

Monthly Newsletter For CENTENNIAL RIDGE

Sponsored by Tonya Fallows

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Water Safety Tips

- DO learn to swim. If you like to have a good time doing water activities, being a strong swimmer is a must.
- DO take a friend along. Even though you may be a good swimmer, you never know when you may need help. Having friends around is safer and just more fun!
- DO know your limits. Watch out for the “too’s” - too tired, too cold, too far from safety, too much sun, too much hard activity.
- DO swim in supervised (watched) areas only, and follow all signs and warnings.
- DO wear a life jacket when boating, jet skiing, water skiing, rafting, or fishing.
- DO stay alert to currents. They can change quickly! If you get caught in a strong current, don’t fight it. Swim parallel to the shore until you have passed through it. Near piers, jetties (lines of big rocks), small dams, and docks, the current gets unpredictable and could knock you around. If you find it hard to move around, head to shore. Learn to recognize and watch for dangerous waves and signs of rip currents - water that is a weird color, really choppy, foamy, or filled with pieces of stuff.
- DO keep an eye on the weather. If you spot bad weather (dark clouds, lighting), pack up and take the fun inside.
- DON’T mess around in the water. Pushing or dunking your friends can get easily out of hand.
- DON’T dive into shallow water. If you don’t know how deep the water is, don’t dive.
- DON’T float where you can’t swim. Keep checking to see if the water is too deep, or if you are too far away from the shore or the poolside.

—<https://www.cdc.gov>

*Some of the best memories
are made in flip-flops.*

—Kellie Elmore

10 Things to Do Before School Starts

Soak up the last few weeks of summer with these fun family outings. As you prepare to say goodbye to summer vacation, consider what is left on your list of things to do before school begins. Take a break from back-to-school shopping with these 10 fun ideas. Make the final days and weeks of summer memorable.

1. **Take a hike.** Maybe you weren’t able to get in as much mountain time with the family as you hoped. Set aside a day for a kid-friendly hike, such as St. Mary’s Glacier. For added fun, pack a lunch to enjoy at the top while you chat with your children about what they loved best about their summer.
2. **Camp out.** Camping with little ones takes advanced planning, so aim for simple, carefree camping fun in your backyard. Invite a friend or two and play a game of tag with flashlights when it gets dark. Roast hot dogs and

marshmallows in an outdoor fire pit or over the grill. Snuggle up under the stars, point out constellations or play a game of “would you rather” with your kids. (Examples: Would you rather have the power to fly or be invisible? Would you rather live in the mountains or at the beach?)

3. **Bike along Platte River.** There are 28 miles of trail along the Platte River for families to enjoy together, whether you tackle the whole length or just a short portion of it. It’s an outing filled with exercise and fresh air, and you can stop along the way as much as you like. Start the trail at the REI Denver flagship store and make your way through Denver

to enjoy the city from a different perspective. If the kids aren’t much for biking, try a leisurely stroll to admire the art painted along the walls. Point out unique buildings, sculptures, and other features you see along the way.

4. **Check out a Rockies game.** Spend a day rooting for the home team. With Rockpile tickets priced so low, there’s no reason not to head to the ballpark for a hot dog and some action-packed baseball with the whole family.
5. **Catch a sunrise.** Whether you’re peering over Lookout Mountain, posted up at Red Rocks Amphitheatre, driving up Guanella Pass, or cozy in your own backyard, a sunrise in Colorado is one of the most wonderful beauties to witness. Wake your kids up early just one morning (if they aren’t already up) to share in the first light of the day. Just think, maybe they’ll go to bed early that night, and you’ll be on your way to an earlier bedtime schedule for school. After sunrise, beat the breakfast rush and grab a stack of pancakes at a great spot near your home, or just enjoy breakfast on your own porch as a family.
6. **Pick some fruit.** August is the month for sweet strawberries and red raspberries at Berry Patch Farms in Brighton. Load up the car with the entire crew and head out into the fields to pick fresh berries. It’s like an easy treasure hunt with the best payoff ever.
7. **Take a sunset stroll.** Walk around any of the metro area’s beautiful parks in the evening. Choose one with a playground so the kids can play until the

continued on page 2



10 Things, *continued from front page*

sun sets, then stop and admire the last rays as a family. It's a great time to share hopes for the next school year, too.

- 8. **Spend the day at a mountain resort.** The winter slopes transform into family-friendly playgrounds each summer, with a plethora of activities the entire crew can enjoy. From scenic chairlift rides to hiking trails and alpine slides, there's a little something for everyone. Head to the mountains early for one last summer hoorah.
- 9. **Drive up Trail Ridge Road.** If you have yet to make your way up Trail Ridge Road this season, now is the time. Spend the day enjoying everything that Rocky Mountain National Park has to offer, including hiking around Bear Lake and searching for elk herds. Make the drive up Trail Ridge Road to stand above the treeline and gaze over miles and miles of mountains and sky. Let the kids take their best photos along the way. You must make a reservation to get into Rocky Mountain National Park.
- 10. **Ride the Georgetown Loop.** A scenic ride on an old mining railroad is an exceptional way to close out the summer with your family. The Georgetown Loop takes reservations online, and for an additional fee, you can enjoy a tour of a mine while learning about the history of gold mining in Colorado.

