

the Village Reporter

A bi-monthly publication by
and for, Village residents.

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www.thevillagecastlepines.com

Village Pools Open Memorial Day Weekend

Get ready for summer! The pools are preparing to open!

The Canyon Club and Summit Club pools open for the season on Saturday, May 28. The Village Lake Fitness Center ("VLFC") pool opens for the season on Saturday, May 21. Hours for each pool are as follows:

Canyon Club – Monday through Thursday – 11 am to 8 pm
Friday and Saturday – 10 am to 9 pm
Sunday – 10 am to 8 pm

Summit Club – Sunday through Thursday – 10 am to 8 pm
Friday and Saturday – 10 am to 9 pm

VLFC (adults only) – Daily 4:30 am to 10 pm

Access to the Canyon Club and Summit Club pools requires a pool pass.

Only two pool passes are issued per home. If you currently have pool passes, they will continue to provide access this pool season. If you have any ques-

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Congratulations, Village Graduates!

The Village at Castle Pines would like to congratulate our high school and college graduates of 2022! We are so proud of our students, who have persevered in their accomplishments. Our community supports you! We look forward to watching you continue into the next chapter of your life. The Village applauds you, Class of 2022!

2022 Events at a Glance

- Spring Clean Up – Saturday, May 7
- Pig Roast at Canyon Club Pavilion – Saturday, June 11, Noon-3 pm
- "The Wonder of Bees", CPHA Wildcat Corner - Thursday, June 16, 7 pm
- Village Patriotic Chalk Art Contest – June 19-July 2
- Music in the Park at Canyon Club – Saturday, July 2, 6 pm-10 pm
- July 4 5k Fun Run at Canyon Club – Monday, July 4, 8 am
- July 4 Parade at the Fitness Center – Monday, July 4, 10 am
- July 4 Barbecue at Canyon Club – Monday, July 4, noon

Knox Boxes

We have all had it happen, we walk out the front door leaving the keys sitting right on kitchen table, and now we are locked out. Solution? If your home is equipped with a Knox Box system call Emergency Services and an officer will respond and be able to let you in your home. Another value of the system is to allow our officers the ability to open your home in case of a fire or medical emergency without the Fire Department using their axes on your front door.

A Knox Box is a small secure locked box located on the exterior of your home where a spare key can be stored for emergencies. The box is only accessible by an Emergency Services officer using a master key in their patrol vehicle

Continued on page 2



Area News

Scavenge The Rock

“Scavenge The Rock” returns to the Town of Castle Rock. Beginning May 1 through June 3, you can pick up “clue sheets” at the Castle Rock Museum (420 Elbert Street). The adventure can be completed by your family, friends, co-workers or do it on your own. It’s an opportunity to learn about the history of the town by exploring the various clues and completing tasks on the sheet. Once your sheets are completed, return them to the Castle Rock Museum to receive a gift, and you will be entered into a drawing to win season passes to the Summer Concert Series.

Spring Kickoff Concert

The Town of Castle Rock will be kicking off their Summer Concert Series at The Amphitheater at Phillip S. Miller Park (1375 W. Plum Creek Parkway). The lineup of live music events will be available mid-April at <http://www.crgov.com/2618/Summer-Concert-Series>.

Shake Shack

Shake Shack, located at the Promenade at Castle Rock adjacent to Whole Foods, is opening in mid-April. This location is offering drive-thru and indoor dining.

Upcoming Events & Activities

Garden Club Upcoming Events

- Monday, May 16 – Member Luncheon and Fashion Show. The latest spring fashions modeled by Garden Club models, at the Castle Pines Golf Club.
- Upcoming summer events will include Wine in the Gardens and gardening at the Village Lake Serenity Garden. The Village gardeners also volunteer at a neighboring non-profit, historical garden.

Village residents interested in becoming a member, please check out www.vcpgc.org or contact Darcey DeRose at 310-869-6426, DarceyDeRose@comcast.net. The Village Castle Pines Garden Club is “where friendships bloom”.

Village Stingrays 2022

The summer swim season is almost here and the Village Stingrays are preparing for the 2022 season! Stingrays registration is open to all Village resident children (and grandchildren) aged 5 through 18. All swimmers must be able to swim the length of the pool unassisted. Practices will start in the afternoons the week of May 23 with morning practices beginning the following week. Meets are Saturdays, June 4 through July 9, with a bye week for the Fourth of July holiday weekend.

