



*Photograph by Rich Reindel*

## **2025 INDIAN MOUNTAIN FALL NEWSLETTER**

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

### **From your Indian Mountain Metropolitan District (IMMD) President**

As the leaves turn and the air grows crisp, we welcome you to the Fall edition of our community newsletter. In this edition, we bring you a roundup of highlights, important updates, and resources to keep you informed and engaged.

## 2025 Projects and Maintenance

- Joint cistern project between Indian Mountain Metropolitan District and Jefferson-Como Fire Protection District – See separate article for details.
- Continuing fire mitigation at Indian Mountain Park – See separate article for details.
- A new shelter has been built for use by burn pit volunteers – See separate article for details.
- The parking lots at the community center were resurfaced with recycled asphalt. The upper lot in front of the center was then rolled to further compact the material.
- The Indian Mountain Ranch Road which leads to the burn pit and RV storage was repaired and new road base applied.
- The old picnic pavilion on Chief Trail was removed. The structure had not been used for its initial purpose for years and had become a safety concern due to vandalism and people dumping trash. Also, a number of years ago bats had made a home there and deposited guano. No bats had resided there in the last few years. The project required a state inspection and demolition permit.
- The comfort station floor was refinished, painted, and covered with an epoxy clear coat. This should reduce the maintenance requirements as previously the floor required repainting on a regular basis.
- Stairs were constructed outside of the entrance to the downstairs of the community center. Previously this was a dirt path which could be somewhat treacherous in harsh weather.
- The floor of the community center will be re-sealed, and grout repaired in November. The current grout is cracking, and previous seal is worn allowing spills to seep into the floor and stain.
- The hot water heater at the lodge was replaced.
- Through much diligence and follow-up the District and the Water Service Plan are now able to accept credit cards and electronic checks. Since we are a quasi-governmental entity, we were limited to only one service provider. Jackie spent MANY hours of frustration to complete this project for the convenience of our property owners. **This service is only for facility rentals, RV storage lot, comfort station key cards, RV dump keys and payments related to the water service plan.** Payments to IMPOA (Indian Mountain Property Owners Association) must be paid through their system.
- The comfort station continues to have damage and issues created by the disrespect of some individuals that utilize the facilities. These incidents include tampering with cameras inside the lobby, breaking dispensers and theft of all of the toilet paper, destroying soap dispensers leaving a mess all over the floor, shower wall wand holders broken off, paint peeled off the walls, hair dye on the walls and fake eyelashes left on the floor of showers

and theft of trash receptacles. **All of these things take valuable time and financial resources to resolve.**

### **Community Spotlight**

I would like to recognize Jackie Middelhoek, Patrick Smith, and Jeanne Wells for all they do to keep the District and our facilities running smoothly. Since the District is a quasi-governmental organization, we must adhere to many rules, regulations, and deadlines. These individuals keep us up to date and out of hot water. The facilities also require weekly monitoring, coordination of projects and management of service providers. The Indian Mountain Metropolitan District Board and property owners appreciate the dedication of these individuals.

### **Get Involved**

Want to suggest topics for future editions or recognize a community member? We welcome your ideas and feedback! Contact us at [indianmtn@hotmail.com](mailto:indianmtn@hotmail.com).

### **Closing Thoughts**

Thank you for being an active part of our community. We look forward to seeing you at upcoming events and meetings. Stay warm, stay safe, and have a wonderful holiday season!

*Article submitted by Carol Darland, President, Indian Mountain Metropolitan District*

### **About Indian Mountain Metropolitan District (IMMD)**

The Indian Mountain Metropolitan District is a Special District as defined and regulated by Title 32 of the Colorado Revised Statutes. Special Districts are required to have a defined Service Plan which has been approved by the county and the courts. Special District services and functions are strictly limited to those defined in the Service Plan. The Indian Mountain Metropolitan District Service Plan can be found on the main page of the District web site, [www.indianmountain.info](http://www.indianmountain.info). The District's responsibilities are to manage the District amenities, facilities, and land, and to administer the Water Service Plan.

The Indian Mountain Metropolitan District is **NOT** a Homeowners or Property Owners Association. The Indian Mountain Metropolitan District is funded through property taxes. As a property owner and taxpayer, there are no additional dues required to utilize the District amenities and facilities. There is a voluntary Indian Mountain Property Owners Association (IMPOA) which is a completely separate and distinct organization. Information for the Property Owners Association can be found at [www.impoa.net](http://www.impoa.net).

