



**Town Bulletin #19**  
**March 2012**

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**Star Valley Medical Center Health Fair**  
**“Blood Draw”**

Residents and friends of the Town of Star Valley Ranch  
will have three opportunities this year  
for the Health Fair blood draw at  
our Town Hall

Draws on Tuesday, May 1 and Thursday, May 3, 2012 will be by appointment only  
Call 885-5827 to schedule your appointment

Draws on Wednesday, May 30<sup>th</sup> will be on an open, walk-in, first come, first served  
basis.

All these dates are scheduled from 6:00 AM to 10:30 AM.

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**Dog Tags – Discounted Renewal Fees**  
**Ends March 30<sup>th</sup> @ 4:30 PM**

First quarter renewal rates are in effect. The cost per animal is \$5.00 less than the cost for the rest of the year starting April 1, 2012.

The cost for neutered or spayed animals is \$15.00 and for non-altered dogs, it is \$30.00.

The alternative: if you are cited, “an unregistered dog a minimum fine of two hundred dollars (\$200) for a Neutered or Spayed Dog and a minimum fine of two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250) for non-altered dogs and not more than seven hundred and fifty (\$750.00) for each offense. For purposes of this ordinance, each offense shall be considered a separate violation.”

## **Seeking Part-Time Summer Help**

The Town of Star Valley Ranch will be seeking an individual to assist with the general maintenance and appearance of the Town.

We need a responsible person to apply weed spray (training will be provided) along the sides of our roads, help maintain the cleanliness of the Fox Run Park parking, walking trails and pavilions, care of the front entrance area (Vista Drive from Muddy String to Vista West Drive) and a general all-around handy person.

The job will:

- Start approximately May 15<sup>th</sup> (weather permitting) thru the fall
- Require moderate lifting and work
- Require approximately 20 to 25 hours per week (very flexible)
- Potential require some early morning hours
- The Town of Star Valley Ranch is an equal opportunity employer

Special consideration will be given based on experience with job related skills and to Town residents

Pay will be commensurate with experience

Please send your resume or contact Town Hall for an application: 171 Vista Drive, Star Valley Ranch, WY 83127; 307-883-8696; [svrtown@silverstar.com](mailto:svrtown@silverstar.com)

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## **National Flood Insurance Eligibility**

The town of Star Valley Ranch has been accepted into the Regular Phase of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) of Washington, D.C. Because the Town of Star Valley Ranch is now a participant in the NFIP, the citizens of Star Valley Ranch have access to federally offered flood insurance.

FEMA had just completed a Flood Insurance Study (FIS) report and Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) for Lincoln County, Wyoming and Incorporated Areas on May 16, 2011. Based on an examination of known flood hazards, no Special Flood Hazard Areas (SFHAs) were found to exist within the Town of Star Valley Ranch. The FIS therefore placed the entire Town of Star Valley Ranch in Zone X which has the lowest cost flood insurance offered in the NFIP.

However, we know that thunderstorms back in the canyons above the Town could produce a large volume of water in a short period of time. The creeks leading out of these canyons may not be able to handle the volume, localized flooding can, and has occurred. Even above normal spring runoff has caused problems for some landowners in our town.

To purchase National Flood Insurance, simply go to your insurance agent and ask them for assistance in procuring flood insurance from the NFIP. For information on services available from FEMA go to [www.NFIP.services.com](http://www.NFIP.services.com) or call 1-800-767-4341.

The Town Flood Administrator along with assistance from the Planning and Zoning Board will be available for advice for construction in flood prone areas.

# 2012 SUMMER PROJECTS

Project Identification: Prater Canyon Spring Redevelopment  
Project Cost (Estimated): \$275,000  
Funding: State of Wyoming, Wyoming Water Development Commission  
Terms: 66.6% Grant, 30 Year Loan, 4% Interest  
Engineering Firm: Forsgren & Associates  
Construction Firm: "Pre-Bid"  
Description:  
Water from the current Prater Canyon Spring is gathered from a perforated pipe that was inserted vertically into the spring area. Currently there is no cut-off wall to capture excess sub-surface water. The spring is also largely unprotected from surface water infiltration.

