



Surrey Ridge 2016 - 2017 SRHOA Board *by Dick Todd*

The new board met for the first board meeting on July 8. For minutes and future board meetings and location, please visit the Surrey Ridge website.

The new members are:

President: Dick Todd
Vice President: Greg Smith
Treasurer: Greg Friess
Secretary: John Wittry
Operation's Coordinator:
Brian Miller

At Large
Jerry Cardwell
George Botsonis

To contact the board of directors and/or be included in the emails from the board to the community, send an email to surreyridgehoa@gmail.com or visit www.surreyridge.co and use the contact us link.



Back to school for kids!

Keep an eye out for kids and parents at the Bus Stops.

To all our Surrey Ridge kids and teens, have a great year!

SPEEDING in Surrey Ridge — time to take a stand!

The board has been discussing a very important AND dangerous issue that has been ongoing throughout the neighborhood —**SPEEDING!**

The board is currently checking with the Douglas County Sheriff's office to see what residents can do when observing someone speeding down the roads.

The hope is that we do not have to report a neighbor's license plate number and description of driver to the sheriff's office. This will include the many workers, delivery people, etc. that frequent our neighborhood.

Let's take care of this within our neighborhood. Please talk with teenage drivers, and also ask yourself if you speed in our neighborhood. The kids here are always out playing, riding bikes, and others walking, jogging and enjoying the beauty of Surrey Ridge. Everyone wants the neighborhood to be safe.

\$75.00 YEARLY DUES ARE DUE
for 2016/2017 operating year.
PLEASE PAY OR DONATE TIME
TO HELP KEEP OUR COMMUNITY GREAT!

Send checks to: Surrey Ridge HOA
558 Castle Pines Parkway, Unit B4-212
Castle Rock, CO 80108
Thank you from the SRHOA Board!

The importance of Surrey Ridge homeowners annual dues

by John Wittry

My wife and I continue to be amazed at the blessing it is to live in our neighborhood! As the madness of Lone Tree and Castle Rock continue to creep ever closer, Surrey Ridge shines bright as an oasis. Few people enjoy a neighborhood such as ours and the commitment and contribution of our residents (and those of Surrey Ridge Estates!) is one major factor.

As most of you know, the voluntary HOA dues remains at \$75.00 this year. As of July 2016, dues totaling \$1,350 have been collected. That represents just 18 households that have paid. Seven of those are from the Board members for whom dues are mandatory.

Each year, we incur expenses related to maintaining the trails, conducting weed abatement, maintaining the park, maintaining the community horse arena, maintaining the website, conducting community events (Easter egg hunt, car show, trail maintenance days, movie in the park, etc.) which all require money, time and energy. (NOTE: **No** Surrey Ridge funds are used for Surrey Ridge Estates trail maintenance. These trails are worked on through donations of time and money outside of Surrey Ridge dues.)

Because our community dues are voluntary (wow!), there is nothing we can do but encourage you to pay yours if it is at all within your ability. The Board is committed to doing everything we can to keep our community the best in the area. And like so many other things in life, that isn't free. Certainly there are people in our community that simply can't afford even this small amount. That is understandable. For the rest

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of us who are fortunate enough to be able to pay, please mail your check today! If that isn't possible, we are always looking for people to help with their time. We can offset some expenses (mowing the park, working on the trails, picking up garbage thrown by motorists or blown off garbage trucks, mowing the area around the arena, etc.) by the generous contribution of time and energy by the community.

If you would like to donate time and energy, please contact John Wittry at (720) 486-5345.

Ridgegate Light Rail Extension *by Greg Friess*

If you're not a fan of driving on I-25 into downtown Denver, you may be happy with this update. However, if you're already unhappy with the congestion on Ridgegate Parkway, you may not be so happy. Here we go, more urban sprawl into Douglas County!

Most of you have probably noticed the construction trailers at the intersection of Havana and Ridgegate. These trailers house the construction team for the Southeast Rail Extension Project. This project is a major expansion to the existing light rail, from Lincoln Station, to the new RidgeGate station located smack-dab where those job trailers sit.

And you've probably noticed that all those cattle that used to hang out on the hill across from the traffic light at Ridgegate and Havana: gone. My wife misses sitting at that traffic light, watching the cows hang out, almost like a Far Side comic strip – now to see massive earthmoving equipment plowing away the fields....

The project will consist of 2.3 miles of new track, a new station at Sky Ridge Hospital, new station at the (future) Lone Tree City Center, and the new terminus at Havana and Ridgegate. There will be a new bridge that runs across I-25, allowing the Light Rail to traverse from west side of I-25 to the east side of I-25. The project was approved by RTD on July 28, 2015 – and is underway. Completion is slated for spring 2019.

The most significant effect to Surrey Ridge residents will be the 4-story parking structure at Havana and Ridgegate with spaces for 1300 vehicles, and a transfer station for RTD buses. From the drawings, it appears that nearly the entire piece of land between I-25 and Havana, at the curve before the traffic light, will be the new station, parking lot, and infrastructure for the light rail.

The construction congestion will continue to get more intense once the rail and station construction starts. But the bigger concerns for SR residents will be the traffic and congestion, once the new track is up and running. This is definitely a result of living in one of the fastest growing metropolitan areas in the United States!!

More information, drawings, video flyovers, etc. can be found at: http://www.rtd-fastracks.com/se_1

Surrey Ridge Equestrian Committee update

by John Wittry



On May 21 and June 4 a number of projects were completed on our trails by both a Boy Scout troop and members of our community (Surrey Ridge and Surrey Ridge Estates). Special thanks goes to Jerry Cardwell, Karla and Bob Cosgrove, Chris and Sharon Hayworth, Greg Smith, George Botsonis, Greg Friess, Roger Burau, Donna Wittry and Gene Heidel. We worked hard and had some fun!

