

## Wildlife Committee

The Wildlife Committee (WLC) mission statement is “The Village at Castle Pines Wildlife Committee seeks to inspire residents to protect wildlife.”

Committee membership includes eight members: Libby Drbal – Chairperson, Lilli Almon, Christine Horowitz, Robert Jondle, Cynthia Kristensen, Marcia Nash, Arlene Raskin, and Ron West. No changes were made to the Committee membership in 2023.

The multiple programs and collaborations for 2023 were as follows:

The Village Bluebird Trail monitoring program completed its 15<sup>th</sup> year with 79 nesting boxes monitored by 26 volunteers. The project is chaired by Cindy Kristensen and data submitted to the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology as part of Global Citizen Science efforts.

- February Event: “Beginning Bird Watching & The Great Backyard Bird Count” ” by Denver Audubon.
- April Event: “Living with Our Village Wildlife” was given by Justin Olsen - our District Colorado Parks and Wildlife Manager.
- October Event: “Wolves in Colorado” by CO Wolf & Wildlife Center.
- Monthly monitoring of the Village Wildlife email, (wildlife@thevillagecastlepines.com) is a resource for residents to write questions and non-emergency concerns about our local wildlife to the Wildlife Committee.
- The Committee works closely with the Chief of Emergency Services and CPW District Manager to handle wildlife emergencies.
- Ongoing educational articles are provided by members of the Committee to The Village Reporter each month and Village Weekly email informational bulletins. Village website wildlife reference articles are routinely updated.
- Elk Safety Project includes members of the Committee collaborating with Cherokee Ranch, CDOT, the I-25 Gap project and Metro to work on efforts to keep our elk herds off our roads. Raising residents’ awareness of driving slowly and carefully to respect that we share the roads with our wildlife is ongoing.