Birthday Party for them!!

News From the Star Canyon Condominiums

News from the Board:



Trees are blooming, grass is growing and the wind is blowing. Spring is definitely here!

More of us are getting out, walking, enjoying the sunshine and seeing some neighbors we haven't seen most of the winter. Flowers on decks are starting to appear and the colors are beautiful. Thanks to homeowners for adding color for us all to enjoy. However, we would give just a word of caution. With the sudden gusts of wind that come all too often, please make sure all containers are secured so they don't go flying off and hit someone or cause damage.

With spring comes cleanup. As you are getting that deck ready to enjoy, please remember those below you.

Spring always brings a lot more birds to our area, and we are having more trash day messes. Several very nice people have been picking up other peoples garbage. Article V of our condominium by-laws states, "*All rubbish, trash or garbage shall be deposited in appropriate trash receptacles and kept in unit garages. Trash receptacles should be placed by the curb the day of trash collection, and returned to storage that same day.*" Because our trash pickup has been coming later in the day, more time is available for the birds and other "critters" to get into any bags left out. Please use a trash can so your neighbors don't have to see and pick up your trash. We do want to keep our area looking beautiful. If you insist on using trash bags, be sure to use the black bags. For some reason, the birds don't bother them as much as the white ones.

Another point to remember; TrailMark requires that all trash cans to be stored out of sight. If you are leaving for the weekend have a neighbor bring your can in for you. TrailMark will issue violations if this isn't done.

Your Board did a recent "walk around the property" with a representative of our property management company. We found that generally, things are in good shape this year. We found a couple of things that will be taken care of soon. The major item appears to be caulking around windows and doors. We are working with a company to give us a bid to do this. The caulk will be a special mixture that will match or at least blend with the stucco on the buildings. As we get more information on this project we will keep you informed.

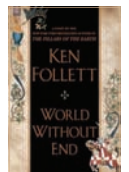
At our last board meeting we welcomed our newest board member: Trent Miesner, who will complete the last year of the position vacated by Kim Hayes. It is a pleasure to have him join us. Officers for the HOA have been elected as follows: Lynn Ester, President, Tom Moulton, Vice-President, and Trent Miesner, Secretary-Treasurer.

Information submitted by Lynn Ester

Social News:

The combined Star Canyon **Bridge Group** played on May 20, 2009. The next group is scheduled for June 17th. Please call either (303) 670-0890 or (303) 932-1753 if you would like to join the play.

The **Condominium Book Group** met on May 22nd to discuss, *World Without End* by Ken Follett. Our next meeting will be on June 26, 2009. Please call (303) 862-8834 for further details regarding name of book and address of host.



The **Canasta Group** will be gathering on June 12, 2009, at Sharon Gambrell Elms' place. As she was the "overwhelming winner" in May – she will be the player to defeat! Please call (303) 932-1753 with questions.

Sharon Gambrell Elms
Gambrellelms@aol.com

2009 TRAILMARK SUMMER LAWN CARE PART II

MAINTAIN HEALTHY SOIL

Having healthy soil at TrailMark is another step to having a healthy lawn. Some ways to make sure that your soil is healthy are to test its pH, organic matter content, and nutrient content to see what areas need attention. Although this might seem expensive, it can pay off by reducing the amount of care you might otherwise have to put into your lawn. Lime can be used to reduce the acidity of your soil if that is an issue. The right amount of organic matter in your soil will provide an ideal environment for insects and other organisms that your lawn needs to stay healthy. Adding compost and leaving grass clippings on your lawn is a good way to increase the amount of organic matter. If there is more than ½ inch of organic matter (or thatch) buildup on your lawn, it can choke your grass, and prevent air, water and nutrients from reaching the soil. To remove it, aerating and raking will be sufficient. One cause of thatch buildup is excessive fertilizing, so fertilize to a minimum. Aeration, along with removing thatch buildup, is also an excellent method of reducing soil compaction and encouraging your grass to develop deep roots.

