

Grand County Round-Up



Visit us online! www.co.grand.co.us

Update on Water Issues

Since May 3rd, the Commissioners have given 10 presentations on the Denver Water enhancement agreement to local organizations, and have received very positive feedback. Following the April 28th announcement by Gov. Hickenlooper, over 120 people attended the May 3rd public meeting at the Inn at Silver Creek. *Please contact the Commissioners' office if you are interested in a presentation for your group.*

Regarding the Windy Gap Firming Project, negotiations continue with the Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District. The County hopes to have a proposed agreement to present to the public by December.

The BOCC made numerous comments on both the Moffat and Windy Gap projects to the State Wildlife Commission and attended the Wildlife Commissioners' June meeting in Rifle where the County's consulting firm, Tetra Tech, gave a technical presentation followed by comments from the BOCC. Ultimately the Wildlife Commission did not include Grand County's comments in its final recommendation. On June 9th, the Wildlife Commissioners endorsed the fish and wildlife mitigation plans submitted by Denver and Northern to offset wildlife impacts that would be caused by the two proposed [transmountain water development projects](#). For more information, please see <http://wildlife.state.co.us/LandWater/Water/>

Due to the high spring run-off, Grand County was unable to pump water from Windy Gap to Granby Reservoir which means there will be no late-summer releases into the Colorado River as has occurred the last three years. Hopefully the abundant spring run-off will recharge the rivers and streams for later in the year.

On June 22 the County and area irrigators living below Windy Gap met with Denver Water, Northern and the Bureau of Reclamation to discuss operations for the summer and fall. The County also met with Grand Lake constituents later that afternoon regarding the appraisal process and the clarity study for Grand Lake.

If you have questions or concerns about Grand County's water resources, please call 725-3347, or see co.grand.co.us

308 Byers Ave.
PO Box 264
Hot Sulphur Springs, CO
80451
970-725-3347
co.grand.co.us

Grand County Commissioners



James Newberry
District 1



Nancy Stuart
District 2



Gary Bumgarner
District 3



Welcome to the 5th edition of the Grand County newsletter. This publication is just one of the tools we are using to communicate more effectively with residents.

Please contact me with any questions, story ideas, or comments: [Gretchen Bergen](mailto:gbergen@co.grand.co.us), Public Information, gbergen@co.grand.co.us



Subscribe to our free ENewsletter!

BOCC Meetings

1st 4 Tuesdays of the month
8:30 a.m.

No meetings on the 5th Tuesday

Check out the [Commissioners Corner](#)

for a summary of each meeting.

Subscribe to have the Commissioners Corner emailed to you!

co.grand.co.us

Fewer Roads treated with Mag Chloride this Summer

For road stabilization (NOT dust control), Grand County Road & Bridge will apply magnesium chloride to only three County roads this summer, saving \$162,000. Crews treated CRs #1, #3, and #6 due to high traffic levels. The BOCC decided to curtail the use of mag chloride on advice received at the fall road meeting from local contractors who said annual application was excessive and road life could be better extended with more maintenance. Applying mag on fewer roads saves money and also leaves crews free to devote more manpower and equipment to general road maintenance. *If you have any concerns or questions about road maintenance, please contact Grand County Road & Bridge at 887-2123.*

Road & Bridge keeps County Roads open during Spring Runoff

This year's above-average spring runoff had Grand County Road & Bridge working 24-7 keeping County Roads open and safe for the traveling public. Fast-moving water not only rises to cover roads but can destabilize river banks. By monitoring bridges for debris, and keeping an eye on flood-prone areas, crews kept water damage to a minimum.

Several County Roads in both East and West Grand County had to be closed due to water over the roadways. As soon as surface water is down, crews will work to improve drainage conditions in problem areas for next spring.

Overall, spring 2011 will be a run-off year people in Grand County will remember, says Road & Bridge Superintendent Ken Haynes. "I've been here 24 years and this is one of the busiest water-related springs we have ever had."



Spring Runoff Incidents

- Due to high water from St. Louis Creek, CR 721 (Fraser bypass) was closed on 7/9. Crews are working to re-open the road ASAP.
- High runoff on CR 491 in RMNP required pumping for 3 days and 24-hour monitoring.
- Crews stabilized CR 84 (Meadow Ridge) after a major land slough.
- CR 39 was closed due to water running across the road. Residents were directed to an alternate route.
- CR 164 (Old Park near Gore Pass) was closed due to high water. Crews dug a new culvert to handle overflow.
- Another land slough impacted the intersection of CR 134 and CR 135 near the Gore Lakes subdivision.
- Crews filled a huge sink hole on CR 3 at the 12 mile marker.
- CR 39 was closed 6/25 to 7/2 due to high water caused by debris collecting under the 39 Bridge.
- Crews are addressing an ongoing land slough at the 3.5 mile marker on CR 1 (Trough Road).
- Crews spent a week repairing the Town of Kremmling's waterworks plant. They rebuilt the road and put in diversion and overflow pipes.

