



TSVR Newsletter – August 2021

Be Firewise! It is so dry out there!



On July 12th we had a small brush fire on Hardman Road across from Fox Run Park. Luckily it was discovered quickly by a passing motorist and quickly suppressed. We are in a drought and having a fire start and spread this early in the year is an indicator of the ever-increasing fire danger. Please be careful out there!

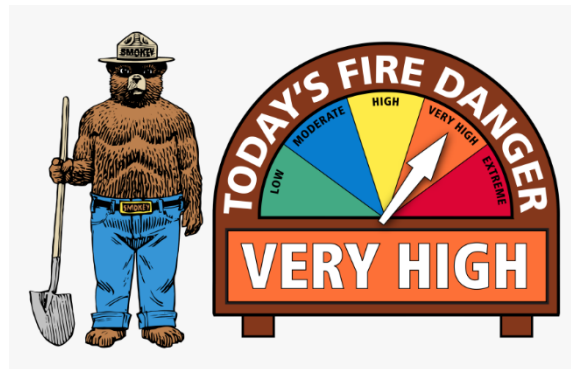
Remember it is **prohibited** to:

- 1. Conduct open burning of any trash, tree trimmings, leaf and grass clippings, or other such debris.*
- 2. Discharge fireworks*
- 3. Have a campfire that is not in a metal, masonry or stone enclosure with a spark arresting screen*

When the Energy Release Component (ERC), as measured by the Teton Interagency Fire Center, averages 60 or more over a three-day period, then all recreational fires are banned.

Fire Danger at Press Time:

Please be careful out there!



Scheduled Meetings

Town Council Meeting
August 18th at 6 pm

Planning & Zoning Board
August 11th & 25th at 5 pm

Natural Resource Board
August 17th at 2 pm

Contacts

Town Hall
307-883-8696
clerk@starvalleyranchwy.org

Special Municipal Officer
307-880-2666

Garage Sale for Trails & Parks

The Natural Resource Board will be hosting our 5th Annual Garage Sale for Trails & Parks on **Friday, August 20th from noon to 4 pm and Saturday, August 21st from 8 am to 2 pm** at the First Response Center (across from Town Hall). All proceeds go to the Town's Trails and Parks fund.

If you have items you would like to donate to the garage sale, send an email to svrtrails@gmail.com or give us a call at 307-883-9520. We will start accepting donations on August 1st.



You can also drop off donations at the First Response Center on the following dates:

August 3rd, 4th, 5th & 6th – 3:00 to 6:00 PM
August 17th, 18th & 19th – 2:00 to 4:00 PM
or on August 20th from 8 am to noon

Crop Circles, Star Valley Ranch's community garden

Perhaps you have noticed the tall fence at the north end of Canine Commons in Fox Run Park. Inside the fence it is particularly beautiful right now as all the Circles are full of green growing things. Each Circle, raised bed garden, is planted and cared for by a family in our community. Because the produce being grown is essentially private property the gates are locked. That said, we welcome you to come have a look at the Crop Circles. You might even be motivated to apply for the use of one for next season! There are now 15 raised beds right now and the plan is to add 10 more for next spring! For inquiries: svrcommunitygarden.com



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://Town of Star Valley Ranch, WY (starvalleyranchwy.org)) and get the town newsletter and other email updates
2. Like us on Facebook "Town of Star Valley Ranch"

Winter Recreation Citizen Advisory Group Formed

A small committee, made up of concerned citizens within the Town of Star Valley Ranch has been formed. Their goal is to develop and propose a winter recreation plan and present their findings to the Town of Star Valley Ranch and to the Star Valley Ranch Association no later than October 1st, 2021. This plan would cover such activities as snowmobiling, cross country skiing, snowshoeing, ice skating and sledding. To get further input from the public the Winter Recreation Advisory Group will host an open house on August 31st, 2021 from 7 to 9 pm at the Cedar Creek Center. Your comments are important.

Our Night Sky Resource

It comes as no surprise that a majority of people in United States a majority of live under light-polluted skies. In some parts of the world, people never experience a true night sky, but merely an artificial twilight.

