

2025 Accomplishments

Edgemont Highlands Community Association (EHCA) wanted to share some of the work that was accomplished in 2025. As always, community feedback is welcomed to address concerns and improve EHCA and the community overall.

The Association was guided by a full **board membership** (Stephanie Utley, Rex Howard, David Luschen, Gavin Tweedie, and Allison Aichele). In addition to the quarterly Board meetings, the budget ratification meeting, and the member's annual meeting, the Board met regularly throughout the year to keep up with current business and projects.

Maintenance and use of Edgemont Highlands assets continues to be a priority.

- The Lodge was used and enjoyed by members for personal events, fitness classes, Association sponsored informational meetings, and community engagement events.
- Interior and exterior lights were replaced at both mailrooms.
- Landscape lighting was repaired and replaced at both the Oak Leaf and Pine Cone entrances.
- A number of dead and/or diseased trees were removed from around the Lodge.
- Trail maintenance was performed throughout the field season. For interior trails this typically included mulching, edging, and clearing debris and vegetation. For exterior (natural tread) trails, tread was maintained, drainage concerns addressed, and vegetation encroaching the trails was removed. Trail signs were installed and maintained.
- Funding and maintenance of the much appreciated and utilized dog waste stations was continued.
- An updated trail map was produced and is available online at [Apogee Mapping](#).
- The herb garden was managed by a group of approximately 10 volunteers. The work done last fall to improve the beds paid off. The garden was planted on June 4th and produced a healthy supply of basil, parsley, mint, oregano, rosemary, thyme, and sage through the entire season.
- In coordination with the neighboring communities (The Ranch and Edgemont Meadows), an agreement was developed to manage and maintain the Florida River Fishing and Trail access. Per the agreement, a committee with a member from each of the three communities will work together to develop a budget and rules and regulations for this wonderful community amenity.



2025 Accomplishments

The Board's support of the **EHCA committees** resulted in a number of successful services and projects.

Architectural Review Committee (ARC)

- The ARC is comprised of one paid professional architect, one paid professional landscape architect, and three volunteer community members.
- The ARC is responsible for reviewing and approving project submittals, and performing on-site reviews of landscaping and exterior improvement projects and final inspections of construction projects.
- Projects reviewed by the ARC include:
 - 4 - New Home Construction Submittals
 - 5 - Final Inspections of Construction Projects
 - 35 - Landscape Projects for New and Existing Homes (includes general landscaping, patios, decks, privacy panels, fences, underground dog fences, play equipment, etc.)
 - 25 - Exterior Improvements for Existing Homes (includes exterior color changes, additions, changes to roofs, windows and doors, HVAC systems, etc.)
 - 4 - Sheds and Greenhouses
 - 3 - Solar Systems
 - 21 - Fire Mitigation and Tree Health Projects (includes fire mitigation and tree removal from private property and EHCA open space)
- The ARC worked with local seed companies and the CSU Extension Service to develop three grass seed mixes that are better suited to Edgemont Highlands growing conditions (Native Lawn, Natural Lawn, and Slopes). Detail regarding these mixes is available at [EH Grass Seed](#).

Forestry and Fuel Mitigation Committee (FFMC)

Wildfire Mitigation and promoting a firewise community was a priority again in 2025.

- The volunteer project in recognition of Wildfire Preparedness Day was well attended. Twenty volunteers worked to make the Lodge more firewise by replacing flammable materials within 5 feet of the Lodge with rock mulch. The Association was reimbursed \$740 for this project through a grant from the National Fire Protection Association and State Farm Insurance
- Edgemont Highlands' firewise certification with the National Fire Protection Association was renewed.
- Spring and fall cleanup services were provided again this year. Table To Farm (T2F) bins were used to collect approximately 20 16-yard dumpsters of organic material (leaves, pine needles, pinecones) which T2F will put to good use by turning into useable compost. Dumpsters for other/non-compostable material were also provided which resulted in five 30-yard dumpsters of material that was disposed of.



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- The Forestry & Fuel Mitigation Committee (FFMC) worked with Durango Wildland Fire, and Fire Smart to perform fuel mitigation projects on Edgemont Highlands open space. Projects included 10 acres in the Spring Creek area where pine and gambel oak were removed to make the face of the canyon more firewise. The 2025 projects connected to the fuel mitigation treatments done in 2024. The Association was reimbursed through a grant for this work in the amount of \$28,560.
- Durango Fire Protection District (DFPD) and Wildfire Adapted Partnership (WAP) continued to provide education regarding firewise practices and a number of residents took advantage of having a free home wildfire site inspection.

The committee also assessed Forest and Tree Health within the community.

- Hazardous cottonwood trees in the Spring Creek drainage were cut and piled for disposal next season.
- Committee members worked with professional foresters and arborists to inventory and inspect trees to help maintain a healthy forest. A number of dead and/or diseased trees were removed from EHCA open space.

Trail Steering Committee (TSC)

The Trail Steering Committee organized two volunteer projects giving residents the opportunity to show their appreciation of the community's trails. This work saved the Association a significant amount of money.

- In June, 23 volunteers worked on projects to clear old edging and debris and rake mulch back onto the Kenosha Loop Trail and added mulch and drainage features along the Pinecone Trail.
- In November, 11 volunteers worked to remove and replace two trail bridges. Volunteers carried the old demolished bridge material out, carried new material to the project sites, and built two new bridges (one timber bridge and one rock low-water crossing).



Weed Committee

- The Association contracted for the treatment of weeds throughout Edgemont Highlands which included selective weed treatment along roads, trails and in open spaces in the spring, and cheatgrass treatment in the fall. The continued efforts in weed treatment the past several years has resulted in a reduction in weeds overall and fewer areas infested with cheatgrass.
- Several areas of poison ivy along the trails were identified and treated.

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Community Engagement Committee (CEC)

- The CEC planned and organized two community events
- January Winter Social: Residents joined their friends and neighbors at the Lodge to enjoy snacks and drinks while listening and dancing to music by the Tim Sullivan Band.
- October Harvest Festival: The kids loved the jump house and balloon lady, the food truck and ice cream truck kept everyone fed, and live music, games and fresh popcorn added to the festive atmosphere.
- Thanks to the extra effort of several residents, the community successfully sponsored a food drive and a winter clothing drive.
 - The food drive collected 470 pounds of food and helped feed over 200 seniors and families.
 - The winter clothing drive was overwhelmingly successful. Some clothing was even newly purchased (tags still on).



The donations included:

- 5 Snow Suits
- 19 Shirts/Sweaters
- 37 Coats/Jackets
- 34 Hats
- 29 Pairs of Gloves
- 20 Scarves
- 33 Pairs of Socks
- 7 Pairs of Pants
- 4 Pairs of Shoes/Boots
- 1 Quilt
- 1 Backpack

Thanks to the generosity of the community the donated food and clothing will serve many who need it.