

Glastonbury Landowners Association Newsletter

Summer 2009

Road and Weed Committee Reports

Solution for Cheat Grass Problem

As you may know, Cheat Grass (*Bromus Secalinus*) has proliferated in North and South Glastonbury. (See cheat grass fact sheet in our 2009 Spring Newsletter) This problem has been caused partly by disturbing the original ground cover but mainly by the drought condition of recent years. Cheat Grass is more drought-resistant than other grasses.

When new Cheat Grass shoots appear in the fall, spraying can be done to kill the new shoots. Below are listed two companies that may assist you. Please call them for an estimate:

Stu's Chemical – Ed Schilling (406) 686-4747 or
agtech@mtn.net

Dennis Tilton – (406) 223-0120 or
dtilton800@aol.com

And, please be mindful that if nothing is done about this problem, the cheat grass can spread, year after year, to your neighbor's property. Finally, thank you for remembering that it is the responsibility of the individual landowner to keep his/her weeds under control.

North Glastonbury's "Off-the-Beaten Path"

A safe, scenic, relaxing alternative to walking along paved and gravel roads is being planned to connect the GLA pond area to Capricorn Drive. The route will parallel Fridley Creek and Taurus Road, run north along the common boundary with Story Ranch, cross Sirius Drive into the PVRC playground, parallel Sirius Drive for a short distance to the east and run across the open field to Jupiter Way. Walkers, joggers, bicyclists and children of all ages will enjoy using our Off-the-Beaten Path. Volunteers are needed to assist in design and construction. Please call Gerald Dubiel at 223-1403 to sign up and help!

Review of N. Glastonbury Chip Sealing Project

Sheridan Stenberg, Treasurer
William Smith, Co-Chair of Road/Weed Committee

It was very gratifying to be part of the North Glastonbury chip sealing effort - to help get out the vote and also to generate the local investment money that partially financed the project. Our investment of time and effort was richly rewarded by the positive response. A sizable majority of us do care about protecting our community's value and resources.

We learned from all our interactions with landowners that you want on-going care of paved as well as graveled roads and that you want more roads paved! Since approximately 70% of our budget is already going toward roads and all their associated expenses and since the cost of living continues to rise, the GLA Board is considering how we can do more.

In looking ahead 7 years, when our original paving loan will be paid, we should be able to allocate the funds to chip seal again and also, possibly, to pave more of our gravel roads. Meanwhile, we determine priorities based on greatest need and on your input. Please address your comments c/o the Road Committee to the e-mail connection on our website.

We have such a wonderfully unique community. It is a privilege to be a part of it.

2010 Budget Planning Landowner Input Welcome!

The Board is in the process of developing the 2010 budget and is working on long-term planning for the Association. The Board welcomes Landowner input! Please feel free to submit what you would like to see happen in 2010 and/or further into the future. As you formulate your ideas, keep in mind that this is a volunteer board.

Send your ideas *in writing* to the GLA Budget Committee, Box 312, Emigrant, MT 59027 by **September 12**. Thank you.

Friendly Guidelines and Reminders to Share with Your Family, Guests & Renters

Local Car Accident/ Please Drive Safely!

An accident, with potentially serious consequences, occurred in Glastonbury last week. The resident driver (a renter) may have been driving a little too fast and admitted to momentarily looking down to take something off the seat. The car swerved out of control and landed upside down in a ravine. With the roof smashed in and no seatbelt, it seems miraculous that the driver was able to crawl out through a small window space and avoid serious bodily injuries.

There were, fortunately, no other passengers in the car or other people/cars on the road at the time of the accident. Unfortunately, emergency responders were delayed in finding the accident site as the road sign had just been stolen a few days before. (See "Stolen Road Signs" below)

If you don't do this already, please, each time you enter your car, make it a habit to remind yourself to fasten your seatbelt, drive slowly and safely, and keep your eyes on the road. Avoid using your cell phone or distracting activities. Remind your children, renters and guests to do the same. Also, when you or your children are walking or bicycling at night, please remember to wear reflectors so that drivers will be able to see you.

Stolen Road Signs

Road and informational signs have recently been stolen from Glastonbury. This vandalism is not only expensive to the GLA (replacing signs must be covered by Landowner assessments), it delays emergency responders (i.e. ambulances, fire trucks, the sheriff) from quickly locating emergency sites. Ultimately, this type of delay could endanger residents and result in loss of life and/or property.

The GLA has repeatedly replaced stolen signs over the years and wants to see an end to this senseless crime. Please immediately report to the GLA any information regarding stolen road or informational signs from the Glastonbury community. Call Laura Boise at 333-4405.

Vandalism at the Soccer Fields

We sadly report that the recently repaired doors on the storage building have been kicked in again. Also, the grass on the soccer fields has been torn up by drivers who have recklessly "dough-nuted" around the field. If you have information regarding these acts or any other act of vandalism, please call Laura Boise at 333-4405 immediately. Also, if you are a witness to any type of crime or illegal activity, call the Sheriff at 911.

Hunting Guidelines

Hunting is not permitted on GLA Common Land. Guests, who hunt on private property, must have the owner's permission and be accompanied by him/her. Please practice hunting safety precautions to keep the families and pets in our community safe.

Also, please take time to review your copy of the "Discharge of Firearms Policy" previously mailed to you or review it on the GLA website. (www.gla-mt.org).

Hunting Season (for your information)

Deer/Elk Archery: September 5 - October 18

Deer/Elk General: October 25 - November 29

Accessing Private Property

To access private property, owner permission must be given or trespassing will have occurred. Be sure you know the boundaries on private land, GLA Common Use Land and Forest Land.

Parking

There is absolutely no parking on road accesses or easements. Parking on private land must be done only with permission from the owner. Cars parked illegally or abandoned will be photographed, reported and towed away at the car owner's expense.

Annual Meeting/Elections, November 14

On November 14, at the Glastonbury Landowners Association Annual Meeting and Elections, Landowners will vote (in person and by absentee mailed in ballots) to elect six Board members and 2 Ombudsman. Nominations for qualified individuals to fill these positions may be submitted through September 24 as explained in detail in the August 24 letter to all Landowners. (Letter is enclosed with this newsletter mailing.)

In early October, a ballot listing the candidates will be mailed to all Landowners. Landowners, who are unable to attend the meeting, may mark their absentee ballots and mail them back to the GLA. Further details regarding the meeting will be provided in the October mailing.

It is an important responsibility of Glastonbury Landowners to nominate and elect individuals to serve on the Board of Directors and as Ombudsmen whom they know will carry out the various duties of the Association with wisdom, integrity and diligence.

Board Meeting Agenda Subscriptions by E-Mail

To receive the monthly GLA Board Meeting agendas by e-mail, sign up at our website. (www.gla-mt.org)

To Current Agenda Subscribers: We apologize that the July agenda did not get to you. Our web technician was unexpectedly out of the country. We have taken steps to make sure that a backup system is now in place.

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