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News Magazine of the Northstar Property Owners Association

Board Members

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& Community Standards Manager
greg@npoa.info

Contact NPOA/Northstar Living

2200 North Village Drive Truckee, CA 96161 P| 530.562.0322 F| 530.562.0324 website www.npoa.info

Office Hours (Subject to change) 8am - 4pm, Monday - Saturday

Recreation Center Winter Hours

(subject to change)
8am - 9pm Daily
For up to date information please visit the NPOA website www.npoa.info

Advertising Sales

CCMedia - Peggy McElfish 775.327.4200 | peggy@cc.media

Cover Photo

Olof Carmel of Carmel Gallery "Northstar - Hanging Meadow"







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meeting dates 2024

Meeting details will be sent via Eblast prior to meeting dates. If you are not signed up for electronic communications please contact the NPOA Office for a form: npoa@npoa.info or 530.562.0322.

March 20, 8am (if necessary) NPOA Board of Directors

March 26, 9am

Design Review Committee

April 20, 9am NPOA Board of Directors

April 30, 9am
Design Review Committee

May 15, 9am (if necessary) NPOA Board of Directors

May 28, 9am Design Review Committee

June 8, 9am NPOA Board of Directors

June 29, 9am Design Review Committee

community comments policy

Northstar Living welcomes your comments that are pertinent to the Northstar community and will publish those comments on a space-available basis. Articles should be addressed to Northstar Living; signed by the author, unless sent electronically; and should include the writer's name, his or her Northstar address and the telephone number at which the writer can be reached most easily.

Comments not meeting these requirements or containing solicitations, inaccuracies, libelous or incorrect statements, lacking clarity or having no pertinence to the Northstar community or the Association will not be published. Comments must be received by February 1, for spring issue; May 1 for summer, August 1 for fall or November 1 for winter. Comments are accepted in person at the NPOA office, by mail to NPOA, Attn: Community Comments, 2200 North Village Drive, Truckee, CA 96161; by email to sean@npoa.info.

Disclaimer: Readers are advised that the opinions expressed are those of the individual, not of all the association. The original content of these comments has not been edited.





president's perspective _____

It is my pleasure to provide you with an update on the latest developments in our community. As we move into the spring season, we have several important updates to share with you.

Winter Yoga

Since late December 2023 Tahoe Yoga and Wellness has been offering Saturday morning yoga classes at the Rec Center at 9:30am. Many members are enjoying and taking advantage of this convenient class but there are still spaces available through March 30th. Yoga classes will not be offered during April and most of May, but classes will resume starting on Memorial Day Weekend, Saturday May 25th. Please remember to bring your own yoga mat. For sign-ups, please call 530.562.0322.

Final Touches for the New Member Lounge Space

The Strategic Vision and Planning
Committee started working on this
project in 2022 and we are delighted to
announce its completion. The project
was executed on time and slightly under
budget. We have acquired a small coffee
machine providing individualized coffee
servings and an electric tea kettle as well.
The Front Desk has coffee pods and tea
bags for sale. We also have installed a
small bookshelf and dedicated one of our

cabinets to house a lending library. So, if you would like to donate a book or two or pick up a new bestseller, please stop by the lounge located in the Entry building and enjoy our new space. Homeowners are welcome to use this space during business hours as a quiet workspace when the space is not reserved for homeowner events or homeowner club gatherings.

Holiday Party

On December 30, 2023, NPOA hosted our first holiday party in our New Member Lounge. The party was a wonderful success with a whiskey tasting bar, DJ playing 80s and 90s LPs, free arcade games for the kids, wine & beer and light hors d'oeuvres. Over 148 adults and children attended the party, and we hope to continue to offer this event in the coming years. The NPOA Board would like to thank Colette Findley, our Activities Chair for working so diligently on creating such a wonderful event.

New Game Room Attractions

We are delighted to announce that we are working with a new vendor for our game room operations. In December our new vendor installed all new games and members got to enjoy these games free of charge during the holiday party. Game users will no longer need to find

coins to operate the games. Instead, game users will be able to obtain a reloadable game card by making payments with a debit or credit card or with cash. So far, many homeowners have commented that they are delighted with these new and improved games.

2023 Financials

We are in the process of finalizing our accounts for 2023. The good news is that we managed our expenses very well this past year. As we have done for the past several years, we allocated \$250,000 to our Reserve Fund. Despite experiencing exorbitant energy prices in 2023, we were able to effectively manage expenses to meet our Annual Budget. Please keep in mind that the NPOA Board is committed to managing our finances carefully and making decisions that are in the best interest of our entire community. Our 2023 audit will begin this month and should be completed by the end of April.

New Parking Signage and Vail Resort Reservation System

The NPOA Board and the Condo Committee worked with Vail Resorts to develop and install new parking signage to help stymy parking violators in the condo parking lots. The signage was installed in early December and has helped direct Northstar visitors to the





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correct parking lots. While there continues to be some parking violators in the condo lots, the traffic signs and new reservation system seem to have reduced traffic congestion on most days and has lowered the number of visitor cars arriving in the Northstar community.

Homeowner Survey Results

In November we sent all homeowners an invitation to participate in our survey. We kept the survey live until the end of February. The objective of the survey was to gauge member interest in improvement projects and community events at the Rec Center and to offer members the opportunity to provide feedback. We received 648 responses, which is about 40% of membership. 51% of survey respondents provided additional comments – a total of approximately 1,000 comments. Steve Klei, Chair of the Strategic Vision and Planning Committee,

spent many hours reviewing, sorting and analyzing the data as well as interpreting and categorizing individual comments. The entire presentation was presented at the Board Meeting on February 17, 2024, and will be available on our resident portal for viewing. The projects that ranked highly with members were capital improvements in these areas: additional shade structures, AC for offices, and additional stretching area. Community activities that members were interested in included music events, BBQs, social mixers, seasonal celebrations, and wine tasting events. The NPOA Board will be looking at all these improvements in the coming months and evaluating which ones make the most sense economically and which ones we will be pursuing this year and next.

