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Summer Energy | Community in Motion | 2026

Summer is in full swing, and Independence has been making memories every step of the way.

Thank you to everyone who joined us for our **3rd Annual Independence Fourth of July Bike Parade!** It was one of our most patriotic celebrations yet as children of all ages rolled through the homestead in patriotic style. Decorated bikes, wagons, scooters and strollers filled the streets while the **Elizabeth Fire Department** helped kick off the morning with lights, sirens and plenty of excitement. Seeing so many of our youngest residents celebrating together is exactly what community is all about.

As July continues, there are still plenty of ways to enjoy summer right here at home. Take a

morning yoga class in the park, cool off at the pool, grab dinner from a Food Truck Wednesday, reserve a community garden plot or simply spend an evening visiting with neighbors.

Here's to slowing down, soaking up the sunshine, and making the most of another beautiful Colorado summer.

The Clubhouse is staffed daily from 10 a.m.–8 p.m. through Labor Day (Monday, September 7), while the gym remains accessible with key card access outside staffed hours and is closed Mondays from 10–11 a.m. for routine cleaning.

JULY COMMUNITY EVENTS

HAPPENING IN INDEPENDENCE

THE 1ST ANNUAL NEIGHBORHOOD
INDEPENDENCE GRILLS & GRILLES
BBQ COMPETITION • CAR SHOW • BEER GARDEN!

SUNDAY AUGUST 16TH
11 AM - 1 PM

LOCATED AT:
INDEPENDENCE NEIGHBORHOOD
39101 HANCOCK WAY
ELIZABETH, CO 80107

BBQ COMPETITION
★ PITMASTER SHOWDOWN! ★
CATEGORIES: BRISKET • RIBS • CHICKEN • PULLED PORK
SERVING BEGINS 11 AM | VOTING ENDS 12 PM | PRIZES FOR BEST MEATS
REGISTRATION REQUIRED

CAR SHOW
★ SHOWCASING CLASSICS, HOT RODS, MUSCLE CARS, TRUCKS & MOTORCYCLES ★
SHOW BEGINS 11 AM | TROPHIES AWARDED 12:30 PM | REGISTRATION REQUIRED

BEER GARDEN!
COLD DRINKS • GREAT FOOD • GOOD TIMES

FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!
Food • Cars • Community • Memories

READY TO COMPETE OR SHOW OFF YOUR RIDE?
★ ★ REGISTER TODAY! ★ ★

SCAN TO REGISTER OR LEARN MORE!

Independence Grills & Grilles

Sunday, August 16 | 11 a.m.–1 p.m.

The Homestead at Independence

39101 Hancock Way

Fire Up the Smoker. Shine Up the Chrome.

Get ready for the **1st Annual Independence Grills & Grilles** — a day where BBQ and beautiful

rides come together for one unforgettable neighborhood tradition. [Click here to learn more!](#)

Whether you're a backyard pitmaster, a proud owner of a classic car, hot rod, truck, motorcycle, or simply enjoy great food and cool vehicles, this is an event you won't want to miss.

BBQ Competition

Think you've got the best brisket, ribs, chicken, or pulled pork? Put your skills to the test in our Pitmaster Showdown! Guests will sample the entries and vote for their favorites, with prizes awarded for the top meats.

Car Show

From timeless classics and muscle cars to custom trucks and motorcycles, show off your pride and joy in our community car show. Trophies will be awarded for the crowd favorites, including **Best In Grilles** and others.

Spectators are FREE, and everyone is welcome to attend!

⚠ Registration Required ⚠

Planning to compete in the BBQ competition or display a vehicle in the car show? Advance [registration is required](#) so we can reserve your space and prepare for judging. Be sure to scan the QR code on the event flyer or use the registration link before the event.

Community Garden Update

There's Still Time to Plant a Fall Harvest!

Think you missed gardening season? Think again.

July is actually the perfect time to begin planning a **fall vegetable garden**. Crops like lettuce, spinach, kale, radishes, carrots, beets and peas all thrive in Colorado's cooler late-summer temperatures.

Garden plots are still available at the Independence Community Garden, making it a great opportunity to join your neighbors and enjoy fresh vegetables through fall.

With raised beds, irrigation access, a greenhouse and a welcoming community of gardeners, there's never been a better time to dig in!



