



TSVR Newsletter – Nov/Dec 2021

Winter is on its Way

Winter is approaching quickly! Make sure you are ready for a snowy Star Valley Winter with proper tires and emergency kit in your vehicle. The Town usually plows at night so it is important that you do not leave your garbage can or vehicle in the road right of way. During the winter of 2020/21 our Town received a total of 181 inches of snow. In



2016/17 we received 232 inches of snow. The Town of Star Valley Ranch is in snow country! If you have not spent a winter in Town, you may want to partner with your neighbors or Town staff for some recommendations. For the Town snow

removal policy please go to our website at www.starvalleyranchwy.org.

Dog & Cat Licensing

Did you know that cats and dogs in town are required to be licensed once they are 6-months old? If you haven't licensed your pet, fill out the attached form or download the form from the Town's website at www.starvalleyranchwy.org.

Trash, Food and Wildlife Conflicts



We live directly on the edge of the Bridger-Teton National Forest. It is home to abundant wildlife including large animals such as bears and mountain lions. The habitat of these animals extends into our back yards where there is an increased chance of conflict. To reduce these conflicts, we should all practice the following:

- Place trash receptacles out in the morning of pickup day. Do not leave them out overnight!
- Do not leave food outdoors; clean up and cover barbeque grills after use
- Feed pets indoors
- Keep small pets indoors at night
- Clean up around bird feeders
- Other than birds, NEVER feed wildlife ever!

Scheduled Meetings

Town Council Meeting

November 17th at 6 pm

December 15th at 6 pm

Planning & Zoning Board

Nov. 10th & 24th at 5 pm

Dec. 8th & 22nd at 5 pm

Water Utility Board

Nov. 1st & 29th at 1 pm

Economic Dev. Board

November 23rd at 2 pm

Coffee with the Mayor

Nov. 15th at 10 am

Dec. 13th at 10 am

Contacts

Town Hall

307-883-8696

clerk@starvalleyranchwy.org

Special Municipal Officer

307-880-2666

The Community Garden aka, Crop Circles

Would you like a vegetable garden for your family? Apply for a garden tank in Crop Circles. Our community garden; it is out in full sunshine and fenced to keep the deer out.

Send your request to svrcommunitygarden@gmail.com
Requests need to be made by the end of February 2022 for the spring-summer growing season. If we have more requests than garden tanks available, we draw names lottery style.



Winter Trailhead Parking

Want to get out and snowshoe or ski on the National Forest this winter? Our town road crews do not plow our trailheads so this is where to park when the snow gets too deep!



- **Cedar Creek:** Park in the small plowed out area just to the right of the junction of the Trailhead Road and Cedar Creek Drive.
- **Green Canyon:** Park in the Green Canyon Circle cul-de-sac just before the Forest Boundary.
- **Prater Canyon:** Park parallel on the left side of Cedar Way right at the Forest Boundary.

Community Garden Fundraiser Begins November 15th

The Natural Resource Board (NRB) has a Parks and Landscaping Committee. This committee along with the NRB raise money thru the annual Garage Sale for Trails & Parks and an online fundraiser thru \$eedMoney, a nonprofit organization. This year's fundraising event begins November 15th and runs thru December 15th. For that time period the Star Valley Ranch Community Garden will have it very own website and 100% of all donations made to our community garden we keep! Our plan is to add nine new six-foot garden tanks for our own gardeners (this will give us a total of 24 garden tanks) and six smaller tanks to grow vegetables for the Thayne Food Bank. Our gardeners donated over 36 pounds of their excess vegetables for the food bank in 2021, we'd like to triple that for 2022. To donate to the \$eedMoney campaign go to the following link between November 15th and December 15th:



<https://donate.seedmoney.org/5948/star-valley-ranch-community-garden>

Two Ways to Stay Informed to Things Happening in Town

1. Submit your email address at [Town of Star Valley Ranch, WY \(starvalleyranchwy.org\)](http://starvalleyranchwy.org) and get the town newsletter and other email updates
2. Like us on Facebook "Town of Star Valley Ranch"

Town of Star Valley Ranch - Citizen Survey Opportunity

During the month of November, citizens of the Town of Star Valley Ranch (TSVR) will have an opportunity to respond to a citizen survey. Your participation really matters, and your responses will be used by the Mayor and Town Council as they develop a new Master Plan for the Town of Star Valley Ranch. The survey has been developed based on information gained from five citizen focus groups and the questions that have been developed seek to gain your point of view regarding what you believe about where the town needs to go over the next 5-10 years.



The survey questions will ask you about your thoughts regarding what you think about TSVR., what you would like to see changed, and, most importantly, where you believe TSVR needs to be in the future. What do you want your community to do and be in the future? What do you want it to look like? What do you want to keep? What needs to change?