Did you know that as an Indian Mountain Metropolitan District taxpayer; you, your family and your nonpaying guests have access to 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 amenities include the Comfort Station, Ski Lodge, Indian Mountain Park including the

Disc Golf Course, Picnic Pavilion, Play-ground, and hiking trails, the Community Center, Dump Station, RV Storage Lot, Pasture Golf Course, Archery Range, Burn Pit and Breton Park. For more information on taking advantage of these amenities, please visit the Facilities tab at [www.indianmountain.info](http://www.indianmountain.info).

The District has no enforcement capabilities and **CANNOT** assist you with any issues involving building plans, cattle, animal control, lighting, short term rentals, road and bridge, covenants, discharge of firearms, problems with neighbors or other violations of Park County Regulations. You may contact Park County directly about these types of issues. Please do not contact the District Office about these issues.

*Article submitted by Carol Darland, President, Indian Mountain Metropolitan District (IMMD)*

### **IMPOA has a New PRESIDENT!**

Our previous president, Shannon Graff, recently resigned for personal reasons. We appreciate Shannon's support during her time with the Board and wish her well. The IMPOA Board voted unanimously to elect Edgar Vidal to be our new President and continue to be our Webmaster! Welcome Edgar!

### **From Your Indian Mountain Property Owners Association (IMPOA) President**

Dear Indian Mountain Property Owners,

It is an honor to introduce myself as the new President of the Indian Mountain Property Owners Association (IMPOA). Like many of you, I was drawn to Indian Mountain for its unique combination of natural beauty, open spaces, and sense of community. I look forward to working together to preserve what makes this area so special while ensuring that our community continues to thrive for years to come.

In taking on this role, my priorities are to strengthen communication, transparency, and participation across the association. IMPOA's success depends on collaboration — between full-time residents, seasonal homeowners, and our many volunteers who dedicate their time and expertise to community projects, maintenance efforts, and advocacy with Park County.

I am married to Judith, and we have four adult children who live in the Denver metro area. I work for a multinational company called DMC Global, Inc. where I am Vice President of Market, Business and Research Development. Judith is a Manager at NREL. We are both Metallurgists/Materials Engineers, and we are Affiliate Faculty members of Colorado School of Mines.

Over the coming months, IMPOA will continue to focus on:

- Protecting our shared environment and resources, including water, wildlife, and open-range practices.
- Maintaining community assets and programs that benefit all property owners.
- Improving communication and accessibility through our website, newsletters, and regular meetings.
- Encouraging engagement and volunteer participation in the many committees and events that bring our community together.

I welcome your ideas, questions, and participation. Together, we can ensure Indian Mountain remains a vibrant, respectful, and enjoyable place for everyone who calls it home — whether for weekends or a lifetime.

Thank you for your continued support and trust. I look forward to meeting many of you in person and working side-by-side on behalf of this remarkable community.

Warm regards,

Edgar E. Vidal, PhD  
President, Indian Mountain Property Owners Association  
[www.impoa.net](http://www.impoa.net)  
[impoa.bod@gmail.com](mailto:impoa.bod@gmail.com)

### **Two Open Board Positions with IMPOA**

IMPOA currently has two open board positions. This is a great way to meet your neighbors and support your mountain community! If you are interested, please submit a resume and a short paragraph stating why you want to join us, and what you could bring to the Board to help us improve.

Please send questions, your resume and paragraph to:

[IMPOA.bod@gmail.com](mailto:IMPOA.bod@gmail.com)

### **WINNERS – 2025 Indian Mountain Photo Contest**

The Indian Mountain Photo Contest was held September 2<sup>nd</sup> thru September 30<sup>th</sup>. A total of 56 photos were submitted. The top three winners won a gift card, and 9 remaining photos with the highest votes were chosen to be published in the 2026 calendar! All 12 winners will receive a FREE CALENDAR!



**1st PLACE - Kim Novitch**



**2nd Place - Becca Wilhelm**



**3rd Place - Serena Kuoni**

**2026 Indian Mountain Photo Calendars Available Wednesday, November 12th!**

The 2026 calendars have arrived! These calendars are beautiful and would make great Christmas gifts! You can purchase a calendar for \$20.00 at the Community Center during business hours.

