

DURANGO WEST II

Metro District News

MARCH 2023

Watch out for Falling Snow and Icicles



Many residents have lots of icicles on their roofs this winter. Along with watching out for them falling on yourself, check your hose bibs as well periodically. Snow chunks from roofs melting have hit resident's hose bibs. Please check to make sure your hose bib is turned off tight and not causing any dripping or leaking.

Last winter and spring, several people found their outside water spigots/hose bibs turned on by falling icicles. Already this winter, there has been one confirmed case. Checking your outside spigots or fitting them with some type of cover can save water and unnecessary added expense on your water bill.

Keep Water Flowing

We expect a major runoff down our streets over the next few months. To assure smooth runoff and to prevent pooling, we are asking assistance from residents to keep the water flowing properly down our street gutters. Leaves and needles get mixed at times with dirt/mud creating muck which all contribute to clogging the street gutters in various places. Snow melt will be continuing for a while. It would be very helpful if every resident could just take 5 minutes from time to time to clean up what is in front of their property including any 'muck', dirt, and pebbles that may have fallen into the gutters due to snowplowing, melting and runoff. This will ensure proper drainage as well as prevent damage to the adjoining asphalt and roads. Our street sweeping will not occur until spring after the snow is gone which appears to be a while away. Thank you.

Evacuation Exercise April 26 – Residents Can Participate

There will be an Evacuation Exercise in Durango West 2 on Wednesday, April 26th. This is a coordinated training event to help Residents, Emergency Management personnel, Fire Depart-



ments, and Support Services to practice and prepare for a major wildfire event like the 416 and Missionary Ridge Fires. While first responders are practicing their response to neighborhoods and emergency management teams are practicing evacuation support operations, you are invited to practice your own evacuation drill – actually receiving CodeRED Alerts, checking the website maps for your area's status, and checking in at an Evacuation Center. If you have animals (large or small) we are prepared for you to bring them just as if it were an actual emergency. A shelter will be set up (Fairgrounds or Fort Lewis College), Red Cross will be there, and you will "Check-In" to receive a "Rapid Tag". These are used to prevent unauthorized entry into evacuation zones, and allow you, as a resident to pass through the check point for re-entry when authorized.

DW2 residents interested in participating can contact Shawna Legarza, Director of Emergency Management La Plata County, at shawna.legarza@co.laplata.co.us.

Register with Code Red or Update and Add a Group

The Office of Emergency Management encourages everyone to enroll in CodeRED, their Emergency Alert & Warning notification system. They use this to advise you of emergencies affecting your home or designated addresses, and actions to take. You can visit their web page for instructions: https://www.co.laplata.co.us/departments/emergency_management/index.php Or you can visit the DW2 website for a PDF of the county's specific directions.

The county also encourages you to sign up for alerts for your Community Group. They will be sending information specific to neighborhoods, HOAs and subdivisions regarding the exercise, evacuation routes, and schedules.

Evacuation Checklists



Please visit our website <http://www.dw2.co.municipalgovt.org/> for La Plata County Before and During Evacuation Checklists. For more resources, visit www.co.laplata.co.us/departments/emergency_management/faqs.php

Be a Good Neighbor - Clean Up after Your Dog



With the snows melting, residents are noticing dog poop and dog poop bags around the neighborhood. Please be respectful of district property and residents' yards by always picking poop up after your dog(s) as well as your poop bags when you are on District roads, trails, greenbelts, and residents' yards and disposing of those bags properly. This helps to ensure that everyone can fully enjoy our subdivision and prevents pollution.