To reserve a garden plot or learn more, email:
IndependenceCOCommunityGarden@gmail.com

Pool Season is Here

The Independence Pool is ready to help you beat this summer heat wave! Please remember:

- Residents must have their community access card for entry.
- Children under 14 must be supervised according to posted pool rules.
- Guests must be accompanied by a resident.
- Please help keep the facility clean and enjoyable for everyone.
- Alcohol is not permitted - especially the behaviors that accompany it!
- Pool hours are 10 a.m.–8 p.m. daily.

Remember your sunscreen and to stay hydrated as temperatures begin to climb!

Sunrise Yoga in the Park



Start your Saturday with fresh air, movement, and a little time for yourself!

Join your neighbors for complimentary outdoor yoga at beautiful Trenton Park. Whether you're a seasoned yogi or have never stepped onto a mat before, all ages and experience levels are welcome. This relaxed, community-focused class is designed to help you stretch, breathe, and enjoy a peaceful start to the weekend.

Upcoming Classes

August 1 | 8 a.m.

August 15 | 8 a.m.

August 29 | 8 a.m.

Location

Trenton Park at Independence

Near 39799–39759 Yorktown Terrace

Bring a yoga mat, water bottle, and a friend. We look forward to seeing you in the park!

Join the Independence Social Committee

Have Ideas? We'd Love to Hear Them.

Some of the best things happening in Independence started with a simple idea from a neighbor.

If you enjoy bringing people together, planning events, decorating, welcoming new residents, organizing volunteers or simply sharing creative ideas, consider joining the Independence Social Committee. Whether you have an hour to spare or want to be more involved, there's a place for you.

Help us create the events, traditions, and experiences that make Independence feel like home.

Meetings: Third Tuesday of each month (*new meeting date*)

Time: 6–7:30 p.m.

Location: Independence Clubhouse

Questions or interested in joining?

IndependenceSocialCommittee@gmail.com

Great communities don't happen by accident — they're built by neighbors who care.

Stay Connected:

- Keep an eye on your email (and your junk folder, just in case)
- Add Contact@IndependenceDenver.com to your address book
- Follow community pages: FB: [IndependenceNeighborhood](#) | IG: [@indneighborhood](#)
- Follow the Community run pages: FB: [Women of Independence Neighborhood](#) | FB: [Neighbors of Independence](#) (proof of residency required for access)
- **NEW** [The Independence Lifestyle: Where Community & Nature Connect](#)



Food Trucks Are Back at Independence



Food Truck Wednesdays | 4–7 p.m.

Dinner Is Already Planned

Skip the cooking and enjoy a midweek evening with your neighbors.

Food Truck Wednesdays continue throughout July from **4–7 p.m.**

Whether you're craving tacos, comfort food or something new, Food Truck Wednesdays are one of the easiest ways to enjoy summer evenings without turning on the stove.

Food trucks are subject to last-minute changes.

July 15 – La Mesa

July 22 – Pierogies Factory

July 29 – Lucky Bird

August 5 – Colorado Berliner Haus

August 12 – La Mesa

August 19 – Woodhill Small Batch BBQ

August 26 – La Mesa

September 2 – What Would Cheesus Do?

It's Never Too Late to Learn to Swim



Swimming is one of the most important life skills a child can learn.

Whether your child is just getting comfortable in the water or wants to improve technique and confidence, swim lessons remain available this summer through Independence instructor Tessa Waterman.

Private and semi-private lessons are scheduled before public pool hours.

Interested?

Tessa Waterman

720-766-2126

TessaWaterman17@gmail.com

Water Fitness Instructor Wanted

Do you love fitness and enjoy being in the water?

We're still looking for a certified Water Fitness Instructor interested in leading early morning aquatic fitness classes at the Independence Pool.

If you or someone you know is interested, we'd love to hear from you.

Contact: Kristin@IndependenceDenver.com

NEW! Sensory Swim Interest Group: A Quieter Swim Experience

Would your child benefit from a pool environment with less noise, fewer distractions, and a calmer atmosphere?

We're exploring the possibility of offering **Sensory Swim** opportunities for children who would enjoy a quieter, more relaxed pool experience.

