

Arrowwood III Association Newsletter

April – June 2025



Easement Work May 3

We are half way into the Firewise Committee's 5-year plan for mitigating all road easements in Arrowwood III. This work is to help ensure that when a wildfire event happens, homeowners can evacuate and emergency vehicles will have smoke-free entrance to save our homes!

EL Paso County easements stretch approximately 30ft from middle of the street. The mitigation volunteers focus on 10 ft from edge of the roads, removing vegetation and small trees as well as branching larger trees to a height of 15 ft above the ground.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Many hands make lighter work. We will start at 8:00am and can use help throughout the day~ even for just an hour. To find us, follow the sounds of the chainsaws and branching tools. Lunch provided. **Wear closed-toe shoes. Bring eye and ear protection. For safety, no children.** If you have questions please connect with Steve at 719-440-8551, or email at smerveldt@colopropane.com.

Chipping Day May 17

To participate in the May 17 Chipping Day, please prepare your slash pile according to these guidelines:

- Piles should be stacked neatly (see photo on right) with cut-end towards the road, by 8am on Chipping Day.
- Stem/trunk diameter is limited to a max of 6 inches.
- No professionally cut/piled slash. If you hire a professional to mitigate have them do removal.
- Slash Piles must be at edge of main roads and fully accessible.
- Piles must be limited to brush and tree limbs from the property itself.
- Do not combine piles with your neighbors.
- No construction or building materials, treated lumber, fence posts, etc..
- No pine needles, grass clippings, weeds, leaves, shrubs, roots, or stumps.

Homeowners must wear appropriate clothing to assist with processing their pile. Homeowners who do not help with their own pile will be sent an invoice. **VOLUNTEERS WELCOME** for any portion of the day!

Upcoming Dates

- May 3- Easement Mitigation work day
- May 8, June 12, & July 10 – Board & Homeowner Meetings
- May 10 – NEPCO Q&A Forum Meeting (www.nepco.org)
- May 17- Chipping Day

Flying Embers = Big Risk

Did you know that 70-80% of homes destroyed during a wildfire event are ignited by flying embers, and not the actual direct flames?!

Flying embers are small pieces of burning material that is propelled by wind that can travel a significant distance in a wildfire event. Imagine yourself as a flying ember looking for place to land. Do you see anywhere appealing around your house to set something ablaze?

Here's how to limit flying ember risk:

1. Remove pine needles from gutters
2. Limit flammable materials and vegetation within 5 ft of house
3. Remove or replace wood fencing that touches the house
4. Limb trees up 12-15ft from the ground
5. Remove ladder fuels such as pine saplings, gamble oak, and tall grasses



Properly Stacked Slash Pile

<https://arrowwood3.org>

Mnmt Fire Dept Budget

The Mnmt fire department had plans to staff a full-time chipping crew in the coming budget year. However a reduction in revenue removed that possibility for now. A full-time crew would mean local neighborhoods could greatly increase the volume of materials chipped/removed each year. AIA III relies heavily on the fire department to help with our chipping efforts, twice a year, every year. The provided manpower and equipment allows our HOA to spend less of our annual dues on renting chippers.

To help augment the fire department's budget, a local Firewise Ambassador, Gayle Humm, from Shiloh Pines has begun a fundraising program- and personally donated \$2000. This additional funding will augment the fire department staff budget (add more days), cover needed equipment replacement, and even allow the hiring of contractors for some wildfire mitigation projects. The fire department has created a special account to collect any donated funds. Contact Gayle at mjax247@gmail.com if you would like to participate.

When Seconds Count

Monument Community Connect is a safe & secure way to share information with Monument Emergency Personnel. When seconds count it's important they know if you have elderly or disabled occupants in your home, the pets that live at your house, and key facts about the structure. Sign up is easy and you can share whatever information you are comfortable sharing. To signup or update your information go to communityconnect.io. Monument Fire Department is building a safer community through preparedness.

Annual Dues Update

Arrowwood Improvement Assn has been in existence since the early 1960s. And the AIA III annual dues have remained at \$50/year for the last 20 years. Our HOA Board works hard to keep community expenses as low as possible. We do this through means such as the Board positions staying fully volunteer (unlike some adjacent communities), not charging homeowners application fees for building projects (at least one adjacent HOA requires \$1000 for an application fee), leveraging volunteer manpower for the Chipping Days and Easement Mitigation work, and taking food donations for the Annual Homeowner Meeting/Cookout.

While our incoming resources have remained steady, the expenses have increased. In the last year the HOA spent over \$6000 for legal and professional fees, \$800 in fire mitigation, and \$2700 in insurance.

Several neighboring communities charge at/around \$300 for annual dues. Arrowwood III does not want to increase to match that, but the Board has unanimously voted to increase the annual dues to \$125. This will go into effect in September 2025.

Now Accepting Electronic Payments

In response to homeowner requests, Arrowwood III now accepts electronic payments! Starting in May, invoices will be sent via email and include a custom link where you can post the payment online. If you prefer, you can still make your payments via a personal check mailed to the HOA's post office box. If you have not shared your email address with us, or aren't sure, please send it to Marcia, the Board Treasurer, at rwentwo272@comcast.net.

Join Our Board!

Volunteer Board members are critical to the success of Arrowwood III. Board members bring valuable opinions, experiences, and skills that positively impact our neighborhood. If you are looking to join a benevolent and friendly team, where you can leverage your talents and expertise to help to shape and serve our community, then please consider joining the Arrowwood III Board of Directors! To express interest or ask questions, please contact Heather at heatherksharp@gmail.com.

Planning to Build?

Thinking of building a detached garage, a greenhouse, a shed, a chicken coop, a fence, etc.? If so please submit the [application form](#) (also found on the [Arrowwood3.org](https://arrowwood3.org) website) with plans and lot location details. Questions can be sent to Jeff at jeff.sposato@gmail.com.

Predators In Our Area

Beware of predators. Many coyote and bear sightings have occurred in recent months. Trash left out overnight, small pets wandering freely, and accessible bird feeders can all attract these beautiful yet destructive animals.

Do not leave trash cans out overnight. Place bird feeders out of reach. And keep your pets under constant observation, for the safety of all.

Insurance Coverage

Based on the rising construction costs, recent natural disasters, and other factors, homeowner's insurance is more difficult to get and keep. It is highly recommended that all homeowners review their insurance policies to ensure that they have adequate coverage in the event of wildfire, flood, etc.. For more information visit: doi.colorado.gov.