

Greater Loghill Village Home & Property Owners Association
Annual Newsletter



Photo by Dickson Pratt

July, 2015

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Cover Photo – The Year of the Cicada

You may have noticed gentle clicking noises in the trees and bushes in the last few days. They are made by male Putnam's cicadas (*Platypedia putnami*) knocking their wings together to attract females. The adults have emerged after many years underground and should be around for a month or so. The last major emergence was twelve years ago in 2003.

The females will lay eggs in twigs of scub oak; when the eggs hatch the nymphs will drop to the ground, burrow into the soil, and feed on oak and other shrub roots for many years (the unknown life cycle is thought to be 3-5 years but it seems to be much longer than that here in western Colorado (they have also emerged in Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park). The cicadas cause little harm and should be of no concern (although egg-laying can damage twigs). The cicadas are much appreciated by the local birds: you may have noticed the birds feasting on them!

There is another, MUCH louder, cicada that may appear later in the season. But it is less common than the Putnam's cicada that is clicking away in our trees now.

Enjoy the show.

-Dickson Pratt 970-497-0579

President's Letter

I am pleased to report that your HOA has had another good year. I will comment briefly on some of the activities. The order of the comments reflects my priorities for the HOA.

Water

Your HOA is closely associated with The Association of Dallas Creek Water Users. Two of your officers, myself and Treasurer Larry Meyers sit on that Board. We have been watching carefully but not intruding in the beginnings of a negotiation between Dallas Creek and Tri County. We have offered both sides our assistance. We expect these negotiations to be long term, perhaps as much as 3 years.

We have unverified reports that Dallas Creek has made progress in addressing leaks in the system. A couple of years ago leaks amounted to 50% of water pumped. We have been given to understand that leakage is now in the range of 30%. Professionals we have contacted suggest acceptable leakage should be in the range of 10%.

Roads

Since we all drive. You will have noticed our continued activity in repairing cracks. We have already contracted with Sealco to continue these activities this summer.



Fire

Thankfully we did not experience new significant fire activity. We should all be grateful for the diligent watchfulness of our Fire Dept. Volunteers.

The West Region Wildfire Council held an informational get together at the Fire House. Around 70 or so homeowners showed up and a significant number applied for grants for defensible space and fire mitigation. Our Activity Committee stepped up and provided refreshments. Thank you!

Chipping

The chipping program continues to be popular. We plan continue the program in October. At this time there is no way of knowing if we will be eligible for the very generous grants we have enjoyed the last few years.



Mail Kiosk

As most of you are aware there was an accident at the kiosk. An RV inadvertently came in contact with one of the supports. Former President Reggie Kaier responded immediately as did former resident Matt Hepp, who is a civil engineer. After assessing the problem, Reggie began emergency repairs and later added steel reinforcements, re-stained the structure, and installed two new bollards. He also installed solar powered lighting for the early darkness in the winter. I should note that the operator of the RV was in immediate contact with me and accepted full responsibility.

Jim McCarthy
1560 Canyon Drive
970 626 4306 (H)

970 729 2548 (C)

LHVH&POA Treasurer's Report As of 12/31/2014



2014 HOA Income:

HOA Dues & Fees	14,926.55
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2014 HOA Expenses:

Accounting	485.00
Chipping Costs	2,835.00
Insurance	1,139.00
Legal	93.75
Mail Kiosk	5,249.00
Office Sup & Postage	523.94
Picnic	784.59
Road Maintenance*	<u>300.00</u>
Total	\$11,439.29

Net Cash December 31, 2014:

HOA Balance	16,412.43
ACC Balance	19,573.50
Less Refundable Dep	<u>-11,500.00</u>
Net ACC Balance	8,073.50

*One foot note, starting in 2014 and continued into 2015, one third of the dues collected are set aside for road maintenance.

2014 ACC Report

The Architecture Control Committee (ACC) for Loughill Village Units 1, 2 and 4 consists of eight volunteers from Loughill Village. Currently all positions are filled but if anyone is interested in becoming a member, let us know and we'll add your name to the wait list. One new member, Barry Doyle, recently joined the committee replacing Joe West. Continuing members include Bob Albrecht, Charlie Carson, Roze Evans, Dickson Pratt, Ted Rector, Jim Thate and Dennis Michaud.

