

Big Sky Owners Association May 2018

Your Homeowner Association newsletter with this month's community news.



Photo Credit: Dorje Steinitz, Treeline_Photography

BSOA Board of Directors Meetings

Friday, June 15, 9:00 am
Friday, July 20, 9:00 am

BSAC Meetings

Thursday, June 7, 8:00 am
Thursday, June 21, 8:00 am

BSOA NEWS

Updated BSOA Bylaws: the First Article in a Four-Part Series

The BSOA Bylaws have not been revised since 2007 and it has become clear to the BSOA Board the need to modernize several outdated requirements and policies. In October 2017, the Board created a Bylaws Review Subcommittee made up of five BSOA Directors and three Volunteer Members. This Subcommittee has worked diligently over the past eight months reviewing,

discussing and recommending proposed updates to the Bylaws. In May, the BSOA Board approved most of these amendments, which will be put up for vote by the BSOA Membership in August 2018, culminating at the BSOA Annual Meeting.

In preparation of that vote, the BSOA Board would like to communicate some of the primary issues that are proposed to be amended and will be providing a four-part series of articles explaining the proposed amendments in the BSOA monthly Newsletter (also look for them on the BSOA website!).

This month, the topics are: 1) Cumulative Voting for the election of Board of Directors; and 2) the ability to revoke and resubmit votes that have already been submitted to the BSOA office.

Cumulative Voting: For years, BSOA members have been electing Board of Directors using this method of voting. Cumulative voting allows each membership interest one vote for each open Board seat and votes can be cast in any combination (all votes for one candidate, one for each candidate or any combination thereof). This method of voting is only allowed for the election of BSOA Board of Directors. Cumulative voting is not allowed in any other type of BSOA voting situation including Membership Resolutions, Policies and the election of members to the Big Sky Architectural Committee. For years, the different methods of voting have caused much confusion for some members. For instance, in the last election over 200 votes were disqualified due to confusion over the different forms of voting methods required by the Bylaws on the election ballot. Moreover, as the BSOA grows, the Subcommittee and Board believe that members are better served by eliminating cumulative voting, as this method is considered outdated and not in conformity with current state and federal election practices. Therefore, the Board is proposing that Board of Directors are elected using the same method as members of the Big Sky Architectural Committee. That being, each membership interest gets the same number of votes as the number of open seats, marking one X next to each candidate of choice. By simplifying and reducing the number of voting methods, the Board believes this will alleviate much confusion come election time.

The BSOA Board would like your opinion about eliminating Cumulative Voting! Please vote on this issue below:

Do you FAVOR or OPPOSE eliminating Cumulative Voting for Board of Director elections?

Favor

Select

Oppose

Select

Revoke and Resubmit Votes: Currently, the Bylaws allow members to retract votes that have already been submitted to the BSOA office and then resubmit their votes in person at the Annual Meeting. Although the Board does not believe this policy has been an issue in the past, it believes there is great potential for corruption of an election should there be a number of votes that were to be withdrawn and resubmitted. If this were to happen, another election may be required. BSOA elections are expensive. Therefore, as a preventive measure to any possible corruption to an election, the Board recommends eliminating this procedure and requires BSOA election procedures be consistent with local, state and federal elections. In other words, once a vote is cast, it cannot be retracted and resubmitted.

The BSOA Board would like your opinion on eliminating the ability to Revoke and Resubmit Votes! Please vote on this issue below:

Do you FAVOR or OPPOSE eliminating Revoking and Resubmitting Votes?

Favor

Select

Oppose

Select

Much work and consideration has gone into the BSOA Bylaws Review and Amendment process the last eight months. The Board would like to express its appreciation to those contributing Subcommittee members for all their time and effort in making our Association a more efficient organization.

Thank you Jack Luechtefeld, Anne Marie Mistretta, Leslie Piercy, Michelle Frederick, Maggie Good, Eric Ossorio, Kevin Frederick and Gail Young!

6th Annual Weed Pull **Big Sky Community Park** **Tuesday, June 19th 2018 4:30-6:00**



*Join us for our annual community weed
pulling event wrapping up with a
Burgers & Brats BBQ and all the fixins!*

Hosted by Gallatin Invasive Species Alliance in partnership with BSOA, BSCO and Yellowstone Club.

BSOA's Trash Regulation Reminder



This cub was seen locally on May 21, 2018

Spring is here in full force and the local bears seems to be very active this year. In an effort to reduce human-bear conflicts, here is a reminder of the Trash Regulations Resolution that was effective October 31, 2014. All BSOA owners, tenants, and guests are required to use animal proof trash cans. The resolution states the following:

- All exterior refuse disposal containers must be bear proof and screened and concealed from view of other dwellings
- No trash or trash can should be placed curbside for trash pick-up prior to 5:00 am on the day of a scheduled pick-up
- In addition to construction dumpsters at construction sites, an animal-proof trash can must be available for the disposal of food items and beverages consumed by workers on the site.
- Please be reminded, the association shall have the right to enforce these requirements, as well as issue fines against owners who are in violation.
- The Association may, at their discretion, provide financial assistance to owners for bear-proof containers.



