



2018 Newsletter

Fire Season is here

Stage 1 Fire Restrictions for Unincorporated Douglas County

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By order of Sheriff Tony Spurlock, Stage 1 fire restrictions are now in place. Ordinance No. O-012-004 restricts open fires, open burning and the use of fireworks in the unincorporated areas of Douglas County.

Prohibited Activities:

- Open burning of any kind.
- Use of Fireworks

Allowable Activities:

- Fires within liquid-fueled or gas-fueled stoves, fireplaces within buildings, charcoal grill fires within developed residential or commercial areas, and fires within wood burning stoves within buildings only.
- Professional fireworks displays that are permitted according to section 12-28-103 of the C.R.S.
- Fire suppression or fire department training fires.
- Small recreational fires at developed picnic or campground sites contained in fixed permanent metal/steel fire pits (rock fire rings are considered temporary and not permanent) with flame lengths not in excess of four feet; or the residential use of charcoal grills, tiki torches, fires in chimneys, or other portable fireplaces or patio fire pits, so long as said fires are supervised by a responsible person at least 18 years of age.

Violation of these fire restrictions is a Class-2 Petty Offense, punishable by up to a \$1000.00 fine and a \$10.00 surcharge.

Additional information on fire restrictions stages can be located at the Douglas County Emergency Management website:

<http://www.dcsheriff.net/emergencymanagement/fire-restrictions/>

With the 4th of July just ahead we would like to remind everyone that fireworks or any type, burning or campfires are **not permitted** in our Open Space and violators will be reported to the Douglas County Sheriff.

The HPFMD Board of Directors is proud to announce that they have successfully achieved national Firewise USA recognition status. For more information about the Firewise Program visit the Firewise website at www.nfpa.org.

The designation may save you money on your homeowner's policy, check with your insurance agent.

Roads & streets improvements by Douglas County,

With the repair of broken and damaged sidewalks, and the replacement of curb ramps with new, ADA compliant curb ramps nearing completion Douglas County will now move on to the next phase of repaving the streets later in the summer.

Prior to beginning work, the Contractor will post "No-Parking" signs on streets where repairs are scheduled. Please obey the "No -Parking" signs and ensure your vehicle(s) are moved during the days and hours of the scheduled repair work.

For information about this work, use Douglas County [online request form](#).

ATV & Off-road Vehicles

Several cases of usage of ATV, golf carts and similar vehicles in District Open Space have occurred. As a reminder **NO unauthorized motor vehicles of any type are allowed on walking paths, open space and creek beds**, also access to Homeowner's property through open space is **not permitted**.

Landscape Beautification

The HPFMD is studying several beautification projects within the district that will include the Main Entrance off Parker Road and the school district property off S Pinery Pkwy. and Democrat Rd. Future projects will be reflected on our website (Projects tab) Watch for more information at HPFMD.org

Speeding

The HPFMD is a member of the Pinery Security Coalition and has partnered with the Douglas County Sheriff's Department to provide extra services to our area that includes extra patrols through the area as well as speed control. There is an increase in speeding in our neighborhood especially on S. Pinery Pkwy, Fox Sparrow, Windhaven and Sage Thrasher. You will continue to see more ticketing by DC Sheriff officers. Remember this is your neighborhood so SLOW DOWN; protect our wildlife, pets and SAVE A LIFE.

The HPFMD worked hard last year with Douglas County Roads to push the installation of the new median on Fox Sparrow as you enter the Timbers from the south. This has both helped identify that you are now entering a residential neighborhood as well as to slow traffic. Look for more speed improvement in the future.

Timbers Creek

Timbers Creek is the main drainage way for storm runoff through the Timbers and runs from just north and east of N. Pinery Pkwy. at Democrat to The Colorado Horse Park. It has several lesser tributaries as well as numerous detention ponds. Even though the creek is the responsibility of Douglas County Urban Drainage, the HPFMD has for years been trying to maintain/control the erosion of this creek, which has caused tree damage and loss and threatened some homeowners' property during heavy rains.

We are pleased to announce that HPFMD is working with the Urban Drainage Flood Control District and Douglas County who also recognizes the need for remediation. The three-entity partnership has started the Study that will over several years address the problems with regard to erosion, fix/replace/remove existing weirs (which are buried by sediment) and other improvements.

HPFMD has this year gone in and cleaned out detention and retention ponds throughout the District of scum and vegetation. **WARNING WARNING WARNING**, some of these ponds have vertical shear concrete walls and can be as deep as 4 feet. **DO NOT** go near them and keep children and pets well away for their safety.

The Hailstorm on May 14, 2018 is an excellent example of what happens to these drainage ways during heavy storms:



Tree Maintenance

As you may be aware, front range trees have been under stress from the continuing drought and threat of insect attack including tree boring insects such as the Ips and Mountain Pine Beetles. Trees attacked by these insects usually die and cannot be saved. Regional foresters and arborists have been recommending high value trees be treated with a preventive spray to reduce the insect threat and avoid tree losses due to insect infestations.

Based on responses many homeowners expressed an interest in pursuing a group discount for tree spraying on their properties. As a result, Timbers 23 HOA has arranged a group rate with High Prairie Tree & Turf to provide preventive tree spraying for residents of their HOA. Other HOA /residents are encouraged to contact Ray Hardy at HPT&T to arrange a free estimate for spraying their pine trees. They may also qualify to receive a 10% HOA discount.

The costs for tree spraying usually runs in the range of \$12-\$20 per tree depending on the tree size, number of trees, terrain and property access.

The High Prairie Farms Metro District has used High Prairie Tree & Turf to spray trees in the Metro Districts open space for over 10-years. To increase the effectiveness of the Districts preventive spraying adjacent homeowners are encouraged to also treat their trees to help assure good forest health.

HPFMD does not respond to comments made on social media websites. For comments and question for the District go to HPFMD.org and click on the Contact the District box.