



Black Hawk Lantern

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Discover Hidden Treasure in Black Hawk

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City Manager Steve Cole

FROM THE CITY MANAGER

At the time of my last update, our casinos were in the early stages of reopening. The rapidly changing rules established by the State made reopening our casinos challenging. We salute their success and resourcefulness in opening their doors during the pandemic, all while ensuring everyone's safety. As a result of their effort, Gilpin County has been able to maintain a low number of reported COVID-19 cases. We believe their success warrants further lessening of the State's restrictions to help our economy recover. Since the casinos have reopened, the City has been able to evaluate our most recent revenue data, and we will use that information to make projections for the City's 2021 budget. We hope things steadily improve through the end of 2021, and gaming will return to pre-COVID levels during the year, but until then, we must adjust the City's budget to coincide with lower revenue projections. The good news is our staff has been able to get critical tasks completed to keep the city functioning as usual with less staff. There are examples in every department where creativity and collaboration have helped us get through this difficult time. Although its difficult to maintain service in the long term with less staff, our employees are committed to doing their part to get through this economic downturn.

All this news seems ominous and daunting, but there's a lot to look forward to in the future. Sports betting was approved earlier this year by Colorado voters, and some

casinos are now building sports betting venues within their existing facilities for guests, which should increase visitation. The City doesn't receive any direct benefit from sports betting, but the added opportunities and amenities offered by casinos will help our City thrive.

The Monarch Hotel and Casino will open its new facility in the 4th quarter of 2020, which will benefit our economy. The Hidden Treasure Trailhead is now open while new trails are still being constructed in the Maryland Mountain Quartz Valley Recreation Park. Phase 1 of the trail system is scheduled for completion in November 2020 and is already growing in popularity. We are on schedule to complete the Gregory Street Plaza in 2021 and already receiving interest in the Plaza. We will also continue to support the new Proximo Spirits development on the Mesa, with construction starting in 2021, which will drive additional visitation in future years. We feel its imperative that these projects be completed to increase visitation and to ensure we fulfill our goal of becoming a resort destination.

We don't know what the future holds for the gaming industry, but one thing is certain, the City of Black Hawk will continue to support and do its part to promote the growth and health of our gaming community. We recognize that our health as a city is linked to the health of our primary industry.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Take the Guesswork Out of Investing in Volatile Markets

Reprinted from ICMARC.org August 2020 Newsletter

It's tough to be an investor these days when the stock market is so volatile and likely to remain so for some time.

What if you jump in and then your shares plunge days later? Or, say you decide to sit on the sidelines waiting for the right time to invest. How will you know when that is? Precisely timing the market is almost never successful — even by financial professionals. Guess wrong and you could miss out on some of the market's best days.

But there's a simple strategy that can eliminate the guesswork of when to invest during volatile markets or recessions: dollar-cost averaging. Basically, it works like this:

*You invest a fixed amount at regular intervals; say, the first trading day of each month, no matter what's happening in the market.

*When stock or fund prices are high, you will end up purchasing fewer shares.

*When prices fall, you will buy more shares. (You are already dollar-cost averaging if you regularly invest in a workplace retirement plan through payroll deductions.)

Leveling the peaks and valleys

Consider this example of someone with \$2,400 to invest. If she invested all the money at once in January when the price was \$30 per share, she would own 80 shares. If instead she made equal purchases spread out over four months — when the price ranged from \$20 to \$40 per share — she would end up with 90 shares at an average price of \$26.67 per share. This is shown in the following chart.

Over time, dollar-cost-averaging smooths out the wide swings. And the strategy doesn't only work when buying securities. It can also eliminate guesswork on when to sell, too. Ideally, you sell shares when they are at a high point, although you can't know for sure when that will occur. So instead of offloading your securities all at once,

Dollar-Cost Averaging: Investing \$2,400 Over Four Months

Month	Amount Invested	Price/Share	Shares Purchased
January	\$600	\$30	20
February	\$600	\$20	30
March	\$600	\$24	25
April	\$600	\$40	15
TOTAL	\$2,400		90

Average share price = \$28.50
 Your average cost per share = \$26.67
 Because your \$600 purchased more shares when the price was low, you pay an average of \$26.67 per share, rather than the average share price of \$28.50.

and risking that the price continues to climb after the sale, you can sell equal amounts over a set period. For example, if you have \$50,000 in stock to trade, you can sell \$10,000 of shares each week or month, eliminating the risk that you are selling your entire investment on the worst possible day.