If this is something your family would be interested in, please reach out to:

Kristin@IndependenceDenver.com

We're gathering interest now and would love to hear from you.

HAPPENING IN THE TOWN OF ELIZABETH



Elizabeth COLORADO

One of the best parts of living in Independence is having a vibrant hometown right down the road. This summer, Elizabeth is packed with opportunities to get out, connect with neighbors, support local businesses and enjoy everything that makes small-town living so special. From the [Friday Night Market & Concert Series](#) and [Main Street Car Shows](#) to family fun runs, community celebrations and live entertainment, there's something happening all season long.

Skip the drive and discover what makes Elizabeth such a great place to call home.

To explore the full Town of Elizabeth events calendar, [click here!](#)

Now – August 14 – Friday Night Market

August 21 – Car Show on Historic Main

August 29 – 250/150 Main St 5K & Color
Run

August 29 – 250/150 Celebration at Running
Creek Park

September TBA – Birthday Bash Movie
Night

September 26 – Historic Downtown Walk &
Talk

December 5 – Mayor's Tree Lighting



Save the Date | Elizabeth Brewfest



One of Elizabeth's Biggest Summer Celebrations is Almost Here! Gather your friends and get ready for an afternoon of great beer, delicious food, live music, and small-town fun at the 2026 Elizabeth Brewfest!

On **Saturday, August 22**, Running Creek Park transforms into a lively celebration featuring Colorado craft breweries, mouthwatering local food vendors, live entertainment, lawn games, and a welcoming community atmosphere. Whether you're a craft beer enthusiast or simply looking for a fun way to spend a summer afternoon, this is one event you won't want to miss.

Even better, every ticket purchased supports the Pines & Plains Libraries Foundation, helping strengthen local libraries and expand programs that benefit our communities throughout the year.

Saturday, August 22
Running Creek Park | Elizabeth, Colorado

[Click here](#) to purchase your tickets before they sell out!

Great beer. Great food. Great music. Great neighbors. One unforgettable summer afternoon, all for a great cause. Cheers!

Elizabeth Library
303-646-3416
pplibraries.org

HAPPENING NEARBY



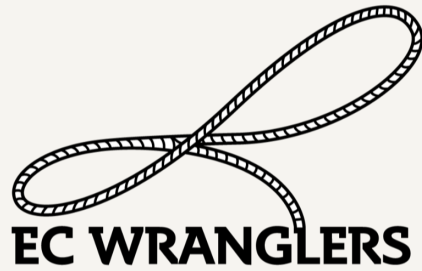
Elbert County Fair: The biggest event of the summer returns July 25 – August 2 in Kiowa

There's nothing quite like the **Elbert County Fair**, and this year's celebration promises something for everyone. From **July 25 – August 2**, the fairgrounds in Kiowa will come alive with rodeos, 4-H livestock shows, horse events, The Mercantile shopping area, free family activities, a petting zoo, Touch-a-Truck, live entertainment, the popular Kiddie Corral, delicious fair food, and plenty of small-town charm. Most events are **free to attend**, including admission and parking, making it one of the best family outings of the summer.

Be sure to mark **Saturday, August 1**, on your calendar for the **Bulls, Broncs & Buckaroos**

Rodeo, a spectacular 500-drone show celebrating Colorado and America's milestone anniversaries, and a special evening concert featuring **Ned LeDoux** under the stars. Whether you've been attending for years or it's your first visit, the Elbert County Fair is a cherished local tradition you won't want to miss.

[Click here](#) to learn more.



EC Wrangler 4-H Livestock Auction

Join us at the **Elbert County Fair** on **Saturday, August 1** at **1 p.m.** for the 4-H livestock auction!

Craft and the Independence Community are proud to partner with the EC Wranglers alongside local businesses, residents, friends, and neighbors who come together each year to support Elbert County's 4-H youth. The continued generosity and community spirit behind this program are what make it so special.

Swing by the Craft/Independence tent for snacks and cool drinks (and shade!) on Saturday, August 1 from 11—2 p.m. We hope to see you there!

[Click here](#) to learn more about this local, non-profit organization.

