

October
2023

GMF Town News

Thank You Town Volunteers!



Mayor's Memo:

On October 7th, there will be an emergency evacuation exercise sponsored by the Pikes Peak Regional Office of Emergency Management (PPROEM). <NOTE: Registration may be closed>. This exercise will test the integration of the various law enforcement agencies as well as citizen notifications. The exercise activities as I understand them are 1) residents who have registered will place a placard on their property at 9:45 am on Saturday the 7th; 2) Law enforcement will begin knocking on the doors of those homes who are displaying the placard from 10 am until 11 am; 3) at 11 am, an evacuation notification will be sent out via Peak Alerts; 4) those who receive the notification will go to Ute Pass Elementary School for a preparedness fair, mock shelters, a preparedness briefing and lunch. Registered participants should place their placard on the dash of their cars when going to Ute Pass Elementary.

My understanding is that there will be a place for pets at Ute Pass Elementary for registered participants when they come to Ute Pass Elementary.

Since this is a planned exercise, if you receive an evacuation order via Peak Alerts on the 7th, please do NOT call 911.

We are learning more and more about emergency preparedness for our community. The evacuation exercise is something that is very likely to be repeated in the future. Some of the things we are learning are that evacuations and recovery are probably the most important aspects of an emergency event. In my meetings with the Emergency Operations Management staff, I've learned that "recovery" is roughly "90 percent of the event". That actually makes sense. If the Marshall fire has taught us anything, it's that the environmental conditions (winds, humidity, drought, etc...) can overcome anything we as humans do to try to mitigate the situation ahead of time (basically Mother Nature always wins). That doesn't mean we should stop trying to remove excess fuels from our area. However, we do need to make sure we have good plans for evacuation and recovery. For example; as a homeowner, you need to make sure your insurance is up to date and that you have taken pictures of all your belongings (furniture, clothing etc...) and stored them in the "cloud" (gmail accounts are good for this). For recovery, we need to make sure we (Town and Emergency Operations) have plans in place to deal with removal of debris, erosion, flooding and road maintenance during the recovery process. The Town is already pursuing a Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) to plan for items like these.

Back in June, the Town of Green Mountain Falls joined the El Paso County disaster declaration for the heavy rains/hail we received. Once the declaration was signed, we formally applied for relief with FEMA. During one of the FEMA briefings, we were told that things done to make the "system" more resilient can be applied for FEMA funding. I asked specifically if that could include culverts on driveways. The FEMA staff told me "yes, as long as the culvert is in the Right of Way". I have driven all of the dirt roads in Town and I have counted over 80 culverts that are needed. In addition, I have identified numerous ditches that we need to make more permanent (as opposed to just as a result of run-off).

Finally, the Town received a technical assistance grant to develop the initial plans that will enable the Town to apply for Broadband grants under the Infrastructure funding. We likely still need to do the engineering before applying, but this grant gives us a great start!

Mayor Dixon

Fire Safety Update

The chipper days were a great success again!

CUSP cost sharing grant funds are still available through the end of this year. Contact Adrian Knight with CUSP - adrian@cusp.ws.

Town undeveloped ROW mitigation continues this month.

The Town Ordinance for nuisance trees is now in effect.

Grants/FEMA

The registration and application for the FEMA disaster funding are complete. The files identifying the roads, culverts and ditches are in work. We are currently at step 3 of about a 16 step process.

The grant to develop the Broadband Strategic Plan and Broadband Feasibility Study or Needs Assessment has been awarded to the Town!

Lake/Park Projects:

The next lake project will be the bridge going to the gazebo and will begin in the spring.

Recently, the Town was notified that a gift from the Kirkpatrick Family Fund will be given to the Town to completely re-envision the Pool Park area. More info to come!

Reminder:

Creek Week signup - see the the attached flyer!

October Events - For times and locations, refer to the Town Website
3rd - Board of Trustees
10th - Planning Commission
11th - Parks, Recreation and Trails
17th - Board of Trustees
30th - Fire Mitigation

Marshal's Report October 2023

The bears are back.

<https://cpw.state.co.us/Documents/Education/LivingWithWildlife/LivingWithBears.pdf>

- **Sec. 6-33. - Wildlife-resistant refuse containers or enclosures required.**

Except for a container which has a minimum of seven days per week pickup, any refuse container, regardless of size, including construction site containers that receives, between the dates of April 1 and the last day of November, inclusive, refuse which is edible bears by or other wildlife, shall be kept closed and secure in either:

(1) An approved wildlife-proof enclosure or;

(2) A wildlife-resistant refuse container which is stored within a building, house, garage or approved wildlife-proof enclosure.

If a container or enclosure is damaged, allowing access by wildlife, repairs must be made within one week after written notification by the marshal's office or town is received.

