

Woodmoor Improvement Association, June 22

## All fireworks prohibited; up to \$5,000 fine

By Jackie Burhans

The Woodmoor Improvement Association (WIA) board met on June 22 to discuss fireworks, report on the acceptance of the South Woodmoor Preserve, and hear director and staff reports.

Board members Steve Cutler, Brad Gleason, and Per Suhr were absent.

**Fireworks, including sparklers, prohibited**

Chief Kevin Nielsen of Woodmoor Public Safety (WPS) said that officers will work extra duty hours on July 3 and 4 watching for fireworks, which are always prohibited in Woodmoor. He said violation notices would be issued which could result in steep fines of up to \$5,000, per WIA's rules and regulations. Board President Brian Bush said WIA is very serious about fireworks, and WIA's rules supersede county rules.

Nielsen asked that anyone seeing fireworks violations in the Woodmoor area contact the WPS mobile phone at 719-499-9771.

Nielsen also urged residents to be aware of the county fire stage restrictions as they change. In stage one, fire pits are allowed but must be a commercially purchased device with a spark arrester on top or must have been built following WIA's design guidelines. In stage two, only propane fires with an on-off switch are allowed. For more information, see: <https://www.epc-sheriffsoffice.com/services/fire-information>

He also asked that residents not park on the grass, because fires can start easily from hot engines.

### Board accepts South Woodmoor Preserve donation

Bush reported that WIA accepted the donation of the nearly 65-acre South Woodmoor Preserve on June 8 from the Woodmoor Open Space Committee (WOSC). WIA has agreed to maintain and improve this open space after executing an agreement with adjacent landowners to facilitate access for mowing in narrow stretches.

It has been a 3 1/2-year process, Bush said, and is probably the last significant bit of open space to be created in Woodmoor. This donation allows WIA to provide amenities to South Woodmoor residents that had previously been unavailable. WIA plans to add trails, benches, and pet waste stations over the next few years, he added, thanking Trish Norman and the WOSC group for their efforts.

### Board highlights

- Bush, who is also on the board of Woodmoor Water and Sanitation District, reported that construction of all projects involving Lake Woodmoor are done as of June 1, with only minor work remaining. The trail on top of the dam will remain closed until the contractor has completed all work later this summer.
- Bob Pearsall, WIA architectural control administrator, reported that work on the main office front porch roof construction began on June 14, with the final painting scheduled for the following week.
- Pearsall said the Safe Routes to School trail project hosted a walk-through with one contractor; the state may require more. The schools received an additional \$137,000 toward this grant. He said the funds are scheduled to be released and construction started in August.
- Bush said he would like to sign WIA's road survey letter that goes to the county to give some impetus for the county to fix the highest priority roads. Bush asked that pictures be provided along with the report. Nielsen said he would also issue requests via the Citizen Connect app to request repairs.
- Forestry Director Ed Miller reported a delay in reimbursement on the last request from the wildfire mitigation grant that has been resolved. The grant has been opened to a few new areas and is expected to be open to all Woodmoor residents in mid-to-



**Above:** The new roof over WIA's main office was started on June 14. Final work, including painting, was done the week of June 20 to match the roof over the Woodmoor Public Safety entrance. *Photo by Jackie Burhans.*

- late summer.
- WIA's final two chipping events will be held on July 30-31 at Lewis-Palmer High School. The service is free to Woodmoor residents who will unload their own vehicles. Volunteers will handle feeding the slash into the chippers.
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The WIA Board of Directors usually meets at 7 p.m. on the fourth Wednesday of each month in the Barn at 1691 Woodmoor Drive, Monument. The next meeting has been moved to July 20 in the conference room, due to board member availability and floor refinishing at The Barn.

See the WIA calendar at [www.woodmoor.org/wia-calendar/](http://www.woodmoor.org/wia-calendar/). WIA board meeting minutes can be found at [www.woodmoor.org/meeting-minutes/](http://www.woodmoor.org/meeting-minutes/) once approved and posted.

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## June Weather Wrap

By Bill Kappel

Apart from some active weather at the beginning and end of the month, June was quiet and mild overall. Once again we were drier than normal, but for the second June in a row, a late season snowfall reminded us just how fun Colorado weather can be anytime of the year. Temperatures were around normal for the month, with highs below average and lows above average. Surprisingly, even with the relatively dry and quiet conditions, we didn't see any extremely hot weather with only two days during the month hitting the 90-degree mark.

The month started off well below normal conditions, with cold and wet weather continuing from the last day of May. Temperatures dipped cold enough during the early morning hours of the 1st to produce rain, then snow from just after midnight through around 6 a.m. Many of us above 7,000 feet received a dusting to 2 inches of snow, a promising way to start the month. Temperatures touched the freezing mark that morning as well, but this was our last freeze of the month, which was welcomed by our plants that had endured a snow and cold shock two weeks prior.

