



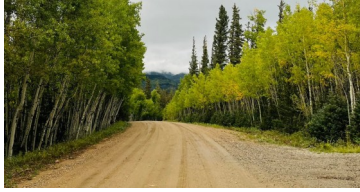
MICHIGAN HILL NEWS

A triannual newsletter brought to you by Michigan Hill Owner's Association

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Notes from the Board



The board has been busy working on a variety of issues, but at the top of the list is improving the roads.

They have obtained detailed information about what exactly needs to be done in the proper order to get the roads back to optimal condition and what needs to be done to keep them this way. This information will give them the ability to get a baseline cost so they can solicit three estimates from reputable, licensed and insured companies. This obviously will take some time, and of course money, as the board will require approval from the community as well.

In preparation for this work, the board is asking for assistance with two items. First, where the right of way meets your property boundary, please cut all trees as close to the ground as possible and remove debris that has captured road base and gravel. If everyone pitches in, a substantial amount of material can be reclaimed, saving money. Also, if property owners would clean culvert pipes out that would help with drainage. Be sure to notify renters to be respectful of the roads as well. Speeding, riding ATVs or dirt bikes, and doing doughnuts results in significant damage to the roads. (On a related note, please remind renters that a permit is needed for ALL fires. There was an unfortunate incident last season where renters left an illegal fire lit at the end of the weekend and the fire department had to be called.)

Finally, remember that dues must be paid before the next general meeting starts June 7, 2025, in order to be eligible to vote. The position of President, Secretary, and AtLarge will be open for election, so please be prepared to vote! Dues are \$250 per voting lot, and if the board has your email address, your statement was emailed to you. Contact MHHOA if you have not received your statement. You may also pay at the meeting sign-in table.

Unfortunately, the Jefferson Store, which provided breakfast burritos, has permanently closed, so food plans are in limbo at the moment. You are welcome to bring easy-to-share breakfast goodies as well. We look forward to seeing you there!

Did you know?

To gaze into the night sky and see the depth and breadth of the Milky Way on a clear, cloudless night truly inspires awe. But did you know that we are increasingly at risk of losing access to these incredible views due to light pollution? And we aren't the only ones to lose out. Migratory creatures, from Monarch butterflies to birds, are unable to navigate the night skies when light pollution disorients their migratory patterns. According to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, birds drawn into lights often become entrapped and circle the lit area, which can deplete their energy stores needed for migration and increase their risk of colliding with buildings and infrastructure. In addition, night time lighting can

affect birds by illuminating their habitats, causing them to avoid areas essential to their survival and or altering relationships between predators and prey, all because of too much light. But fortunately, organizations such as DarkSky International, are committed to combatting light pollution. They are an internationally recognized authority with over 70 chapters with thousands of volunteers around the world, working to protect the night sky using education to advocate for a safer, healthier planet.

Started in 1988, they inform the public how excessive artificial light can harm the environment. In addition, they certify lighting products, designs, and installations that reduce light pollution as well as help conserve starry sky parks and communities around the world.

What can you do to help reduce light pollution? Well, simply turning off lights during migratory months, such as April, can help reduce problems. But there is so much more! If you want to help birds and other wildlife that depend on the preservation of their natural environment, please check out **darksky.org** to see how you can help protect our night skies.



Featured Member(s)

For Emily and Bill Stone, neighbors are everything. Although they're fairly recent property owners on the Hill, they have embraced the community with open arms, and the community has returned the love.

While renovating their cabin on Glacier Peak View Drive in March of 2023, there was an unexpected knock on the door. Neighbors Tom and Mary were there with a welcoming gift of cookies. That gesture ignited a friendship based on shared values of kindness, generosity and a willingness to serve, as well as a penchant for happy hours, one that has continued even into their lives in Denver. They love getting up to the Hill as often as they can, especially in the winter. The peace, the serenity and the amazing wildlife, is something they cherish. Add the beautiful mountain vistas, and Emily and Bill will hopefully be our neighbors for decades to come.

What's to come?

The next issue of the newsletter is scheduled for SEPT 2025. If you have story ideas, pictures, or would like to be featured, email elaine.grace1067@gmail.com.