The redeveloped spring collection system will include a six (6) to eight (8) foot concrete cut-off wall buried just beneath the surface of the ground and horizontally across the canyon just downstream from the spring area. There will be a perforated pipe laid along the bottom of the cut-off wall on the upstream side and with additional pipe running uphill into the spring area. Protection to avoid surface water is included. Then, the entire area will be properly fenced for health, safety and security purposes.

This technique has common for this type of gathering system. It has worked well in other locations including Star Valley. There is always risk, albeit low, that we could lose water rather than gain any. We feel the increased protection from contamination and the potential for a significant increase in water far outweighs the chance of no water.

Prater Canyon Spring produces some of the best tasting water in Wyoming. Over the years, we have placed high several times in the "Water Taste Test" competition held at the annual WARWS Conference (Wyoming Association of Rural Water Systems).

It is the most economical source of water the Town owns. It will be our first choice and primary source of consumable water for our residents.

This will have little impact on our citizens, as most of the work will be up the canyon. We will try to be sensitive to the additional traffic and use dust prevention when needed.

Your patience will be greatly appreciated.

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## Respect for Private Property

The Town has received several complaints regarding lack of respect for private property. Almost 100% were regarding SNOWMOBILES crossing private property. Please be aware all property in the Town's boundaries is private, exclusive of streets, golf courses and a few of the Association's common properties. A snowmobile track is NOT an approval to continue to use the trail. Thank you for your consideration.

# 2012 SUMMER PROJECTS

Project Identification: Steel Pipe Replacement Project  
Cost (Estimated): \$2,098,600  
Funding: State of Wyoming, State Revolving Fund  
Terms: 20 Year Loan, 25% Principal Forgiveness, 0% Interest  
Engineering Firm: Forsgren & Associates  
Construction Firm: "Out for Bid"  
Description: Early estimates indicated we had approximately 35,000 feet (6.6 miles) of degraded, steel piping and in many cases, the pipe was undersized and/or installed at a very shallow depth.

In a leak test conducted in 2007, over 90% of the leaks were in our steel pipes. The loss was estimated to be approximately 260,000 gallons per day or 180 gallons per minute. As a comparison, our original Prater Canyon Tank holds 275,000 gallons and two of our existing wells are rated at around 300 gallons per minute.

We have replaced approximately 11,000 feet (2.1 miles) of steel pipe in the north part of Town during the summer of 2010.

This project is to replace the known, remaining steel pipe in our Distribution System. We are aware of approximately 23,000 feet (4.4 miles) of steel pipe.

Most of the remaining steel pipe is located within plats 5, 13, 14 and 16 with a small amount in closely adjoining plats. There is a map in Town Hall with specific locations of known and suspected steel pipe.

We will be replacing the pipe using current industry standards:

- "C-900 DR 18" quality PVC pipe,
- Depth of the pipe will be at or below six (6) feet for frost protection,
- Size will be to accommodate fire suppression (hydrants) devices.

Our plan is to start this summer as soon as weather will permit and finish before the first snowfall.

There will be considerable disruption to traffic and homeowners during this time and when we are moving the water taps from the old pipe to the new pipe. We will also try to have the roads graded ahead of the installation, water trucks will be used in high traffic areas and depending on the time of year, we may apply dust-guard.

Please respect the construction crew's time and direct ALL questions, suggestions and concerns to Town Hall.

Your patience will be greatly appreciated.

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## Water Bill Payment – Night Box

For your convenience, the Town has a payment drop box at the mail center. Save the cost of a postage stamp and drop your payment off any time.