Around Denver & Beyond

Summer is officially underway, and July is packed with opportunities to explore everything Colorado has to offer. Closer to home, Douglas County communities like Castle Rock, Parker and Highlands Ranch host farmers markets, outdoor concerts, festivals and family-friendly events throughout the season. In Elizabeth, the [Friday Night Market & Concert Series](#) returns each Friday evening with live music, local vendors, and a great small-town atmosphere.

If you're looking for a mountain getaway, July is one of the best times to hit the road. Highlights include the [GoPro Mountain Games in Vail](#), the [Telluride Balloon Festival](#), the [Telluride Bluegrass Festival](#), and the [Food & Wine Classic in Aspen](#). Mountain favorites like Estes Park, Breckenridge, Frisco and Georgetown also come alive with outdoor recreation, shopping, dining and summer events.

Colorado's summer event season offers plenty of reasons to get outside and explore!

DENVER BOTANIC GARDENS

Denver Botanic Gardens | Children's & Family Programs

If you're looking for a peaceful afternoon, the Denver Botanic Gardens continues to shine throughout July. Don't miss:

- Evening al fresco live music
- The beautiful Lavender Festival at Chatfield Farms (July 18–19)
- Children's gardens
- Family discovery programs
- Nature walks
- Rotating art exhibitions throughout the gardens

It's a wonderful place to slow down and recharge. The Gardens offers a wide variety of programs for children and families to explore the connections between nature, art and culture together.

Children and family programs encourage exploration, creativity, and an appreciation for the natural world. The Gardens offers programs year-round at: [York Street](#) [Chatfield Farms](#) & [Plains Conservation Center](#)

Admission to the Gardens is included with program registration. To learn more about the Gardens' Children and Family Programs registration financial assistance program, visit their [Financial Assistance Application](#).

DENVER ART MUSEUM

Denver Art Museum | Beat the Heat at the Denver Art Museum

Need a break from the summer sun? The Denver Art Museum is one of Colorado's best indoor adventures.

This summer you'll find:

- World-class exhibitions
- Interactive family galleries
- Creative studios
- Hands-on activities
- Art-making opportunities
- Free admission for everyone 18 and younger
- SCFD Free Day on July 14

It's a perfect destination for both kids and adults.
Spend a day exploring one of Colorado's cultural treasures, the [Denver Art Museum](#).

THE BUTTERFLY PAVILLION



For Families | Butterfly Pavilion Summer Programs

Nature Up Close: Butterfly Pavilion is much more than butterflies.

Families can enjoy:

- Thousands of free-flying butterflies
- Hands-on animal encounters
- Nature Play area
- Interactive exhibits for every age
- Summer camps
- Junior Zookeeper experiences
- Rainforest yoga

It's an easy day trip that's both educational and fun. If you're looking for something a little different for the kids this summer, the Butterfly Pavilion offers hands-on programs that go beyond the typical camp experience.

Their [summer camps](#) (ages 5–9) are built around exploring nature, science, and the small creatures that keep our world running. Think interactive projects, live animal encounters, and time spent exploring exhibits all designed to get kids curious, engaged, and off screens for the day. Camps run as full-day programs, with both single-day and week-long options available.

They also offer [Homeschool Days](#), which are themed experiences that include classes, activities, and hands-on learning opportunities at a discounted admission rate perfect for families looking to mix learning with something more immersive and fun.

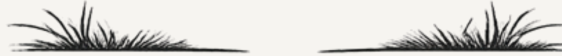
Space is limited for most programs and registration is required, so if this sounds like a fit, it's worth taking a look sooner rather than later. [Click here](#) to visit the Butterfly Pavilion website to explore programs, dates, and registration details.



COMMUNITY COLLECTIVE

The Independence Lifestyle:

Where Community & Nature Connect



Independence Lifestyle continues to grow as a simple, resident-driven way to connect through shared interests, ideas, and everyday moments. Whether it's a walking group, game night, gardening conversations, or something that hasn't started yet, this is where those connections begin informally, is flexible, and shaped by you.

Just as importantly, this community shows up for one another in quieter ways. If you're facing food insecurity or going through a tough time, please remember you're not alone. Your well-being and your privacy matter and there is no shame in asking for help. This is a community that cares. You can reach out to Kristin@IndependenceDenver.com for assistance, and your privacy will be honored.