**Indian Mountain Metropolitan District and Jefferson-Como Fire Protection District Announce Strategic Partnership**

We are excited to announce a new partnership to improve firefighting capabilities within the Indian

Mountain Subdivision and surrounding areas.

#### About the Partnership

Through utilization of an existing well located near the old dump station on Chief Trail, we are jointly installing what is known as a dry hydrant. A dry hydrant is a non-pressurized pipe system permanently installed and connected to a reliable water source. Two new 3500-gallon cisterns will be installed at the site and will operate on a tandem float system and will be filled by the well located on the property. The well is limited use for firefighting purposes only. When a fire truck connects to the outlet, a pumper's suction pump creates a vacuum, which opens the main valve below the surface and pulls water into the hydrant's barrel. After use, the hydrant is designed to self-drain, with any remaining water flowing back below the frost line, ensuring the barrel stays free of water and is protected from freezing. This represents a significant increase in the availability of a reliable water source for firefighting in the subdivision and the fire department's response capability.

*Article submitted by Carol Darland, President, Indian Mountain Metropolitan District (IMMD)*

#### **RV Dump Station**

The RV Dump Station will close on November 1, 2025, for the winter. It will reopen once it stops freezing hard at night, most likely on Memorial Day Weekend 2026. It must be closed in the winter to protect the valuable components inside from freezing.

#### **The Indian Mountain Water Service Program (IMWSP)**

In order for Indian Mountain residents to be allowed to pull water from their wells, the Colorado Division of Water Resources (DWR) requires every well in Indian Mountain to be part of a Water Augmentation Plan as to not put injury on the senior water rights holders on the South Platte. Most of the water we pull from our wells goes back into our leach fields, but the DWR figures that about 10% of the water gets lost through evaporation and such, and therefore requires us to have enough augmentation water available to cover 10% of our usage, to be released towards the South Platte River in case the South Platte is running low and there is a "call" on the river.

There are three Water Augmentation Plans to choose from in Indian Mountain. The IMWSP is one of those plans. The IMWSP does their augmentation through the Headwater Authority of the South Platte (HASP), meaning that HASP releases water on our behalf when necessary. The IMWSP had an enrollment period earlier this year and is adding a new group of members (6<sup>th</sup> tranche) in January of 2026. This new group consists of 78 properties. As two members were dismissed, this leaves us with 527 members in total.

If you would like to join the IMWSP, please email [indianmountainmetrodist@gmail.com](mailto:indianmountainmetrodist@gmail.com) or call 719-836-9043. We can only join new members in groups, so we will be starting a waitlist for a potential future enrollment. When that list gets large enough, we will consider having another enrollment. Once a new enrollment has started, it takes about ¾ of a year to join, requires the submission of a notarized

application and a water purchase fee (\$550 last enrollment), the installation and certification of a water meter (adds a cost of about \$800), the filing of a new well permit application (\$100), monthly reporting of water meter readings, and an annual administrative fee of currently \$75. Of course we assist with all of those items.

### **Indian Mountain Park Forest Management and Mitigation Efforts**

Indian Mountain Park faces significant ecological challenges, including a large number of dead trees and trees struggling to survive due to intense competition and infestations, particularly by the Western Spruce budworm. Aerial surveys conducted over a 10-year period beginning in 2014 have revealed a dramatic increase in budworm-related damage.

Mitigating the 265-acre park is a substantial effort. In 2024, the Indian Mountain Metropolitan District (IMMD) board began the mitigation process. The first year saw the development of a Forestry Management Plan, which established eight distinct management zones across the mountain. The initial zone was completed in 2024.

Currently, efforts are focused on the Mountain Top management unit, which is approximately halfway through the mitigation process. Looking ahead to 2026, the board intends to complete another management unit located on the west side of the park. To maximize the impact of available tax funds, IMMD has applied for a Forest Restoration and Wildfire Risk Mitigation grant. If awarded, this grant will accelerate the implementation of the forest management plan.

The management plan recommends several key practices to improve forest health and reduce wildfire risk:

- Removing dead trees
- Separating the crowns of larger trees to prevent rapid fire spread
- Eliminating smaller trees growing beneath larger ones, as these can help fires climb from the ground into the crowns

Opening the canopy will increase sunlight, promoting the growth and vitality of remaining trees. This approach encourages a diverse mix of tree species and sizes, resulting in a healthier forest and fostering future regeneration.

