

# THE RAMBLER

## Next HOA Meeting

The July HOA Meeting will be:

**July 21st, 2009 at 7:00 PM**

**Mistrot Residence**

**11911 W. 106th Place**

**There will be no meeting in August**

**Annual Ice Cream Social**

**August 4th, from 7:00 - 9:00 PM**

**At the Cul-de-sac on 106th Place**

Your HOA would like to invite your entire family to attend our 1st Annual Walnut Creek Ice Cream Social in conjunction with the Jefferson County Sheriff's Department, the Walnut Creek Neighborhood Watch Program and the National Night-Out. There will be someone at the event from the Sheriff's Department to answer any and all questions in regards to our Neighborhood Watch program recently enacted within Walnut Creek. Also we will have deputies in attendance from the motorcycle unit, Victim Services and Animal Control

Your HOA will be providing DQ Ice Cream cakes and other refreshments for your enjoyment. If there are any students that would like to volunteer your time to help with the preparation of the area, serving and clean-up, please contact John Boyd at 303-466-3585. We will provide you with the credentials needed for your school or organization to recognize your community service.

Here is the tentative list of the representatives from the Sheriff's Department that will be in attendance:

7:00 - 8:30 pm Deputy Brian McLaughlin (from Patrol and to answer Neighborhood Watch questions)

7:00 - 8:00 pm Sergeant Steve Laurita and Deputy Tyler Hammond (Traffic - Motorcycles)

7:00 - 8:00 pm Ms Lindsay Ehrman (Victim Services)

8:00 - 9:00 pm Officer Nicole Miller (Animal Control)

**Come out and enjoy this evening to get to know your neighbors and socialize with your friends!**

## Plague Confirmed in Jefferson County Prairie-Dog Population

Below is a communication from the JEFFCO Department of Health and Environment that you need to read. It is very important information and helpful for your protection.

**Be sure to follow the advice while attending our Ice Cream Social.**

Nancy Braden  
Public Information  
Jefferson County Department of Health and Environment  
303-239-7137

Jefferson County Public Health received positive test results for plague today from a flea specimen collected from a prairie dog die-off at the Westminster Hills Open

Space/Dog Park. The dog park is located at 105th Avenue and Simms Street. The area of concern includes the entire dog park and open space area from Simms Street west to Indiana Street.

Environmental Health Services submitted flea specimens to the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment for testing on Tuesday, July 14, 2009 and received results back this morning. The area is being closed to the public and posted with plague warnings signs today.

Dr. Jim Dale, DVM, MPH, Director of Environmental Health Services said, "There have been no reported human cases of plague in the area and if precautions are taken the disease is not considered to be a threat to humans."

Health officials are advising visitors to the Westminster Hills Open Space/Dog Park, and all Jefferson County citizens, to take precautions. JCPH recommends that everyone living in or visiting the area in and around the Westminster Hills Open Space/Dog Park take the necessary precautions, listed below, to protect themselves and their pets from plague.

Plague is an infectious disease caused by *Yersinia pestis*, a bacterium. Prairie dogs are extremely susceptible to plague. Plague is transmitted via fleas that have bitten plague-infected wild rodents. Cats most commonly con-

tract the disease from flea bites, a rodent scratch/bite, or ingestion of a rodent. Dogs are generally resistant to plague, however they may pick up and carry plague-infected fleas. Humans may be infected with plague through bites from infected fleas, by the cough from an infected animal, or by direct contact (i.e. through a bite) with blood or tissues of infected animals.

Residents are urged to talk with their veterinarian regarding effective flea control products -- always read and follow directions on flea product labels. People can protect themselves and their pets from plague by:

- rodent-proofing their homes;
- maintaining litter and trash-free environments;
- storing food and garbage properly to prevent rodent access;
- keeping domesticated animals indoors;
- and when recreating, pet owners should:
  - use insect repellent;
  - keep their pets on leashes;
  - and use flea control products on pets.

If these reasonable precautions are taken, the probability of contracting plague is extremely low.

Symptoms of plague in humans occur within two to seven days after exposure. Infected persons may experience fever, headache, weakness and rapidly developing pneumonia with shortness of breath; chest pain; cough; and sometimes bloody or watery saliva. The pneumonia progresses for two-to-four days and may

cause respiratory failure and shock. Plague is treated with antibiotics. Anyone experiencing these symptoms should consult a physician.

The Health Department will continue its plague surveillance of rodent populations in the County. Citizens are requested to report any unusual rodent die-offs to Jefferson County Public Health at 303-271-5755.

For more information, contact the Jefferson County Public Health Environmental Health Services at 303-271-5700 or [www.jeffco.us/health](http://www.jeffco.us/health).

## ***FREE Mulch***

As a result of our annual Spring Clean-up, there is FREE mulch available for the taking for any Walnut Creek home in the open field on Union Way. This makes great mulching for your landscaping projects, so help yourself!

## ***Weed Control around Walnut Creek***

You may have noticed, but the prairie dogs to the north and west of Walnut Creek are no longer there. Charlie McKay, with Broomfield's permission, had them removed and planted a native grass in their place. However, because of the unusual amount of rain, this growth has totally overtaken the field and as such has become a real concern for fire as the growth begins to dry out. As a result, your HOA will be considering having a company mow around the perimeter of Walnut Creek in the near future. Please help us out by removing anything you may have placed across the fence adjacent to your

property so the mowing can be done effectively and at less expense. Thank you in advance for your co-operation.

## ***Monthly Humor***

I don't suffer from insanity; I enjoy every minute of it.

I used to have a handle on life, but it broke.

Don't take life too seriously; No one gets out alive.

Earth is the insane asylum for the universe.

I'm not a complete idiot -- Some parts are missing..

Consciousness: That annoying time between naps.

Ever stop to think, and forget to start again?

Being 'over the hill' is much better than being under it!

Wrinkled was not one of the things I wanted to be when I grew up.

He who dies with the most toys is none the less DEAD.

Procrastinate Now!

I smile because I don't know what the heck is going on.

Appreciate every single thing you have, especially your friends! Life is too short and friends are too few!