



The Town Board will meet on August 10th & 24th at 6:00 p.m. The public is invited to participate virtually on Zoom at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81449378638> , or on the Town's Facebook page.

Newsletter

August 2023

Town Board Matters

The Town Board recently:

1. Was awarded \$65,000 by the Colorado Water Conservation Board to help pay for the replacement of the Sheriff Reservoir & Dam headgate equipment.
2. Awarded the Town's residential trash and recycling bid, beginning service November 1, 2023, to Waste Management. Information will be provided to customers as the changeover date approaches.
3. Directed staff to work with Routt County and the South Routt communities and special districts to develop and be the lead agency to develop a DOLA EIAF grant application for a regional housing needs assessment and land use code recommendations and seek funding support for this project.
4. Renewed Blue Heron Dispensary's retail marijuana store license.

Sheriff Reservoir updates

Beginning in late August the Town's general contractor will begin replacement of the existing headgate which regulates water flows from the Sheriff Reservoir into Trout Creek. The project is estimated to cost \$520,000 and will be completed in October 2023. Access to the trails around Sheriff Reservoir are anticipated to remain open during construction although there will be detours around the construction site for public safety. The U.S. Forest Service has announced an emergency fish salvage to mitigate fish loss during this construction, as Sheriff Reservoir is being drawn down for the headgate replacement project. All bag and possession limits for the reservoir are removed for the duration of the salvage. Anglers must follow lawful angling methods currently allowed at the lake. Enlargement of the concrete spillway and pedestrian walkway is anticipated to begin in 2025.

Oak Creek Farmer's Market

Open every Sunday, July 9 – September 3, from 10AM – 2PM, with vendors providing locally produced food, agricultural products and crafts. The Farmer's Market is located on Sharp Ave, north of Main Street, adjacent to the downtown park.

To be a vendor or for questions, contact Nikki Knoebel at 970-846-2083 or farmersmarketoakcreek@gmail.com

U.S. Census jobs

The U.S. Census Bureau wants to hire Field Interviewers. For information email: Denver.FR.Application@Census.Gov

Steamboat Gravel bicycle road races will be held Sunday, August 20th on the roads of South Routt County. Please drive carefully!

After School Programs and Dance Club

The After School Program will start on the first day of school, on August 22nd. The Town's After School program is located at the South Routt Community Center. The program runs weekly, Monday through Thursday, from 4:20 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. Students can take the bus or get dropped off. Students will receive a snack, and participate in fun activities and free time with their peers. This program is for children K-4th grade. The Full Day Friday Program will start on Friday, September 8th. The Full Day Friday program runs from 7:30 a.m. until 5:30 p.m. with students participating in activities and field trips. After school club Creative Dance for children K and 1st grade will be held Aug 29th - Oct 3rd , 4:30-6:00pm. To register for the After School program, Full Day Friday program or Creative Dance Club, please contact Alissa Hill at recreation@townofoakcreek.com."

School's Reopening Soon

A message from Ralph Maher, Police Chief

Well, summer is very close to its official end. Summer ends when our children go back to school. *Oak Creek students will be returning to the classroom starting on August 22nd.*

Things will change quite a bit. School buses will start running their routes all over the place. School zones become active again. Kids will be all over the place. Frazzled parents will be sharing the roads with people who are facing their own challenges each morning. Not pure chaos, but certainly close sometimes.

We ask our neighbors to be vigilant in helping our students make it to school safely by:

- Being on the lookout for kids on foot, bikes, skateboards and buses.
- Knowing where the school bus stops are in your neighborhood and knowing that kiddos will gather there.
- Being cautious everywhere in town since our children come from all over. They are in hurry sometimes, and not paying attention.
- Being aware of other folks on the road. Sometimes parents feel stressed and are running late. Two drivers who are preoccupied could result in a mishap.

School zone speed limits are enforced with zeal. Fines are large. They range from \$95 for as little as ONE MPH over the speed limit to \$478 for speeds up to 24mph over (yes, we have seen those). Travel 25 mph or more over the speed limit and violators will have to explain the circumstances to a judge.

School bus lights are also enforced with focused efforts. Red lights on school buses require all traffic encountering the school bus on the same street to stop until all lights (red and yellow) are off and the stop sign arm is fully retracted. Violation of this law requires a conversation with the judge. Police might be on the busses to watch for violations.

Please don't pass our busses on the highway either. Double yellow lines mean "**no passing**." We have seen many violations of this law and have increased enforcement action through summonses to court.

Here is why we ask:

Every year, in the USA, **100** children are killed in collisions while walking to or from school.

25,000 children are injured every year in school zone accidents.

Interestingly enough, children account for only one of five school zone accident victims.

The majority of pedestrians who are hit by a vehicle in a school zone are adults.

That is over **100,000** adults are injured in school zones each year.

The life and money you save could be your own.

Routt County Fair

Friday, August 11 – Sunday, August 20, 2023

Check out this year's events & schedule at:
<https://www.routtcountyfair.org/> and follow them on
Facebook at: www.facebook.com/RouttCountyFairgrounds

Several of our local 4-H youth will be participating in the events this year! Hope to see many of you there!

Bears and other wildlife are among us!

Please visit our website for informative flyers on what to do to prevent issues with bears and other wildlife in the area. <https://townofoakcreek.com/newsletter/> If you wish to have a bear resistant trash can, we can have one delivered to you for an additional \$10/month. Another option is the carabiners that Twin Enviro will install, free of charge. If you would like any of these please contact us at 970-736-2422 or email david@townofoakcreek.com