Please contact Mamie Black at mamiesbenz@gmail.com with any questions regarding Stingrays and the summer season or to help support the team. Registration is ongoing.



Becky Huser was the winner of the Snow Sculpture Contest.

Congratulations!

Free Document Shredding Event

Saturday, June 4, 9 am to 11 am

Village Lake Fitness Center Parking Lot

Do you have some sensitive documents you need to shred? Box or bag them up and bring them to the annual shredding event at the VLFC parking lot. This event is free of charge, and you may bring up to four banker’s boxes or bags of documents, files or other printed materials for shredding.

The shredding truck will safely and securely shred your documents while you watch. And no need to remove paper clips, staples, spiral binders, or hanging folders; it can all go right into the shredder. Please note this event is for Village residents only.



Knox Boxes (continued from page 1)

that is released electronically when needed. If an ES officer responds to an emergency at your home, a Knox Box will allow Emergency Services to identify the problem, gain access to your home and take actions to limit the damage. Homes in the Village built since 1996 are required to have a Knox Box installed.

If your home is already equipped with the box we will be more than happy to come to your home and check to ensure the proper key is in place. If you have at any time rekeyed your doors, a new key will need to be placed in the Knox Box by an Emergency Services officer. Call our Dispatch center to schedule a home visit. If you do not have a Knox Box, one can be installed. Contact Emergency Services at 303-688-6447 to obtain ordering and installation information.

Parks and Recreation

Fitness Center Now Open

The Village Lake Fitness Center has reopened ahead of schedule! Stop by to meet our friendly staff and take a tour of the new renovation and equipment. Hours of operation are 4:30 am to 10 pm for adults 18 years old and up. Access to the Fitness Center is by use of your Fitness Center access card. If you have not yet purchased or reactivated your Fitness Center card, please stop in to Emergency Services Monday through Friday between 8 am and 5 pm.



The Fitness Center open house wowed residents with its new upgrades.

Homes Association Board Elects Officers for 2022

During their March monthly Board meeting the Castle Pines Homes Association Board of Directors elected their officers for 2022. Those officers are Frank Jacobsen, President; Doug Cooper, Vice President; Chuck Skinner, Treasurer; Wendy Ingraham, Secretary; and Al Notary, Asst Treasurer. The Board normally meets at 8 am the fourth Thursday of each month in the CPHA Conference Room, 688 West Happy Canyon Road, Castle Rock, Colorado 80108 and via video conferencing. Watch the Village Weekly email the Friday before the Board meeting for the meeting agenda and the Zoom link to register to attend the meeting.

Pickleball

Beginning May 2, pickleball open play will be held on Mondays and Wednesdays, 5 pm to 8pm, and on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 7 am to 10 am. Residents will be allowed to drop in to play during these time slots.

Reservations for specific dates and times for playing pickleball can be made through the Village website at thevillagecastlepines.com.

Pickleball and Tennis Summer Socials

Save the date for the upcoming pickleball and tennis socials held at the Canyon Club court complex.

- June 10 5 pm – 8:30 pm
- July 8 5 pm – 8:30 pm
- August 12 5 pm – 8:30 pm
- September 9 5 pm – 8:30 pm

More details to follow. We look forward to seeing you!

Ask the DRC

Vegetable Gardens

Q. I would like to put in a vegetable garden. Are they allowed and can I fence the garden? Do I need Design Review Committee (DRC) approval?

A. Yes, vegetable gardens are allowed in the Village. They are not to exceed 250 sq. ft. A fence may be used to protect the garden. The fence must be made of wrought iron and no taller than 48" in height. Gardens/fences are to be screened so as not to be visible from any other parcel, the street, open area, common area or golf course. DRC approval is required for installation of a vegetable garden and fence associated with the garden.

Village Pools (continued from page 1)

tions or need to purchase a pool pass, please visit the Dispatch window at the CPHA office to purchase your pass. Pool passes are \$5 each, check or cash.

Access to the Village Lake Fitness Center requires a VLFC access card.

