



# Edelweiss Maintenance Commission

POB 846 • Winthrop, WA 98862 • Tel 509-996-9897

## Summer 2015 Newsletter

---

\*\*\*\*\*

### General Manager's Message from Dick Volckmann

\*\*\*\*\*

Today – July 13 – we're finally getting a break from the heat that has scorched us for the past month. On June 27, the temperature reached a blistering 104 degrees. And we have had several more days of 100 or more. We were almost used to the 90s when the weather broke this last weekend and the temperatures have retreated to the 70s. We feel like we need to bundle up when going outdoors! We're keeping our fingers crossed that the weather gods will decide that enough is enough and that they'll provide temperatures more acceptable to human-kind for the rest of the summer.

The Old Pool - Our new pool heat pump arrived few weeks ago, and we were able to get the pool up and running shortly thereafter. It was especially welcome during the heat of June and early July. We will keep the pool open through Labor Day and it will be closed the following day.

The New Pool – Good News! The Board of Directors has voted definitively go forward with the new pool. The day after Labor Day, the schedule calls for our excavating contractor to come in and begin demolishing the pool that has served since 1975. That includes ripping up all the concrete decking, digging out the pool itself and taking down the fence. We will try to salvage all the glass panels for use in a new fence. As soon as the demolition has taken place and the site has been prepared, workers for the pool company – KrisCo Pools – will arrive on site. They estimate that they will be able to form and build the new pool in a little over a month, taking it to the finished concrete stage. The final plastering will take place in the spring, when the pool can be filled so that the plaster can set up correctly. If all goes well, the new pool should be ready for swimming by Memorial Day weekend of 2016.

The first year's assessment for the new pool of \$300.00 will be billed at the beginning of August. In order to give everyone a little breathing room, the payment will be due by October 15<sup>th</sup>; however, in order to be sure to meet our obligations, we would appreciate payment before

that date. In addition, those who would prefer to pay the estimated three-year assessment of \$860.00 up front, it would help us greatly in paying back the loan that we are making from our drain-field fund. Keep in mind that the total payment is estimated, and that there might be an adjustment of a few dollars at the very end of the project.

Firewise – Several weeks ago Okanogan County declared a burn ban through the entire county. This means no outdoor burning of any kind, including campfires and metal fire rings. It also means no fireworks, no chainsaw use in the forest, nothing that can cause a spark. Contained charcoal barbecues are permitted. Edelweiss is especially vulnerable to forest fire and it is incumbent on everyone to be on the lookout for any sort of violation of the burn ban. If you see any such activity please call:

Courtney Creighton, Captain  
Mazama Fire Station, District 6  
996-4224

The worst case scenario would be a fire that threatens Edelweiss, requiring an evacuation of the community. Two principal escape routes are available to us, the main entrance and East Fawn Creek Road down to Goat Creek Road. As most residents know, East Fawn Creek Road is an extremely undesirable option due to its narrowness and the bad condition of the road surface. On more than one occasion I (and other members of the community) have written to the Forest Service requesting their help in widening and upgrading the road as an

important egress in the case of a fire-threatened emergency. The answer has always been that, 1- East Fawn Creek Road is 'low priority', and 2- the Forest Service does not have the funds to do the necessary upgrade. I feel that this is an important issue that should not go unchallenged. Accordingly, I suggest that any of the residents of Edelweiss who might be so inclined to express their opinion, should write to the Forest Service requesting that the road be upgraded as a safety issue for the community. Address your correspondence to:

Michael Liu, District Ranger  
Methow Valley Ranger District  
24 West Chewuch Road  
Winthrop, WA 98862  
509-996-4003

Chipping – As mentioned at the annual meeting, I have been attempting to establish a source for the chipping of accumulated branches, small tree cut-offs, etc. The most reliable person I've found is currently on fire duty for the remainder of the summer; however, he has promised to contact me when he is free this fall and will be available to come up to Edelweiss to chip up the debris from homeowner's properties. If you have woody debris to chip, please let me know and I'll put you on the list. Along with your name and lot number, please include your street address. The more people that need work to be done, the less expensive it will be for everyone.

Water – The new water line up the steep bank of West Fawn Creek to Eagles Nest Road, has been installed and connected with the main. The new 4" line replaces the old 2" line, which will reduce head loss and increase volume. It is hoped that the issues of low to negative pressure on Eagles Nest Road have been alleviated.

Those of you along River Road and Lupine Road may experience a little inconvenience during the next few weeks. Baynard Buzzard's excavators will be digging a trench down each road to install a new power line for OCEC. Edelweiss will take advantage of the trench to install a new 4" main water line. Individual services will be connected to the new line at Edelweiss expense. New meters and vaults will be billed to the property owners.

Garbage – Our garbage issues continue to be a problem, although nothing like the recent occurrence where, two weeks in a row, some thoughtless, inconsiderate, self-centered imbecile tossed jugs of used oil into the dumpsters. When the person driving the garbage truck used the compactor, the oil cans ruptured, spraying oil into the truck bed and all over the driver. The ramifications of this action are many, not excluding the fact that a spark could have burned up the garbage truck, a \$200,000 piece of equipment. We have since changed the garbage combination, in the hope that this idiotic action was not done by an Edelweiss property owner, but one who had learned the combination over the past few years. And by the way, if you are a homeowner who has not received word of the the new combination, please email or call me and I'll provide it to you. We have ordered some signs with 'dumpster rules' which have been posted on the garbage buildings. It is hoped that folks will comply with the regulations and will not leave tires, paint, oil, mattresses, construction material, toilets, etc. at the garbage area. . The Twisp transfer station (509-997-2025) is the place for this kind of thing. I do want to thank the person who, a few years ago, left a perfectly good classical guitar in the dumpster. The only thing wrong was that the neck had separated from the head. I glued it back together and it's as good as new. No, you can't have it back!

Campground – At the south east end of the campground is an area that can be used for camping for Edelweiss owners and their guests. Recently, a family set up camp in that area and remained for several weeks. The Board of directors has recently determined that camping in this area shall henceforth be limited to 7 days.

Cows – They're b-a-a-ck! So far they've kept to their environs in the National Forest, so here's hoping! Please make sure that if you open a gate in the Edelweiss fence that you close it behind you. The lawn you save might be your own!

We wish everyone a quiet and uneventful summer. And as the temperature climbs again - - Think Snow!

Dick Volckmann