



PLAN Jeffco

Working to conserve Jefferson County Open Spaces since 1972



The PLAN Jeffco Monthly May 2024

May is Wildfire Awareness Month. While we make our homes and communities more resilient to wildfire, keep in mind that we must be wildfire-aware in the JCOS parks.

PLAN Jeffco is a non-profit citizen organization, based in Jefferson County Colorado. For more than 50 years, PLAN Jeffco has advocated for conservation of open space.

PLAN Jeffco authored the "Open Space Resolution" ballot initiative in 1972 that provided a one-half percent sales tax in Jefferson County to establish the award-winning Jefferson County Open Space program.

<https://planjeffco.org>

What's New in the Blogosphere?

SLASH is Back 2024 Schedule

Check the listing for the locations and dates this year.

<https://planjeffco.org/slash-is-back-2024-schedule/>

Thank you for staying with us as we navigate the massive changes to PLAN Jeffco following the loss of our long-time Board members Ann Bonnell and John Litz.

These changes were inevitable but nonetheless unexpected.

PLAN Jeffco has openings on the Board. We would love to hear from you, we would like to hear your thoughts, we would like you to consider a Board position. If you're interested in exploring this possibility, drop us an email at ContactUs@PLANJeffco.org

Did you forget to renew your membership? Click on the button below and get caught up!

[Join or Renew My Membership](#)



Other New Stuff on the Website

We ask for your patience as we work through a long-needed review and rework of our website...thank you!

Stay up-to-date with what's happening at the PJ Board meetings

PLAN Jeffco April Board Meeting Minutes 4/18/2023 – FINAL

<https://planjeffco.org/portfolio-item/pj-board-meeting-minutes-4-18-2024/>

PLAN Jeffco March Board Meeting Minutes 3/21/2024 – FINAL

<https://planjeffco.org/portfolio-item/pj-board-meeting-minutes-3-18-2024/>

PLAN Jeffco February Board Meeting Minutes 2/15/2024 – FINAL

<https://planjeffco.org/portfolio-item/pj-board-meeting-minutes-2-15-2024/>

PLAN Jeffco January Board Meeting Minutes 1/18/2024 – FINAL

<https://planjeffco.org/portfolio-item/pj-board-meeting-minutes-1-18-2024/>

Missed a PLAN Jeffco Monthly newsletter? Find them here...

PLAN Jeffco Monthly – April 2024

<https://planjeffco.org/portfolio-item/plan-jeffco-monthly-april-2024/>

PLAN Jeffco Monthly – March 2024

<https://planjeffco.org/plan-jeffco-monthly-mar-2024/>

PLAN Jeffco Monthly – February 2024

<https://planjeffco.org/portfolio-item/plan-jeffco-monthly-february-2024/>

PLAN Jeffco Monthly – January 2024

<https://planjeffco.org/portfolio-item/plan-jeffco-monthly-january-2024/>

What's been happening at the Open Space Advisory Committee (OSAC) meetings...

Regular Open Space Advisory Committee meetings are generally held on the first Thursday of every other month, starting at either 4:30 or 6:00 PM.

<https://www.jeffco.us/1581/Advisory-Committee>

May 2, 2024, in-office meeting

Information Item: OSAC Planning Workshops, to be held at the Officers Club, Camp George West, Pleasant View Community Park, on-going for the next 4-5 years, perhaps longer.

Action Item: Green Energy Initiative -EV Charging Station Projects, Resolution #24-05. Subordinating the reverter clause for the area upon which the EV chargers rest, since EV chargers are not for “recreation purposes”. Motion to approve, seconded, unanimously approved.

Action Item: Apex Park & Recreation District - Cooper Land Conservation Partnership Program JCOS24-05, Resolution#24-06. Residential property at 1330 West 72nd Avenue, 2.47 acres, Apex Park & Rec District grant request. Purchase price \$2.1M, \$1M JCOS contribution, subject to Open Space reverter. Motion to approve, seconded, subsequent discussion, unanimously approved.

Action Item: Meyer Ranch Bossman Trail Easement, Resolution #24-07. Realignment of existing trail, 20 years in the making. Motion to approve, seconded, unanimously approved.

