

INDIAN MOUNTAIN SPRING NEWSETTER

May 2024

A Joint Publication of the Indian Mountain Property Owners Association (IMPOA) and the Indian Mountain Metropolitan District (IMMD).



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IMPOA PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Indian Mountain Community,

As we transition into the warmer months, I hope this message finds you all in good health and high spirits. I'm thrilled to share that the Indian Mountain Property Owners Association (IMPOA) is gearing up for an exciting summer filled with events that promise to bring our community closer together. However, the success of these events hinges on the involvement of community members like you.

With this in mind, I encourage each and every one of you who value events like these in our community to find a way to help make these events a success. Whether you have a knack for event planning, love to grill, or simply enjoy lending a helping hand, there's a role for you. Our events are only as vibrant and memorable as the efforts put forth by our dedicated volunteers. And our need for volunteers extends beyond events. We also rely on volunteers to help with essential community activities, such as maintaining the burn pit. Every contribution, big or small, makes a meaningful difference.

As we look forward to a summer filled with connection, fun and cherished memories, I urge you to get involved and be a part of making it all possible. Your participation is what truly makes Indian Mountain a special place to call home.

On behalf of IMPOA, I want to extend my gratitude to all those who have volunteered in the past and to those who will step up to volunteer in the future. Together, we can ensure that this summer is one to remember for years to come.

Kathryn Abrahamson
IMPOA President

IMMD PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Who is the Indian Mountain Metropolitan District?

The Indian Mountain Metropolitan District is a special district organized pursuant to Title 32 of the Colorado Revised Statutes. Special districts are organized for specific functions and as such, their activities are subject to strict statutory guidelines. District activities are defined by and limited to a District Service Plan.

The District is managed by a 5-member elected board of directors consisting of President, 1st Vice-President, 2nd Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary. Board members do not receive compensation from the District. The District also currently retains two contract positions to manage the District Office including regulatory compliance, the Water Service Program and to provide maintenance services for the District facilities.

The majority of the District's revenue is generated through a property tax levy, the rate of tax applied to the assessed value of all the property within the District's boundaries.

As defined in the Indian Mountain Metropolitan District's Service Plan, the District provides and is limited to two services in the Indian Mountain community:

Park and Recreation Services

Manage and conserve some 450 acres of parklands, forests, open space, grasslands, wetlands, ponds, waterways, and wildlife habitat for the community including the District's facilities. The District facilities include the comfort station, lodge, disc golf course, picnic pavilion, play-ground, community center, dump station, RV storage lot, pasture golf course, archery range, burn pit and Breton Park.

Water Services

In January 2013, the Park County Board of Commissioners approved an updated and amended Service Plan for the Indian Mountain Metropolitan District (formerly the Indian Mountain Recreation and Park District). The change in the Service Plan added water services as a purpose for the District, which provides the authority for the Indian Mountain Metropolitan District to operate the Indian Mountain Water Service Plan.

The Indian Mountain Metropolitan District Service Plan can be found on District web site: <https://indianmountain.info/>

RV Dump Station Update

The project is going well and we still anticipate having the station open by Memorial Day. There is still some electrical work to be completed as well as final grading and road base.

Fire Mitigation at Indian Mountain Park

The board held a working session to develop a Request For Proposal to define the work to be completed this year and obtain bids for the project. The Request For Proposal will be published in the Flume as required to meet statutory and District contracting requirements. Additional detailed information will be provided to those interested in bidding. A mandatory bidder meeting will be held prior to the bid deadline to provide any additional information available and answer any questions from prospective bidders. Our goal is to select a service provider at the regularly scheduled Board meeting on June 8, 2024.

~Article provided by: Carol Darland, IMMD President

IMPOA 2024 ANNUAL DUES

\$45.00

Thank you everyone who has paid their Voluntary Membership dues. If you haven't paid and still would like to pay your dues or make a donation, there are 3 convenient ways:

- 1. You can pay online at [IMPOA.NET](https://www.impoa.net) (or scan the QR code below with your camera) and click on the icon to pay your dues by using your credit card.**
- 2. You can mail your check to IMPOA Membership, PO BOX 173, Como, Co 80432. Please include your IM property address on your check.**
- 3. You can stop by the Community Center Wednesday through Saturday 9am-1pm to pay in person.**

Your dues help pay for events in Indian Mountain such as:

Chipping (Paying Members Only)

Fire Mitigation

Dumpster days (Paying Members Only)

IMMD/IMPOA Summer Picnic

IMMD/IMPOA joint improvements

and much much more!



IMPOA

Article provided by Jeanne Wells, IMPOA Membership

2024 COMMUNITY EVENTS

May 25th: **Volunteer Info Session**

May 31st: **First day Burn Pit is open**

July 6th: **Summer Picnic & Music on the Mountain 11AM – 3PM**

July 27th: **Dumpster Days 8AM - 3PM**

August 10th: **IMPOA Annual Meeting Noon – 1PM**

August 16th - 18th: **Log Milling Days**

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August 24th: **Community Garage Sale 9am - 3pm**

August 31st: **Volunteer Luncheon 1PM to 3PM**

September 30th: **2025 Photo Calendar Contest**

October 5th: **Annual Craft Fair 10AM to 3PM**

December 14th: **Tamale making w/Nick Rinaldi Noon to 3PM**

Visit IMPOA.NET for more details and updates

~Article provided by: Jeremiah Davidson, IMPOA Events Director

Jefferson Community Church meets at Indian Mountain Community Center every Sunday service is at 10:45 am.

Join us early for conversation, coffee, tea, or cocoa at 9:00 am.

Sunday School is at 9:30 am.

