

# DURANGO WEST II Metro District News

May 2021 Newsletter



**Annual Garage Sale Returns June 12**  
Our DW2 annual garage sale will be held on Saturday, June 12th from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., so get your stuff ready! The Metro district's role in this event is to schedule and pay for an ad in the Durango Herald.

ordinance that fines residents at least \$200 for not securing trash containers from wildlife. Residents must leave their trash containers in a garage until the day of pick-up and put the container back inside by the end of the day; or have a bear-proof garbage container. You can report trash can raids by bears to County Dispatch at 385-2900. Check out [bearsmartdurango.org](http://bearsmartdurango.org) for more resources.

## Spring Cleaning – Help out in Front of Your Property

There are a lot of needles in the street gutters from residents' trees. It would be very helpful if every resident could just clean up what is in front of their property. This would ensure proper drainage as well as prevent damage to the adjoining asphalt. Thank you.



## Trash and Bears

Some residents are placing their trash cans out before trash day. Please remember to only put trash

cans out in the morning of your trash pick-up day. Putting trash cans out before that attract bears and we do not want them to start frequenting our neighborhood. La Plata County has an

## Wildfire Mitigation Projects Completed

The District has completed its major Wildfire Mitigation projects. Our contractor performed mitigation on the Interior Greenbelt that extends from Oak Drive to Willow Drive as well as the small triangle between Willow Drive and Fir Drive and the one in between Oak Drive and Michael Way. As he came in under budget, he was able to get a head start on maintenance work in the canyon as well.

**In the three years of wildfire mitigation work, the District spent \$104,000 and mitigated over 64 acres of district property.** Please see map below for mitigation areas – green is 2018; blue is 2020; yellow is 2021. The district will continue to budget for mitigation maintenance work in future years; but it is great to have completed this essential major project!



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### Wildfire Mitigation for Property Owners – Home Ignition Zone



**WILDFIRE  
ADAPTED  
PARTNERSHIP**

Homeowners are advised to clean up the needles from roofs and gutters as well as assess mitigation needs on their own properties. Adapted Wildfire Partnership have many mitigation resources available for homeowners. DW2 residents are eligible for programs that Adapted Wildfire Partnership offers. Check out <https://www.wildfireadapted.org/> to

find out more. One program is the Home Wildfire Risk Site Visit. This is the first step to possibly getting some financial assistance when available. Contact Charlie at [clandsman@wildfireadapted.org](mailto:clandsman@wildfireadapted.org) or 206-697-2613 for more information.

In recognition of Wildfire Preparedness Month, two free community workshop opportunities are being offered in May by Wildfire Adapted Partnership. These workshops will help residents learn more about fire history in southwest Colorado, how the organization is working to build fire adapted communities, and steps that local residents can take to lower their property's risk of wildfire. Both workshops will be held virtually via Zoom. For more information and to register, go to: <https://www.wildfireadapted.org/news-1/2021/4/1/home-ignition-zone-workshop-series>



### Open Burning Prohibition Reminder

With spring clean-up under way, please be careful with needles and slash piles. A reminder that there is a district prohibition on open burning. Building, main-

taining, attending, or using a fire, campfire, stove fire, burn barrel or trash fire within the boundaries of the Durango West Metropolitan District No. 2 is prohibited. The prohibition on open burning does not apply to (i) grilling or cooking food using charcoal, wood, propane or natural gas in appliances designed for cooking or grilling; or (ii) patio wood or gas-burning units such as a chiminea, patio warmer, or other wood or gas-burning device used for outdoor recreation and/or heating. Residents need to comply with any stricter prohibitions is-

sued by La Plata County or the Fire Department. Building, maintaining, attending, or using any fire within the open space and greenbelt areas of Durango West Metropolitan District No. 2 is prohibited without exception. Please contact the district office at [dw2@mydurango.net](mailto:dw2@mydurango.net) if you would like us to email you a copy.

### Drought Update

Parts of La Plata County are in extreme drought and other parts are rated as in exceptional drought. The last 11 months (April 2020 to Feb 2021) are the driest on record for Colorado as a whole (when compared to the same 11 months for the period of record). The dryness will reduce springtime runoff, especially in western Colorado. Above normal tempera-



tures and below average precipitation are anticipated in the upcoming months. Extreme soil moisture deficits and below normal precipitation means all basins should prepare for a low runoff year. The continuance of drought is expected through 2021. (from Colorado Water Conservation Board's Joint Water Availability & Flood Task Force)

### Water Conservation

The District advises residents that we are not only in an extreme drought year but are also at the same time experiencing prolonged drought years. Therefore, please remember to practice conservation measures as water is a precious resource. Also remember this when making decisions regarding landscaping or plants and choose xeric-landscaping options when practical. Here is one resource: <http://coloradowaterwise.org/XeriscapeColorado>.

