



December 2011

BUGLE

Newsletter of the Blue Lake Owners' Association

Blue Lake Office

Hours: Mon. & Wed. 9:00-3:00

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JW Drive and Highway 82 Intersection

Colorado Department of Transportation has notified us of their intention to make improvements at the Blue Lake entrance starting in summer of 2013. They will be putting in left turn acceleration lanes on both sides of the highway and "pork chop" islands to improve safety. There is no round-about or traffic light under consideration. At the same time they will put in a cattle guard on JW Drive as the wildlife fence continues from Catherine Store Road to El Jebel Road. We will keep you posted of any news as it comes to us. In the meantime, please use extreme caution when using this intersection....especially during rush hour.

Next Board Meeting:

December 13th at 6:30 pm.

Gate Code: The code is XXXXX

Bathrooms are closed for the season.

Winter Fun

Please remind kids (and dads) to not dig up soil or turf when reconfiguring snow on common areas used for sledding. Also the ice on our pond and lake is NOT safe!! Water currents create areas of thin and unstable ice. KEEP OFF!!!

Blue Lake Handyman

Honey-do list specialist. No job too big or small. Construction, carpentry, drywall, painting, roofing. Call Russell 379-5343

Crawford Expansion

We haven't forgotten about this....there's just nothing to report right now. We'll keep you posted.

Mystery Volunteers

Thanks to the unknown kids who raked and bagged the leaves near the office!

Waste Management drivers will observe the Christmas holiday on Monday the 26th and trash will be picked up on that Tuesday.

No parking on Blue Lake side streets until May 1. No parking on JW Drive year round.

Sign up to receive your monthly statement, Bugle, and minutes via email and save yourself \$\$\$ next year. Just send us an email.

Snowplow Know-How:

- Snow removal crews begin work in the very early morning; usually 3 to 4 a.m. and continue until all routes are complete. The crews are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- School bus and emergency routes (priority one roads) are plowed first. Side streets or residential collector streets, school and business access, and lesser traveled streets such as cul-de-sacs are plowed next (priority two and three roads). Depending on weather conditions, it may be later in the day before the priority two and priority three roads are plowed.
- Use patience with the snow removal process and drive with caution around equipment.
- Educate children about the dangers of playing near snow removal equipment and discourage the building of forts or caves in snow banks next to the road.
- Wear reflective clothing if you are jogging or walking along a road in darkness.
- Wait to shovel driveways until after the snowplows have finished and do not put snow or any other debris in the roadway. (Colorado Revised Statute section 42-4-1406 & 42-4-411)
- Wait to place trash cans out for pick-up until snowplows are finished and retrieve them as soon as possible after they are emptied.
- Be aware that it is illegal to park on county-maintained roads or the county road right-of-way.
- The county right-of-way normally extends approximately 10 feet off the edge of the road which generally extends into the property owner's landscaping. The right-of-way is intended to be used for snow storage, so it is therefore not recommended that any valuable landscaping be placed within this area. Plantings and other valuable landscaping items may be damaged by snow removal equipment and the weight of the snow. It is the responsibility of the property owner to repair and maintain landscaping within the right-of-way.

Complaints, concerns, or suggestions may be directed to the Eagle County Road and Bridge Department at 970-328-3540. Thank you and have a fun and safe winter.

Birth of a New Tradition

Need some gift ideas that will help our local economy? Are you hoping to avoid all that stuff made in China that will eventually become fodder for the landfill? This seems like a great year to start thinking outside the box. Instead of buying something to "have", how about something to "do."

Everyone gets their hair cut. How about gift certificates from your local hair salon or barber? How about a gym membership or punch card for yoga classes? It's appropriate for all ages who are thinking about some healthy life-style changes. How about a private ski/board lesson?

Are you one of those extravagant givers who think nothing of plunking down the Benjamins on a Chinese made flat-screen? Perhaps that grateful gift receiver would like his driveway sealed, or lawn mowed for the summer, or driveway plowed all winter, or games at the local golf course.

There are lots of owner-run restaurants -- all offering gift certificates. And, if your intended isn't the fancy eatery sort, what about a half dozen breakfasts at a local breakfast joint. How many people couldn't use an oil change for their vehicle at a shop run by the local working guy? Who wouldn't appreciate getting their car detailed?

Thinking about a heartfelt gift for mom? She'd love the services of a cleaning lady for a day ; or a massage; or perhaps her computer could use a tune-up by a local geek. Are you looking for something more personal? Local crafts people make jewelry, sweaters, scarves, glass wear, and pottery. Or how about tickets to see a play at one of the local theatres? Musicians need love too, so find a venue showcasing local bands.

This is the new American Christmas tradition. Have a blessed holiday season and know that you've helped those in your community do the same.