

Ridge Newsletter

RECOA 2018 theme chosen: “Plan, Prepare, & Be Safe”

Gary Ruppert
RECOA Board of Directors

Your RECOA Board has developed a theme for 2018 (and perhaps beyond), which is intended to be of assistance to you in your life at Eagle Crest. We love our community, whether we are here full time, part time, or as a landlord of rental property. As part of our appreciation for the community we are also concerned about keeping it, our guests, and ourselves safe. The theme *Plan, Prepare, and Be Safe* will help remind us or help us learn how to do just that.

In order to communicate these helpful guides we will be reaching out to you not only with the quarterly newsletter

(in print and electronic formats) but also with new monthly email news briefs. This expanded communication will keep you informed about planning, preparing, and being safe, as well as other important information about living on the Ridge at Eagle Crest.

Future topics to be explored as part of the theme will be evacuation planning, emergency preparedness kits, pedestrian safety, cycling safety, fire prevention, what to do in case of fire, roadway safety, sheltering in place, signing up for Deschutes County Emergency Alerts, what to do in a service outage, why knowing the neighbors in your neighborhood makes for good safety, and how all of us being aware and part of the whole community makes us better citizens.

BLM’s Cline Butte trailheads offer recreation close to home

Linda Ficere
Communications Committee

One perk of living in Eagle Crest is having the Cline Buttes in our backyard. These are the three volcanic hills that border much of The Ridge and form part of the 32,000 acre Cline Buttes Recreation Area (CBRA) administered by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM).

The buttes and most of the land surrounding them are designated for non-motorized use only and shared by hikers, mountain bikers and equestrians. There is no formal trail system but users can follow old roads, single-track paths, and deer trails that meander up and around the hills.

You can access the area from the paved path along parts of Cinnamon Teal, along sections of Eagle Crest Blvd., off Highland View Lp., and from the Creekside neighborhood. Signage is limited but there are small parking areas with maps and information at the intersection of Merlin and Cinnamon Teal and in two places between the metal cattle guards on Eagle Crest Boulevard between Solitaire Ct. and Juniper Glen Cir.

The parking spot off Highland View Lp. is just past Rockside Ct. and a good trail from there switchbacks up the smallest butte (the one with the cell tower). From the top you’ll find picture-perfect views of the Cascades before the path winds down on the other side to end on Highland View Lp. near Summit Ridge.

The showiest months to explore the buttes are April, May, and June, when wildflowers bloom. In most years the

season starts with tiny yellow bells, white and pink phlox, and blue larkspur, followed by yellow buckwheat, white sand lilies, purple lupine, pink bitterroot and lavender sego lilies.

Spring and early Summer are also good times for birdwatching. Along with resident mountain chickadees, nuthatches, quail and ravens you might see mountain bluebirds, western meadowlarks, swallows, mountain chickadees, evening nighthawks, kestrels, and even a golden or bald eagle. On the ground you’re likely to catch glimpses of deer, jackrabbits, and the occasional coyote.

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Managing the risk of an extended power outage

Oregon Water Utilities and RECOA are working together to improve the resiliency of the community's water and wastewater systems



Mike DeWolf
Utility Committee

Eagle Crest's water and waste water systems rely on Central Electric Cooperative for electrical power. The electrical power is used to operate water and waste water pumps, a waste water treatment plant, and a host of other equipment that enables water to flow into our homes and facilities and waste water to be moved out. Today, there is little or no back-up in providing power to the water systems – if Central Electric's power supply to Eagle Crest is interrupted, the systems become inoperable after a few hours. The water supply to homes and facilities will shut off and sewage will not move. The risk is more than a matter of inconvenience. It could lead to serious health and safety problems.

Eagle Crest's water and waste water systems are self-contained, closed loop systems, meaning they are not interconnected with neighboring systems, such as the Redmond's municipal water system. Eagle Crest must pump its own water and manage its own waste water; it cannot turn to others for water services as a back-up if its systems shut down.

Central Electric has been a highly reliable provider of electrical power to Eagle Crest, but its system is vulnerable to wildfire and other natural disasters. Central Electric is wholly dependent on the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) for power

generation and transmission services. The BPA system spans the Pacific Northwest and it is vulnerable to major natural and human-caused disasters, the biggest vulnerability being major earthquakes.

RECOA's Board has adopted a goal that, if achieved, will help protect Ridge homeowners and facilities from the health, safety, and other risks of an extended electric utility outage. The goal calls for investments in back-up power supplies and other measures that will enable our water and waste systems to operate during a Central Electric power outage lasting up to 20 days. The goal is based on State of Oregon guidance for disaster preparedness.

Oregon Water Utilities and RECOA's Utility Committee are collaborating to achieve this goal. The strategy is multi-pronged, and everybody will have a role to play. Significant investment in back-up power supplies will be needed; the back-up power supplies will kick in if a Central Electric outage occurs. Long-term maintenance and testing of the new equipment will be needed as well.

