

state Sen. Paul Lundeen expressing WIA's objection to HB21-1229, which would make HOA management more complicated. More information on the Home Owners' Associations Governance Funding Record Keeping is at <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/hb21-1229>.

- A survey of Woodmoor found 63 recreational vehicle (RV) trailers or boats parked in resident driveways, which is contrary to the covenants. Residents have been notified via letter, and those who do not comply will receive hearing notices.
- Mitigation on the east-west Woodmoor Drive corridor is going well. About 25% of the fire hazard has been improved with a goal of 50% by the end of the year. Woodmoor Drive residents who have not yet signed up will be contacted by mail and email.

- WPS reports an increase in car burglaries in the Tri-Lakes area along with one garage burglary. The cars were left parked unlocked in the driveway, and the garage door was left open, enabling these crimes of opportunity.
- In April, the board approved the expenditure of \$8,750 for noxious weed removal in open spaces. This expense was about \$2,200 over the approved, budgeted amount due to the contractor acquiring new equipment and hiring an additional worker.
- Chipping days and slash drop-off will be scheduled for the first Saturday in June, the second Saturday in July and the first Saturday in August at Lewis-Palmer High School.
- Bush commended staff member Bob Pearsall for saving substantial money on landscaping costs through

- negotiations and handling some projects in-house.
- For this year, 33 homes are still outstanding on their HOA dues; letters have been sent and WIA will put liens on the properties.

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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 is scheduled for Wednesday, June 23.

The WIA calendar can be found 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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## May Weather Wrap

By Bill Kappel

Plentiful moisture returned during May, in some cases a little too much, but this was very beneficial overall and great timing as we head into the growing season. As usual around the Tri-Lakes region, Mother Nature couldn't make up her mind jumping from winter to spring to summer every other day at times, but by the end of the month winter was finally over.

For the month overall, temperatures were slightly below normal, and precipitation was well above normal. In fact, the abundant precipitation during the month helped move us several categories to the positive side from a drought perspective, as we went from severe drought at the beginning of March to no drought by the end of May. This was the case for most of the Front Range and portions of the eastern plains. Unfortunately, most of Colorado west of the Continental Divide did not receive significant moisture and are stuck in severe drought conditions.

The warmest day of the month actually occurred on the 1st when highs reached the upper 70s to low 80s. However, this warmth was helped along by westerly winds that were kicked up ahead of an approaching storm system. This, of course, meant we got one day of summer-type weather before winter made a quick return.

The first signs of change occurred on the 2nd when thunderstorms developed by early afternoon and produced some large hail at times. Cooler air, clouds and rain showers continued to work in that evening with temperatures reaching the upper 30s by midnight. Upper 30s was as high as we could get on the 3rd as rain showers turned to snow around 3 a.m. Heavy, wet snow continued through 9:30 a.m. before turning to snow showers and fog the rest of the day. Amounts varied quiet a lot around the region, with many of us receiving 3-6 inches of snowfall on the 3rd.

Cold and unsettled conditions continued the next day as well with snow showers turning to drizzle and fog through the mid-morning of the 4th and a repeat of flurries, sprinkles, and even some graupel the afternoon of the 5th. Temperatures from the 3rd through the 6th remained below normal as well. Finally, some warmer weather returned by the 7th, with highs jumping back to the upper 70s. Mild and dry weather stuck around through the 8th before our next taste a winter returned on the 9th.

Cold air filtered in late on the 8th with low clouds and a few rain showers and flurries developing during the morning of the 9th. Colder air and more moisture continued to move into the region, and by the 10th areas of fog, flurries, snow showers, drizzle, and even some ice pellets occurred. The cold, unsettled conditions continued into the next day with more snow at times. Overall, from the 10th through the 11th, another 4-8 inches of snow accumulated. Of course, as drier and warmer conditions returned over the next few days, the snow quickly melted under the strong May sunshine.

Quiet conditions were prevalent from the 12th through the 16th, with just some areas of morning fog and a few afternoon thunderstorms and showers. More organized areas of rain showers and some thunderstorms developed on the 17th and 18th, producing around a half inch of precipitation.

Seasonal conditions returned from the 19th through the 28th, with high temperatures in the 60s and 70s during that period. There were a few days of thunderstorms, but they generally produced only light rain showers from the 20th through the 23rd. Of course, just when you thought summer was here to stay, a final period of cold, unsettled weather moved in during the Memorial Day weekend. This started with some strong to severe thunderstorms on the 29th that brought areas of heavy rain and hail. Clouds, thunderstorms, and rain continued on the 30th, with cool temperatures and gusty winds at times. Not to be outdone, Memorial Day was generally cloudy with rain showers at times. Although not the best barbecue weather, at least we did get an abundance of much-needed moisture.

### A look ahead

By June we can usually say goodbye to our chance of snowfall but hello to frequent afternoon and evening thunderstorms. Most of the time we can expect warm, sunny days with afternoon and evening thunderstorms.