Dog Licensing

- **Sec. 6-101. - License required.**

[SHARE LINK TO SECTION](#)[PRINT SECTION](#)[DOWNLOAD \(DOCX\) OF SECTION](#)[EMAIL SECTION](#)

It is unlawful to own, keep or harbor a dog within the town unless the same is licensed by securing a license for such dog from the town on or before January 31st of each year or within 30 days after the dog reaches the age of three months.

Dogs purchased, obtained or otherwise acquired subsequent to January 31st in any calendar year shall be licensed within 30 days after becoming such residents to secure a license hereunder. Said license shall be issued by the town upon application stating the name, breed, color and sex of the dog, and name, address and phone number of the owner and upon production of **satisfactory evidence that such dog has been inoculated against rabies** pursuant to prevailing standards of the Colorado Department of Public Health or other controlling agency, and upon payment of the license fee.

**PIKES PEAK REGIONAL OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
TOWN OF GREEN MOUNTAIN FALLS**

Ute Pass Evacuation Exercise

OCTOBER 7, 2023

**RECEIVE HANDS-ON EXPERIENCE & VALUABLE
INFORMATION TO BE BEST PREPARED FOR AN EMERGENCY**

Residents interested in participating must register in advance and must reside in one of the following neighborhoods:

- **Town of Green Mountain Falls, Chipita Park or Cascade**

Registration may be completed online or at an in-person community meeting in September.

COMMUNITY MEETING

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2023 | 6:30 PM
UTE PASS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
9230 CHIPITA PARK ROAD
CASCADE, CO 80809**

**TO REGISTER OR LEARN MORE
INFORMATION ABOUT THE EXERCISE
AND UPCOMING COMMUNITY MEETING
YOU CAN SCAN THE QR CODE,**

VISIT:

**[HTTPS://ADMIN.ELPASOCO.COM/PPROE
M/UTE-PASS-EVACUATION-EXERCISE/](https://admin.elpasoco.com/pproem/ute-pass-evacuation-exercise/)**

OR EMAIL

AMANDA.MELDRUM@ELPASOCO.COM



CLEAN UP OUR CREEK!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



We Need Help From You



OCTOBER 8th, 2023 @ 9:00am
Meet at Green Box Farm Stand



Sign up using QR code below
OR just show up day of!



Anyone with gloves
and a smile welcome!



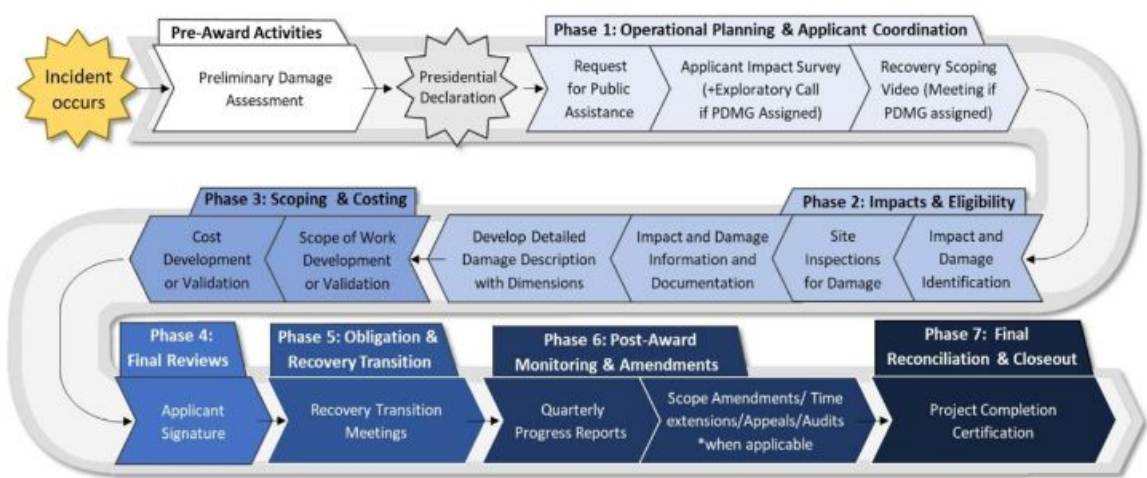
Help clean up Green Mountain
Falls' creeks and parks!

LEARN MORE HERE



Below is the Public Assistance Process from FEMA. We have registered and applied for Public Assistance under the El Paso County disaster declaration from back in June. We are now under the first step in Phase 1 with several more steps to go. If all goes well, we could be eligible for not only the repairs that have been done, but also mitigation items that would provide more resilience to future disasters. That could more mean culverts and ditches to help control storm runoff. We are waiting on word on if the Teller County portions of Town will be covered as well.

The Public Assistance Process





**Artist Conception of the Bear Resistant Dumpster
Blind...work will be beginning soon**