



Douglass Ranch News

April 2017
Vol. 53

From the President

Mary Sosnowski and **Colleen Jorgensen** are coordinating this year's Firefighters' Dinner on Thursday, May 4. You should have received two emails from them with the details about this year's event. They're still looking for more food if you have not already signed up to contribute to this effort.

Flowers and buds are starting to appear all around Douglass Ranch. Unfortunately, we are also seeing the start of noxious weed rosettes. Pursuant to Colorado law, it is the homeowners' responsibility to deal with these weeds. See the article on page two for more information.

If you're planning on painting your home or making other additions to your property, please contact **Rick Koth**, Design Review Board Chair:

Rkoth05@q.com

We're seeing more people taking advantage of the spring weather and walking along our roadsides. Please drive carefully especially around the curves so that there are no unexpected surprises.

At our board meeting on February 20 we selected the following new offices:

Susan Festag	President
Randy Jensen	Roads & Grounds Chair
Carl Price	Treasurer
Tom Washburn	Secretary
Todd Williams	Vice-President

Thanks to all of our board members for the many hours of time they donate to benefit our community.

Best Regards,

Susan Festag
President, DRPOA
303-816-1348

Firewise at Douglass Ranch By Tom Washburn

Two recent Firewise meetings have found considerable interest in working fire mitigation concerns in the neighborhood.

As a result we will actively begin to pursue Firewise status for Douglass Ranch. The process should take about a year. Firewise status requires continuing effort and annual renewal.

Another Firewise meeting is tentatively planned in May - date, time and place to be announced.

The DR web site has two articles on the recent Firewise meetings. The first meeting was an "Exploratory" meeting and includes a "Power Point" presentation with some URL references that are recommended reading and viewing.

At the second meeting we discussed completing a Firewise Community application. For 2017 we are considering roadside mitigation (recommended by Elk Creek FD Chief Bill McLaughlin) and possibly some form of neighborhood-wide discussion of the significance of community mitigation.

Watch the DR web site for more information, or contact Tom Washburn to be added to the Firewise email list.

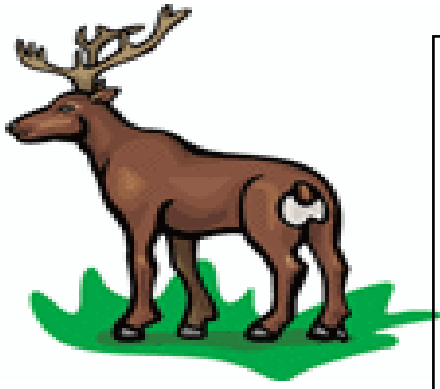
Quick Reference

Firefighters' Dinner: Thursday, May 4
(Contact **Mary Sosnowski** or **Colleen Jorgensen**)

Next Board Meeting: Wednesday, June 21
(6:00 p.m. - Carl & Susie Price's home)

More information about Douglass Ranch can be found on our website:

<http://www.douglassranch.org/>



Noxious Weeds in Douglass Ranch

(Links and excerpt from our website)

The [2003 Colorado Noxious Weed Act](#) requires landowners manage noxious weeds with an enforcement clause where the county can take enforcement action at landowner expense.

There are some good websites to assist a landowner in identifying and managing noxious weeds.

- [Colorado Weed Management Association \(CWMA\) Noxious Weed Information](#)
[Jeffco Weed and Pest - Noxious Weed Identification and Control by List or Color](#)
[Colorado Department of Agriculture \(CDA\) Noxious Weeds](#)

The CDA site includes [pictures of noxious weeds](#)

It is easy to get overwhelmed by all the information so one suggestion is to focus on a few of the most common weeds that are readily found in our area. It is also important to remember that some weeds are best removed by pulling them out by the roots but for other weeds this only encourages more growth.

Staunton State Park has a team of volunteers that is focusing on the three most common weeds found in the Park (and also readily seen in Douglass Ranch). The names of these weeds, the Park's non-chemical method of dealing with them, and their fact sheets are listed below:

Musk Thistle (Class B) – Dig out rosettes (first year); Bag seed/flower heads and pull out by the roots (second year)

<https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/agconservation/musk-thistle>

Common Mullen (Class C) – Dig out rosettes (first year); Bag seed/flower heads and pull out by the roots (second year)

<https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/agconservation/common-mullein>

Canada Thistle (Class B) – Dig out rosettes (first year); Bag seed/flower heads (second year) – Do Not pull out by root as this only stimulates growth of this weed

<https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/agconservation/canada-thistle>

Thanks for helping control the spread of weeds in Douglass Ranch.

Douglass Ranch News
P.O. Box 603
Pine, Colorado 80470