

S P R I N G 2 0 1 3

Hyalite Foothills Homeowners Association

PO Box 1994, Bozeman, MT 59771

www.hyalitefoothills.org



Neighborhood Volunteer Work Day

Board member Warren Bauder is organizing a volunteer work force that will “do some good in the ‘hood” this summer. Volunteers plan to spend a day helping a neighbor complete a project on their home. All skills are needed; please let us know if you are interested in painting, yard work or being a support crewmember so we can match you with the appropriate project. Contact warren@hyalitefoothills.org or call him at 581-9514 to join the work crew.

Please let Warren or another board member know if you are aware of a senior neighbor or a neighbor having difficulties who could benefit from our Volunteer Work Day.

Board Members

Mitch Thompson, President

mitch@hyalitefoothills.org

Warren Bauder, Vice President

warren@hyalitefoothills.org

John Schwarz, Vice President

john@hyalitefoothills.org

David Yearous, Secretary

david@hyalitefoothills.org

Tracy Paine, Treasurer

tracy@hyalitefoothills.org
586-8077

Contact all board member in one email at:
info@hyalitefoothills.org

Photos by Denise Ragsdale

More photos by Denise can be found on the Gallery page of our neighborhood website: www.hyalitefoothills.org
Denise would enjoy meeting other neighbors who are bird watching enthusiasts. Contact her at jdrags39@gmail.com or 813-956-8236.

Cougar Park Improvements A Note from our Committee Chairman

“Hello, my name is Tami Thompson and I am chairing a committee to redesign, upgrade and renew Cougar Park. I am looking for a group of approximately five people to serve with me on this committee to complete projects approved by the board. If you are interested in contributing your ideas and talents to improving our park, please contact me at 580-3861 so we can get to work . . . if it ever stops snowing!”

2013 Neighborhood-wide Garage Sale will be followed with a BBQ, Potluck and social gathering in Cougar Park

Our garage sale will be Saturday, August 24 from 9:00 am – 3:00 pm, and we will cap that day off with a neighborhood BBQ in Cougar Park from 5:00 – 7:00 pm. Hamburgers and hot dogs will be provided. Please bring a side dish to share, your own beverages, and picnic blankets or lawn chairs for your own use.

This year we will have maps indicating which homes are participating in the garage sale at our subdivision entrances. Please let a board member know if you want your home included on the map. If you sold all your stuff last year, consider lending a hand setting up for our BBQ! Join us for a fun evening of socializing and admiring the improvements Tami’s committee makes this summer.

Mark your calendar

Volunteer
Work Day

TBD by the committee

Neighborhood
Garage Sale,
BBQ & Potluck

Saturday, August 24

Homeowners
Annual Meeting

Tuesday, October 8

Wily, Wicked, Weeds

By Weed Committee Chairman Kathryn Hiestand

Sources of information on weeds are abundant on the Internet.

Much of the information in this article was garnered from the Montana Weed Control Association. They can be found at <http://www.mtweed.org/index.php>

The Gallatin County Weed Office folks can be a wealth of information on different methods of controlling noxious weeds. You can find a link to their website at www.hyalitefoothills.org - our neighborhood website. If you want a person, you can call the Gallatin Weed Office at 406-582-3265.

Melissa Bradford of PPYC Spraying will be walloping the noxious weeds in our neighborhood this year. She is very particular about what herbicides she uses to target specific species. Since she is spot spraying along the roadside and in the ditches, the trees, shrubs and native plants can easily be avoided. Because herbicides have a time period in which no one should enter a treated area, Melissa plans to post signs when she is spraying. That time period is typically 48 hours.

Melissa welcomes homeowners to contact her about spraying on their property. She plans to be working in Hyalite Foothills by **June 24**—weather dependent—and needs to be notified at least 2 days ahead if you want her to spray weeds on your property. **Melissa is offering a 30% discount off her usual price** to homeowners who contract with her, as she will be in the neighborhood already. She requests that folks call her and give her a rough idea of the size of the area to be sprayed and she can give a no greater than \$X amount estimate of the cost.

Melissa can be contacted at 406-580-0465.

Non-chemical solutions

If you don't want to use chemicals, you can control the spread of weeds by making sure they don't flower. The easiest way to do that is to mow them down! Eventually the plant will die. That could be years from now, but eventually.... HOWEVER, knapweed has an uncanny ability to adjust and will bloom right next to the ground after a few years—beware the wily weed.

If you are feeling particularly industrious, you can use a de-weeding tool—my friend—and dig up the weeds root and-hopefully-all. If you don't get the entire root, well at least you knocked it back for quite some time. You should wear gloves when pulling weeds. Knapweed-especially-can be irritating to the skin.

Concerned about those **Dandelions** that came here from Europe? There is more you can do with dandelions than kill them.

The flowers can be made into dandelion wine. The flowers can also be added to your salad. When picked young, the greens can be cooked like one might cook beet greens. The roots have been made into a coffee substitute. Herbalists use dandelion as a mild laxative and for improving digestion. The milky latex has been used as a mosquito repellent.



We tolerate dandelions to some degree, but other weeds in our neighborhood are truly noxious. Montana law states—in part—***“It is unlawful for any person to permit any noxious weed to propagate or produce seeds on their land...”***

Hence as property owners, we have the responsibility to make ourselves aware of our surroundings and seek out and destroy noxious weeds. A few of those weeds are highlighted here so that you won't be caught by the county as being non-compliant in adhering to the state law. The county weed control district has the right to enter property, spray noxious weeds and bill the property owner, if the property owner has been consistently negligent in destroying weeds.