During mitigation, a new access trail is being built to reach previously inaccessible areas of the Park forest, expanding hiking options. This trail is not for motorized vehicles other than emergency vehicles. The plan also recognizes the importance of wildlife habitat. A few dead trees will be retained to serve as habitat for birds and small animals. Additionally, selected piles of slash will be left to provide shelter for various animal species.

Anyone wishing to review the [Forest Management Plan](#) may do so on the IMMD website. This document may offer some insight into mitigation strategies for owners to plan to protect their individual properties.

*Article by Dan Quail, IMMD*

### **New Gazebo at the Burn Pit**



Volunteering at the Burn Pit is easy and a great way to meet your neighbors. Volunteers check burn pit permits and count the loads of forest products that residents bring in. In the summer it can get rather hot at the burn pit and umbrellas either blew away or didn't provide enough shade. To keep our volunteers comfortable, a new gazebo was built. Now, volunteers working the Burn Pit during summer months don't have to be in the hot sun.

An amazing group of volunteers built a gazebo so there will be shade! Thanks go out to **Jeremiah Davidson, Guy Halligan, John Haug, Barb Holden, Loren Klain, Jeff Mason, and Gene Nagle!**

The actual burning of the Burn Pit is done in the winter when there is plenty of snow on the ground. When we need volunteers at the Burn Pit for the 2026 season we will post information on Next Door and the Indian Mountain Metropolitan District website at: [Burn Pit – Indian Mountain Metropolitan District](#)  
*Article by Patrick Smith, Burn Pit Co-Coordinator*

### **CHIPPING and BURNPIT STATS**

The **Chipping Program** was quite successful this year! There was a total of **81** properties chipped this summer!

Mammoth Mitigation was hired to do the chipping again this summer.

Budgeted \$18,000.

Spent \$16,110.

92 properties signed up  
11 properties did not have wood ready  
81 properties chipped

### **BURN PIT**

The Burn Pit was open for 28 days from 8:30am to 2:30pm for a total of 156 hours. (2 shifts could not be filled)

### **LOADS AND PILES:**

Our combined communities stacked a grand total of 559 loads into 50 piles to burn this winter.

Indian Mountain brought in 489 loads.

Outside neighborhoods paid \$100 each for a Burn Pit Permit and brought in a combined 70 loads.

Stage Stop= 24

Lost Park= 25

Elkhorn= 10

Buffalo= 10

### **VOLUNTEERS:**

There were 112 three-hour shift positions available, and volunteers filled 108 of them. We had only 2 shifts of 2 people each that didn't get filled.

54 volunteers (including some from other neighborhoods) filled those 108 three-hour shifts for a total of 324 hours.

As usual there were volunteers who worked multiple shifts in dedication to keeping the pit open.

Also, the Burning of the pit was completed this year on April 19th. There were 14 volunteers who put in 42 hours of work that day.

Additionally, Jackie Middelhoek, Jeanne Wells and Pat Smith put in 70 volunteer hours in running the pit. One of us would go out to open it, making sure volunteers showed up, and orient volunteers. Then one of us would go out at the end of the day, relieve volunteers, check piles for prohibited items, and lock up the pit. When there were brand new people for both shifts one of us would also go out at shift change to orient the second shift volunteers. Then we would take any prohibited items to the Community Center dumpster.

The three of us also worked several shifts that are included in total volunteer hours shown.

#### Grand totals:

Volunteers = 68

Volunteer Hours = 422

**There were 2 shifts that the volunteers did not show up.**

*Article by Patrick Smith, Burn Pit Co-Coordinator*

## **High Altitude Sickness - Strategies for Rapid Altitude Ascent**

Traveling quickly (driving or flying) from sea level or even Denver to high altitudes, especially to elevations

around 10,000 feet, like those found in the Rockies in Indian Mountain puts significant stress on the body's ability to acclimatize. This rapid change substantially increases the risk of Acute Mountain Sickness (AMS), characterized by headaches, nausea, dizziness, and fatigue. For those with only a few days or a week to enjoy their vacation, taking preemptive medical steps is the single most effective strategy to ensure a comfortable and healthy trip.

