

The Ridge Reporter

The monthly homeowners association newsletter for the residents of Summit Ridge

National Colorado Day

April 12th recognizes the Centennial State and the 38th state to join the Union on National Colorado Day. The first of the Four Corner States, Colorado is dominated by the Rocky Mountains. Prehistoric Colorado comes to life in the Florissant Fossil Beds. Discover one of the most abundant deposits of fossils in the world while taking in the beauty of the Rocky Mountains.

With plentiful wildlife and natural resources, the state makes a ready home. A city once thrived along the cliffs of Mesa Verde, populated by Ancient Pueblo.

Spanish first explored Colorado seeking streets paved with gold. After Colorado became a U.S. territory, Lieutenant Zebulon Pike explored the range of the newly acquired land. A summit he predicted would never be scaled bears his name today. Gold would be discovered setting off a fever in the mountains. A silver boom would soon follow.

Known as the Centennial State, Colorado entered the union on August 1, 1876.

Interesting Facts For April

- The first president of the United States, George Washington, was inaugurated on April 30, 1789
- April is the equivalent of October in the Southern Hemisphere.
- The phrase “April Showers bring May Flowers” comes from a poem from the 1500s by Thomas Tusser.
- The April full moon earns the name April’s Full Pink Moon not due to its color but because it’s named after the pink phlox flowers that bloom in North America’s early spring.
- Some of the famous people with an April birthday are Queen Elizabeth II, Leonardo da Vinci, Charlie Chaplin, William Shakespeare, Thomas Jefferson, and Jackie Chan.

April 2026

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April Garden Calendar

April is a pivotal month in your garden. While we may still see weather variability between winter and spring, the trend is definitely toward warming. As the ground warms the garden awakens.

Garden cleanup is the first priority:

- Rake leaves and debris from around trees, shrubs and other garden areas.
- If you haven’t done so yet, cut back ornamental grasses.
- Prune summer blooming shrubs such as butterfly bush, blue mist spirea, potentilla, and some hydrangeas.
- Remove any broken or damaged branches from trees.

What we’ve been waiting for – Planting season begins now!

- Plant container or balled and burlapped trees and shrubs from now throughout spring.
- Now is the time to plant bare root roses. Soak roots in water for 12 hours before planting. Vegetables – Early April Outdoors
- Soak parsley seeds 24 hours before planting ¼” deep.
- Dill seeds should be pressed lightly into the soil.
- Peas can be sown as late as mid-April.
- Indoors- Start warm season vegetables from seed like tomatoes and peppers.
- Mid April Outdoors: Plant lettuce, chard, spinach, kale, beets, carrots, radishes and onion sets.
- Indoors - Start seeds of flowers like zinnias



and celosia that need four weeks before planting outside. It’s not too late to plant Cardinal Seed Vine and Hyacinth Bean Vine indoors; two annual vines that put on a beautiful show mid to late summer.

Other Garden Chores:

- Transplant: When soil has thawed, divide and transplant summer and fall blooming perennials such as sedum Autumn Joy, garden Phlox paniculata, Asters, perennial Dianthus, and Shasta Daisies.
- Roses – Once new growth starts, usually mid-April, slowly remove mulch from around the plants. Prune dead or damaged canes first, then prune all other canes to approximately 1 to 2 feet above ground. As active growth appears, fertilize with a rose food formulation of 9-14-9 which is higher in phosphorus to encourage blooms and strong roots. Do not prune live canes of climbing roses. However, cutting out dead canes is recommended.

Lawn Care:

- Core aeration is one of the most beneficial things you can do to maintain a healthy lawn. This is also a good time to do an irrigation audit to make sure your system is working properly.

Weeding:

- As you see weeds pull them out. They are generally small this early and easy to remove.

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April Garden, *continued from front page*

Wasp Control:

- Hang pheromone traps out to capture early emerging yellowjackets. If you trap a queen early, you prevent a nest. These bright yellow traps are available at both garden centers and big box stores. They will not harm other insects just yellowjacket wasps.

When you have questions, Colorado State University Extension has research-based answers. Get answers to your horticulture questions by visiting ask.extension.org any time day or night.

