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INDIAN MOUNTAIN
COMMUNITY ALLIANCE



A Joint Publication of the Indian Mountain Community Alliance (IMCA) and the Indian Mountain Metropolitan District (IMMD)

Indian Mountain Fall Newsletter

November 2026

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Fire Cisterns on Chief Trail

The new fire cisterns on Chief Trail are a joint project of the Indian Mountain Metropolitan District and the Jefferson-Como Fire Protection District. There was already a fiberglass 1,000 gallon fire cistern in the location of the old RV Dump Station. Now two mated 3,500 gallon insulated cisterns have been added to that location that will be automatically fed by the old RV Dump Station well. This project is almost completed.

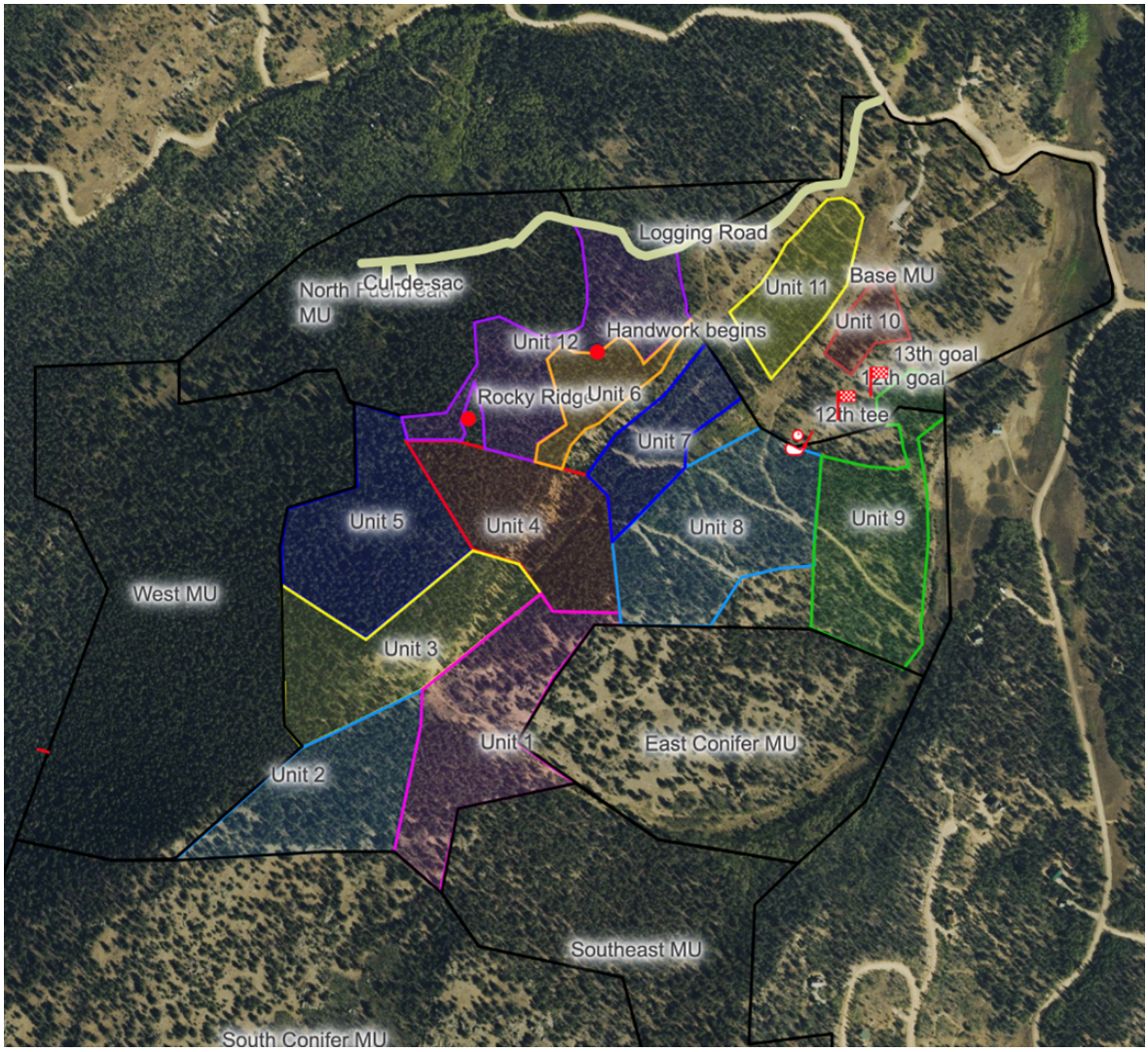
This will increase the much-needed firefighting capacity for Indian Mountain and surrounding neighborhoods.



Fire Mitigation in Indian Mountain Park

This year's Fire Mitigation in Indian Mountain Park will be completed by October 31st.

The below map shows Unit 5 – 11 that were completed this year. The methods used were lop and scatter as well as chipping. The top priority areas according to our Forest Management Plan have now all been treated, but there are still a lot of dead areas that will need attention in the future.



