



**GRAND LAKE  
COLORADO**

May 2012

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NOTE: Check the website for  
Public Hearings and News Up-  
dates.

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# TOWN OF GRAND LAKE NEWSLETTER

## Volunteers Needed - Grand Lake Clean Up Day & Arbor Day



Come join us on Saturday, May 19, as we spruce up the town to make way for the sunny days of spring and summer. Please meet at 9:00 a.m. in the Town Square Park. A barbeque for volunteers will follow at the Heckert Pavilion. Volunteers will receive a tree seedling. Arbor Day festivities will be held at noon at Stover Park by the lake. Local and state officials will plant a donated blue spruce and recognize Grand Lake's 22nd year as a Tree City

## Welcome New Town Planner

The Town's current part-time Code Administrator, Joe Biller, has been selected as the new Town Planner. He will start working full time effective May 22. Joe will be combining both Code Admin-

istrator and Planner duties in his new position. Joe brings to this new position a strong background in civil engineering in addition to his code enforcement experience. His work as an engineering con-

sultant in Grand County for public and private clients has provided him the opportunity to experience many facets of the Town Planner duties. Join us in welcoming Joe as a fulltime employee!

## From the Town Manager's Desk

Greetings,  
Have you noticed a difference now that Trail Ridge Road has opened? The Chamber reports an increase in activity at the Grand Lake Visitors Center. Personally, it seems that there are more cars and people in town the last few days, so I am hopeful that the season of visitors is upon us!  
I hope you all come out for the action on Grand Lake's traditional season opener – Memorial Day Weekend. Don't miss the Memorial Day Parade and Observance at 10 AM Monday, May 28, morning. It will be special to honor our Veterans for their service to our country. Check out our localshops and restaurants as they officially open for the season. And be sure to take

tage of the great deals that will be found during the Boardwalk Sale that will be happening Saturday, Sunday and Monday. I encourage each of you to make some time in your schedule to participate in one or more of the special events will be happening this Saturday the 19<sup>th</sup>. The Annual Town Clean-up Day is a fun way to give back to your community in a small way that makes a big difference – we will do a little 'sprucing up' to get our high visibility areas ready for the summer season. Join us to celebrate Arbor Day with the planting of a tree at Stover Park on the lakefront. A special thanks to Harrington Landscapes for donating a blue spruce so we can continue to 're-forest' Grand Lake!

Also, check out the Gardener's Plant Exchange to get great deals on plants for your gardens at home! Please see the details on these events elsewhere in this newsletter.  
I continue to try to get out and about to meet more of the terrific folks who are in and around Grand Lake. Whether we have met or not, I welcome the opportunity to discuss Grand Lake issues with you. Do not hesitate to drop in at Town Hall, call me (627-3435), email me (glmanager@townofgrandlake.com) or flag me down on the boardwalk. I look forward to hearing from you to better understand your perspective.

See you around Grand Lake soon!  
David

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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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**May 14***Trail Ridge open***May 19***Town Clean Up Day**9 a.m. Town Park***May 19***Arbor Day Noon  
Stover Park***May 19***Gardeners Exchange  
Community House 12-4***May 19***Work Your Pass Off Day  
8 a.m., USFS 887-4100***May 25***Hands Across the Nation I I am  
Trail Ridge Road Opens***May 25 - 27***Bingo in the Park***May 26-28***Boardwalk Sales***May 26***Kauffman House opens***May 28***Memorial Day Parade & Ceremony***June 5***RMRT Welcome Back  
Grand Arts Center***June 9 & 10***Arts & Crafts Fair*

## Hazard Tree Removal Project to Cause Delays, Temporary Closures

**Granby, Colo.** (April 25, 2012) – Due to unseasonably warm weather, the U.S. Forest Service's Sulphur Ranger District is on the verge of starting its 2012 field season. The biggest project slated for this season is roadside hazard tree removal along primary forest service roads. The past decade's mountain pine beetle killed an estimated 80 percent of mature lodgepole pine trees in Grand County, creating numerous hazards along public roadways as these trees begin to fall. In an effort to reduce these hazards and improve public safety, the U.S. Forest Service has hired a contractor to remove hazard trees along more than 100 miles of high-use, forest service roads in Grand County. Due to nature of this work, segments of road being treated will be temporarily closed to the public and gated while work progresses. For public safety, when a section of road is closed, adjacent trailheads and dispersed campsites will also be unavailable to the public and through traffic will not be allowed. Closures will be rolling and temporary. We appreciate your patience and apologize for any inconvenience you may experience during this project.

