



Photo by Andy Marquez

December 2021

TrailMark News Update

TrailMark at Chatfield HOA's Newsletter

December Calendar

12/1 - News Update

12/2 - Food Truck Thursday

**12/2 - HOA Election Results
Zoom Meeting**

12/7 - Night at the Lights

**12/12 - Holiday Lights & Car
Parade**

Visit TrailMark.org for the most current
neighborhood news.

Board Members

President

Ken Colaizzi

Vice President

Sally Janssen

Treasurer

Phil Kinney

Secretary

Bill Kuenning

Member At Large

CJ Haberkorn

Email the HOA Board:
board@trailmarkhoa.org

**Click here
for a list of
TrailMark's
Websites &
Pages**

HOA Election Results

Results of the election will be aired to the community on a Special Election **Zoom meeting** at 7:00 pm on December 2nd.

Once the new Board is elected, the five Board members will meet and determine which positions each Board member will hold for the 2021-2022 year.

Thank you to all who submitted a proxy for the Annual Meeting!

HOA Dues & Management Company

On Thursday, November 11th, the HOA Board approved and ratified the 2022 HOA budget. Due to increases in contractor expenses, and in order to maintain our reserves, the HOA Board also unanimously voted 5-0 to increase our HOA assessment dues. Beginning January 1, 2022, **our quarterly HOA assessment dues will increase from \$110 per quarter to \$135 per quarter.**

The HOA also announced during the meeting that they were in the process of changing management companies. CRS will be our HOA Management company until December 31, 2021. Worth Ross Management Company, Inc. (WRMC) will begin January 1, 2022. WRMC will handle all aspects of the management of TrailMark including Covenant Compliance. If you are not on auto-pay, **please wait to mail in your January 2022 assessments until we announce the details of the new management company's payment options.** There is more information about WRMC in the following article.

Please be patient with this new transition. The HOA and the management companies are doing everything they can to make this a smooth transition for everyone. Please watch the trailmark.org website for additional information and new announcements.

Thank you,
The TrailMark HOA Board of Directors

TrailMark moves forward with Worth Ross Management Company



Dear Homeowner,

On behalf of TrailMark Homeowners Association Board of Directors, we are very happy to announce Worth Ross Management Co., Inc. AAMC (WRMC), as our new management company starting January 1, 2022. The decision to move forward with WRMC was made after careful consideration of the current needs of the Association. WRMC will handle all aspects of the management of TrailMark including Covenant Compliance.



Your New Association Management Staff Contact Information

WRMC is available to assist you with any questions you may have. During the transition our Regional Director, George Skrbin and Community Manager, Eric Andrews, will work together with our Transition Team. WRMC is thrilled to be partners with the community. Please be on the lookout for an upcoming social event hosted by WRMC to give you the opportunity to meet our team.

Association Assessment Payment Information

January statements will be emailed and mailed with your new account number and payment options next week and are **due January 1, 2022**. The January statements will only include the new quarterly assessment rate of \$135.00. Statements will be sent end of January with balances/credits forwarded from CRS Management. The Association will not charge late fees for January to allow owners time to adjust to the management company change.

For your protection, WRMC ***does not*** obtain your bank account information to draft your payment from your bank account. **Prior management will not draft any accounts that were set up on their auto-draft. Please contact your bank if you have bill pay and update the payment address once you receive your payment and account information.**

The Board and WRMC will continue to communicate information regarding the transition and other community information. Please visit www.trailmark.org for information and upcoming events.

Sincerely,
TrailMark Board of Directors

Prevent Candle Fires as You Celebrate this Month

By Einar Jensen, Risk Reduction Specialist

South Metro Fire Rescue



Across the nation, December is the peak month for home candle fires, according to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA). Between 2015 and 2019, U.S. fire departments responded to an estimated 7,400 home structure fires that were started by candles per year.

Candle fires also happen in our fire district throughout December.

