



TSVR Newsletter – January 2018

Walkers and Snowmobiles

Rules of the Road:

- Yield to everyone
- Stay as far to the right as plowing permits
- Walk single file, toward traffic, and out of the traffic lane when autos pass
- A flag is recommended for your snowmobile
- A valid driver's license is required to operate any motorized vehicle on roads
- Stay off of Private Property
- Slow down, the speed limit for all vehicles is 25 miles per hour



Please inform your friends and guests. Thank you!

Scheduled Meetings

Town Council Meeting
Wednesday, January 10th
at 6:00 pm

Events

Coffee with Mayor
Canceled for January

Contacts

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

Public Works
307-880-5325

Special Municipal Officer
307-880-2666

Coffee with the Mayor

“Coffee with the Mayor” will be canceled for January but will resume in February where 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.

Deer Feeding is Harmful

Winter is tough on deer. With their usual food sources under snow, they forage for sustenance wherever they can find it. Many good-hearted residents here leave food outside — table scraps, potato peelings and the like — with the intent of providing a little help to the deer who inhabit their areas. However, that's a bad idea. Proper feed is natural browse. In winter, the microorganisms within the deer stomach are different from the microorganisms the rest of the year. This change allows deer to ingest a diet of woody browse and turn the high-fiber diet into protein. Do not feed hay, corn, kitchen scraps, potatoes, lettuce trimmings or any animal proteins from animals rendered into feed. Deer may actually starve when fed supplemental foods during winter if they have a full belly of indigestible foods. Many deer have starved to death with stomachs packed full of these items. Just because deer will eat food provided by humans does not mean it is good for them. ***In most cases, supplemental feeding does not reduce deer losses during winter and in some cases can actually increase losses.*** If you currently feed deer or are considering starting, we urge you to please weigh the consequences carefully.



Volunteers Needed!

Thayne Ambulance is looking for EMT and Driver Volunteers.

Be a part in giving back to your community. If you are an EMT, or would like to become an EMT contact Thayne Ambulance at ThayneEMT@silverstar.com to find out how to get your License or to transfer a license from another state. As a driver volunteer, all you need is a current driver license and have a current CPR certification. If you don't have CPR certification, Thayne ambulance can help you obtain it.



Thayne Fire Department is looking for Volunteers. Be a part in giving back to your community. If you have been a volunteer Fireman in the past, or would like to become one contact the Thayne Fire Department at or 880-FIRE to find out more information.

Planning and Zoning Board Highlights – December 2017

- The Board has recommended for approval 15 new single family residential permits and a total of 47 building permits for 2017.
- On the advice of legal counsel, the Board has postponed action on non-conforming use of designated areas: Plat 17 Lots 11, 12, 13 and 14 owned by Star Valley Ranch Association. A public meeting was conducted November 15th at the Board meeting to present to the public the non-conforming use agenda. It was at this time the Board postponed further action until February 7, 2018. A second Public meeting will be scheduled in the future. The Legal representatives for the concerned parties should be working to come up with a solution.
- The Board is currently discussing Title 9 Zoning. Each member has been assigned a section to review. The Board has also scheduled review of the Permit Application Process,

Subdivision and Annexation and other assignments as requested by the Mayor to the Board Chair.

- ***The Board currently has one open position and is looking for a volunteer with building construction or planning experience.***
- The Board's regular meetings are on the first and third Wednesday of each month at 5:00 pm. The public is welcome and encouraged to attend.

Jones Simkins, LLC Financial Audit

Jake Barker from Jones-Simkins, LLC. presented the 2016-17 Financial Audit for the Town of Star Valley Ranch. The results of **the audit disclosed no instances of noncompliance** or other matters that are required to be reported under Government Auditing Standards. Jones-Simkins was pleased that the Town Water Fund will be completely self-sufficient as of the end of December 2017.

Natural Resource Board

As one year nears completion and the coming year brings the promise of new beginnings, it allows each of us to reflect on the year and what might be in

*For last year's words belong to last year's language
And next year's words await another voice.
And to make an end is to make a beginning.*

store in 2018. It is our chance to start new....to change a habit, to challenge ourselves to learn new knowledge or skills, or to put extra energy and effort towards those things most important to us. This might be for our health, our connection to others, or to protect those things important to us. The natural beauty of our valley and region is something that most value and where we share responsibility to nurture and protect. This can start with the little things we do each day that can make a difference. Guided by the three **R's of Reduce, Reuse and Recycle**, each of us can do little things that add up to make a big difference. These changes don't have to be radical and even a slight change of habit can add up to make a difference for our air, water, land and quality of life. Starting with the notion of **reducing** what we need to produce and consume, we can immediately impact what ends up as waste. This might be reducing our consumption of products, turning lights off when not needed or combining errands or carpooling to reduce our use of fossil fuel. For those items that we no longer need, but don't want to throw out, there might be ways to **reuse or repurpose**. Would there be new ways to use the product or could someone else find value in its continued use? Perhaps the item can be sold (Garage Sale, Misty's List, etc.) or donated to Lincoln County Self-Reliance Thrift Store or up in Jackson at the