- The Community Arena fence and gate are painted. (Special thanks to Sue Mahon for having the gate repainted!)
- The creek crossing near Bill Miller's has been repaired
- Water bars have been installed at the top of Palm Tree Valley (Surrey Ridge Estates)
- Water bars have been installed at the top of the Boy Scout Trail near the upper arena (Surrey Ridge Estates)
- A new trail has been created to bypass the leech field near the Zotos' (Surrey Ridge Estates)
- Most trails are currently mowed (and that is an ongoing effort!).
- Another boy scout troop will be working on a stream crossing in the Wilderness Area on September 2
- An extensive map is being made of the trail system in the Surrey Ridge and Surrey Ridge Estates trail system (This map is currently being updated with the help of Troy Carmann, Jerry Cardwell and myself and will be posted on the website when complete.)

If you have any questions related to the Equestrian Committee, please contact me directly at (720) 486-5345.



New Neighbors

If you are new to Surrey Ridge or if current residents know of any new neighbors please let the SRHOA board know so our new neighbors can receive directory, information on trails, guidelines and any other information they would like to know.

New neighbors please tell us about yourselves by joining www.Nextdoor.com. When you log on to this website you can find Surrey Ridge and add information about yourselves and/or your family if you choose. Also, be sure to send your email address to surreyridgehoa@gmail.com for future communications. Again, welcome to Surrey Ridge.



The Surrey Ridge trails



by John Wittry

One of the greatest attributes and the primary focus of the SRHOA Board is our trails. Surrey Ridge was established as an Equestrian Community from its inception and continues to be one of the best places in the region to live, ride and walk.

There are a number of new members of our community and I want to let them know and remind everyone that by covenant no motorized vehicles or bicycles are allowed on the trails. (As a side note to this; occasionally you will see me pulling a brush mower behind my ATV to mow the trails. Please contact me directly if this presents a problem for you.)

Below is the content of a welcome letter that my wife and I try to get in the hands of all new community members, especially those who bring horses with them. It is worth a read by all community members and I invite you to contact me directly if you have any questions or concerns. My contact information is included below.

We enjoy a neighborhood that has natural beauty, a friendly environment and the privilege of housing and riding our horses in proximity to our homes. Below is some information to help orient you to the horse riding in our community and provide contact information in case you have questions and/or would like a tour of the trails available for riding. We can also provide a map of the trails in Surrey Ridge and Surrey Ridge Estates. (This map is currently being updated with the help of Troy Carmann, Jerry Cardwell and myself and will be posted on the website when complete.)

Contact information:

Equestrian Committee Chairperson, John Wittry, (720) 486-5345, john.wittry@alt2consulting.com, 9724 Sorrel Rd, Castle Rock, CO 80108

Trail Riding Guidelines:

- Think of yourself as an ambassador for horses and trail riding in Surrey Ridge and Surrey Ridge Estates
 - Many of our trails are on easements designated as bridal paths
 - Please be aware that some trails cross onto property owner's areas (outside of easements designated as bridal paths). We ride these areas at the pleasure of the home owner. **Please be courteous and conscientious!**
 - Not all of your neighbors ride horses or have an appreciation for them. Maintaining good relations within our community is paramount!
- The trail map shows all the trails that are available in Surrey Ridge and Surrey Ridge Estates.
 - There are some trail markers and they are tall posts with a horseshoe on the top.
 - The Surrey Ridge Home Owners Association is responsible for maintaining trails in easements designated as bridal paths. Most of the trails are mowed several times a year.
 - There is a group of equestrians and other helpful individuals that support maintaining all the trails including those in Surrey Ridge Estates.
- Practice low impact trail use. Wet and muddy trails are more vulnerable to damage and erosion. When the trail is soft, consider other options such as riding the road.
- Protect our environment. Stay on the designated trails. Do not cut switchbacks or use shortcuts.
- Travel over obstacles in the trail not around them. Going around widens the trail.
- Make sure your horse has the training and temperament for riding on trails. Riding in Surrey Ridge provides ample opportunities for things that spook horses (we refer to them as desensitization opportunities!).
- Advise other trail users of your horses' temperament. i.e. a horse with a tendency to kick should ride with a red ribbon in the tail on group rides
- Many of us ride the roads during the winter months or when the trails are muddy.
 - It is recommended that you ride to the side of the road and be courteous and attentive to automobile traffic.
- Dogs are a wonderful part of our community and many of us walk them and ride with them. Please know that there is a leash law in Douglas County. While most of our neighbors are tolerant of dogs off leash, sometimes situations occur that test this tolerance and it is within their right to notify Animal Control Services. Occasionally Douglas County Animal Control Services does patrol our neighborhood.
 - There have been a number instances of coyotes attacking dogs and other pets in our neighborhood
- Once or twice a year, we organize trail maintenance parties and get together just to party! If you would like to be included in these events, please provide John Wittry your contact information.
- While no one likes the thought of having to evacuate Surrey Ridge and Surrey Ridge Estates in an emergency, being proactive in creating a response plan is critical. Douglas County provides some great information at the following two links
 - <http://www.douglas.co.us/animal-shelter-during-a-disaster-are-you-ready/>
 - <http://www.dcsheiff.net/emergencymanagement/county-animal-response-team-cart/>
 - Link to be notified by the County in case of an emergency: <https://public.coderedweb.com/CNE/84B13CCD6B41>