### REMINDER of CURRENT WATER RATES:

# of Gallons Used per 1,000 gallons	Additional Cost
0-6,000 gallons	
6,001 – 8,000 gallons	\$7
8,001 – 10,000 gallons	\$10
10,001 – 15,000 gallons	\$15
15,001 – 30,000 gallons	\$25
30,000+ gallons	\$50

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### DW2 Water Situation

Some of our water comes from our wells within DW2, and some of our water comes from Lake Durango Water Authority (LDWA). Our wells are currently not producing so we are depending on LDWA this year until monsoons hopefully kick in. LDWA purchases water from Lake Nighthorse then sells that water to DW2, among other districts and retail customers. While this means that DW2 has a more consistent water supply through LDWA, it comes at a cost and is not an unlimited supply. LDWA contracts with Lake Nighthorse to purchase a set number of acre feet each year in addition to its other water rights. DW2 pays a flat rate to access LDWA water. Our acquisition and monthly bulk service fees are \$8,519 every month. Additionally, we are charged for all water used according to a tiered rate structure. Despite implementing a new rate structure in January 2020 and 2020 being a very dry year, we still had very high water use during the 2020 spring and summer months, resulting in much higher water costs for the district. More crucially, it resulted in a few precarious times when the water tank level was below the amount required for fire protection. We are asking those that already practice water conservation to continue doing so this year. For those high-water users, the District asks you to please cut back on your water usage this year. For those in the middle, continue to watch what you use and cut back when you can. Otherwise, the District may need to institute more stringent water conservation methods and penalties like we have had to do in the past.

### Mosquito Control

DW2 has contracted with Animas Mosquito Control District to put environmentally friendly briquettes around district ponds to prevent mosquitos. However, since the water is low this year in the pond and our minnows are

plentiful (they eat the mosquito eggs and larvae), they are not currently finding larvae. They will continue to monitor the situation.

### Eliminate Mosquito Breeding Grounds

Please do your part in eliminating breeding grounds for mosquitoes by checking for standing water around your homes and getting rid of it. This small effort will help protect yourself, your family and your neighbors from mosquito-borne diseases. Mosquitoes breed in standing water. A couple of times a week you should drain any areas where water sits – including flower pots and bird baths, pet bowls, gutters and construction materials.



### Trails and Greenbelt

Residents should not push or deposit needles or other yard waste on any trails or district greenbelt. We have received reports of individuals doing this in the past. While those doing this may have good intentions, depositing any materials on the trails is prohibited. It can be a fire danger as well as a hindrance or danger for bikers, etc. Thank you for your cooperation.

### No Parking on Streets



DO NOT park vehicles or trailers on subdivision streets anytime. It is a safety hazard in our neighborhood since we have no sidewalks. It also greatly hinders fire and emergency vehicles and snowplowing efforts. Parking on District streets is prohibited under Resolution 2004-03.

### Be a Good Neighbor - Clean Up after Your Dog



With the snows now gone, residents are noticing dog poop and dog poop bags around the neighborhood. Please be respectful of district property and residents' yards by always picking poop up after your dog(s) as well as your poop bags when you are on District roads, trails, greenbelts, and residents' yards and disposing

of properly. This helps to ensure that everyone can fully enjoy our subdivision.

### Pay Your Bill Hassle-Free and On-Time

More and more residents are enjoying the benefits of having their DW2 payment automatically withdrawn



from their checking account each month. Forget the hassle of paying your bill every month or worrying if it's late. Have your payment withdrawn the day after payment is due. Save paper, time, stamps, envelopes. Just

sign up for DW2 auto-draft. Email [dw2@mydurango.net](mailto:dw2@mydurango.net) to receive a simple form to fill out.

