

# Andover Glen Homeowners Association

Aurora, Colorado [www.Andoverglen.org](http://www.Andoverglen.org) Issue 4, Volume 11

## ANDOVER GLEN HOLIDAY CHEER

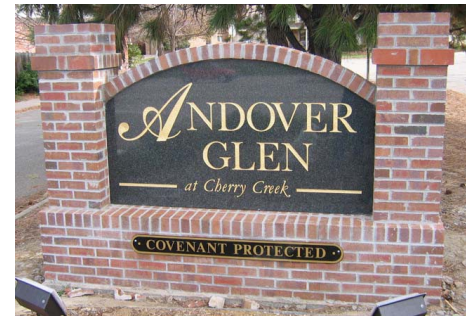
Andover Glen's Happy Holiday/New Year Party is fast approaching. As in year's past, a progressive dinner theme followed by a dessert and holiday drink is forecast. Traditionally, our social chair person reaches out to residents to volunteer as hosts, opening their home to other residents to spread holiday cheer and conversation. Wonderful hors d'oeuvres and a scrumptious dinner await festive participants so put your best dress on and be apart of ringing in the New Year.

The event is scheduled for January 4, 2014 and there is still an opportunity to host one of the progressive dinner get togethers; if you are interested in entertaining, please contact Debra Jones at, 303-690-9459 or reach out at [DEBSEW79@MSN.COM](mailto:DEBSEW79@MSN.COM).

As in the past, after dinner we congregate for dessert and spirit (if willing) at the home of Michael Zabinski and M.L. Hanson, aka "Layton Lodge". The holiday drink contest is the highlight of the evening as someone will be taking home the coveted trophy and bragging rights.

RSVP to Debra Jones to attend the event, details around the meal and the schedule for that evening will be provided when you call and will be spread by email alerts and posted on the AG calendar (please leave a message including your name and phone number when you call). If you have a favorite dessert you would like to share, please deliver your dessert to "The Lodge", 14205 E. Layton Drive by 5:00 p.m preceding this gala. If you enter the drink contest, bring enough servings to share with 3 judges.

Don't be a scrooge, come meet your neighbors!



## Upcoming Events

### November 20

Andover Glen Board Meeting (Shalom Park, 7pm)

### November 22

Common Grounds Coffee **Annual Cookie Exchange** at Debra & Rick Jones' Home 4802 S. Carson Street, Andover Glen

### November 28

Thanksgiving

### December 24

Christmas Eve

### December 25

Christmas

### January 4, 2014

Andover Glen Holiday Party

### January 15, 2014

Andover Glen Board Meeting (Shalom Park, 7pm)

**No Monthly Andover Glen Board Meeting or Commons Grounds due to Holidays**

# Andover Glen Forum, Homeowners Speak Their Mind (Newsletter Editorial Issue)

## Building "Community" Within Your Community

(Courtesy of Hindman Sanchez P.C., HOA Blog)

Community spirit means pride in a community. Building community spirit creates an emotional equity allowing residents to have an invested interest in their community. The key to having a spirited community doesn't rest in the size or the wealth of the association, but rather the enthusiasm and energy of the residents. Community associations throughout the country rely on resident volunteers who exhibit these traits to bring their community together.

One of the easiest ways to build community spirit is by welcoming new members of the community. The "Welcoming Committee" for Andover Glen is headed up by Pete O'Meara, One of the "charter member" homeowners still in Andover Glen and part of a larger family which helped mold the Denver area to the great metro it is today. Perhaps you caught a glimpse of this social butterfly with his wife Nancy riding in a Model T courtesy of O'Meara Ford in the AG Parade. By welcoming new owners to the community, not only does this exhibit community spirit, it is also an opportunity to invite them to various events being held within the community and it also provides them with a contact point in case they have any questions. If you see a new neighbor in and around the hood, help out Pete by saying hi, introducing yourself and making them feel welcomed.