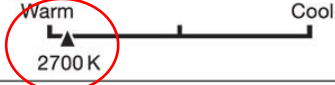
The problem stems from poorly targeted, overly bright, and improperly shielded outdoor lighting. Rather than being focused on the actual area that needs to be illuminated, bad lighting spills where it's not intended or needed—particularly the night sky.

We are lucky here in the Star Valley, we still have a dark sky and can experience a true night sky. But this is a resource that we will lose if we do not take action to protect it.

What are the things you can do to protect our starry skies?

- 1. Minimize the amount of illumination**
(reduce the brightness of exterior lights, use bulbs rated less than 800 lumens)
- 2. Minimize the area of illumination**
(use full cutoff fixtures that direct the light down to the ground where the light is needed)
- 3. Minimize the duration of illumination**
(turn off lights when they are not needed or use motion sensitive fixtures/lights)
- 4. Use long-wavelength lights**
(use lights that are less than 3000K, at the warm end of the Light Appearance Scale)
- 5. Use LED lighting**
(you will save money and natural resources)

If you have a problem with light pollution in your area of town, give our Special Municipal Officer a call at 307-880-2666, he is there to help!

Lighting Facts <small>Per Bulb</small>	
Brightness	750 lumens
Estimated Yearly Energy Cost	\$1.57
<small>Based on 3 hrs/day, 11¢/kWh Cost depends on rates and use</small>	
Life	22.8 years
<small>Based on 3 hrs/day</small>	
Light Appearance	
<small>Warm</small>  <small>Cool</small>	
Energy Used	13 watts

Lighting facts label found on each package of light bulbs in stores



Town of Star Valley Ranch Water Utility

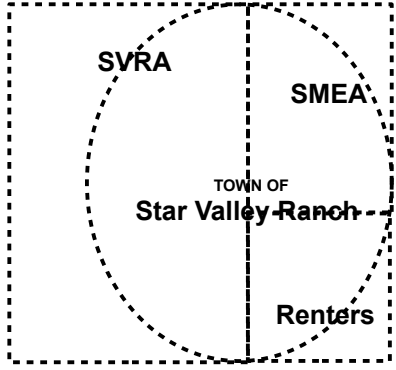
A series of articles explaining the underlying costs

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

Where does my money go? (and who can help me?)

Who's Who...?

There are three entities; Town of Star Valley Ranch, Star Valley Ranch Association (SVRA) and Sunrise Mountain Estates Association (SMEA) and where does one FIT?



1. If you live on the Ranch the majority of the TIME, you are a CITIZEN of the Town. You are governed by the Ordinances.
2. If you own property on the Ranch, you are a MEMBER of an Association; SVRA or SMEA and governed by their Covenants.
3. If you live and own property on the Ranch, you are a member of an Association and a CITIZEN and are governed by both.
4. If you live on the Ranch the majority of the time and do not own property, you are a renting Citizen and governed by both.

So where does my money go.....?

1. When you pay taxes; (None of this goes to the Water Utility)
 - a) Property Taxes – Approximately 7% is returned to the Town.
 - b) Wyoming Sales Taxes – Our Town receives a share based on our official, US CENSUS population, this is about 55% of the Town's General Fund Operating Budget.
 - c) Miscellaneous Taxes (gas, tobacco, lottery, licenses, permits and motor vehicle) again distributed based on population, approximately 20% of the Town's Operating Budget.
 - d) A few small taxes (permits, court fines and franchise fees) stay within the Town at 100%.
2. **When you pay your Water Bill or other Water Utility Fees:**
100% goes directly to the Town's Water Utility Accounts for their exclusive use!
They are our only source of revenue for the Water Utilities operations.
3. When you pay SVRA dues, it goes towards;
 - a) Recreation
 - b) Entertainment
 - c) Social activities
 - d) SVRA maintenance and operations

Where do I go for help or questions?

Town of Star Valley Ranch		Star Valley Ranch Association	
Emergency	911	Admin Office	307-883-2669
Non-Emergency - Water	307-883-8696	Cedar Creek Swimming Pool	307-883-2186
Non-Emergency – After Hours	370-880-9283	Cedar Creek Golf Course	307-883-2230
Special Municipal Officer (SMO)	307-880-2666	Aspen Hills Golf Course	307-883-2899
Town Clerk – General Questions	307-883-8696	After Hours	307-880-8050