### **1. The Prophylactic Power of Acetazolamide (Diamox)**

The most medically proven and recommended method for preventing AMS is prophylactic medication, specifically **Acetazolamide** (commonly known by its brand name, Diamox). This prescription drug does not mask symptoms; rather, it actively helps your body mimic the natural process of acclimatization. Acetazolamide is a mild diuretic that encourages the kidneys to excrete bicarbonate, making the blood more acidic. This acidity then stimulates your respiratory center to breathe deeper and faster, even while sleeping. The result is increased oxygen uptake, which dramatically speeds up your body's adjustment to the lower oxygen concentration at altitude. You should typically start taking the medication 24 hours *before* your ascent and continue for the first two days at high altitude, following your doctor's exact dosage instructions.

### **2. Supportive Measures and Body Care**

While medication provides the necessary physiological boost, non-pharmacological methods are also crucial for supporting the process. Whether you use Diamox, or prefer not to use medication, ensure you follow these tips:

- **Hydration is Key:** The dry air and increased respiration at altitude cause faster fluid loss. Maintain aggressive hydration by drinking plenty of water or electrolyte-fortified beverages. Avoid diuretics like coffee and energy drinks in excess, as they counteract your efforts.
- **Avoid Alcohol and Sedatives:** Alcohol, tranquilizers, and sleeping pills are respiratory depressants. At altitude, where your body's primary defense is to breathe faster, these substances can dangerously slow your breathing, especially during sleep. Rest is vital but avoid chemical aids that could impede natural acclimatization.
- **"Climb High, Sleep Low" (If Possible):** If your itinerary allows a descent before sleeping is ideal. For example, if you spend the day at 10,000 feet, trying to secure lodging a few thousand feet lower can significantly reduce night-time symptoms. Example: If you flew in from Florida, spend the night in Denver or Colorado Springs before proceeding to Indian Mountain.
- Eat extra protein and carbohydrates when possible.
- Oxygen supplementation may be necessary for those with pre-existing conditions. Check with your medical provider before your trip. Traveling with a pulse oximeter is a simple way to ensure your oxygenation levels are adequate.
- **Take It Easy:** The most common mistake is arriving and immediately undertaking strenuous activity. Plan for a relaxed first 24 hours. Avoid heavy lifting, vigorous hiking, or running until you

are certain you feel well. Don't fly in from sea level and attempt to ski the next day in Breckenridge.

By combining the proven efficacy of Acetazolamide with hydration, adequate sleep, extra protein and carbohydrates, you can significantly reduce the risk of altitude sickness and make the most of your vacation at 10,000 feet.

*Article submitted by Joy Ariel, RN,BSN, IMPOA Events Coordinator*

## **WINTERIZE**

### **Broken Pipe Prevention — Should You Winterize Your Cabin or Leave It On?**

Whether you should winterize your cabin or leave it “on” depends on one thing — **how often you plan to come up in the winter.**

Winter in Park County is nothing short of magical. Wildlife wanders closer to homes, the snow falls quietly through the trees, and there is nothing quite like a snowball fight with the kids outside the cabin. But with that beauty comes one big responsibility — protecting your property from frozen pipes and damage.

#### **Ask Yourself: How Often Do You Visit?**

If you are here at least every couple of weeks, most folks simply **leave their cabin on** — meaning the heat stays on low, blinds closed, and well pump shut off.

If you are away for longer than three weeks, it's usually smarter to **fully winterize** to prevent costly damage and propane waste.

#### **If You Are Leaving the Cabin “On”**

- **Always turn off your well pump.** Even weekly visitors should do this. It's the best safeguard against leaks if your heat ever fails.
- **Install a digital thermostat.** If you have zoned heating, set it to warm the place a few hours before you typically arrive.
- **Set the temperature low but safe.** Around 50°F is the sweet spot for most cabins.
- **Close blinds** to help retain heat.
- **Tape the furnace switch in the ON position** so guests do not turn it off by mistake. Same goes for the breaker box—label or tape to avoid confusion.
- **Consider septic tank heaters** if you are away for more than three weeks. Local plumbers or handymen can help with installation.
- **Longer absences?** You might need to drain your pipes and shut off heat entirely to save on propane.

#### **If You Are Fully Winterizing**

1. Turn off the heat completely.

2. Drain all water lines — including the pressure tank, hot water heater, and any lines to ice makers, dishwashers, and fridges.
3. Blow out low spots if needed (ask a plumber to install a blowout fitting).
4. Drain toilets and tanks.
5. Add **RV antifreeze (pink)** to all P-traps, toilets, sinks, tubs, showers, and washer drains. This prevents freezing without harming septic bacteria.

