

Pawnee Hills News

A covenant protected community

Volume II Issue V

May 2009

Board of Directors

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New HOA Legislation-Carbon Monoxide Detectors

On March 24, 2009 Governor Ritter signed House Bill 1091 into law. The bill was in response to recent tragic deaths caused by carbon monoxide poisoning. Among other things, it mandates the installation and placement of carbon monoxide detectors in single family dwellings offered for sale or transfer. The new law goes into effect on July 1, 2009 and applies to the homes in our community, which is the responsibility of the homeowner.

Anyone wishing more information should check with

[HOA Legi-Slate.](#)

It is important to know that this requirement is not mandated by your homeowners association, but is Colorado state law. Installation, repair or replacement of carbon monoxide detectors in homes is the sole responsibility of the home owner/s.

Activities Calendar

The dates for the coffee and book club have been changed to not interfere with Memorial Day activities.

May 18-10 am Ladies coffee in the clubhouse

May 18- 7pm book club location to be posted in the mail box building

June/July-Stick Horse Rodeo and Gymkhana

July 25-Semi-annual homeowners meeting and clubhouse open house and barbecue

Sept 11/12-Community garage sale

October-Family Fall Festival

December-Annual holiday decorating contest

May BOARD MEETING

Thursday, May 14

7:00 pm

At the Pawnee Hills Clubhouse

Clubhouse Reservations Fall Festival

We are fast approaching the busy season when the clubhouse is reserved on a regular basis. As a community resource, the clubhouse is available by reservation to all homeowners who are current on their HOA dues. Anyone whose dues are not current will forfeit their reservation.

The Activities Committee is considering holding a family fall festival in early October rather than the Halloween party. Considerations include a bonfire at the barbecue pit for an old fashioned wiener and marshmallow roast. Watch the newsletter later this year for details

Easter Egg Hunt

In spite of Mother Nature, the Easter Egg Hunt was successfully held in the clubhouse. The clever Easter Bunny provided many hiding places for the children to explore. The children had a great time finding the eggs and having their pictures taken with the Easter Bunny.

A big thanks to Linda Montgomery for donating supplies for the memory books.

Check out pictures from the Easter Egg Hunt in this newsletter and on our community website.

Card Parties

Several people expressed interest in card parties and thought a good time to begin would be when the weather warms up and the days get a little longer. Watch the website and the newsletter for details.

2nd Saturday of the Month May 9, 11:00 a.m.

Community Trail Ride (Weather Permitting)

Monthly Financials - Balances as of March 2009

OPERATING ACCOUNTS	Beginning Balance	Deposits	Monthly Interest	Disbursements	Ending Balance
Petty Cash	\$ 250.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 250.00
Checking	\$ 17,399.69	\$ 8,471.37		(\$ 16,822.58)	\$ 9,048.48
Savings	\$ 711.50	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 8.03	\$ 0.00	\$ 10,719.53
TOTAL OPERATING	\$18,361.19	\$ 18,471.37	\$ 8.03	(\$ 16,822.58)	\$ 20,018.01
RESTRICTED RESERVE ACCOUNTS					
Replacement Fund	\$17,344.77	\$ 1,268.00	\$15.53	\$ 0.00	\$ 18,628.30
TOTAL RESERVES	\$17,344.77	\$ 1,268.00	\$15.53	\$ 0.00	\$ 18,628.30
TOTALS	\$35,705.96	\$ 19,739.37	\$23.56	(\$16,822.58)	\$ 38,646.31

Monthly Financials - Balances as of April 2009

This information was not ready at the time of publication.

Overgrazing

According to Lori Warren, PhD from CSU, many horse pastures in Colorado are overgrazed. Overgrazing occurs when animals are kept in one part of the pasture and allowed to repeatedly graze that area. Plants that are palatable to horses will be heartily eaten while undesirable plants aren't touched. That makes perfect sense, but this kind of overgrazing makes it impossible for nature to replenish much needed plant life. New growth is gobbled up before it can

develop leading to soil deterioration.

With our unpredictable weather, it is easy to mistake overgrazing with conditions brought on by drought. It is also tempting to allow grazing to resume before plants have reestablished themselves. Generally, it takes 3-6 weeks of undisturbed re-growth in order for plants to recover sufficiently. If grazing is allowed before recovery, there will be fewer plant food sources available and the area is inclined to

erode and allow weeds to thrive.

Lori Warren suggests management strategies that include season-long grazing, partial-season grazing, limited turn-out time and rotational grazing. She also suggests use of a Sacrifice Area, which is an area where horses can be hand-fed whenever a pasture is re-growing.

For more information, articles on next 2 pages and <http://equineextension.colostate.edu/content/view/182/57/>

Easter Eggs!



BARN AND ARENA NOTICE!!

