



SLOAN'S LAKE

CITIZENS' GROUP

Serving the Sloan's Lake and West Colfax Neighborhoods since 1978

(Boundaries: W. 29th Avenue, W. 10th Avenue, Sheridan Blvd., Federal Blvd.)

NEWSLETTER: Volume 50, Issue 3 May/June 2026 sloanslakecitizensgroup@gmail.com Website: sloanslakecitizensgroup.org The Sloan's Lake Citizens' Group Newsletter is published bi-monthly by the Sloan's Lake Citizens' Group. Mailing Address: P.O. Box 140663 Denver, CO 80214.

JOIN US FOR A HYBRID MEETING

Tuesday, June 16, 2026

7:00-8:30 PM

In Person at the Merritt House Co-Work Sanctuary

2246 Irving St.

(Enter the Sanctuary from the Parking Lot on Irving St.)

Or Join Us on Zoom

SLCG Monthly Meeting

June 16, 2026 7:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/97499687795?pwd=dqS9Ob9LezZNa68Bg8HIUbPW08lvcE.1>

Meeting ID: 974 9968 7795

Passcode: 744116

Dial by your location

• +1 719 359 4580 US

AGENDA

- **Sloan's Lake Park Planning and Construction Updates. Presentation by Jessica Anderson, DPR Urban Ecology Supervisor and Nick Leader, Assistant Director of Design & Construction.** They will share updates on the various park improvement projects at Sloan's Lake Park including the Boat House, Gun Club Building, and Lake Water Quality Improvement projects.
- **Impacts of Data Centers on health, climate and resources and state and local policy actions and proposals to address these impacts.** Presentation by Lauren Swain, Program Director for Physicians for Social Responsibility.
- **Report from Alessandra Dominguez on Council District 1**
- **Reports on INC news, Updates on other local issues**

THE FAR NORTHWEST AREA PLAN IS COMING TO OUR COMMUNITY

The Far Northwest (FNW) Area Plan is a long-term planning effort launching in the summer of 2026 that will bring community members together to develop a shared 20-year vision for the Regis/Inspiration Point, Berkeley, West Highland, and Sloan's Lake communities.

The plan will explore community priorities on topics such as land use, housing, local businesses, transportation, parks and recreation, social spaces, and more. Its goal is to create a clear and collaborative road map for the future of the Far Northwest Area.

Visit www.denvergov.org/farnorthwestplan to learn ways to get involved. Apply to be part of the Advisory Committee (open until 06/15). This committee meets at key points throughout the process to help advise on community topics, guide the process for engagement and feedback, etc. Take the Community Pulse Survey (open until 06/30). Start with this quick 3-question survey to start sharing your ideas and vision for our community. Sign up for updates. Learn more about the process and stay informed throughout the process about events and major milestones.

SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL PROPOSED

Allen Cowgill presented ideas proposed for Safe Routes to School at the May SLCG meeting. There is a need for safe routes to school because students have been hit at 41st and Lowell on their way to Skinner and recently a Lake Middle School student was hit by a car while crossing Colfax on his bike at Knox Ct. He is hospitalized in serious condition. Some cities like Seattle and Austin spend around \$20,000,000 on safe routes to school whereas Denver has only \$2.4 million budgeted for this. Denver has 200 public schools, but only 60 of them have crossing guards, and the current budget only allows for three small infrastructure projects to be completed each year. Sixty-seven percent of DPS students are driven to school because parents feel that it is unsafe for them to walk or ride bikes.

Through CDOT, they have come up with a Safe Routes to School Action Plan, but they do not have funding for it. The plan would cost \$25 million. This funding would address climate change, reduce air pollution, and make sustainable transportation options safer and accessible. These changes would benefit the whole community within half a mile of each elementary school. Eighty percent of the budget would go to capital improvements like crosswalks, flashing beacons, speed humps, curb extensions and traffic signals. They would be able to fund infrastructure projects for 6-12 schools per year. The other 20% would fund program expenses like crossing guards and safe walking programs. Obtaining the funding for such a program has been difficult due to budget cuts, but you can help by reaching out to your district and at-large council members.

