

Bear Mountain Homeowners Association

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Bear Mountain Neighborhood Watch

There have been recent reports of trespassing, camping, and evidence of campfires on private property within the Bear Mountain area.

The Bear Mountain HOA has re-established a Neighborhood Watch-type program Bear Mountain Neighborhood Watch-BMNW). We had an active program in the 1980s after two local burglary sprees, but it became inactive. We have gathered some volunteers who are serving as committee members to facilitate this operation and will serve as contacts for homeowners when criminal or dangerous activity occurs within or near our area.

Some of us know our neighbors well and some do not. Simply getting better acquainted can help deter crime in our area. Calling 911 and/or reporting incidents to JEFFCO Sheriff's Department are important steps in making this program work. Use the **Alert Protocol**, the **Telephone Tree** (included in your BMHOA directories) and finally, Nextdoor.com's email site when appropriate. If you are a dues paying member let one of the BMNW committee members know if you do not have a HOA directory. If you have not paid your dues, please do so or let a committee member know and we will provide a phone tree list for your use.

This program cannot guarantee that no crimes will occur, or that you will never be victimized. It can, however, discourage potential criminals from doing anything in our neighborhood and might help apprehend anyone who does commit a crime here.

This WILL NOT be a vigilante group. We will not be patrolling the roads and certainly not confronting suspicious persons. We strongly encourage calling 911 whenever suspicious activity occurs. If you are not sure, call, as the Sheriff would much rather check out an occasional false alarm than miss preventing or minimizing a potentially dangerous situation from developing.

Participating in the Bear Mountain Watch does *not* give you any law enforcement authority. All residents who see a crime in progress or notice suspicious activity should carefully observe and report from a place of safety. You should never confront an offender unless you are in immediate danger. We absolutely do not condone anyone trying to apprehend an offender or interfering with an incident other than to report the activity to the Sheriff! If you choose to get involved in any other way, you are strictly on your own and the BMHOA and BMNW committee will take no responsibility for your actions.

If you see people who are acting suspiciously, get a license plate number, a description of the vehicle, and a description of the people. Try to get as many useful details as possible without endangering yourself. “White SUV” is not as useful as “White Yukon with broken left tail light, Colorado plate number XYZ 123.” “Scruffy young guy” is not as helpful as “Scruffy young guy, tall and thin with red hair and beard, with tattoos and wearing a green parka.”

One successful pair of burglars in Bear Mountain used the ploy of knocking on doors on weekdays when residents were least likely to be home. If no one came to the door, they tried to break in. If someone answered the door, they said they were looking for their lost dog. Several residents spoke with these two scruffy individuals that drove an unfamiliar vehicle. They never bothered to get a phone number in case the lost dog was found. Those two ended up breaking into several local homes, without anyone ever calling the Sheriff. Had anyone been suspicious and called 911, they would have likely been caught. As it turns out, two weeks later an Evergreen Meadows resident did become suspicious of these two and called 911. The burglars were caught with stolen goods in their vehicle. Some of the stolen items from Bear Mountain were later found in their apartment.

Follow the Alert Protocol! Be observant and use common sense! If something does not seem right and makes you *reasonably* suspect that a potential crime might be involved, call 911 and report it! Then call one of the BMNW coordinators listed below. If you are undecided whether you should call 911, call a coordinator and discuss it. Alert your closest neighbors by using the phone tree. Post notices in Nextdoor.com, but remember that does not help if someone is not in front of his or her computer at the time. Some folks may not see those messages for days. To let your neighbors know quickly, call one of the BMNW committee members and they in turn will activate the phone tree. If the phone tree leader is not available, an alternate will be called (who should then call the remaining branch members). After that, the next step would be posting on Nextdoor.com

ALERT PROTOCOL

Bear Mountain Neighborhood Watch

HIGH ALERT: Anyone on BM that believes that they, nearby residents, or properties are in **imminent danger**.

Examples: Uncontrolled fire nearby (within 10 miles), criminal activity (ongoing burglary, assault, property damage), predator attack on a person, pet, or livestock, arcing power lines down within our area.

Action: Call 911. Then call one of the BMNW committee members (listed below). If the danger is specific to a small area, the resident making the report should also **use the telephone tree** to call close neighbors to alert them. Meanwhile, the notified committee member will call the other committee members to activate the entire BMHOA phone tree. Post event on Nextdoor.com using the Bear Mountain residents list section.

MEDIUM ALERT: Anyone on BM that believes that they, nearby residents, or properties may be in **moderate danger**.

Examples: Suspicious persons/vehicles, predator animals (bears, cougars, aggressive coyotes) sighted in the area, distant fires (more than 10 miles away), power lines down but not arcing.

(Note: in some cases 911 should be called about suspicious persons/vehicles, if there is reasonable belief there may be criminal activity).

Action: Call 911 depending on situation. Call one of the BMNW Committee Members (listed below). Committee Member will call other Committee members to activate the appropriate phone tree branches. (e.g. entire phone tree for suspicious individuals/vehicles and distant fires; appropriate branch for predators)

LOW ALERT: A resident of BM gains information worthy of sharing with some or all of residents of BMHOA.

Examples: Threatening phone calls, mailbox theft/damage where the perpetrators are unlikely to still be in the area, abandoned car.

