



Volume 03 | November 2019



## **An update from your Elk Falls Ranch POA Board of Directors**

### **2019/2020 Board of Directors**

Renae Braun, President - [elkfallspoa@gmail.com](mailto:elkfallspoa@gmail.com) or 720-480-9328

John Nelson, Roads Chair - [elkfallsroads@gmail.com](mailto:elkfallsroads@gmail.com) or 808-285-2965

Taylor Carpenter, Secretary - [Taylor\\_matt@me.com](mailto:Taylor_matt@me.com)

Bev Long, Treasurer - [bevlong2555@gmail.com](mailto:bevlong2555@gmail.com) or 720-633-2454

Mike Long, VP & Architectural Chair - [mlongpine11817@gmail.com](mailto:mlongpine11817@gmail.com) or 303-757-2222

### **Next Board Meeting:**

**November 19, 2019, 7:00 pm**

**at the home John Nelson, 11665 Upper Ranch Drive**



Our postal carrier informed us that some residents are not emptying their mailboxes regularly. This is a significant issue relative to parcel boxes. We all like our packages delivered rather than having to pick them up at the post office. But if the parcel boxes are full, the postal carrier is forced to leave some packages for pick up..

We were given a recent example of a resident who was not picking up mail and building up packages and consuming three parcel boxes! So let's be thoughtful and empty our mail and parcel boxes daily.

Meanwhile, the Board is looking into installing additional parcel boxes. More and more of us are ordering on-line and additional boxes are needed.

---

## Recent Events

### Elk Falls POA Halloween Hayride Parade October 26th

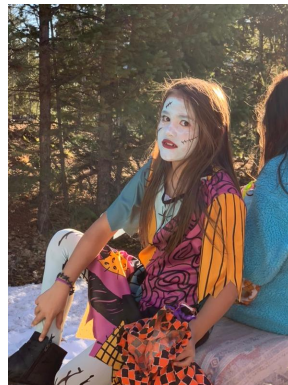
We had so much fun!! We filled up three pick-ups and trailers with haystacks, kids and adults and worked our way around the neighborhood. This event isn't just for kids! The adults had just as much fun participating with costumes, being rowdy and generally joining in the excitement.

While the kids had some amazing costumes, residents handing out candy had great costumes as well.

The chili and cider and other food at Randie Boldra's home (which was the base for start and end) was excellent and perfect for the chilly evening.

Thank you so much to all the Elk Falls Ranch residents who came out to the road to hand out treats to the kids. You make this event what it is and it wouldn't be so special without you.

**A huge thank you to Randie** who provided us a festive place to organize beforehand and then celebrate afterwards.



### Halloween Hayride Parade Photos







---

## Roads Update



**Snow Plowing** - Winter weather has arrived early this year and our first snow plowing took place on 10/24, however, our most recent storm 10/29-10/30 did not produce sufficient accumulation to warrant plowing. As a reminder - snow plowing is generally conducted when total precipitation exceeds 4 inches at the mailbox area, however this varies depending on numerous factors including time of year, forecast, temperature, etc.

Snow packed roads are common at our elevation during the winter months so please slow down under these conditions for your own safety and the safety of others. The Board will be evaluating and sanding sections of roads prone to icing as needed to improve traction under slick conditions. Equipping your vehicles with dedicated snow or all-season tires is highly recommended. Please note Colorado's Traction Law (Code 15) now applies to all drivers using State highways in addition to the I-70 mountain corridor. Every vehicle traveling on state highways must have adequate tire tread and traction-control devices in their vehicle during inclement weather and snow events. [Fact Sheet - Colorado Traction Law and Passenger Vehicle Chain Law](#)

The **contracted professional roads engineering study** is almost finished. This report will provide capital improvement recommendations for the Board to implement, over time, in a fiscally responsible manner. Copies of the report will be made available to EFPOA residents once finalized.

**Recurring roads maintenance** to include grading, filling of potholes, ditch clearing, and removal of unnecessary road humps is ongoing and will ensure improved road conditions over time. Please drive slowly (15 mph speed limit) and encourage your neighbors to do the same to protect our investment and keep our roads in good shape.

Many residents have asked about the **purpose of the large pile of rock** staged at the top of Upper Ranch Drive. The Board is using this material to create **check dams** in ditches above association maintained culverts to prevent our culverts from clogging during significant rain and snowmelt events. How do they work? Check dams decrease water flow velocities creating a tranquil water area behind the dam in order to deposit sediment loads. It is far easier (and cheaper) to remove deposited sediment above check dams than it is to clear clogged culverts. Installation of check dams will significantly reduce erosion caused to our roadways by water unable to properly flow through blocked culverts.