Oregon Water Utilities already has a project underway to install back-up generators for well pumps and the primary booster station so that water can continue to flow into homes and facilities if electricity from Central Electric should stop.

Homeowners—both in RECOA-managed neighborhoods and single family custom homes—will be called upon to fund upgraded residential control boxes and man-portable generators. The new control

boxes and generators will be deployed so that there is a back-up power supply to move waste water out of residential septic tanks when a Central Electric power outage occurs.

RECOA Board of Directors goal: That the water and waste water systems be able to operate for at least 20 days without major interruption in the event there is an extended loss of electricity supply from our electricity provider, Central Electric. This goal assumes that the first 10 days will be achieved through (1) utility investment in a back-up diesel powered electricity supply, on-site diesel fuel storage and related equipment and (2) water conservation measures that enable the utility and its customers to reduce demand on the system. The second 10 of the 20 days is assumed to be met by the same measures as the first, but with diesel fuel storage being replenished by a county or state source.

Details on this planning will become available over the summer. The plan will open for review before it is finalized, and it will be subject to approval by RECOA's Board of Directors. Questions or concerns can be directed to Utility Committee's email address (utility@ridgeowners.org) or to any Committee member.

PLANNING TO MANAGE THE RISKS OF AN EXTENDED POWER OUTAGE

Utility Investment

- ◆ Fixed and portable generators
- ◆ Fuel storage and transportation
- ◆ Costs recovered through utility rates

RECOA investment in managed neighborhoods

- ◆ Replace existing control boxes with new technology
- ◆ Acquire portable generators
- ◆ Costs recovered through HOA fees

Individual homeowner investment

- ◆ Replace existing control boxes with new technology or install whole house transfer switch
- ◆ Buy portable generator (or share)
- ◆ Costs paid by homeowner

Recurring equipment testing, fueling, and maintenance

Protocols and new practices, for example: load curtailment protocol during outages, new control box standards, etc.

Summertime safety bulletin from MOC



Ruth Mulligan
Maintenance & Oversight Committee

Busy Time of Year on the Roads

Summer is glorious in Central Oregon, especially if you live in or visit our resort. With the popularity of our resort come lots of visitors, including families who want to enjoy the best of what Central Oregon has to offer. There are lots of people, both adults and children, walking or cycling throughout the summer, so be mindful that they may not be as familiar with roadways and paths as are residents. Let's give them all a brake! All roads in the Ridge are posted at **20 MPH**. Please drive at this speed and have your guests do the same. **"Life is Good at 20 MPH"** Thank you in advance for your participation in making the roads on the Ridge safer.

Be Safe and "Share the Path"

Many of the paths in RECOA are shared between bicycle riders and walkers. This, at times, can potentially create a safety concern for the bike rider and for the person walking. Pedestrians, please "share the path"; bicycle riders, call out *"on your left!"* when coming from behind up to a person walking on the path. For those who walk our beautiful paths, headphones and ear buds may prevent you from hearing a bicyclist coming up from behind.

You Pay for Vandalism

All of the RECOA common areas, paths, ponds, and landscape is an extension of your neighborhood. The Deschutes County Sheriff advises that if you observe vandalism, unusual behavior, or excessive noise in your neighborhood, to report the activity to the Sheriff's office. If it is life threatening, serious in nature, or gives rise to alarm, call 911. If the activity is not of an emergency nature, call the non-emergency number at 541-693-6911.

An Invitation to Join

Please consider joining the Maintenance and Oversight Committee (MOC). Be a part of a group that is forward-thinking and solution-driven and take part in the stewardship of our community. Meetings are engaging, fun, and have active discussions—first Wednesday of the month at 9:00am. If you are interested, please contact us at moc@ridgeowners.org.

SUNNY WITH A CHANCE OF GOLF BALLS

Eagle Crest Resident Mike Byrum's weather station, located near the 15th fairway of the Challenge Course, provides real-time, continuously updating weather data to resort owners and guests.



Joe Kosanovic — RECOA Webmaster

Have you ever checked the local weather report and been told it was sunny out when rain was pelting your window? There's a reason for that. Weather updates depend on the location of official monitoring equipment located at Roberts Field Airport or elsewhere. According to the National Weather Service, Central Oregon boasts some of the most drastic changes in microclimates that you'll find anywhere. Eagle Crest, because of its varied topography and proximity to the Deschutes River and Cline Buttes, offers quite a unique microclimate, one that can differ markedly from the surrounding areas.

Did you know that Eagle Crest has its very own weather monitoring station and its readings are available on the Internet?