Our NPOA Staff

I wanted to take this opportunity to thank the NPOA administrative staff and

maintenance teams for their hard work this winter. They played an integral part in making our holiday party a success and they do a wonderful job operating and maintaining our Rec Center. We are very fortunate to have such a dedicated team keeping our Rec Center clean, safe and well-maintained.

We hope you find this update informative and helpful. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to us. I hope you all had the opportunity to enjoy the snow that finally arrived in February. See you all this Spring!



Jackie Apple, Board President





general manager's report.

The 2023-2024 ski season has not been quite as eventful as the 2022-2023 season, but I hope you were able to enjoy some fun days skiing and riding at Northstar this winter. Our staff continues to stay busy on a daily basis. Following are a few updates, notifications, and reminders.

2024 Annual Assessments

By the time this publication, hopefully all homeowners have now paid the 2024 assessments. As of February 15th, 97% of homeowners have paid the 2024 assessment in full. And the remaining payments continue to arrive daily. The annual assessments are the primary source of revenue for NPOA, so thank you very much to the large majority of our membership who paid the annual assessment on time. If you need assistance with the payment for the 2024 assessment, always feel free to contact the Administrative Office at 530.562.0322.

Reserve & Operating Projects 2024

We currently have several projects scheduled for 2024, and several more still in the works. We finally received new covers for all of the spas and expect a new cover for the Lap Pool by late February. We also continue to replace pool and spa



motors, pumps, and other equipment as needed to ensure these amenities are maintained and open for your enjoyment. Weather permitting, some fence repairs will start by early May. The buildings at the Recreation Center have not been stained for quite a few years. We have budget for this work to be completed in 2024, and this work is scheduled to start in early September immediately following Labor Day weekend. The project will take 3-4 weeks to complete. Lastly, we are reviewing some options to replace the old red metal tables adjacent to the deli as well as shade options for this area.

Recreation Center Parking Lot

The NPOA Parking Lot Policy is included with the annual mailing each fall. As a reminder, this Parking Lot is available for those actively using the NPOA Recreation Center. As a courtesy, the Parking Lot is available for other uses during non-holiday periods for up to 1 hour between 7am - 5pm, or more than 1 hour between 5pm - 9pm. Parking for other uses is limited to 30 minutes on weekends and holidays. However, Ski/Snowboard/ Bike Park parking is not permitted at any time. Overnight parking is also not permitted at any time, which is critical during the winter season as snow removal activity occurs overnight. We understand that the close proximity to the mountain can be very tempting. However, the NPOA parking lot only contains 40 parking spaces and was not intended to accommodate mountain use parking for our 1,480 residences. As some of you may have experienced this winter, our staff have been focused more on enforcing the NPOA Parking Lot Policy. Numerous courtesy notices have been issued for violations. If it becomes necessary for repeated violations, owners may be called to a Violation Hearing in front of the Board of Directors. Most homeowners have been appreciative of these efforts. If you have received a violation notice, we appreciate your patience and hope you understand the good intent of the Parking Lot Policy.

Trash

As we head into the spring and summer season, our local wildlife becomes much more active. Please be sure to leave household trash securely in your bear box, bear shed, in covered trash cans curbside the day of service only (Monday), or take to the dumpster Site on Northstar Drive. Trash bags may not be left curbside outside of one of container options listed above. Unsecured trash bags often end up scattered throughout the community by our local wildlife creating a very unsightly and unsafe environment. We appreciate everyone doing their part. Thank you!

Spring Maintenance Week

Each spring and fall, the Recreation Center is closed for 4 days in





order to complete a deep clean of the facilities with an emphasis on the Fitness Center building work out areas and locker rooms. We occasionally also complete reserve projects, such as flooring replacement, during these time periods to minimize any impact on daily operations. Spring week for this is scheduled for April 22 - 25. We will also send notifications electronically and post signs at the Recreation Center in advance of this scheduled closure. On behalf of all our hard-working team, thank you to all of our members for your continued cooperation and understanding.

2024 NPOA Election

In early March, you should have all received a notice via US Mail regarding the upcoming 2024 NPOA Board of Directors Election! This year, three director seats are up for election, including one incumbent director. The nomination period will run from early May to early June. It is during that time, interested candidates may submit a candidate form directly to sean@npoa.info. More information will be sent out to membership as we get closer to our nomination period and the election date, but if you have any questions in regard to the upcoming election, do not hesitate to reach out to our Administration Offices.

Summer Seasonal Employment Opportunities

The summer time is prime time at the NPOA Recreation Center! We are currently interviewing for both activities staff, certified lifeguards, and swim instructors for this upcoming summer season. Our wages are very competitive for this area and include the potential for an end-of-season bonus! For interested lifeguards, we also reimburse the cost of obtaining certification after working 30 days. If you have any family members or friends interested in fun summer employment at Northstar this summer, please remember the NPOA Recreation Center. Any interested candidates or questions can be relayed directly to NPOA Operations Manager, Sean Cutunilli, at sean@npoa.info or by calling the Administration Offices at 530.562.0322!



Tim Fulton, General Manager

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design review & compliance ___

Did You Know...

All Single-Family Home Exterior Projects - New Construction, Remodels, Maintenance and Improvement Projects Need DRC Approval?

