



TSVR Newsletter

July 2017

FireWORKS ReMINDER

**NO FIREWORKS ALLOWED WITHIN THE
TOWN OF STAR VALLEY RANCH**

Title 8 Fire Prevention

8.01.030 Discharge of Fireworks



It shall be unlawful for any person to set a flame to, light, fire, explode, discharge, or set off any pyrotechnic device or other object containing powder or other combustible material within the Town boundaries.

The effective dates of Section 8.01.030 shall be from April 1 through November 30 of each year, or when declared by the Mayor with concurrence of at least two (2) Town Councilmen.

8.01.050 Open Fires

A. Open burning of any trash, tree trimmings, leaf and grass rakings, or other such debris is prohibited.



Scheduled Meetings

Town Council Meeting
Wednesday, July 12th at 6:00 pm

Events

Coffee with Mayor
Monday, July 31th at 9:00 am

Contacts

Town Hall
307-883-8696
clerk@starvalleyranchwy.org

Public Works
307-880-5325

Special Municipal Officer
307-880-2666

NEWBORN WILDLIFE



As quoted from the Wyoming Game and Fish Department: "In the next several weeks, wildlife throughout Wyoming will be bearing their young. In view of this, the Wyoming Game and Fish department asks that people take extreme care to stay away from young animals during this critical time.

The Game and Fish also cautions against picking up newborns because of potential harm to the animals. The department also issued a reminder that picking up game animals is against the law, regardless if people think the animal has been abandoned by its mother.

According to the department, state and federal laws prohibit the possession of game and many nongame species. The best option for people who come across newborn wildlife is to leave the animal alone."

Natural Resource Week A Big Success

Thanks to everyone who participated in the Natural Resource Week in June. It is so important that we recognize the importance of the natural resources that surround us and that we depend on!



Updates



Town Council is working on updating and clarifying the duties of our Town Boards; which include the Water Board, Economic Development Board, Planning and Zoning Board and Natural Resource Board. As our Town continues to grow and our community becomes more diverse our Boards need to reflect our changing community. These changes to Title 2 Administration should be ready for first reading in the Fall of 2017. The Town Council has also been working with the Planning and Zoning Board to update Title 6 Buildings and Title 9 Zoning.

COFFEE WITH THE MAYOR

Star Valley Ranch Town Hall is serving “Coffee with the Mayor”. Residents are invited to join Mayor Kathleen Buyers for coffee and casual conversation on the last Monday of the month from 9 -10 am.



This is another communication tool and a chance to get to know the Mayor, visit Town Hall, and see your town government at work.

The next “Coffee with the Mayor” will be July 31st

SPEEDING ON OUR TOWN ROADS



If you see speeding vehicles (cars, 4 wheelers, motorcycles) or witness under-age drivers, contact the County Sheriff at 307-885-5231. Let them know the time of day you are seeing the increased speeds and/or a description of the speeding vehicle.

Help to become part of the solution and not the problem.
“Keep it at the Limit” and slow it down!

Road Department

The roads have dried out after the long winter months and grading has been possible. Over 6,300 tons of gravel and over 181 tons of dust guard have been added to the roads. The first round of the grading over all the 30-Plus miles of Town roads is almost complete. Many of these roads are again in need of grading which will take place over the summer. Roads within the Town that have been noted as too narrow, especially during the winter season when our crews are plowing, will also be widened as a safety concern. Our road crew has been involved with the extension of Dogwood and developing Birch Circle. Other summer projects include work on Vista Drive cul de sac, East Forest, Cedar Drive and West Elkhorn Circle.



ORDINANCES UNDER REVIEW

July Town Hall Meeting:



Ordinance 2017-02, Title 5 Road and Traffic

Find these ordinances at: www.starvalleyranchwy.org ; Town Documents; Town Code or hard copies are also available at the Information Center

THE FIREWISE PROGRAM

There will be **only 1 pickup** for Firewise clean up this summer. **Important:** no piles may be placed on the road prior to July 1st & no grass. Your piles of cut limbs and branches must be placed out next to the road (but not in the road) by **July 17th**.

To get enrolled:

Contact Patty at (307) 679-8574

1. She will come out to inspect your property / issue a certificate
2. Bring the certificate to Town Hall and get put onto the Firewise Program
3. Place cut branches (less than 8') out next to the road (but not in the road)



If your property has hazardous fuels (down trees, dead trees, trees too close to your home) you can qualify for the **State of Wyoming Cost-Share Program**. It will cover half of the cost to remove the fuels (including reimbursement for your time). You will have to follow the plan that you and Patty come up with together. When your project is complete you will receive a reimbursement check.

Call me, Patty Pringle, at (307) 679-8574 or email me at ppringle@lwy.org or message me on Facebook at Lincoln County, Wyoming Firewise and we can get you signed up for the Firewise program.

PLANNING and ZONING



The Board has been working with the Town Council and Town Attorney on updating Title 6 Buildings and Title 9 Zoning.

The following items reflect areas that have been addressed and or modified.

1. Recommend adaptation of the 2015 IBC/IRC codes however if Council wishes to remain at 2006 IBC/IRC the Board will make the required changes in Title 6.
2. Building Inspections - To enhance the Inspection requirements and be in compliance with the IRC and IBC.
3. Permit Fee and Deposit Schedule – Modifications are recommended to cover costs to the Town for staff time. The Town added a backup inspector to minimize any delays during the inspection process.
4. Electrical standards - The Board and Council recommend adaptation of the 2014 Electrical Standards as outlined in the National Electric Code.
5. Modular Homes – Construction requirements for modular homes to ensure they are built to Town Code.
6. Engineering - Engineering for all single family residences with a requirement for a Wyoming Certified engineering stamp.
7. Manufactured/ (Mobile) Homes – This is addressed in Title 9 (Zoning) as per direction from the Town Attorney.
8. Demolition - Based on a request from Council, the Board added a section on demolition as described in the IBC.