***Drive slow and enjoy the scenery - drive fast and join the scenery!***

John Nelson, Roads Chair - [elkfallsroads@gmail.com](mailto:elkfallsroads@gmail.com) or 808-285-2965

---



## Chipping Update

The chipping crew will be back to finish the work. The Elk Creek Fire District has some priority deadlines related to grant-funding that need to be addressed first. Additionally, part of their crew was deployed to assist with California fires.

Some good news is, they are adding a winter crew, so chipping will soon be conducted year round. The Chipping Program will continue as long as the weather will allow the crews to operate safely. The continuation of the Chipping Program is also dependent on the upcoming vote.

**The addresses that have signed up for the service will be chipped as soon as possible**

The Elk Creek Fire District reported that we prepared close to the most slash volume removed from a single neighborhood so far. **A very successful fuel reduction program.**

Thank you to everyone who participated!!

Please contact Bob Fletcher with any questions at [robertbfletcher68@gmail.com](mailto:robertbfletcher68@gmail.com)

---



**ELK CREEK**  
**FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT**

## Information from the 10/20/19 Fire Risk Education Program

A group residents attended the Fire Risk Education Program sponsored by the Elk Creek Fire Department on October 20th. We are aware, it is difficult to give up precious weekend time, but the Program was very interesting, informative and well worth the time. Please try to attend next year.

It continues to concern us that Conifer/Evergreen/Pine is the number one community in the country for fire risk. This is according to State Farm and the risk analysis they perform

for their asset protection. Additional corroborating analyses have come from [AZ Central](#) and [Corelogic](#). Some of the reasons for our high risk include:

- More trees than the landscape can support
- Lack of fuel breaks
- Narrow roads
- One-way in and one-way out neighborhoods (and for us, compounded by Staunton visitors)
- Old and/or risky infrastructure constructed with flammable material or placed in high wildfire risk areas
- Lack of defensible space (an area around a building in which vegetation, debris, and other types of combustible fuels have been treated, cleared, or reduced to slow the spread of fire to the building.)
- Hotter, drier, windier summers

## So what do we do?

The Board will be working in concert with our neighborhood Firewise Committee and the Elk Creek Fire Department to develop a five-year Work Plan. The Plan may include actions such as:

- Identify and Improve access and egress routes, install reflective signage
- Vegetation removal
- Improve resident education
- Evacuation plans
- Communication plans
- Building material recommendations and/or restrictions
- Identify ways to improve resident engagement
- Apply for grant funds from the State Forest Service to assist with implementation of our Work Plan

The following websites provide helpful information:

### National Firewise Website

<http://www.firewise.org/?sso=0>

### Elk Creek Fire Protection District

<http://elkcreekfire.org/>

### Colorado Firewise USA Site (Colorado State Forest Service)

<http://csfs.colostate.edu/wildfire-mitigation/colorado-firewise-communities/>

### Wildland Urban Interface Community Wildfire Protection Plan, Community Wildfire Protection Plan prepared for Elk Creek Fire Protection District (2005)

<https://static.colostate.edu/client-files/csfs/documents/ElkCreekCommunityWildfireProtectionPlan-FINAL.pdf>

Any questions, please contact:

Bob Fletcher

Elk Falls Ranch Firewise Leader

[Robertbfletcher68@gmail.com](mailto:Robertbfletcher68@gmail.com)



[Click Here to Sign Up for Free CPR](#)

**Did you know that Elk Creek Fire District offers Free CPR classes every month?**

Classes are 8:00am to 5:00pm and held at:  
Elk Creek Fire Station 1, located at 11993 Blackfoot Road, Conifer

Upcoming classes are:

- November 9, 2019
- December 14, 2019

There is no charge for the classes, however there is a \$20 administrative charge if you would like to receive an American Heart Association completion card.

## Code RED Emergency Alert System



Many Elk Falls residents may be using this system already. But if you're not, you may want to give it a try. It's nice to have notice of emergencies, especially here, in a remote area.

The CodeRED Emergency Alert system is used by the Emergency Communications Center to notify residents of critical situations and provide information regarding necessary actions.

You can register to receive phone messages, text messages and e-mail messages in case of emergency.

Events that may generate a message from the CodeRED Community Emergency Alert system include:

- Weather Warnings
- Emergency Events
- Community events with road closures
- Major traffic disruption

[Click Here for information and to sign up for Park County CodeRED](#)

[Click here to for information and to sign up for Jefferson County CodeRED](#)

## Reminders



### Architectural Approvals

Reminder that any additions, fences, new construction, garages, sheds, etc. need Board approval. Please contact Mike Long at [mlongpine11817@gmail.com](mailto:mlongpine11817@gmail.com) or call/text 303-757-2222.

### Email Address Changed?

Please contact Bev Long at [bevlong2555@gmail.com](mailto: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.