Volunteer Mentors needed!

Mentors In Life Enrichment (MILE) is a one-to-one community mentoring program for youth ages 10-17. You could make a difference in a young person's life!

Contact Ian Aneloski, Program Coordinator, at 531-7291.



Come on out to the

Middle Park Fair & Rodeo

Aug. 2-7, 2011

Demolition Derby
Fri. 8/5 @ 7pm

Coordinated Response prepared Grand County for High Water this Spring

Spring runoff peaked during the June 25th weekend leaving Grand County's rivers, lakes and streams at optimum levels for summer recreation. Mild June temperatures and an above-average snowpack resulted in a big runoff, which kept Grand County's Office of Emergency Management (OEM) busy preparing for potential flooding. Information sharing among OEM, the County, towns and other groups was key.

Starting in February, OEM and town officials began meeting frequently to prepare, and compiled a list of known problem areas to monitor. OEM posted a new flood-preparation brochure (www.gcemergency.com) and participated in weekly conference calls with the National Weather Service. Sand bags were available at Grand County Road & Bridge shops and Town Public Works departments as officials monitored creeks and rivers 24-hours a day. OEM was prepared to alert property owners of potential flooding through 911 call backs, Emergency Alerts on local radio, and Code Red. Overall, Kremmling saw the most flooding mainly on ranch land. *Go to www.gcemergency.org to receive real-time emergency info to a cell phone or other device, or call 887-2732.*

EMS named Children's Hospital Preferred Provider

[Grand County EMS](#) was recently recognized by Children's Hospital for outstanding prehospital and medical transportation care of pediatric patients. Children's Hospital extended its highly-esteemed Preferred EMS Provider designation to Grand County EMS. EMS is now one of only four Colorado EMS agencies with this designation. Grand County EMS received this award for routinely demonstrating an impressive commitment to excellent patient care and strong customer service. *Congratulations EMS!*



News from Grand County Planning Commission

The BOCC will consider realigning the County’s 3 districts based on the 2010 Census population changes.

According to State Statute 30-10-306, after each census, counties must perform a redistricting exercise to assure equal representation in Commissioner Districts based on population.

Grand County’s population:

2000 = 12,442
2010 = 14,843

2000	2010	change
Dist.1: 4,082	5,523	+1,441
Dist.2: 4,193	5,209	+1,016
Dist.3: 4,167	4,111	-56

The next meeting is 2pm, July 21, at the Grand County Admin Center. The public is welcome.

Questions? Contact the Planning Dept. at 725-3062.

Commissioners consider Landfill solution

Ground movement continues under the Granby Landfill with the above-average spring runoff making the slide move faster. The BOCC and Road & Bridge staff continue to consult with engineers and soil specialists on the best solution. In 2007, a \$4 million berm was constructed on the landfill’s upper portion to stop the entire slough. However, the lower area continues to slowly move with high water occurring over the last two years increasing the slide’s speed. Though there is no imminent danger, the County will consider the options and costs presented by the engineers and decide how to proceed.

Fairgrounds re-open after Equine Virus

The Middle Park Fairgrounds in Kremmling and other arenas around Grand County reopened to equine activities on June 8 following a 3-week closure due to confirmed cases of Equine Herpesvirus (EVH-1) virus in horses statewide. The County closed the fairgrounds to equine users on May 17 to help prevent spreading the virus, which is highly contagious among horses.

The outbreak is thought to have originated at a horse show in Ogden, Utah, in early May. The incubation period of EVH-1 is 21 days, and the last confirmed case of the virus was reported in mid-May. No cases of EVH-1 were reported in Grand County though Colorado had 9 confirmed cases. As of June 24, the State Veterinarian’s Office had released almost all of quarantine and hold orders associated with EHV-1. Horse owners are asked to practice bio security measures outlined on the [CDA webpage](#) when using the arena. Please sign in with contact information when using the arenas. *For more information on the fairgrounds, contact Grand County’s CSU Extension Agent Travis Hoesli at 724-3436.*

Grand County’s CSU Extension is proud to be part of Grand Community Gardens!

grandcommunitygardens.org



Check out the July youth programs available through CSU Extension and 4-H!