Many associations have community traditions revolving around seasonal events. Andover Glen conducts a summer barbeque annually and just re-introduced the AG parade from years ago. Having your own private park adds to the intimacy of a great community and provides a meeting ground for ideas and new relationships. The annual AG Holiday Party pits a few homeowners in a progressive dinner challenge to provide a festive atmosphere while providing food (courtesy of the HOA) and good conversation. This event culminates in the ultimate dessert party and holiday "Whoville" drink contest held at Michael Zabinski and ML Hanson's home, aka. Layton Lodge (how many more years will they sponsor?). Speaking of challenge, what drink will you be entering?

Another idea is an Earth Day/Arbor Day celebration which allows residents to join together to beautify their community. The Andover Glen version? MULCH FEST 2013! Approximately twenty-five homeowners volunteered a Saturday morning spreading mulch along the AG Parker Road xeriscape project. While the soon after Colorado Floods of 2013 thwarted some of the effort, "Mulch Fest" saved the HOA \$600-\$700 in professional landscaping services. Moreover, overall community cohesion was evident as new and old friendships were created and fostered.



## In the Community

### November

**14th Annual Festival of Wreaths (Nov 12-Dec 12)** This annual holiday exhibit and fundraiser features 50 spectacularly decorated wreaths sponsored by area businesses, organizations, and families. The wreaths are on display for all to enjoy. They are also for sale through a silent auction to raise money for the Museum. Bids are accepted both at the Museum and via the Museum's website: [www.auroramuseum.org](http://www.auroramuseum.org). Contact: Jennifer Kuehner, 303-739-6667

**Nov. 29 - BLACK FRIDAY**

### December

#### Dec. 3

**City of Aurora Holiday Tree Lighting (Aurora Municipal Ctr)**

**Get festive with the sights & sounds of the holiday season!**

#### Tasty Treats

Enjoy hot cocoa, munching on holiday pastries and don't forget to pick up your candy cane from Santa who will make his grand entrance at 6:30 p.m. with help from the Aurora Fire Dept!

Take a wagon ride with Mrs. Claus as she tells her favorite holiday stories.

**Dec. 6 @ 8pm, Dec. 7 @ 6pm**

**9NEWS Parade of Lights** The two-mile parade route in Downtown Denver is the stage for Colorado's brightest holiday tradition. The FREE holiday spectacular features marching bands, ornate floats, and, of course, a special appearance by Major Waddles the Penguin and Santa! Grab your hot chocolate and ear-muffs, this year is going to be better than ever! - See more Google Parade of Lights!

SO what is the point of this editorial issue? These are just some of the activities, social and HOA directed that are there to bring AG people together.



## WE WANT YOU!

Your Andover Glen HOA is seeking enthusiastic, energetic and festive neighbors to get involved in the community. **DO YOURSELF, YOUR FAMILY AND YOUR HOA SOME GOOD AND GET INVOLVED, YOU WON'T RERET IT!**

Remember, volunteering is the best way to give back to your neighborhood!

## Destructive Tree Pest Detected in Colorado

Courtesy of Christi Lightcap, *Colorado Department of Agriculture*, (303) 239-4190, Christi.Lightcap@state.co.us  
Workabeba (Abby) Yigzaw, *US Department of Agriculture*, (301) 851-4096

An invasive insect responsible for the death or decline of tens of millions of ash trees in 21 states has been detected in Colorado for the first time.

A suspect tree was spotted in Boulder County on September 23rd by City of Boulder Forestry staff. Insect specimens from the ash tree were collected and sent to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Systematic Entomology Laboratory where the identity of the insects was confirmed.

“The confirmation of these specimens as emerald ash borer (EAB) marks the western-most occurrence of this invasive pest in North America,” said Patrick McPherrren, USDA State Plant Health Director in Colorado. “To date Colorado is the fourth State to detect EAB in 2013.”

“The first step will be to determine how widespread its presence is,” said CDA’s Plant Inspection Division Director, Mitch Yergert. “We have a plan in place to quickly respond in order to protect Colorado’s ash trees.” Additional steps will involve initiating a quarantine in the regulated area to prevent the movement of all ash tree products and hardwood firewood. The Colorado Department of Agriculture will also expand efforts to detect the destructive bug. CDA has been trapping for EAB for five years; additional efforts will now include bark inspections and tree sampling. Officials will also step up education and outreach efforts.