If you leave horses at the barn or arena/round pen make sure to have plenty of food and water for them. Please notify the clubhouse if you are leaving horses overnight or longer so we know the horses are not abandoned. It's also a good idea to leave emergency contact information.

More scenes from the great Easter Egg Hunt



Pasture Use and Rotation Grazing Systems By Dan Nosal

NRCS is the Natural Resources Conservation District. They provide millions of dollars to Colorado in the form of various conservation projects and programs to help landowners help the land. More information may be found at www.co.nrcs.usda.gov/

Continuously grazing new growth causes the plant to kill its own roots resulting in reduced plant vigor.

The NRCS provides information to homeowners on conservation methods, home and garden tips, and education. The office may be reached by calling 303-688-3042.

Many pastures in Douglas and Western Elbert counties are overgrazed and have become degraded as a result. One method to assist in preventing this degradation relates to pasture use, recovery and rotation.

Grass plants need a recovery period after grazing to stay healthy. Once grazed, a growing plant draws energy (carbohydrates) from the roots to grow new leaves. Mobilizing this energy required for growing leaves also kills plant roots.

Continuously grazing new growth causes the plant to continue to kill roots to support further re-growth. The result is a plant with reduced root volume, reduced vigor and one that is not as productive as a healthy plant. The grass plant will replace the lost roots (and again store food energy in the roots) once there has been sufficient new leaf growth to trap more sunlight energy than is needed for plant maintenance and growth.

Animals are more likely to graze on new leaf growth because the plants with new leaf blades contain more energy than plants that are not grazed. Overgrazing occurs when an animal eats leaves that have grown from root energy rather than sunlight energy. Overgrazing is not necessarily caused by stock density or the percentage of plants grazed, but rather on how often plants are re-grazed without a recovery period. It is possible to overgraze some plants in a pasture while other plants are left untouched.

In addition to weakening a grass plant, continuous grazing can shift the species composition to predominantly plant

species with lower palatability. If a pasture is exposed to continuous grazing (no rest or recovery period), the most palatable plants will be repeatedly grazed (overgrazed), resulting in unhealthy, less vigorous plants. The less palatable species will not be grazed, resulting in these plants being healthy and vigorous. As a result, the unpalatable plants may end up dominating the pasture.

Historically on the Great Plains, bison were migratory animals that grazed in large herds while continually moving to new areas. Since bison herds continually moved, grazed plants had a sufficient recovery period to renew their leaf volumes, grow new roots and stay healthy and vigorous. As a result they were able to compete better with the less desirable vegetation. Although grazing reduces root carbohydrate reserves, the reduction is short-lived as long as defoliation is not a continuous occurrence. Rotational grazing can provide a recovery period much like the one provided by migrating animals.

Cross fencing is a tool for managing and manipulating vegetation. With numerous pastures livestock can be rotated as one herd through the system, allowing plants a chance to recover after being defoliated.

During the slow plant growth period (generally July–October) it is best to graze a pasture a maximum of 10 days at a time with at least 60-90 days rest before returning to that pasture for more grazing. During the fast plant growth period (generally May–June) grazing a pasture a maximum of 5 days with 30-45 days recovery is best. Although duration of

grazing has an effect, the rest period is most important. The slower the grass growth, the slower the rotation should be. The greater the number of pastures, the easier it is to develop a system with a sufficient rest period. To implement a high-intensity, short-duration grazing system with the grazing and recovery periods described above, a minimum of 10 pastures (fairly equal in available forage) would be required.

Tools to encourage full pasture utilization include locating salt and mineral supplement in an un-grazed area, moving these periodically to other un-grazed areas. Occasionally a pasture should be rested for the entire season each year.

We have just touched on grass productivity and grazing strategies. Remember that good grass is an investment in your future. Your healthy grass stand will remain more productive than a poor stand, resulting in higher productivity and less degradation. For additional information on implementing a rotation grazing system contact the NRCS office at 303-688-3042.

Dan Nosal is a Rangeland Management Specialist at NRCS—Helping People Help the Land.

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Newsletter

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**Welcoming & Nominating
Committee**

Pam Schultz - Chairperson (303)
646-3638

Equestrian Committee

RC Cuellar – Chairperson
rcuellar26@msn.com

Website

Sandy Perry - Chairperson

Help Wanted! PC Support

Your homeowners association is in need of a qualified PC support person. Responsibilities include, but are not limited to, hardware and software troubleshooting and repair, installation hardware and software, repair of systems, software and peripherals, and able to respond quickly to telephone calls for support.

If interested, please leave a message on the clubhouse telephone answering machine at 303.646.0126.

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Contact Liz Krupinski at
panni_k@msn.com for infor-
mation.

Deadline - the 15th of the
preceding month