For the year 2014, construction started on one new residence, while final inspection and approval was conducted on three newly completed residences, and four additions to existing residences. There were also several applications for removal of trees for fire mitigation as well as a couple of new fences.

Just a reminder that minor projects such as decks, fences, or roof replacements do require review and approval by ACC prior to starting construction to ensure compliance with the covenants. However, there is no deposit required for such projects. More detailed information on the ACC Standards and Criteria and required approval forms can be found on the website at

<http://www.loghillvillage.org/hoa.htm>.

We're here to help Loughill residents, so please feel free to contact any member of the ACC with questions.

Dennis Michaud

ACC – Chair

acclhv@loghillvillage.org

Unit 1 – Covenants Renewal

The Protective Covenants for Loghill Village Unit 1 will expire in June, 2016. To remain in force, they must be renewed by affirmative action of the owners of 51% of the assessed valuation of all property in the subdivision 90 days in advance the expiration date.

This renewal provides an opportunity to bring the covenants more in line with the current thinking of the residents within the unit. As with the renewal of the covenants for Units 2 and 4, a committee will review the covenants and prepare a draft version. This draft will then be distributed to all residents in the unit for review, and open meeting(s) will be held for discussion. The purpose is to be as inclusive as possible and allow free expression of all opinions, ultimately producing a final document.

The final document will then go out for approval. There will be a mailing to all property owners with a copy of the Protective Covenants and cards to be signed indicating approval. Once the covenants are approved, they will be registered with the Ouray County Recorder and become effective.

If you would like to become actively involved with the renewal process, please contact:

Jim McCarthy
1560 Canyon Drive
970 626 4306 (H)

970 729 2548 (C)

Speedsters on Loghill!



*Remember, Only **You** can prevent Road Kill!*

Reminder, there is a 25 MPH speed limit on all roads in Loghill Village. We have a lot of blind curves that can hide bicyclists, runners and walkers as well as the Kamikaze wildlife.

Please drive carefully and be alert.

Road Maintenance

We are so lucky to have the number of paved roads that we have. I remember back when we first bought our property and Ponderosa was rough, dusty and washboard. Think – it was very similar to CR 1. While there wasn't adequate funding to do all the roads, the planners at the time did an excellent job of getting the pavement as close as possible to as many people as possible. Some of the newer residents have commented that they wouldn't have considered purchasing property here if it weren't for the paved roads.

The county originally accepted the LHV paved roads as their responsibility. But with tight budgets and reduced tax revenue, they have openly admitted that doing any maintenance other than snow plowing is so low on their priority list that it just isn't going to happen.

While road maintenance is not our responsibility; it is our members that will suffer the consequences if the roads are allowed to go into total disrepair. Therefore LHV H&POA has taken the initiative to do what repairs and maintenance it can to prolong the life of the roads as long as possible. In this vein, one third of the member dues are earmarked for road maintenance.

LHV H&POA did a major crack sealing project in 2011 and again in 2013. There was minor work done around the mail kiosk and two potholes were repaired in 2014. In 2015 there will be another moderate sized project to seal new cracks. LHV H&POA tries to be prudent with the funds entrusted to us, but we feel that road maintenance, while not our responsibility, it is critical to retain property values.

New Broadband Provider for LHV

One drawback on living in a remote area is access to good *high speed* internet. While some may say that it is the price you pay for living in such a wonderful location, but to others the internet is what **allows** them to live in such a beautiful location.

Those who live within about a 2 mile radius of the mail kiosk can get reasonably good DSL speeds from CenturyLink. However, those outside that radius are stuck with very slow DSL (if available at all) or a wireless solution from Rise Broadband (formerly Skybeam). While Rise is reasonably good most of the time, they suffer from outages and inadequate bandwidth to handle peak traffic.

There is a new provider in the area, Mountain Broadband. The company was started by the owners of Superior Alarm in Montrose. They have recently installed a new broadcast location that is on the east side of 550 above Second Chance. So basically, if you have an unobstructed view of Chimney Peak, you can generally get their service. They will come out and do a site inspection for free.

There is a \$99.00 installation fee and they require a one year contract. Their monthly prices are:

5 Mb Down:	49.95 @ month
7 Mb Down:	64.00 @ month
10 Mb Down:	79.00 @ month

<http://mbbinternet.com/> 970-249-0676

I have personally been on their service for several weeks and there have been no outages and every time I have run a speed test they are delivering the speeds I am paying for.

