



Working to Preserve a Reasonable Balance

Preserve Unique Magnolia

A S S O C I A T I O N

P. U. M. A. Newsletter • Box 536 • Nederland, Colorado 80466

PUMA Potluck



All Magnolia-area residents, landowners, and their friends are invited to attend the annual potluck, sponsored by (PUMA) Preserve Unique Magnolia Association.

Saturday, July 13, 4 to 8 p.m. (or thereabouts) rain-or-shine at Scott Reuman's, 7425 Magnolia Rd.

Come meet your neighbors for an afternoon of laughter, games, catching up, and filling up. Kids welcome. PUMA will provide paper plates, utensils, and some soft drinks. Please bring a food contribution to share and whatever else you want to drink. PUMA membership is not required.

RSVP is helpful, but not required: 303-442-0406 or scottreuman@compuserve.com

Feeding Birds

By Jennifer Stewart



to keep in mind if you feed them:

As spring arrives, our summer birds do, too. Many of us are interested in feeding them, and some of us are interested in identification, by sight and sound, and learning about aspects of behavior. Here are some points

- Keep your feeding areas clean. Accumulated debris can mold and grow other types of bacteria. Water needs to be kept clean.
- Hummingbirds should not be fed the hummingbird nectar available in stores. Instead, mix one part white cane sugar with four parts boiling water to make your own syrup. This mix will ferment in the feeder; so, feeders need to be cleaned and refilled at least every other day, and DAILY on hot days or if your feeder is in the sun. Fermented syrup will damage their livers, causing death. I keep a quart of syrup ready in the fridge.
- When the Rufus hummingbirds arrive, place a separate feeder in a higher location, filled with 3 parts water to 1 part sugar, instead of the usual 4 to 1. This is not guaranteed to work, but it may (source: Wild Bird Center).
- For wild birds, a good seed mix or straight black sunflower seeds work best. Suet is a wonderful treat, but spoils in the heat, so it's best left for winter months.
- And please keep your cats indoors! Cats are incredible super predators, for which our native birds are not prepared. It is not fair to attract them with food and allow pet cats to prey on them. Does your neighbor's cat visit your feeders?
- Birdfeeders attract bears. We have lost several feeders, and finally posted little notes to ourselves to bring the feeders in at night.
- We have put netting over our windows near the feeders. This is not as obtrusive and distracting as you would think, and keeps birds from flying into the glass.

Please report any unusual birds or animals to Cherie Long. My most unusual birds have been Band-tailed pigeons and two goshawks.



A reminder to all who drive on Magnolia and its tributaries: While a horse on the road may be fine with traffic, he may be startled by a dog, a rabbit, a bit of trash --- and jump away from it and into the road.

Please slow down for people on horseback! Thank you!!

Weeds



Hey everybody, I just had our spring meeting of the Winiger Ridge Weed Management Crew, and came home with some timely and important info.

This year probably is not the year to try and get any new grass started.

Preceding years have been bad,

and the effect is cumulative. So, continue with weed mitigation, but hold off on re-vegetation.

1. Re: Rye Grass as a "bridge species" - - - Don't use it. It will be a greater fire hazard than cheat grass. Pubescent wheat grass was mentioned by Cindy as a better choice, if you choose to use a bridge species to help things along.
2. Goats and sheep: if diligently monitored, they can help, but they are very much the same as mowing. Goats, at this point, cost money, and sheep don't. For more info, contact the county.
3. Prioritizing the weeds we have: get the worst ones first, then the lesser baddies. First ones: Thistles, knapweed, spurge, hounds tongue, toadflax, and cheat grass. Then, if you have the time and the level of commitment: woolly mullein and the multifarious mustards. Scotch thistle is showing up in more places in the county. If you see it, get it!
4. Integrated management is the key. This means a multi-pronged approach such as: chemical (herbicides), mechanical (pulling, digging, mowing), biological (beetles, etc.).
5. Info on herbicides can be found on the website for the National Pesticide Information Center. Sorry, I don't have the exact address. USFS also has risk assessment info on herbicides.
6. For large meadows with thistle, the recommendation is mow (3x) or graze to prevent

flower/seed formation, and then apply herbicide in the fall.

For site evaluations, identifying weeds and other plants, contact Jennifer Stewart at 303-442-7460 or larkspur@indra.com. This service is given at no cost to property owners as part of the Winiger Ridge Pilot Project. See all of you around this season. Pray for rain.

What can we do to preserve our natural soundscape?