According to the Environmental Protection Agency, pet waste is one of the many seemingly small sources of pollution that can add up to big problems for water quality, and even human health. When dog waste is left behind, not only is it unsightly and leaves an overwhelming smell, but it can also leave excessive amounts of bacteria, parasites and nitrates that disrupt outdoor ecosystems. The best way to make sure that neighborhood and natural wildlife stay healthy is by encouraging all pet owners to pick up after their dogs and properly dispose of the waste, ideally in biodegradable bag, and then in their trash can. Read on for four reasons why it's important to pick up your dog waste:

1. **Dog poop is not natural.** It is rational to think that poop is natural because we often see wildlife droppings outside. Wild animals eat nutrients from their existing ecosystem, so they are simply returning what is already there. Dogs, on the other hand, eat pet foods specifically designed to ensure a healthy diet. These pet foods can cause their poop to contain excessive amounts of bacteria and nitrates that can upset the delicate balance of an existing outdoor ecosystem.
2. **Dog poop does not decompose.** Dog waste will not fully break down on its own. It is logical to think that dog waste is compostable, but before dog feces fully decomposes, it will get washed over by rainwater, causing it to get into land and water systems where it releases harmful nutrients that cause excessive growth of algae in lakes, streams and rivers. This type of pollution negatively impacts wildlife and humans.
3. **Dog poop contains disease causing bacteria and parasites.** Dog waste contains bacteria and parasites that can contaminate water and soil and also be harmful to humans. Even if your dog does not show symptoms of being sick, their waste can carry diseases that are harmful to other animals and humans. Salmonella, E.coli and roundworms are a few of the diseases that can be found in dog poop.
4. **It's your doody to pick up after your dog.** Let's face it, picking up after your dog is not only common courtesy, but

it is your responsibility. When you plan to be out and about with your dog, be prepared to clean up after them. Bring a bag with you. Also, avoid letting your dog poop within 200 feet of a body of water and do not throw dog poop into a storm drain.



Be considerate and responsible in all aspects of pet care. Never assume that solid pet waste eventually goes away just because it's in an area far from water. Even left in wooded areas, uncollected waste ends up in our water through run-off.

Picking up your dog's poop may not be your favorite chore, but it's an important one that helps keep our outdoor spaces, along with our community and pets safe.

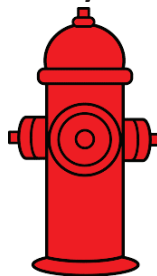
Source: denvergov.org

Water Maintenance and Repairs



Many residents have discovered how just an intermittent running toilet can add up to thousands of gallons of lost water. March is a great time to check for leaks and do regular preventative maintenance on your faucets, toilets, water softeners, etc. This can end up saving you lots of water and money. Be a waterwise resident and save water by doing proper maintenance and conserve water by installing water efficient toilets, shower heads etc.

Fire Hydrants – Spring Access



If you have a fire hydrant on your property, please keep it accessible year-round. During the winter, we appreciate the assistance from homeowners who have hydrants on their property in keeping them clear from snow. During spring and summer, remove shrubs, branches, etc that block visual and physical access.

Fire Mitigation Resources



Wildfire Adapted Partnership has many fire mitigation resources available for homeowners. DW2 residents are eligible for programs that Wildfire Adapted Partnership offers. These include a "Home Wildfire Risk Site Visit", Check out <https://www.wildfireadapted.org/> to find out more. One program is the Home Wildfire Risk Site Visit. This is the first step to possibly getting some financial assistance when available. Contact Alex Graf, La Plata County Coordinator at: agraf@wildfireadapted.org or 845-750-2914.

Next Meeting is March 15th at 5 p.m. at the Mail House

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Dave Marsa

970-759-1609

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Board Members

Carly Thomson • 970-759-9156 • President • May 2023

Beverly Lawrence • 970-799-2775 • Vice President • May 2025

Wayne Schrader • 970-317-5109 • Treasurer • May 2023

Derek Ryter • 970-880-4945 • Director • May 2025

DURANGO WEST 2 BUSINESS BRIEFS:

The Business Briefs section of the newsletter is provided as a free service to current DW2 residents who wish to have their business or service listed. If you would like to have a listing, please email your brief to dw2@dgowest2.com