As we wrap up another winter, owners begin organizing and planning for "construction season" exterior projects. These projects include (new construction, maintenance and improvements). Per the Northstar Property Owners Association (NPOA) governing documents, all exterior projects require official NPOA review before beginning a project. The size of your project will dictate the review process.

- Any <u>new construction or exterior remodel project</u> requires that owners go through a project review and approval process with NPOA's Design Review Committee (DRC).
- As a general rule, any <u>exterior maintenance or improvement project</u> requires a NPOA application, review and approval.
 This includes smaller maintenance/improvement projects (roof and deck repair/replace, landscaping, window repair/replace, exterior paint/stain and bear box, hot tub, HVAC and generator installations, etc.). In most cases, this will be a staff review. If you





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are unsure if an exterior project needs NPOA review please contact the NPOA offices for guidance.

Steps - The following are the required steps for all exterior project work (new construction, remodel, improvement, maintenance) as part of the NPOA governing documents:

NPOA Project Review Application - Prior to starting any work, please fill out and return this document physically or electronically to the NPOA offices. This is the first step in the NPOA review process. The information is logged and put into a review queue.

Application Fees - Depending on the size and scope of your project, an application must be received before your project will be reviewed.

Project Review New Construction/Remodels - New construction and remodel projects are reviewed by NPOA staff and the DRC. In most cases three approvals are required before project work begins (conceptual, preliminary and final). This review process continues until final approval is granted. The NPOA DRC meets once a month. In between regular meetings, a Quick Turn Around (QTA) review can be requested for a fee. Additionally, necessary governmental permits (Placer County) and contractor deposits are required to be on file with NPOA before project work begins.

Project Review Maintenance/Improvement Projects - Exterior maintenance and improvement projects are reviewed by NPOA staff (in most cases). These reviews are returned to owners in a very timely manner. NPOA approval is necessary before any work commences.

NPOA Project Approval

- New Construction and Remodel Projects After NPOA
 approval has been granted, a NPOA permit number will be
 issued to the owner. This permit number must be posted onsite
 with the NPOA Construction Constraints. Subsequently, the
 NPOA Contractor Packet must be picked up and all necessary
 documentation returned to NPOA before work commences.
 Issuance of the permit number is recognized as the date of
 construction commencement.
- Improvement and Maintenance Projects Once project
 approval is granted a letter will be drafted and sent to
 the owner. A NPOA Contractor Packet may be necessary,
 depending on the size and scope or your project. All necessary
 documentation is returned to NPOA before work commences.

Contractor Deposits (if necessary) - Depending on the size and scope of your project, a contractor deposit may be required.

Any deposit will be returned without interest to submitter upon final NPOA review unless fines have been levied for items in



noncompliance with NPOA CC&R's and governing documents (including traffic, parking, contractor issues, dumpster site violations, etc.). Contractor deposits may be required to be replenished if fines are levied during the course of the project.

Construction/Project Timelines

- New Construction Unless an owner has applied for and been granted an extension of time, any improvement project must be commenced within one year from the date of issuance of the NPOA permit. Unless an extension of time has been granted, completion of all concrete footings and foundation work must take place within six months after construction work starts. Any new construction or remodel/addition must be completed within two years after construction has commenced.
- Minor improvement/maintenance Unless an owner has applied for and been granted an extension of time, any project must be completed within one year after construction has commenced.

Inspection(s) - NPOA staff or DRC may inspect your project at any time.

Final Inspection and NPOA Sign Off - Once your exterior project is complete, NPOA must be contacted to review conformance with the NPOA approval/permit. If the project is granted final

sign off approval, a letter will be drafted and sent to the owner. Sign off letters are archived electronically with NPOA.

NPOA staff are continually inspecting the community. Please make sure you have submitted the required NPOA project review application. NPOA reserves the right to fine and call owners to hearing if advanced project approvals are not obtained. If the project is found to be nonconforming with the NPOA approval/permit, the NPOA Board may pursue certain enforcement rights and remedies set forth in the NPOA governing documents.

The NPOA project application and review process serves to uphold community standards and maintain property values.

All mentioned NPOA exterior project information can be found in the NPOA governing documents (CC&R's and Design Review Guidelines) on our website at NPOA.info.



Greg Aiken, NPOA Design Review & Compliance Manager



employment spotlight.





Summer Employment Opportunities!

The NPOA Recreation Center is now accepting applications for all summer employment positions.

If you or anyone you know are interested in any of the following positions, please visit www.npoa.info/jobs, or contact our Admin office at 530.562.0322. You may also email our Operations

Manager directly at sean@npoa.info.

- Lifeguard/Head Lifeguard
- Swim Instructor
- Bear Hut Activity Staff

These positions provide for a lot of fun in the sun and help us give our Members and their Guests a lasting summer experience!