The VLFC is an adult only facility (18 years old and up). To use an existing VLFC access card, please stop by the CPHA Dispatch window to sign a new user agreement and activate your card. New cards are available for \$5 each.

The guest policy for Village facilities states that each household may bring up to six (6) guests to use Village facilities and residents must accompany their guests. The swimming pools may not be reserved for private parties. All pool amenities (chairs, tables, grills and Canyon Club pavilion) are for use on a first come, first served basis and cannot be reserved. Please contact the Castle Pines Homes Association for more information.

Spring Brush Clean Up

Castle Pines Metro District (District) will be conducting a Village-wide branch/brush collection at the beginning of May. This pickup is limited to tree branches. For easier handling, we are asking that the trees be cut in 4' lengths and that the branches are removed. Please stack tree branches and limbs together at the edge of the asphalt for pick up. **DO NOT BUNDLE THE BRANCHES.** Your efforts in removing dead brush from your properties are an excellent way to help reduce fire hazards.



spring clean up

The Village is divided into three sections for easier cleanup and to help reduce the amount of time the tree branches are sitting in front of your homes. The sections and collection weeks are as follows:

Section 1 – May 9

Collection in the center section of the Village.

Section 2 – May 16

Collection in the south side of the Village (south of Happy Canyon Road).

Section 3 – May 23

Collection in the north and northwest sections of the Village.

PLEASE HAVE ALL DEBRIS OUT FOR PICK UP AT 8 AM ON MONDAY MORNING

Each household will receive a reminder letter approximately 3 weeks before their assigned pick-up.

Once the branches are collected, the District will grind the debris, which can then be used for mulch. For more information on the tree branch collection, please call the Metro District at 303-688-8330. For information about the types of landscape materials that may or may not be removed from your property, please contact the Castle Pines Homes Association at 303-814-1345.

PLEASE NOTE: The District will conduct two branch pickups in 2022: May and October.

Water-Wise Wednesdays with Craig Miller

6-Week Series

6:30 pm – 8:00 pm

CPHA - Wildcat Room

688 W. Happy Canyon Rd.

Principles of Xeriscape 1 – Design | April 13

Xeriscaping offers a way to have beautiful, livable landscapes without excess water use, and all good xeriscapes begin with a good design. Learn the basics of a xeric yard and garden design in this instructive class.

Principles of Xeriscape 2 – Soil Preparation | April 20

Next to design, soil preparation is the most important part of successful xeriscaping and gardening. We will dish out the “dirt” on amending soil for a water-efficient and healthy landscape.

Principles of Xeriscape 3 and 4 – Appropriate Use of Turf & Plant Selection | April 27

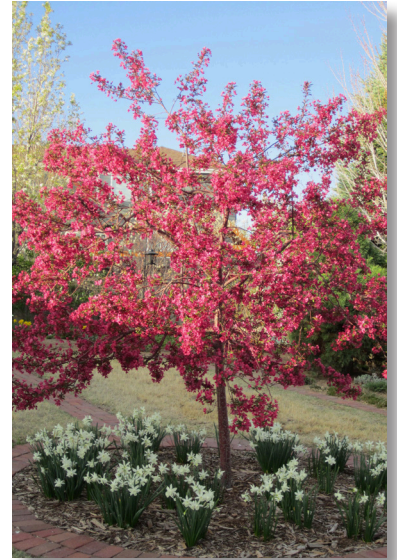
The most controversial and misunderstood of the xeriscape principles is the concept of appropriate turf. Turfgrasses have a place in the landscape, even in a xeriscape. We will provide you with guidance on this aspect of landscaping, as well as cover plant selection and proper grouping of plant materials in this informative class.

Principles of Xeriscape 5 and 6 – Irrigation & Mulch | May 4

Irrigation is necessary for a xeric landscape, at least during the first few years while the plants’ root systems are developing. And critical to making efficient use of that water is the appropriate use of mulch. Find out what you need to know about these two xeric principles in this class.

Principles of Xeriscape 7 – Maintenance | May 11

Maintaining the landscape cannot be forgotten, even in a xeriscape. Pruning, occasional weeding, and pest management, checking that the irrigation system is functioning properly, and adjusting automatic irrigation systems as the seasons change, will be needed. Come learn what you need to know to maintain your xeriscape properly.