### May 2021 Weather Statistics

Average High	62.0° (-3.6°)
100-year return frequency value max	75.7° min 57.9°
Average Low	37.4° (-1.5°)
100-year return frequency value max	43.2° min 32.5°
Highest Temperature	79° on the 1st

Lowest Temperature	28° on the 10th, 11th
Monthly Precipitation	4.28" (+1.64" 39% above normal)
100-year return frequency value max	6.94" min 0.15"
Monthly Snowfall	10.4" (+4.7" 46% above normal)
Season to Date Snow	131.8" (+9.4" 7% above normal)
	(the snow season is from July 1 to June 30)

Season to Date Precip	13.84" (+4.77" 35% above normal)
	(the precip season is from July 1 to June 30)
Heating Degree Days	474 (+156)
Cooling Degree Days	0

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## 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. The letters this month are arranged in alphabetical order based on the letter-writer's last name.*

### Stay the course on COVID-19

In the last four months, the United States has made great progress in defeating COVID-19. On Jan. 20, 2021, the country saw 185,000 new cases and 4,380 deaths, according to the New York Times. By May 26, those numbers had plummeted to 23,162 new cases and 522 deaths.

That progress is due in large part to the Biden administration's decision to approach the pandemic as a public health challenge, not as another front in the never-ending culture wars. The Biden administration began by communicating the importance of masking, hand hygiene, and social distancing. They built an infrastructure to inventory vaccine doses and to deliver those doses to American citizens. That had to be done almost from scratch, as the previous administration dropped the ball immediately after the first vaccine was developed. Our progress is also due to 165.1 million Americans stepping up by taking precautions in public despite the inconvenience and getting themselves and their families vaccinated.

We achieved this in the face of a constant stream of disinformation attempting to undercut the effectiveness of masks and every other proposed public health measure and to scare people away from the vaccine. It's hard to avoid the conclusion that the goal was to distract us from the failure of the previous administration to deal with the pandemic in a responsible way and from the effectiveness of applying real public health principles to the pandemic.

Polio, smallpox, measles, tetanus, rubella, whooping cough, and diphtheria were all reduced to near zero levels in the United States not through a do-nothing approach and hopes and prayers for herd immunity, but through vaccination.

We've seen that what we're doing is working. Let's stay the course.

James W. Howald

### Wait before you COVID vaccinate your children

Despite what the media says, please wait before you get your children COVID-19 vaccinated. The FDA has not approved these COVID-19 vaccines but instead given an Emergency Use Authorization. Already over 3,000 people have died after being vaccinated.

Under the age of 20, the survivability rate for COVID-19 is 99.995 percent. Why would we subject our children to this unproven vaccine for a disease that is no more dangerous than the flu? Common vaccines like polio, hepatitis B, and tetanus have proven track records of safety and efficacy.

COVID vaccines do not. These are experimental vaccines. If you or your children are harmed by these vaccines, you have no legal recourse. The federal government has given the pharmaceutical companies immunity from all liability. Administering experimental drugs without informed consent, no liability, and no legal recourse for the injured is how inhumane totalitarian governments practice medicine.

We are not lab rats, but the medical community is treating us as though we are. Do not subject your children to this irresponsible and criminal experiment. Our doctors have effective and safe prophylactics and therapeutics to treat COVID-19. Let us pause the vaccinations to see how those 126 million fully vaccinated people do. This is the responsible and wise path to take.

Michael O'Hare

### Stop ignoring the natural immunity of the COVID-recovered

How much misinformation do we have to see coming from government officials before the public realizes their experts cannot be trusted? Policymakers continue to rattle off privileges that will be allotted only to people who get vaccinated for COVID-19. Because, they say, the vaccinated are immune, so they don't pose a threat to others. You know who else is immune? People who've recovered from COVID.

This obsessive preference for vaccines over naturally acquired immunity is completely absurd, and it doesn't take a scientist to see it. Vaccines mimic infection. They do so to trigger the same immunity-generating response that actual infection triggers. When people insist that vaccines "work," what they're really referring to is not vaccines, but the body's natural immunity-generating response. Because that's the thing that works. Everyone knows this, but a frightening number of people have abandoned common sense for fealty to the experts.

D38 recently jumped the experts' shark with its decision to require proof of vaccination for students to ditch their masks the last week of school—a requirement not even included in the governor's latest orders.

They probably caved to pressure from aggressive local activists who continue to deny that naturally acquired immunity—which thousands of students now have—works too.

They're ignoring other experts who fully acknowledge it, as seen in:

- Germany's acceptance of proof that one has recovered from COVID to enter its borders.
- National Institutes of Health's confirmation in January that people who recover from COVID acquire robust antibodies, T-cells, and B cells to fight new exposures, citing research that shows "natural infection induced a strong immunity response" and that "the responses last."

It's time to admit that natural immunity has done what vaccines aspired to.

Melinda Zark

### Between the Covers at Covered Treasures Bookstore

## The great outdoors is calling

By the staff at Covered Treasures

*"Thousands of tired, nerve-shaken, over-civilized people are beginning to find out that going to the mountains is going home; that wildness is a necessity."—John Muir*

Lockdowns and closures during the past year led many of us outside. We have discovered it can be healing. Here are some guidebooks to help you explore the great outdoors of Colorado.

### Woman in the Wild: The Everywoman's Guide to Hiking, Camping, and Backcountry Travel

By Susan Joy Paul (Falcon Press) \$24.95  
Few experiences rival a grand outdoor adventure. This guide is the perfect companion for any woman looking to get into the backcountry lifestyle or level up her current active outdoor life. Ad-