Action: Call one of the BMNW Committee Members listed below). Committee member notifies other committee members.

BM NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

John Burghardt 303-670-5974

Jan Dickover 303-679-0724

Lisa Fisher 303-674-1233

Randall/Don Palmer 303-670-9166

Steve Reed 303-674-1665

Sherry/Tom Walker 303-670-4578

(Written by Don Palmer)

Weed Mitigation

Spring is almost here and it will be ushering in a new weed season. As soon as the snow is melting the weeds will be sprouting and this is the best time to begin eliminating weeds. Why? Newly sprouting plants have tender leaves that absorb herbicides (weed killers) more effectively and allow for a quicker, more effective elimination. Roundup is an excellent choice, but remember it will kill everything with which it comes in contact. The cooler the temperature, the slower herbicide's work, so be patient. Roundup is available at most retailers and my local favorite source is Big R. The BMHOA offers the free use of a sprayer and free herbicide that only kills broad leaf green plants and not grasses. Please contact Rich Dunrud @303-674-5638.

Remember that after you have eliminated the first batch of weeds new ones will still be sprouting and require another application of herbicides. You may also do a web search and "google" organic weed control, but these methods typically require repeated application and work very slowly. Pulling is an option, but be sure to get the whole root. Pulling weeds and throwing them in the road only spreads the seeds. Try not to let your weeds develop seed heads.

The most prevalent noxious weeds we have on the mountain are Knapp Weed, Mullein, Thistles, All Spurges and Bind Weed. For identification please visit <http://jeffco.us/weed-and-pest/weeds/weed-identification/> and click the lists that will show detailed pictures.

(Written by Michael Grenko)

Bear Mountain Area History

HISTORIC RESORTS IN EVERGREEN

Several resorts popped up in the late 1880's when the rails extended beyond Denver and Colorado Springs. Evergreen was known by some as "Switzerland of the Americas". These three resorts may sound familiar to you...maybe you have been there.

TROUTDALE-IN-THE-PINES

Upper Bear Creek Road was built to support logging at the base of Mount Evans. Jasper D. Babcock and his family came from Illinois in the 1880s and began building small log cabins for "summer boarders." They offered good food and a real mountain experience that included fishing, hunting, and horseback riding. To get to the resort, people took the train from Denver to Morrison, were picked up and taken 14 miles to the resort by coach.

In 1914, the resort was purchased by automobile dealer, H.E. Sidels. A four-story, one hundred and forty room hotel was built. A glittering grand opening night was held in June of 1920. The hotel had a grand ballroom, dining room, billiards room, bar, bakery, barbershop, and drugstore. The lounge had three huge fireplaces, floors covered with Navajo rugs, leather upholstered chairs, and tapestries. Troutdale-In-The-Pines became well known throughout the country, its guestbook bearing the names of many celebrities and a few U.S. Presidents.

The Troutdale golf course is now the Evergreen Golf Course. The golf course's clubhouse was built in 1925 and is now known as the restaurant "Keys on the Green."

BROOK FOREST INN

The Brook Forest Inn still brings visitors to Evergreen. Mr. and Mrs. Edwin F. Welz built it in 1918-19. Edwin was Austrian and his wife, Riggi from Switzerland. The structure was built from rose and white granite and logs and boasted all the comforts one could ask for: running water, baths, and electricity.

By 1935, a dining room, several guest cottages, a swimming pool, and a stable had been added. May through October room rates were \$5 per night. The Inn was well known for offering a horseback trip to Mt. Evans.

MARSHDALE LODGE

The site of the Marshdale Lodge is now known as the Bears Inn. Built in 1923 by Dr. Wilbur Marsh, a prominent Denver dentist, it has a long history as a resort. The doctor's wife, Mary had a tearoom built where travelers could stop for refreshments. That tearoom is now known as the Bistro at Marshdale.

The Marshdale Annex (now the actual Bears Inn Bed and Breakfast) was built in 1928 to add more overnight accommodations to the original Lodge.

In 1948, Dave and Florene Eads of Topeka, Kansas bought the Inn and continued operations. Recreational activities included horseback riding, chuck wagon BBQs, and hayrides. Guests also enjoyed square dancing and playing cards in the Lodge.

(Written by Vasi Sztukowski)

A \$35 Investment in your Mountain!

Please mail in your dues if you have not already paid. Please be aware that we have changed our billing cycle from a fiscal to an annual calendar. We began collecting 2017 dues at the summer picnic. If you paid your dues at the Summer Picnic in 2016 or the Winter Party in 2016, you have paid for 2017.

Make your check payable to **BMHOA** for **\$35.00** and send it to: **BMHOA / P.O. Box 2068 / Evergreen, CO 80437**

Even if we already have your information, please complete the form below and include it with your check so that we can keep the Directory up to date.

Dues pay for Newsletters, your copy of the Directory, and your family's attendance at all annual parties, including the Summer Picnic and Winter Holiday parties. Dues also contribute to noxious weed and pest controls.

Address: _____

Mailing address if different than property: _____

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____ E-Mail Address: _____

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____ E-Mail Address: _____

Family Members: _____ CPR Certified: Yes _____ No _____