# 2012 SUMMER PROJECTS

Project Identification: SCADA System (System Control and Data Acquisition)  
Project Cost (Estimated): \$340,000  
Funding: State of Wyoming, Wyoming Water Development Commission  
Terms: 66.6% Grant, 30 Year Loan, 4% Interest  
Engineering Firm: Forsgren & Associates  
Construction Firm: "Out for Bid"  
Description:

The system will monitor:

- ✓ water levels in our tanks
- ✓ pressures within our distribution system
- ✓ spring water volumes
- ✓ well pump pressures, volumes and flow

The system will control:

- ✓ water levels in our tanks
- ✓ tank to tank exchange of water

The system will assist us in

- ✓ minimizing our power bills
- ✓ alerting our Water Department to potential emergencies
- ✓ alerting us to potential areas of concern

This project will have limited visibility to citizens. Limited disruptions are anticipated.

Some work has already been completed as part of our other water projects including the wiring and instrumentation at the well sites, pump stations and the new tank.

Due to the nature of the project, it will be completed last. We anticipate the field work to be completed by fall and the final system tested and running during the winter months.

Your patience will be greatly appreciated

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## Creation of a Municipal Complex

The Council and staff are starting the planning process to establish a Municipal Complex (a group of buildings) on the Town owned land just east of Town Hall. The Complex plan will be used over the next twenty or so years. The first two phases should take about 3 to 4 years to complete.

- ✓ The first phase is to define the most efficient use of the Town's property located at the northeast corner of Vista Drive and Vista West Drive.
- ✓ Then, the second phase is to design and construct the first Building.

With our current Reserves for a Municipal Complex and anticipated State funded grants, the costs of phases one and two should have no additional, negative, financial impact on the citizens and landowners of this Town.

**We are at the very beginning of this process. We have used the citizen's input from the two previous "Community Assessments" for our initial base. Many Town Hall meetings and other opportunities will be made available to those who have a desire to contribute towards the process. We will continue to publish our findings and discuss them with the public. Pictures, plans and drawings to follow...**

**Both the Town and the SVR Association have an obligation and a role to provide services to our community. We do not intend to compete with the Association in these services. Our objective is only to communicate with them, to ensure we complement each other and avoid unintentionally duplicating each other's services or facilities.**

**Your ideas and recommendation are always appreciated. As stated above, we do not intend this to be a contest between the Town and the Association. Please continue to direct your comments on recreational and homeowner's services and activities to the Association, direct all other input to the Town.**

**As mentioned before, we are looking to plan for the development of the Town owned property over the next several years. It will be in phases that include the following:**

- 1) Phase One will be to design of the anticipated uses of the land. Location of current and future buildings, parking, traffic and green areas will be defined.**
- 2) Phase Two will be to define and prioritize the various functions of a Town building. A building to house Town Hall offices and other functions; a meeting hall, an area for our post office boxes and an area for potential medical and safety services for our Town's citizens. This process will take approximately three to four years. The Town is currently leasing the space we use. We will be able to reduce our operational costs when we move to a Town-owned facility.**
- 3) Phase Three may be a few years out before the planning and financing are started. The current plan is to construct a structure to house the fire-fighting equipment and associated space based on a fire department's requirements. When we proceed with this phase, we plan to coordinate fully with Thayne's Volunteer Firemen, Lincoln County and the State Fire Marshall. We all should recognize the value of the close proximity of a Fire Sub-Station.**
- 4) The final phase (Phase Four as of today) appears to be the construction of a third building. Current outlook ranks a stand-alone postal unit as the most likely facility, but that may change over time. This process will not start until the Town's growth and full utilization of the original Phase 2 building creates the need for additional room, thus requiring the post office box area be moved out of the building. This could be many, many years down the road.**

**If you have architectural or commercial development skills or experience and are willing to share your knowledge with your fellow citizens, please contact Town Hall.**