One reason for all these candle fires is the plethora of holidays in December that may utilize candles for secular and sacred ceremonies such as Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, Chanukah, Kwanzaa, Junkanoo, Ōmisoka, Santa Lucia Day, Mōdraniht, New Year's Eve, Hogmanay, Winter Solstice, Yule, Yalda, Soyal, Bodhi Day, Epiphany (Three Kings Day), Krampusnacht, Pancha Ganapati, and Saturnalia.

Other contributing reasons are connected to how we use candles. We at South Metro Fire Rescue prefer flameless candles. If you are using traditional candles, these tips can help you and your family have a safer holiday:

- Use candle holders that are sturdy and won't tip over easily.
- Put candle holders on a sturdy, noncombustible, and uncluttered surface.
- Burning handheld candles should not be passed from one person to another at any time.
- When lighting candles at a candle-lighting service, have the person with the unlit candle dip their candle into the flame of the lit candle.
- Lit candles should not be placed in windows where a blind or curtain could catch fire.
- Candles placed on or near tables, altars, or shrines, must be watched by an adult.
- If a candle must burn continuously, be sure it is enclosed in a glass container and placed in a sink, on a metal tray, or in a deep basin filled with water.
- Light candles carefully. Keep your hair and any loose clothing away from the flame.
- Don't burn a candle all the way down. Put it out before it gets too close to the holder or container.
- Never use a candle if oxygen is used in the home.

Candles come in two varieties: mesas (wider than they are tall) and buttes (taller than they are wide). Mesas resist tipping and burn longer than buttes.

If a candle does cause a fire, leave the building and call 911. Our stations are fully staffed with firefighters ready to help you each day of the year including all holidays.

If you have questions about any safety topics, please visit www.southmetro.org or find our agency on social media.

Garbage & Recycling Update

No Delay due to Christmas & Winter Holidays

Garbage and recycling will be picked up on its normal day, December 28th.

No delay due to the Holidays.





NEW TrailMark Social Event Sponsorship Program

In early September 2021, the HOA Board was approached with a request that the TrailMark Annual Garage Sale sponsorship change. After much discussion and consideration, the HOA Board concluded that, to be fair and transparent in supporting event sponsorship, an application process will provide potential resident and non-resident sponsors an opportunity to contribute to TrailMark while defraying event costs from the HOA budget. The HOA Board will provide sponsorship priority to TrailMark residents. However, selection will be based on several factors, including the over-all event plan. Applicants are encouraged to illustrate examples that they have the experience and necessary skills to confidently achieve their submitted plan. All applications submitted will be reviewed by the sitting HOA Board who will determine the sponsorship award.

To support this new approach, a form has been created to provide a standard format for submitting event proposals. Applicants must complete the Proposed Social/Community Event form, including plans, drawings, contracts and other appropriate documents. Applications must be submitted to board@trailmarkhoa.org. Please find the application [here](#).

2022 TrailMark Annual Garage Sale Sponsorship Opportunity

The 2022 Annual Garage Sale event is tentatively scheduled June 3 & 4, 2022. Sponsorship applications are due to the HOA Board not later than 5:00 pm, January 1, 2022. Applications must be submitted to board@trailmarkhoa.org. Applications arriving after 5:00 pm, January 1, 2022, or submitted to other email addresses, will not be considered.

The HOA Board will award Garage Sale sponsorship on February 1st, 2022, and will publish the award in the TrailMark news outlets. As mentioned in the Proposed Social/Community Event form, solicitations/endorsements supporting the event and/or the sponsor are not needed.

Sponsorship Application

Thank you,
TrailMark HOA Board of Directors

Friendly Reminder about Holiday Decorations

All exterior holiday decorations and lights utilized as season displays must be removed and properly stored by February 1, 2022.