Opportunities to connect will be shared here in the newsletter and through the **new community Facebook group**, [The Independence Lifestyle: Where Community & Nature Connect](#). The goal is simple — make it easy for neighbors to find each other and spend time doing the things they enjoy.

Do you have an idea you'd like to explore? Reach out to the new community Facebook group (link above) and let's help bring it together. You can also email karpssk15@gmail.com or karpcbk15@gmail.com if Facebook isn't your thing.

Club listings are shared for informational purposes and are not necessarily endorsed by the Independence Overlay Metropolitan District.

Current Grassroots Clubs at Independence Include:

MONDAY NIGHT GRAVEL — LET'S RIDE!

Community Spotlight | RUST Cycling

Looking to spend more time on two wheels this summer?



Independence is fortunate to have a local cycling resource right in our own backyard. Whether you're interested in gravel riding, road cycling, bike maintenance, coaching, group rides or simply connecting with other cyclists in the area, RUST Cycling is helping riders of all levels get out and enjoy Colorado's incredible riding opportunities.

From beginner-friendly rides to challenging gravel adventures, RUST Cycling is building a community around fitness, exploration and the simple joy of riding.

If you've been thinking about dusting off your bike, upgrading your gear, learning more about cycling or finding a group to ride with, this is a great place to start.

Visit rustcycling.com to learn more about upcoming rides, services, events and resources for cyclists throughout the Elizabeth area.

Live local. Ride local. Support local.

INDEPENDENCE HOMESCHOOL CO-OP

If you would like to join, please message Megan Bell at 303-907-5384

INDEPENDENCE HUNTING & FISHING CLUB

Reach out to Robert at RobertCase7676@gmail.com or call 719-247-0067

INDEPENDENCE ART CLUB

Please contact Joe Bennett at JoeBennett.co@gmail.com or 303-503-8634

INDEPENDENCE SMALL BUSINESS GROUP

A welcoming space for local entrepreneurs, creatives, and business owners to connect, share ideas, and support one another in a relaxed setting. No formal agenda or pressure, just good conversation and a community of neighbors who want to see each other succeed. If you'd like to join us, please RSVP to vicki.mhp@gmail.com.



INDEPENDENCE COMMUNITY CLUBHOUSE

A Reminder from the Clubhouse

The Independence Clubhouse is your hub for fitness, pool access, reservations and resident

support. Now through Labor Day, Front Range Recreation staff are available daily from **10 a.m.–8 p.m.** to assist with facility access, clubhouse reservations and general questions. Please bring a photo ID and proof of residency if you need assistance with account setup or access.

The gym remains available outside staffed hours with key card access and is closed **Mondays from 10–11 a.m.** for routine cleaning.

Need help, have questions or looking to reserve a space? Stop by during staffed hours or visit the Recreation page on the [Independence Overlay Metropolitan District](#) website for policies, facility information and additional details.

Another option is to email Office@FrontRangeRecreation.com or IndependenceDenver@gmail.com.

Beat the Heat: Summer Safety for Your Four-Legged Neighbors



Colorado summers are made for getting outside, but they can be tough on our furry friends. As temperatures climb, a few simple precautions can help keep pets happy, healthy, and safe.

Keep your pet cool by remembering to:

- Walk early in the morning or later in the evening when sidewalks are cooler.
- Check the pavement with the back of your hand. If it's too hot for you, it's too hot for their paws.
- Bring plenty of fresh water on walks and make sure outdoor pets always have access to shade.
- Never leave a pet in a parked vehicle, even with the windows cracked. Temperatures can become dangerous in just minutes.
- Watch for signs of overheating, including excessive panting, drooling, weakness or lethargy. If you suspect heat exhaustion, move your pet to a cool place and contact your veterinarian immediately.

Scoop if they Poop it!

A neighborly reminder that being a great neighbor sometimes only takes a few extra seconds. Please remember to pick up after your pet every time. Besides being the courteous thing to do, pet waste creates unpleasant odors during the summer heat, attracts flies and pests, can wash into our drainage systems and impact water quality, and makes shared spaces less enjoyable for everyone. Dog waste stations are located throughout the community, but carrying an extra bag is

always a good idea.

Let's work together to keep Independence clean, beautiful, and enjoyable for neighbors, visitors, and our four-legged friends alike.