PLANS FOR IMPROVING SLOAN'S LAKE WATER QUALITY

Kurt Weaver of the Sloan's Lake Park Foundation provided the latest update on plans for improving Sloan's Lake at the May SLCG meeting. First, he dispelled rumors that the city would let the lake dry up and sell the land to developers. This is not going to happen because the 177- acre lake is in a flood plain for a 100- year flood, and the park is designated by statute. When Farmer Sloan accidentally formed the lake in 1861, it was 12 to 15 feet deep and clean enough that Sloan made a living cutting and selling ice from the lake. When it was home to the amusement park Manhattan Beach, it was a popular place to swim.

Now the lake is on average only three feet deep. Twenty-three unfiltered drains feed water and sediment into the lake. As the sediment builds up and the lake becomes shallower, the water temperature rises, making it prone to algae blooms and fish kills. Stagnation of the water also leads to the production of methane. Currently micro oxygen bubbles are being pumped into the lake to help aerate it. The \$5,000,000 from the bond issue will be used to do shoreline restoration and put in forebays where the sediment can settle out to filter the water entering the lake. Ultimately the lake will need to be dredged at a cost of up to \$200,000,000. Fundraisers like the Putt Putt Bar Crawl cannot finance this, but it can raise awareness with government leaders and voters to approve necessary funding for dredging. The lake will be closed to events on the water during July and August, but it will re-open on August 29 and 30 for the Dragon Boat Festival. Some hopeful signs are that the aquifer under the lake is still running and the pelicans and loons have returned to the lake this spring. They have discontinued stocking trout in the lake, but the fish are bought ahead of time; so some have still been added to the lake recently.

The Sloan's Lake Park Foundation has regular park clean-ups on the first Wednesday and the third Saturday of each month, and they offer informative historical walks around the lake. The SLCG hopes to schedule one in the near future.

SURVIVING WATER RESTRICTIONS AND DROUGHT

Denver is now in a condition of Stage 1 Drought, and Denver Water is asking its customers to reduce their total water use by at least 20%, primarily by implementing mandatory water restrictions.

Basic Rules

- Only water your lawn on your two designated days.

Single family residences with odd addresses: Wednesday and Saturday

Single Family Residences with even addresses: Thursday and Sunday

Multi-unit and commercial residences: Tuesday and Friday



- No watering between 10 AM and 6 PM
- Keep water off pavement and sidewalks
- Don't water during rain or high winds
- Repair sprinkler system leaks within 10 days

HAND WATERING AND OTHER ALLOWANCES

- Trees, shrubs, perennials, annuals, and vegetables may be watered any day using a hand-held hose or drip system. No watering between 10 AM and 6 PM.
- Car washing may be done any day using a bucket or hand-held hose with an automatic shut-off nozzle. Not between 10 AM and 6 PM.
- Power washing is only allowed on your designated days.
- You may obtain a Watering Establishment Permit to be exempt from the 2-day restriction for new native grass seed for 8 weeks and new sod, trees, and shrubs for up to 3 weeks.

DROUGHT PRICING AND FINES

A drought charge will be added to your bill starting in June for May use. There will be a drought charge on Tier 2 of \$1.10 per 1,000 gallons and a charge of \$2.20 per 1,000 gallons on Tier 3. This charge will remain in effect for one year. In addition to this charge, fines will be assessed for violating the rules. The first violation will result in a warning, followed by a fine of \$250 for the second violation, \$500 for the third, and \$1,000 for the fourth.