Browse N Buy or the Habitat ReStore. Finally, where we can't **reduce or reuse**, there are often ways to **recycle** items so that they are transformed into a raw material and will be shaped into a new item. To that end, the SVR Natural Resource Board will publish a guide in 2018 to help residents know where to take a wide variety of items in the region where they can be recycled. The goal here is to reduce the amount of all consumable products that end up in landfills

and threaten ground water and public health. The old adage “think globally, act locally” starts right where we live and benefits each of us and our precious land. Best wishes to everyone for 2018 and any new beginnings you take on for the coming year.

Arbor Day 2018: The Town of Star Valley Ranch will be celebrating our eighth annual Arbor Day on **Saturday, June 9th, 2018 at Fox Run Park.** The Town of Star Valley Ranch has established a fund for the purchase of trees and supplies for the 2018 Arbor Day and other natural resource projects. Donations can be dropped off or mailed to the Town Clerk, Stella Mackey at Town Hall. The Natural Resource Board will add the names to our recognition plaque which is displayed at Town Hall. The minimum donation for displaying the names of donors or remembrances is \$50. Donations must be received by May 9th to be recorded on the plaque for 2018. The form is included on the next page.



Natural Resource Board

Donation for Trees and our Natural Resources Arbor Day 2018

\$50.00 Donation will entitle you to have a name engraved on the plaque which is displayed in our Town Hall. **Donations must be received by May 9th for Arbor Day June 9th, 2018.**

(If not received by May 9th, donations will be applied to the 2019 celebration.)



Donor's Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Donation Amount _____ Date _____

Do you want a name on the plaque? Yes _____ No _____

Is this donation in memory of an individual? Yes _____ No _____

If Yes to the above, please print the name you want engraved on the plaque

**Return to Stella Mackey at town hall or mail to:
Arbor Day and Natural Resource Donation
Town of Star Valley Ranch
171 Vista Drive**

How Does Star Valley Ranch Water Stack Up?

1. No treatment needed, no chemicals added.

Our main source of water comes straight from the ground in the form of a spring. The backup wells also need no treatment before distribution.

2. Option to treat in case of emergency.

If a bacteria issue arises, we can activate our treatment system in minutes.

3. Up to date infrastructure.

New, larger mainlines provide a more stable, high-pressure consistency throughout the town. Hydrants meet all state regulations and can also help lower homeowner insurance. New lines are deeper in the ground resulting in fewer freezing issues and broken lines



4. Valuable assets are behind locked doors and fences keeping our water system tamper free.

5. Constantly monitored by operators.

We can access our S.C.A.D.A. program 24/7 to ensure proper operation, and alarms notify us in the event of any irregularities.

6. Top 4 best water in Wyoming three years in a row.

7. Generators and backup wells dramatically decrease the chance of water loss.

With our system being gravity fed from a spring, electricity is not needed. In the event of spring flow loss and power loss we have the ability to pump water from our wells to appropriate tanks to maintain water pressure throughout the town.

8. Continue to maintain good standing with Wyoming DEQ and EPA.

We take monthly samples for EPA requirements; we also take in-house samples throughout the ranch to ensure clean, healthy water for our residents.



Town Councilman Objectives 2018

On November 30th Mayor Buyers held a special Council Workshop to set goals and objectives for the upcoming year. Each councilman took the opportunity to discuss what had been accomplished and what needs to be completed, as well as what items we

might focus on as a community.

The following is a summary of the various objectives for calendar year 2018 set by each councilman.

Councilman Abrams

Title 6 Buildings - 2015
Town Hall
Commercial
Census 2020

- Title 6 Building updates and procedures
- Building permit procedures
- Title 7 Nuisance (health and safety)

Natural Resource Board

- Trails
- Town Beautification
- Fox Run Park
- Safety Day – FireWise
- Noxious Weed
- WYDOT TAP Grant

Town Complex

- All aspects from land use to design, bid and build

Councilman Jones

Public Safety

- Emergency Operation Plan Drills
- Speed Signage and program
- Title 7 Nuisances (Health and Safety)
- Cedar Creek Safety Program
- Safety Day - FireWise

Wyoming Association of Municipalities

- Youth Program

Town Complex

- All aspects from land use to design, bid and build

Councilman Occhi

Economic Development Board

- Update Title 2 to better reflect Town Objectives
- Utilize public input to determine commercial needs in Town
- Franchise Fees
- Business License

Councilman Lynch

Planning and Zoning Board

- Title 9 Zoning update

Water Board

- Update Title 4
- Water Rates
- 2019 Water Study

- Long Range Planning