If barking becomes a concern, a friendly conversation with your neighbor is often the quickest way to resolve it. Sometimes a pet just needs a little extra exercise, attention, or relief from the summer heat.

For ongoing concerns, **Elbert County Animal Control can be reached at 303-621-2027.**

Thank you for helping keep Independence clean, welcoming and enjoyable for residents, visitors and pets all summer long.

Safety Reminder: Ponds & Open Space

All ponds are restricted District property and are used for irrigation, retention, and detention—not recreation.

Motorized vehicles are never allowed in open space areas.



Emergency Contacts:

Fire – 303-646-3800

Sheriff – 303-621-2055



INDEPENDENCE METRO DISTRICT AND PUBLIC ALLIANCE



Public Alliance
DISTRICT MANAGEMENT. BUILT DIFFERENTLY.

Please save his contact information below. If you have questions or simply want to introduce yourself, the Public Alliance team is here to help:

Phone: 720-213-6621

Email: Contact@PublicAllianceLLC.com

Visit, bookmark, and favorite the Independence Websites where you can find information about community happenings, news, meetings, documents, and all things related to Independence and the Metro Districts:

[The Overlay District – Homestead and Pool/Gym](#)
[Districts 1-6 – Where You Live](#)
[Independence Water and Sanitation District](#)



COMMUNITY REMINDERS

A July Message from the Metro District

Annual Reuse Water User Certification

As part of the Independence Water & Sanitation District's reclaimed water permit issued by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE), the District is required under Colorado Regulation 84 to provide annual education to residents who utilize the reclaimed water irrigation system and maintain documentation that this information has been received.

To satisfy this requirement, the District asks all residents connected to the reclaimed water irrigation system to complete the 2026 Annual Reclaimed Water User Certification.

Why is this required?

- The purpose of the Annual User Certification is to help ensure residents understand:
- Reclaimed water is non-potable and intended for outdoor irrigation only.
- Basic safety practices associated with reclaimed water.
- The proper use of the District's reclaimed water irrigation system.

This certification is not intended to create additional responsibilities for homeowners or grant additional authority to the District or the State. Rather, it is one component of the District's annual reporting requirements under Colorado Regulation 84 and helps demonstrate that users of the reclaimed water system have received basic educational information regarding its safe use.

Quick and Easy to Complete

The certification consists of approximately 10 brief yes-or-no questions and typically takes less than two minutes to complete.

As this is the first year the District has implemented the Annual User Certification process, we appreciate your participation as we work to satisfy the State's reporting requirements while continuing to operate one of Colorado's conservation-focused reclaimed water systems.

Did You Know?

Independence was one of the first communities in Colorado to implement a community-wide

reclaimed water irrigation system. By using reclaimed water to irrigate our parks, open spaces, and residential landscapes, the District helps conserve valuable drinking water supplies for future generations.

Helping Improve Resident Education

The District also intends to use the survey results to better understand which aspects of the reclaimed water system residents are already familiar with and where additional information may be helpful. If common questions or areas of uncertainty are identified, Management will include short educational articles in future District newsletters to help residents better understand the reclaimed water system that serves our homes and community.

Additional information regarding the District's reclaimed water system, including educational materials and frequently asked questions, is available on the District website. [Click here.](#)

Thank you for helping the District continue operating one of Colorado's most innovative water conservation systems safely, responsibly, and in compliance with State regulations. We appreciate your partnership in protecting one of our community's most valuable resources.

Learn More About Colorado's Reuse Water Program:

[Click HERE](#)

Complete Your Annual User Certification:

[Click HERE](#)

Or scan the QR code.



Thank you for taking a few minutes to participate and support the District's commitment to water conservation and responsible resource management.

RESIDENTIAL WATER & NON-POTABLE WATER UPDATE AND LANDSCAPING

Friendly Reminder: Landscape Design Review Requirements

As a reminder, homeowners are required to submit an ACC Design Review Application and receive approval before installing landscaping or making other exterior improvements to their property. In addition, initial front and rear yard landscaping should be completed within six (6) months of closing on your home, as outlined in the Independence Design Guidelines.

Over the next two months, the District's Compliance Team will be conducting routine community audits. If you have not yet submitted a Design Review application or completed landscaping without prior approval, we encourage you to do so now to help avoid receiving a compliance notice.

