



Brush! UP

NEWSLETTER OF THE CITY OF BRUSH! COLORADO OCTOBER 2013

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2013 Municipal Election

The City of Brush! will be participating in the November 5, 2013, Coordinated Election. This Election will be conducted by mail-in ballot.

Ballots will be mailed to you beginning October 15. You can return your ballot by mail or in person at the Morgan County Clerk's Office, located at 231 Ensign in Fort Morgan.

If not already a registered voter, register by October 15, 2013. You may register at the following locations:



- Morgan County Clerk and Records Office, 231 Ensign Street, Fort Morgan, CO
 - Office of the City Clerk, 600 Edison, Brush, CO
 - On-line at www.sos.state.co.us/pubs/elections/vote/VoterHome.html
- This service is provided until October 28, 2013.

We have openings for Mayor and one City Council Member in each Ward. The following individuals have submitted the necessary nomination petition and are qualified to run:



Don't forget to check out the latest info and updates here in Brush! by dropping in on the city's website: www.brushcolo.com

Mayor

Ward 1 (west of Hospital Road)

Ward 2 (between Hospital Road and Carson Street)

Ward 3 (east of Carson Street)

John Gotto

Charles Schonberger

Rick Bain

Kimberly A. Dykes

Jeff Osuch

Jeanine Anderson-Santistevan

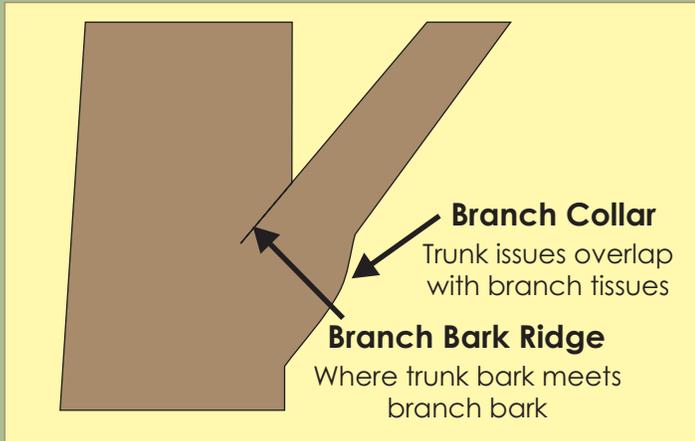
If you have any questions about the election process or the ballot, call or come by City Hall and talk to our City Clerk Andrea Strand.

We are planning on having an open forum for the candidates to share their thoughts, ideas, and answer questions from the community the week of October 7th; the date is still TBD. We will have that information posted on the City website as it becomes available.

Now Is A Good Time to Trim A Tree

Fall is a great time to get yard work done. With the shorter days and the cooler temperatures comes a list of things to do around the yard to prepare for winter. Among these may be pruning trees. The ability to see the framework of the tree when all the leaves are off provides a good idea of what needs to be pruned, how, and where.

When pruning trees, it is important to remember that branches need to form what is known as a “Branch Collar”. This is an area of cells that grows at the connection point of the trunk and the branch when the branch is correctly spaced and maintains a diameter ratio of 1/2. The branch collar is structurally sound and helps prevent tree failure during heavy wind or snow storms. To form a branch collar, you want to ensure that the crotch angle of the branch is greater than 45 degrees, and that the branch is half the diameter of the trunk it comes off of.



When pruning a tree, ideally you want to prune branches before they reach a diameter of 4 inches. This is to prevent any decay from moving into the branch. A small cut with decay now can lead to serious potential for problems later on. The bigger the pruning wound, the bigger the potential for decay, and failure. If you can't prune off the whole branch now, prune it back to stop growth and remove the whole branch later.

When pruning branches, remember to prune all the way back to the branch collar. You never want to leave stubs. This increases the chance for decay as well. When pruning the branch off, prune back to the branch collar. This will cause the branch collar to form a defense zone which will grow around the wound and seal it off. The use of sealants on cuts is no longer considered a good practice in the green industry. Research has shown that this increases the risk for decay and disease to spread through the tree.

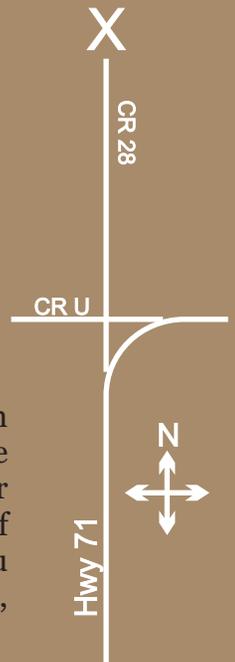
For more information on pruning, contact your local County Extension Office at (970) 542-3540 or visit www.extension.colostate.edu/morgan

Just Down the Street...