WSP Re-Certifications

The Colorado Division of Water Resources and HASP require WSP members to re-certify their meters every 10 years. Since most members from the first group that joined certified their meters in 2017, re-certification for those meters will be due in 2027.

Members will have 6 months from the due date to complete the certification. The WSP Administrators will e-mail everyone who's re-certification is due in 2027, and subsequent years, to inform them of their due date. Please be sure to add **indianmountainmetrodist@gmail.com** to your contact list so that WSP e-mails do not disappear into your junk folder. We currently have one certifier in Indian Mountain and are hoping to get two more. The Administrators will set up Sign-Up Genius forms so members can set up their own appointments when it is convenient for them. The cost is currently $300 per certification.

RV Dump Station

The Indian Mountain RV Dump Station closed for the season on November 4th to prevent damaging the system. It will re-open before Memorial Day 2027 or earlier if temperatures allow.

Indian Mountain Trunk or Treat on Saturday October 31st

Everyone had a lot of fun at the Trunk or Treat. We had a lot of nicely decorated trunks and plenty of candy. In addition, the Indian Mountain Metro District provided Halloween toys, glowing rings, stickers, Halloween pencils, chocolate candy, allergy friendly candy and hot cider. The kids had a great time playing Red Light – Green Light in their costumes. Luckily the weather cooperated for most of the day.





























Chili Cook-off

The Indian Mountain Chili Cook-off took place on Saturday October 10th.
Eleven delicious chilis competed, and three independent judges did their best to rate them.

The judges agreed that Carol Bolchen's White Chicken Chili was the most scrumptious, followed closely by Amber Smith's Texas Triple Threat with Whitetail Deer, Hog and grass-fed Beef. Not to be outdone, last year's winner Carol Repair came in third with her lovely Pork – Green Chili. At the end of the day, everyone went home with empty crockpots and full stomachs.

Special thanks to judges Dennis Sheeran, Kelly Kirkpatrick and Jeff Coberly and to Deb Stone and Jeanne Wells for all their help.













The Indian Mountain Burn Pit Has Been Burned

Due to the snow we received on Wednesday November 4th, the Jefferson-Como Fire Protection District gave us permission to burn the burn pit on Friday November 6th. We had a successful burn and will be able to open the pit again around Memorial Day of 2027. Many thanks to all the volunteers who came and braved the cold, the eyebrow curling heat, and the smoke! We couldn't do it without you! Also, many thanks to the wild land fire crew members of the Jefferson-Como Fire Protection District, and Mark Abrahamson in particular, for all their help.











Helpful Links on IMMD Website

Please check out our list of helpful links on the left bottom side of the IMMD homepage: **https://indianmountain.info**.
Here is a direct link: 2026-4-30-Helpful-Links.pdf.

Please let us know at indianmtn@hotmail.com if there is any information you would like us to add to this list.

IMMD Articles by Jackie Middelhoek

REMINDER - A New DBA "Doing Business As" Name for IMPOA

You will start seeing a new name appearing in our communications, signage, and outreach. The Board has decided to register a new descriptor as a "Doing Business As" (DBA) name for the Association. Nothing about our legal structure, our nonprofit status, or

our bylaws is changing — we will remain the Indian Mountain Property Owners Association, a Colorado nonprofit corporation. The DBA is simply a friendlier name we will use when communicating with the broader community. The new DBA name is:

"Indian Mountain Community Alliance" (IMCA)

New Website Address: myimca.org

IMPOA/IMCA Has a New Treasurer!

Welcome Christopher Hughes! Christopher will take over the Treasurer duties once a third-party audit is completed on our financials.

Special Thank You to Shauna Fjeld

Shauna stepped up to support the IMPOA/IMCA Board by assisting us with our website support. She is not a Board Member but has graciously offered to help us maintain our website. Thank you Shauna!

IMPOA/IMCA Events 2026

We had a wonderful year of IMPOA/IMCA events once again!

July 4th, **Annual Picnic -** we catered the picnic with Maverick BBQ. About 300 folks enjoyed brats, pulled pork, and brisket along with many amazing sides and desserts shared by IM residents. Raffle prizes were enjoyed by many kids and adults with many taking home great treasures.









Dumpster Day - On August 15th we had our annual Dumpster Day. We did have to close early as the metal trailer and all dumpsters were filled very quickly. We will order larger dumpsters and order more of them next year! The early birds got the worm! Despite the early closure, many folks were able to deposit loads of trash and even recycle old TV's and computer monitors.

IM Photo Contest - September 1st-30th was the annual photo contest. This year we had many amazing entries and members voted for their favorites! The calendars will be rolling off the printing press shortly and **will be available for purchase next week at the Community Center!**

Thanks to all who entered and voted!

IM Craft Fair - October 3rd was our annual Craft Fair. We had 23 vendors that sold a wide variety of handmade crafts to the community.

Community Thanksgiving event scheduled for November 14th has been **CANCELLED**.

Thanks to all the wonderful volunteers that assisted in set up and clean-up to help make these great events possible!
Article by Joy Ariel, IMCA Events Director

2027 IMPOA/IMCA Events

We will be discussing the 2027 events at our meetings this winter. IMPOA/IMCA is still short on Board Members. If we do not get folks to step up and join the board, we may have to cut some events for 2027. We certainly do not want to do this, but if we don't get more help, it is inevitable.