## **Natural Resource Board**

What tree to plant? Tree planting season will soon be upon us and it is time to start thinking about what species of trees to plant on your property. Our Star Valley climate at 42.5 degrees north and 6,000+ feet in altitude is pretty extreme so the list of trees that survive is fairly limited. In addition, nature has already done a pretty good job selecting trees that can handle our climate and survive. Therefore, when we plant a tree, which is well out of its natural range, we should not be surprised when it does not do so well. A good example of a tree that should never be planted in the Star Valley is Ponderosa Pine (*Pinus ponderosa*). The closest natural stand of Ponderosa Pine is in northeast Utah and south central Montana. Both of these locations are hundreds of miles away and much lower in elevation. Our high valley, with long cold winters, does not favor this tree. This past year alone has seen dozens of planted Ponderosas have died within the Town.

For the best success, plant a tree that nature had already selected and tested for thousands of years. A native tree! For a list of native trees take a look at page 3 of the Town of Star Valley Ranch Vegetation Plan. You can download a copy from the Town website: <http://www.starvalleyranchwy.org> Click on *Miscellaneous Documents* then on *Community Forest and Vegetation Plan*.

What is the number one tree to plant on the ranch? Most folks would say Quaking Aspen, Engelmann Spruce or Blue Spruce. These trees are hardy enough to make it in our climate and spruces are somewhat resistant to disease and damage from browsing deer. Some native trees are hard to find in local nurseries but aspen and spruce are quite common and easy to find.

**Tree of the Month - Rocky Mountain Maple (*Acer glabrum*):** In the fall of every season Star Valley lights up with a multitude of colors on the hillsides. While most of the color comes from Quaking Aspen a few small trees, on south and southwest slopes, start off the autumn season with a fiery red display! That tree more than likely is Rocky Mountain Maple, a close cousin to Sugar Maple (*Acer sacrum*) where we get maple syrup! Rocky Mountain Maple grows as a scrub or small tree. It is a species like aspen, serviceberry and chokecherry that invades disturbed landscapes especially after a fire. Here is an interesting fact: Because it is such a hard wood, Rocky Mountain Maple is often cut into veneers and laminated for use a “pin block” for grand pianos!

Remember June 9, 2012 will be Arbor Day for the Town of Star Valley Ranch. A fund has been established to purchase trees for planting on Arbor Day. Donation forms can be obtained by calling or e-mailing our Town Clerk, Brenda Bauer ([svrtown@silverstar.com](mailto:svrtown@silverstar.com) or 883-TOWN). The Natural Resource Board will maintain a plaque, to be displayed at Town Hall or other suitable location, displaying the names of donors, memorials or remembrances for donations of \$50 or more. For names to appear on this year’s plaque donations must be received no later than May first, 2012.

# **Natural Resource Board**

*Donation for Trees for  
Arbor Day 2012*



***\$50.00 Donation will entitle you to have a name engraved on the plaque  
Donations must be received by May 1<sup>st</sup> for Arbor Day 2012  
(If not received by May 1<sup>st</sup>, donations will be applied to the 2013 celebration)***

Donor's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address and Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Donation Amount \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Do you want a name on the plaque? (Yes)\_\_\_\_\_ (No) \_\_\_\_\_

If Yes, please print the name you want engraved on the plaque

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Association's Corner

Association's Corner

## **Join the Star Valley Ranch Association Board of Directors**

All SVRA members in good standing are welcome to join the Board of Directors.  
Current objectives are

1. To develop and initiate plans to build a year-round facility,
2. To complete and implement DCC&R compliance policy and procedures,
3. To develop an overflow RV storage area and policies for its use,
4. To complete changes to diversion point of golf course irrigation water allowing improved utilization of water resources,
5. To continue to advance year-round recreational opportunities for all members.

Board members have monthly workshops and a regular meeting the third Saturday of each month. Directors chair or participate as members of standing committees. Candidate statements, photos and petitions with signatures of 10 members will be due in late April. Please contact the SVRA Office for details or any Board member, for assistance and encouragement.

Association's Corner

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