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Who's Who And What We Do For You	Northstar Property Owners Association (NPOA)	Condominium Associations Management (CAMCO)	Northstar Club Member's Association DBA: Northstar Club, now: The Residences at Northstar	East West Hospitality Formerly Tahoe Mountain Lodging
Description	Master HOA for 1,480 properties including Single Family Homes: Aspen Grove Gold Bend Indian Hills Ski Trails Timbercreek Condos Northstar Club residences Automatic Membership includes access to NPOA Recreation Center. Governed by a Board of Directors.	Management company for associations: Aspen Grove Gold Bend Indian Hills Ski Trails Timbercreek Each governed by a separate Board of Directors	Private Residence club consisting of 18 three and four bedroom condominiums. Governed by a Separate Board of Directors	Management Co. for associations: Northstar Mountain Northstar Village Iron Horse Condominium, Great Bear Lodge Catamount Condominium Big Horn Owners Village Walk Townhomes Mountainside Master Home Run Townhouses Trailside Townhomes Martis 25 Stellar Residences Stellar Townhomes The Boulders Each governed by a separate Board of Directors
Manager	Tim Fulton	Eric Wicks	John Chapman	Nicoleta Nagy
Location	NPOA Recreation Center	CAMCO office in the Airport Business Park, Truckee	2100 N. Village Dr. Directly behind Rec Center parking lot	4001 Northstar Dr. Iron Horse S. building adjacent to the auto drop
Mailing Address	2200 N. Village Dr. Truckee, CA 96161	40165 Truckee Airport Rd, Suite 304 Truckee, CA 96161	PO Box 2612 Truckee, CA 96160	PO Box 838 Truckee, CA 96160
Phone	530.562.0322	530.587.3355 or 800.916.2262	530.562.2100	855.663.6523
Responsibilities and/or Services	Operates Northstar Recreation Center; Spas, swimming pools, tennis courts, nature trail, and other private facilities. Issues Member & Guest Access cards. Liaison with county government, Trimont Land Company, and Vail Resorts on behalf of members. Approval of single-family residential new construction and remodeling through Design Review Committee. Enforcement of NPOA CC&Rs, By- laws, Design Review Guidelines, and NPOA Board policies.	Management of the common areas within individual condo association such as maintenance of building exteriors, parking lots, pathways, exterior lights and landscaping. Insurance of condo common areas. Garbage removal from condo areas. Issues parking stickers for condo owners and guest parking passes. Contracts for security for common areas. Enforcement of individual condo association declarations, by-laws and board policies. Key Service for access to condo or homes.	Fractional Ownership, 1/7th shares. Re-sales available. On-site Real Estate team, Padden Properties has an office in the lobby.	Management of common areas of listed associations. Includes housekeeping & maintenance of interior common areas, fitness facilities, spas, and pools. Provides association member and guest (not NPOA) access to the Village Garage, Village Swim and Fitness Center & Treehouse in Mountainside. Enforcement of each Associations' Declarations, Bylaws & Board Policies. Homecare & Short-Term Rental Program





Northstar, California managed by Vail Resorts	Placer County	Northstar Community Services District (NCSD) & Northstar Fire Dept. (NFD)	Tahoe Truckee Sierra Disposal (TTSD)	Who's Who And What We Do For You
Manages Northstar-California Resort on behalf of EPR Properties	All of the Northstar community is part of Placer County	NCSD is the local Northstar government entity governed by a separate Board of Directors made up of registered voters.	Local, independent operator maintaining a neighborly approach for the safe, responsible, and efficient collection and processing of solid waste.	Description
Amy Ohran		Mike Staudenmayer - NCSD Jason Gibeaut - NFD Fire Chief	Ryan Collins	Manager
5001 Northstar Dr. Truckee, CA 96160	Admin Offices - 175 Fulweiler Ave, Auburn, CA 95603. 530.889.4010	Northstar Drive, with NCSD located behind the Northstar Fire Station	Admin Offices - 645 W. Lake Blvd, # 5, Tahoe City, CA 96145 Cabin Creek Landfill- 900 Cabin Creek Road, Truckee, CA 96161	Location
PO Box 129 Truckee, CA 96160	Eastern Placer County office - 775 N Lake Blvd #204 Tahoe City, CA. 530.889.4300	900 Northstar Drive	PO Box 6479 Tahoe City, CA 96145	
530.562.1010		530.562.0747 - NCSD 530.562.1212 - Emergency NFD	530.583.7800	Phone
Northstar-California Operations include: ➤ Winter Operations ➤ Summer Operations ➤ Northstar Golf Course ➤ Parking Lots & Shuttles ➤ Neighborhood Shuttle service the the Northstar Village Transit App ➤ Village Skating Rink & Stage, ➤ Village retail and food & beverage ➤ Northstar Lodging - Homecare & Short-Term Rental program 530.562.3657 ➤ Northstar Public Safety - security services available via contract for a fee to single-family residences and Condo Associations. Point of contact for bear sightings.530.562.2259	Planning Department: Approves all residential new construction and remodeling projects 530.745.3000 Short-Term Vacation Rental Program: issues STR Permits, renews STR permits, compliance STR issues. 530.448.8003	Water, Sewer, Solid Waste, Community Dumpsters & Recycling Services. County road snow removal and road maintenance. Fire protection, Paramedic and Forest Fuels Management. Tomkins Memorial Trail. Issues with Northstar Local Stickers	Maintains the Cabin Creek Landfill - closest place in area to dump non-household waste or recycling material (i.e furniture, appliances, ewaste, green waste, etc.) Offers Green Waste dumpster Rebate Program in coordination with NCSD Provides trash collection services throughout the Northstar Area including for Bear Box enclosures.	Responsibilities and/or Services







NGC members: Kathy Wilson, Sandy Campion, Marian Hansen, Linda Sweeney, Astrid Cousins and Carol Pawlak.

Northstar Golf Clubs

What a difference a year makes. Last year we were buried in snow and this year we are thankful for any inch we get. As our thoughts turn to warm days and clear skies, we prepare for the next golf season.



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There is a change this year. Both men and women have the ability to be part of the Northstar Golf Club. If you would like the opportunity to establish a handicap and post your scores to the GHIN network, you can scan the QR Code and become a member of the Northstar Golf Club. The cost to join just the Northstar Golf Club is \$37. If you have not used the GHIN app in a while, there have been a number of upgrades such as how you can post your score and course maps.