—<https://www.coloradoparent.com>

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METRO DENVER
FARMERS' MARKET
MARKET ON YOUR CALENDAR

<p>Saturdays SOUTHWEST PLAZA MAY 6 - OCTOBER 28 Southeast Parking Lot Wadsworth & Bowles 8am-2pm or Sellout</p>	<p>Saturdays LAKWOOD JUNE 10 - SEPTEMBER 30 Mile Hi Church 9077 W Alameda Ave 10am-2pm or Sellout</p>
<p>Sundays HIGHLANDS RANCH MAY 7 - OCTOBER 29 HR Town Center 9288 Dorchester St. 10am-2pm or Sellout</p>	<p>Wednesdays LITTLETON JUNE 14 - SEPTEMBER 27 Aspen Grove 7301 S. Santa Fe Dr. 10am-2pm or Sellout</p>

Check out our great recipes online!

For more information call the
Metro Denver Farmers' Market Hotline
303-887-FARM
www.denverfarmersmarket.com

**This Space
 Intentionally Left Blank
 for Teen Services**

Wag N Romp 2023

Saturday, Sep. 09, 2023@10 a.m.

Join us at Cook Creek Pool, where dogs can take a splash, wag for a treat, or test their skills at the agility course. Owners can check out the latest and greatest in the pet world from local pet vendors. Enter to win a grand prize gift basket filled with goodies for you and your fur friend when you visit all of our vendors and fill up your vendor pass. Don't forget to take a trip to the doggie spa on your way out, have your pup looking their best with professional grooming products and free nail trims provided by Barky Mountain Grooming

All dogs must have a ticket to enter the event, pet parents DO NOT.

—<https://www.lonetreeartscenter.org/>

August Gardening Calendar

By Eileen Tully, Colorado Master Gardener, CSU

As gardeners, we enter a slower, more easy-going phase in the garden process. There's always something to do in the garden but we don't need to keep up the frenetic pace of planting-mulching-weeding that April and May demand. June's blooms may have faded, but with proper pruning some may make a reappearance in August. July's heat is over and there's still a lot of summer left.

In August harvesting our gardening efforts has begun, but we can take time to do it right, even enjoy the process. If we pay attention, August presents a wisdom not available any other time of year. The garden is maturing now. We can see our mistakes, our successes, and the intrusions on our efforts that nature presents on her own. In August there's time to look around and appreciate the garden...and then get back to work.

MAJOR CHORES FOR AUGUST

Vegetables:

- Plant spinach and lettuce mid-month for a fall harvest.
- Harvest cucumbers intended for slicing when they are 6 to 8 inches.
- Onions are ready to harvest when their green tops fall over. Lift the bulbs and brush off loose soil. Bring them to a protected area like a porch or covered shed. Lay them out in a single layer on a surface that permits ventilation top and bottom. When the outer skins have turned papery place them in a mesh bag or old panty hose and place them in a dark and cool place.
- Peppers can be harvested anytime they achieve the size you need or want.



- Water tomatoes regularly until late August. After that, fruit will ripen more quickly when water is withheld.
- After harvesting and areas become empty sow cover crops, like annual rye grass, often called green manure, to build garden soil.

Lawn:

- Begin lawn renovation and repair. Build up low areas with garden soil and over-seed areas that are thin or bare.
- Attack persistent weeds like bindweed with a 2, 4-D product. But the ultimate goal is to grow a thick healthy turf that will choke out weeds.

Garden:

- Newly planted perennials, trees and shrubs need consistent watering to get established.
- Fertilize roses for the last time around August 15th. Fertilizing later may stimulate new succulent growth that could damage the plant if there is an early frost.
- Divide spring blooming perennials if needed. Ways to tell if a perennial needs to be divided is if the plant has a 'hole' in the middle and doesn't look as attractive as it used to, if blooms decrease or stop altogether or if the plant is crowding out neighboring plants.

Take advantage of plant sales. Usually starting mid-to-late-August and into September many nurseries will have plants sales with prices as much as 50% off.

—<https://tra.extension.colostate.edu>



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Emerald Ash Borer: What You Can Do?

An estimated 15 percent or more of all urban and community trees in Colorado are ash species susceptible to being killed by EAB. A majority of these trees are on private land.

The most important action homeowners all over Colorado can take now is to determine if they have ash trees. Other actions homeowners can take to help mitigate EAB are outlined below.

