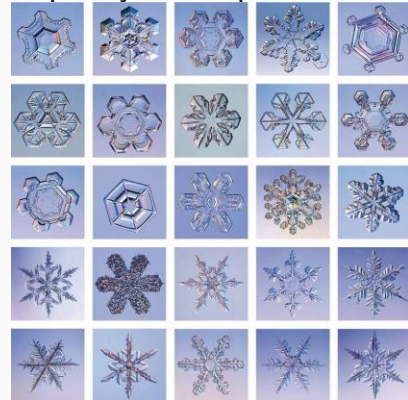




GF ENEWS WINTER 2023

HAPPY NEW YEAR! We hope your winter is nourishing you - lots of dark and cold for taking cozy time with friends and family....and plenty of sleep. When you are ready to go out and about we hope you'll join our neighbors in activities.

And if you're looking for some meaningful ways to contribute - volunteer! There are uncountable volunteer opportunities in Grand Junction, making every sort of contribution you can make.



Right here in Granite Falls we have volunteer openings. We would love to have **another member of the enews committee**. If you're interested in writing articles, interviewing folks for our quarterly enews please email us at granitefallsenews@gmail.com, whether for just one issue, or on a specific topic or a longer term volunteer.

Granite Falls HOA also is looking for **2 new Board of Directors members**. With an annual meeting approaching early in 2023, we will be having an election for new members of the board.

Our nominating committee is identifying people who are willing and able to serve, so if you are interested, please apply (or if you know someone who you believe would be interested please encourage them to apply) by submitting a

brief bio and resume to: granitefallshoa8@gmail.com.

The duties of the board are outlined in our bylaws, which can be found on our website at granitefallshoa.com. Please be sure to have any materials / nominations submitted by Saturday, January 14th.

Happy New Year!

Sam Marutzky

Terra Rafael

Co Editors of GF Enews

granitefallsenews@gmail.com

Granite Falls Neighborhood - Who Are We?

We put together an ANONYMOUS survey you can take to give us more ideas about who lives here and what our various interests are. We'll report the results in the next enews.

PLEASE complete this survey - each adult in your household. We look forward to learning more about our neighborhood.

[Click Here to take this ONE MINUTE Survey.](#)

Activities & Groups to Join

- **HOA Board Meeting** - January 5th , 5:30PM, Monument Presbyterian Church
- **The GF Annual Meeting** will be on February 16th, 7 PM, at Wingate Elementary School Cafeteria
- **NEW Colorado Mountain Club**- Neighbor Victor Ketellapper ykhome77@yahoo.com Founded in 1912, the Colorado Mountain Club is Colorado's community for mountain adventure, education, and conservation. Trips and training include hiking,

backpacking, cross country skiing, rock climbing and more. Learn more at www.cmc.org

- **NEW Speed Walking group** - Neighbor Pat Lurye: 970-318-0622 pclurye@gmail.com
- **Poker Club** - contact Aaron Meckler: 303.324-4510 (text) or Aaron.meckler@gmail.com
- **Game Afternoon Club** - contact Jennifer Bradfield: Jennifer.bradfield@gmail.com
- **Families w Kids Club** - contact: granitefallsnews@gmail.com
- **Frontier Wholesale Buyers Club** - neighbor Linda Chumbley: GJBuyingClub@gmail.com
- **Book Club** - neighbor Terra Rafael: wisewomanhood@gmail.com Beginning on Feb 8! First book is Con/Artist by Tony Tetro
- **Biking Club** - Heartcycle Bicycle Touring Club. www.heartcycle.org (see article below)
- **Pickleball Club** - neighbors : Michael/Loretta Servedio servedio144@gmail.com
 - Western Slope Pickleball Club www.westernslopepickleballclub.com
- **Outdoor Club** - neighbor: :Deb Orlick: : **CORRECTION** Dcdorlick@gmail.com
 - The Outing Club, which has been around for over 20 years (no online presence). The purpose is to encourage & assist people to enjoy outdoor activities such as hiking, biking, camping, water sports, and skiing. Most hikes occur on Saturdays. For more info gjoutingclub2@gmail.com

Landscape Tips for Winter by Bob Moehler

Vegetable Gardens:

Winter is basically about cleaning up any residual vegetation and if one has an herb garden then one should continue to water it periodically as plants such as rosemary, sage and English thyme may survive the winter and require water to do so.