For those women interested in joining the Northstar Women's Golf Club, you would select the option to join the Northstar Golf Club and also join the Northstar Women's Golf Club (NWGC). The total cost is \$75. We are always looking for new members and you do not have to live at Northstar to join. So, if you have friends who would be interested in playing with a small group of really fun ladies, pass this along. We accept all players with or without a handicap and those with high and low handicaps.

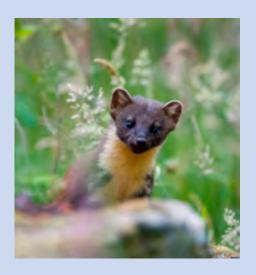
We play every Tuesday morning starting around 8:30. This year we want to make it extra entertaining by adding games to our Tuesday play. The Northstar golf course offers a variety of pass options with discounts to Northstar owners and will honor the late-morning pass and offer a discounted single day rate for those ladies playing on Tuesday mornings. If you want to come out and play just a round to get a feel for the group, send an email to Marian Hansen at sidebcorp@aol.com the Saturday before Tuesday and she will

get you set up. We will start playing once the course opens until the course closes in October. For those who join we hold a tournament in August and part of your membership goes toward prizes.

Enjoy the rest of winter and hope to see you out there this spring.







Get Involved!

Ways you can get involved with maintaining a sustainable and resilient community:

- Attend river talks to stay informed
 of past and present threats to the
 Truckee River Watershed and learn
 how you can protect and restore it. Or,
 host a River Talk by inviting a group of
 8-12 of your friends to your home for a
 River Talk provided by TRWC.
- Participate in the Adopt-A-Stream program to monitor water quality in creeks and streams around Northstar using fun and easy-to-learn scientific techniques.
- Help on Truckee River Day with your friends and family to repair our mountain home by planting native vegetation, protecting sensitive areas, and create resiliency in our landscape!
- Attend events like the River Breakfast on May 15, 2024. Get to know a team of dedicated environmental stewards in your community.



In 2019 we started restoration in Martis Wildlife Area. You can see dry, brown areas, with plants like sagebrush (a dry, upland species) surrounding Martis Creek.

Snowpack, Climate Change and Restoration - How Do We Adapt?

Snowpack here in the mountains is critical for our water resources as they are the headwaters to the Truckee River, and in the spring, will melt and fill our streams, meadows, and rivers. It's ideal to have a long gradual snowmelt through the summer months rather than rain in winter, which leaves the watershed more quickly, preventing adequate groundwater recharge, flooding risk downstream, and increased drought and wildfire risk in our community.

Future changes in climate in our region will include a gradual shift in precipitation falling more as rain than snow. We also expect to see more extreme drought and flooding cycles. Our restoration can help with this. Some of our restoration is designed to encourage water to overflow their

riverbanks. That may sound counterintuitive given all the news we've seen downhill from here of rivers overflowing their banks causing damage to property and people being rescued in extreme rain events. So how does our restoration help us adapt?

In 2019 (top left) we started restoration in Martis Wildlife Area. You can see dry, brown areas, with plants like sagebrush (a dry, upland species) surrounding Martis Creek. Water is confined inside the banks of the creek with nowhere to go but downstream. A primary restoration activity included grading down the slopes adjacent to the creek to allow water to spread up and out of the creek, across the surrounding meadow floodplain (also see the coir fabric







foriver

To learn more, subscribe to our newsletter or get involved: www.truckeeriverwc.org



Spring of 2023 after a very large winter snowpack, combined with our restoration, resulted in water lasting longer into the dry season

protecting the graded bare soil along the creek until plants are established).

Over time, water will saturate the surrounding meadow surface with more frequency, keeping water in the meadow for longer, raising the ground water table, creating more robust green, native vegetation for habitat of all kinds, cool water for fish, willows for bird nests, diverse insects for the food chain, shady pockets for wildlife to hide, and variety of colorful plants and wildflowers for human enjoyment. Spring of 2023 (top right) after a very large winter snowpack, combined with our restoration, resulted in water lasting longer into the dry season, for a greener, wetter, wilder landscape, while also providing protection from downstream flooding.





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condominium updates ____



Aspen Grove Condos

Welcome to Aspen Grove! In December, the Aspen Grove and Silver Strike monument signs were installed at both entrances along Northstar Drive. With great effort our signs are finally a reality and are a great addition to our community. Solar lighting also makes both entrances more visible at night.



Our entry gates continue to be a positive investment for Aspen Grove homeowners. There is a significant decrease in the amount of garbage and construction material left at our dumpster enclosures due to the fact that those persons who are not

homeowners or renters are unable to enter without an authorized code. We have also noticed that parking spaces are more readily available to homeowners and their guests.

The date for our 6th Annual Volunteer Work Party has been scheduled for Saturday, July 20. This event each year gives homeowners the opportunity to work alongside their neighbors in helping to spruce up the grounds surrounding our many buildings, keep our property safe from wildfires, assist with our defensible space efforts, and finally be able to enjoy a nice catered deli lunch. We have sent out a "Save-the-Date" flyer to all homeowners in the hopes, with this advanced notice, families and friends will consider joining in this fun and worthwhile event. For any questions or to sign up, please contact Chris Vall-Spinosa at chrisvall4@yahoo.com.

The Landscape Committee continues to support and investigate further projects throughout the property to enhance and beautify our community. Planting more Aspens to accompany the 34 trees planted last fall is a top priority. We also hope to tackle the area known as the "Aspen Grove" which was greatly compromised when water damage destroyed plantings in this area. In the spring, we hope to spread walk-on bark around our newly planted Aspen trees as well as in other common spaces throughout our property.

