



Mayor's Matters

AUGUST 2011

Greetings!

Mayor's Matters is your monthly connection to learn about the great things happening in the City of Wheat Ridge! I encourage you to share this newsletter with any friends or family who may wish to know more about Wheat Ridge. Feel free to forward this on to others.



Please note we have changed the mailing date of this e-newsletter to the fourth Friday of every month.

Mayor Jerry DiTullio

USA Pro Cycling Challenge Set to Cycle Through Wheat Ridge

I am really excited that the City of Wheat Ridge is part of the inaugural USA Pro Cycling Challenge course. This is a great opportunity for local businesses and residents to come out, cheer on the racers and show off our great



City to an international audience. The USA Pro Cycling Challenge is expected to be one of the largest spectator events in Colorado history. For seven consecutive days, 128 of the world's top bicyclists will race across over 500 miles through the majestic Rockies.

The course will take racers through Wheat Ridge on August 28 around noon. The race will enter the City at W. 32nd Avenue at Youngfield Street; proceed to Kipling Street south to W. 26th Avenue and east on W. 26th Avenue. The race will re-enter the City, making a left onto northbound Wadsworth and make a right on W.

Wheat Ridge Business Awards

The Wheat Ridge Business Awards will be held on October 12. Please note this is a date change from September 29.

Save the Date...

- **E-Waste Recycling Event**
September 10
10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
4930 Iris St.
For more information please visit the City's [website](#).
- **2011 Mid Century and Modern in Wheat Ridge Home Tour**
September 24
1 – 5 p.m.

Visit the Wheat Ridge Farmers' Market

Thursdays through
October 27

32nd Avenue and continue to Sheridan Boulevard. Additional race and street closure information can be found on the City's [Website](#).

September Designated as Back to School and Traffic Safety Awareness Month

I have been collaborating with the Police Department to raise awareness of the importance of traffic safety as the new school year begins. In August, we made educational announcements and issued a proclamation designating September as "Back to School and Traffic Safety Awareness Month." Traffic safety information will be shared with schools, parents and students through *Mayor's Matters*, the City website, as well as broadcasts on *Top of the Hour* on Channel 8.

In September, the Police Department will begin a directed enforcement effort targeting specific traffic violations such as speeding vehicles in school zones, red light violations at high-frequency accident locations, aggressive driving, traffic laws limiting the number of passengers a teenage driver can have in a vehicle, and texting while driving laws. These directed enforcement efforts will be combined with statewide traffic enforcement programs such as "Click It or Ticket" and "The Heat is On" campaigns in September.

In 2010, the top traffic violations in Wheat Ridge were speeding, disobeying traffic control devices, careless driving, violations pertaining to traffic control signals and failure to stop at a stop sign. The top accident locations in Wheat Ridge include all the major intersections along the Wadsworth and Kipling corridors, W. 38th and Sheridan, and W. 32nd and Youngfield. The Police Department responded to 1,412 accidents and issued 5,241 traffic citations in 2010.

Remember, help protect our young citizens. Take notice of the increase in pedestrian traffic and slow down.

City Adopts Mixed Use Zoning Along Wadsworth Boulevard and Takes a Major Step in Development Process

The adopted ordinance creates a new mixed use zone that will encourage a broad range of uses while not requiring applicants to complete the lengthy planned unit development application process. This ordinance will support economic development by streamlining the application and review process within the mixed use-commercial zone district. I am proud of the broad outreach to the public and the affected

10 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
4252 Wadsworth Blvd.
[Click here for information on the Wheat Ridge Farmers Market.](#)

Wheat Ridge Parks and Recreation Youth Commission Positions

The Parks and Recreation commission is accepting applications for two Parks and Recreation Youth Commission positions. Students must be of high school age, and residents of Wheat Ridge. The Commission meets the third Wednesday of every month at 7 p.m. at the Wheat Ridge Recreation Center. Duties of the Parks and Recreation Commission include advising staff and City Council on specific matters as assigned, and acting as a liaison between the Department and the community at large. Youth members will have an opportunity to gain work experience, become more involved in City government, develop leadership skills and gain volunteer experience.

For further information or to request an application please call 303-231-1307. Applications will also be located on the City website at the following [link](#). Deadline for receipt of applications is

property owners that preceded the official Council hearings. Beginning in early 2010 with the Mayor's Wadsworth Summit, we worked to bring all interested parties to the table and create a plan that would work to promote the interests of the community as a whole. For more information, [click here](#).

Clear Creek Crossing Development

In late July, Cabela's announced they intend to take a new approach to store development in Colorado and therefore will sell their 80-acre property in Wheat

Ridge. Although we are

disappointed that Cabela's is not choosing to stay in Wheat Ridge, I am confident that they will find a buyer interested in their property and the City will



continue to move forward with the development. Next spring, the City will begin the construction of planned roadway improvements at the interchange of 32nd and Youngfield as a result of a \$3 million Federal FASTER transportation grant.

Wheat Ridge Cultural Commission Sponsors Summer Reading Program

The Wheat Ridge Cultural Commission recently announced *Wheat Ridge Reads: Summer 2011*. Residents of the City of Wheat Ridge are encouraged to read a mystery by a Colorado author over the summer and attend an event to discuss the books they read.

The book discussion will be held at **7 p.m. on Monday, August 29**, at the Active Adult Center, 6363 W. 35th Ave. Questions about *Wheat Ridge Reads* may be directed to cultural@ci.wheatridge.co.us. For help finding a book for *Wheat Ridge Reads* visit <http://jefferson.lib.co.us> or www.rmmwa.org.

Monday, September 19. The first meeting for appointed youth members will be October 19.

QUICK LINKS

[City of Wheat Ridge](#)

[Mayor's Office](#)

[Quarterly Connections Newsletter](#)

[Wheat Ridge Channel 8](#)

[Mayor's Matters E-Newsletter](#)

[WRTV 8 Live and On Demand Videos](#)

[Jefferson County](#)

[Wheat Ridge 2020](#)

[Enterprise Wheat Ridge](#)

Booster Seat Violations

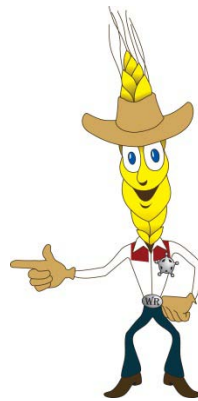
Kids up to age 8 required to be in a booster or car seat

August 1 marked the one-year anniversary of the expanded child passenger safety law in Colorado, which means laws enforcement will start pulling over cars and giving \$82 citations to drivers transporting children under the age of 8 who are not in a car seat or booster seat. Previously, the law only required child safety seats for children under age 6. For further information, please [click here](#).



Minimize Your Potential for an Auto-Related Crime

Wheat Ridge Police have recently seen a spike in motor vehicle thefts, burglaries and trespasses. Thieves have discovered that people tend to leave the keys in the car when it's parked in the garage and are taking full advantage. Citizens are encouraged to keep garage doors closed anytime they are not occupying the garage and remove car keys from the vehicle even when it is secured inside a garage. Other auto theft prevention tips:



- Never leave a vehicle running unattended (puffing)
- Always park in a well-lit, high traffic areas
- Have windows, doors and fenders etched with the vehicle's VIN
- Consider having a vehicle tracking and recovery device installed

More information can be found at www.lockdownyourcar.org.

For more information

If you would like more information about the Mayor's Matters e-newsletter, please feel free to contact Heather Geyer, Administrative Services Director, at 303-235-2826 or via e-mail at: hgeyer@ci.wheatridge.co.us