970-724-3436



Grand Living Senior Homes, Granby

Grants fund new boilers and solar hot water at Grand Living Senior Homes

New high-efficiency boilers are projected to save 50% on heating bills at Grand Living Senior Homes in Granby. Best of all, grants paid for 89% of the system, which was installed this spring. Grand County Housing Authority will track the savings over the next year, says Director Jim Sheehan. "The boilers will create a warmer environment for residents, plus the savings will allow us to undertake other capital improvements." The project was funded with \$83,000 from the Sprout Foundation and \$26,000 from Energy Outreach Colorado with the Grand County Housing Authority adding \$13,000. Funds also paid for other energy-saving projects like new light fixtures in all units.

By July 15, a new solar hot water system will be providing domestic hot water to Grand Living thanks to funding from the Governor's Energy Office with a \$90,000 grant provided to Grand County Business and Economic Development Association (BEDA), which submitted a grant application back in August 2009. "The residents are very excited to see the energy conservation strategy," Sheehan says. *Questions? Contact the Housing Authority at 725-3070.*

See more County news

co.grand.co.us

Road & Bridge completes projects

Despite handling daily high-water issues this spring, Road & Bridge worked hard to complete several projects around the County. In Kremmling, crews assisted a local contractor applying new asphalt at the County building (former Pepsi warehouse) and prepared McElroy Field for asphalt paving around the hangers.

When a new ADA ramp was needed at the entrance of the Grand County Public Health office in Hot Sulphur Springs, Road & Bridge poured the footings and installed the new ramp, which was fabricated by the Grand County Crusher Crew during the winter. *Thanks, Road & Bridge!*

Social Services wins Biggest Lump Sum Award!

Grand County's Devonna Wolfe was recognized for collecting the largest lump sum child support payment (\$20,000) for a small county. (Grand County is 1 of 32 small counties.) The IV-D Administer for Social Services received an award at the Child Family Support Conference in Colorado Springs.

The State Department of Human Services Child Support Enforcement Division has also recognized Social Services for obtaining all four annual goals. This is the first time Grand County has met these four goals since 2005.

Check out [Social Services'](http://www.co.grand.co.us/SocialServices/) new website:

www.co.grand.co.us/SocialServices.html



Congratulations, Devonna!

**Building Permits
Jan. 1- June 30, 2011**

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
SFD*	97	24	17	26	8
2-Family	1	0	0	0	0
3-4 Family	0	0	0	0	0
5 or more	0	1	0	0	0
ALL OTHER	337	223	173	190	173
Total	435	298	190	216	181

*Single Family Dwelling

Outlook on Building ...with Building Official Scott Penson

Along with the warmer weather, building permits have started trickling into the Grand County Building Department. "We're seeing activity, which is a good sign," says Building Official Scott Penson who anticipated a late start this year due to above-average snow levels. Most of the permits are for additions, remodels and garages with a handful of single-family residences. "There's more activity than last year," Penson said. "I think we've reached the bottom." Though far from the boon years of 2006 and 2007, building permits have shown a steady year-over-year increase since 2009. *Grand County is the building authority for the towns of Grand Lake, Hot Sulphur Springs, Kremmling, and all unincorporated areas. Call 725-3255.*



Pilots' Area Opens at Granby Airport

A new flight-planning area and restroom was constructed in the County-owned building leased by Colorado West Mental Health. The new pilots' area, which opened in late May, replaces the old building removed during the 2009-10 airport improvements. The Grand County Building Dept. walled-off space to create the flight planning area.



Treasurer reminds Property Owners of Deadline

The Grand County Treasurer Christina Whitmer is preparing for the annual tax lien sale to be held Friday, November 4, 2011. Property tax payments received after Sept. 1, must be in the form of cash or a cashier's check, and will need to include the advertising charges in addition to taxes and interest due. No personal checks will be accepted after Sept. 1. If payment is not received in the Treasurer's Office by Sept. 20, all delinquent real property taxes will be advertised in the Sky-Hi News for four consecutive weeks starting in October. *Property owners needing current figures should call the Treasurer's Office at 725-3061.*



**Grand County Government
PO Box 264
Hot Sulphur Springs, CO 80451
co.grand.co.us**

Like to receive Grand County Round-Up by mail? Please clip, fill out, and mail to... Attn. Gretchen Bergen, PO Box 264, Hot Sulphur Springs, CO 80451. Or Email your request to gbergen@co.grand.co.us

Name _____

PO Box _____

City/St/Zip _____

Email _____