If you have questions about the Design Review process or are ready to submit your plans, please review the Design Guidelines and application materials here: [Covenants & Design](#)

Guidelines - Independence Overlay Metropolitan District, then email your completed ACC Design Review application and supporting documents to the District Manager at Ryan@PublicAllianceLLC.com for review.

Thank you for helping preserve the quality, appearance, and long-term value of the Independence community.

It is officially summer, landscape maintenance matters. Please take a moment regularly to check for weeds. Keeping yards neat supports the welcoming character of Independence.

Section 8.1.1 Sightly Conditions: Each Unit shall at all times be kept, maintained, repaired and replaced in a good, clean and sightly condition by the Owner thereof.

2026 Irrigation Season Begins

As many of you are aware, Colorado continues to experience severe drought conditions, with below-average snowpack and reduced water supplies impacting communities across the Front Range. In response, many neighboring water providers have implemented mandatory or voluntary outdoor watering restrictions to help preserve our shared water resources.

After careful consideration, the Board of Directors of the Independence Water and Sanitation District has adopted a two-day-per-week outdoor watering schedule for all residents.

While this schedule is voluntary at this time, we strongly encourage every resident to participate. By reducing non-essential outdoor water use now, we can help conserve our water supply, reduce demands on the District's infrastructure, and lessen the likelihood that more restrictive conservation measures become mandatory later this season as the District will soon deplete its available Reuse Water supply and make the transition over to Potable water for the remainder of the Irrigation Season.

Outdoor Watering Schedule

- Even-Numbered Addresses: Sunday, Thursday
- Odd-Numbered Addresses: Wednesday, Saturday

Mandatory Watering Hours

To minimize evaporation and maximize irrigation efficiency, please water only between 8:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m.

Please also remember to:

- Water only on your assigned days.
- Avoid watering during rain or high winds.

- Repair leaking or broken sprinkler heads promptly.
- Adjust sprinkler heads to prevent water from spraying onto sidewalks, streets, or driveways.
- Regularly inspect your irrigation system to ensure it is operating efficiently.
- Recommended Irrigation Run Times

The following run times are intended as general guidelines for a Two-Day Watering Schedule. Actual run times may vary depending on soil type, slope, sun exposure, sprinkler type, and the condition of your landscaping.

Irrigation Type	Suggested Run Time (Per Watering Day)
Spray Heads	6–10 minutes
Rotary Nozzles (MP Rotators)	15–20 minutes
Rotor Heads	12–18 minutes
Drip Irrigation (Shrubs & Planting Beds)	20–30 minutes

For best results, consider using a "cycle and soak" approach. Rather than watering once for a longer period, divide your total run time into two or three shorter cycles separated by 30–60 minutes. This allows water to soak into the soil more effectively, reduces runoff, and encourages deeper root growth.

If you notice areas of your landscape that appear dry or stressed between watering days, please responsibly hand water only those specific areas using your garden hose or outdoor spigot. Spot watering trees, shrubs, flowers, and newly established plants as needed is encouraged and is often more efficient than increasing irrigation run times for the entire landscape.

By voluntarily reducing outdoor irrigation now, residents can help:

- Extend the availability of the District's non-potable reuse water supply.
- Reduce demand on the District's potable groundwater wells.
- Support the long-term sustainability of our community's water resources.
- Help avoid the need for more restrictive conservation measures later this season.

Every resident's participation makes a difference. Small changes in our watering habits, when adopted across the community, can have a significant impact.

The District encourages users to irrigate responsibly. The current Rate & Fee Resolution can be found on the District's website at: [Rates - Independence Water and Sanitation District](#).

Required Non-Potable Irrigation Water Signs: (See Photo)



Semocore, the District's water operator, has been installing required non-potable irrigation water signage at homes throughout the community and will continue over the next several weeks. The signs will be placed near each residence's front stairs.

The District's irrigation system uses non-potable water, which is safe for landscape irrigation but not safe for drinking or human consumption.

The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) requires visible signage identifying non-potable water systems as part of statewide public health and water system identification requirements. Please do not remove or tamper with these signs once installed.

The District will be considering fines for Signs that have been installed and then removed by the homeowner.