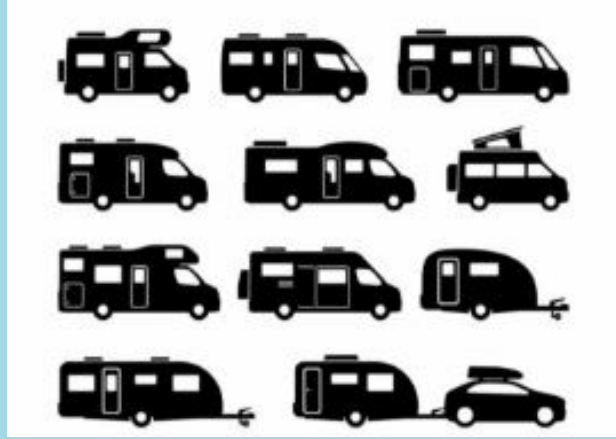
2018 Annual Meeting & Reception

**FRIDAY, August 31
3:00 PM with
Reception to follow.**

**BSOA Policy for Storage and
Parking of Boats, Trailers,
and Recreational Vehicles**

Summer will be here soon and the

BSOA would like to remind owners of the BSOA Policy for Storage and Parking of Boats, Trailers, and Recreational Vehicles. The Policy was adopted in 2015 and will be enforced if necessary.



The policy states:

No boats, trailers, snowmobiles, motor homes, or other recreational-type vehicles shall be permitted to be kept or stored on the premises of any lot or residence unless a covered, fenced and screened parking space is provided. (This must be approved in advance by the Big Sky Architectural Committee.)

Temporary parking of the aforementioned vehicles and trailers is permitted when advance notification is provided to the Big Sky Owners Association. Temporary parking is defined as parking for a period not to exceed 10 total days per month, and no more than 5 consecutive days without removal for a period of 2 days.

Advance notification can be provided in person at the BSOA office or by mail, phone, or email.

Thank You!

A REMINDER TO CONTACT THE BSOA PRIOR TO DIGGING A GEOTECHNICAL TEST PIT

A Geotechnical Test Pit investigation is a highly effective way of obtaining data on the subsurface soil and rock conditions which underlie a site. It allows for the various soils and rock types to be logged, the soils to be sampled and a preliminary assessment of the groundwater regime to be made. The Big Sky Architectural Committee understands and supports the need for geotechnical test pits within the BSOA jurisdiction.

Prior to performing any type of geotechnical work the BSOA asks owners and/or owner's representatives to submit an application informing us of when and where the work will be performed. There are no fees or review process associated with this application.

Applications are available by contacting Janet Storey, the BSOA Architectural Review Coordinator, via email at janet@bigsky.ia.org or by phone at (406) 995-4166. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.



COMMUNITY NEWS



Join the Big Sky Community Organization for a fun day of trail building and maintenance projects to improve the community trail system in celebration of the 50th Anniversary of National Trails Day, Saturday, June 2, 2018

Volunteers will meet at the Big Sky Community Park, located at 373 Little Coyote Road at 9:00 a.m. to join a variety of trail projects to suit all ages and abilities. Projects include, installing new culverts, trimming branches and shrubs, repairing sign posts and gopher holes and a trash sweep. After a fun day on the trails, volunteers will meet back at the pavilion by 12:00 pm for a BBQ lunch. The event is free and open to the public. Volunteers should bring gloves, sunscreen, water bottles, and trail friendly footwear and clothing. Some tools are provided but additional shovels, rakes, and wheelbarrows are welcome.



Upcoming Resort Tax Board Meetings

Monday, June 1st: Q & A -- **1:00 pm** at WMPAC

Monday, June 18th: Final Appropriations -- **6:00 pm** at WMPAC

To review applications visit: resorttax.org

New Noxious Weed Invader Alert!

Heads up to all pond owners in Big Sky - keep an eye out for yellowflag iris! For the first time ever, we identified this invasive plant among cattails in a private pond in the Beaver Creek area. Only two species of iris are known to occur in Montana outside of horticultural plantings:



Native Species

The **native** Rocky Mountain iris (*Iris missouriensis*) has blue to purple flowers, grows 8 to 24 inches tall, and roots and young shoots are toxic.

Invasive Species

The **non-native** Yellowflag iris (*Iris pseudacorus*) has bright yellow blooms, grows 3 to 5 feet tall, roots and shoots are toxic, and rhizomes contain black sap.

Impacts: Yellowflag iris forms dense monotypic colonies in riparian areas, crowding-out native species. This can alter riparian function and reduce habitat for wildlife, birds, fish and pollinators. Yellowflag iris is considered poisonous due to large amounts of glycosides in the leaves and rhizomes.

Habitat: Yellowflag iris is typically found in shallow waters, but can occur in depths of 2 to 3 feet. Adaptable to full sun or partial shade, it occurs in forested or open wetlands, and riparian and floodplain communities.

Spread: Once established, it reproduces by seed and vegetatively through rhizomes. Unfortunately, when it goes to seed, the seeds almost all produce new plants, as they are 99% viable. Flooding may transport rhizomes or seeds downstream where they subsequently establish new colonies. Wave action along lake shores may also break-up rhizome clumps and result in establishment of new colonies along the shore.

Management Priorities: Yellowflag iris was first reported in Montana in Lake County in 1966, and has been found in Flathead, Missoula, Ravalli, Granite, Sanders and Gallatin Counties. Prevention and early detection are critical for yellowflag iris management. Isolated populations should be contained or eradicated if possible.

Source / Credit: Montana State University Extension Weed Monthly Weed Post, May 2012, Jane Mangold



Eradication is possible if detected early.

If you see this plant, take action now!

Contact us for more information and assistance.

Gallatin Invasive Species Alliance

406-209-0905 www.gallatinisa.org

The Gallatin Invasive Species Alliance is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization working to conserve native plants, wildlife habitat, and water resources through noxious weed education and management.

Big Sky Owners Association

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BIG SKY
OWNERS ASSOCIATION