The surveys will be mailed to all citizen households during November. We are asking that you return them promptly as possible. All responses will remain anonymous. After the surveys are returned, and the data is analyzed, the information will be used to develop a new Vision and Mission statement for the Town of Star Valley Ranch and will be included in the new five-year Town of Star Valley Ranch Master Plan. The mayor and town council will then hold town meeting(s) to share the results with everyone who is interested. The survey results will also be posted on the website and on the town Facebook page.

Please look for your survey in the mail and return it as promptly as possible. (A stamped envelope will be enclosed for this purpose.) This is your chance to have input into the future of Star Valley Ranch. Your thoughts and perspectives are especially important to the Town Council and the Mayor. We look forward to hearing from you and learning what you believe is most important for TSVR now and in the future.

Happy Birthday Star Valley Ranch!

Congratulations! The Town of Star Valley Ranch celebrates its 16-year anniversary on Nov 8th. Here are a few fun facts about our Town;

1. We are youngest/newest town in Wyoming.
2. We are the 99th Town in Wyoming.
3. Our Town is ranked 3rd in total population in Lincoln County.
4. We have 35 miles of road to maintain.
5. We have the newest water system in Wyoming.
6. More than 67% of our residents are full time.
7. We now have a population of 1,866 citizens, a 24.2% growth rate since 2010.

We look forward to the next 16 years of growth and many accomplishments to come!





Town of Star Valley Ranch Water Utility

A series of articles explaining the underlying costs

This is not an attempt to say they are not high, just an explanation as to why.
Just so you know.....!

Where has my money gone and going?

Our system's Assets are made up of basically five groups:

Sources of Water:


- a) Airport Well – across Vista Drive from Town Hall, our oldest was reconditioned spring of 2014,
- b) Fox Run Well – northwest corner of the BLM 40 acres, new well in 2010
- c) Well #3 – across Vista West Drive from Town Hall to the east and behind the old Mail Center, our largest volume producing well built in 2011, and
- d) Prater Canyon Spring – a reconditioned spring in 2012. The spring on average provides up to 300 gpm of gravity fed source of water.


Our sources are all new or have been reconditioned since the Town purchased the water system from the Association. (The Association's water sources are totally and completely separate from the Town. According to our water engineer's projections, the Town's total capability to produce a top quality water supply will meet the Town's anticipated needs at full build-out. As our population increases, our water needs will require more and more well pumped supply resulting in an increased usage fee.

In case of an emergency, we have a chlorination system at each source and each storage facility.


Storage:

- a) Prater Canyon Tank #2 – elevation is 6800 feet, capacity of 175,000 gallons and built in 1977.
 - b) Green Canyon Tank – elevation 6515, capacity 400,000 gallons was built in 1985, and
 - c) Prater Canyon #1 – our newest tank's elevation 6800 feet., capacity 425,000 gal., built 2011.
- Our engineers estimated we would need approximately 1,000,000 gallon capacity to meet full build-out and residential fire suppression requirements.

 **Main & Distribution Lines:** Nearly 35 miles of new properly sized, professionally installed pipe. Although not completely finished with the replacement projects, we are slowing down the upcoming projects due to lack of State grants and forgiveness funding options. We will however continue as funds are available to work on a prioritized list of replacement areas.

 **Fire Hydrants:** Approximately 216 throughout the Town, averaging 600 feet apart with no hydrant more than 800 feet from one another which translates to a hydrant less than approximately 400 feet of any structure. (Very few exceptions!)

Our fire suppression assets will be completed as soon as the current work-in-progress is finished.

-  **Reserves:** there are five reserves in the Water Utility, each with a specific use and funding.
- 1) WWDC Sinking Fund Reserve – \$500,000 required as part of the WWDC loan agreement. This reserve is completely funded, upon retirement of the loan, balance will go into (#2).
 - 2) System Replacement and Upgrade Reserve – Current balance is around \$2,000,000, funds are for those emergency costs of maintaining our current system above and beyond annual budgeted amounts.
 - 3) Loan Payment Reserve – this reserve is an annually revolving fund whose primary objective is a monthly deposit of funds to meet the annual payments to the State for our outstanding loans.
 - 4) Plant Investment Reserve – Balance is "0", but is in place to deposit funds collected from anyone outside our Town limits, who is approved to have access to our water system.
 - 5) Capital Equipment Reserve – an annually budgeted amount to cover planned acquisition of Water Utility Assets.

Full details of each reserve can be found on the Town's website under Water Utility / Liquid Assets.

We have one of the top, premier water systems in the State of Wyoming, if not the West. Our quality is outstanding, the taste is very good and relatively "soft" water!