Roads that will be affected include: Stillwater (FS 123); Kauffman (FS 121); Kawuneeche (FS 120); North Supply (FS 120.4); South Supply (FS 119); Water Board Road (FS 128); Moffat Road (FS 149); Little Vasquez (FS 156); Vasquez (FS 148); Elk Creek (FS 158); Leland Creek (FS 159); Crooked Creek (FS 139); Beaver Creek (FS 133); Lake Evelyn (FS 136); Keyser Creek (FS 139); Kinney Creek (FS 141); and Big Meadows (FS 253). Persons needing administrative access to private property or infrastructure accessed by any of these roads should email [krarmstrong@fs.fed.us](mailto:krarmstrong@fs.fed.us) or call 970-887-4145.

The only roads on the district, at this time, identified to allow through traffic during the tree removal are the lower portions of Meadow Creek (FS 129) and St. Louis Creek (FS 160) and most of Arapaho Bay (FS 125). Wait times on these roads may be up to 30 minutes when hazard tree removal is underway.

To avoid disappointment, be sure to call the Sulphur Ranger District's Visitor's Information Hotline at 970-887-4100 before planning your trip or heading out to the trailhead. Or, sign up for updates by emailing [SRDUpdates@fs.fed.us](mailto:SRDUpdates@fs.fed.us); stop by the Sulphur Ranger Station at 9 Ten Mile Drive in Granby; visit [www.fs.usda.gov/arp](http://www.fs.usda.gov/arp); or follow us on Twitter: [www.twitter.com/usfsarp](http://www.twitter.com/usfsarp).

Even with all this work, forest visitors should be extremely cautious when recreating in the Arapaho National Forest. Dead and live trees can fall without warning. Visitors should avoid patches of dead trees, especially on windy days. Also, make sure to park vehicles and place tents and RVs in areas away from dead trees and take a saw or ax with you to remove fallen trees from roads to avoid becoming trapped. Remember, your safety is your responsibility. For additional safety information, visit [www.fs.usda.gov/goto/arp/hazardtrees](http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/arp/hazardtrees).

If you are interested in learning more about this and other upcoming U.S. Forest Service projects in Grand County, please join us for a 30-minute informational session at one of the following community meetings:  
May 22: (10:45 a.m.) Grand County BOCC Meeting Room in Hot Sulphur  
May 31: (5:30-7 p.m.) Trails night with WPFV Chamber at Crooked Creek in Fraser

Katherine "Reid" Armstrong  
Public Affairs Specialist



## Bears in Grand Lake

Black bears have lived in the forests of Colorado since long before the pioneers arrived. Today 8,000 to 12,000 black bears are trying to share space with an ever-growing human population. With many more people living and playing in bear country, human-bear encounters are on the rise.

### Colorado Bears Have People Problems

Every year, bears attracted to human food sources damage property, vehicles and even homes. Bears don't know they're doing anything wrong. They're just following their super-sensitive noses to the most calories they can find.

### Black Bears at a Glance

Bears are intelligent, resourceful and amazing animals.

- Not all black bears are black. In Colorado many black bears are blonde, cinnamon or brown.
- Over 90% of a bear's natural diet is grasses, berries, fruits, nuts and plants. The rest is primarily insects and scavenged carcasses.
- Black bears are naturally shy, and very wary of people and other unfamiliar things. Their normal response to any perceived danger is to run away.
- Bears are very smart, and have great memories—once they find food, they come back for more.
- Bears are normally diurnal, but sometimes become more active at night in urban areas to avoid humans.

Bears want to get the most energy they can with the least amount of effort. Every bear's goal is to get fat enough to live through the winter.

Most conflicts between people and bears can be traced to easy-to-get-at human food, garbage, pet food, bird seed or other attractants. When people's behavior rewards a bear, a bear's natural drive to eat can overcome its wariness of humans. The key is to remove attractants.