MOW TO THE CORRECT HEIGHT

Keep your lawn height at approximately 3 inches tall, since longer grass crowds out weeds, shades the soil to reduce water evaporation, and encourages deep root development. Mowing your grass shorter than 3 inches exposes the soil and the roots of the grass. This will result in water loss and reduction in soil aeration. You can also leave grass clippings on the lawn after mowing as this deters weeds and acts as a natural fertilizer. Tune your lawn mower and keep the blades sharp to reduce tearing which can expose your grass to disease. Mow your lawn regularly because if you wait and mow more than one third of your grass' height at a time, it will essentially shock your grass, leaving it weak. You may need to mow your lawn more often in the spring during the high growth phase and less during the hot summer months when grass growth slows.

WATER EFFECTIVELY

Wait until the soil in your lawn has dried out to the depth of the grass' roots before watering. It is best to water in the morning in order to reduce the amount of water being lost to evaporation. Water your lawn slowly (to reduce the amount of water lost as runoff and to improve infiltration) and deeply (to make sure that the water is reaching the roots of the grass). Brief and shallow watering should be avoided since this can lead to shallow grass roots and thus weaker grass. More efficient watering techniques can save water and money.

REDUCE USE OF HERBICIDES AND PESTICIDES

Weeds are an issue in almost every lawn, however they are not as harmful as often described in lawn care literature designed to sell products. Hand-pulling weeds is an effective way to remove undesirable plants. Since most weeds are annuals, removing them before they seed is important. For perennial weeds, remove their bulbs to be sure that they don't come back later. If hand-pulling is not an option, and you choose to use herbicides, use spot treatment (applying herbicides only to areas affected by weeds) to solve your weed problems. When buying herbicides, look for the more natural products to minimize the negative effects on the environment. For example, corn gluten can be applied before weeds appear as a preventative measure. Abby Science carries an organic herbicide called Ground Force. For more information, check out www.abbysciencelabs.com.

Pesticides may sometimes be needed, but remember that pesticides don't only impact pests in your lawn, but the animals that will eat the dead bugs and so on up the food chain. There are important lawn insects that help to keep your yard healthy and they are part of the overall ecosystem. Pesticides should be used sparingly and carefully as they may affect people, especially young children and pets who play in the yard. Keep in mind that prevention is always better than treatment, and that most treatments have more negative side effects than positive. If needed, an environmentally friendly pesticide locally available is called Bug-Begone.

CLEANING PRODUCTS

For outdoor cleaning activities such as car washing and deck cleaning, there are some environmentally friendly cleaning products such as Simple Green Deck and Fence Cleaner, Simple Green House and Siding Cleaner, Simple Green Concrete and Driveway Cleaner, and Simple Green Car Wash and Bike Cleaner Degreaser. All Simple Green products are non-toxic and most are biodegradable. This product is available at most grocery and hardware stores. For more information and a complete listing of Simple Green products, go to www.simplegreen.com.

Another product to look for is the new line of Clorox products labeled "Green Works" also available at grocery and hardware stores. These products are mainstream enough to be part of recent grocery store weekly specials. The Clorox Green Works line has ingredients that come from renewable resources, are biodegradable, and are free of petrochemicals. Clorox claims that these products are 99% natural. For more information, go to www.greenworkscleaners.com.



IRIS Mitigation & Design, Inc.

SOUTH SUBURBAN PARKS AND RECREATION

One Sweet Track & Field Meet

South Suburban Parks and Recreation in partnership with the National Recreation and Park Association will host a Hershey Track & Field Meet on Friday, June 5, at Euclid Middle School track, 777 W Euclid Ave. in Littleton. This **free** meet is a great way for youth, ages 9-14, to try track and field events without long-term commitments, participating in up to three events of their choice. The meet offers running events like the [50-meter dash](#) and the [800-meter run](#), plus field events like the [softball](#) throw and the [long jump](#). Registration begins at 8:45 am and a photocopy of child's birth certificate is required at the time of registration. Age as of December 31, 2009 determines eligibility.

Hershey's Track & Field Program was created over 30 years ago to promote youth physical fitness. It's the largest and longest operating grassroots program coordinated by the recreation and parks profession fostering active recreation and sport participation among youth. [Track & field meets](#) take place in every state and province in North America. Winners can advance to the State Hershey Meet and hundreds of athletes make it to the grand finale, the [North American Final in Hershey, Pennsylvania](#).