Action Item: Van Bibber Greenway -Fassel Agreement JCOS24-04, Resolution

#24-03. Horse boarding facility has encroached on Van Bibber Greenway, will be licensed to cross over the greenway to a grazing area on the north. Motion to approve, seconded, unanimously approved.

Action Item: Kittredge Park - Dlin Land Exchange JCOS24-01, Resolution #24-08. Proposed land exchange. Motion to approve, seconded, unanimously approved.

Action Item: Centennial Cone Park -Harkwood Trail LLC Properties JCOS24-09, Resolution #24-10. New acquisition, 122 acres of Goltra Property adjacent to Centennial Cone. Private property to the east will require an access easement. \$1.35M. Motion to approve, seconded, unanimously approved.

Open Space Activities

Know Before You Go!

Check these sites for additional information on Park and Trail closures, openings, and other operations that may impact your Jeffco Open Space Park experience...

[JCOS Alerts & Closures](#)

[JCOS News Releases](#)

[JCOS Newsletters](#)

Jeffco Open Space Plans & Projects

<https://www.jeffco.us/1585/Plans-Projects>

Jeffco Open Space Master Calendar

<https://www.jeffco.us/calendar.aspx?CID=26>

Please check the JCOS Master Calendar for detailed and upcoming event information.

Jeffco Open Space Seasonal Wildlife Closures Begins February 1st: Each year Jeffco Open Space uses seasonal wildlife closures at the parks to protect species at sensitive times in their life cycles. This year's seasonal wildlife closures affect numerous Jeffco Open Space parks and trails. Protect the wildlife... <https://www.jeffco.us/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=2011>

Clear Creek Canyon Huntsman Segment Viaduct is starting to take shape. In early April Clear Creek Canyon was closed down so that a 190-ton crane could set the first 17 of 89 vertical beams in place. The beams will support the viaduct, which will eventually become the P2P Trail.

Elk Meadow, Lewis Ridge Trailhead is getting a facelift. The Park Construction Team has installed a new park trailhead sign and a new kiosk by the bathrooms. County Road & Bridge is making improvements to the parking lot, increasing capacity and improving drainage. Improvements are expected to continue into 2025.

Lair o'the Bear was closed earlier this month for annual repairs. The Park Services team did some cutting and chipping in the picnic areas and installed a trash receptacle on the east side of the picnic area. Two parking stops that were damaged during snow removal were replaced.

Alderfer/Three Sisters west trailhead was closed earlier this month for repairs.

Meyer Ranch trailhead was enhanced with gravel surface maintenance and other repairs earlier this month, in preparation for the summer rush.

Pine Valley Ranch, Narrow Gage Slabs are benefiting from the work being done by the JCOS Trails Team and the Boulder Climbing Community trails team, as the staging area retaining wall and base area/access trail junction of the lower staircase take shape.

Flying J Ranch was closed for a short time on May 6th due to a small wildfire. High winds brought a tree in contact with a power line, catching the tree on fire. Jeffco Sheriff, Elk Creek Fire Protection District and JCOS Park Rangers quickly arrived on scene and extinguished the fire before the fire was able to gain ground. The JCOS Natural Resources Team had done some extensive fire mitigation work a few years ago, which contributed substantially to being able to arrest this wildfire before it could get out of control.

Open Space Wildland Fire Team (OSWFT) participated in a prescribed burn activity in the town of Eagle, CO in April. This multi-agency team worked for three days and burned over 100 acres. One of OSWFT's tasks was to protect a red-tailed hawk's nest in a group of burning cottonwood trees, which they did. The tree and the nest were saved, and the hawks came back to the nest after the fire died down.