- Train Brazilian Jiu Jitsu with 3rd Degree Black Belt Nico de Haan on Tuesdays and Thursdays 6:30 am at Durango Mixed Martial Arts. All levels welcome. Contact 970-259-3398 or info@durangomixedmartialarts.com. Website: <https://durangomartialarts.com/>
- Big Toy Boat, RV & Mini Storage provides storage options for Household & Business, Boats, Campers & RV's at competitive prices. Wendell & Vindred Qualls @ 970-247-2680, or www.BigToyStorageDurango.com
- Fully-facilitated immersion programs to Guatemala!! Originally Spanish4Educators.org, DW2 resident Steve Foster also offers general immersion programs to beautiful Antigua, Guatemala as well as specialized programs for educators and medical professionals. Contact Steve, 970-844-0724 or sfoster1010@gmail.com
- James' Home Improvements & Repairs - Fully Insured; James Bowkett - 970-317-1467; <https://www.facebook.com/fourcornersimprov>
- Get amazing locally roasted coffee here in DW2. You've probably seen our red and blue trailer parked at the entrance on Friday's. Feel free to contact me directly at mark.rockymountainroastery@gmail.com or text 303.385.7755
- Join a Reiki class with Licensed Reiki Master Teacher, Teresa Jantz. Reiki is a stress reduction technique. All levels offered. Learn more and register at www.TouchpointTherapy.com or call Teresa at 970-903-2547.

- Mobile Notary and Notary Signing Agent. 16 years experience. Bonded, certified and insured. 24/7 service Elaine Stumpo 970-799-2328
- Therapeutic Massage Therapy for injury/sports rehab and inner healing- myofascial release, active/passive stretching, ancient cupping therapy, hot stones, neuromuscular & deep tissue therapy. Ali Jacobs, owner of Empowered Living. 15 years experience! Call to schedule. 970-903-3189.
- Psychologist in DWII for 38 years. Dr. Katherine accepts private insurance and Medicaid. Over 40 years of experience. Office in town or use of secure Zoom. (970) 769-6907
- Kokikai Durango Japanese Martial Arts: Practical self-defense & personal development through traditional training. Contact Thomas Holmes at (970) 799-7632 or visit www.kokikai-durango.com.
- Zumba with Donna Middleton. Classes at the Smiley Building 2nd floor dance studio. Fri. 1:30 pm. Sat. and Sun. 9:00 am. Call Donna @ 970-759-9944
- Cedar Enterprises LLC specializes in fire mitigation/fuels reduction in or around dwellings. Call for an estimate. Cedar wood cords neighborhood special \$250. Contact Bryan at 769-3438
- San Juan Paralegal Services; Contract Paralegal. Over 10 years of experience. Criminal Law, Civil Litigation, Personal Injury, Family, Business/Contracts, Trademarks. Contact Molly Pagano at (303) 881-4631.

- House sitting and/or pet care including walking. I'm retired, reliable, responsible. Call Ken Hibbard 970-749-1378
- ABC Plumbing & Heating is available for plumbing & hot water heater service, repairs & remodels. Call 970-764-4315, www.abc-plumbingdurango.com
- Dance with Wendy Graham Settle. Private lessons for weddings, reunions, and special occasions including Swing, Latin, Blues, Waltz, and Two-Step. Contact: 970.903.9402, perkypantsdance@gmail.com, or go to www.perkypantsdance.com.
- Custom-designed travel and tours. Contact Cindi Taylor, Taylored Tours, 970.335.8670 or visit trips.tayloredtours.com.
- Holistic Chiropractor. Dr. Robert Stein. In practice since 1985. DWII homeowner since 1996. Call 382-8500. www.drrobertstein.com
- Plexus: An all-natural, plant based line of health & wellness products. House sitting and pet care when you are away! Tutoring: K-8 in all subject areas. Licensed 20 yrs of classroom experience. Contact Carrie at 259-4599.
- Dumpster Rental - 16 Cubic Yard Dump Trailer (driveway friendly). I park the trailer your house, you fill it with green waste, trash, debris, and I haul it away. Prices vary. Please email Ryan Champion at championdumpsters@protonmail.com.



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