Know the Signs of EAB Infestation

Determining an EAB presence is often difficult to the untrained eye. Symptoms include:

- Sparse leaves or branches in the upper part of the tree
- Vertical splits in bark possibly showing S-shaped galleries underneath
- Increased woodpecker activity
- Miniature leaves at the tips of branches late in the summer

Ash Tree Replacement

Ash trees have been widely planted in Colorado, but because EAB is always fatal to untreated ash trees, avoid planting any true ash species (genus Fraxinus). Instead, consider the following recommendations:

- Focus on tree and landscape-plant diversity. No one tree species should comprise more than 10 percent of the planted trees growing in any urban or community setting.
- “Plant ahead” and get new trees in the ground that can someday replace ash trees lost to EAB and the shade and other benefits they provided.
- An ash tree replacement tool, which includes a list of trees suitable for ash replacement, is available on the Colorado Tree Coalition website.

Management Options for Homeowners

While effective insecticides are available to protect ash trees from EAB, other management strategies also exist for dealing with the pest:

- Monitoring trees for the presence of EAB
- Removing and/or replacing ash trees
- Planting new trees preemptively in an effort to get them established before the arrival of EAB

Decisions about how to manage ash trees should take into account the overall health of each tree and its value to the property owner. The closer ash trees are to an area of known infestation, the higher the risk that they will become infested by EAB through natural spread.

Chemical Treatment

Consumers should educate themselves when purchasing chemical products to protect trees against EAB, and talk to a professional forester, extension agent or arborist before applying any treatment. For more information about chemical treatment options, view Insecticide Options for Protecting Ash Trees from Emerald Ash Borer (http://www.emeraldashborer.info/documents/Multistate_EAB_Insecticide_Fact_Sheet.pdf).

Don't Move Firewood!

Never transport hardwood firewood or any other raw wood products from ash trees, as this is the most likely method of accidental spread.

—<https://csfs.colostate.edu/forest-management/eab-what-you-can-do/>

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Backyard Beats Southern Street Eats at Sweetwater

Sat, Aug 12, 2023 6 p.m.

Join us in Lone Tree to close out the summer and savor the flavors of Colorado with a Southern twist! This year's event features a mouth-watering selection of your favorite dishes from south of the Colorado border while adding in touches of Colorado's famous Palisade peaches and Olathe corn.

While noshing on your southern eats, enjoy the deep soul gospel sounds of the Sensational Barnes Brothers bringing you the music from their Memphis Roots. The night will also have plenty of activities for the lil' ones to enjoy!

Tasting Bracelet Details:

With the purchase of a tasting bracelet, you can indulge in a variety of food truck offerings showcasing Colorado's most beloved produce. Not into tasting your way around the event? Each truck will have limited options from their full menu to purchase a la carte. By the end of the night, one food truck will walk away with the grand prize of \$750 based on your vote! Tasting bracelets are \$30 each.

<https://www.lonetreeartscenter.org/whats-on/southern-street-eats-tasting-band>

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Centennial Ridge

Neighborhood Update & Recent Market Activity (8 mos)

AVERAGE DAYS (of Solds) in MLS—35

AVERAGE SOLD PRICE— \$712,500

Status	Address	Total Sq Ft	List/Sold Price	Days on Market
Sold	7340 Rattlesnake Dr	2603	\$750,000	3
Sold	10044 Armadillo Dr	3710	\$675,000	82



Midyear Update!

The first half of 2023 is complete, and in many ways the turning point for the year. I am excited to share the Metro Denver Housing Outlook and Midyear Update with you! Historically, the data shows that purchases start to slow down, prices decline and inventory should peak soon after the July 4th Holiday. However this Spring's Selling Season proved to be disappointing compared to Seasonal expectations, and we may see some surprises the second half of the year!

Let's look at some indications for positive activity in the numbers: First, the Active Inventory for sale is just over 6,000 which is 16% higher than last month. New Listings were at 5,600 which is almost 9% higher than last month, and Pendings were about 4,400 and that is almost 6% higher than last month.

The down side of the market is Closed Properties, as we only had about 4,100 Closed Properties this month, and that is down 7.0% from last month and Closings YTD are down 23%.

Several factors are influencing the housing market in uncertain terrain, with the market looking for stability, affordability, and creativity!

Mortgage rates are affecting Inventory, stability, and affordability, but with inventory growing and activity slowing, it looks like we are heading toward a normalizing market! Buyers, this is great news as you will have a bit more control the 2nd half of 2023.

Sellers, this is a great time to prepare your home for sale, and have it showing the best way possible, as buyers are still paying top dollar for an updated house. If you have experienced some hail damage, please reach out to your insurance company as soon as possible. **Buyers always expect a good Roof!**

Please call us today, and let us show you how our Real Estate experience can help you navigate your individual Real Estate needs!

**As always, if you have any questions,
 please give me a call!**

Tonya Fallows

303-489-5533



Neighborhood Specialist-Tonya Fallows, Your Colorado Dream Home Team. 303/489-5533 tfallows@remax.net