

How to be a Good Neighbor in Pinewood Springs

By Diane Emerson

I once heard a saying that I love, "If you are lucky enough to live in the mountains....you are lucky enough." Well said. Here are some suggestions to make the quality of our lives even better.

- The night sky here is amazing. Please don't ruin your neighbors' experience with bright outdoor spotlights. Light pollution contributes to poor star gazing, Jacuzzi sessions, and even your neighbors' indoor activities, like sleeping and movie viewing. Take a moment to check where your lights actually shine; is it perhaps in your neighbor's yard, windows, or spa area? Look into motion-detector lights and aim the lights toward the ground, not out to your neighbor's property.
- Your pets are your pride and joy, but please keep them on your property. No one enjoys being met at their door, lot, or garage by someone else's snarling or barking dog. They belong with you, on a leash and under your control at all times.
- When your dog barks, it can be life altering for your neighbors. Some folks work and sleep at odd hours, and no one enjoys an incessantly barking, howling, or whining dog. Please be considerate.
- Many of us are very physically active. Please keep your dog leashed when hiking our trails and roadways. Chasing vehicles and motorcycles may lead to your pet's death, so please don't allow them to run into the roadway and cause a dangerous situation. This goes for our walkers, runners, and cyclists; no one wants to confront a threatening dog. Also, when meeting other, leashed, pets on the trail, though your pet may be gregarious, the other animal may not be and will try to protect its handler, making for a less than serene situation.
- Don't leave your trash cans out; we have wild animals that love to investigate.
- Get to know your neighbors. We live in a relatively remote area, and you never know when you may need some kind of assistance, so don't wait until our next forest fire or other event. Do it now.
- Power tools and lawnmowers should be used at appropriate times, preferably *after* your next door neighbor's first cup of coffee. Please be considerate.
- Get involved with your PSPOA, by joining you will have a voice in the community, be a part of local events, and support the common areas.