HELPFUL TIPS TO SAVE YOUR TREES AND PLANTS AS WELL AS WATER

- Water new trees near the trunk and established trees near the dripline.
- Place plastic cups near your sprinklers to measure the output. One half inch per watering day is enough.
- Visit denverwater.org/Conserve to view the amount of water required when using different types of sprinklers.
- Also visit the website to learn about ColoradoScaping and water-wise plants and take advantage of free workshops, DIY Landscaping Transformation Guides and You Tube videos.

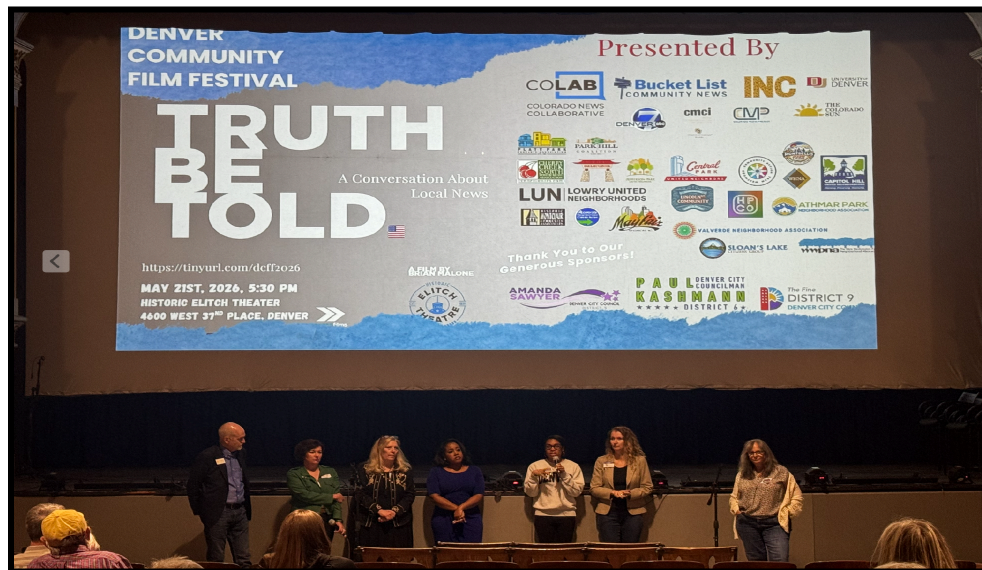
Call 303 893-2444 or visit denverwater.org for more information. You can also find information on creating resilient landscapes and choosing resilient plants at denvergov.org.

SECOND ANNUAL FILM FESTIVAL HELD AT ELITCH THEATER

The second annual Denver Community Film Festival sponsored by INC and co-sponsored by SLCG and other RNO'S was held on May 21 at the Historic Elitch Theater. It was fun to visit the historic theater and see the portraits of famous actors and actresses who have performed at that venue. The showings of the films were preceded by a delicious catered reception by Araujo's.

The first film “This Is South Broadway” was produced by the Baker neighborhood and District Lucky 7 and depicted iconic businesses along South Broadway. The feature film was a documentary called “Truth Be Told,” which went behind the scenes at various newspapers and TV newsrooms in Colorado and detailed how they researched and presented the news. From Marshall Zellinger at 9 News to the owners of the Ouray Plain Dealer newspaper in the small town of Ouray, the journalists revealed what was involved in accurately investigating and reporting the news.

The films were followed by a panel discussion and question and answer session with a number of local journalists.



VETERANS' STOLEN FLAG REPLACED

In the lobby of the Del Norte Veterans' Apartment Building, the flags of the various branches of the military in which residents had served were on display. When attending the annual SLCG Veterans' Pancake Breakfast, State House Representative Cecelia Espenoza learned that someone had stolen the flag of the United States Marine Corps.

She took it upon herself to get the flag and flag pole replaced during the Memorial Day weekend. Many thanks to Representative Espenoza for her efforts in getting this replaced.



Donna Austin and Cecelia Espenoza display the new flag.