Dollar-cost-averaging, however, doesn't guarantee you the highest return over time. Investing a lump sum, and quickly putting your money to work in the market, may outperform dollar-cost averaging during bull markets. Likewise, investing a lump sum may underperform dollar-cost averaging during bear markets. But dollar-cost-averaging protects us against one of our worst investor instincts, namely, the temptation to time the market.

Avoiding the panic reactions

The average investor does a poor job of market timing, according to investor behavior studies by Dalbar, a financial services market research firm. For example, in 2018, another volatile year for stocks, many investors took money out of the market when stocks headed downward, Dalbar says. But that meant they were also not in the market in the months when stocks rebounded. For the year, the average stock fund investor lost 9.42%, compared with a 4.38% drop in the S&P 500 index. Think about that, poor timing caused the average investor to lose about double the actual market loss.

Historic Home Maintenance

Black Hawk's historic residential neighborhood is unique, with irreplaceable assets that strengthen community pride and retain a sense of place, time, and belonging. Equally essential to these quaint and charming homes is the actual maintenance of these properties.

If existing materials are regularly maintained, and deterioration is significantly reduced or prevented, this ensures the integrity of our community.

Property maintenance is a cost-effective method of extending the life of a building. When a building is constructed, restored, or rehabilitated, physical care is needed to slow the natural process of deterioration. Deterioration can accelerate when the building envelope is not maintained regularly. Over time, the cost of maintenance is substantially less than the replacement of deteriorated features.

Like a regular health check-up, a home maintenance schedule is essential for every home's upkeep. Regular maintenance will save you money, keep your home running efficiently, and will increase your home's value.



Use the quick reference home maintenance checklist below to keep your home in prime working condition. Consider the reference materials below before tackling a project. However, if any of the jobs go beyond your skill level or lead to more complicated repairs, consider hiring professional help.

Additional References:

National Park Service Preservation Briefs - <https://www.nps.gov/tps/how-to-preserve/by-topic.htm>

Bob Yapp – About Your House – www.bobyapp.com

Rocky Mountain Center for Preservation - <https://www.historycolorado.org/rocky-mountain-center-preservation?page=1>

HistoriCorps - <https://historicorps.org/>



RYAN BLENKER



Featured in this edition of Employee Spotlight is IT Support Analyst Ryan Blenker. Ryan Blenker has been working with the City of Black Hawk for five years. One of Ryan's primary responsibilities is maintaining computer system functionality throughout the City.

"I am fortunate to enjoy my work and to feel appreciated here in Black Hawk. I like contributing each day, helping my fellow employees here in Black Hawk, and I enjoy helping to find solutions to issues around the City. Whether it's finding appropriate equipment for a purpose or coming up with new solutions, I feel my contributions are valued.

Black Hawk is a beautiful place to work with its surrounding landscape and its unique history. Being a part of this historical City inspires me to take pride in doing my work. I enjoy the many challenges the City presents, and I enjoy using my talents to contribute to its wellbeing. It is good to see many of the recent developments in the City, and I am grateful to be a part of it."

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

WILLIAM AMBURN

I am a police officer recently hired by the City of Black Hawk. I work the midnight shift patrolling the neighborhoods and casinos (as well as chasing off the occasional bear... I never thought bear chasing would become required expertise when I started in Law Enforcement).

So far, my experience at Black Hawk has been awesome. I work with a group of excellent officers and supervisors, and I get to reside a part of the country that many people only have on their Bucket Lists as a place to visit. This has definitely been a great experience, and I have not regretted the move at all.

My wife and I took the plunge and moved here at the end of 2019. We had no family or friends in the area, so it was quite the leap of faith. Neither of us were raised in an environment like this. She spent most of her life in Tennessee and Florida, and the closest I have been to this kind of environment for any real length of time was when I was stationed in Germany about 30 years ago. We are really enjoying the change, though. The lack of humidity is a huge plus for those who have lived in the sweltering South East.

