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Living with Wildlife



Upcoming Local Events



Holiday Greetings
from the GVRHOA



GreenValleyRanch
Homeowners' Association

Quarterly HOA Newsletter
Fall 2018

WINTER PREPARATIONS

Consider using these tips to give lawns, plants, trees and shrubs a better chance of rebounding next spring. Not only will your landscape maintain its health, you will use less water in April and May attempting to bring it back.

Fertilize your lawn

- Fertilize in October before you turn your sprinklers off. Fertilizing in fall will help your lawn be more resilient over the winter, and it will green up in spring without the excess growth from early spring fertilization.
- Do not fertilize trees, shrubs or perennial flowers in fall. In late summer, they prepare to go into dormancy, moving their resources from the leaves into the trunk and root system. If you fertilize them in late summer, they'll start to grow again, which can reduce their ability to make it through the winter.

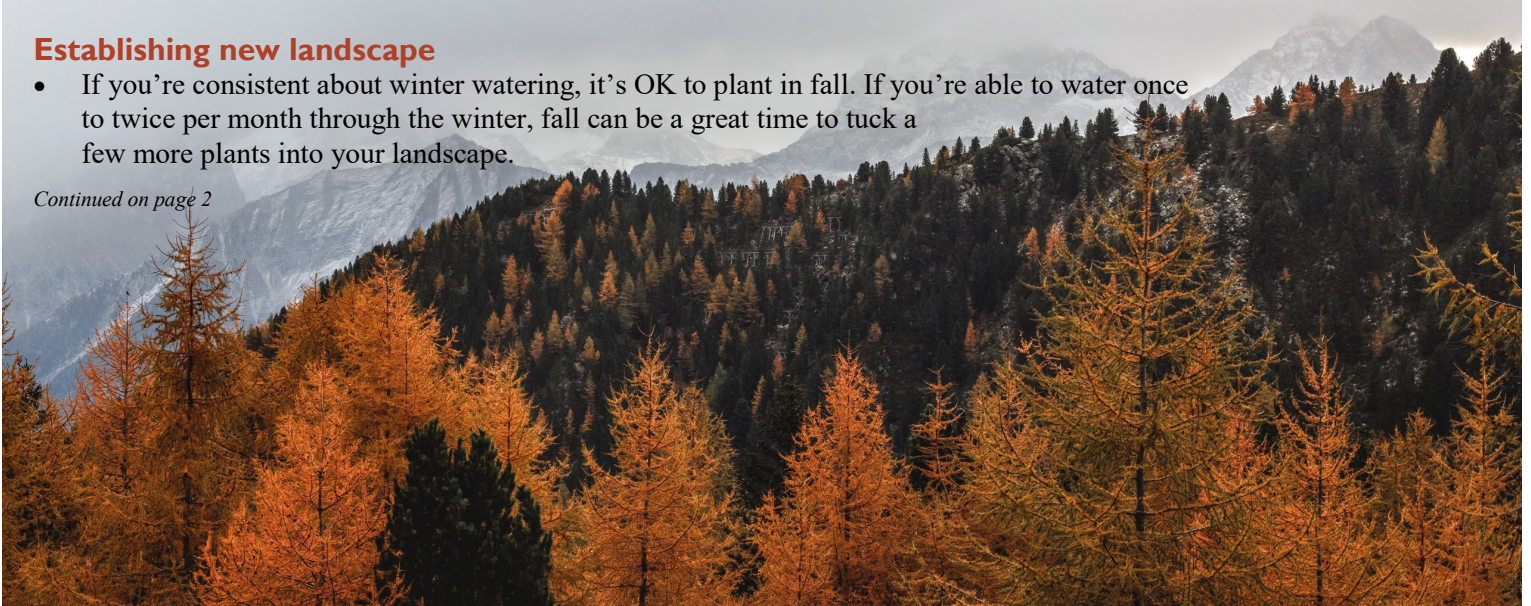
Top off your mulch

- If you have areas of your yard with wood mulch, make sure the layer is three to four inches thick. This will ensure plants are fully insulated to make it through winter. In addition, the soil will retain more moisture, which increases plants' chances of staying hydrated until spring.

Establishing new landscape

- If you're consistent about winter watering, it's OK to plant in fall. If you're able to water once to twice per month through the winter, fall can be a great time to tuck a few more plants into your landscape.

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Holiday Greetings

from the

Green Valley Ranch Homeowners Association

The Green Valley Ranch Homeowners Association (GVRHOA) would like to say “thank you” to all homeowners within the community for your attention and cooperation in complying with our covenants. This cooperation assists the Board in limiting assessed fines for continued violations. Although residents periodically violate sections of the covenant rules, the vast majority elect to comply.

Should you have any questions pertaining to our covenants, or if an additional copy of the covenants are needed, please contact Jeff Voltattorni, GVRHOACC member at (719) 528-6248.

Best wishes during this holiday season.

Weldon Shaver, HOA President
Green Valley Ranch Homeowners Association



DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

The city held a Public Neighborhood Meeting on October 3rd to review and discuss concerns regarding the development of 3-story apartment buildings west of Centennial Blvd. Members of the community, including HOA board members, attended the meeting and discussed options to minimize the impact of the development on our neighborhood. Construction is scheduled to start in early 2019.

