



NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2025

OFFICE HOURS: Monday, Wednesday, Friday 10 am to 3 pm (Except

Holidays)

PHONE: (530) 644-2182

EMAIL: info@sierraspringsowners.org

WEBSITE: www.sierraspringsowners.org

MEETINGS:

EXECUTIVE MEETING: 1ST WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH (BOARD MEMBERS ONLY, LIMITED EXCEPTIONS).

BOARD MEETING: 2ND WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH (OPEN TO ALL MEMBERS).

FIRE SAFETY MEETING: FIRST MONDAY OF THE MONTH (OPEN TO EVERYONE)

COCK-A-DOODLE-DOO! – Did I just hear a rooster off Sierra Springs Drive? Could I be mistaken? After all, roosters are not allowed in upper Sierra Springs. In fact, the keeping of roosters, along with guinea hens and peahens, is prohibited on any lot in the unincorporated areas of El Dorado County that is less than three acres with very limited exceptions!

Even though a rare exception may exist for county purposes, there are NO EXCEPTIONS in any area within the Association itself! The CC&Rs for units 1-4 (upper Sierra Springs) provide that NO animals, livestock, or poultry of any kind may be raised or kept on any lot! The remaining lots in the Association, as well as units 1-4, also prohibit any NUISANCES in any part of the Association. What is the crowing of a rooster except a nuisance, a major nuisance!

If you are keeping roosters on your property, expect a letter or visit from the Association! Good news for your neighbors and BYE, BYE BIRDIE for the roosters!

2026 BUDGET AND DUES AMOUNTS: Although the budget process is not complete at this time, it is evident that with last year's expenses and those expected for 2026, Members can expect a significant increase in the dues beginning in 2026; though not more than a 20 percent increase. The exact amount has yet to be determined!

Not welcome news for sure, but realistic news considering the current economy and steadily increasing costs throughout the country. As soon as the budget process is complete, you can expect to find the dues increase noted in SSOA's Annual Statement which will be e-mailed or mailed to members soon! Notice of the dues increase amount will also be posted on the SSOA Website.

CULVERTS – Do you have a culvert as part of your driveway? With winter approaching with heavy rains and snow, the culverts will require your attention! To stop any flooding and to maintain the purpose of the culvert; remember to inspect the culvert and take care of any smashed ends and remove any obstructions that can restrict good water flow. Obstructed culverts and smashed ends restrict the water flow and drainage, which in turn, can cause flooding into the streets and your driveway. Be proactive, not reactive, and get ahead of the winter storms!

ZERO ZONE – Does your residence or other like structure have a wooden fence or other combustible structure within five (5) feet of your home or decking? Is a combustible fence directly attached to your home or garage? Are there combustibles within 5 feet of your deck. If yes, you need to change that! No doubt you have heard of the "zero (0) zone! No doubt you have heard all this before!

Whatever you remember or don't remember, NOTE that residences with combustible fences or other like items attached to the residence or within five feet, SHOULD remove the combustibles and replace with noncombustible ones! Safer yet, just remove the combustibles. Today, this is a recommendation! Soon to be an enforceable rule with a fine imposed. Get prepared!!

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ELECTRONIC ELECTIONS – WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT SSOA INSTITUTING ELECTRONIC VOTING FOR BOARD CANDIDATES INSTEAD OF USING PAPER BALLOTS? THINK ABOUT IT AND LET SHELLY AT THE LODGE KNOW YOUR THOUGHTS ON THE SUBJECT. ELECTRONIC ELECTIONS ARE NOW AN OPTION FOR HOAS AND OTHER PLANNED DEVELOPMENTS! BEFORE OPTING IN OR OUT, SSOA WANTS YOUR INPUT!

SSOA Board of Directors:

Jonathan Greenburg — President
Tony Graunstadt — Vice President
Kay Campbell — Treasurer
Will McHugh — Secretary
Vacant — Director

Upcoming SSOA Community Clean Up Day – Do the pine needles seem to fall from the sky and multiply at your feet day after day? Do falling pine needles continue to require your attention no matter how many times you rake and pick the needles up and dispose of them? Unfortunately, all residents of SSOA are in the same boat. **THERE ARE NO PINE NEEDLE FAIRIES!** However, once again the Fire Safe Council and SSOA, are offering residents a Community Clean-up Day to assist in disposing of the multiplying pine needles.

As offered in May of this year, the Sierra Springs Regional Fire Safe Council and SSOA are once again sponsoring a Community Clean Up event on November 8, 2025, starting at 9:00 a.m. and continuing until the dumpsters are full. Dumpsters will be available at the Wisteria Pool and near the Maintenance Garage behind the SSOA Lodge. SSOA Residents can dispose of pine needles and leaves at these locations. Only compostable paper bags filled with leaves and/or pine needles (yard waste) are allowed. If the yard waste is contained in a plastic bag, the bag may be emptied into the dumpster if the resident takes the plastic bag with them when they leave the site. Compostable paper bags are once again available for pick up at the SSOA Lodge. The bags come in packets of five (5). Please take only two (2) packets of the paper bags (maximum) to ensure all residents have bags available for participation in the event. Participants will be asked for their address, time taken to fill bags, and the number of bags brought to the site. A raffle ticket will be given to participants for every 5 bags of yard waste. At the November 12, 2025, Board Meeting, a drawing will be held and the winners of the raffle prizes announced.

HOLIDAY EVENTS ARE COMING TO THE SSOA LODGE!!

HALLOWEEN! Mark your calendars for Saturday October 25, 2025, 5:00-7:00 PM. Enjoy pizza, drinks, treats, graveyard visits, taking pictures, and, best of all, TRUNK OR TREATING!

Trunk & Treat Vehicles and volunteers needed!! SSOA will provide the candy! Volunteers provide the decorated vehicles. If you want to have fun, dress up, decorate your vehicle, and pass out candy to little witches & goblins, contact Shelly at 530-644-2182. WE NEED YOU!! The more decorated vehicles/trunks; the more fun for everyone!

CHRISTMAS! Santa Claus is coming to the Lodge on December 6, 2025, from 1:00-3:00. This will be SSOA's third year with a visit from Santa! Come for treats, beverages, food, and fun. Sit on Santa's lap and tell him what you want for Christmas! The photographer will once again be available and ready to snap a picture of the happy faces of adults and children alike. If desired, all will receive a free photo with Santa. More information to follow towards the end of November! Mark your calendar!

PLEASE NOTE the Events Committee needs more volunteers. It is hard to provide fun filled events for families without enough volunteers to help! And they are fun-filled and geared toward the children in the Association. Please call Shelly and **VOLUNTEER** now! You are needed!!

VACANT BOARD MEMBER POSITION

Volunteers Needed

Please Contact Shelly at (530) 644-2182 if Interested