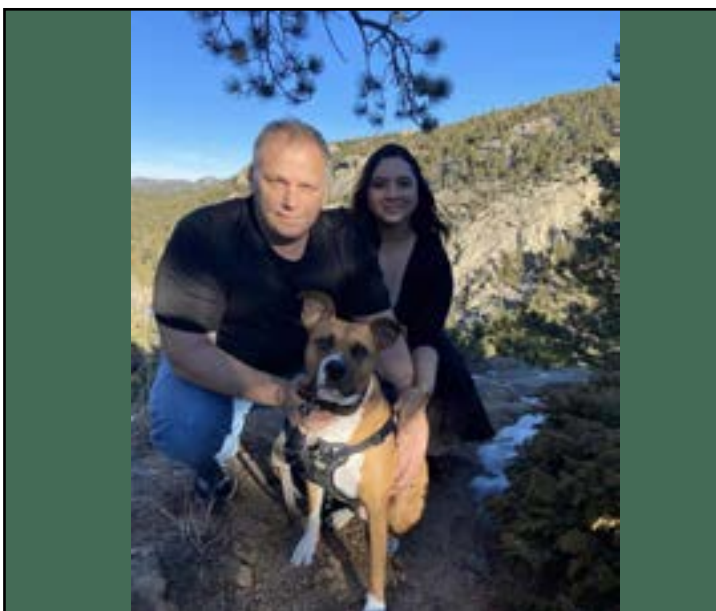


William T. Amburn

My friends would describe me as... actually it would depend on the friend, to be honest. Some people see me as extremely outgoing, and with them, I am, but others would say I was quiet and reserved, which would be equally as true. I have friends that I do certain activities with, but the only person who really gets to see all sides of me is my wife (and I am actually a bit scared to have her describe me).

I was born in Louisiana but actually didn't spend much of my childhood there. My ex-stepfather was a bit of a rambler, and he converted a school bus into a home, and we traveled. We would stay in one place no more than a month before we moved again, with the exception of winter; we would winter in one place for about three months or so.

That was basically my childhood until I was twelve, moving eight to ten times a year, exploring the Continent. By the time I was twelve, I had seen the highlights in the USA, Canada, Mexico, and Central America. I was not raised in one culture or religion; we just adapted to the customs of the places we visited.



Amburn Family Unit at Rocky Mountain National Park, February 2020

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

WILLIAM AMBURN

All in all, looking back on it, it was exceptional, but at the time it was just normal to me. I spent high school in south Louisiana and graduated at seventeen.

I went into the Army straight out of high school and was stationed in Europe, which gave me a whole new world to explore. I spent my off days and vacations exploring Western Europe. I was in Germany when the Berlin Wall came down, among other things.

I started in Law Enforcement at the age of twenty-six and have been a police officer for twenty-three years and counting, most of which was spent in Tennessee.

I have a wide variety of interests and hobbies. I started reading early as a child and am still an avid reader. I am also a bit of a video game player. I ride motorcycles and do some mountain biking, I have begun taking small hikes (I am an old man with sea-level lungs, so small hikes it is). I am a pretty decent woodworker and have made quite a few pieces of furniture over the years.

I love to travel and have made probably a half dozen mini-vacations in the past year, even with the limitations of COVID. The last major travel adventure outside of the US was a trip to Brazil last year, but I have many others on the horizon.

However, I am not much of a TV or sports watcher. Most of my activities require active participation, so I only watch TV if someone else turns it on, and I happen to be in the room.

Anyway, that is basically me at a glance. I hope everyone is enjoying this place as much as I am.



*Porto de Galinhas Brazil
January 2019*



*Moraine Lake, Alberta, Canada
August 2019*

FIRE MITIGATION

Maryland Mountain Quartz Valley Recreational Park Mitigation Black Hawk Fire works to remove wildfire fuels in Open Space

The City of Black Hawk Fire Department has been conducting wildfire fuels reduction operations in the Maryland Mountain Quartz Valley Open Space as part of ongoing wildfire mitigation efforts in the City. These measures restore the area, improve the health of the forest, and make the property more resistant to wildland fires.

The focus of summer mitigation efforts has been to enhance the fuel break in high hazard areas adjacent to Chase Gulch roadway. A comprehensive approach to preparedness and mitigation is an effective way to address increasing suppression costs and reduce risk to our community in the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI).

Heavy accumulation of wood debris has been removed, such as piles of stem wood and branches. Trees were thinned to remove smaller conifers growing between taller trees. Density of tall trees was also reduced so canopies do not touch. This reduces the ability for high-intensity crown fires to move through the forest.

What is Wildland Urban Interface (WUI)?

Generally speaking, Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) refers to the zone of transition between unoccupied land and human development. It is the where structures and other human development meet or intermingle with undeveloped wildland or vegetative fuels.