2015 Log Hill Fire Update



2015 has begun as a busier than average fire year. In February, we responded to a chimney fire mid-mesa along County Road 1 during a significant snow storm. Your firefighters successfully extinguished the fire and contained the damage to the chimney and chase. February and March also saw the department respond to mutual aid calls to assist Ridgway Fire in two large grass fires along County Roads 24 and 8.

These three incidents give me an opportunity to comment on a couple of items I usually like to stress. Every year, residents of Ouray County suffer losses from chimney fires and most of these losses are 100% preventable. Regular maintenance, inspections and sweeping of chimneys is one way to significantly reduce these losses. Spring and summer are a great times to have your chimney professionally inspected and cleaned and at this time of year, many local companies give significant discounts and can better fit your schedule than postponing this chore until fall.

Fire mitigation continues to be a priority of Log Hill Fire, the West Region Wildfire Council (WRWC) and your homeowners association. I urge those of you who have not taken advantage of the professional help afforded by the WRWC, and Colorado State Forest Service as well as the generous financial assistance they offer in the form of grants to contact the WRWC and schedule a visit to your

home to discuss the programs they offer. They can be contacted at 970-615-7300.

Our commitment to the safety of our firefighters was again recognized in 2014 as Log Hill Fire was awarded the Pinnacol Assurance Circle of Safety Award for the third year in a row. Log Hill Fire was selected as one of forty-three recipients from over 55,000 Pinnacol Assurance customers. Pinnacol Assurance held a catered dinner for our firefighters before our training in November and gave us a 14% discount on our workers comp insurance.

One last thing I would like to address is some rumors that insurance companies use the ratings from the Log Hill Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) to raise insurance rates or cancel policies. The Log Hill Mesa CWPP was designed as an educational tool to help homeowners understand their wildfire risk, and help educate them on the steps they can take to reduce wildfire risk. Log Hill Fire, as part of the WRWC, has met with representatives from insurance companies and the insurance industry on several occasions and all of these meetings have ended with emphatic assurances from the insurance personnel that they do not and will not use the CWPP ratings to affect rates. Insurance companies do set rates based on wildfire risk ratings, but they receive these ratings from other sources such as companies who specialize in rating wildfire risks or inspections by the insurance company personnel. If we think about this, if insurance companies used CWPP ratings to set insurance rates, they would be subject to deception by fire districts which produced CWPP ratings which showed all properties with low wildfire risks.

You too can be a Log Hill Volunteer Firefighter. If you have ever thought about joining, I encourage you to attend training and see what we do. We currently have 28 firefighters and could use several more good volunteers. We have training at Station 2, 434 Ponderosa Drive, the first Wednesday night at 6:30 PM and the second Saturday morning at 9:00 AM. We are always happy to have visitors.

Thank you,
Tom Austin, Assistant Chief
Log Hill Volunteer Fire Dept.

Park & Recreation Update

2014 wasn't quite as busy a year as 2013 for the Parks and Recreation Board. No new trails were added and our planned trail maintenance work-day didn't materialize. We did continue our Mullen Weed infestation suppression efforts the along the Meadow Loop Trail.

Our focus is this year and we had our first trail maintenance effort on Saturday, June 13th. On a beautiful mountain morning, nine volunteers dug in with picks, shovels and hoes for the trail maintenance day organized by Al Lowande, the Park & Rec "Trail Boss". The main effort was to fight the water-caused erosion on our trails. On Deer Trail alone, 20+ "water bars" were constructed to channel rainwater off the trail. Similar work on Elk Run Trail was also done.

Trail maintenance is an ongoing activity, which we will continue to address. An additional work day is planned for the fall. Look for a "Call-for-Volunteers" on the bulletin board and don't miss the fun. We can use all the helpful volunteers we can get.

Also, a Park & Recreation team got together and built two new picnic tables for Inspiration Point. This will provide some needed additional seating for large gatherings, like our annual Loghill Village Picnic, and save on table rental expenses.

The Loghill Village Park and Recreation District Board meets on the first Tuesday of even numbered months. A meeting notification and agenda are posted at the mailbox bulletin board and Inspiration Point bulletin board a few days prior to the meeting. The meetings are open meetings, and all interested are welcome to attend.

