

# Glastonbury Landowners Association Newsletter

## Spring 2010

### New Nature Walking Path Progresses

We are very excited about the continued work of developing the new nature walking path through our local cottonwood and willow groves next to Fridley Creek. Eventually, the walking path will be 2.5 to 3.5 miles long, and will extend all the way to the Recreation Park.

When finished, the path will have a stabilized gravel surface for pedestrian traffic and bicycles. There will also be resting benches along the way for bird watching or checking out the beaver traffic in the creek.

Additional donations of gravel are needed to assist us in the completion of this project. If you are interested in helping to accomplish any of this, or if you are interested in developing a walking path in South Glastonbury, please leave your contact information with our Voice Message Service at 451-0033.

### Fire Safety and Prevention

It's springtime, and as firefighters across the country gear up for summer fire season, we would like Landowners to be reminded of fire safety and prevention measures. Because vegetation acts as fuel during a fire, it is important to reduce all unwanted vegetation at least 30 feet around homes and other buildings, and mow around your green power and telephone boxes. To learn more about fire prevention, go to: [www.firewise.com](http://www.firewise.com).

Even though weather and vegetation play a significant role, it is important to know that seventy-five percent of wildfires are caused by people being careless. That means seventy five percent can be avoided by always having immediate access to water near your home, and being aware of fire safety measures.

Although the Glastonbury Covenants only require chimney spark arresters to be installed in new residences, it is strongly recommended that they be installed on *all* chimneys and stove pipes in older homes as well. Also remember that stove pipes must be cleaned each year to help prevent chimney fires. Spring and summer months are perfect times to take care of this.

Before doing any spring burn off, a fire permit is required. They can be obtained from the Emigrant Store or the Livingston Ranger District: 222-1892.

### All Glastonbury Residents need to be in the Know

The GLA Board encourages Landowners to keep their renters and guests informed about the Association and the covenants, policies and rules which govern our community. Many residents remain unaware of this important information. Landlords: please share the newsletters and all of the above with your renters and guests, as appropriate. The GLA will be happy to send extra newsletters to you to assist in this process. Feel free to request these from our Administrative Secretary. See page 3 for contact information details.

### Glastonbury Road Committee News Spring Road Grading Schedule

Road grading generally begins sometime in May to coincide with spring rains, weather permitting. Please remember to drive slowly and carefully once the grading is complete, as there can be loose gravel, and we want to preserve our investment.

### Weed Spraying Schedule & Tips for Weed Control

Weed spraying along road easements and GLA Common Land generally occurs in late June. If a Landowner does not want the easement portion of his parcel to be sprayed, please be aware that it then becomes his/her responsibility to pull all weeds and place "no spray" signs *visibly* along the easement areas of his/her property. If the weeds are not removed prior to the time of spraying, the weeds will be sprayed.

Although the GLA takes care of weed spraying along the easements, weed eradication is the responsibility of each Landowner on his/her own property. Please understand that per the Park County Weed Control Board, it is unlawful for anyone to allow noxious weeds to propagate on their property.

There are many varieties of noxious weeds, and since some of them have beautiful flowers that could otherwise be thought to be wildflowers, it is important to be able to identify them. It is necessary to remove and control these so they do not choke out real wildflowers and beneficial grasses. You can find pictures of noxious weeds that are a problem locally and ways to control and eradicate them at the County Extension Office. Go to [www.weedawareness.org](http://www.weedawareness.org) for more information.

Remember that spring is the best time to take steps toward controlling weeds on your property when grass is turning green and small weeds are coming up. It takes little effort to pull weeds when the ground is soft after spring rains. Also, it takes only a small amount of weed killer to do the job if treated before the plants have a chance to take root.

Native grass seeds can also be planted to assist with weed control, since the weeds cannot compete with native grasses. Grass seeds can be planted after the weeds are controlled. As new seeds need constant watering in the initial germination and growth period, some Landowners have had great success planting seed in early spring to catch the spring rains. However, the Montana State University Extension Office recommends waiting until the end of May to plant, when the risk of frost has passed.

Native grass seed, like sheep fescue, takes two years to get established. During those two years, the grass will not need to be watered if it is not mowed. But if mowed, then watering is essential for the grass to survive.

Please remember that the GLA Covenants (Section 4.05) require Landowners to make reasonable efforts to control and prevent the spread of noxious weeds on their properties. It is our hope that this information will assist you in doing so.



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## GLA Road Easements

It has come to our attention that there are owners who are unaware that the GLA road easements extend approximately 30 feet from the center of the roads and that the roads do not always exactly follow the platted center.

Landowners need to be aware that they may have unknowingly established bushes, trees, mailboxes, fences, driveway entrance boulders, rock pillars, etc., within these easements. Where this occurs, owners need to understand that they may be responsible for any potential liability caused by encroachments. The GLA believes it is in everyone's interest to keep the easement areas open and free of encroachment.

## Maintenance of Dry Creek Road

Although Dry Creek Road, which is the only entrance road to South Glastonbury, is a county road, the Park County snow removal schedule has not designated it for early morning snow removal. In the interest of safety and convenience to the owners, the GLA has been clearing the snow to allow for early morning winter traffic.

If Landowners would like to see the GLA's expense of snowplowing and maintaining Dry Creek Road reallocated to other road priorities in SG, then all early morning snow removal and maintenance calls for this road should be directed to Ed Hillman, Park County Road and Bridge Supervisor. He can be contacted at 222-4182 or cell phone 223-2860.

