



FIREWISE SIGN-UP & PICKUP FOR 2023

BE PREPARED & CREATE DEFENSIBLE SPACE AROUND YOUR HOME

This year the annual Firewise pickup of brush and trimmings in the Town of Star Valley Ranch begins July 17th and continues through the 20th. All brush should be cut in



lengths of not over 8 feet and placed along the side of the roadway by your home after July 3rd. Please remember that nothing may be placed on the road right of way prior to July 3rd.

You must be a registered participant in the Firewise program. If you are not signed up, here is what you do:

1. Call Patty Pringle, Director of the Lincoln County Firewise Program, at (307) 679-8574.
2. Patty will come out to your property to perform a fire safety inspection of your landscape.
3. She will then issue you a certificate of inspection as well as provide recommendations for any work that may need to be completed in order to make your home wildfire safe.
4. Take the certificate of inspection to Town Hall to have your name added to the Town of Star Valley Ranch Firewise Program list.

The risk of wildfires in Star Valley Ranch is real and should not be taken lightly. Homeowners should take the necessary precautions and follow Firewise recommendations to protect their homes and the community. By doing so, we can work together to reduce the risk of wildfire damage and ensure a safe and resilient community.

Visit [Firewise.org](https://www.firewise.org) for more information.

CALENDAR ITEMS

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Natural Resources Board

June 1st & 20th at 2pm

Water Utility Board

June 12th at 3pm

Town Council Workshop

June 13th at 2pm

Town Council Meeting

June 13th at 7pm

Planning & Zoning Board

June 14th & 28th at 5pm

NUMBERS YOU NEED

CONTACTS

Town Hall

(307) 883-8696

clerk@starvalleyranchwy.org

Special Municipal Officer

(307) 880-2666

smo@starvalleyranchwy.org

MAYOR'S MEMO

A FEW WORDS FROM KATHY BUYERS

Dear friends and neighbors,

As we wind down the fiscal 2022-2023 budget year, we look forward to the many projects the Council is working on for fiscal year 2023-2024. On June 13th the Council will finalize the 2023-2024 budget which will take effect on July 1st. The Council has built a budget based on the goals and objectives from our citizens' focus groups. The Council is focusing on how much revenue we should set aside in reserves for potential emergency use and future projects in the general fund.

Water Improvement Project 2021 will begin mobilization work the week of June 12th and should be completed by the end of July. The project will start at West Elkhorn Circle and will continue to complete connections on the remaining cul-de-sacs. After completion, road damage created during the project will be repaired.

Water Improvement Project 2023 should go to bid in July and hopefully start in early fall. This water project will replace water lines on Vista from Vista West to Vista East, up Vista East to Green Canyon. Please understand that a portion of Vista Drive will go back to dirt until the completion of WIP 2023. After completion the Town intends to pave the section of Vista impacted by WIP 2023. The Council is setting funds aside in reserves to pay for this estimated \$1.5 million dollar project.

The Scouts notified the Town that they will no longer be available to place flags on Vista Drive at the main entrance during holidays. This was very tough for all of us as the Scouts have been placing flags on Vista Drive for the last 15-plus years. However, our wonderful residents immediately volunteered to put the flags out on holidays this summer. A special thank you to Nikki Hathaway and the Lincoln County Democratic Party.

Our Town's 2022 population numbers are now 2,030 residents. We are currently the 2nd fastest growing municipality in the State of Wyoming. Welcome to all our new residents and feel free to contact me if you have any questions about our Town.

We are currently recruiting volunteers to serve on our Town Boards. Please email clerk@starvalleyranchwy.org if you are interested in helping your community. We could really use people with water utility, public safety and construction background.

Thank you.

Kathy Buyers



Visit the Star Valley Weather Blog to see the latest weather updates for our Town! Click on the graphic above or use this link:

<http://blog.starvalleyweather.com>

YOU CAN MAKE TOWN PAYMENTS ONLINE

AN EASY AND CONVENIENT WAY TO PAY

Did you know you can pay more than just your water bill online at the Town's website? From the main TSVR webpage just click on "[Online Bill Pay](#)" at the top of the page. In addition to paying your water bill, you can register your dog or cat, order address number plates, request new mailbox keys and more.

The link to this feature of our website is:

https://www.starvalleyranchwy.org/community/online_bill_pay.php



COUNCIL CORNER

A FEW WORDS FROM COUNCILWOMAN RUZENA ROK

This year the Town of Star Valley Ranch will celebrate its twelfth year as a designated Tree City USA community. The Ranch first achieved Tree City USA status in 2011.