Don't get caught with wily weeds growing gleefully in your yard!

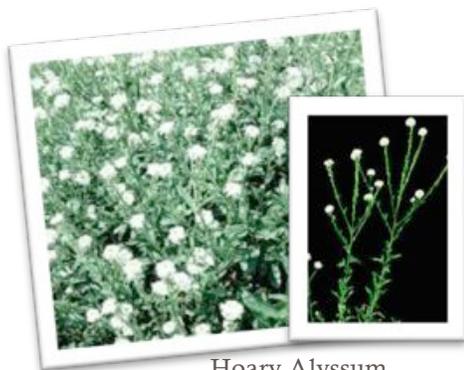
Spring is on its way!
Time to wage war and whack the weeds
Let's not delay!
You can mow 'em, pull 'em or poison 'em,
But get to work today!

Know Your Enemies

There are 8 species of knapweed—in the sunflower family—in Montana. **Spotted Knapweed** has become prolific in Montana. Each plant can produce 1000 seeds and remain viable for about 8 years. It was accidentally introduced to the US through contaminated alfalfa or from contaminated soil used as ship ballast. The first report of knapweed in Ravalli County was in 1921. Knapweed has infested 2-5 million acres in Montana and continues to spread. This noxious weed is so successful because it produces its own natural herbicide called "catechin" that eradicates native plants around it. Lupine is one plant that can hold its own in a field of knapweed, so plant lupine in your yard!



Spotted Knapweed



Hoary Alyssum

Hoary Alyssum had become quite common on the east side of this neighborhood. This plant is native to Europe and Asia. It is in the mustard family. Its white flowers are showy from spring through late fall. It spreads rapidly because each plant produces many seeds. Hoary alyssum is toxic to horses and remains toxic in cured hay. Horses experience lameness and consumption of large amounts of this plant can result in dehydration, diarrhea and cause abortions. However, if treated early, most horses recover. Because of an old belief that they cured rabies, the alyssums have been called madwort or heal-bite.

Oxeye Daisy

This white sunflower is native to Europe and was introduced to the United States as a contaminant in seed and as an ornamental. It was first reported in Montana in 1890 and its distribution across the state is still increasing. It is listed as a noxious weed in Washington, Wyoming, and Montana. Cattle avoid eating oxeye daisy and therefore it has become widespread throughout pasturelands. A single plant can produce up to 26,000 seeds per year and it displaces native vegetation. The seeds can remain viable in the soil for up to 40 years. It was not only grown for its beauty but also for its natural remedies associated with whooping cough, asthma, and other coughs. The leaves can also be eaten in salads.



Oxeye Daisy



Houndstongue

Houndstongue

This member of the borage family was introduced into the U.S. in the 1900's as a cereal contaminant from Eurasia. It is a biennial, meaning that its lifecycle is completed in two years. In Montana, houndstongue infests an estimated 36,000 acres. Where it is established it will displace native vegetation because it is very good at capturing soil nutrients and water, leaving little for the natives. Houndstongue carries an alkaloid poison that can kill livestock through loss of production of liver cells. Animals won't normally graze on it, but if cured in hay, it will remain toxic to cattle and especially to horses. The seed of houndstongue has been said to be the inspiration for Velcro. Houndstongue has been used as a remedy to acne, corn callus, eczema, and as a fever remedy.



Common Tansy

Common Tansy

Common Tansy, also known as golden buttons and garden tansy, is in the sunflower family. Common tansy was introduced from Europe into colonial North America in the 1600's as an ornamental plant and for medicinal uses. Common Tansy was first discovered in Montana in Silver Bow County in 1936. Common tansy contains alkaloids that are toxic to humans and livestock if consumed in large quantities. The presence of this weed reduces species diversity, wildlife habitat, and livestock forage.

Other Neighborhood News & Reminders

Architecture Review Forms must be submitted before painting, roofing, or beginning many other summer projects. Forms are available on the neighborhood website or you can contact any board member for a hard copy.

Cougar and 19th Road Signs will be replaced this summer utilizing anti-theft technology. Our round, Hyalite Foothills sign will also be re-erected a little further south than its previous location where there is less risk of it being knocked down by vehicle slide offs.



Speaking of slide-offs: **Slow Down** on our neighborhood roads! For the safety of our children, pets, and property keep your speed at 25 mph or lower.

Speaking of roads . . . the **potholes on Meadowlark** will be repaired this summer. We will hire a contractor rather than route the work through Morrison-Maierle. Past experience has taught us that those repairs deplete our R.I.D. account and would likely delay the completion of the overlay of our roads.

Please be a responsible pet owner. Control your pet's behavior so your neighbors love your pets as much as you do! Excessive barking, unleashed dogs, and un-scooped poop have a negative impact on your neighbors. Help your pet be a welcome resident of our neighborhood!



Visit Our
Neighborhood
Website:

www.hyalitefoothills.org

You will find links to important documents, community resources, neighborhood news, photos, forums and more!

The **Cougar Park Improvement Committee** will be considering a variety of projects this summer that will make Cougar Park a more useable and enjoyable space for residents. Projects under consideration are: building a pavilion, putting in a well for watering purposes, killing weeds and planting grass, building a parking area for easier access, laying asphalt to accommodate basketball hoops, tether ball poles, four square courts, and just generally making our park a wonderful community gathering spot. Keep an eye out for the changes and be sure to attend the Neighborhood Barbecue and applaud our volunteers!

Cougar Park Parking Areas

The parking areas for Cougar Park are for the use of neighbors visiting the park. If you live near one of the park entrances, please do not use our park entrances as personal driveway space.

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