Town of Star Valley Ranch Water Utility

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Just so you know.....!

How are the funds used?

WATER UTILITY 2021-2022 Operating Budget

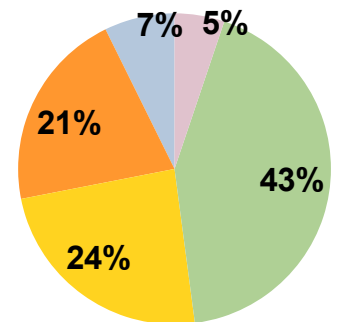
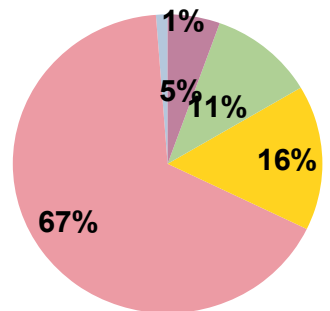
REVENUES

Miscellaneous & Interest Revenues	\$19,100
Operating Revenue	\$1,057,208
Usage Fee (.0022/gal – Same)	\$214,368
Base Fee (\$60/mth - \$62)	\$819,840
Miscellaneous Revenues	\$23,000
Service Availability Fees (\$21/mth - \$23)	\$249,216
Water Service Connect Fee (\$5,000 – \$7,500)	\$175,000
Application of Loan Payment Reserves	\$86,747
TOTAL REVENUES	\$1,587,271

EXPENSES

Water Administration	\$115,500
Water Operations & Service Agreements	\$330,491
Water Salary & Wages	\$380,738
Loan Payments	\$678,684
Contribution to Capital Reserves	\$81,858
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$1,587,271

Budget Allocations



How much are you contributing to each of these Revenues? Multiply the monthly rates times 12 or your annual usage times.. .0022 times 12. Current 2021 rates and recommended 2021 rates are in parenthesis above (**2021–2022**). The previous Newsletter has more examples.

This will be the final “regular” Water Utility Newsletter. In the last five newsletters we have tried to address those concerns and questions voiced by the majority of citizens during the “input period” for the updates to the Water Utility’s Ordinance.

We continue to solicit input and questions. We will use the Newsletter as a vehicle to communicate those responses we feel may have a general interest to the majority.

Inquiries to the Water Utility Board may be made by calling the Town at 883-8696 or send an email to clerk@starvalleyranchwy.org with the subject “Water Utility Board”.

Thank you!

Your Water Utility Board



Town of Star Valley Ranch

171 Vista Drive #7007

Phone: 307-883-8696

Star Valley Ranch, Wyoming 83127-5158

Fax: 307-883-8329

ANIMAL LICENSE APPLICATION/RENEWAL

Please **READ** and **Follow** these instructions in order to avoid inconvenience and additional costs to you at a later date.

1. All dogs or cats over six-months old shall be licensed within thirty (30) days of taking residence in the Town.
2. Each dog or cat license shall expire on **December 31st** of the calendar year for which it is issued, and each dog or cat shall be licensed annually thereafter.
3. Registration fees will be waived for Certified Service Dog or Cat with proof of Certification as prescribed by a Physician or a Certified Trainer.
4. No licensing fee will be prorated for a partial year, nor shall a refund be issued for any license fee already paid.
5. License is not transferable. In the event the License is lost or destroyed during the calendar year for which it was issued, a duplicate will be issued at a fee of \$2.
6. The owner's signed confirmation of address and contact information along with the animal's current spayed/neutered (altered) and rabies vaccination receipt from a certified veterinarian shall be required for registration and license renewals. Please email a photo of the animal (with name attached) to:

smo@starvalleyranchwy.org

CLASSIFICATION

Altered dog or cat
Unaltered dog or cat

FEE

\$10.00
\$25.00

LATE FEE (after January 15th)

\$5.00
\$5.00

Please verify information, make any necessary changes and complete any blank lines.

Owner(s) Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Physical Address: _____

Home Phone Number: _____ Cell/Work Number: _____

E-Mail: _____ Plat # _____ Lot# _____

Name of Animal: _____ Dog: ____ Cat: ____ Previous Tag # _____ or N/A

Spayed/Neutered: Yes ____ No ____ Color: _____ Breed: _____

Rabies Tag # _____ Rabies Expiration Date: _____

I certify the above information to be true and accurate.

Owner(s) Signature: _____ Date: _____

DO NOT WRITE IN HERE - TOWN CLERK DATA ONLY

Date License Issued: _____ License No. _____ Check # _____

Copy of Cert taken: Y/N Proof of Spayed/Neutered Received: Y/N Digital Picture Received: Y/N

Received by: _____