Tree City USA is an Arbor Day Foundation program that recognizes cities and towns with a commitment to preserving and promoting urban and community forestry. The program, one of the Arbor Day Foundation's oldest, began in 1976 and has since expanded to include more than 3,600 communities across the United States. In our local Star Valley area, the towns of Star Valley Ranch and Thayne are the two communities currently holding Tree City USA designation (as listed on the Arbor Day Foundation website).

Tree City USA status is achieved by meeting four core standards of urban forestry management: the community must have a tree board; there must be an established community ordinance for tree care; the community forestry program must have an annual budget of at least \$2 per capita; and, the locale must have an Arbor Day observance and proclamation.

The TSVR Natural Resources Board (NRB) serves as the Ranch's Tree Board. The NRB is invaluable to residents in sharing and educating on the subjects of conservation, management, outdoor recreation, and environmental stewardship both within the town and across the greater Star Valley region.

Over the past 12 years some 180 trees (to include Aspen, Cottonwood, and others) have been planted on the Ranch at Fox Run Park and along Vista Drive near the Town Hall. Most of those plantings were accomplished as part of the town's Arbor Day festivities.

This year the Ranch will hold its Arbor Day celebration on Saturday, June 10th at Fox Run Park. I invite you to come out and join us at 10am - it'll be a roll-up your sleeves kind of event that you really should not miss! See you there!

Ruzena Rok

CONTACT YOUR COUNCIL

COUNCILMAN ELLIS

tellis@starvalleyranchwy.org

COUNCILMAN DENNEY

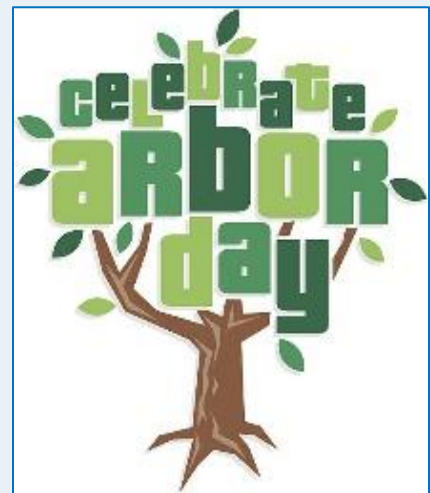
rdenney@starvalleyranchwy.org

COUNCILWOMEN MERRILL

kmerrill@starvalleyranchwy.org

COUNCILWOMEN ROK

rrok@starvalleyranchwy.org



DON'T MISS ARBOR DAY 2023!

PLEASE JOIN US TO CELEBRATE ARBOR DAY AND PLANT SOME TREES AT FOX RUN PARK!

The Town of Star Valley Ranch will celebrate our 13th annual Arbor Day on Saturday, June 10th 2023 in Fox Run Park at 10am. We will be planting additional trees within the park. The Town of Star Valley Ranch will also be recognized as a Tree City for our 12th consecutive year!

Please join us and learn more about Arbor Day as well as the activities sponsored by our Town's Natural Resources Board (NRB). The NRB will have trail books and maps as well as hats and T-shirts for sale. Additionally, attendees at this year's Arbor Day event can participate in a raffle to win some nifty prizes.

Lastly, the NRB recognition plaque (on display at Town Hall) will be updated with 2023 Arbor Day donor names or remembrance names for those donations received before May 11th. Donations received after May 11th will be recorded on the Arbor Day 2024 plaque.

Look for the signs around town on June 10th and we'll see you at Arbor Day!



SPRING COMMUNITY GARDEN NEWS

UPDATES FROM OUR CROP CIRCLES COMMUNITY GARDEN

Hello fellow SVR gardeners!

There's an old saying I was told when I first moved to North Dakota and started gardening. It has relevance for us in SVR and Wyoming zone 4. The saying is "*don't plant 'til after Memorial Day*". A warning that gives us a safety net to avoid the frosts and low temps that can be a part of our gardening life 🌱.

I know many of you have put in your row crops lettuces, carrots, radishes maybe peas and beans and maybe vine crops like tomatoes. As last year's gardeners can attest, we had very low temps in the middle of June and had to cover our plants. Remember the motto "*be prepared*". Every season is unique but wise Wyoming gardeners have a plan for covering our plants if need be. We can use poly-clear plastic, tarps on poles, the ubiquitous sheets and blankets also work but have something on hand in case of frost. We're safe after the end of June for the most part. If planting bedding plants try to make sure they are quick like early girl tomatoes or 4th of July varieties.