Enjoying the patio at Federal Bar and Grill

MEMBERS ENJOY MONTHLY SOCIALS

A growing number of SLCG members gather on the first Wednesday of the month from 5:00-7:00 PM at various neighborhood establishments to enjoy Happy Hour specials and informal conversations with their neighbors on topics ranging from politics to gardening to squirrel problems.

In May and June the SLCG joined our neighbors at two popular establishments in nearby Jefferson Park. In May we visited the newly-opened Ephemeral Tap and Bottle where we admired some of the patrons' well behaved dogs and took part in a trivia contest. In June we met on the patio at Federal Bar and Grill and enjoyed burgers, tacos, and delicious homemade potato chips with tasty dipping sauces as well as half price draft beers and creative cocktails and mocktails.

Next Happy Hour!

On July 1 we will meet at Chili Verde near 23rd and Federal from 5:00 to 7:00 PM.

SLCG CONTACTS**President: Deb Neeley****Deb@sloanslakecitizensgroup.org****First Vice President: Tom Brunn****tbrunn2473@aol.com****Second Vice President: Sue Knight****knight.sue4@gmail.com****Secretary: Jennifer Qualteri 303****888-7239****jennifer.qualteri@gmail.com****Treasurer: Angela Medbery 303****433-2608****At large BOD – Allen Cowgill****allencowgill@gmail.com****Electronic Newsletter: Jennifer****Qualteri jennifer.qualteri@gmail.com****Facebook and Website: Deb Neeley****Neeley.deb@gmail.com****Newsletter Editor: Linda Brunn 303****477-8423****Park Event Coordinator: Tina****Phillips****303 433-6025****Tennyson Center Contact: Margie****Grimsley 303 455-5928****Zoning Issues: Tom Brunn 303****477-8423****Zoom Meeting Host: Deb Neeley****Deb@sloanslakecitizensgroup.org****Hospitality Chairman: Cindy Snalam****cindysnalam@gmail.com.****Special Event Chairman: Keith****Meyer****meyerk@gmail.com****OTHER CONTACTS****District 1****City Councilwoman Amanda Sandoval****Amanda.Sandoval@denvergov.org 720****337-7701****district1@denvergov.org internet search this for links to website****District 3****City Councilwoman Jamie Torres****Jamie.Torres@denvergov.org 720 337-3333****district3@denvergov.org internet search this for links to website****NEIGHBORHOOD SAFETY CONTACTS****District 1 Police Station 720 337-7701****Police Non-Emergency: 720 913-2000****Graffiti Hotline: 720 865-7867****Neighborhood Inspections: 311****State Senator: Julie Gonzales****julie.gonzales.senate@state.co.us****State Representative: Cecelia Espenoza****cecelia.espenoza.house@state.co.us**

The Sloan's Lake Citizens' Group
P.O. Box 140663
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UPCOMING NEIGHBORHOOD EVENTS

- May 10-October 25: Highlands Farmer's Market, Sundays 9 am- 1 pm 32nd and Lowell**
June 13: Red Bull Soapbox Race. Teams race non-motorized carts down a custom course 12 pm at the Stadium
June 17: Police District 1 CAG Meeting 6 pm at District 1 Headquarters 1311 W. 46th
June 18: Denver's Sidewalk Program's Sidewalk Implementation Plan Virtual Webinar 4:30-5:30
June 20: Pride Variety Show at Odell Brewing 8 pm
June 24: Bike to Work Day Breakfast, Coffee, and Swag Stations www.BiketoWorkDay.co
June 26: Denver Municipal Band Concert Rocky Mountain Park 7-9 pm
June 26: Chris Brown & Usher The R & B Tour 7 pm at the Stadium
July 1: Sloan's Lake Social at Chile Verde 5-7 pm
July 4: Ed Sheeran: LOOP Tour 5:30 pm at the Stadium
July 11: Cookie Chase 5K 8-10 am at Sloan's Lake Park
August 1: West Colfax Neighborhood Festival 11 am-2 pm Paco Sanchez Park