Finally, it's disappointing and sad to see that January and February brought us very little snow. Hopefully, by the time you are reading this article in March, we will have a foot or more of that white powdery stuff on the ground.

Continued on page 18



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MEET YOUR NORTHSTAR EXPERT

What is the biggest benefit you see of owning a home or condo within Northstar?

Northstar is an amenity rich community and without a doubt my favorite of their amenities is the shuttle service. The shuttle service allows for family autonomy unlike any other community I've been in, but it also brings about a ton of ease. Once you're in Northstar, you don't need to drive your car the rest of your stay if you don't want to.

What makes you an expert on Northstar Living?

My parents bought a condo in Gold Bend in 1988 and I started skiing at Northstar in 1989 when I was 2. The village and the mountain hardly resemble what they are today, but I've enjoyed the evolution over the years. I've logged 1000+ days on the mountain, hiked every inch of the TMT 10x over, and spent many a summer day at the rec center, so when someone asks if Northstar is right for their family, I can confidently answer yes.



Alex Shylakhov

When is the best time to list a Northstar property?

There are definite seasonal rhythms to the local market. We often sell double the number of homes in summer/fall compared to spring / winter. However, any time there's low inventory, that overrides the seasonal aspect and creates an advantage for the seller.

What is the current market like for Northstar properties?

Largely healthy. Consumers are interested in the ease of access to the resort, especially in the winter once traffic impedes their recreation time. Buyers are placing more value on homes that have been updated from their original build. That may translate into premium prices, but more often results in quick transactions. Homes that are dated will tend to sit on the market longer unless they're priced at a discount.



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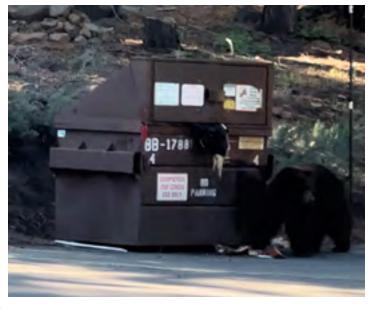
Indian Hills Condos

What a difference a year makes! Who knew that Mother Nature was going to participate in Dry January? The good news is that we will stay within our snow removal budget.

It is wonderful to see more owners and guests enjoying Indian Hills. However, we continue to experience high volumes of trash resulting in overflowing dumpsters requiring additional pickups and expense. As a reminder to condo owners, the dumpsters are designated for condo use only: construction debris is prohibited. What you are discarding must be put in the dumpster and not left in front for others, including bears, to sort through regardless of whether others might find value in it. The dumpsters are for the exclusive use of our condos and single-family homeowners should not use the dumpsters in the condo areas. We encourage all condo owners to courteously remind people about the proper use of the dumpsters.

The Vail-Northstar Resort policy now requires parking reservations for the parking lots adjacent to the Village. You may have seen the new signage at the condos directing resort guests to only park in approved areas. The condo parking areas

are not approved parking areas for anyone other than those staying at the condos. If you see someone parking in a condo area and heading to a shuttle stop that is not staying at a condo, please snap a picture or provide information and send it to parkingfeedback@icloud.com.



The NPOA Board recently conducted a survey of owners about their use of the recreation center and their interest in seeing improvements. Analysis of the results is ongoing by Board members. We await the results to see if they are unbiased and accurately reflect the interests of owners. The NPOA Condo Committee received information that the cost of renovations to the lounge area was almost \$300,000. We encourage you to look at the new lounge area and compare it to the previous adult lounge, which has a real fireplace and a full kitchen to assess the value of this investment.

We have mentioned this before, while battery technology can make our days on the slopes more comfortable by providing heated clothing such as gloves, boots, socks, and vests, as well as Bluetooth helmet speakers and battery packs



for extra phone life, charging lithium polymer batteries can pose a fire hazard. Batteries can overheat or explode causing fire and extensive condo building damage. We can all take a few inexpensive precautions to minimize fire risk. Amazon sells heat-resistant bags that can safely store and charge batteries. Just search for Lipo battery bag on Amazon and find one right for you. We encourage all residents of Northstar to check them out and add them to their home!

Springtime brings longer days, blue skies, and more opportunities to enjoy Indian Hills and Northstar!



Seated: Margaret, Anne, Astrid, Nancy. Standing: Carolie, Bob, Ken, Jerry. Our awesome Bridge Club!

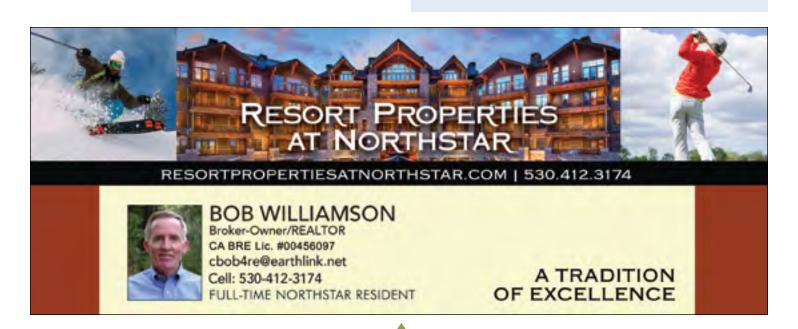
Join The Bridge Club!

Beloved writer, Somerset Maugham once said, "Bridge is the most diverting and intellectual card game that the wit or man has so far devised." He also said, "when all else fails - sport, love, ambition - bridge remains a solace and an entertainment."