Much time, effort and discussion has been put into the Ordinances that best serves the health, safety and welfare of our community

Permits to date: Total of 17 including 6 single family homes.

FOX RUN PARK

In summer of 2016 two public meetings were held at Town Hall so you could voice your opinion as to what facilities you would use if it was located in Fox Run Park. May 2016 Town Bulletin asked you to fill out a questionnaire as to what facilities you would use if located in Fox Run Park. The majority of citizens who voiced their opinion wanted a dog park. The Town set aside one acre of land by the shops for the dog park and has begun developing that acre. The Town has many items to check off of its list including the planting of grass before the dog park is complete and ready to open.



In communities that have leash laws like Town of Star Valley Ranch dog parks serve a vital role to give dog owners an opportunity to:

Dog parks give dogs an opportunity to socialize with other humans.

- A dog accustomed to meeting humans is less likely to have a fear response toward strangers.

Dog parks give dogs an opportunity to socialize with other dogs.

- Dogs will not feel the need to display dominance if they are comfortable meeting other dogs.

Dog parks allow dogs to get strenuous exercise, something not easy to do in an on-leash community.

- An exercised dog is healthier, and less prone to anxiety behaviors like repetitive barking or destroying property.

Dog parks have a positive effect on their owners

- Dogs are a great ice-breaker. A dog park promotes friendships and a feeling of belonging to a community. Owning a dog encourages people to exercise. Taking a dog out has also been found to stimulate social interaction with other people. (Journal of Nutrition and the Elderly, 1996)

A growing number of dog owners take their pets with them when traveling.

- Offering a safe, off leash area for visitors to our community will enhance the tourism experience. People are more likely to stay in an area that is dog-friendly when traveling with their pet.



According to a national survey, nearly all pet owners say companionship, love, company and affection are the number one benefits to owning a pet. Fifty-nine percent say pets are good for their health and the health of their family and help them relax. Forty percent say that owning a dog motivates them to exercise on a regular basis. It is universally agreed that pet owners are health conscious, like to look their best, like to exercise with their pet, are happy and maintain a well organized home.

New figures released from American Pet Products Manufacturers Association (APPMA) 2005-2006 National Pet Owners Survey (NPOS) show pet ownership is currently at its highest level, with 63 percent of all U.S. households owning a pet which equates to more than 69 million households.

Three-quarters of dog owners consider their dog like a child or family member. Spending time with one's pet is considered an extremely important leisure activity. (sequimdogparks.org)



Water Project 2017



Water Improvement Project 2017 has begun with the June 15th preconstruction meeting at Town Hall. The low-bid for this project was Taylor Construction from Blackfoot, Idaho. In this pre-construction meeting the contractor was informed of the different aspects of this project which will include hours of operation, direction of traffic including golf carts, safety concerns and signage and other concerns to insure a successful and safe project to their crew and the citizens of the Town. The Town holds weekly meetings every Thursday starting July 27, 2017 with Taylor Construction, Forsgren Engineering, Town's Public Works Department, Lower Valley Energy and Silverstar Communications.

1st ANNUAL Garage Sale - NRB



Town of Star Valley Ranch Natural Resource Board

1st Annual Garage Sale for Trails



When: Saturday, July 8th 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM
Where: First Response Center,
Vista Drive & West Vista Drive
Star Valley Ranch, WY
(Across from Town Hall)



Proceeds from the event will go to the town's Trail Maintenance & Construction Fund. Items for sale will include camping and outdoor recreation equipment including sleeping bags, tents, ice chests, packs, clothing, and many other items. Great deals! Don't miss it!




Be Firewise

Be Firewise – Tips for Homeowners & Landowners

Wildfire doesn't have to burn everything in its path. In fact, cleaning your property of debris and maintaining your landscaping are important first steps to helping minimize damage and loss.

The work you do today can make a difference. Follow this simple checklist, now and throughout the year, to prepare and help reduce the risk of your home and property becoming fuel for a wildfire!

- Clear leaves and other debris from gutters, eaves, porches and decks. This prevents embers from igniting your home.
- Remove dead vegetation from under your deck and within 10 feet of the house.
- Remove anything stored underneath decks or porches.
- Screen or box-in areas below patios and decks with wire mesh to prevent debris and combustible materials from accumulating.
- Remove flammable materials (firewood stacks, propane tanks, dry vegetation) within 30 feet of your home's foundation and outbuildings, including garages and sheds. If it can catch fire, don't let it touch your house, deck or porch.
- Wildfire can spread to tree tops. If you have trees on your property, prune so the lowest branches are 6 to 10 feet from the ground.
- Keep your lawn hydrated and maintained. If it is brown, cut it down to reduce fire intensity. Dry grass and shrubs are fuel for wildfire.
- Don't let debris and lawn cuttings linger. Dispose of these items quickly to reduce fuel for fire.
- Inspect shingles or roof tiles. Replace or repair those that are loose or missing to prevent ember penetration.
- Cover exterior attic vents with metal wire mesh no larger than 1/8 inch to prevent sparks from entering the home.
- Enclose under-eave and soffit vents or screen with metal mesh to prevent ember entry.



For more information about how to protect your home and property, as well as Firewise plant lists and other resources, visit the Firewise website at www.firewise.org, and see the “homeowners” section.

If you are interested in joining the Town of Star Valley Ranch's Firewise Program and receiving a free home fire safety assessment, give Patty Pringle, Lincoln Co. Fuel Mitigation Coordinator a call at (307)679-8574, or email ppringle@lcwy.org