If you're not familiar with the trail system a nice full color map of the trail system is available at:

<http://loghillvillage.org/LVPRD-TrailSystemMap.pdf>

Reminder, if you are planning an event with 10 or more attendees at the Inspiration Point Picnic Grounds, a reservation is required. The availability schedule and reservation procedures can be found at:

http://www.loghillvillage.org/park_district.htm

Richard Niemeier, Board President
Loghill Village Park & Recreation District (LVPRD)
180 Ponderosa Dr., Ridgway, CO 81432

Association of Dallas Creek Water Users

Following is an update from the Association of Dallas Creek Water Users. In January Dallas Creek Water Company submitted a written request to merge with Tri-County Water Conservancy (TCW). In that request, Jim Willey expressed his plans to retire in three years, which is about the time required to accomplish the consolidation. TCW's board of directors is actively considering this request, and will be conducting a field-trip review of DCWC's facilities on June 17.

In 2013, DCWC implemented a leak detection program that has reduced their PUC-reported system water losses from around 50 percent in the 2005-2012 period to 20 percent in 2014. They have replaced several inoperable main valves, pressure reducing valves, and fire hydrants, and recently recoated one of the water storage tanks at the towers. They have implemented a system flushing procedure, and are more rigorously following their emergency notification procedures.

Dick Kreutzen 642 Marmot Drive
970-729-2168 Ridgway, CO 81432
rkreutzen@msn.com

Activities Committee

The LHV Annual Picnic was a success again this year with about 56 residents in attendance. The picnic is regularly scheduled for the second Tuesday in June, so mark your calendar, next year's picnic will be June 14, 2016. We would like to thank the members of the Activities Committee for doing such a great job!

New to the area? Obviously you have found our web page or you wouldn't be reading this newsletter. However, please browse around the various pages as there is a huge amount of information available.

www.LoghillVillage.org



West Region Wildfire Council Grant Opportunities

The West Region Wildfire Council (WRWC) promotes wildfire preparedness, prevention and mitigation education throughout Delta, Gunnison, Hinsdale, Montrose, Ouray and San Miguel counties. Our mission is to mitigate loss due to wildfire in wildland urban interface communities while fostering interagency regional partnerships to help prepare counties, fire protection districts, communities and agencies to plan for and mitigate potential threats from wildfire.

FAQ's: Answers to a variety of questions that typically come up regarding our grant program can be viewed on our [Frequently Asked Questions](#) page.

2015 Grant Program: The West Region Wildfire Council is offering private landowners, and collective groups of private landowners, the opportunity to apply for incentive funding in an effort to implement recommendations outlined in approved Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPPs).

Funding and/or technical assistance is available to assist homeowners/ landowners with completing:

- Defensible Space Projects
- Landscape Scale Fuels Reduction Projects such as large shaded fuel breaks or roadside thinning projects along critical ingress and egress routes
- Demonstration Site Projects intended to highlight and showcase mitigation practices to encourage similar projects within a community

Please visit our [2015 Grant Program](#) page to learn more about current available opportunities and to download a copy of the Grant Program Application.

2015 Community Chipping Program: In addition to the Grant Program, the WRWC also offers an opportunity for groups of homeowner's and/or communities to hold a chipping event. For more information about this program, please visit the [Community Chipping Program](#) page.

Other Grant Opportunities: Please visit our [Other Grant Opportunities](#) page to learn more about other grants that might be available.

USAA Offers Firewise Discounts

The Colorado Department of Insurance has approved filings by USAA to give homeowners insurance discounts to USAA members living in communities recognized by the Firewise Communities/USA program. This discount applies to policies issuing or renewing on or after 5/30/2015. The same discounts are available to Firewise Communities in California and Texas.

To be eligible for the discount, participants must be a current USAA member living in Colorado and must reside within the boundaries of a recognized Firewise community site. USAA homeowners policy holders living in a recognized Firewise community will automatically receive the discount at their first renewal following the discount's effective date. New USAA policies for homes in recognized communities also qualify for the discount, but homes must meet USAA's underwriting standards before a new USAA policy can be issued. (Please note that how USAA determines individual insurance rates is their proprietary decision-making.) USAA has partnered with Firewise to automatically determine if a home is located in a recognized community.

The Firewise website has a list of the recognized communities, or residents may speak to a USAA representative to find out if they qualify. Residents need to know the name of their subdivision or community. More information is available here:

<http://www.firewise.org/usa-recognition-program/usaa.aspx?sso=0>.