LEFT:
Engineer Dave Wellington conducts chainsaw operations, felling, limbing, and bucking large trees in Chase Gulch.

RIGHT:
Firefighters Jordan Stone and Aaron Skeen.



LEFT:
Firefighter David Young working on hauling branches to be chipped.

RIGHT:
Chief Chris Woolley taking a breather inside the ruins of the Belden & Tennal Stamp Mill.

CHASE GULCH

Fire Mitigation continued...

Communities adjacent to and surrounded by wildland are at varying degrees of risk from wildfires.

What Is Mitigation?

Mitigation is the effort to reduce loss of life and property by lessening the potential impact of disasters.

Why Is Mitigation Important in the WUI?

Undertaking wildfire mitigation in the WUI can reduce or eliminate the risk of damages caused by wildfire to the human environment (homes, neighborhoods, communities). Does not prevent fires—it helps to make communities more prepared when a wildfire does occur. These actions offer multiple benefits including:

- Contributing to firefighter and public safety by reducing fuels and lessening the risk of structures igniting.
- Creating communities that are more resilient by reducing loss of life and property damage.
- Allowing individuals and communities to minimize post disaster disruptions and recover more rapidly.
- Lessening the financial impact on individuals, communities, and society as a whole.
- In many cases, mitigation work also enhances other important values such as ecological benefits and aesthetics.

continued on next page...

LEFT:
One of the many areas cleared along Chase Gulch roadway; logs and branches stacked in preparation for chip-ping operations.

RIGHT:
Captain Jennifer Hembroff conducting chain saw operations, preparing trees for firewood retrieval.



LEFT/RIGHT:
More picturesque locations in Chase Gulch with beautiful, but dense aspen and conifer backdrops. Fire crews have worked to create breaks in the landscape by clearing the area of dead trees, underbrush, and creating more space between fuel sources.



FIRE PREVENTION WEEK

Fire Mitigation continued...

Homeowner Wildfire Mitigation

Homeowners can undertake a number of mitigation measures that can decrease the potential destructive effects a wildfire might have on their property. Some measures are designed to modify the vegetation surrounding a structure to decrease potential ignition sources. Others focus on modifying the construction of a structure itself to make the structure more resistant to ignition. To reduce the risk for the long term, actions need to be maintained over time.

Common Practices

- Managing vegetation near the home by reducing, maintaining, and/or replacing with ignition-resistant components (such as decorative stone at the base of a structure). Greater efforts are needed within close proximity of the structure and gradually decreasing efforts beyond that. For appropriate distances, contact your local state forestry or fire department.
- Removing leaves, needles, and other organic debris from decks, roofs, and near the base of exterior walls.
- Increasing ignition resistance of structures by actions such as using ignition resistant roofing and protecting exterior openings of structures from ember entrance by covering with non-combustible wire mesh screening (attic vents, eaves/soffits, crawl spaces, etc.)
- Removing combustible materials from around structures and beneath decks. Locating firewood and fuel and propane tanks at a safe distance from structures.

Ready, Set, Go!

Learn how to best prepare yourself and your properties against wildfire threats. The program tenets help residents be **Ready** with preparedness understanding, be **Set** with situational awareness when fire threatens, and to **Go**, evacuating early when a fire starts. For more information, visit cityofblackhawk.org.



Firefighter Matt Bowman, Captain Jennifer Hembroff, Engineer Dave Slagle, and Engineer Quentin Griffin using chipper to clear the roadway of heavy fire fuels.

Article resources: National Wildfire Coordinating Group

OCTOBER 4 - 10, 2020

Black Hawk Fire reminds residents: “Serve Up Fire Safety in the Kitchen!”™

Fire Prevention Week is October 4-10, 2020

The Black Hawk Fire Department is teaming up with the National Fire Protection Association® (NFPA®) — the official sponsor of Fire Prevention Week for more than 90 years — to promote this year’s Fire Prevention Week campaign, “Serve Up Fire Safety in the Kitchen!” The campaign works to educate everyone about simple but important actions they can take to keep themselves and those around them safe.

According to NFPA, cooking is the leading cause of home fires and home fire injuries in the United States. Almost half (44%) of reported home fires started in the kitchen. Two-thirds (66%) of home cooking fires start with the ignition of food or other cooking materials.