Please support your Indian Mountain Community Alliance Board.

IMPOA/IMCA Board Members Needed!
If you are interested in being on the IMPOA/IMCA Board, please let us know! We really need the support and help right now. We currently have three positions open. Please send an email to IMPOA.bod@gmail.com if you are interested.

The Plowing Necessities!

Regular driveway plowing is essential in high-alpine environments to prevent driveway rutting, potholes, eliminate dangerous ice buildup, and guarantee delivery and emergency vehicle access. In mountainous regions, extreme winter weather can quickly transform a minor inconvenience into a severe safety hazard. Here is a breakdown of why consistent snow removal is critical in high-altitude zones:

Prevents the Freeze-Thaw Cycle: High alpine areas experience drastic temperature swings. When old snow melts slightly during the day and refreezes at night, water expands and creates deep ruts, severe potholes or fractures in your paved or gravel driveway. It's much cheaper to plow and maintain your driveway than to spend thousands to put in a new driveway that was badly damaged by a season of neglected snow and ice that melted incorrectly and created deep ruts and potholes.

- Prevents Snow Compaction: Driving or walking on unplowed snow packs it down into a slick, solid sheet of ice. Once compacted, it is incredibly difficult to remove without heavy machinery or harsh chemicals. If you neglect your driveway for a few winter months, you will not be able to be plowed. You will have to hire a backhoe to come dig up the old ice. This can cost $300-$500 an hour.
- Eliminates Black Ice Hazards: Alpine winds and sub-freezing temperatures can instantly turn melted runoff into invisible black ice. Plowing pushes the snowpack away from the driving surface so it can drain safely. If you have a steep driveway, this melted runoff becomes impossible to drive up or down safely if not regularly plowed in between snow storms.
- Guarantees Emergency Services: First responders (ambulances, fire trucks, and police) cannot navigate deep snowpacks or steep, icy alpine driveways safely. Regular plowing ensures lifesaving help can reach your home.
- Maintains Daily Utility: Alpine storms can drop feet of snow in hours. Often times high winds will create large snow drifts further complicating snow remove and driveway access. Consistent plowing ensures you aren't trapped in your home, or worse- can't access your home and allows daily necessities—like package delivery, trash pickup, and propane refills to continue uninterrupted.

Plowing your driveway is essential in our extreme high altitude windy environment!

Please text/call Joy Ariel 970-343-0270 with Indian Mountain Plowing if you would like more information on how to hire a plowing company this season to maintain your

driveway.

NEW! COMMUNITY SHARING ***NEW!***

We would like to introduce a “Community Sharing” section of our newsletters! This can be for sharing your favorite recipes, sharing a safety tip you’ve learned, etc. **Anyone in the community is welcome to submit articles!**

Here is our first article for our Community Sharing section of the newsletter.

The Art of Cooking and the Science of Ignoring Package Directions

I’ve always said that cooking is an art and baking is a science. Baking relies on precise measurements and carefully balanced chemical reactions. Cooking, on the other hand, is much more intuitive. You keep adding seasonings until your soul tells you to stop. The question, of course, is: *which seasonings?*

When it comes to that, I like to leave some of the heavy lifting to the professionals at Dean Jacob's and McCormick. One of my favorites is the McCormick Grill Mates Garlic, Herb & Wine Marinade Mix, though I don't use it for its intended purpose.

Cucumber Tomato Salad
Ingredients

- 2 cucumbers, cut into bite-sized pieces
- 1 (16-ounce) container cherry or grape tomatoes, halved
    - This step is important because the tomatoes release moisture that helps hydrate the seasoning mix.
- 1 (8-ounce) package feta cheese
- 1 packet McCormick Grill Mates Garlic, Herb & Wine Marinade Mix

Directions

1. Combine the cucumbers, tomatoes, feta cheese, and seasoning packet in a large mixing bowl.
2. Toss well until everything is evenly coated.
3. Cover and refrigerate for at least 2 hours.
4. Stir again before serving.

Another favorite seasoning blend of mine comes from Dean Jacob's Bread Dipping Seasoning Variety Pack. Once again, I rarely use it as advertised. While it does make an excellent bread dip when sprinkled on olive oil and balsamic vinegar, I've found it works just as well in soups, on vegetables, and in a variety of other dishes.

Air Fryer Roasted Carrots

Ingredients

- Carrots, cut into sticks
- 1 to 2 tablespoons olive oil
- Dean Jacob's seasoning blend of choice (I especially like the Sicilian Blend for carrots)

Directions

1. Preheat your air fryer to 380°F.
2. Toss the carrots with olive oil.
3. Sprinkle generously with seasoning until your soul tells you to stop.
4. Air fry for 12-15 minutes, shaking the basket halfway through cooking.

Article by Melissa Pryce, IMCA Secretary

If you have something you would like to share with the community and have it published in our Winter Newsletter, please submit your article, recipe, etc. to:
IMPOA.bod@gmail.com

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