– Fredricka Bogardus, Colorado Master Gardener

Semiquincentennial Coins & Medals

To celebrate the Nation’s Semiquincentennial (SemiQ), the United States Mint is proud to unveil one-year-only changes to well-known American coinage, such as the circulating dime, quarter, and half dollar. The Mint will also release special numismatic coins and medals in 2026 featuring unique designs and enhancements for core products and annual releases.

–<https://www.usmint.gov/coins>

This Space Intentionally Left Blank for Teen Services

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News Articles

The deadline for news articles is the 10th of the month before the next month’s issue. All articles must be approved by the editor for publication, or as space permits.

The Summit Ridge newsletter is published monthly by the Summit Ridge homeowners association, a non-profit homeowners association. The newsletter delivery is provided by **Jim Riss** of **Re/Max Professionals**. No endorsement of any product or service is implied or stated by its inclusion in the newsletter. Appearance of an advertisement in this publication does not constitute a recommendation or endorsement by the publisher or the association of the goods or services offered therein. The opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the individual authors and not of the Board of Directors of your association or the publisher. Neither the Board, publisher nor the authors intend to provide any professional service or opinion through this publication.

Advertise in this Newsletter!


The deadline for advertisements is the 15th of the month for the next month’s issue, except for the Jan. issue which is Dec. 6th.

Newsletter Connections: 303-979-7499 or info@newsletterconnections.com



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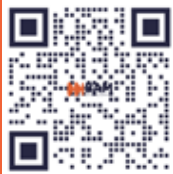
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 –Luther Burbank*



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Taste Test Colorado Wine

Wineries have proven to be a prime spot to enjoy the spring weather while supporting locally-owned businesses. Colorado has a plethora of options to explore and wine events throughout the warmer months, and April kicks off the festivities.

TASTE OF VAIL

Vail, Colorado; Wednesday–Saturday, April 1-4, 2026

Expect to eat well at the resort’s early spring get-together, Taste Of Vail. Combine a day of fine food and wine, and even skiing or snowboarding if you can manage. Thirty or so of the top chefs from the Vail Valley showcase their stellar fare. Wash it down with choices from over 50 wine-makers from around the country.

BARREL INTO SPRING

Palisade, Colorado; Friday-Saturday, April 17-18 and May 8-9, 2026

Barrel Into Spring is the perfect way to welcome the warm weather and enjoy local wineries, held in late April and early May. Participants will pick up a tasting glass and an event “passport” to guide them through the weekend. This is a self-paced tour, so you can explore the 7 wineries throughout Grand Valley at your leisure.

DURANGO WINE EXPERIENCE

Durango, Colorado; Friday–Saturday, April 24-25, 2026

End the month with the Durango Wine Experience, held on the last weekend in April. Friday features a “walk-about” style of tasting, with multiple locations in downtown Durango offering their selections of wine. Saturday is the grand tasting, where you’ll find numerous wineries and hundreds of unique wines lining the streets to showcase their craft. There will also be seminars held all weekend, so you can channel your inner sommelier.

– <https://www.uncovercolorado.com>

National Earth Day

Each year on April 22nd, National Earth Day campaigns around the globe promote ways to keep the Earth healthy and our planet livable. Here are some ways to observe Earth Day.

- Support and use recycling programs in your community.
- Volunteer to clean up local parks and streets on clean-up days.
- Support and frequent green businesses.
- Use re-usable products versus disposable.
- Repurpose items that have outworn their use.
- Shop secondhand and thrift stores for gently used items.
- Use energy-efficient appliances or line dry your clothes.
- Walk or ride your bike to work if possible.
- Carpool or make one trip instead of multiple trips for shopping.
- Encourage your favorite products to reduce packaging.

*The beautiful spring came, and when
Nature resumes her loveliness,
the human soul is apt to revive also.*

–*Harriet Ann Jacobs*

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Our May deadline is April 15th.

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Ultimate Spring-Cleaning Checklist

1. Clean Baseboards: Spring cleaning is the perfect time to clean your baseboards. “Although they’re often overlooked, clean baseboards give your home the perfect finishing touch,” says Leanne Stapf, COO of The Cleaning Authority. Baseboards can be easily cleaned with a vacuum with a bristled brush hose attachment to remove any dust; then, wipe them down with a damp microfiber cloth and all-purpose cleaner.