### NO FOOD = NO BEAR.

Bears that get too comfortable around people can destroy property or even become a threat to human safety. Habituated bears must often be destroyed. Please don't let bears die needlessly. Do your part to bear-proof your home and property, and help keep bears alive and wild.

### Please help and do your part to keep bears wild.

Don't feed bears, and don't put out food for other wildlife that attracts bears.

Feeding birds (including Hummingbirds) will attract bears.

Be responsible about trash and bird feeders.

Burn food off barbecue grills and clean after each use.

Keep all bear-accessible windows and doors closed and locked, including home, garage and vehicle doors.

Don't leave food, trash, coolers, air fresheners or anything that smells in your vehicle. Pick fruit before it ripens, and clean up fallen fruit.

Talk to your neighbors about doing their part to be bear-responsible.

The Colorado Division of Wildlife is available to answer your wildlife related questions. Wildlife Officer Scott Murdoch can be reached at (970) 531-3708.

## TRASH TALKIN'

### Pay As You Throw (PAYT)

The Town PAYT facility has been in operation since August 2010 and seems to be a hit with homeowners and visitors alike. PAYT bags may be taken to the dumpsters near the Town Shop, specifically designated as PAYT dumpsters. The Town has two PAYT trash bags: 25 gallons for \$3 per bag and 40 gallons for \$4 per bag (tax included). These bags are available at several locations in Grand Lake: Lakeview Conoco, Visitor's Center, Mountain Food Market, Circle D Foods, Grand Lake Hardware and Town Hall.

### BEAR AWARE!



Spring has sprung and that means that the bears and other wildlife are now getting out and about. That also means that they will sometimes get into mischief by prowling the Town for trash and other edibles. Please keep your trash secured away from these hungry critters and "KEEP WILDLIFE WILD". Your trash dumpster/can should be wildlife-resistant. If it is not and the wildlife gets into it, you could wind up with a summons to go along with having to clean up the mess. Neither are results anyone wants, and it isn't healthy for the animals either.



## Silver Star Service Flag Flies in Town Park

The Town of Grand Lake shows its appreciation of the Silver Star Families of America and honors their commitment to our wounded Armed Forces members by proclaiming every May 1st as Silver Star Service Banner Day.

Silver Star Families of America was formed to make sure we remember the blood sacrifice of our wounded and ill service men and women. Their sole mission is that every time someone sees the Silver Star Service Banner in a window or a Silver Star Service Flag flying, they remember the sacrifice made for this City, State and Nation.

The Silver Star Service Flag flew in the Town Park on May 1st alongside the U.S. Flag and Colorado State flag.



## Summer Water

Due to overnight temperatures that are still below freezing, the Grand Lake Water Department hopes to have summer water on by May 15th.



## Three Grand Avenue Gardeners Needed

The Town's Adopt-A-Lamppost Garden volunteer program is in need of full-time individuals or groups to take care of three small garden plots on Grand Avenue; gardeners are asked to commit to the garden plot for a minimum of one year. Gardeners may plant whatever they would like in their garden plot and maintain it throughout the 2012 growing season. This volunteer opportunity helps beautify Grand Avenue and allows for local gardeners to showcase their talents. Volunteers are automatically entered into summer contests and receive thank-you gifts from the Town of Grand Lake for their services. To learn more about this program and available gardens, please contact Marti at (970) 627-3435 or [town@townofgrandlake.com](mailto:town@townofgrandlake.com).

Lamppost gardeners may get free plants at the Gardeners Exchange on May 19 at the Community House from noon to 4 p.m.

## Important Grand Lake Community Meeting on Wildfire Preparedness

Residents served by the Grand Lake Fire Protection District are encouraged to attend a meeting on June 16, 2012 in the Community House, Grand Lake Town Hall at 1 PM.

Residents will be presented with information on the new Community Wildfire Protection Plan and learn about the Ready-Set-Go program designed to teach individuals who live in high risk wildfire areas how to best prepare themselves and their properties against fire threats. Discussion will include home owner responsibilities, home defensible space standards, preparedness and evacuation planning. In addition, Grand County's Office of Emergency Management will present information on emergency notification.

Agency collaborators from the Colorado State Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, US Forest Service, National Park, Grand County and Grand Lake Town Officials will be on hand to provide information on projects they manage.

If you live in the Grand Lake Fire Protection District Area this is a very important meeting for you to attend.