Participants can discover their potential, make new friends, and gain newfound self-confidence. Every child is a winner with Hershey's track and field! For more information on the program please call 303-798-7515 or visit www.sspr.org.

Batter Up Your Baseball Skills

South Suburban Parks and Recreation encourages youth ages 6-13 to display their throwing, base-running and batting skills at a FREE event on Saturday, June 13, 9 am – 12 pm, in Cherry Knolls Park, 7707 S. Elizabeth St., in Centennial. Age group winners will move up to July regional competition and regional winners will advance to the state finals. State finalists receive complimentary tickets to a Rockies' home game at Coors Field. Each child must fill out a registration form and a copy of child's birth certificate is required at time of registration. Age as of Dec 31, 2009 determines eligibility. The Colorado Rockies and Colorado Parks and Recreation Association sponsor this exciting event in partnership with South Suburban Parks and Recreation. For details regarding this event call 303-798-7515. For more information about other summer sports activities, visit www.sspr.org.



Attend South Suburban's Unique Summer Theater in the Park

South Suburban Parks and Recreation's Youth Children's Theater Production Class presents *The Lady Bug & Butterfly* and *Ollie & Stanley*, short family plays that impart messages while friendships are forged. Lily is a different looking lady bug who has trouble sharing the meadow with Bob, the arrogant butterfly, while Ollie and Stanley learn about loyalty in a forest fantasy. Both heartwarming plays will be performed FREE by youth ages 11 – 18 at 10 am in five South Suburban parks during the week of June 16-20.



- Tue., June 16, Hudson Gardens Original Amphitheater,
Admission to the Gardens is required.
- Wed., June 17, Walnut Hills Amphitheater, 8195 E. Costilla Blvd.
- Thu., June 18, Sterne Park, South Shelter, 5800 S. Spotswood St.
- Fri., June 19, Gallup Gardens, 6147 S. Gallup St.
- Sat., June 20, Sweetwater Park, near the playground, 8300-1/2 Sweetwater Rd.

This FREE program is supported by the Science and Cultural Facilities District. For more information regarding Theater in the Park call 303-730-4612. For other performing arts opportunities visit www.sspr.org.

School News

Chatfield High School

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

Please visit the website to review the expectations for summer reading. Each student is required to choose from a selected list of books and complete a project during the summer.

- ☐ August 20 – Modified Day for Sophomores, Juniors & Seniors
- ☐ August 21 – Freshmen Orientation Day
- ☐ August 24 – First Day of Classes for all Students

Falcon Bluffs Middle School

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

New Beginnings classes are offered August 10-13 for students who will be new to Falcon Bluffs. Please contact the office for more information.

- ☐ August 11 – Registration for grades 6 and 8, 2:00-6:00 PM
- ☐ August 12 – Registration for grade 7, 2:00-6:00 PM
- ☐ August 20 – 6th Graders Attend School, 12:30-3:00
- ☐ August 21 – 7th Graders Attend School, 8:05-10:35
8th Graders Attend School, 10:45-1:15
- ☐ August 24 – First Day of School for All Students

Shaffer Elementary School

<http://sc.jeffco.k12.co.us/education/school/school.php?sectionid=242>
303-982-3901

Please note new school hours: 9:15 AM to 3:45 PM

Morning Kindergarten 9:15 AM to 11:50 AM

Afternoon Kindergarten 1:10 PM to 3:45 PM

- ☐ August 18 – Registration for All Students, 7:00-10:30 AM and 3:30-6:00 PM – Class Lists will be posted and parents will sign up for Flex Testing days.
- ☐ August 20 & 21 – Flex Testing Days – students attend by appointment only
- ☐ August 24 – First Day of School



Have you met our new neighbors?



*Picture of the
Great Horned Owls
taken by
Joy Carlson*

Annual Trailmark Garage Sale!