Metro Board Meetings

Castle Pines Metropolitan District Board of Directors’ Meetings are held on the fourth Tuesday of the month, at 9:30 am. The Board Meetings are held at the District office, 5880 Country Club Drive, in the Village. At this time, the community will be connected through a Zoom link, which can be found on the District website, castlepinesmetro.com/Meetings-Events/Board Meetings.

Save the Date

METRO COMMUNITY PICNIC

When: Saturday, August 20, 2022

Time: 4:30 pm to 7:30 pm

Where: Canyon Club



Castle Pines Metro District's Board of Directors May 2022 Regular Director Election

This year the District had three Board of Director seats to fill, and as of the filing deadline on February 25, 2022, only three candidates had submitted their self-nomination forms.



Consistent with state law, because there was the same or less number of candidates as positions available, the election for May 3, 2022, has been canceled and all three candidates will be elected by acclamation.

Metro is pleased to announce that Kim Dadlani, Richard Huser, and David King will be elected by acclamation as Directors and will each serve three-year terms (May 2022 to May 2025). They will take their Oaths of Office prior to the May 24, 2022, regular Board meeting. The meeting begins at 9:30 am and is open to the public via Zoom.

Metro's next regular election will be in May 2023 when two Director seats will be up for election.

Irrigation Efficiency Analysis

Custom Home Owners: Sign up for a FREE Irrigation Efficiency Analysis

The Irrigation Efficiency Analysis is complimentary, takes less than a minute to sign up, and as a resident, you will contribute to the long-term water plan moving forward!



1. Sign up at: <https://bit.ly/cpmdwater>
2. Grant permission to the District's trusted irrigation efficiency consultant to access your property
3. Receive your water report once the analysis is complete

Upcoming Important Dates

Board Meeting

- April 19, 2022, 9:30 am, Metro Office
- May 24, 2022, 9:30 am, Metro Office
- June 28, 2022, 9:30 am, Metro Office

Brush Clean Up

- Week of May 9 – Center Section of the Village
- Week of May 16 – South Side of the Village
- Week of May 23 – North Side of the Village

Metro Picnic – August 20, 4:30 pm to 7:30 pm

Castle Pines Metropolitan District

5880 Country Club Drive, Castle Rock, CO 80108
303-688-8330

email: Info@castlepinesmetro.com

www.castlepinesmetro.com

Hours: Monday – Friday, 8 am to 4:30 pm

Josh Shackelford, Interim District Manager

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Rick Huser, *Chairman*
Mike Lanam, *Treasurer*
Tad Walden, *Secretary*
Dick Munday, *Director*
Craig Sundquist, *Director*

The Metro Board of Directors meets on the fourth Tuesday of the month at 9:30 am at the Metro District office. Meetings are open to the public. Please call to confirm date and time.



Construction season is here, please give the contractors a break.

Manager's Report

"Just Another Day in Paradise"



Spring has arrived in Colorado! We are getting things ready for opening of the pool season at the Village Lake Fitness Center, Canyon Club, and Summit Club. The Canyon Club and Summit Club pools will open for your enjoyment Memorial Day weekend with the

Fitness Center scheduled to open on Saturday May 21. The Canyon Club complex is a family facility while the lap pool at the Village Lake Fitness Center is reserved for adult use. The Summit Club complex has a family pool, water slide, a picnic pavilion, and locker rooms.

This year's Annual Meeting of the Members was held in person and via video conference on March 7. Over 300 households attended the meeting either in person or by Zoom video conferencing. Congratulations to Frank Jacobson on his reelection to the CPHA Board of Directors.

I would like to remind dog owners of the importance of cleaning up after your dog. The Village has over 13 miles of trails and failing to clean up after your dog can make those trails an eyesore and a health hazard. The Parks and Recreation Committee has worked very hard over the last several years to place dog stations throughout the Village and to have those stations emptied each week to keep our community clean of dog waste. In addition, please remember to keep your dog on a leash and under control when taking them for a walk. We thank you in advance for being a responsible dog owner and a good neighbor.

As summer is just around the corner, please keep in mind that more and more residents will be out enjoying the Colorado sunshine and summer activities. Please remember while driving the roadways in Village that the speed limit is 25 MPH unless otherwise posted, and that obeying the speed limit and observing the traffic signs in the Village is key to providing a safe environment. When your children come home from college for the summer take a few minutes to remind them of the unique driving environment the Village presents with our winding narrow roadways and minimal nighttime lighting. My staff and I wish you a safe and healthy summer season!