More typical June weather took hold the next couple of days, with just enough moisture around to spark a few afternoon and evening thunderstorms and brief heavy rain showers. The heaviest rain occurred during the early afternoons of the 6th and 7th. These thunderstorms also produced some hail around the area, with mainly pea-size hail west of about Black Forest Road, then larger, damaging hail farther east as the storms were able to interact with more moisture and instability.

Unfortunately, this pattern didn't last long as once again we transitioned into a dry regime as high pressure built in and cut off the supply of moisture and pushed the storm track back to the north. This resulted in dry and quiet weather from the second week through the third week of the month.

This was a very unusual pattern for our region in the middle of June. It is very rare that almost every afternoon doesn't see some thunderstorm development. This is because of the elevated heat source to our west, the Front Range and central Rockies. These regions provide a prime starting point for convection to start late each morning and transition into thunderstorms that move generally from west to east across our region. However, during this time, the lack of moisture in the atmosphere resulted in very weak and limited convective activity (thunderstorms). Instead, most days saw just a few afternoon and early evening clouds with limited vertical development and only a few brief claps of thunder and sprinkles. More common were smoke-filled, hazy skies courtesy of the wildfires in Utah and Arizona.

And as expected, temperatures warmed during this period, with temperatures reaching the 80s to low 90s from the 9th through the 13th. A few daily record highs were set during this time as well. After a brief cool down to normal temperatures on the 14th and 15th, temperatures again warmed to the 80s from the 16th through the 20th.

Finally, some relief from the heat and dry conditions returned just in time for the first day of summer. Cooler air worked behind a departing system in the upper Midwest and brought temperatures to below-normal levels starting on the 21st. Highs only reached the mid 60s that afternoon under partly cloudy skies. With the exception of a brief warming on the 23rd and 24th, temperatures stayed cool over the next few days. A system moving through the western U.S. served to moisten up the atmosphere. Temperatures were held to near record low levels on the 26th, with highs only reaching the mid 50's. This resulted in areas of low clouds, fog, drizzle, and rain showers on the 25th and 26th.

This cool weather and soaking rainfall were perfect after the long dry spell and produced the type of sus-

tained moisture we desperately needed. As this area of moisture and upslope wind flow moved out of the region during the last few days of the month, temperatures slowly warmed to normal levels, with upper 70s and low 80s to end the month.

### A look ahead

July can be an active weather month around the region, as the Southwest Monsoon season gets going. Afternoon and evening thunderstorms are a common occurrence, and when they can tap into higher levels of moisture, flash flooding can result. Hot, stagnant weather can also take hold for a few days at time, with highs hitting the 90s on the warmest days.

### June 2022 Weather Statistics

Average High	76.3° (-1.1°)
100-year return frequency value max	82.5° min 66.3°
Average Low	47.7° (+3.3°)
100-year return frequency value max	50.7° min 40.2°
Highest Temperature	90°F on the 11th, 13th
Lowest Temperature	32°F on the 1st
Monthly Precipitation	1.56" (-0.39" 20% below normal)
100-year return frequency value max	6.94" min 0.15"
Monthly Snowfall	1.0" (+0.9" 90% above normal)
Season to Date Snow	90.7" (-31.8" 75% below normal)
<i>(the snow season is from July 1 to June 30))</i>	
Season to Date Precip	8.86" (-0.21" 2% below normal)
<i>(the precip season is from July 1 to June 30)</i>	
Heating Degree Days	136 (+41)
Cooling Degree Days	35 (+7)
<i>Bill Kappel is a meteorologist and Tri-Lakes resident. He can be reached at <a href="mailto:billkappel@ocn.me">billkappel@ocn.me</a>.</i>	

## Letters to Our Community

**Guidelines for letters are on page 31.**

**Disclaimer:** The information and opinions expressed in Letters to Our Community are the responsibility of the letter writers and should not be interpreted as the views of OCN even if the letter writer is an OCN volunteer.

### Thanks for helping put on the Tri-Lakes Kids Fishing Derby

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the members of the Tri-Lakes Lions Club and the sponsors and volunteers who contributed to the success of the annual Tri-Lakes Kids Fishing Derby. This family-oriented event

is held each year in the Town of Palmer Lake. Although the Lions Club serves as the host, it takes participation by many in our community to make the derby a memorable event for kids in the Tri-Lakes area. Sponsors such as Bass Pro Shops, Safeway, Rosie's Diner, and Farmers Insurance, open their pocketbooks to make the tournament free for participants. Additionally, many volunteers augment Lions Club members in various capacities, providing the necessary manpower to conduct the event and create this special outdoor experience. Of course, the derby wouldn't be possible without the outstanding support from the Town of Palmer Lake. The

collaborative approach to this community service event is the key to the derby's success. Again, many thanks to everyone involved in this year's fishing derby and hope to see you next year.

**Jim Hazuka**

### Black Forest Section 16 lease renewals

How did the two leases for Black Forest Section 16 happen 25 years ago?

These leases renew in December of 2022. El Paso County's 25-year lease for about 91 acres includes a perimeter trail/parking lot and the Slash-Mulch site, and