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Next Meeting is May 19, 2021 at 6 p.m. at the Mail House  
or Remote – contact [dw2@mydurango.net](mailto:dw2@mydurango.net) for instructions

### District Manager

Jane Looney

259-3946 • [dw2@mydurango.net](mailto:dw2@mydurango.net)

### Water Operator

Dave Marsa

759-1609

### District Accountant

Fred Owen

385-2518

### Board Members

Carly Thomson • 759-9156 • President • May 2023

Beverly Lawrence • 799-2775 • VP • May 2022

Wayne Schrader • 317-5109 • Treasurer • May 2023

David Cramer • 739-3681 • Director • May 2023

## DURANGO WEST II BUSINESS BRIEFS:

The Business Briefs section of the newsletter is provided as a free service to current DW2 residents who wish to have their business or service listed. If you would like to have a listing, please email your brief to [dw2@mydurango.net](mailto:dw2@mydurango.net).

▶ House sitting and pet care when you are away! Tutoring: K-8 in all subject areas. Licensed 20 yrs of classroom experience.

Plexus: An all-natural, plant based line of health & wellness products. Contact Carrie at 259-4599.

▶ Big Toy Boat, RV & Mini Storage provides storage options for Household & Business, Boats, Campers & RV's at competitive prices. Wendell & Vindred Qualls @ 970-247-2680, or [www.BigToyStorageDurango.com](http://www.BigToyStorageDurango.com)

▶ Holistic Chiropractor. Dr. Robert Stein. In practice since 1985. DWII homeowner since 1996. Call 382-8500. [www.drrobertstein.com](http://www.drrobertstein.com)

▶ House sitting and/or pet care including walking. I'm retired, reliable, responsible. Call Ken Hibbard 970-749-1378

▶ Lawn mowing and weed trimming services: Call Mason O'Bannon at 970-946-6041. Experienced 15 year old with own mower, weed trimmer and gas. \$20 per hour.

▶ Pet and plant care from a caring, reliable college student. Call or text Cassandra at 970-317-1439.

▶ Kokikai Durango Japanese Martial Arts: Practical self-defense & personal development through traditional training. Contact Thomas

Holmes at (970) 799-7632 or visit [www.kokikaidurango.com](http://www.kokikaidurango.com).

▶ Zumba With Donna Middleton. Classes at the Smiley Building 2nd floor dance studio. Wed. 5:45 pm. Fri. 1:30 pm. Sat. 8:45 am. Twice a month Sun. 9:00am. Call Donna @ 759-9944

▶ Cedar Enterprises LLC specializes in fire mitigation/fuels reduction in or around dwellings. Call for an estimate. Cedar wood cords neighborhood special \$250. Contact Bryan at 769-3438

▶ San Juan Paralegal Services; Contract Paralegal. Over 10 years of experience. Criminal Law, Civil Litigation, Personal Injury, Family, Business/Contracts, Trademarks. Contact Molly Pagano at (303) 881-4631.

▶ Join a Reiki class with Licensed Reiki Master Teacher, Teresa Jantz. Reiki is a stress reduction technique. All levels offered. Learn more and register at [www.TouchpointTherapy.com](http://www.TouchpointTherapy.com) or call Teresa at 970-903-2547.

▶ ABC Plumbing & Heating is available for plumbing & hot water heater service, repairs & remodels. Call 970-764-4315, [www.abc-plumbingdurango.com](http://www.abc-plumbingdurango.com)

▶ Dance with Wendy Graham Settle. Private lessons for weddings, reunions, and special occasions including Swing, Latin, Blues, Waltz, and Two-Step. Contact: 970.903.9402, [perkypantsdance@gmail.com](mailto:perkypantsdance@gmail.com), or go to [www.perkypantsdance.com](http://www.perkypantsdance.com).

▶ Ali Jacobs, owner of Empowered Living, offering Massage Therapy in DW2. Call 970-903-3189. Also offering Access Bars® touch Therapy (32 points on the head) which can be used to change all areas of your life.

▶ Get amazing locally roasted coffee here in DW2. You've probably seen our red and blue trailer parked at the entrance on Friday's. Feel free to contact me directly at [mark.rockymountainroastery@gmail.com](mailto:mark.rockymountainroastery@gmail.com) or text 303.385.7755

▶ James' Home Improvements & Repairs - Fully Insured; James Bowkett - 970-317-1467; <https://www.facebook.com/fourcornersimprov>

▶ Hair Services: Bella Vie Hair Studio. Certified Color Specialist, trained in precision cutting techniques. Call or Text Jamie to schedule an appointment 801-671-6805



Printing and mailing of this newsletter is provided as a community service by Max Hutcheson and The Durango Team. Wells Group Real Estate Brokerage  
970-375-7014  
[www.TheDurangoTeam.com](http://www.TheDurangoTeam.com)