Coexisting with Wildlife in TrailMark

by Bill Kuenning, Secretary of TrailMark HOA

Lions, and Snakes, and Owls, and Eagles, and Hawks, and Foxes, and Bobcats, and Bears, Prairie Dogs, Mice and Rats—“Oh My!”

Yes, we have them all -and more, here in, and all around, TrailMark!

As you know, this is their habitat, with us plopped down, right in its middle. During my time as a Park Ranger, at Chatfield State Park, I saw a great deal of animals, and misbehavior, but it was never the animals misbehaving. Here at TrailMark, the animals are here, too; however, unlike Chatfield State Park, the humans here do pretty darn well!

So, with the recent encounter with a mountain lion, (cougar, puma, catamount), the constant bobcat sightings, and the bears rearranging our trash and birdfeeders, I thought that I would share some local information, on our life among these beautiful creatures, whom we are privileged to see, now and then.

[Read full article here](#) (pdf)

Photos from the Front Entrance Decorating event

Sunday, November 21

A big THANK YOU to all who came out to help! It looks great!!!



Photos by Phil Kinney

Thanks to the Firefighters of Station 19

A special Thank You to the South Metro firefighters at Station 19 for allowing us to use their lobby while we decorated the TrailMark entrance, which gave us a place for refreshments and also access to a bathroom. We are truly grateful for the assistance of Lieutenant Eric and all of the firefighters who were on duty that day.



Photo by Robert Cannady

Working Together to Reduce Pressure on our Hospitals, EMS Agencies



A special edition by Einar Jensen, Risk Reduction Specialist
[South Metro Fire Rescue](#)

Currently, the State of Colorado is experiencing a significant upward trend in the number of citizens admitted to the hospital who are sick with COVID. This trend, which is a crisis for many hospitals and EMS providers including South Metro Fire Rescue (SMFR), has resulted in increased patient transports, hospital overload, and prolonged emergency room wait times.

You can help us reverse this trend.

- If you have not yet been vaccinated, get a COVID vaccination. Everyone 5 years of age and older is now eligible to get a COVID-19 vaccination. Search the Internet for “COVID vaccine near me” to find options.
- If you are fully vaccinated, get a COVID-19 booster dose if you have not already received one. Search the Internet for “COVID vaccine near me” to find options.
- Regardless of whether you are vaccinated, if you tested positive for COVID-19, you may be eligible to get monoclonal antibody treatment to help you recover. This treatment can prevent you from getting seriously sick! Visit covid19.colorado.gov/covid-19-treatments for information.

Common signs and symptoms of COVID can include fever, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, and tiredness as well as losing your sense of taste or smell. Other symptoms can include muscle aches, chills, sore throat, runny nose, headache, chest pain, and pink eye (conjunctivitis).

Those signs and symptoms could be from other illnesses, too, so we recommend that you contact your doctor, utilize your doctor’s telehealth service (if one is available), or the Colorado Nurse Advice Line at 1-800-283-3221 before going to a hospital. Companies that provide healthcare at your home such as DispatchHealth, which partners with SMFR to operate a non-emergency mobile urgent care service, also may be an appropriate option.

Of course, if you believe your illness is a life-threatening emergency, call 911.

Working together, we can reduce our risk and enjoy the holiday season.



It's Almost Time to EnrollJeffco: Reminder for Parents of Jeffco Students

It’s almost time to EnrollJeffco! [Enrollment for the 2022-23 school year](#) will open on Monday, Dec. 13. Choosing your school early is great, not only because you can cross it off your to-do list, but it also helps [Jeffco Public Schools](#) prepare for next year’s staffing, budget, student resources, and more.

Secretary of State's Office Provides Tips for Donating Wisely This Holiday Season

With the holiday charitable giving season now underway, Colorado Secretary of State Jena Griswold is reminding all of those who are planning on sharing their generosity to make sure they are giving wisely. Once again Coloradans will have ample opportunities to give, with [Giving Tuesday](#) taking place today and [Colorado Gives Day](#) on December 7.

