

May 21, 2015

BIG SKY OWNERS ASSOCIATION



Hello From BSOA

Here are some of the important matters in Big Sky right now!

Board of Directors Candidates

Once again, the BSOA is preparing for their annual elections and there are 3 open seats on the BSOA Board of Directors. The Board of Directors are responsible for the oversight and administration of the Big Sky Owners Association. The BSOA has been around since the early years of the community and with the help of the Board, the Association continues to come up with projects that better both members and the community at large.

Those interested in joining this longstanding organization should submit a letter of interest to the BSOA office in person, or via mail. Applicants must own property, or lease commercial property in the BSOA jurisdiction and be in good standing to sit on the Board. **Filing period begins May 22, 2015 and letters of interest need to be received no later than the closing date of Friday, June 26, 2015.**

For further information about the process please contact the BSOA office at (406) 995-4166.

Physical Address

145 Center Lane Unit J

Mailing Address

PO Box 165007

BSOA Board of Directors

June 19, 9:00am

BSAC Meeting

June 3, 8:00am

June 17, 8:00am

SAVE THE DATE



This year's community weed pull will be at **4:30pm** on **Tuesday, June 23.**

ON TOP OF THE PEAK

This month's honor goes to:

Rumsey Young



Rumsey and his wife moved to Big Sky in 2004 and permanently settled here two years later. In 2007 he was recruited to join the BSOA Board of Directors and served for six

Community Weed Pull

Join us for the 3rd Annual Community Weed Pull on Tuesday, June 23rd from 4:30 - 6:00pm! Hosted by Gallatin/Big Sky Weed Committee, in partnership with BSOA, Big Sky Community Corporation and Yellowstone Club, the event



will take place at the Big Sky Community Park with a BBQ following as a thank you to participating volunteers.

The weed pull is important for the Big Sky community as it helps promote a sustainable and noxious weed free environment. The presence of noxious weeds in the Big Sky area is directly attributed to human activity, such as construction, recreation and travel. As it is our love of wilderness that is negatively impacting the environment, it is our job to fight against the spread of noxious weeds!

In the last 2 years over 1,000 lbs of weeds have been pulled and we hope to greatly increase that total at this year's pull. There were 28 volunteers who participated last year and we hope to have even more residents come out and help this year! If you have a pair of gloves, a shovel and are free during the evening on the 23rd meet us at the park to help! Volunteers should meet at the BBQ area of the community park at 4:30 and from there will break off into groups that will tackle the weeds in different areas. Weeds experts will also be attending the pull to educate volunteers about noxious weeds and wildflowers in the area.

If you are unable to attend, but would still like to support the event let us know! Donations of water bottles, gloves, sunscreen, volunteer appreciation gifts, etc. would be happily accepted. Contact the BSOA office, or email Emily at emily@bigskyoa.org with questions about what you can do to help stop the spread of noxious weeds!

Follow this link > <http://vols.pt/NvdgxH> to sign-up for the event online at VolunteerSpot.

Wildfire Season

years during which time he witnessed the success the organization experienced during the difficult economic times. During his two terms on the Board he was influential in the creation of both Bear Smart Big Sky and the beautification of the entrance into Big Sky.

Rumsey has been actively involved in the Big Sky Hikers for the last 10 years and handles the communications for the group. Rumsey also volunteers as a Mountain Host at Big Sky Resort. He says it is up to the Mountain Hosts to offer a warm welcome to guests and to create a magic moment for someone during the day.

Thank you Rumsey for being so involved in the Big Sky community!

Email nominations for next month's On Top of the Peak to bsoa@bigskyoa.org.

HAPPENINGS

May 21/22 - LPHS Musical Presents "Pippin"

May 24 - Soldiers Chapel Memorial Day Service

May 24 - 1st Annual Harbor's Here Run

June 6 - Big Sky Resort opens for the summer

June 6 - National Trails Day

June 13 - Wildflower & Weed Hikes @ Reflector

The moisture levels for Montana were recently released and it's looking like we could be dealing with a dry summer. Based off of the April reports, both Madison and Gallatin counties are moderately dry and on drought alert. Because of the dry conditions and low snow pack, the area may be at significant risk for wildfires this season.



May is Wildfire Awareness Month in Montana and programs like Fire Safe Montana try to educate homeowners of the importance in preparing your home in case a wildfire threatens your property. The theme of the this year's campaign is ONE LESS SPARK, ONE LESS WILDFIRE and officials hope this message instills a mindset in communities to think about what you're doing to help abate wildfires. Making sure campfires, if allowed, are properly constructed and extinguished, that trailer safety chains are not loose and dragging on the pavement sending up sparks, or that recreational shooting is done in such a way to avoid ricochets are just a few ways that people can do their part to avoid igniting a blaze. Officials just ask that individuals be conscientious when out recreating.

Preparing your home during the months leading into fire season will allow you to focus on other important matters if a blaze ever does approach your home. There are many steps homeowners can take to ensure their home is Fire Safe and some of them are as easy as removing leaves and other combustible materials from roofs and the area immediately surrounding the home, cutting back overhanging branches and having a fire action plan in place. Take a look at the [READY, SET, GO!](#) wildfire action guide for detailed information about preparing your family and home for wildfire season.

For more information about the One Less Spark campaign, or any other information regarding wildfires and how to prepare for them visit

Fire Safe Montana at <http://firesafemt.org/>.

Vegetation Control

In late May, or early June, spraying will begin on Meadow Village Road and Sweetgrass Hills Subdivison. The purpose of this spray is

[Trail](#)

June 13 - 2 Player Spring Draw at Big Sky Golf Course

June 18 - Business After Hours

June 23 - [3rd Big Sky Community Weed Pull](#)

June 24 - [Big Sky Farmer's Market](#)

June 25 - Music in the Mountains

June 26 - [Mary Poppins presented by Big Sky Broadway](#)

June 27 - Morningstar Learning Center Fundraiser

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HAVE AN IDEA?