Contact us at:

<https://www.facebook.com/JeffersonCommunityChurchSouthparkColorado>

~Article provided by: Jefferson Community Church

[VOLUNTEERS NEEDED](#)

Come to the session on May 25th at the Community Center to find out more about volunteering and to sign up for events.

~Article provided by: Jeanne Wells, Newsletter/Membership/Volunteer Coordinator

Indian Mountain Community Garage Sale

Saturday, August 24th from 9:00am – 3:00pm.

The cost to participate will be \$20 per table. Lunch will be served.

Please mark your calendars.

To sign up, please contact the Indian Mountain business office at indianmtn@hotmail.com or by calling 719-836-9043.

WELL WATER THIS TIME OF YEAR

Have you noticed your well water this time of year becomes cloudy, or a

stronger sulfur smell comes out of your faucets? This is due to the melting of snow and heavy seasonal rains. Much of Indian Mountain ground is decomposing granite. Water works its way down through the decomposing granite and follows fissures into our wells. This carries a bit more sediment that can make well water cloudy. The increase in smell is a naturally occurring result of decay and chemical reactions with soil and rocks that is carried through the same fissures to your well. The Indian Mountain Facilities (Community Center, Comfort Station, and Ski Lodge) all have this issue. We test the water every month with test strips to make sure it is safe to drink. Our current strips test 17 different items.

We also complete the recommended annual standard bacteria test. Additionally, we change the water filters at each location every other month to ensure the cleanest water possible. Since we started water testing several years ago, we have never had a failed/concerning test. You can easily get “Drinking Water Test Kits” online.

If you have never had your well officially tested by a laboratory, it might be of benefit to you to do so. We tested our house with a kit we ordered from the State of Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. We chose the comprehensive Colorado Deluxe Package. Upon receiving the results, we discovered that our well water was “an extreme irrigation risk” to houseplants due to the high mineral content. No wonder we had trouble getting plants to grow. We were reassured that it was safe for human consumption and that eased our minds.

You can easily go online and order the test kit, follow the directions to fill the bottles, and get the kit to the state laboratory in Denver within 24 hours of the collection. (See the website for instructions, and fees for different testing kits) <https://cdphe.colorado.gov/laboratory-services/water-testing/homeowner-water-testing> Each well is different. Your well water may be cloudy and smelly, while your neighbor’s water is clear and odor free. It’s just luck of the draw how the surface water travels down those fissures.

Article provided by Pat Smith – Indian Mountain Maintenance

BURN PIT

The Indian Mountain burn pit will open on Friday, May 31st for the 2024 season. The burn pit will be open on Fridays and Saturdays from 8:30am to 2:30pm if we have enough volunteers to monitor the burn pit during those hours. The volunteer shifts will be 3 hours each, from 8:30am – 11:30am and from 11:30am to 2:30pm. We need two volunteers per shift. We are so grateful for our volunteers. The burn pit could not open without them.

To volunteer, please use the Sign-Up Genius link below:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C45ABAC28AAFBC07-49209661-burn>

To use the burn pit, please stop by the Community Center office (open Wed – Sat 9am – 1pm) to get your 2024 Burn Pit Permit (not to be confused with the Burn Permit which can be obtained from the Como-Jefferson Fire Protection District).

The burn pit will be open until it's full or until we are no longer able get volunteers.

We anticipate a busy season because a lot of big trees blew down during the windstorm of April 6th and 7th .

Only forest slash (trees and branches) is allowed in the burn pit. Please follow the directions of the volunteers to stack the piles high and tight, and do NOT dump:

- large stumps (if you can't carry it by yourself, it's too big)
- large green wood
- construction waste or lumber
- anything with nails, screws or wire
- woodchips

We will have a pile where you can leave good firewood (seasoned or not). It's encouraged to bring slash and leave with firewood (chain saws are NOT allowed at the burn pit).

Beware of wet weather that can make the burn pit grounds soggy and muddy. We don't want anyone falling victim to a screw or nail in their tire. We appreciate your help in reducing the fire danger in Indian Mountain and we look forward to a successful burn pit season.

Article provided by Pat Smith – Indian Mountain Maintenance

FACILITIES UPDATES

The Indian Mountain Marquee

Sadly, during the windstorm of April 6th , the marquee at the Indian Mountain Community Center blew away. It will be replaced soon with shiny new boards and tracks. In the meantime, please check both the IMMD and IMPOA websites for news and information.

IMMD's website is indianmountain.info and IMPOA's website is IMPOA.net.

Spring in Indian Mountain

Now that the bluebirds have made their return, they will be looking for places to nest. Nesting boxes, placed away from a lot of activity, are welcome places for them to make a home. The bluebirds have to hurry up and claim their boxes because the swallows will show up soon to fight the bluebirds for them.

Wrens, those cute little birds with their lovely song, appreciate slightly smaller nesting boxes. The hummingbirds usually arrive right around Mother's Day. They will be hungry from their travels and surely will appreciate our hummingbird feeders. Make sure to take your hummingbird feeders inside at night, and if you live in a wooded area, hummingbird feeders may be a bad idea, unless you want to attract a gaggle of bears for a sugary drink. In that case, plants with tubular flowers like Petunias may work better for attracting and feeding hummingbirds.

Speaking of bears. They are coming out of their dens now and are extremely hungry or maybe even hangry. Please lock your car doors and keep trash inside or in bear-proof garbage cans. Some bears are smart enough to open the bear-proof cans, so it's safer to strap the lids down. Avoid odorous materials in garbage until pick-up day. Also, when going for walks, it might be a good idea to carry bear spray and/or an air horn when it's windy. We hope that you will enjoy this time in Indian Mountain watching nature slowly wake up and come to life again.

~Article provided by: Jackie Middelhoek, IMMD District Manager and IMWSP Administrator