“Amid the uncertainty caused by the pandemic, one constant has been the overwhelming generosity of Coloradans,” said Secretary Griswold. “While this generosity is inspiring, it’s important to give, but also to give wisely.”

The Secretary of State’s Office has produced a [number of tips](#) to help people navigate charitable giving. Over 14,000 charities have registered with the Secretary of State, making www.ColoradoSOS.gov a valuable resource for those looking for information on nonprofit organizations. Charities annually file information with the Secretary of State’s Office about their programs, leadership, and financial efficiency which is information readily available to the public online.

Some things to keep in mind during the holiday giving season include:

- When giving to a charity, it’s important to confirm the organization is registered and current at checkthecharity.com.
- When receiving solicitation calls, ask if the caller is a paid solicitor, and if so, ask for their name and the name of their company, the paid solicitor’s registration number, and the percent of your donation that will go to charity. If they refuse to give you any of this information, do not give to that charity.
- Make a note of the representations made regarding how your donation would be used, e.g. what charitable purposes or programs would benefit and whether or not anyone will benefit locally. Call the charity itself to confirm the details of the solicitation and any local benefits.
- Watch out for charities with names that sound similar to well-known, reputable organizations. Sometimes these sound-alike names are simply intended to confuse donors.
- Be careful to not click on links to charities on unfamiliar websites or in texts or emails. These may take you to a lookalike website where you will be asked to provide personal financial information or to click on something that downloads harmful malware into your computer.
- Don’t assume that charity recommendations on Facebook, blogs or other social media have already been vetted.
- Ask whether the charitable contribution is tax-deductible, and verify with your tax advisor or the IRS. The fact that a charity has a tax identification number does not necessarily mean your contribution is tax-deductible. Ask for a receipt showing the amount of the contribution and stating that it is tax-deductible.
- Be wary if a charity fails to provide detailed information about its identity, mission, and finances and how the donation will be used. Reputable charities will gladly provide the information requested.
- There is no need to give on the spot, whether to a telemarketer or door-to-door solicitor. If you feel pressured or uncomfortable, just say, "No, thank you" or hang up.
- Do not pay in cash. Donate by check made payable to the charity or use the charity's website to donate by credit card.

If you believe that you have been solicited by a fraudulent charity, you can file a complaint with the Secretary of State or the Attorney General.

Attorney General, 1-800-222-4444, www.coag.gov

Secretary of State, 303-894-2200, www.ColoradoSOS.gov.

Additional resources available from the Colorado Secretary of State’s Office include tips for [Internet and Social Media Solicitations](#) and questions that potential donors can ask if they are [solicited by phone](#).

Bike Park follow-up letter from South Suburban Parks and Recreation (SSPR)

November 4, 2021



Dear TrailMark residents,

Thank you for your responses to my email.

Below is some information that will hopefully answer the questions I've received.

There will be future, separate public input processes for both the District-wide Master Plan and the TrailMark Park site plan, as well as a survey of the neighborhood regarding the bike park.

2022 District-wide Master Plan Update

The South Suburban Board of Directors will approve the proposed 2022 budget at their November 10 meeting. Included in that budget is money to hire a third-party consulting firm to lead the District-wide Master Plan Update. The 2022 Master Plan Update will serve as a planning tool that will help guide the District to meet the needs of our continually growing and diverse community. This plan was last updated in 2017.

A consulting firm will be hired in January 2022. The firm will analyze the scope of the District's needs, which will include public input. The entire process will take place between January – June 2022. It is anticipated the draft plan will be produced in August and the final plan will be presented to the Board of Directors by the end of the year. Specific dates for this process will not be identified until after the consulting firm is hired.

2022 TrailMark Park Site Plan

Currently, there is \$280,000 budgeted for general playground improvements at TrailMark Park in 2022. However, a Site Plan does not exist for this park. In order to make any changes to this park, South Suburban needs an approved Site Plan that identifies existing and any proposed new park amenities. This will require a public input meeting that would take place at the earliest, Spring 2022, with anticipated construction beginning in 3rd quarter 2022.