“We know cooking fires can be prevented,” said Lorraine Carli, NFPA’s vice-president of outreach and advocacy. “Staying in the kitchen, using a timer, and avoiding distractions such as electronics or TV are steps everyone can take to keep families safe in their homes.”

The Black Hawk Fire Department encourages all residents to embrace the 2020 Fire Prevention Week theme. The most important step you should take before making a meal is to “Serve Up Fire Safety in the Kitchen!” A cooking fire can grow quickly. Many homes are damaged and people injured by fires that could easily have been prevented.

Safety tips:

- Never leave cooking food unattended. Stay in the kitchen while you are frying, grilling, or broiling. If you have to leave, even for a short time, turn off the stove.
- If you are simmering, baking, roasting, or boiling food, check it regularly, remain in the home while food is cooking, and use a timer to remind you that you’re cooking.
- You have to be alert when cooking. You won’t be alert if you are sleepy, have taken medicine or drugs, or consumed alcohol that makes you drowsy.
- Always keep an oven mitt and pan lid nearby when you’re cooking. If a small grease fire starts, slide the lid over the pan to smother the flame. Turn off the burner, and leave the pan covered until it is completely cool.
- Have a “kid-free zone” of at least 3 feet around the stove and areas where hot food or drink is prepared or carried.

For more information about Fire Prevention Week and cooking fire prevention, visit www.fpw.org.



Have a “kid-free zone” of at least 3 feet (1 metre) around the stove and areas where hot food or drink is prepared or carried.

FACTS

- ❗ The leading cause of fires in the kitchen is unattended cooking.
- ❗ Most cooking fires in the home involve the kitchen stove.



Maryland Mountain Quartz Valley Recreational Park

Feathered Friends and the Feather Law

It is a little known fact that the possession of feathers and other parts of native North American migratory birds without a permit is prohibited by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act.

The permit program is managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service under various wildlife laws and treaties to ensure feather collecting activities are carried out in a manner that safeguards wildlife. Additionally, some permits promote conservation efforts by authorizing scientific research, generating data, or allowing wildlife management and rehabilitation activities to go forward. Permits enable the public to engage in legitimate wildlife-related activities that would otherwise be prohibited by law.

You are permitted to collect feathers from non-native birds, such as European starlings and house sparrows, and domesticated birds such as turkeys and chickens, but all native, migratory birds—and there are more than 1,000 species on the list—are protected. There is no exemption for molted feathers or those taken from road- or window-killed birds.

So, what is a hiker to do when they happen upon a feather on the trail? Leave the feather in place and take a photo! When you get back home, use your photo to research the species of your feathered friend. The migratory bird species protected by the Act are listed at FWS.gov and offers a great search engine to assist you in researching your feather find.

Recently spotted in the Maryland Mountain Open Space



The Northern Flicker
(*Colaptes auratus*), a medium-sized bird of the woodpecker family. Feather photo: R. Blondo / Bird photo: Wikimedia/Nature's Pic's www.naturespicsonline.com



Burrowing Owl
(*Athene cunicularia*), small, long-legged owl. Feather: R. Blondo / Bird: M. Schaller. Possibly a photo of the actual feathered friend that left their feather on Maryland Mountain!



Live a Heart Healthy Lifestyle on Maryland Mountain

The Black Hawk Fire Department ventured outdoors and found some creative heart healthy lifestyle reminders along the trails of Maryland Mountain.

Heart disease is the leading cause of death in the United States for both men and women, but you can do a lot to protect your heart and stay healthy. Heart healthy living involves understanding your risk, making choices, and taking steps to reduce your chances of getting heart disease.

By taking preventive measures, you can lower your risk of developing heart disease and improve your overall health and well-being.

Regular physical activity is an important risk reduction measure to:

- Help you lose excess weight
- Improve physical fitness
- Lower many heart disease risk factors such as “bad” LDL cholesterol levels, increase “good” HDL cholesterol levels, and manage high blood pressure
- Lower stress and improve your mental health
- Lower your risk for other conditions such as type 2 diabetes, depression, and cancer

Aerobic exercise benefits your lungs the most. This is any exercise in which your heart beats faster and you use more oxygen than usual, such as brisk walking, running, or biking. The more active you are, the more you will benefit. Participate in aerobic exercise at least a few times throughout the week.

Talk with your doctor before you start a new exercise plan. Discuss how much and what types of physical activity are safe for you. Even modest amounts of physical activity are good for your health. When you do start, we hope that you will also find inspiration that's good for your heart atop Maryland Mountain!