For newer owners, it is also important to understand that, because Dry Creek Road was originally a very poorly maintained gravel road with many pot-holes, and the county rarely graded it and had no plans to upgrade it with gravel or asphalt, the owners requested and voted to have the road paved, with the county agreeing to chip seal and maintain it.

## Landowners Invitation to a Special Road Meeting, May 20, 2010, 7 p.m. at St. John's Church

After a round of enthusiastic and constructive discussion between the Road Committee and Landowners at our 2009 Annual Meeting, the Road Committee announced that it would hold a joint committee and interested Landowner meeting to further discuss road planning and road budget matters. The Road Committee looks forward to this special meeting with Landowners on May 20.

Given that 78% of the GLA budget is allocated just for road maintenance, we are interested in hearing from Landowners regarding what their greatest needs and priorities are for the roads. Please come and share your ideas as we continue this important discussion concerning the future planning of our roads. If you are unable to attend, you can send your ideas in writing, via e-mail through our website or by calling William Smith at 223-9040, Rich Spallone at 223-0215, or Paul Rantalo at 333-4672.

## Youth Soccer Association

Sign-ups start in May. Contact Jodi Allen at 222-9086 if your children are interested in Recreational Youth Soccer this season,

## Recreational Park Development

If you would like to donate your time, materials or expertise to assist with the development of recreational facilities or community activities at our North Glastonbury Recreational Park, please call Chris Kelley at 333-4714.

Financial donations can be mailed to: The PVRC, P.O. Box 906, Emigrant, MT 59027.

## Community Garden Development

For those of you with green thumbs and interested in helping to establish a Community Garden or Farmers Market this summer, please contact Danilie Howe at 333-4839.

## Community Clean-Up

Springtime is clean-up time. Please remember that if you have any old inoperable vehicles, part of your car registration fee covers the disposal of these vehicles. Per the Department of Transportation in Livingston, if you would like to have one removed, call Clay Williams at 578-2581 to make arrangements.

## Good News for Shelter Owners

This spring the GLA would like to help facilitate the completion of shelter projects in need of backfilling and reclaiming of disturbed areas by coordinating needs and resources. To find out more, and make arrangements for the group discount, please call Clare Parker at 406-333-4614.

## Clarification for All Landowners

From time to time, the GLA Board has heard from Landowners and Non-Landowners, who believe that the GLA is affiliated with or working with various activities and organizations in the area. For clarification, the Association is not affiliated with the County Commissioners, the Township project, any church or organization, local community halls, centers or telephone tree service providers.

## Forest Stewardship Summer Workshop

June 3, 4 & 11, 2010

The M.S.U. Forestry Extension will be offering a Forest Service Stewardship Workshop in Bozeman, Montana this summer on the above dates. Local residents, who have attended this workshop, highly recommend it. For registration forms, go to: [www.cfc.umt.edu/extensionforestry](http://www.cfc.umt.edu/extensionforestry) or call (406) 243-2773.



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## Revised Meeting Schedule for the GLA Board of Directors & Annual Elections 2010

Below is our revised/corrected GLA Board Meeting schedule for the remainder of 2010. It will also be posted on our website. Please do not use the schedule posted in our winter newsletter. Our apologies for any inconvenience this may have caused.

Regular Board Meetings are held at St. John's Church in Emigrant, Montana and usually fall on the second Monday of each month. If additional meetings or a change in the schedule is needed, we will post these on our website. Landowners are welcome to attend these meeting and may subscribe to receive monthly meeting agendas via our website.

Although meeting dates rarely change, we encourage Landowners to check the GLA website prior to traveling to a meeting *just in case* a change has been posted.

### 2010 Meeting Dates for Board of Directors

6:45 p.m. - 9 p.m. (approximately)

St. John's Church, Emigrant

April 12

May 10

June 14

July 12

Aug. 9

Sept. 13

Oct. 4 (1st Monday)

Nov. 8

Nov. 22 (Private Orientation Meeting  
for Board Members Only)

Dec. 13

### 2010 Annual Landowner Business Meeting and Elections

8:45 a.m. - Noon (approximately)

Emigrant Hall, Emigrant

Saturday, November 13

## Are you Selling your Property?

If so, when your property sells, please remember to forward the name and contact information of the new Landowner to the GLA. This important communication helps us to keep our Landowner database up-to-date and allows us to connect with new owners, welcome them to our community and share important information pertaining to membership in the Association.

Please contact our Treasurer, Sheridan Stenberg, at (406) 333-4589 with new owner information or complete the "transfer of property" form on the GLA website.

## GLA Contact Information

Please direct your questions, comments or concerns to the GLA in one of the following ways:

**Mail:** P.O. Box 312, Emigrant MT 59027

**Phone:** 406-451-0033 / GLA Message Service

**E-mail:** [www.gla-mt.org](http://www.gla-mt.org) (Hit the "Contact Us" prompt and an e-mail message form will be provided)

\*We are in the process of redesigning the GLA website with the goal of making it more user-friendly for Landowners. If you have ideas for improving our website or can volunteer design or web development experience, feel free to leave a message for Daniel at our Message Service number above. Thank you.

## E-mail Subscriptions for Newsletters

To assist in reducing mailing expenses, you can request to receive your GLA newsletter by e-mail. Sign up at: [www.gla-mt.org](http://www.gla-mt.org).