Respectfully,

Mark G. Larson – General Manager

Getting Around in a Golf Cart

According to Homes Association rules, golf carts are permitted on Village streets only if they are equipped with the proper safety features:

- Head lamps.
- Front and rear turn signals.
- Tail lamps.
- Brake lamps.
- Reflectors: One red on each side as far to the rear as possible and one on the rear of the cart.
- An exterior mirror mounted on the driver's side with either an exterior mirror mounted on the passenger side of the cart or an interior mirror.
- A parking brake.
- A VIN that conforms to Colorado DMV rules.

Remember that golf carts driven on Village streets are subject to the same traffic rules as automobiles. This includes having a licensed driver operate the cart. If you're not sure whether your cart is street legal, contact Emergency Services 303-688-6447 to have one of our Patrol Officers inspect your cart and make sure it is equipped with the proper safety features.

Grill Safety

On average, 10,600 house fires are started by grills each year in the United States. Gas grills contribute to a higher number of fires than charcoal grills, but both are equally dangerous when it comes to injury and property damage. Fires caused by outdoor grills cause an average of \$149 million in property damage each year.

Here are some outdoor grilling safety tips you should follow:

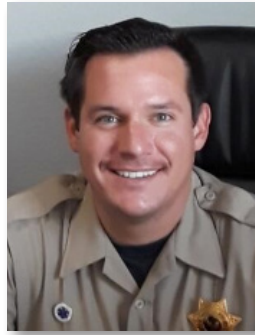
- **Grill outside and away from overhanging structures or trees.** The National Fire Protection Association reports that 27% of home fires from outdoor grills began in a courtyard, terrace or patio and 29% were started on an open porch or balcony.
- **Make sure your grill is stable.** Only set up your grill on a flat surface where it can't be easily tipped over.
- **Keep your grill clean.** Remove grease or fat buildup. If you use a charcoal grill, make certain that the coals are completely cool before disposing of them in a metal container.
- **Check for propane leaks on your gas grill.** Check the gas tank hose by applying a light soap and water solution. If there's a leak, the solution will bubble.
- **If the flame goes out, wait to relight the grill.** Turn off the gas and wait at least 5 minutes before attempting to relight the grill.
- **Never try to move a lit or hot grill.**
- **Be careful with charcoal starter fluid.** If the fire starts to go out, don't try adding more fluid to the fire.
- **Be ready to put out the fire.** Have baking soda on hand

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A Message from the Chief

We are fortunate to live in an area abundant with wildlife. But living alongside wildlife requires care and responsibility. Our Emergency Services officers are responsible for the welfare of Village wildlife, as well as the safety of our residents. ES officers responded to over 50 wildlife calls in 2021. Most of the calls involve small animals like squirrels, rabbits, prairie dogs, snakes, bats and birds that need to be removed from homes. But we also respond to complaints of larger animals like bobcats, coyotes, bears, deer, elk, and occasionally, mountain lions.



Whenever possible, our first concern is always the welfare of the animal. If a bear is reported inside a garage or rummaging through trash, we attempt to discourage its

“Our Emergency Services officers are responsible for the welfare of Village wildlife, as well as the safety of our residents.”

behavior without causing permanent harm. Our officers are equipped with shotguns designated to fire only “less lethal” (rubber) rounds. The object is to associate pain and noise with the bear’s unwanted behavior and teach them to stay away from humans.

Other wildlife services we provide include removing rattlesnakes from your property to a safer area and working with Colorado Parks & Wildlife officers to address sick or injured wild animals. We also remove dead animals from the roadway, and track bear activity.

Be cautious when driving within the Village. Elk, deer, bears and turkeys can seemingly come out of nowhere to cross our roadways. Being observant will help protect your vehicles as well as the wild animals that call the Village home.

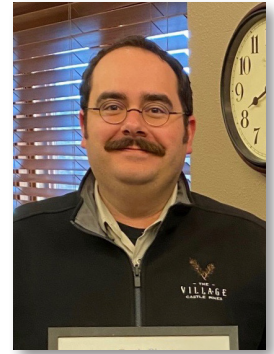
Brochures and safety information about safely living with bears and other wildlife are available at the front desk in the CPHA building.