Fire Mitigation in a Piñon/Juniper/Oak Forest

The LHV H&POA is very supportive of fire mitigation efforts by lot owners in our neighborhood! For those who are in Loghill Village Units I, II, and IV, the covenants require ACC approval of tree removal. This will be done promptly and may or may not need a site visit. There is no charge for ACC approval of fire mitigation plans.

And on the subject of fire mitigation:

Thin, don't Limb!

Many lot owners have been “limbing-up” piñons and junipers and think that they are doing fire mitigation. The best way to reduce the fuel load in a dense piñon/juniper/oak forest is to **Thin It** (remove entire trees). Limbing-up is worthless and makes the forest look ridiculous. Limbing-up and removing ladder fuels is a strategy for ponderosa pines, NOT piñons and junipers. Ponderosas have fire-resistant bark and can sometimes survive a low intensity ground fire if ladder fuels are removed and they are well-spaced. This is usually not true for piñons and junipers.

An overgrown piñon/juniper/oak forest, which is so dense that it is difficult to walk through, should have a significant percentage of the trees removed, leaving well-chosen clumps and single trees with an eye toward visual screening. Less dense forests can have existing meadows and open areas enlarged by removing trees along the edges and by increasing the spacing of the trees and large shrubs.

Advantages of thinning include:

- Significant reduction of fuel load, thus slowing down a wildfire and reducing the heat generated. This may give firefighters time to stop a fire or save a house.
- Increased sun and water for the remaining trees as well as the shrubs and other plants that live in the open areas. In winter more snow will reach the ground and melt into the soil rather than evaporate.
- Increased health and vigor for the trees left, possibly helping resistance to bark beetle infestation.
- Improved wildlife habitat due to a greater variety and abundance of food plants, as well as more sun and water for those plants. Dense, old-growth piñon/juniper forests tend to have reduced biodiversity. (However, such forests do favor tree squirrels, woodpeckers, piñon jays and, of course, bark beetles, because of the stressed condition of the trees.)

In my area (the end of Piñon Road East) it has been more than 116 years since the forest burned — yes, I counted the tree rings. Since using a natural wildfire or prescribed burn to thin the forest in a residential community is impractical, it is best to thin the trees artificially.

Thinning is best done in late fall or winter, preferably November to January, for bark beetle reasons. The piñon Ips beetle (*Ips confusus*) is attracted by the smell of stressed or damaged trees. This is why we have sometimes seen beetle attacks around construction sites in our community.



Ips Beetle

Healthy, well-watered, piñons are more resistant to the Ips beetle because they can generate sap pressure to push them out. The Ips beetle is typically dormant from November to February at our altitude, although recent warm winters have likely increased the length of the beetle season and reduced winter kill of beetles. Wet spring and summer weather, as we have had over the last several years, helps the trees resist attack from bark beetles. This is likely why there have been fewer trees affected in recent years than during the dry 2001-2003 period.

– Dickson Pratt

Editor's note: Be aware, some insurance companies, with their one size fits all underwriting policies, while not effective in Piñon/Juniper forests, are requiring limbing up 6 feet and brush removal.

There Is No Poop Fairy!



Fortunately, the majority of our residents realize this and responsibly clean up after their pets. Yet, judging from the deposits along our roads and trails, some of our dog owners must believe in the fairy. We are fielding many complaints about the minority of inconsiderate owners who apparently think that their dog's "business" should be everyone else's problem.

Is it a hardship to carry a cleanup bag when you walk your dog? We think not and believe it is your obligation to your friends and neighbors to do so. The rest of us are tired of cleaning your dog's "gift" off our shoes and off garage floors via car tires (yes - the worst offenders leave their dog's poop right in the middle of the road!). So, let's all be considerate of one another and be our own poop fairies.

Loghill Pet Network



The Pet Network continues to be successful at alerting residents of missing and found pets on Loghill. We've happily reunited pets to their owners which gives us great satisfaction. But, as a reminder, please keep your dog safe and on a leash at all times. Dogs like to wander and chase wildlife which can make them a nuisance to the neighborhood. And cats will live longer if they're indoor cats.

We'd like to thank all the concerned residents who have helped look for a missing pet and/or provided missing pets with shelter, water, and food until their owner can pick them up. Several of you gave these lost pets shelter in your garage or home where they were kept safe from predators and bad weather. This is greatly appreciated and we hope that you'll continue to temporarily aid any lost animal.