We love seeing Independence shine through every season, and as we move into the spring growing season, here are a few timely reminders to help keep our community safe, welcoming, and looking its very best.

Community Trash Cans & Dog Waste Stations

The District continues to work with ELCI to perform weekly litter removal throughout the community, including the maintenance of community trash cans and dog waste stations.

As a friendly reminder, these receptacles are intended for small household and pet waste items only. Please do not dispose of large or bulky materials. These materials can damage or tear the trash bags, creating additional cleanup challenges and maintenance costs.

We appreciate everyone's cooperation in helping keep Independence clean, safe, and enjoyable for all residents. Thank you for doing your part to keep our community looking its best.

The main focus this July will be on weeds and native mowing along fencelines and open spaces. To report a concern please email: Ryan@PublicAllianceLLC.com

This season has been abnormally dry and hot and the Fire Risk remains high. Please keep in mind that Elbert County has enacted Stage Two Burn Restrictions. [Click here](#) for more information.

PARKING REMINDERS

To help keep our streets safe and accessible for walking, biking, and other summer activities we encourage residents to utilize their garage(s) and driveway for vehicle parking whenever possible, reserving street parking as a secondary option.

RECREATIONAL VEHICLES

As a reminder during the summer season, recreational vehicles, boats, campers, utility trailers, and similar equipment may be temporarily parked within the community for loading, unloading, cleaning, or preparation purposes. However, pursuant to the community's governing documents, these vehicles may not remain parked on a lot, driveway, or street for more than **72 hours** without being removed.

We appreciate everyone's cooperation in helping maintain the appearance and character of the community. If you have any questions regarding any District-related topics, please contact District Management.

SEASONAL DECORATIONS

As a reminder, seasonal decorations should be removed within 15 days after holidays.

TRASH CONTAINERS

As a reminder, HBS is now part of Waste Management. Residents may call Customer Service (888) 496-8824 for any service-related questions and/or requests.



For all completed homes with a certificate of occupancy:

- Trash containers may be placed curbside after 6 a.m. on pickup day.
- They must be returned to proper storage by 9 p.m. the same day.
Containers should be stored out of sight between pickups.
- These small steps keep our neighborhood clean and looking beautiful!

DESIGN REVIEW

Thinking about a winter project or planning ahead for spring? Any exterior changes — landscaping, patios, architectural modifications — must be submitted for design review before work begins. You can find covenants and design guidelines on the Overlay Districts page. [Click here](#) for more information.

For New Homeowners, what is a Special District?

Special districts are created to fill service gaps in county services. In Colorado, these districts function as local governments or political subdivisions of the state, adding a third level of government in the United States. This level includes counties, municipalities (cities and towns), school districts, and other entities such as authorities and special districts. For the Independence community, several Metropolitan Districts are in place:

- [Independence Overlay Metropolitan District](#): Oversees public amenities, enforces Covenants, and acts in lieu of an HOA.
- [Independence Metropolitan Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6](#): Metropolitan Districts dedicated to residential development.
- [Independence Water & Sanitation District](#): Provides water and sanitary sewer facilities and services to the entire community.
- [Independence Commercial District](#): Will oversee future commercial operations.

If you have any questions about our community's districts, architectural review tips, design guidelines, or resident responsibilities related to home ownership in the Independence Community, as well as inquiries about water, landscaping, trash, etc., please contact Public Alliance, LLC at 720-213-6621 or Contact@PublicAllianceLLC.com.



INDEPENDENCE COMMUNITY BLOG



Local Colorado Produce Guide: What's in Season

Living in Colorado makes it easy to access fresh, locally grown produce throughout much of the year. Shopping seasonally not only supports local farmers and businesses but also gives you the chance to enjoy fruits and vegetables at their peak flavor and freshness. [Read our latest blog](#) to learn more!



JOIN US ON SOCIAL FOR THE LATEST UPDATES!



WE LOVE HEARING FROM YOU!

If you have questions at any time, please reach out to us!

For community-related questions:

Contact@IndependenceDenver.com

For resident-related events:

Kristin@IndependenceDenver.com

For District-related questions (water, landscaping, etc.):

Public Alliance Main Number: 720-213-6621

Email: Contact@PublicAllianceLLC.com



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