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

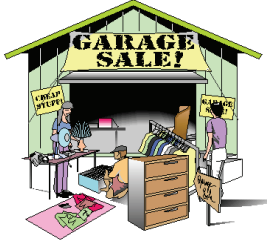
TrailMark's Neighborhood
Realtor

On **Monday, June 8th**, Lori Ross has made arrangements for the Lupus Foundation truck to pick up any items left over from the Garage Sale.



Be sure to have your items out and marked "LUPUS" on Monday, June 8th.

TrailMark Community Social Events for 2009!!!



The Annual TrailMark Garage Sale
Friday & Saturday, June 5th & 6th
8:00am - 4:00pm

First Concert of the Season
Sunday, June 28th
"Parrott"

(a Jimmy Buffet tribute band)

TrailMark's 4th of July Parade & Picnic
Saturday, July 4
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!)

Remaining Concerts of the Season
Sunday, July 19th
"Rhythm Angels"

AND

Sunday, August 23rd
"Opie Gone Bad"



TrailMark's 4th Annual Charity Golf Tournament
Thursday, September 10 - 7:30am Shotgun Start
South Suburban Golf Course
Sponsored by Lou Royston



The Social Committee is always looking for new ideas and events. If you have an idea, please contact the committee at social@trailmark.org. We look forward to hearing from you. Just a reminder that we can't do these events without your help!!! Please VOLUNTEER... we have a lot of fun and it is a great way to meet your neighbors.

Community News



FREE DAYS!

Denver Botanic Gardens at Chatfield

<http://www.botanicgardens.org/content/our-gardens-chatfield-location>

303-973-3705

June 5 and August 7

Denver Museum of Nature & Science

<http://www.dmns.org/>

(303) 322-7009

June 10, July 13 and August 12

Chatfield State Park

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



Due to the discovery of zebra mussels at Lake Pueblo State Park, Colorado State Parks has increased efforts to protect Colorado's natural resources and facilities from aquatic nuisance species (ANS). Colorado State Park officials are working on containment measures to reduce the risk of spreading the zebra mussel to other waters. Chatfield State Park will begin mandatory inspections on all trailered vessels starting July 7, 2008. spread everything coming into contact with the water. Please go online and review the steps you need to take to help prevent the spread of zebra mussels.

More on Chatfield State Park

Chatfield State Park has an expansive reservoir and abundant wildlife. Chatfield offers visitors an assortment of activities (biking, hiking, fishing, horseback riding, boating, etc.). Visitors to Chatfield can also find elk, white tail and mule deer, coyotes, black bears, bald eagles, an occasional mountain lion and over 300 species of birds. The best time to view wildlife is at dawn or dusk when the park is less busy.

Boating & dining: One of most popular things to do at Chatfield is boating. Chatfield is a full-service marina which offers slip and boat rentals, boat storage and even a floating restaurant, Seagull's. Guest at Seagull's restaurant can enjoy some tasty cuisine from this dine-in venue that offers spectacular views of Chatfield lake from its air-conditioned sun room, or out on the sun deck.

Want to swim? The beach is located on the west side of the reservoir. The beach is open 10am - 6pm, Memorial Day through

Labor Day. You will have access to changing room facilities, showers and restrooms, and picnic areas with tables and small grills. Be aware, however, that there is no lifeguards on duty.

Camping: Chatfield has individual and group camping; reservations are highly recommended. Single-family campers have 197 campsites in 4 different campgrounds to choose from - all have electrical hookups and many with full hookups (water, sewer and electric). Large groups can reserve one of the 10 group camping sites available. Each site accommodates up to 36 people and six camping units.

It's gone to the dogs: Dogs have their own special training area on the north side of the park. Here dogs can run and play off-leash, as long as they can be controlled with voice commands. There are even ponds that your pet can swim in to cool off in the summer's heat.



Even the most acute editing of any newspaper or newsletter leaves misinformation!

Something Went Wrong in Jet Crash, Expert Says Really? Ya think?

Police Begin Campaign to Run Down Jaywalkers Now that's taking things a bit far!

Miners Refuse to Work after Death No-good-for-nothing!

War Dims Hope for Peace I can see where it might have that effect!

Cold Wave Linked to Temperatures Who would have thought!

