

# Newsletter

Town of Oak Creek

11/1/2024

Edition 11, Volume 13

## Town Board Matters

This time of year the Town Board is regularly working on the upcoming year's budget. There have been several work sessions, and a public hearing on the 2025 Budget is scheduled the evening of November 14<sup>th</sup>. We are seeing some things planned over the last several years coming to fruition in 2025. The update to the Oak Creek Comprehensive Plan has been funded with both grant and Town funds and the next steps for affordable housing planning in South Routt continues to be spearheaded by the Town and will include staffing a full-time Housing Coordinator/Planner position. The next phase of improvements and upgrades at Sheriff Reservoir are in the pipeline, and needed water and wastewater improvements will continue. Facility needs assessments surrounding the Ice Rink and other local public recreation facilities are planned in 2025 that will likely result in improvements going forward. The Town will be playing catch-up on water and sewer rates, and will need to cover general inflation costs for trash collection. What does that mean to you? In general, basic residential water rates will be going to \$57.02/month,

sewer rates to \$56.36/month, and trash to \$43.66/month. No increase in electric rates is planned in 2025. Overall, the 2025 Budget continues to reflect several years of planning and program development.

As the holiday season approaches, the Town Board's meeting schedule will be limited with the cancellation of the second scheduled meetings in November and December. The adoption of the 2025 Budget and the associated appropriations has been scheduled for December 12<sup>th</sup> beginning at 6:00 p.m. In the unexpected case that something comes up that cannot be managed in this schedule, the Town Board has the option of scheduling a Special Meeting. Look for the posting of an agenda at Town Hall or the Post Office if this happens.

Town Hall will be closed on Monday, November 11<sup>th</sup> for Veteran's Day, and Thursday and Friday, November 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>, for the Thanksgiving holiday. Please plan accordingly.



### South Routt Community Events – Thank You!

We want to thank the community's support and participation in Oaktobberfest. Everyone – kids and parents alike – had a great time!

Specifically, we'd like to thank Sascha's Gourmet, Chow Haul, Select Super Market, Sweet Pine Café, Paws & Claws, Oak Creek Tavern & Dueling Ds BBQ for their contributions and donated prizes.

SRCE is a local non-profit fostering community engagement and supporting local South Routt businesses, and providing opportunities to fundraise for local programs.

### Town Administrator/ Clerk Corner

#### *Prepare for Winter*

While we are really just starting to see winter weather yet this year, we all know it's just a matter of time before Public Works employees will be out wrangling with the snowy streets and looking out for those items that just didn't get put away this Fall. Some reminders:

- Pull your trash can out of the road or alley right-of-way. Invariably they end up in the ditch otherwise.
- Flower pots, plantings, equipment and other materials need to be relocated away from the edges of roads and alleys.
- All vehicles must be moved within 24 hours after a snow storm to allow for the completion of snow removal operations.

Thanks for your help in keeping us all safe!

#### *HollyFest & Shop Local Campaign*

Efforts are underway to organize this year's HollyFest and the Shop Local Campaign. HollyFest activities including the tree lighting will be held December 7<sup>th</sup>, and Shop Local will kick-off at the Yampa Craft Fair with the drawing on December 31<sup>st</sup> starting at 1 p.m. Look for information and schedule flyers around Town and contact Alissa Hill if you'd like to donate to time or prizes for holiday festivities at [recreation@townofoakcreek.com](mailto:recreation@townofoakcreek.com)

Mary Alice Page-Allen

**MUSEUM  
WINTER HOURS  
STARTING  
NOVEMBER 1ST**



**Tuesday through Saturday - 12 pm to 4 pm**  
(expected closures due to holidays and inclement weather)

**100 Years Ago Headline**

**Times Have Changed**

It is said that the post office in Philadelphia will lose \$15,000 a day as the result of going from the three-cent back to the two-cent rate for letters.

That happens to be exactly the sum which Benjamin Franklin was able to turn over to Great Britain in annual revenues from the post offices in the colonies in 1774, after he has put in four years of hard work in creating a postal system. (*Oak Creek Times, Nov. 14, 1924*)



**VISIT US AT THE MUSEUM - 129 E. MAIN, OAK CREEK CO**

**Kick off Shop Local  
November 23, 2024**

**Save your receipts from local businesses.  
Bundle them for each \$100 spent.  
Drop them off at Town Hall by 11am 12/31/24  
(both Yampa and Oak Creek)**

**You will be entered into a drawing to win  
awesome prizes.  
Drawing will be held on Dec. 31st at 1pm.**

**--Join Us--**

**Dec 7th, 2024**

**for HollyFest Annual Tree Lighting  
and family fun activities ALL day in  
Oak Creek.**

**More details to come.**

Reach out for more info: [Recreation@townof oakcreek.com](mailto:Recreation@townof oakcreek.com)



**Yampa's  
Arts & Craft Fair**

*Saturday*

**November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

10:00 am - 4:00 pm

South Routt Elementary School

Yampa, CO

\*Over 60 booth spaces \* Lunch is available \* Door Prizes  
Santa arrives at 2:30 pm for youngsters.

**One of the best Craft Fairs  
around!**

43rd Annual Fair - Sponsored by Edith Chapter #61, O.E.S.

# IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Oak Creek

## Has Elevated Levels of Turbidity

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

Our water system recently violated a drinking water requirement. Although this situation is not an emergency, as our customers you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we are doing to correct this situation.

We routinely monitor your water for turbidity (cloudiness). This tells us whether we are effectively filtering the water supply. Water samples for September 13 - September 27 showed that 44% of values over the limit for September percent of turbidity measurements were over 0.1 turbidity units. The standard is that no more than 5 percent of samples may exceed 0.1 turbidity units per month. The turbidity levels are relatively low. However, their persistence is a concern. Normal turbidity levels at our plant are 0.06 turbidity units.

### What does this mean? What should I do?

- **You do not need to boil your water or take other actions. However, if you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor.**
- Turbidity has no health effects. However, turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth. Turbidity may indicate the presence of disease causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites which can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches. These symptoms are not caused only by organisms in drinking water, but also by other factors. If you experience any of these symptoms and they persist, you may want to seek medical advice.
- If you have an infant, severely compromised immune system, are pregnant, or are elderly, you may be at increased risk and should seek advice from your doctor about drinking this water. General guidelines on ways to lessen the risk of infection by bacteria and other disease-causing organisms are available from EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

### What is being done?

- Beginning on September 13, the effluent turbidity began to fluctuate above the 0.1 NTU limit. This fluctuation created readings that exceeded the 95% range limit, which means 95% of the turbidity readings need to be below 0.1. The turbidity meter was determined to be the problem and needed to be cleaned.

We anticipate resolving the problem by **October 1, 2024**. For more information, please contact **Scott Smith** at **jjdssmith@yahoo.com** or **970-846-9732**, or **PO Box 128, Oak Creek CO 80467**.

*\*Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.\**

This notice is being sent to you by: Oak Creek - CO0154566

Date distributed: **October 31, 2024**