Learn more about living a heart healthy lifestyle at <https://site.cityofblackhawk.org/city-departments/fire-department/fire-safety-resources/>.

Excerpts: National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute
<https://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/>



Moss Heart



Hanging Heart



Rose Quartz Heart



Heartbroken



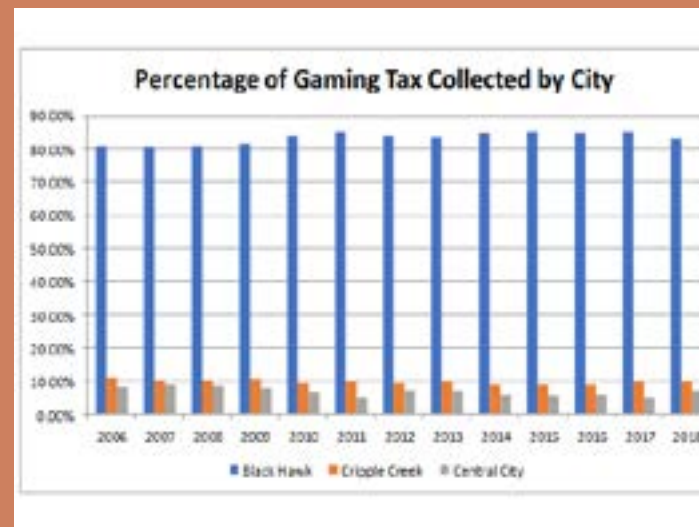
Ground Granite Heart

FINANCE

The City of Black Hawk operates on a Calendar Year-End for budgeting and financial reporting purposes. However, June 30 is also significant, as it reflects the State Fiscal Year-End. The Division of Gaming imposes a progressive tax on all casinos based on accumulated Adjusted Gross Proceeds (AGP) (money wagered minus winnings paid out) for the fiscal year. As a casino's AGP accumulates during the fiscal year, it pushes them into the next tax bracket. These brackets range from 0.25% to 20.00%. After the conclusion of the Fiscal Year, the Division of Gaming distributes the Gaming Tax collected, less the cost to operate the Commission, to recipients as directed by the State Constitution. The three host gaming communities share 10% of the net gaming tax distributions, based on the proportion of gaming revenue generated by each jurisdiction.

- Statewide AGP (casino gaming revenue) was down 26.49% from the previous 12-month period. Black Hawk saw a decrease of 27.19% in AGP, Central City was down 26.26%, and Cripple Creek was down 23.56%. Black Hawk casinos make up 73.00% of Statewide gaming revenue.
- Statewide Gaming Tax (paid by the casinos) was down 35.73% from the previous 12-month period. Black Hawk saw a decrease of 33.22%, Central City was down 58.00%, and Cripple Creek was down 40.72%. Black Hawk casinos paid 86.18% of Statewide Gaming taxes for the Fiscal year.
- For the Fiscal Year-End June 30, 2020, the Gaming Tax distribution to the City of Black Hawk was down 40.07% from the previous year.

As we move into early fall, City Officials and staff will be working on the 2021 Budget. The annual figures above, as well as upcoming monthly statistics, will be monitored to ensure a balanced budget is adopted. The Gaming Tax distribution from the State is significant, making up roughly 38% of all General Fund revenues.



INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Disposing and Recycling Electronic Equipment

PC/Monitors

Your old computer may feel useless when you purchase a new one. Old computers can be hard to find room to store, or it can be tough to find uses for old equipment.

When buying a new PC it may help to bring your old one (if buying in person) to get data transferred over to the new system, oft times you can leave your old equipment at the place you are purchasing a new. Ask the tech you leave your computer with to wipe the information if they cannot remove the personal information, ask for the Hard Drive and take that with you.



Cell Phones/Laptops/Tablets

Most cell phones/tablets less than a year old can be sent back to the original manufacturer if in need of repair or returned to the carrier store they were purchased from. Home Depot, Goodwill, RadioShack, and Ace Hardware stores will take the devices as part of their recycling programs; some places may not accept items with batteries.



Batteries

Most batteries that come out of Laptops/Tablets/Cell Phones/Smart Watches/Dumb Watches/Cordless Phones/Wireless Headsets/Wireless Controllers and even Garage door openers all usually contain lithium. Lithium is extremely harmful to the environment when disposed of improperly. It should not be thrown away in the trash; instead, find a recycling center and drop them off or request a shipping box to send them off. Shipping batteries is easy as long as you must make sure the proper label is attached for safety call2recycle.org -and- earth911.com are great resources to find recycling centers.