You may have noticed the "water me" signs. Please put one in your tank if you need to be away for a few days. Our community will water for you. I'm headed to my tank this week to put in my garden. I'm hoping for a good crop and have faith in my seeds. As always if there are questions or concerns, please let me know. You can reach me by email at: svrcommunitygarden@gmail.com

We are celebrating Arbor Day on June 10th down at the Crop Circles. Trees to plant, friends to meet, and the Trails Crew will be there too. Come join us! Trees are creatures of beauty.

"To exist as a nation, to prosper as a state, to live as a people we must have trees." –Theodore Roosevelt

Deb Johnson



LINCOLN COUNTY SHERIFF'S REPORT

AKA - THE RANCH BLOTTER

The Lincoln County Sheriff's Office provided the following TSVR report for 1 to 30 April 2023:

Citations	3
Warnings	3
CFS/Law Incidents	35
Special Patrol	10

Animal Problem	0	Alarm	1
Citizen Assist	1	Citizen Dispute	1
Civil Standby	2	Disturbance	1
e911	8	Domestic Violence	1
Information	2	Medical	6
Lost/Found Animal	2	Security Check	3
Motorist Assist	1	Smoke/Fire Investigation	0
Traffic	2	Suspicious	1
Trespassing	0	VIN inspection	0
Protection Order	1	Repossession	0
Transfer patient	1	Welfare Check	0
Fraud	0	Vandalism	0
Elderly abuse	1	Parking Problem	0

Have questions, comments or just thoughts to share about our Town?

*Please email the **Ranch News** editor at newsletter@starvalleyranchwy.org and we'll do our best to answer your query, publish your letter, or pass along your comments in a future newsletter. Thank you!*



Be A Trail Crew Volunteer and Get Out There!



For more information on the Trail Crew and how you can get involved give Trails Committee Chair, Craig Adler a call at (307) 883-9520 (home phone) or (513) 324-4197 (cell phone). You can also contact him by email at:

SVRTRAILS@GMAIL.COM

For historical information on the Trail Crew visit our Facebook Page at: [Facebook.com/svrtrailcrew](https://www.facebook.com/svrtrailcrew)



Be a part of the TSVR Trail Crew and *Get Out There!* See you on the trails!

In the next issue of Ranch News



We're always looking for your photos!

*With that in mind we'd love to see
your photos of*

"Summer on the Ranch"

*for use in the July or August
newsletter issue.*

Don't be shy – send us your best!



Please email photos to

newsletter@starvalleyranchwy.org

*and we'll publish them next time
around!*



"Meet Your Town Employees"

*will also be returning in a future issue
of the newsletter*

Stay Tuned!

From the Water Board

Water Conservation Ideas

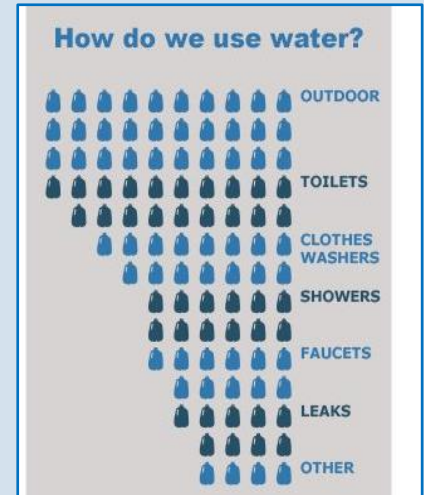
As we prepare for our beautiful Star Valley Ranch summer days and contemplate our alternatives of how and when to water our yards, remember:

Water Conservation does NOT mean NOT USING water.

Conservation does mean: *“a planned management of a natural resource to prevent exploitation, destruction, or neglect”.*

The Town of Star Valley Ranch, with good conservation practices, has adequate water supply for now and the foreseeable future.

However, that does NOT mean it is free! Our water rate (Usage Fee) for our citizens has been at \$.0022/gallon for many years, primarily because for the most part, our usage was within the volume of our natural Spring. As our total usage continues to go up (more homes) our reliance on our wells, to fill the gap between the demand and the Spring's flow, the cost per gallon will need to be covered by Usage Fee increases.



For the majority of our citizens a green yard, grass and shrubs is worth the additional costs for the 3-4 months we must water. Everyone can benefit from a few water conservation steps.

The annual average water usage per meter in Star Valley Ranch house holds is approximately 7,250 gallons per month, with as low as 2,500 g/mth in the winter and as high as 20,000+ g/mth in the summer.

