



March 2021



Elk Falls - Photo courtesy of Ranger Dale, Staunton State Park

An update from your Elk Falls Ranch POA Board of Directors

2020/2021 Board of Directors

Renae Braun, President - elkfallspoa@gmail.com or 720-480-9328

Dave Shaffer, Roads Chair - elkfallsroads@gmail.com or 303-816-5004

Dan Mueller, Secretary - elkfallsfirewise@gmail.com or 630-240-9066

Bev Long, Treasurer - bevlong2555@gmail.com or 720-633-2454

Mike Long, VP & Architectural Chair - mlongpine11817@gmail.com or 303-757-2222

Next Board Meeting:

Tuesday April 6, 2021 7pm

All members are invited to attend via Cisco Webex. If you are interested in attending, please email elkfallspoa@gmail.com to request login details.

Resident Profile

In order for us, as the Elk Falls Ranch Community, to get to know each other a little better, we are profiling residents, especially newer residents.

We know you'll enjoy getting to know **Aaron and Courtney Rife and their family!** The Rifés live at 34727 Circle Drive.



Hello,

We live here with our 15 year old son, Maddox. We also have 2 daughters who don't live

with us but are here a lot! One lives in Denver and the other in Boulder. We have one dog, Gizmo.

We are originally from Steamboat Springs, but lived out of Colorado for 25 years as Aaron was in the Navy. We found our way back to Colorado about 18 months ago after Aaron retired. So far, we absolutely love Elk Falls Ranch!

Thanks,
Courtney and Aaron Rife



2021 Budget Ratified

The EFPOA Annual Budget Meeting was held March 7th via Webex. There were no suggested changes to the Budget from residents in attendance. The 2021 Budget was automatically ratified. [Click here to view the 2021 EFPOA Budget.](#)

Broadband News

Reminder: We need everyone to make an online comment of support on the Grant Application by March 16th.



As I stated in an earlier update, I know it seems redundant if you submitted a Letter of Support. But each Board member reviews grants differently. Some may be more inclined to review the public comments vs. Support Letters. You can even attach your Support Letter to the comment if that's easiest.

The SPT Application Number is W-2021-17: South Park Telephone – Staunton State Park

You will find all of the applications at the following link: <https://broadbandfund.colorado.gov/how-to-apply/broadband-fund-applications-received>

Comments on each application can be submitted through the following link:
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfXMiMT_2pUNFo2q5j6fzACQvkBxCniBX1oNbWoYrpk5bSAMQ/viewform

Grant Review March 30th - April 1

There were 36 grant applicants this cycle, so the Board has reserved 3 days to review the grants.

It's Not too Late! You Can Still Participate.

We are still accepting commitments even though the grant is in.
You don't want to miss out on this opportunity.

The online Commitment Form can be found at this [link](#) and the **Pricing Sheet** can be found at this [link](#).

Bev Long
Broadband Committee Chair and Champion for Elk Falls Ranch
bevlong2555@gmail.com
303-838-4373

For real-time updates join our [Facebook Group](#). The site is called [Staunton Area](#)



Important Notice Regarding Chipping Program for 2021 Change in Scheduling Process

I have just received information on the slash chipping and removal program for 2021. This year scheduling will be a bit different as the program is being coordinated through the combined Elk Creek and Inter-Canyon fire departments.

We will not have a set date for the entire neighborhood. Each homeowner needs to sign up via the link below providing their address and confirming geographic location. Based upon that info the combined Elk Creek/Inter-Canyon District will schedule chipping dates by address in a manner to cover the entire district most efficiently. Those that have signed up will be notified of their scheduled chipping date.

As in previous years, you will have 2 chipping options:

- Chips removed from property
- Chips broadcast on property

There are several guidelines that must be followed to ensure chipping crews will collect your slash piles:

- Piles are within 5x5 size limit, neatly stacked with ends facing road
- No more than 15 piles per sign-up
- Piles within 5 feet of roadway
- Piles free of dirt, rocks, root wads, rope, wire, or any other debris

Please use the following link to sign up for chipping: <https://arcg.is/SHrbH>

Due to our previous participation, 2021 chipping program registration is open to Elk Falls Ranch residents **now**. The general public will start signing up on April 1.

Thanks in advance for your continued support of this important aspect of wildfire prevention, and feel free to contact me with any Firewise related questions.

Dan Mueller
Elk Falls Ranch Firewise Committee
Phone: 630-240-9066
Email: ElkFallsFirewise@gmail.com

Roads Report

As spring approaches, the days are getting longer and the sun feels a little warmer, but we probably have a little more winter coming before we can stow the snow shovels. The EFPOA board is planning road maintenance activities for the year.

Projects under consideration include spring and fall grading, more road base additions and widening of Upper Ranch Drive. The road base that was applied last year to Juniper Road and Circle Drive has greatly improved those road surfaces, so we're looking at adding road base to more roads. We'll also be working on smaller, jobs such as culvert maintenance, ditch maintenance and spot road maintenance as needed.



We haven't had much moisture in the last year, but it doesn't take much to start causing erosion problems. So we'll be on the lookout for drainage/erosion problems. The objective is to make incremental improvements while performing periodic maintenance to slow or prevent deterioration of the road surfaces.

Please let me know if you see a road problem or have a suggestion for improving the roads.

Dave Shaffer
EFPOA Roads Chair
elkfallsroads@gmail.com
303-816-5004



Conifer Area Council

Did you have a chance to watch the February Town Hall Meeting?