County News & Happenings

Jeffco Fairgrounds

<https://www.jeffco.us/calendar.aspx?CID=27>

Jefferson County – Sustainability Commission

<https://www.jeffco.us/3406/Sustainability-Commission>

Jefferson County – COVID-19 Updates

<https://www.jeffco.us/3999/Coronavirus-Disease-2019-COVID-19>



Our Conservation Partners

Colorado Parks and Wildlife

<https://cpw.state.co.us> <https://www.facebook.com/CoParksWildlife>
News & Media <https://cpw.state.co.us/aboutus/Pages/NewsMedia.aspx>
CPW Podcasts <https://cpw.state.co.us/aboutus/Pages/CPW-Podcast.aspx>
eNews & Social Media <https://cpw.state.co.us/aboutus/Pages/socialmedia.aspx>
News Releases <https://cpw.state.co.us/aboutus/Pages/NewsReleases.aspx>

Bird Conservancy of the Rockies

<https://www.birdconservancy.org> <https://www.facebook.com/birdconservancy>
Summer Bird Camps Registration Open! [Click here for more information.](#)
News releases at <https://www.birdconservancy.org/news-and-events/press-releases/>
Travel Opportunities at <https://www.birdconservancy.org/get-involved/take-a-birding-tour/>
Activity Calendar at <https://www.birdconservancy.org/events/>
Bird Conservancy Blog at <https://www.birdconservancy.org/news-and-events/>

Colorado Open Lands

<https://coloradoopenlands.org/> <https://www.facebook.com/ColoradoOpenLands>
Newsletters and Publications <https://coloradoopenlands.org/publications/>
More Conservation Updates at <https://coloradoopenlands.org/latest-news/>

Mountain Area Land Trust

<https://savetheland.org/news/> <https://www.facebook.com/MountainAreaLandTrustCO>

A Night of Magic in the Meadow, Tickets now on sale

<https://savetheland.ejoinme.org/MyEvents/ANightInTheMeadow2024/tabid/1407377/Default.aspx>

Saturday, June 22, 2024 from 5 - 9 p.m, this special event is held under MALT's signature white tent at a new beautiful outdoor location in Conifer, overlooking Meyer Ranch Open Space (9444 Eagle Cliff Rd, Conifer).

Read about more News and Success Stories at <https://savetheland.org/news/>
Sign up for MALT's newsletter at <https://savetheland.org/category/newsletter/>

Keep It Colorado

<https://www.keepitco.org/>

KIC is a statewide coalition of conservation organizations. They advocate for sound public policy; provide connection and collaboration opportunities for conservation partners; offer a forum to address emerging conservation issues and opportunities; pursue sustainable funding and programmatic tools and solutions; and work to advance a culture of conservation in Colorado.

News & Press Releases at <https://www.keepitco.org/whats-new>

Event Highlights at <https://www.keepitco.org/out-and-about-event-highlights>

Land Trust Events at <https://www.keepitco.org/land-trust-events>

Coalition & Industry Events at <https://www.keepitco.org/coalition-industry-events>
The Source Newsletter at <https://www.keepitco.org/the-source-newsletter>

Douglas Land Conservancy

<https://douglaslandconservancy.org/>

Guided Hikes & Educational Events at

<https://douglaslandconservancy.org/guided-hikes-educational-events/>

Decode DC Outdoors at <https://douglaslandconservancy.org/decode-dc-outdoors/>

News at <https://douglaslandconservancy.org/news/>

City of Golden <https://goldentoday.com/>

Council meetings are always available to watch live or recorded on the City's [*Meetings and Agendas page.*](#)

Stewards of Golden Open Space <https://stewardsofgolden.org/>

Accomplishments: <https://stewardsofgolden.org/accomplishments>

SOLVE(Save Open Lands, Vistas and the Environment)

PLAN Jeffco's sister organization in Clear Creek County <http://www.solveccc.org>

Save the Date: Fall Foliage Relay Race, 1st Friday of September '24.

**Follow the postings from other conservation groups, listed
at the bottom of each of our web pages**

<https://www.PLANJeffco.org>

[Colorado Open Space Alliance \(COSA\)](#)

[Colorado Native Plant Society](#)

[Douglas Land Conservancy](#)

[Bird Conservancy of the Rockies](#)

[Colorado Cattlemen's Agricultural Land Trust](#)

WANT TO SUPPORT OUR WORK?

Join or Renew Your Membership



Hildebrand Ranch

WATCH THIS SPACE...Local Goings-on

Link

Link

Link

Link

Link

Hogback mine expansion in North Golden gets State approval

Jefferson County is now accepting public comment on a plan to rezone 77.97 acres on the hogback north of Golden to expand the existing clay mine.