Byrum's equipment (pictured above) measures wind speed and direction, rainfall, barometric pressure, temperature, humidity, and more. View data at www.seesthewind.com

A professional, state-of-the-art station is owned, operated, and maintained by Falls resident Mike Byrum. Mike became a weather buff and a volunteer Severe Storm Spotter for the National Weather Service while living in Del Norte County, CA. during the 1990s. When the Byrums moved to Eagle Crest in 2003, Mike set up his ten-year-old Columbia Instruments Capricorn II station. In July of 2006, a fire that started in common area land behind the Byrum home destroyed the tree-mounted wind speed and direction assembly. Because of its high cost, Mike didn't replace the damaged equipment. In December 2010, he started over again, installing the latest in wireless, solar powered equipment from Davis Instruments.

Located 200 feet northwest of the Challenge Course 15th fairway, a solar powered instrument package accurately measures barometric pressure, temperature, humidity, rainfall, wind speed, wind direction, and more. (I found the "records" button on the bottom of the data page to be most interesting). To meet NWS standards, the solar-powered anemometer and remote data transmitter were permanently mast-mounted, high in the Eagle Crest maintenance yard about 550 feet northwest of the main station. Northview Community Services was very helpful with equipment and manpower assisting with the proper installation of the anemometer and transmitter high up on the maintenance building.

The measurements are sent via UHF radio to an indoor console/receiver, which, in turn, is connected to Mike's computer. Using sophisticated software developed in New Zealand and the UK, the weather data are stored on the local computer and continuously uploaded to the station's website in near real-time. The weather display is available 24/7 with rare occasional downtime. That's when Mike will reboot the system to bring the weather display back live streaming, to make it happy again.

The detailed online weather station display page can be accessed through a link on the "Maps & Weather" page of RECOA website or by entering www.seesthewind.com. Thanks Mike, and great job!

Since there are some areas of private land west of the buttes, it's a good idea to check out a map of the Cline Buttes recreation area before heading out—you can find one online at the BLM Prineville office webpage. Whenever exploring the high desert make sure someone knows of your plans, avoid extreme weather, and know your limits. Hikers should wear sturdy shoes, watch for snakes on warm days, bring plenty of water, and carry basic essentials including a cell phone. Hunting is uncommon but allowed in season. Although the area is not open to motorized use by the public there is a good gravel road west of the Cinnamon Teal/Merlin trailhead which is used on weekdays by rock quarry trucks so cross with care.



TUESDAY - JUNE 26th - 5:30 TO 8:30 PM
Location: SOCCER FIELD on Resort Side of Eagle Crest
Admission \$10.00 each - Kids 10 & Under \$3.00

CASH BAR

FOOD TRUCK AVAILABLE →
(Please NO BYOB or Food)

30+ Classic Cars on Display

**Hamburgers and hot dogs
with all the fixings for \$10**
Provided by: Julie Witty's



PLEASE RSVP - Sign-up at RECOA
Website - www.ridgeowners.org

Expires 7/31/2018



Buy first sandwich,
get your second sandwich **50% off!**

Second sandwich must be equal or less value of the first sandwich; both must be purchased at the same time

Coupon must be presented at time of purchase

Call ahead orders welcome 541-548-9591

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Annual Rock'n'Roll Street Dance June 26th

Eagle Crest's favorite Rock 'n Roll musical group, the Klassixs Ayreband, is set to perform at the Soccer Field on the Resort side of Eagle Crest. This will be the fifth year in a row that the group has energized our community with "Blast from the Past", Rock 'n Roll music. A cash bar will be available and a food truck from Who's Catering will be serving hamburgers and hot dogs. Over 30 classic cars will be on display and a special appearance by the fabulous Blue's Brothers. You won't want to miss the fun. Sign-up is requested. See you later alligator.

New Owner Orientation June 12th

Come network and connect with HOA and community representatives at River Run Event Center on Tuesday, June 12 from 7-8:30 p.m. This informational forum will include brief speaker presentations and a Q&A session, followed by an informal open house where owners old and new will have the opportunity to meet representatives from the RECOA Board and committees, Northview Community Services, Eagle Crest Golf, Eagle Crest Sports Centers and Spa, homeowner and community activity groups, and more. More details available at www.ridgeowners.org.

Exterior home alterations need approval

Making improvements to your property? Remember, whether you're installing new plants, building a pergola, repainting the exterior, or any other exterior improvement, Section 8.1 of the RECOA CC&Rs requires you to first obtain approval from the Architectural Review Committee. You can get an application form and more information by contacting 541 548-9300 or ownerservices@eagle-crest.com.

Have guests? They need passes for pool use

As Eagle Crest's outdoor pools open for the summer season, we notice a large number of people attempting to use the sports centers without proper identification. Eagle Crest homeowners may request guest passes for house guests who are residing in their residence overnight ONLY. Houseguests may not use your owner's card to gain access to the Sports Center. If you have more than 6 guests, everyone else over the age of three must pay \$7 for day use. Guest passes are available online at www.guestpass.eagle-crest.com.