Red Tape Holds Up New Bridges You mean there's something stronger than duct tape? Oklahoma's new construction program!

Man Struck By Lightning: Faces Battery Charge He probably IS the battery charge!

Kids Make Nutritious Snacks Do they taste like chicken?

And the winner is....

Typhoon Rips Through Cemetery; Hundreds Dead

Did I read that right?





Join us as we celebrate
our 40th Anniversary.

Sunday, June 7, 2009

Audubon Nature Festival and FUNdraiser

We're raising money for the Audubon Society of Greater Denver as we work to preserve, protect, and enhance the natural ecosystems of the South Platte Basin through education, research and advocacy.

Fun and Food ■ Infomational Expost and Booths ■ Nature/Wildlife Photo Sales
Hikes with experience naturalists and birders ■ Activities for ALL Ages
Bird Banding ■ Bird-a-thon Awards ■ Hugh and Urling Kingery will "Cut the Cake"

10:00 am - 4:00 pm Audubon Nature Center at Chatfield

For more information?

Call 303.973.9530 e-mail at info@denveraugubon.org Website at: www.denveraugubon.org

The **Audubon Nature Center** is located approximately 4.4 miles south of the C-470/Wadsworth Interchange. Take Wadsworth south to Waterton Road, take a left and another quick left into the Center parking lot.

Tips For the Bike Riders in Your Family

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) reports that 85 million adults and children ride their bikes every day. Most communities have bike safety programs that encourage motorists and cyclists to share the road safely and promote the use of bike helmets. However, despite education and outreach efforts, accidents happen. Every year, 5000,000 cyclists end up making an emergency room visit according to NHTSA.

Here are 12 tips for bike safety - share with your children and refresh your own knowledge of bike safety.

1. Tell an adult if anything is broken or wrong with your bike.
2. Always wear a bicycle safety helmet.
3. Wear brightly colored clothing so that others can see you better.
4. Remember, one seat, only one rider!
5. Keep both hands on the handlebars.
6. Walk your bike across busy intersections.
7. Look left, right, left for traffic at stop signs and driveways before riding out into the street.
8. Obey traffic signs and lights.
9. Ride on the right-hand side of the street in the same direction as the flow of automobile traffic.
10. Always use hand signals when stopping or turning.
11. Be aware of surrounding traffic.
12. When riding with others, ride single file.

Five Basic Steps to Proper Helmet Fit*

1. **Measure Your Head** - Measure your head just above the eyebrows (or as the manufacturer suggests) to be sure you purchase the proper size. Place the helmet on your head and move it around.
2. **Adjust the Fit** - Adjust the fit with the removable pads. You may need a combination of thin and thick pads to get the best fit. Rock the helmet gently from side to side, then from front to back. It should not move around.
3. **Adjust the Straps** - Adjust the straps—front, rear and chin—to make the helmet level and snug. The front and back straps should make a “V” that comes together just under the ear. Buckle the strap.
4. **Test the Fit** - There should be little movement when the head is shaken. The strap should feel tight but should not cause discomfort. You should be able to slide a finger under the helmet.
5. **Fine Tune the Fit** - Go back to steps 1 through 4 if necessary to get the best fit possible. Practice buckling and unbuckling the straps.

**Provided by the Brain Injury Association*

AND REMEMBER...

- ☐ Double check the fit of the helmet every time you ride.
- ☐ Adjustments will need to be made because of changes in hairstyles and length, or as a child's head grows.
- ☐ Replace a helmet that has become too small.
- ☐ Replace a helmet that has sustained damage. Remember...one crash and its trash!
- ☐ Don't store helmets in a hot car or garage.

Picture provided by: John Birkey





e911 Target Notification Now Available

The e911 Target Notification system (sometimes called "reverse 911") is a public safety tool that provides emergency notification by proactively placing telephone calls to inform citizens of impending dangers. The calls are placed on behalf of the appropriate public safety agency such as the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office (JCSO).

Why do we need Target Notification?

The JCSO has a critical responsibility for the welfare of Jeffco citizens. In a county as big as ours, natural disasters and accidents like floods, fires, tornadoes, chemical spills, train derailments, industrial mishaps and other emergencies may strike with little or no warning. The e911 system allows the sheriff's office to efficiently notify as many citizens as needed in minutes.

