



Neighborhood Quarterly Newsletter

July – September 2026



Upcoming Dates

- July 9 – HOA Board & Homeowner Meeting
- July 11 – NEPCO Meeting for General Membership
- August 15 – AIA III Annual Homeowner Meeting & Cookout
- September 10 – HOA Board & Homeowner Meeting
- September 12 – NEPCO Meeting for General Membership

Tell us about your Firewise Contributions

AIA III has been a Firewise USA Communities Member since 2016. Each year we submit records of the efforts of our homeowners on wildfire risk reduction and forest health, in order to meet the requirements that maintain our certification. The Firewise USA Program, managed by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), offers a structured framework with concrete advantages. The most notable is that many major insurance providers offer premium discounts to homeowners who live in a recognized Firewise community. Additionally, residents in these areas are statistically less likely to receive non-renewal notices in high-risk zones.

Please help us maintain our annual certification by **SHARING WHAT YOU HAVE DONE** in this [FORM](#). We want to know about all of the work you have done within the neighborhood on wildfire mitigation, home hardening, and/or forest health- whether it's on your house and property, or helping a neighbor. You can fill out this form again and again- each time you do the work, or track your hours and fill it out once a season. THANK YOU!

Mitigation Tax Benefit

The State of Colorado provides certain tax incentives for performing wildfire mitigation measures on property located in Colorado. For tax years 2023 through 2027, an income tax credit is allowed. To see the qualifications and other details visit:

<https://tax.colorado.gov/income-tax-topics-wildfire-mitigation-measures>



September Annual Dues

Arrowwood III annual dues are issued in September. 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 before end of month. If you have not shared your email address with us, or aren't sure, please send it to the Board Treasurer at aia3treas@gmail.com.

Community Garage Sale

Join the AIA III Garage Sale August 7th & 8th, from 8am to 1pm. To sign up for participation as a seller call/text Jo at (845)416-1289. Jo is promoting the event thru social, flyers, and community boards. Maps will be available at each participating house to encourage shoppers to visit everyone.



Please Join Us

All homeowners are invited to come to the **Annual Business Meeting and Cookout**. August 15th from 11:00am to 1:30pm. This year's picnic will be held at 19090 Deerfield Rd. Food provided. Families welcome. No need to RSVP. Lunch starts at 11:00am, guest speaker at noon, and business meeting following. Please bring a camp chair if you have one!

Spring Mitigation Success

In June, 14 homeowners came together to mitigate our right of way along Arrowwood Drive from Pinewood to Saddlehorn. Contributing 68 work hours, they cut and stacked over 46 cubic yards of slash for the Monument Fire Department to chip. THANK YOU to our dedicated neighbors who helped make AIA III a safer community for everyone who lives here!

<https://arrowwood3.org>

NOTE: As of June 29, 2026 there are Stage 2 Fire Restrictions in place throughout El Paso County. Visit Monument Fire District website for details.



Remove These Weeds

Under the Colorado Noxious Weed Act, all landowners in El Paso County are legally required to manage and control designated noxious weeds on their property. Here are four common noxious weeds that outcompete native plants and destroy wildlife habitats:

1. **Canada Thistle.** Control is difficult because of its vigorous growth, and extensive underground root system. Recommend stressing the plants to use up their store of energy. This is done by mowing at least 3 times, at 2 week intervals so that it cannot produce seeds.
2. **Common Mullein.** Best controlled by focusing on removing the taproot and stalk via digging or hand-pulling before they flower. Because it has a long-lived seed bank, sustained, repeated management is required. Dig up the leaf rosette or stalk before flowering.
3. **Yellow Toadflax**, also known as "Butter-and-Eggs" and "wild snapdragon". Control through intensive hand-pulling to remove roots, and establishing competing native grasses. Mowing is ineffective. Must remove the entire root system, or it will resprout. Planting competitive, aggressive, native grasses can help prevent re-establishment.
4. **Spotted Knapweed & Diffuse Knapweed.** Key control methods include digging out the taproot, mowing before flowering to prevent seed set, and reseeding native grasses to prevent re-establishment. The entire taproot must be removed. Mow repeatedly in the bud-to-early-flower stage to reduce seed production, but be aware this does not eliminate the root system. Bag and remove all flowering plants to prevent seed spread.

Safe Firewood Storage

Wood piles can act as an extreme fire hazard. Follow these guidelines for safe wood storage:

- Keep woodpiles entirely outside of your home's "Zone 1" defensible space – the area within 30 feet of the structure.
- Never store firewood on or underneath decks, under roof eaves, next to wooden fences, or against exterior walls.
- Ensure the woodpile is placed at least 30 feet away from other fuel sources, such as outbuildings.
- If you must cover the pile, use a tarp certified to the NFPA 701 standard for fire resistance. Regular plastic "poly" tarps melt and ignite easily.
- Stack woodpiles uphill or at same elevation as the house because fire naturally travels faster uphill, and an ignited woodpile located downhill from your house poses an accelerated threat.
- Never stack wood directly between remaining living trees or under tree canopies. This creates a "ladder fuel" that allows a ground fire to climb up into the forest crown.
- Clear all vegetation, weeds, pine needles, and combustible materials down to the bare dirt in a 10-foot radius completely surrounding the woodpile.



Planning to Build?

Thinking of building a detached garage, a greenhouse, a shed, a chicken coop, a fence, or adding to your house? Before construction, please submit the application form found on the Arrowwood3.org website.

Per the AIA III Covenants, fallen or standing dead trees and brush must be removed from lots immediately as they increase fire danger. Please take action to keep our forests healthy and mitigated.

Need Some Tree Service?

Did you know that in the event of a wildfire, Fire Fighters may only have A FEW SECONDS to evaluate your property from the street, and determine whether they can prioritize saving your home?

Clear access, thinned trees, home hardening, and other mitigation work ARE VISIBLE INDICATORS that help a fire fighter quickly make the call to prioritize your property!

If you are looking for help to get your trees thinned/mitigated, here are a few local companies who offer cutting and removal of large trees and other fire fuels. Please confirm their licensure and insurance, per your needs.

- Mr Stump Tree Services
- Lind Legacy Tree Service
- King Tree Service
- Blue Tree
- Great Western Tree Care
- Tall Timbers Tree & Shrub Service
- Colorado Mastication
- Dail & Son Landscaping
- Ace Tree Care