We'd like to ask you again, that if you see an unknown cat or dog in your yard, to let us know so that we can alert residents in Loghill and Fairway Pines before the pet becomes prey. Lost animals are usually hungry, thirsty, and disoriented. They need to be cared for as soon as possible. Please call us with a description of the pet and we'll get the word out.

We did have a few dogs and cats that were missing last summer; some were found and unfortunately, some were not. The cats that were missing were outdoor cats. With the coyote population that we have, this is not an unusual situation. Cats will, of course, be safer if they're kept indoors. The Colorado Division of Wildlife has provided us with information on how to train cats to stay indoors. You can find that information at

<http://www.loghillvillage.org/Documents/Catsoutandin.pdf>

Coyotes and bobcats live up here and eliminate several pets each year. We need to remember that this is their home as well as ours. Although we had less missing pets last summer, that's not a reason to let your guard down. Coyotes will take advantage of any split-second opportunity, so don't let your pet be that opportunity. Please keep your dog leashed at all times and walk with a short rein.

We welcome new members to our Pet Network, and if you'd like to be on our list, please call or email us.

Sandy Michaud	englishgardengirl@outlook.com	626-3453
Ted & Nancy Rector	bonetree789@yahoo.com	626-3186
Deb Cokes	dscokes@gmail.com	417-6661

Wildlife in Loghill Village



Abert's Squirrel – Photo courtesy of Arlen Huggins

The residents of Log Hill Village are both privileged, and sometimes burdened, by the rich diversity of wildlife in our backyards and on our roads: deer are numerous, cougar are occasionally sighted, wild turkeys are often plentiful, elk may arrive in the winter, coyotes are heard and seen from time to time, a growing number of the rare Abert's squirrels are making themselves at home, a large variety of birds arrive and depart with the seasons, and we are occasionally discovered by a number of bears.

However, our presence is the greatest long-term problem for wildlife because we are just one instance of the general loss of wildlife habitat that has resulted from growth encroaching on their traditional territory in many places throughout the world. Here at the south end of the Uncompahgre Plateau, we have built our houses right in the middle of prime habitat. That is why we have so much wildlife. They were here long before we arrived.

We did not intend to be a problem, and we cannot do anything to restore their habitat to its original condition—indeed growth will consume more and more of it, but we can co-exist in ways that do less harm.

General Guidelines: do not feed wildlife and keep all food sources indoors, keep wildlife wild by discouraging their approach or their feeling comfortable near your house; if confronting a predator, do not run, make noise to scare it away, and back up slowly.

Coyotes: coyotes are present year round and are especially lethal to small pets. Coyotes are smart, elusive, and adapt well to human activities. Keep pets on a leash or fenced inside a 6 ft. fence. Everyone can help by convincing coyotes that people are not friendly by hazing them away if you see them (good video at Colorado Parks and Wildlife web site.) Coyotes are more aggressive during breeding season in the spring.

Bears: especially the cubs and their mom from last summer, have been repeatedly sighted in Log Hill Village. Be sure not to provide them with food by storing all of your trash and pet food inside and using bear resistant trash cans for trash pickup. Kelly Crane of CDOW recommends that NO bird feeders be put out from May to November. Birds don't need food in the summer when other sources are available. As CDOW says, "A fed bear is a dead bear." Inform neighbors if you see a bear in the area.

Excellent books on co-existing with bears may be available at Cimarron Books in Ridgway. Two good DVDs are available from the Ridgway Library: Living in Bear Country (for homeowners) and Staying Safe in Bear Country (for hikers and campers). For problems, call Kelly Crane, CDOW, 252-6000.

Deer: do not feed the deer at any time. Native plants are healthier for them, and deer have evolved to put on enough fat by November to live through the winter if their energy is not wasted by moving to artificial feeding areas or running from dogs. Also, watch for deer on the roads and highways, especially during the fall and spring migration seasons.

Remember, "*predators follow prey*". If you have deer habituated on your property, you have the possibility of attracting cougars as well.

Bobcats: are seen occasionally and are often comfortable around people if accustomed to being tolerated by them. Bobcats eat small prey but seem to be especially lethal to domestic cats.