Every cabin is unique. Walk through your system carefully and **create a checklist**. If it is your first time winterizing, hire a **local plumber or handyman** to show you the ropes.

### **Miscellaneous Tips**

- **Make two checklists:** one for opening, one for shutting down — especially if friends or family use the cabin.
- **Refill the hot water heater before turning it on.** Electric heaters can burn out elements if dry. Keep a couple of spare elements on hand.
- **Prep your septic for winter.** Add Rid-X or Bio-Sure (our favorite) to boost bacteria activity and generate warmth in the tank.
- **Fix drips and leaks.** Slow-moving water can freeze before reaching the septic tank, causing a solid ice plug that often requires professional removal.
- **Replace thermostat batteries each fall,** along with your smoke and CO detector batteries.
- **Monitor your cabin remotely.** Many smart thermostats send alerts if temperatures drop too low. If you don't have internet, there are phone-line monitors that will call you automatically.
- **And one more time — turn off your well pump!** It's listed twice for a reason — it's the easiest step to prevent disaster.

*Article by Kevin Copeland, Jefferson Realty*

### **Keeping an Eye on Your Weekend Home**

When we first arrived in Indian Mountain in 2011, the ability to remotely 'see' what was going on was limited. We are part-timers (for now), but we keep our place open year-round. In the early years, which created quite a bit of anxiety in the winter months, especially when big storms were rolling through. Cell service at our location was almost non-existent, but a Wilson Electronics 3G booster provided some basic connectivity. Once CenturyLink/Lumen upgraded to fiber optics, we increased our ability to monitor our place remotely. Although our internet speeds were dismal, we could watch live camera activity and 'events' and had access to other electronic devices.

The technological gains in internet and low cost of products have made monitoring much easier! After switching to Starlink in 2022, our internet speed increased dramatically and allowed us to actively monitor and manage all of our systems to help ensure things were running smoothly.

We now run a full complement of security and monitoring devices, including:

- Security Cameras. A combination of 'fixed' cameras that record to a hard drive device as well as Wyze cams. The hard drive is internet accessible and stores about two weeks of activity before files are overwritten. The Wyze cams all record to SD cards and have internet backup of events. They plug into an outlet, so it is easy to move them around if needed. I currently have one camera pointed at my well pump shut off, since I can't seem to always remember to turn it off when we leave ;-). The Wyze interface is easy to use, and you are not required to use their internet backup services.
- Weather Station. Originally received as a Christmas gift, our La Crosse weather station monitor came with wind (direction and speed), rainfall, temperature (in the house and outdoors). We've added monitors for our crawl space as well as our refrigerator – we had some issues with it maintaining temperature. La Crosse has an app that is easy to set up and provides 7 days of historical data for free.
- Radon monitoring. We recently added an Airthings "View Plus," which monitors humidity, temperature, and radon level. While we sometimes get higher readings (up to 7.0 pCi/L in the winter, when everything is closed up), simply opening the windows when we show up for a few minutes helps to drop the reading to a safer level. The monitor can be moved to different rooms to see if the Radon level is higher upstairs vs. downstairs or in the crawl space.
- Propane Tank. Mopeka Products sells a small unit that magnetically attaches to the bottom of your propane tank and monitors the tank level using sonar. The basic unit has Bluetooth installed, so you need to be within a few feet of the tank to get a reading. If you add their bridge, you can check the tank level from anywhere in the world, and you can set up notifications which will tell you when your tank gets below the percentage threshold that you set. Ours is currently set at 25%.
- Septic Tank. As part timers, we are worried about the septic tank and if it is freezing (which is not good for the bacteria and could result in burst pipes or water backups). For now, we run basic stock tank heaters in the wintertime and monitor with an "Inkbird Smart Sensor Data Logger Wireless Temp RH Monitor Device." This device is Bluetooth only, so we generally check it during our winter trips. The probe hangs inside the tank and tracks the tank temperature – which may be a bit lower than the actual temperature of the contents. Over the last five years, our tank has stayed a few degrees above freezing on the coldest days, which gives us some pretty good peace of mind. The app tracks and monitors temperatures continuously, and we can see actual temperatures over days/weeks/months.

Do you have other devices that you use to help monitor your home while you are away? If so, start a thread on NextDoor and let's talk!!!