How does it work?

The JCSO can activate the e911 system in a specified area any time, day or night. JCSO officials can map out the affected area, record the message and send it on its way with the click of a mouse. Within moments, calls simultaneously reach the affected community to deliver warnings and critical safety instructions.

The system uses the county's 911 database as its source for telephone numbers and is able to process up to 2,000 telephone numbers per minute. The system works with all phones that have a TDD line (used to communicate to the hearing impaired). The system also has a callback feature that ensures the message is delivered.

Both published and non-published "land line" numbers are dialed, and the system will leave a message if an answering machine picks up. If it reaches a busy signal, the system will try back three times to reach the intended party.

For the system to call your cell phone or VoIP phone, you must first register your number with the 911 Authority Board.

[For more information or to register your cell phone or VoIP phone](#), see the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office.

Carbon Monoxide Law



On March 24, 2009, Governor Ritter signed into law [HB 1091](#). This bill was introduced in response to the tragic deaths of the Lofgren family resulting from carbon monoxide poisoning. HB 1091 is a new law that outlines requirements for the installation and placement of carbon monoxide detectors in any single family dwelling or unit in a multi-family dwelling offered for sale or transfer. The law goes into effect on July 1, 2009.

For more information on the law and how it affects you, please visit:

<http://www.hoalegislature.com/>.

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.

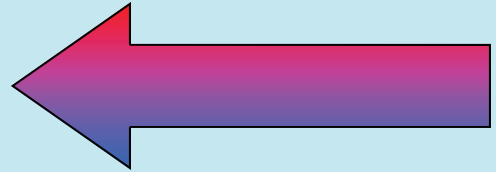
(B) Babysitting (L) Lawn care
(P) Pet/House sitting (S) Snow removal

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.

Calling all TrailMark Kids!

Dress Up Your Bikes, Wagons and Scooters
for the Annual TrailMark July 4th Bike Parade.

Meet at the Kids Playground Park at **9:30** on
Saturday, July 4th for the Parade.

Be Sure to Stay afterward and Enjoy the Fun and Games
at the Athletic Field.

Volunteers needed on the 4th – Please call or email
sunny@sunnysdenverhomes.com

*In Honor of Our Nation, American Flags will be Displayed in Your
Community on the Following Dates:*



Memorial Day
Flag Day
Independence Day
September 11th
Veterans Day

Attention Advertisers

TrailMark Tracks Advertising Pricing

Business Card 3 1/2" (w) x 2" (h).....	\$25.00
1/4 Page 4" (w) x 5" (h)	\$50.00
1/2 Page 8" (w) x 5" (h).....	\$75.00
Full Page 8" (w) x 10 1/2" (h).....	\$100.00
Classified Ad: For homeowners/residents \$1.00 per line. Minimum 2 lines personal, 3 lines business. 30 characters maximum per line. No enhancements.	

The TrailMark Tracks is currently being printed in color on white paper so ads may be submitted both in black/white and color.

Advertisements must be sent to communications@TrailMarkhoa.org in the form of a .jpeg, .doc or Publisher 2003 format. Please do not fax advertising copy. All advertisements must be submitted by the 15th of the month preceding publication. Ads not received by the 15th will not be included.

Written articles for the newsletter must be submitted by the 20th of the preceding month. They will be edited for information, typographical errors, and if changes are recommended, returned to their authors within 24 hours. They must be returned in finished form no later than the 25th of the month.

Inserts are no longer being accepted for the newsletter.

Payment for advertisements must be received before the end of the month in which the advertisement is submitted.

Payment for advertisements must be sent to TrailMark HOA/Advertisements, P.O. Box 270566, Littleton, CO 80127.

Advertisers may use the form in this section of the newsletter.

Please 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.

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 must be 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:

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



TrailMark Homeowners Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 270566
Littleton, CO 80127

PRSR STD
US POSTAGE PAID
LITTLETON, CO
PERMIT NO. 547

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.**

***July 9, 2009
&
September 10, 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.*