In Northstar, we have a group of players who meet every Wednesday from 1:30pm - 5pm in the Member's Lounge at the NPOA Recreation Center. Our group is quite friendly and social and play Chicago style Bridge. The entry fee is \$2, and we offer light snacks and cash prizes are paid out to the winners.

If you may be interested in playing or joining our club, please email Astrid Cousins at astridwc@ aol.com or by calling 530.913.4020 if you have questions.









"Homeowner's and public, 2024 season pass sales are coming live very soon! Homeowner's must purchase their pass at the golf shop and show proof of ownership."

The most important part of operating the golf course during the winter is keeping people off the grass, especially the greens. The majority of our greens are roped off, with clear signage to please stay off the grass. Creating

footprints in the snow on top of the grass can damage the grass for months. Currently, many of the greens have ice on them. Any traffic that has occurred on the greens has led to the buildup of ice on the greens. As we have seen in the past, significant damage can occur if ice persists on the grass for a prolonged period. We encourage everyone to walk only on the cart paths.

We have seen a lot of activity on the golf course this winter, especially during the holidays. This has consisted of people not obeying signs and walking off the cart paths. Snowmen and snow forts built on fairways, sledding, and cross-country skiing are just some of the activities we have observed on the golf course. Marc McMullen, the golf course superintendent, and I have talked about eventually closing off the golf course to the public completely during the months we are closed. This is a decision we don't want to make but if we continue to see traffic on parts of the golf course that is creating damage, this decision will be considered. The golf course is not a park.

For homeowner's and public, 2024 season pass sales are coming live very soon. Homeowner's must purchase their pass at the golf shop and show proof of ownership. We are looking forward to another great season and plan to open on May 24, weather permitting. We ask that everyone do their part in helping us maintain the highest quality conditions possible moving forward and to the standards people expect. We look forward to seeing everyone soon and the warm sunshine and as always please reach out with any questions.

Jarrett Bower, Director of Golf Jarrett.k.bower@vailresorts.com

Marc McMullen, Golf Course Superintendent

It has been a dry and somewhat quiet winter at Northstar Golf Course until the recent storm produced a decent amount of snowfall. We wanted to give a quick update on the golf course conditions during the winter. In addition, what to expect as we approach spring.



www.managehome.net





"Substations are a critical piece of infrastructure, as they convert the high electric voltage from the generation source to a level that is more usable for homes and businesses."

Peek Behind the Curtain

There's a lot of hard work that takes place behind the proverbial curtain to deliver safe and reliable electric service to the communities that Liberty serves.

In 2023, Liberty made prudent investments in its electrical infrastructure to strengthen and improve service reliability while also reducing wildfire ignition risk. While a variety of work was done throughout the year, here are just a few projects to highlight.

Overhead Conductor - Overhead conductor, also known as overhead wires, are the lines that transport electricity to your home or business. Over the course of 2023, Liberty crews replaced over 13 miles of overhead wire, much of it with covered conductor. Covered conductors are insulated, offering better protection from incidental contact to increase service reliability and reduce the risk of wildfire.

Poles - Poles are necessary to keep the electric grid stable and maintain a clearance between live, overhead conductor, and the ground. Erosion, rot, and stress that may occur over the years necessitate their eventual replacement. In 2023, Liberty evaluated thousands of poles, and as a result of the evaluation, 800 poles were newly installed or replaced throughout the territory. Keeping high-voltage lines in the air is a contributor to safe, reliable service and a reduced risk of wildfire ignition.

Substations - Substations are a critical piece of infrastructure, as they convert the high electric voltage from the generation

source to a level that is more usable for homes and businesses. In 2023, Liberty crews and engineers designed and built a replacement for the substation in Portola. While the new substation won't be operational until early 2024, the design and a majority of the construction have already been completed. This is the second substation replacement Liberty has completed in the last five years and is an important part of Liberty's efforts to maintain and update aging infrastructure.

Green Jackets - Contact with electrical infrastructure that causes a ground is one of the more typical causes of a power outage and, when this occurs at a substation, the outage can affect thousands of customers. Green jackets are simple, yet effective plastic coverings used on electrical infrastructure to help prevent these kinds of outages. Liberty installed green jackets at all of its substations in 2023 to help improve service reliability, mitigate wildfire risk, as well as potentially save the lives of animals that may come into contact with electrical infrastructure.



Kurt Althof, Liberty Utilities Manager, Regional Communications



fire department _____





Assistance from CAL FIRE during the 2023-2024 project season helped the pile burning operation be a success.



The 2023 Measure U forest fuels reduction project season was active, focusing on forest fuels reduction treatments providing buffer zones from residential/commercial structures and infrastructure.

This year's forest fuels reduction work included the prescription of pile burning to dispose of the biomass. Pile burning occurs in areas where there is no other viable option to remove the material off site to mechanically treat it. Such areas where pile burning occurs is as follows:

- 1. On steep slopes 30% or greater.
- 2. Where the topography is rocky.
- 3. Where natural barriers such as a watercourse exist which prohibit access to the material.

2023-2024 Pile Burning

Out of the 2023 project season 118.91 acres treated, 382 burn piles were created within multiple areas totaling 8.76 acres.

A partnership with CAL FIRE has helped complete pile burning in a timely and safe manner. Without the CAL FIRE partnership providing experience and personnel, our operations would not be completed in a timely manner and the cost per acre to pile burn would be expensive.

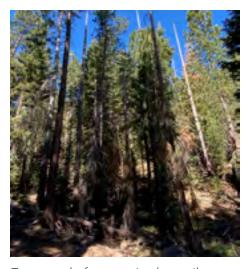
Northstar Fire Department, Fuels Management HUB

For more information of the Fuels Management department, please refer to the newly developed "Fuels Management HUB" by scanning this QR code.