*Article provided by Jeff Mason, IMMD*

## **How to be a Good Neighbor**

Please be bear-aware! Bears are very resourceful and need to eat all the time. Please make sure that

your property is not a food source for them. This includes bird feeders, hummingbird feeders, your dogs and cats, food in your cars, and your trash. Problem bears that associate people, pets, cars, and homes with food often end up getting killed. If you have your trash picked up by Mountain View or Park Disposal, they have "bear proof" cans available. But some bears have even figured out how to open those. So please secure them with ratchet straps or bungee cords. Let's keep our bears wild!

- **Loose Dogs** – With more and more people moving into the neighborhood, the loose dog problem has gotten worse. The freedom some people take to have their dogs running loose, impedes everyone else's freedom to be able to walk with their children and dogs, ride their bikes, and even drive down Indian Mountain streets without being charged, chased or attacked. Dogs also trespass on the land of others, so that these others can't even enjoy their own property in peace. In addition, the dogs are in danger of getting lost, getting eaten by cougars, bears and coyotes, and getting hit by cars. We have heard countless tragic stories like these over the years. Please keep your dogs contained! Permitting a dog to run at large is a violation of Park County Resolution 95-11-8(a).
- **Noise Pollution** – Please be considerate of your neighbors and do not leave your generators running all day and all night. Most folks come up here to enjoy peace and quiet and having a generator nearby ruins that for everybody. This applies to barking dogs as well. Please bring your barking dogs inside. Barking dogs are also regulated by Park County Resolutions.
- **Light Pollution** – Please turn off your outside lights or make sure that your lights point downward and/or are fully shielded to target light rather than flood an area obtrusively. Motion lights are a great way to have security while not ruining your neighbors views of the starry nighttime sky. Please make sure that you only use bulbs that emit warm light.
- **Speeding** – Please slow down and do not dust your neighbors when they are trying to enjoy their walks.

*Article by Jackie Middelhoek, IMMD District Manager and IMWSP Administrator*

## **Remaining Events for 2025**

### **Mountain Community Thanksgiving Potluck**

Saturday, November 22, 2025

4:00 – 7:00pm, IM Community Center

### **Tamale Making with Nick**

Saturday, December 13, 2025

12 Noon, IM Community Center

## **Board Meeting Schedules**

**IMMD** 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month  
9:00 – 10:30am, IM Community Center

**IMPOA** Bi-Monthly on Saturday (10:30am – 12 Noon)  
Saturday, November 8, 2025  
**12 noon – 1:30pm**, Community Center  
(Different time on 11/8 due to IMMD Budget Meeting)

## Events Held this Summer and Fall in Indian Mountain

### Indian Mountain Annual Summer Picnic

This year's picnic was a great time! We had more folks attend this year than any other year!

Here are some photos to share the memories of the picnic.

The kids had a blast trying to bash open the Piñata to get to all the yummy candy!





## 2025 Craft Fair

There were over 20 tables of vendors this year! We had some new vendors join as well. There was a great turnout even though there were other scheduled events the same day in Fairplay, and Park County. We will make every effort to schedule the 2026 Craft Fair on a date when there are no other events going on. Here are some photos of the event:



### **Volunteer Appreciation Lunch**

The Indian Mountain Volunteer Lunch was a great success! We honored volunteers that helped at the Burn Pit, Picnic, Garage Sale, Litterbug program and other events in the past year held by IMMD and IMPOA. Everyone received a wonderful raffle gift. Be sure to volunteer to be invited to next year's event. A big **THANK YOU** again for making our Community a Great Place to Live.



## **Chili Cook Off**

The Chili Cook-Off was a lot of fun. We had 13 different kinds of chili for our three sequestered judges to taste. Several of our friends from neighboring communities came to participate. Everyone had a great time!

### **The Winners:**



**1st Place: Carol Repair  
Wattenburger**

**2nd Place: Laura Sexson**

**3rd Place: Dennis**

**Trunk or Treat October 25, 2025**

Everyone had a ghoulish good time at the Trunk or Treat! The Indian Mountain Metropolitan District provided gifts for all the kiddos as well as hot chocolate with marsh mellow and hot cider and bowls of candy. All the decorated trunks looked great, and all the costumes were very fun and inventive. Thanks to everyone who participated and made this event a success!





***Everyone have a safe, warm, Winter!***