Sincerely,

Matt Wortsman – Chief of Emergency Services

Officer of the Quarter

Gate Officer Talon Ryan was born in Phoenix, Arizona and began his career as an Access Control Officer with CPES in May of 2020.



When asked what he likes most about being a Gate Officer, Talon refers to the sense of community he feels by helping Village residents, and the many friendships he’s developed while working here. Talon is being recognized as Officer of the Quarter for his outstanding work ethic and his willingness to pitch in wherever and whenever help is needed.

Talon loves exploring and admiring Colorado’s beautiful landscapes. He also enjoys karaoke, building computers, and playing video games when he’s not at work.

If you see Talon during the performance of his Gate Officer duties, please take the time to congratulate him on being honored as the Officer of the Quarter for the first quarter of 2022.

Grill Safety (continued from page 6)

to control a grease fire and keep a fire extinguisher handy for other fires.

- **Don’t forget to turn off the grill.** If you serve food straight off the grill, remember to go back and turn off the grill before enjoying your meal. You can also buy an automatic shut off valve for your grill that automatically shuts off the gas to your grill after one, two or three hours.

Castle Pines Homes Association & Emergency Services

688 W. Happy Canyon Road, Castle Rock, CO 80108

Office hours: Monday – Friday, 8 am to 5 pm

www.thevillagecastlepines.com

CASTLE PINES HOMES ASSOCIATION (CPHA)

303-814-1345

Mark Larson, *General Manager*

Margie Cheatum, *Accountant*

Linda Matthews, *Executive Assistant/DRC Administrator*

Kevin Olsen, *Compliance Coordinator*

Brianna Richmeier, *Administrative Assistant*

EMERGENCY SERVICES (ES)

303-688-6446

Matt Wortsman, *Chief of ES*

Steve Camino, *ES Administrator*

CPHA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Frank Jacobsen, *President*

Doug Cooper, *Vice President*

Chuck Skinner, *Treasurer*

Wendy Ingraham, *Secretary*

Al Notary, *Assistant Treasurer*



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THE VILLAGE REPORTER

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If you are new to the Village, call or email Susan Clifford for the Welcome Packet:
303-660-6323 or sclifford@estreet.com

Please note: CPHA permission is required by the General Manager of the Homes Association for any professional/commercial filming or photography on CPHA-owned property or at CPHA-funded events/activities.

For more Village news, sign up for weekly email: Brianna@thevillagecastlepines.com



Benefits of Native Grasses and Wildflowers for Wildlife

Native grasses and wildflowers in the Village serve many useful purposes including providing habitat and food for wildlife and increasing water conservation, as well as eliminating the need for mowing, fertilizing and chemical pest management. Native plants are adapted to our soils and weather conditions and grow best with little or no irrigation and no fertilizer. Areas with native grasses are not adapted to mowing and have a natural unmowed appearance which looks like that of a native prairie.

Native grasses provide both nesting and winter cover for wildlife. Because of the thick grass bunches and rigid upright stems, birds find good nesting cover. Elk and deer graze on the grasses and deer are also known to "hide" their young fawns in the grasses. The spaces between grass bunches allow turkeys, birds, rabbits, and other animals to move easily among the grasses while feeding and seeking shelter. Birds including bluebirds, robins, finches



When native grasses flourish, so do the wildflowers.

and chickadees eat the insects living in the grasses. Wild turkeys even bring their poults to feed on insects. Birds and mammals forage for seeds among the grasses and wildflowers. Native grasses also provide good habitat for bobcats, foxes, rabbits and voles. Hawks, such as the Red-tailed Hawk, often hunt over the fields searching for small mammals such as voles.

Another important benefit from native wildflowers is the nectar they provide for important pollinators ranging from butterflies and moths to hummingbirds and bees. Non-native plants often cannot provide nutrition to these pollinators. Songbirds perch on wildflowers while singing to attract a mate, defending their nesting territory, or hunting for insects to feed their young. They also eat the seeds that wildflowers produce. Native grasses and wildflowers are very helpful in preserving our beautiful natural environment in the Village.