WINTER PREPARATIONS

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Gain control of weeds

- Prevent weeds from producing a bunch of troublesome new seeds by tackling them now.

Tend to sprinkler systems

- Drain your backflow prevention device or blow out your sprinkler system at the first sign of freezing weather.
- If you turn off your sprinkler system and we get a stretch of warm weather in October, hand water or use a hose sprinkler. Dehydrated plants are more susceptible to winter kill.

Winter watering

If you've ever experienced the discouragement of lawn winter kill or dead landscape plants in spring, you may want to try winter watering. Even though landscape plants are dormant and brown, they should be watered periodically. Dry winter months often kill plants through dehydration. By choosing to winter water, your lawn and landscape plants will have a much better chance of greening up beautifully when the warm weather of spring returns.

When to water

- ⇒ Choose a warm winter day with air temperature 40F+ and unfrozen soil.
- ⇒ Water one to two times per month from November to April.
- ⇒ It's critical to water in March and April when the new roots are forming.
- ⇒ Water at mid-day so it can soak in before it freezes.

What to water

- ⇒ It's important to water newly planted lawns, trees, shrubs and flowers.
- ⇒ Established lawn areas and trees, especially those in sunny, windy, or exposed areas should also be a high priority.
- ⇒ Established shrubs, flowers, ornamental grasses and groundcovers will also benefit.
- ⇒ Do not winter water cacti, succulents, and very xeric plants.

How to water

- ⇒ Use a hose-end sprinkler or watering wand.
- ⇒ Remove the hose from the spigot after watering to prevent freeze damage.
- ⇒ Water slowly so it can soak in.
- ⇒ To figure out how long to water, put out cups to catch some of the water. Water until you can measure 0.5 to 1" deep in the cups.



Article provided by Colorado Springs Utilities (<https://www.csu.org/pages/winter-watering.aspx>)

Living with Wildlife

Wildlife can be found in and around the urban areas of Colorado's fast-growing Front Range. As Colorado Springs and its neighboring communities continue to grow and expand, subdivision development impacts wildlife habitat and wild animals are often displaced. Some species continue to live in open space areas, parks, undeveloped parcels of land, river bottoms, and on or near bodies of water. Others have adapted well to urban living; skunks and raccoons, in particular, appear to thrive around urban environments. In most circumstances, people and wildlife can coexist but the key is to remember that wildlife are not pets; they are wild animals. Most dangerous and potentially harmful encounters with wildlife occur because people fail to leave the animals alone.

- Here are some tips to help prevent wildlife encounters:
- Do not feed wildlife. It's illegal in Colorado to feed deer, bighorn sheep, mountain goats, pronghorn, and elk. Violators may be fined.
- Keep pet food inside.
- Cover window wells with grates, wire, or plastic covers.
- Fill gaps or holes around the foundation of your residence to eliminate a place for animals to live.
- Seal all cracks and holes larger than 1/4 inch in diameter to keep rats, mice, bats, and snakes out of a structure.
- Screen fireplace chimneys, and furnace, attic and dryer vents, and keep dampers closed to prevent wildlife entry.
- Bury wire mesh one to two feet deep to prevent animals from burrowing in unwanted areas.



- Store garbage in metal or plastic containers with tight-fitting lids, inside a garage or shed.
- Fence gardens and pick fruit from trees before it ripens and clean up fallen fruit.
- Keep bird feeders out of reach.
- Burn food off grills and clean after each use.

- Keep windows and doors closed and locked, including residence, garage, and vehicle doors.
- Do not leave food, trash, coolers, air fresheners, or anything that smells in your vehicle.

Article provided by the City of Colorado Springs (<https://coloradosprings.gov/office-emergency-management/page/living-wildlife>)



UPCOMING LOCAL EVENTS

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|-----------------|---|
| 26 Oct | Dinos and Scarecrows and Spiders—OH MY!
<i>Dinosaur Resource Center, Woodland Park</i> |
| 26-31 Oct | Boo at the Zoo
<i>Cheyenne Mountain Zoo</i> |
| 27 Oct | Emma Crawford Coffin Races
<i>Manitou Springs</i> |
| 28 Oct | Howl-O-Ween
<i>Colorado Wolf & Wildlife Center, Divide</i> |
| 31 Oct | Trunk-or-Treat
<i>The Citadel Mall</i> |
| 17 Nov | Winter Lights
<i>Seven Falls</i> |
| 23-25 Nov | Victorian Christmas
<i>Miramont Castle</i> |
| 30 Nov - Dec 22 | Madrigal Banquet
<i>Glen Eyrie Castle</i> |
| 01 Dec | Festival of Lights Parade
<i>Downtown COS</i> |
| 06-08 Dec | Gold Camp Christmas
<i>Cripple Creek & Victor</i> |
| 07 Dec - 01 Jan | Electric Safari
<i>Cheyenne Mountain Zoo</i> |
| 24 Dec | Winter Wonderland
<i>Colorado Wolf & Wildlife Center, Divide</i> |

Provided by Visit Colorado Springs (www.visitcos.com)



The Neighborhood Watch is looking for volunteers. If you're interested in participating, please contact Sue Roth at sktrothco@comcast.net

Hidden Pictures



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