The emerald ash borer (EAB) is a small, green metallic beetle first detected in North America in 2002 in southeastern Michigan. The emerald ash borer attacks only ash trees and all ash species - including green, white, black and blue - are at risk. Signs of emerald ash borer infestation include a general decline in the appearance of the tree, thinning of upper branches and twigs, loss of leaves, and serpentine tunnels produced by EAB larvae under the bark. Woodpeckers may often be observed removing the bark of infested trees to access the larvae.

EAB has killed over 50 million ash trees since its initial discovery in Michigan in 2002. In the last ten years the small green metallic colored pest, originally from Asia, has spread from Michigan to 21 states, including Colorado. Ash trees are popular in Colorado with an estimated 98,000 in the city of Boulder alone; the Denver Metro area has an estimated 1.45 million ash trees. “The public can play a vital role in preventing the spread of this destructive bug by simply not moving firewood,” said Yergert. “EAB larvae can survive underneath the bark of ash firewood, and when it’s moved from one place to another, the pest can hitchhike to a new location. Furthermore, it’s important to note that trees begin to decline a bit during fall months but there are certain features of a EAB-infested tree that residents can look for.”

It is possible that EAB could infest an ash tree for 3 or 4 years before visible signs of decline of the tree. If an ash tree is experiencing die back or looking unhealthy, residents are encouraged to have it examined by a professional tree company, contact CDA, or their city or county forestry office. Infestation signs include:

- Sparse leaves or branches in the upper part of the tree
- D-shaped exit holes about 1/8 inch wide
- New sprouts on the lower trunk or lower branches
- Vertical splits in the bark
- Winding S-shaped tunnels under the bark
- Increased woodpecker activity

For five years, CDA has been conducting EAB early detection activities through the Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey (CAPS) program. The project is in coordination with the US Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Plant Protection and Quarantine (USDA-APHIS-PPQ), Colorado State Forest Service (CSFS) and City Foresters from 27 communities on the Front Range. Targeted surveys, trapping or sampling, are conducted annually to detect pests that are likely to be introduced to Colorado via commerce, human travel or natural spread.

If you think you have EAB in your ash trees, or if you have any questions or concerns, or would like additional information, please contact the Colorado Department of Agriculture at 888-248-5535 or email [CAPS.program@state.co.us](mailto:CAPS.program@state.co.us).

Additional Information: Colorado specific information can be found at [www.colorado.gov/ag/dpi](http://www.colorado.gov/ag/dpi) and click on "Emerald Ash Borer."

<http://www.emeraldashborer.info>

For more on the EAB and other exotic pest threats, visit the USDA site <http://www.hungrypests.com>. A fact sheet on the EAB survey is also available at [http://www.aphis.usda.gov/publications/plant\\_health/2013/faq\\_eab\\_survey.pdf](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/publications/plant_health/2013/faq_eab_survey.pdf).

- <http://www.dontmovefirewood.org>

## ***DO YOU HAVE A GREEN THUMB AND CANNOT RESIST HOME GROWN VEGETABLES? JOIN THE AG COMMUNITY GARDEN!***

We now have 9 new 6'x10' plots for a total of 25 just west of the tennis courts in Andover Glen Park. Fencing for the new section and irrigation will be added in early spring but if you wish to claim a plot during the winter months, please contact Norm Arlt or the board to get connected.

Plots are available on a first-come, first-serve basis, although new first-plot gardeners would take precedence over 2nd-plot requests from existing gardeners if and when we run out of vacant plots. Rent of \$10 per plot would be due in May 2014. FYI, the Community Garden Guidelines are posted on our website at

<http://www.andoverglen.org/Community%20Garden%20guidelines%202013-04.pdf>

**Important Numbers for the City: Call [303-627-3100](tel:303-627-3100) to report suspicious activity (APD Dispatch, Access Aurora) City of Aurora Code Enforcement [303-739-7280](tel:303-739-7280)**