TrailMark Neighborhood Survey

South Suburban plans to hire a third-party consultant to conduct a survey of the neighborhood to gauge interest in a bike park. Due to the holiday season and our desire to reach as many residents as possible, we will begin the survey in January 2022. In the meantime, staff will work to identify potential locations for a bike park.

Additionally, keep us posted on any fundraising efforts that occur.

Notices for public input will be emailed directly to this group, sent to the TrailMark HOA and posted to our website (ssprd.org).

Thank you,
Becky

Becky Grubb, Communications Manager
South Suburban Parks and Recreation
4810 E County Line Road, Littleton, CO 80126

ssprd.org | 303.483.7014 | 720.665.5396 cell

How We Work: Professional, Active, Innovative & Inclusive

UPCOMING EVENTS

HOA ELECTION RESULTS MEETING

Thursday, December 2nd

7:00 pm

Zoom online meeting

The results of the election will be announced at a Special Meeting to be held Thursday, December 2nd at 7:00 p.m. This meeting will be held virtually via Zoom.

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://zoom.us/j/93141586981?](https://zoom.us/j/93141586981?pwd=eE5Bd2xjU2dWSk1PWGhDUFBlbEFtZz09)

[pwd=eE5Bd2xjU2dWSk1PWGhDUFBlbEFtZz09](https://zoom.us/j/93141586981?pwd=eE5Bd2xjU2dWSk1PWGhDUFBlbEFtZz09)

Meeting ID: 931 4158 6981

Passcode: 237273

Dial-up information at <https://www.trailmark.org/>

All are welcome.

TRAILMARK NIGHT AT THE LIGHTS

Tuesday, December 7th

5:00 to 8:00 pm

Denver Botanic Gardens
Chatfield

Hay Rides and pictures with Santa! Cookies, Cider and Hot Chocolate!

\$10/person CASH ONLY. Under 3 is free. Pay at the door. Last entry is 7:15 pm.

Looking for a few volunteers to help take tickets and help with Santa in the barn. Please [sign up here](#) if you can help!

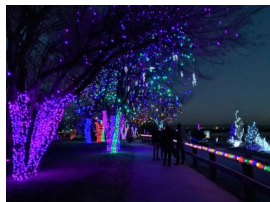


Photo by Kara Brautigam

FOOD TRUCK THURSDAY

Thursday, December 2nd

5:00-7:30 pm

TrailMark Park



Photo by Linda Jagiello

- NEW → If the truck is offering online ordering that night, it will be turned on and available. If it isn't turned on, they are not offering online service. Online and window service start at 5:00 pm.
- Please respect those who live on that street.
- If garbage cans are full, please bring your trash home. Food truck selections subject to change.
- Due to weather, events may be canceled. Please check [trailmark.org](https://www.trailmark.org) for truck, time and cancellation information.

TRAILMARK HOLIDAY LIGHTS & CAR PARADE



Photo by Linda Jagiello

Sunday, December 12th

6:30 pm

JOIN THE PARADE!

Join us for a car parade through the neighborhood to view TrailMark's festive decorations! Line up along Holland Street, across from Hogback Hill Park, before 6:30pm (bonus points for decking out your car!). A festive lead car will start the parade at 6:30 pm and lead us through a route that will hit as many decorations as possible.

If you don't want to drive the route, you can watch the cars go by along the route (still to be determined and advertised a few days before the event).

GET ON THE MAP!

Get your holiday decorations up and fill out this [Google form](#) by December 6th to get on the map! We will do our best to hit as many houses on our route as possible! If we miss you on the parade route, this map can be used by families at their own leisure!

All TrailMark events will follow whatever current [CDC](#) and [Jeffco](#) COVID-19 guidelines are in place.