Anything you'd like to see in the next newsletter? Let us know if there is an issue you would like addressed, an event your organization would like to share, or just something cool about the community.

to provide a complete kill of all vegetation 12 inches from the edge of the road, and to spot spray weeds coming through the road surface. It will help prevent the road's edges from breaking up, thereby reducing long-term maintenance costs.

Some residents may have lawns that are right up against the edge of the road, therefore the contractor will try to spray a narrower surface area where lawns exist. If a homeowner does not want the spraying to affect their lawn, then it is their responsibility to keep a six-inch dead zone between the edge of their lawn and the edge of the road.

Any homeowners who have questions, or concerns regarding the spraying should contact the office of Morrison Maierle Inc. Their office number is (406) 587-0721.

Bear Season

The bears have come out of hibernation and are beginning to make their presence known. Living in the Big Sky area it is not



uncommon for bears to wander onto our properties, sometimes by accident and sometimes because of an attractant. **BSOA would like to stress the importance of reducing the risk of problems with bears on, or near your property.** There are simple precautions that will keep you and our local bear population safe.

- ~ Trash should be stored inside a bear-proof container and be set outside the morning of pickup, not the night before
- ~ Close all windows when not at home, or when cooking
- ~ Pick all ripe fruit from trees and off the ground as soon as possible
- ~ Use an enclosed composter
- ~ Keep BBQ and gas grills clean and whenever possible store them in a garage
- ~ Pets should be kept inside at night and don't leave uneaten pet food outside
- ~ Have a plan in place just in case a bear, or any wildlife, finds their way into your home

If you find that bears have gotten into your garbage, garden, etc. remove the attractant immediately. Repeated use of a site by bears is much harder to stop than a single instance. Nine times out of ten, bears that repeatedly get into attractants around homes are eventually euthanized. Do your part to help save Montana bears. For more information about living with bears and wildlife in general, visit Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks website
> <http://1.usa.gov/1ID06FR>

Resort Tax



The Board of Directors for Resort Tax had the final open meeting on May 13 in which they held a Q&A for all organizations requesting funding. There were 29 organizations in all, with a few also asking for rollover funds from the previous year. Funds available for appropriation total just under \$5 million this year and funds being requested equal approximately \$4.3 million meaning a fair amount will be left over. Projects seeking funding include hiring a Deputy Fire Chief, increased Skyline services, a portable message board for emergency services, a tunnel and trail leading to the park, Big Sky Conservatory education program, gateway amenities to enhance the primary entrance to Big Sky, and many more.

The next meeting of the Resort Tax Board of Directors will take place on June 10, 2015 where final appropriations will be voted on. For more information on Resort Tax visit their website.
> <http://www.resorttax.org/index.php>

National Trails Day



BSCC is hosting trail projects to improve the community trail system in honor of National Trails Day on June 6th and they want you to help! All projects are family-friendly and include finishing and repairing trails, refinishing tables and benches, and removing the winter's accumulation of debris from the trails. The event begins at 9:00 am in the community park where there will be a free BBQ lunch once the work projects have been completed.

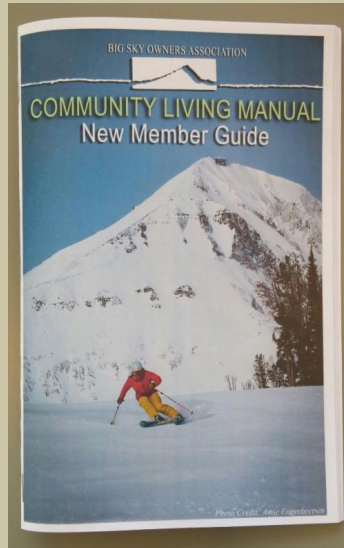
American Hiking Society's National Trails Day is a nationally

recognized trail awareness program that occurs annually on the first Saturday of June to inspire the public to discover, learn about, and celebrate trails. The idea for the special day evolved during the late 80's and 90's from trail advocates, outdoor industry leaders and political bodies that wanted to unlock the potential for America's trail systems and transform it into a network of interconnected trails, rather than just individual paths. It is a day meant to showcase beautiful landscapes and special/threatened locales while introducing thousands of Americans to a wide array of trail activities.

For more information call the BSCC office at (406) 993-2112, or visit bsccmt.org. Click [here](#) to view the National Trails Day poster you will see around town.

Community Living Manual

The BSOA likes to make sure its members are aware of all of the wonderful things that are available to Big Sky residents. From community services and organizations, to recreational activities and entertainment, there really is something here for everyone. However, being that most of the residents in Big Sky are in the area seasonally they may not know all of the services and activities available to them. The BSOA created a too-big-for-your-pocket pocket guide to the area for the use of our members. Though it says "New Member Guide" on the cover it is something that BSOA members both old and new can refer to! The guide also contains contact information for all of the organizations, services, etc. listed throughout.



The Community Living Manual is available in the BSOA office, so feel free to stop by and grab one anytime! If you are not going to be in the area anytime soon, but would still like to see the guide that has been put together let us know and we'll be happy to send you one. The BSOA office also has recreation brochures, area maps and local publications available to our members.

Email Changes

If your email changes at any point please notify the BSOA office, so that we may update our records. Both the Board of Directors and

BSOA staff want to ensure that members are getting necessary information by having current and correct contact information. Help us keep you informed by letting us know when your email is going to/has been changed.

Big Sky Owners Association

bsoa@bigsky.org | 406-995-4166

145 Center Lane Unit J | PO Box 160057 | Big Sky, MT 59716