Submit comments to Jefferson County Planning and Zoning Case Manager, Matthew Karney at mkarney.co.jefferson.co.us

Case Number 23-137296-RZ

Street Address 21506 W 56Th Avenue

Status: 1st Referral Response

To learn more about this project, go to <https://www.jeffco.us/786/Planning-Zoning> then click Active Case Search > Planning & Zoning Search > Advanced. Scroll down, enter case number 23 137296 RZ”.

A group called Protect the Hogback opposes this mine expansion, <https://www.protectthehogback.com/>

Frei-Walstrum gravel quarry expansion, Clear Creek County

Quarry expansion is in progress. Frei family purchased the Floyd Hill Meadow (39.71893342699002, -105.40651944877656) and deeded it to MALT. MALT has started a fund-raising campaign for the costs of a conservation easement; Colorado Open Lands will hold the CE.

Bear Creek Reservoir Expansion Proposal

<https://www.lakewood.org/Government/Departments/Community-Resources/Projects/Bear-Creek-Reservoir-expansion-proposal>

April 2022 Update: Lakewood City Council passes [a proclamation](#) calling on substantial weight to be given to alternatives to this proposal, as identified by Save Bear Creek Lake Park. [Watch the Proclamation Video.](#)

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Colorado Water Conservation Board are conducting a feasibility study about making changes to increase water storage and reservoir size at Bear Creek Reservoir in Bear Creek Lake Park. For more information, visit <https://cwcb.colorado.gov/bearcreeklake> The state expects the Army Corps to finish the key studies, remove some of the less promising alternatives, and go back to the public for meetings talking about a new project scope sometime this year:

<https://coloradosun.com/2024/01/25/bear-creek-lake-expansion-neighborhood-fight-lakewood/>

Gross Reservoir Updates <https://www.denverwater.org/grossreservoir>
Recreation Updates for 2024 Season: On-water recreation is open. The free boating shuttle runs Fri. – Mon., 8 a.m. – 6 p.m. Note: Gross Dam Rd is closed from the T-intersection at Gross HQ to Flagstaff Rd. Fisherman’s parking lot is also closed. These areas are expected to reopen by June 15. [View the Recreation website](#) for most up-to-date information.
Recreation Activity Impact: <https://www.denverwater.org/recreation/gross-reservoir>
Project Information & Impact: <https://www.denverwater.org/grossreservoir>

Shadow Mountain (formerly Full Send) Bike Ranch Updates
<https://shadowmountainbikepark.com/>

Status: 3rd Referral, County Referral to start 5/23/24, to end 5/30/24

Conceptual site plan located at
<https://shadowmountainbikepark.com/news/conceptual-site-plans-for-shadow-mountain-bike-park/>

News at <https://shadowmountainbikepark.com/news/>

Planning & Zoning Record Details

Address: Shadow Mountain Bike Park

Type: Rezoning - Commercial - Planned Development

Case Number: 23-102980RZ

Application Date: 2023-02-13

Permit Number: 23 102980 000 00 RZ

Case Manager: Dylan Monke - 303-271-8718 - dmonke@co.jefferson.co.us

Description: Special Use Application for Development of a day-use lift-served bike park as a Class III Commercial Recreation Facility. Acreage: 483.04 Acres

Here’s a link to Jeffco Planning and Zoning, where the new interactive map showing ongoing applications and permits is located (scroll down to the bottom of the page): <https://www.jeffco.us/786/Planning-Zoning>

Support conservation in Jeffco, donate here so we can keep doing what we do!

JOIN or RENEW

*Know someone who might be interested in this newsletter?
Subscribe, like, share - forward this to them, and thank you!*

About PLAN Jeffco

In 1972, PLAN Jeffco launched the citizen's initiative which created the



Jeffco Open Space Program, protecting more than 70,000 acres comprising 27 parks and more than 270 miles of trails.

Follow us on [FACEBOOK](#)

PLAN Jeffco | 24395 Cody Park Road | Golden, CO 80401 US

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