If not, you can watch [here](#).

Agenda included updates from:

CDOT, RTD, Jeffco Planning and Zoning, Water Resource Study/Action Team, Conifer Library, State Legislature, Jeffco Open Space and County Commissioners

More on Short Term Rentals

Last newsletter we shared that Park County Board of Commissioners passed Ordinance 20-03 regulating short-term rentals in Park County. [Click here to view Ordinance 20-03](#).



Owners of short-term rentals must submit an application for a license by April 1, 2021. [Click here for the Application](#).

Ordinance 21-01 has now been passed that establishes License Fees. [Click here to view Ordinance 21-01](#).



Elk Falls Ranch POA Website New Pages

www.elkfallspoa.org

Slowly, but surely, we are working on improvements to our website. We've added two new pages:

1. [New Residents](#) - This page has been up for awhile, but we are continuing to add new content.
2. [Community Resources](#) - This page is newly launched and has a way to go, but we've got a good start.

Any suggestions you may have for content for these pages (or anywhere else on the website) is very welcomed.

Email Bev Long with your suggestions.
bevlong2555@gmail.com

**Elk Falls Ranch
Resident Directory**
[Please Complete a Consent Form](#)

Elk Falls Directory: Please logon
This directory is available for Elk Falls Ranch subdivision residents only!
If you have questions or have forgotten your password, please contact [Bob Phelps](#)

UserName:
Password:

You may not be aware, but we do not automatically include your contact information in the Elk Falls Ranch Resident Directory. While everyone is included in the Directory, we require your consent to publish your phone number and email address. (Your email address used for our email communications, such as this newsletter, is not shared without your permission.)

Currently about half of Elk Falls Ranch residents have given consent to publish their contact information. We would like to have a more robust Directory with published contact information for residents.

You can add your contact information to the Directory by completing the Directory Consent Form and mailing to EFPOA at 11119 Elk Creek Road, Pine, CO 80470 or emailing to elkfallspoa@gmail.com

[Link to Directory Consent Form](#)

[Link to Elk Falls Ranch Directory](#)

Thank you!



Garbage Kills Bears

The bears will be waking up soon and will be very hungry after winter hibernation.

Allowing bears to use trash and garbage as a food source creates serious problems for both people and bears. Because the food reward is so great,

bears are willing to work hard to get at trash and garbage, and return often in hopes of finding more. These food-conditioned bears sometimes enter homes, garages or even vehicles in search of an easy meal.

Bears in pursuit of such a good source of calories can do a lot of property damage, and even become aggressive. Allowing bears to get into the garbage is one of the leading causes of human- bear conflicts. In addition to a big mess from tipped trash cans, bears that become aggressive in their pursuit of an easy meal must often be destroyed.

Being smart about how you handle and store your trash can protect your home and property, and help keep bears alive and wild.

Please use bear-resistant enclosures or keep your trash in the garage. Colorado Parks and Wildlife provides a brochure with tips on bear-proofing trash [Click here](#). Additional information on living with bears and being "Bear Aware" can be found [here](#).

Mountain Lions

Where there's deer, there's mountain lions.

The two lions in this photo are frequent visitors to the Lehmkuhl property at 11820 Northwest Court. It's pretty fun to see these photos, but it's also a good reminder to be careful.



In a recent article in the Park County Flume, the author mentions that mountain lions are becoming more habituated and are less intimidated by humans. While their favorite diet is deer, they

take advantage of easier prey such as a dog, goat or child. The article describes a recent killing of a beloved chocolate lab and an attack on a young boy.

Prevention is also discussed in the Article. A couple of examples:

1. Make lots of noise if you are outside from dusk to dawn.
2. If you encounter a mountain lion, do not run. Maintain eye contact and speak calmly and firmly to the mountain lion.

[Click here to read the Flume Article.](#) If you don't have a Flume log-in, [Click here to read a pdf version of the article.](#)

For more information on Living with Mountain Lions, Colorado Parks and Wildlife has great information. [Click here to be directed to their webpage.](#)



Foxes Approaching Residents

Foxes have been approaching residents which means someone in the neighborhood is feeding them.

Feeding wildlife may be well intended, but it is harmful to the animal and can be dangerous for humans. In many parts of Colorado, the intentional feeding of red fox is illegal.

Please refrain from feeding the foxes.



Have You Tried Nextdoor?

Nextdoor is a way for you to connect with others in the neighborhood and other nearby neighborhoods. It's very locally based and a good way to learn about local events, updates on planned developments, items for sale, restaurant recommendations, etc. You can find pet-sitters, childcare, housecleaners, someone to build your deck or paint your house and much more. No politics or rude behaviors are allowed.

You can join by going to www.nextdoor.com and indicating Elk Falls Ranch as your neighborhood.



Roads Issues

Please contact Dave Shaffer at elkfallsroads@gmail.com or 303-816-5004 with any issues related to roads.

Architectural Approvals

Any additions, fences, new construction, decks, additions, garages, sheds, etc. need Board approval. Please contact Mike Long at mlongpine11817@gmail.com or 303-757-2222.

Lost Mailbox Keys

For any mailbox issues or replacement keys, please contact Bob Wallace at 303-838-2297 or bbwlinear@wispertel.net

Email Address Changes/Additions

Please contact Bev Long at bevlong2555@gmail.com with any email address changes or additions.

Visit our
Website

Visit Elk Falls POA
Directory

To Log In:
Username: Last name
Password: Numeric portion of the
street address.