≈30% OUTSIDE:

- Plant drought-resistant trees and plant.
- Put a layer of mulch around trees and plants.
- Don't run the hose while washing your car.
- Use a broom to clean driveways, sidewalks and steps.
- Water your lawn only when it needs it.
- Deep-soak your lawn
- Water during the cool parts of the day.
- Don't water driveway and roadways.

INSIDE:

- Put a plastic bottle in your toilet tank.
- Use your automatic dishwasher for full loads only.
- If you wash dishes by hand, don't leave the water running for rinsing.
- Take shorter showers. Take baths.
- Turn off the water while shaving.
- Stop using your toilet as an ashtray or wastebasket.
- Keep a bottle of drinking water in the refrigerator.
- ≈19% Check your toilet for leaks.
- ≈9% Check faucets and pipes for leaks.
- ≈15% Use your washing machine only for full loads.
- ≈12% Install water-saving shower heads or flow restrictors.
- ≈11% Don't let the faucet run while you clean vegetables.
- ≈4% Turn off the water while brushing your teeth.

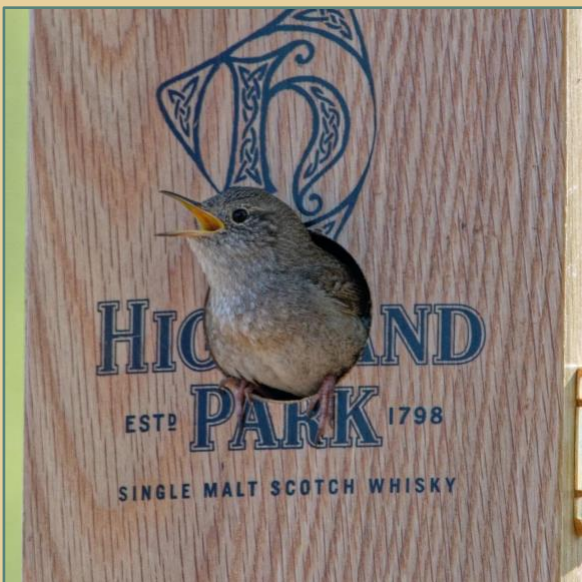
<https://www.volusia.org/services/growth-and-resource-management/environmental-management/natural-resources/water-conservation/25-ways-to-save-water.stml>

Our water is not free, but we believe we have the best tasting and safest water in the State!

Have a happy Star Valley Ranch summer!

FINALLY! IT'S SPRING!

PHOTOS OF SPRINGTIME ON THE RANCH FROM OUR RESIDENTS



ORDINANCE UPDATES & OTHER PUBLIC NOTICES

ORDINANCES

PENDING ORDINANCES OR UPDATES

The following ordinance update was approved as a third reading during the May 9th Town Council meeting. Ordinance updates become effective 10 days after the third reading.

ORDINANCE 2023-05 [THIRD READING]

TITLE XV LAND USAGE CHAPTER 150 BUILDINGS

Update to match language that was changed by ordinance in §150.076 (B)(8).



The following ordinance was approved as a second readings at the May 9th Town Council meeting.

ORDINANCE 2023-06 [SECOND READING]

APPROPRIATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023 - 2024

Ordinance to codify the TSVR budget for fiscal year ending June 30, 2024.

The complete text of all ordinance updates can be found on the Town website under Government > Ordinances > and then by using the “Current Proposed Ordinance up for Reading” drop-down. Or [click here](#).

Questions or comments on proposed ordinances or ordinance updates can be emailed to: clerk@starvalleyranchwy.org

PUBLIC MEETING HELD

HARDMAN ROAD & MIDDLE BRANCH DRIVE CROSSINGS
DISCUSSED ON MAY 17TH

On May 17th the Town of Star Valley Ranch held a public meeting to present residents with information on proposed options to replace the Hardman Road crossing over Cedar Creek. During the meeting residents also requested information on the status of the currently closed Middle Branch Drive crossing over Cedar Creek. The Town Council will work to provide additional information on plans for addressing the repair or re-opening of the Middle Branch Drive crossing at a future Town Council workshop or meeting. Stay tuned.



CEDAR DRIVE CLOSED

DUE TO SPRING RUNOFF

Cedar Drive is currently closed due to spring



runoff from Prater Canyon. As soon as we have an update on repair and re-opening, we will let you know. Thank you for your patience.



LETTERS

FROM OUR TOWN RESIDENTS

We're still looking forward to hearing from you, our Star Valley Ranch residents, please write!



Ranch News is published
8 to 10 times per year by the
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