An active burn pile contained in snow and open from the residual tree canopy.

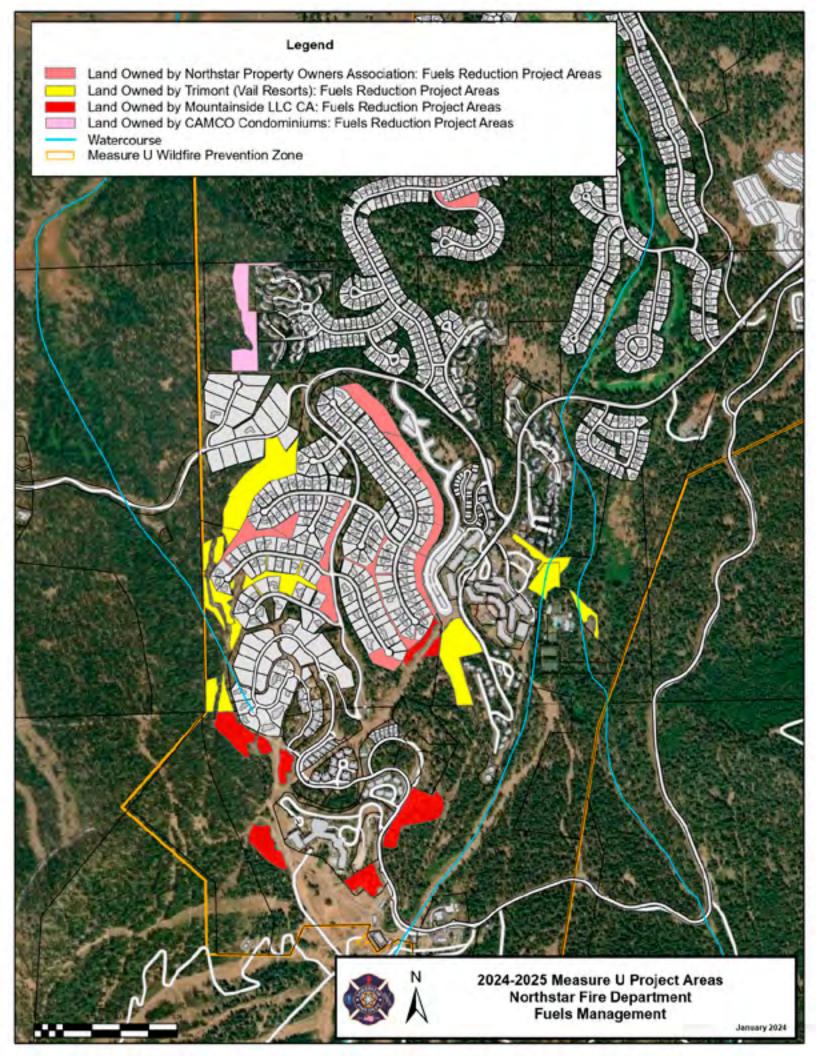


Treatment before creating burn piles.



Treatment after creating burn piles.







Upcoming Road, Trail, and Wood Energy Facility Projects

Northstar Community Services District (District) staff are working diligently to deliver three community projects. Although funding to move forward is still being pursued for each of the projects, it is hoped that all three will commence this summer. Project summaries are as follows:

- Road rehabilitation project on Northstar Drive, Gray Wolf
 Road, and Red Tail Court Work for the project will entail
 repaving as well as an isolated sewer repair. Should funding be
 secured, construction will commence as early as May (weather
 dependent). It's anticipated that this project will be completed
 in October. Expect periodic lane closures with each of these
 projects.
- Martis Valley Trail Segment 3F This project entails extension of the Martis Valley Trail (paved Class 1 multi-purpose trail) from the Castle Peak Parking Area to the Northstar Village. Pending award of grant funding, construction will commence as early as May. Although it's possible work will be completed over the summer, it's likely that this project will carry over to 2025 for final completion.

Wood Energy Facility - The proposed wood energy facility will
utilize forest waste residuals from regional fuels management
projects to generate renewable heat energy for pools and
buildings within the Northstar Village. It is hoped that work for
the project will commence this summer although contractual,
funding, and permitting components of the project need to be
advanced first. It's likely that this project will carry over to 2025
for final completion. Detailed project information is available
on the District's website at this link: https://www.northstarcsd.
org/media/Biomass/Biomass_Map_2.pdf

As always, the District will manage projects to minimize disruption as much as possible; however, inconveniences within the project areas will be unavoidable. We ask that you please be patient and take caution within construction cone zones to help make these projects a success. Please check the District's website regularly for project updates during construction: https://www.northstarcsd.org/

For specific questions/concerns related to the upcoming project activities, please contact NCSD at 530.562.0747 or customerservice@northstarcsd.org



Connect with our great community year-round! Check out our **2024 Truckee Annual Events Calendar**to see fun happenings throughout the year in Truckee-Tahoe.

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Truckee.com/BigLifeConnections









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3001 NORTHSTAR DRIVE #306 THE VILLAGE AT NORTHSTAR 2 Bedrooms | 2 Bathrooms | 1,205 SF \$1,250,000



ioi6 Martis Landing northstar 3 Bedrooms | 2 Bathrooms | 1,588 SF \$1,280,000



970 Northstar Drive #105 Northstar Lodge 2 Bedrooms | 2 Bathrooms | 1,188 SF \$1,300,000



9001 Northstar Drive #502 The Village at Northstar 3 Bedrooms | 3 ½ Bathrooms | 1,922 SF \$2,050,000

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