



Cooke City/Silver Gate Community Newsletter

A non-profit community newsletter offered by the Community Council of
Colter Pass, Cooke City & Silver Gate, Montana

This newsletter is printed in Memory of Steve Liebl, Newsletter Editor from 1998-2006
September 16, 2026 Issue No. 2393

Cooke City/Silver Gate - 2026 Events

Summer Ball Games - every Monday at 5:00

Mountain Belles will meet at 12:30 for lunch at the Coffee Shop. All local women and their guests are welcome. The following week we will have lunch at the Log Cabin in Silver Gate at 12:30.

Woody Creek project The contractor is planning on mobilizing equipment on Monday September 21st with project work running for 4-6 weeks. Traffic on Bannock Trail will not be affected, but people can expect to see heavy equipment in the floodplain and in the creek until the beginning of November or so. If anyone has questions or concerns, they can reach out to me at [406-543-0054 ext. 007](tel:406-543-0054) or katie@montanatu.org.

Yellowstone National Park reports August 2026 visitation statistics

MAMMOTH HOT SPRINGS, Wyo. – Yellowstone National Park hosted 856,467 recreation visits in August 2026, down 3% from August 2025 (881,936 recreation visits).

Visitation in August 2026 showed a 7% decrease from August 2021 (921,844 recreation visits), which was Yellowstone's record-breaking year with over 4.8 million recreation visits and the busiest August on record.

So far in 2026, the park has hosted 3,491,850 recreation visits, down 2% from 2025 (3,547,967 recreation visits), and down 3% from 2021 (3,590,609 recreation visits).

The list below shows the year-to-date trend for recreation visits over the last several years (through August):

2026 – 3,491,850
2025 – 3,547,967
2024 – 3,494,350
2023 – 3,308,924
2022 – 2,437,607 (The park was closed June 13 through June 21 due to the [historic flood event](#). Three entrances opened on June 22.)

Fall Craft Supply Swap! Connecting our community of artists, crafters, and makers with unused supplies. Donate items in good, usable condition. “Shop” from what others have brought. Early community drop-offs in Gardiner (one trip to Livingston!!). Swap Day: October 10 at Park County Fairgrounds! All items are free, open to all. More info and volunteer opportunities at www.craftsupplyswap.org



FMK Merchandise - Did you miss out on getting merch from the Forget Me Knot Fest?! We have a selected amount available. Stop by the Community Building and request to see our inventory.

Yellowstone National Park News Release Yellowstone Superintendent Cam Sholly Departing Federal Service to Join the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

September 11, 2026 Washington – The Department of the Interior today announced that Yellowstone National Park Superintendent Cameron “Cam” Sholly will conclude nearly three decades of federal service and almost eight years leading America’s first national park.

Sholly will depart the National Park Service in late September and join the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) as chief operating officer. Chartered by Congress in 1984, NFWF is the nation’s largest conservation foundation, supporting projects nationwide and in U.S. territories.

The National Park Service will announce an interim superintendent separately and has begun the process of selecting Yellowstone’s next permanent superintendent.

Annual Meeting Notice — Colter Pass, Cooke City, Silver Gate Community Council

The Community Council will hold its rescheduled Annual Meeting on Sept 23 at 5:00 p.m. to be held in the Community Conference room. This meeting is our chance to look back on the past year, share updates on ongoing projects. It’s also when we formally seat board members for the coming term. clerk.cookecityareacouncil@gmail.com or call 406-838-2203.

RETAIL

Legend Gallery & Gifts. A carefully curated collection of Montana inspired art and gift items. Paintings, hand made jewelry and more. Located Upstairs above Cooke City Coffee, 111 Main Street West. Open Thursday through Monday 9:00-5:00. Closed Tuesday and Wednesday.

SERVICES

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TOURS

HEMINGWAY IN YELLOWSTONE COUNTRY!

Chris Warren, long time Cooke City resident, is signing copies of his award winning book at Cooke City Coffee every Saturday and Sunday morning from 8 - 9:30 am. Book signings will be followed by 10 am walking tours of Hemingway's Cooke City and exclusive access to the exhibit that served as the centerpiece of the 2022 International Hemingway Conference. Books can be purchased with cash or credit card through Cooke City Coffee. Tours can be purchased for \$59 with cash, check or Venmo and start at 10 a.m. in the grass behind the High Country Motel.

LOCAL RESOURCES

Compactor Hours: SUMMER HOURS - Monday and Tuesday 2-5; Wed. - Sunday 11 - 6. Questions call 838-2003. DO NOT LEAVE ITEMS OUTSIDE THE COMPACTOR AFTER HOURS. **Winter hours begin September 30th.**

Cooke City Food Pantry: If you or you know someone who needs food, please call Pastor Don at 838-2397.

Weekly AA Meetings: Held every Wednesday at 7 p.m. in the Mt. Republic Chapel of Peace (½ way between Cooke City & Silver Gate). Open meetings. FMI Call: Cori Jo at 838-2155.

Emergency? Dial 911 to page Cooke City Medical Responders. There is a 911 phone located in front of the Cooke City/Silver Gate Emergency Building on Main St.

Mount Republic Chapel of Peace: Non-denominational Christian worship services on Sundays at 9:30 a.m. All are welcome! **Pester the Pastor** is every Wednesday at the Log Cabin Cafe from 8:30 - 10:00 and visit with Pastor Don.

Please contact the water operator if doing any grading or digging. Spencer Stone with Curb Box Specialists at 866-855-3097

REALTY SERVICES

Suzy Hahn: Montana Mountain Real Estate: We have an extensive database of active buyers looking for properties in the area. If you are interested in selling your property, please give us a call at (406) 223-8238 to discuss how we can help. You can also learn more about our services at www.CookeCityRealEstate.com. SuzyHahnMT@gmail.com

Wilson & Wilson Real Estate: Main Street business opportunity! Beartooth Plateau Outfitter building. Blank slate on the main level for any business you want, with living quarters upstairs. Priced at \$750,000.

Remodeled cabin on Soda Butte Creek. One mile from Yellowstone National Park with large garage and guest cabin on over an acre. Priced at \$950,000

For more info on these listings please call Troy Wilson (406)838-2234 or stop by the Cooke City Store.

Lisa Ohlinger: Montana Mountain Real Estate: I NEED LISTINGS! We have an extensive database of buyers seeking properties in the area. Please call me if you would like to discuss your property and its potential listing price. 1-406-224-1656 or email me lisaannohlinger@yahoo.com

BOARD ACTIVITIES

Sewer District Board Meeting: meeting is September 16 from 10-12 via Zoom or in the Community Conference room <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86758316754> Meeting ID: 867 5831 6754, Passcode: sewer See website for agenda & call-in info: <https://ccsgsewerdistrict.com>

Cooke City School Board meeting on Wednesday, September 16, at 5pm.

The Cooke City Water District meeting September 22nd @ 6pm to be held at the Cooke City Community Conference room. Information for attendance online is also available at: [Board Agendas | Cooke City Water District](#).

Rescheduled - Colter Pass, Cooke City, Silver Gate Community Council Annual Board Meeting: Wed., Sept 23 at 5:00 to meet in the Council conference room or via zoom or phone 1-253-205-0468 Zoom Meeting <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86100860340?pwd=5oLBX07aw0rWlSk96MhHhWrdnrDB84.1>

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Deadline: Tuesdays at 12 p.m. | Questions? Call 838-2203 | *We reserve the right to edit or refuse any ad.*