By Paula Hendricks & Norman Lederman



For now, *more* citizens need to file aviation noise disturbances with DIA's Noise Abatement Office. This remains the *only* way of documenting aviation noise impact. In the year 2000, 5,705 complaints were recorded by only 29

households in Nederland. In 2001, 3,520 complaints were filed by 17 households. The small number of complaining households relative to the total number of complaints and the size of the impacted community diminish the impact of this data. Even if you are disturbed by a jet only once or twice in a year, please call in your complaints. If 3,520 *individual households* had called in one complaint each in 2001...this would really raise some red flags at DIA and with our elected representatives!

Aviation noise complaints can be called into DIA's hotline at 303-342-2380. They may be faxed in to 303-342-2366. They may also be e-mailed to noiseoffice@diadenver.net. Be sure to include your name and location, and date and time of the occurrence. DIA is asking for feedback concerning new and better ways of recording complaints. One idea is to add this capability to their website. Please fax or e-mail your suggestions to them, or call the Noise Abatement Office directly at 303-342-2360.

Last year, our Congressional Representative Mark Udall promised to follow up on a special study of aviation noise impacts on Western Boulder County that his predecessor David Skaggs required the Federal Aviation Administration to carry out *3 years ago!* We need to continue to remind Mark of his promise and the fact that Western Boulder County (including wilderness areas such as Indian Peaks) is unique from the *cities* of Boulder and Denver and special consideration must be given to preserve natural quiet in these areas. Please

let Congressman Udall (303-457-4500) know that we are all still waiting for the special study promised years ago.

Our County Commissioners should be asked to support DIA's Noise Abatement Office's initiative to reroute all hush-kitted stage 2 and MD80. Please call Commissioner Liaisons Marianne Reichert at 303-441-1688 and Dickey Lee Hullinghorst at 303-441-3561 and tell them that this imperfect plan at least shifts noise pollution away from Boulder County's wilderness areas and registers the fact that these aircraft are serious noise pollution offenders.

County governments can request DIA's Noise Abatement Office to lend noise monitoring/recording equipment to communities that are concerned about aviation noise. We plan to ask PUMA's support for setting up this equipment in our community for the purpose of recording current conditions during this relatively quiet period of aviation traffic. We look forward to documenting our community's soundscape as soon as possible...because often times...you don't know what you have...till it's gone!

PUMA Chipping 2002 Summary

By Greg Ching



Over 60 households participated in this spring's slash chipping project. This was a 100% increase from last year's effort. This year's record was 3 solid days of chipping at one location!!!

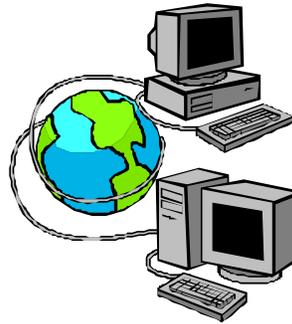
If you would like to participate in this fall's slash chipping project please contact your nearest area coordinator:

Shenna Fitzgerald 303.642.3236 (Lazy Z area)
Yvonne Short 303.938.9658 (Aspen Meadows/Pine Glade area)
Parmita Pushman 303.449.0349 (Porter Ranch/Twin Sisters area)
Allen Robie 303.447.0559 (Forsythe area)
Mike Jackson 303.417.1731 (CR68 & Cumberland Gap area)
Greg Ching 303.442.8855 (Lower Magnolia area)

Thanks again for not burning your slash

Magnoliaroad.net Open For Business

By Greg Ching



After concluding an almost 2-month trial involving as many as 25 potential subscribers, the Magnolia Road Internet Cooperative (MRIC) is now open for business. Monthly subscriptions are initially \$50 for unlimited high-speed internet access. To see actual performance data posted by MRIC subscribers,

see www.dslreports.com/archive. Some of these users are receiving transmission speeds up to 30 or more times faster than their normal dial-up lines!

There are four Access Points (APs) currently in the Magnolia region. Two are along Lazy Z, one along Twin Sisters, and one on Pine Glade. A fifth repeater should be installed along Porter Ranch in June. More will come depending on additional subscribers.

Suggestions for community-based services are being solicited. A grant for smoke-sighting outdoor web cams is one possibility. Free internet service to our local fire stations is a long-term goal. Local weather data and road conditions are another project. To make suggestions and learn about this co-op please look up www.magnoliaroad.net.

High Country Fire Department BBQ



The members of the High Country Fire Department and Auxiliary are hosting a BBQ at High Country Fire Department Station 4 on **Saturday, July 27 from 5-8 PM**. Station 4 is the fire station on Magnolia Rd. All proceeds will benefit the auxiliary who provides both logistical and

financial support for the work of the High Country Fire Department. The Auxiliary assists by providing water, snacks and sometimes meals for the firefighters during emergencies. They also raise funds to provide this support and to purchase needed materials for the Department. Firefighters will be on hand to cook your dinner and answer your fire related questions. Hope to see you there.