Other Recycling Resources

<https://www.epa.gov/recycle/electronics-donation-and-recycling>

SCULPTURE TOUR

Walking Sculpture Tour Comes with Audio

In a continuing effort to attract non-gaming visitors to Black Hawk, the City has been working on an audio tour to accompany the impressive sculptures around town. There are nine statues in total and each will be augmented with a plaque displaying the piece name, artist name, year acquired and a phone number to call, along with a QR code. You can either call the phone number to listen, or use your phone to scan the code to initiate the audio tour.





BLACK HAWK

presents

The Fishing Hole

created by Jim Gibbons
Acquired in 2002

call: 303-582-2297- press #5
for informational tour



Stay tuned for further details

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chase Street Parking Permits

The City has an established parking permit system for residents and guests of residents requiring all vehicles parked in residential areas to display a parking permit on the rearview mirror (Municipal Code Sec. 16-265). Over the years, the addition of casino parking garages has reduced the likelihood that casino guests and casino employees will park in residential areas. As a result, enforcement of the parking permits hasn't been aggressively imposed by the Police Department.

However, as the new Maryland Mountain Quartz Valley Trail becomes more popular, we will likely see more illegal parking on Chase Street. Chase street already has numerous "no parking signs" that prohibit parking, and now new signage allows residents and Black Hawk City employees to park near the Chase Street gate if the vehicle is displaying a permit. The ability to park near the park entrance at the end of Chase Street is a unique benefit to our residents and our employees.



If you would like a parking permit, please contact Roxie Morris, Police Records Supervisor at rmorris@cityof-blackhawk.org. The Police Department requires a copy of the owner's vehicle registration and the employee's department. Employees will be allowed one (1) parking permit. Current employees may send Roxie a copy of their vehicle registration (email or interdepartmental mail), and she will get an Employee Parking Permits issued.

The Police Department will strictly enforce illegal parking near the park entrance on Chase Street and at the Hidden Treasure Trailhead. So, if you are a frequent user of the trail system and want to park at the Chase Gulch gate area, please make arrangements to get a permit if you don't already have one.

PUBLIC WORKS

25 Years of Effort Pays off in Hidden Treasure

From mid-2019 to just a few weeks ago, there have been visible happenings at the new Hidden Treasure Trailhead.

In late 2019 the bridge was trucked to the City in 3 sections. We had to obtain a permit from CDOT to close Highway 119 overnight to place the bridge in place safely. The placement of the bridge involved using a crane and took about 4 hours to complete.



The next big task was relocating the Hawk sculpture. In late January of this year, the contractor moved the Hawk sculpture from the entrance at the Mardi Gras Casino to it's new home at the entryway to the Hidden Treasure trailhead. In typical Colorado fashion, Mother Nature brought in freezing temperatures and snow on moving day. However, the next day proved to be a success and the effort took about 4 hours. Once warmer temperatures arrived, the contractor planted trees, laid bark, and striped the parking lot.

PUBLIC WORKS

Hidden Treasure Trailhead



Relocation of the Black Hawk statue to the Hidden Treasure Trailhead



*Black Hawk Public Works Rail Design Team:
Robinson Tatum*

The contractor “handed over the keys,” if you will, in late July to Public Works staff and from that point on, our Maintenance staff has been there almost daily.

Boulders were brought in and carefully placed to line the parking lot to prevent motor vehicles from driving onto the sidewalk or outside of the parking lot boundary. The bathrooms were stocked, signage was installed – our facilities department built the glass case that holds the trail map. The map was created and printed by our GIS Analyst, Gary Pauls. The split rail fence that leads to the bridge was built, and the guardrail on the far side was built, and installed by two of our fleet technicians, Robert Tatum and Lorenzo Robinson. We also added erosion control measures.

Finally, late in the afternoon on August 13th, the parking lot entrance barrier was removed. By 4:00 that afternoon, there were already visitors exploring the area. We hope visitors enjoy the area and treat it with the utmost respect as our team takes tremendous pride in the beauty of the trailhead.



*Hidden Treasure Trailhead
Soft Opening August 15, 2020*



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For submissions or feedback, please contact:
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