2. Dust: No matter how much you try to prevent it, dust builds up in every room of the house. When dusting, work from the top of a room down, vacuuming the dust that settles on the floor. This includes hard-to-reach places, such as the tops of ceiling fans and window casings.

3. Vacuum. Vacuum your floors to clean crumbs and loose dirt. “It’s common to track the bacteria and dirt from your shoes across the carpet,” says Stapf. “Not only can a buildup of grime break down your carpet fibers, but it can also harbor pollutants that may make you sick.”

4. Mop. After vacuuming, go over your floors with a mop. “Floors are one of the most exposed areas in our homes, which is why mopping them frequently is crucial in keeping your home clean,” says Diane Amos, cleaning expert for Pine Sol.

5. Shampoo Rugs. Synthetic carpets and rugs with water-proof backings can be deep-cleaned with a rotary shampoo machine and a hot-water extraction machine. Rugs without backings require professional cleaning.

6. Wipe Walls and Ceilings. Over time, our walls and ceilings build up with unwanted marks. To clean your walls, start by using a vacuum to remove dust. Next, tackle stubborn

surface grime, which is especially prevalent in kitchens, with a solvent-free degreaser (test it first in an inconspicuous area to ensure it won’t mar the surface).

7. Reseal Grout Lines. The cement-based material between wall, floor, and countertop tiles is extremely porous and stains easily. Protect it by applying a grout sealer with a small foam brush.

8. Clean Upholstered Furnishings. Take cushions outside and gently beat them by hand to remove dust. If there are stains, check the care labels for cleaning recommendations. Use a vacuum’s upholstery and crevice tools to clean under seat cushions.

9. Clean Window Furnishings. Drapes, curtains, and blinds should also be tended to. “While we may not directly interact with them, curtains can accumulate dust and odors from around the home and need to be cleaned,” says Stapf. “Give the curtains a little extra TLC once every season, but look at their material before throwing them in the washing machine. Some may need to be sent to the dry cleaners.”

10. Wash Window Screens. Window screens get very dirty throughout the year. Clean them using warm water and a mild dishwashing liquid, scrubbing each screen with a brush. Once clean, rinse them thoroughly with water.

11. Clean Light Fixtures and Ceiling Fans. Light fixtures are a hub for dust. “Your ceiling fan is a great place to start—just make sure you turn off the light bulb and let it cool before wiping it down,” says Amos. Wipe the blades with a pillowcase so the dust gets trapped inside.

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Foothills Art Market

Saturday, April 11, 2026 from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Indoors at the Foothills Fieldhouse


3606 S. Independence St., Denver, CO 80235

Located near Kipling & Highway 285

Foothills Art Market features original artwork, goods, and crafts in multiple disciplines created by over 100 Colorado artisans. Attendees will find a vast array of work for sale, including

unique creations in pottery, sculpture, glass, jewelry, fashion, wood, soaps, home accessories, photography and more.


- Admission is Free!
- Food and beverages will be available for purchase.
- Beer and wine will be available for purchase for those with a valid ID.