Cougars: deer are the natural prey of cougars, and since deer are plentiful here, cougars seldom bother people, whom they prefer to avoid. But they will take other prey, like domestic pets or livestock, if the opportunity arises. If you encounter a deer carcass that you think was killed by a cougar, vacate the area since cougars usually return to a kill. If you encounter a cougar, don't run, make lots of noise, and fight if you have to.

Dogs: must be on your property or under your control at all times. Dogs cannot be allowed to chase big game animals because it wastes the energy of the wild animals and may change their habits to their detriment. During the fall mating season, bucks are a danger to both dogs and people; during the spring fawning season, does are a danger to dogs in the area of their fawns.

Cats: owners should do what they can to reduce predation by their cats, perhaps providing a bell on their collar to give prey a better chance. Cats do an enormous amount of damage to the song bird population, especially when the young birds are just learning to fly. Chipmunks and ground squirrels also suffer. Free roaming cats are at risk from bobcats, coyotes, and cougars.

So, if you really care about wildlife, keep them wild and control your pets.

For more information about wildlife, consult the Living with Wildlife section of the Colorado Parks and Wildlife web page:

<http://cpw.state.co.us/learn/Pages/LivingwithWildlife.aspx>

or

Contact the CPW office in Montrose, 970-252-6000.

For immediate emergencies, call 911.

—Sara Coulter

Wildflowers and Other Plants



Claret Cup Cactus

If you would like to identify that mystery wildflower on your lot, I have pictures of many of the native plants of Greater Loghill Village here:

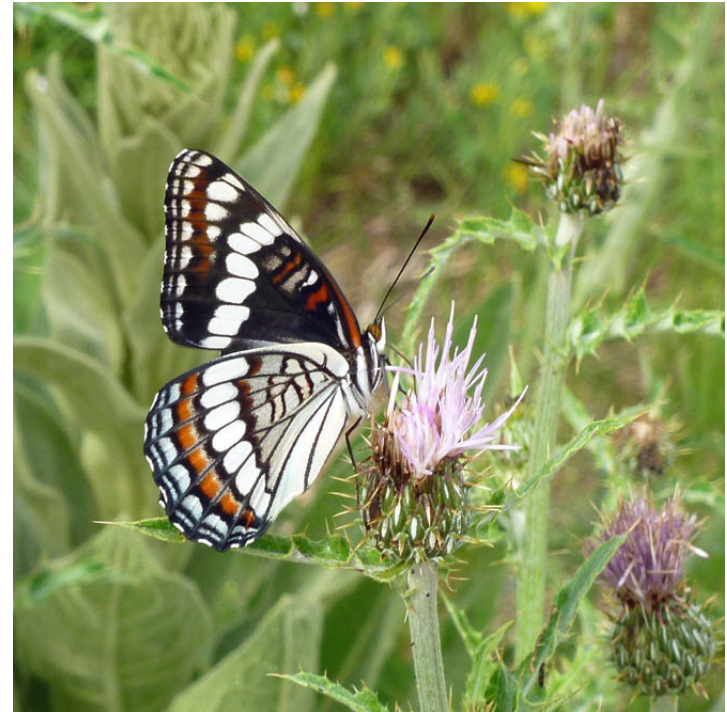
<http://nativeplantsofloghillvillage.shutterfly.com/>

Pictures of seven of our major noxious weed species are here:

<http://noxiousweedsofloghillvillage.shutterfly.com>

Control of these plants is required by state and county law.

Weidemeyer's Admiral on a Tracy's Thistle



Please don't assume that all thistles are noxious weeds; there are about two dozen native thistles in Colorado, although Tracy's thistle is the only native found in our neighborhood.

More pictures of Tracy's thistle, a native wildflower and valuable wildlife plant, are here:

<http://tracysthistle.shutterfly.com/>

- Dickson Pratt

Loghill Village Home & Property Owners Association - Contacts

LHV H&POA Board Members

Jim McCarthy	President	970-626-4306	lhvpresident@loghillvillage.org
Rob Ashmead	Vice-President	970-626-5165	lhvvp@loghillvillage.org
Larry Meyers	Treasurer	970-626-9825	lhvtreasurer@loghillvillage.org
Austin Ray	Secretary	970-708-8551	lhvsecretary@loghillvillage.org
Dennis Michaud	ACC Liaison	970-626-3453	acclhv@loghillvillage.org
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