Lawns:

New lawns (not established) may need to be periodically watered every few weeks if the roots did not have time to penetrate well into the soil; for example, lawns put down in late September. Lawns such as bluegrass may be watered monthly if established.

Ornamental Trees and Shrubs:

Winter is the time to prune, usually between January and early March, prior to



bud swell. For trees such as maples, oaks, redbuds and various pines, the pruning is mainly for shaping and removing damaged or dead limbs. If removing limbs near the trunk or smaller limbs near a larger limb, prune straight not at an angle, e.g., about one-fourth inch or so from the trunk, not right at the trunk (basically beyond the limb collar). For shrubs such as spiraea, which grow fast, pruning should be to lower the overall height to about a foot; for shrubs such as sage one may wish to wait until they start to show more life, such as early spring so one can tell the live stems

from the dead and seed stems and prune accordingly. For roses such as hybrid teas, unless the canes are dead or damaged, do not prune more than one-third of the overall plant height and prune the cane at an angle such as 45°. Other roses, such as heirlooms, bloom from the old canes, not necessarily the new grown such as the hybrid teas, so do not prune too much of the old growth. Remove canes smaller than a pencil as these will not have good blooms.

Shrub and tree roots respire during the winter and as such require moisture; depending on how well the tree or shrub is established, e.g., planted early fall or in the ground a few years, watering may be required every two to four weeks. Remember to disconnect the hose from the outside faucet and drain the hose to make watering easier the next time. For specific details on winter watering in terms of amounts (gallons) please see the Colorado State University Extension Service (website: <https://extension.colostate.edu/topic-areas/yard-garden/>), look under publications.

As mentioned in the fall tips, for young linden and redbud trees it is often good

to wrap the trunk with a tree wrap to help prevent sunscald (splitting of the bark near the base of the trunk). Several publications mention wrapping from October through April.

Fruit Trees:

Fruit trees are often pruned in late winter. New trees are often pruned to have only two to four branches coming off the trunk, older trees are pruned mostly for shaping and ease of picking the fruit. After pruning one may wish to spray the tree with dormant oil, which is available at local nurseries and box stores. As with watering, for specific details on pruning fruit trees, roses or ornamentals please see the Colorado State University Extension Service website.



Cactus and Cholla:

Cactus, especially the opuntias may be looking sad and their pads lying near the ground; barrel cactus may darken and look somewhat shriveled and cholla may be drooping. All this is normal this time of year, remember even these desert plants including yucca need some water, so watering every month or so during the winter should suffice.

HOA UPDATE Winter 2022-23

Hello Granite Falls Homeowners, we are finishing our first year of homeowner leadership of the HOA. It's been a year full of learning and adapting, with plenty of opportunities to get to know our neighbors and enjoy our great neighborhood. What a beautiful place we live in! Here are a few highlights of 2022:

- We enjoyed two neighborhood parties with over 30 homeowners participating. We secured the free city Neighborhood Party trailer both times with plenty of tables and chairs and all had a great time. Amazingly, the weather cooperated and the skies cleared

- We had two cleanup work parties (see the attached photo). With many hands, we were finished in an hour with several bags and wheel barrows full of trash.
- Currently, there are 72 houses completed, 70 are occupied, and two are for sale. 10 houses are under construction and there are 22 empty lots.
- For CY2022, we are under budget which allows us to replace and/or repair the main irrigation pump
- **We are looking for two members to join the HOA Board. If you are interested, please email granitefallshoa8@gmail.com**
- **Our next board meeting is January 5th, 5:30PM, at Monument Presbyterian Church.**
- **The Annual Meeting will be on February 16th, 7 PM, at Wingate Elementary School Cafeteria**