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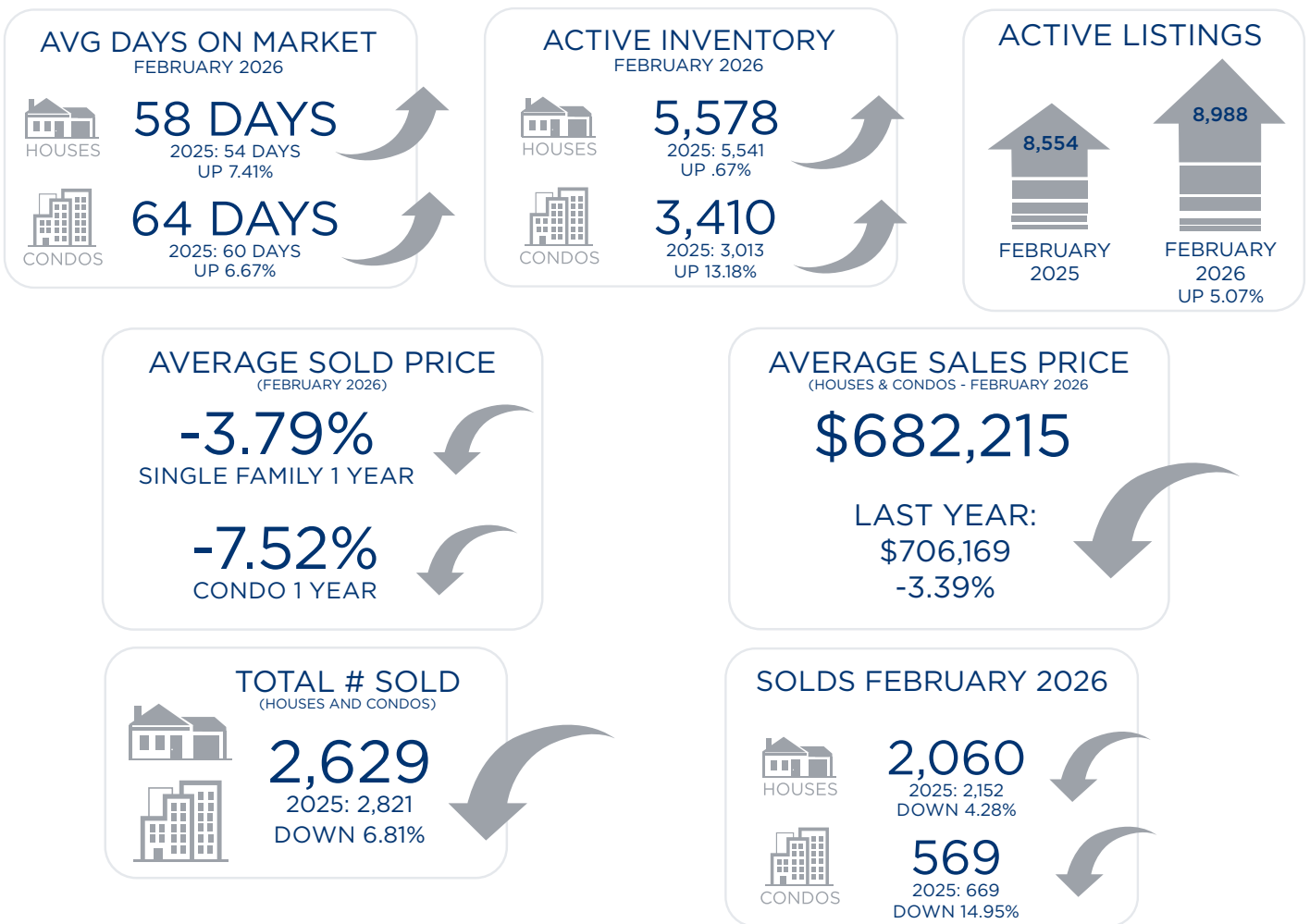
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REAL ESTATE MARKET UPDATE

MARCH 2026

After a lackluster January Market, and a short February late Winter month, we are seeing the Denver Real Estate Market cross the threshold from a quiet Winter and give way to the energy of a Spring buying season! This is always exciting to see the transition as buyers who have been waiting on the sidelines start to reengage, and sellers begin preparing their homes for listing and the pace of activity builds momentum. Many households are changing and forming with a diversity of Real Estate needs even in a World of uncertainty right now. We are excited to examine these numbers over the last month: Current Active Listings are around 9,000 and Pendings over the last month were up 29% from January and over 15% from February 2025! Closed Properties were up 30% from last month, but were down about 7% from this time last year. The Average Price of a Single Family home was \$753,921 which is down almost 4% from last year, and the average price of a Condo or Townhome was \$422,610 and that is down 7.5% from last year! The average days on the market has increased about 7% to 59! Buyers, this is the perfect time to prepare with a Lender Pre-Approval for your mortgage and be ready to jump on the home that works best for you as inventory grows and prices have softened! Sellers, this is the perfect time to take advantage of the biggest buyer pool we typically see all year during this Spring Season. Remember that your success is determined by condition, location and the correct price for this current market! Price and Position are equally important to buyers right now and the homes that are truly dialed in well with staging, clean, and in great condition, located in strong areas and priced appropriately are still seeing multiple offers! It's not the frenzy of the COVID years, but receiving two to three offers that are at or slightly above asking price!



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