



☀️ Westside Trails Summer Newsletter ☀️

Summer is here, and with it comes sunshine, outdoor fun, and a great opportunity to enjoy everything that makes Westside Trails such a special place to live. As we head into the busy summer season, we'd like to share a few reminders, safety tips, and fun highlights for the whole community.

Emergency Services & Address Mapping

Westside Trails is served by a combination of county and regional emergency providers, including nearby fire departments and regional EMS support when needed. The Board recently connected with County 911 Services and tested several Westside Trails addresses that are not currently showing on Google Maps. Those same addresses **are showing correctly within the 911 system**, which is great news for emergency response.

👉 While emergency responders can find you, **delivery services and visitors may not.**

Why this matters:

To ensure smooth access for:

- Amazon, UPS, FedEx deliveries
- Traveling medical providers or home health services
- Guests and service providers

We all need to make sure our addresses are added to mapping apps.

How to Add or Verify Your Address

Google Maps:

1. Open the app and tap "Contribute"
2. Select "Add place"
3. Enter your full address
4. Drop the pin exactly on your home
5. Submit

Apple Maps:

1. Open the app and scroll to "Report an Issue"
2. Select "Add a Missing Place"
3. Enter your address details
4. Adjust the pin to your exact location
5. Submit

Helpful Tips:

- Clearly post your house numbers so they are visible from the road
- Consider sharing a GPS pin if calling 911 in an emergency



Taking a few minutes to do this helps ensure everyone—from first responders to delivery drivers—can find you when it matters.

🌸 Fourth of July Fun Facts

The first organized Independence Day celebration wasn't exactly how we celebrate today. In 1777, one year after the Declaration of Independence was adopted, Philadelphia marked the occasion with fireworks, bonfires, bells, music, and a 13-gun salute—starting many of the traditions Americans still enjoy on the Fourth of July.

Bonus fact: Three U.S. presidents—Thomas Jefferson, John Adams, and James Monroe—all died on July 4th. Jefferson and Adams even died on the same day: July 4, 1826, exactly 50 years after the Declaration of Independence.

Pretty wild coincidence for America's birthday! 🌸

🌸 Fourth of July Fun & Safety

Independence Day is right around the corner—a perfect time for celebration!

A few friendly reminders:

- Follow local guidelines on fireworks and always supervise children.
- Keep water nearby when lighting fireworks.
- Be mindful of pets and neighbors who may be sensitive to noise.
- Always light fireworks in a large, open area away from buildings, dry grass, trees, and other flammable materials. Ensure there is a safe distance between the fireworks and spectators. Avoid using fireworks in windy conditions, as sparks can easily spread to nearby flammable objects.
- Proper Disposal of Fireworks:
After the fireworks have been used, soak them in water before disposing of them. This ensures that any remaining sparks or embers are fully extinguished, reducing the risk of starting a dumpster fire. Never attempt to relight or handle malfunctioning fireworks; instead, soak them in water and dispose of them properly.
- If you do encounter a fire, report it early—before it turns into a larger emergency. Our firefighters will be standing by and ready to respond this Independence Day!



Fun idea: Host a neighborhood BBQ or potluck and celebrate together!



Fire Safety with Smokey Bear



We all know Smokey Bear and his famous message: ***“Only YOU can prevent wildfires.”***

With dry grass and summer heat, fire danger increases quickly. Please:

- Never leave campfires unattended.
- Fully extinguish fires with water—don’t assume they’re out.
- Avoid parking vehicles on dry grass.
- Follow any local burn restrictions.

Protecting our land protects our homes and community.

Family-Friendly Summer Drink Recipe

Berry Lemonade Spritzer

Ingredients: 1 cup fresh strawberries or mixed berries

- 1 cup lemonade
- 1 cup sparkling water
- Ice
- Fresh mint (optional)

Directions:

1. Muddle berries in a glass or pitcher.
2. Add lemonade and stir.
3. Pour over ice and top with sparkling water.
4. Garnish with mint for a refreshing summer treat!

Three Forks Rodeo Weekend

Don’t miss the excitement of the Three Forks Rodeo! This local favorite brings thrilling rodeo action, parades, and family fun.



It's a great way to experience Montana tradition and make lasting summer memories. Known for its small-town hospitality, community pride, and has been recognized as a top rodeo, offering a classic Western experience with events for all ages to enjoy! Yee Haw, hope to see you there! July 17th through July 18th!

Final Thoughts

Summer in Westside Trails is something special. Whether you're enjoying the trails, gathering with neighbors, or heading out to local events, let's keep safety, preparedness, and community spirit at the forefront.



Have a fun, safe, and memorable summer! — *Westside Trails HOA Board of Directors*