We have the Brush State Wildlife Area that perhaps you may not have known about or ever been to. Being along the South Platte River, it offers lush, beautiful scenery to admire while you enjoy a simple hike, view wildlife, hunt, or fish. So set aside a few hours when you get a chance and head just down the street for a enjoyable time alone with your thoughts, or a fun outing with friends or family. It's only about 2.5 miles north of Brush!, at the end of CR28, just off the first curve going north on Highway 71. If you would like more information on the Brush State Wildlife Area,

contact the Colorado Department of Wildlife or go to their website at wildlife.state.co.us



Rebranding BRUSH!



Brush!



We are going to give our city a new look and we want your help!

We want to gather ideas, logos, phrases, and taglines that YOU think would represent our city appropriately.

We will collect them all and get to work at presenting a new look to of Brush! to the world!

You can drop those ideas off at City Hall, or email them to tpurvis@brushcolo.com deadline is October 31st.

Staying Connecting

Being in a rural area, most of us know that we usually don't get the first look when it comes to where the latest and greatest things should be unveiled and implemented. Often, it may seem we are more toward the end of the list. Nonetheless, we still move forward when and where we get the chance.

We currently are looking at our broadband service we have access to across the city, and would like to hear from the community to assess where exactly we are as a whole. If your not too sure about what exactly broadband is, its basically the characteristics and capability of transmitting data, signals, and traffic types that come with connecting to the internet, cable tv, computer networks, etc. So when you click on your internet icon, the capability and speed that you connect, download, upload, and so on is all done through the established broadband connection and its abilities. *(continued on pg 4...)*

Citizen Opportunities

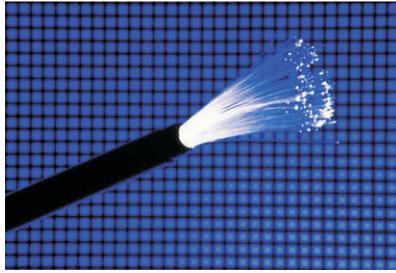
The City of Brush! has several opportunities for residents to become more involved in shaping the future of the city. The City's Tree Board and the Recreation Department need interested people to come be a part of these community programs.

The Tree Board is responsible for developing and updating an annual plan for the preservation and care of trees in the City's public spaces. The board also promotes the planting of new trees in the City through the celebration of Arbor Day every April. This board meets the second Wednesday of the month at 10:00 AM October through May. If you like more information about serving on the Tree Board please call Karen at City Hall at 842-5001.

The City's Recreation Department needs community members interested in being a part of a Recreation Focus Group. This group will provide suggestions and improvements to the City's recreation programs. If you would like to be a part of this group please call Lance at City Hall at 842-5280 or email him at lschwindt@brushcolo.com.



(continued from pg 3...) We have a few different providers of these services in the area, and some of their selling points are the speed and capacity at which they can make available your internet and such. As said earlier, we want to see where we are and if we are getting what we need. So we are asking you to be a part of a simple project. If you could go the web url:



maps.co.gov/coloradobroadband, a box will first come up asking you to agree with their statement, click agree. On the left side of the screen, click the tab 'Speed Test.' It will automatically conduct a test of the download and upload speed you are currently receiving. If you could do that three different times (if possible) morning, afternoon, and evening and email those numbers, along with where you live, and the service provider, to brush@brushcolo.com; or let us know here at City Hall by stopping in, or calling us. We will compile the info and determine where we stand as a whole.

This is crucial for us to make sure we are getting the service we are told we should be, and ensuring we have what we need for future growth as a community. We thank you for your assistance!

Recent Happenings

Here are some of the activities that have happened in Council over the past few months:

In May, Council approved the purchase of upgrades to the siren controls, and the work on the siren soon followed; as you probably heard.

In June, Council approved a tavern liquor license for the Rodeo Night Club, adopted an ordinance to impose a moratorium on Operation of Marijuana Establishments and Clubs Pursuant to Amendment 64, and Awarded a Bid for the Cemetery Pathway Extension 2013 Project.

In July a public meeting was held to hear public comment on the use or ban of backyard chickens, which after feedback from the community for nearly a month, an ordinance to allow the chickens was denied. Also in August, another tavern liquor license was approved for Shooters Saloon, and 50% of the permit fees for the East Morgan County Hospital expansion were waived.



Brush!

City Council Members

Mayor Dan Scalise 842-4251

Councilors Ward I

Chuck Schonberger 842-2673

Mark Smith 768-5856

Councilors Ward II

Vicky Quinlin 380-2279

Kimberly Dykes 380-0593

Councilors Ward III

Heath Becker 467-0028

Felix Acosta 842-4824

City Staff 842-5001

Monty Torres City Administrator

Karen Schminke Asst Administrator

Andrea Strand City Clerk

Joanne Gosselink Director of Finance

Lance Schwindt Director of Parks & Rec

Dale Colerick Director of Utilities & Public Works

Mark Thomas Police Chief

Tyler Purvis Marketing Specialist

Loranda Packard Human Resources

Melissa White Court Clerk

Deanna Schwindt Deputy City Clerk/ Utilities

Valarie Calvert Utility Billing

Tadd Anderson Fire Chief