



## INFORMATION PACKET MEMORANDUM

**To:** Members of City Council

**From:** Jane S. Brautigam, City Manager  
Maureen Rait, Executive Director of Public Works, Flood Recovery Manager

**Date:** September 2, 2014

**Subject:** Information Item: Flood Commemorative Events & Flood Recovery Status

This City Council information item provides a summary of events scheduled for the flood commemorative week, a high-level overview of the September 2013 flood event and recovery efforts, as well as a financial update.

City staff, consultants and community partners continue to work diligently to make progress in achieving the council-adopted objectives for both near-term recovery and long-term resilience. Highlights of the progress were provided at the Flood Recovery briefing immediately before the regular City Council meeting on July 22, 2014 and included in the Flood Recovery Status Information Packet item ([available here](#)). The next briefing is tentatively scheduled for Oct. 28, 2014. Additional information on flood impacts to people, private property and infrastructure citywide and the current status of recovery can be found at [www.BoulderFloodInfo.net](http://www.BoulderFloodInfo.net).

### Summary of Flood Commemorative Week Events

BoCo Strong Flood Commemoration Week is an opportunity for cities and individuals across Boulder County to remember, learn and unite around the anniversary of the September 2013 flood events. As part of Flood Commemoration Week, the City of Boulder is sponsoring and hosting various community events, including:

- **Boulder Creek Flood Cleanup & Cookout**  
**Sept. 6, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. | Rocky Mountain Anglers, 1904 Arapahoe Ave.**  
Rocky Mountain Anglers in partnership with Boulder Parks & Recreation is sponsoring a Boulder Creek clean up. Join the fun to pick up trash and debris along the Boulder Creek Path and celebrate with a cookout afterwards. No registration required. Volunteers should meet at Rocky Mountain Anglers at 9 am. on Saturday morning. To participate as a group leader or for more information, contact Randy Hicks at 303-447-2400 or [randy@rockymt anglers.com](mailto:randy@rockymt anglers.com).

- Open Space and Mountain Parks Flood Clean-up Project**  
**Sept. 9** | [Event details and sign up are available at the Foothills United Way website](#)  
 Join us for this community volunteer project to remove portions of destroyed fence and flood debris from cattle fence on OSMP property. The volunteer project is open to the public. Interested parties should sign up on the [at the Foothills United Way website](#).
- The Science of Disaster Planning: Research and Response**  
**Sept. 10, 1 - 5 p.m.** | **Museum of Boulder, 2205 Broadway**  
 The City of Boulder in partnership with the Geological Society of America is hosting a half-day science sharing event. Researchers and county leaders will engage in a dialogue about climate, geology and social behaviors related to the 2013 flood. To register call the Center for ReSource Conservation at 303-999-3020 x 217.
- Boulder Flood Tribute: Community Stories in Action.**  
**Sept. 10, 6 – 8 p.m.** | **Museum of Boulder, 2205 Broadway**  
 Join Mudslingers, first responders, volunteers and mayors for a night of stories, community and discussion. Fueled by Ignite-type presentations, community members will share their stories to commemorate the 2013 flood event. Info: [www.BoulderFloodInfo.net](http://www.BoulderFloodInfo.net).
- Forests to Faucets and Floods**  
**Sept. 12, 2014, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.** | **Guided bus tour**  
 Take a guided bus tour that follows the City of Boulder’s water supply from source to stream and discusses the impacts of the September 2013 flood. To save your seat, call the Center for ReSource Conservation at 303-999-3020 x 217.
- Elks Park Opening Celebration: Marking One Year of Flood Resiliency**  
**Sept. 12, 5:30 – 7 p.m.** | **Elks Park, 3995 N 28<sup>th</sup> St**  
 Join us for the ribbon cutting to celebrate the new park amenities including a new mosaic inside of the renovated park shelter. There will be activities for families and children of all ages, light refreshments and a recreation center pass raffle for attendees. Info: [www.BoulderParkNews.org](http://www.BoulderParkNews.org)

Flood Commemoration events are being held across Boulder County, a complete calendar of BoCo Strong events can be found at [www.bocostrong.org/events.html](http://www.bocostrong.org/events.html).

## **Brief Overview of 2013 Flood & Recovery – One Year Later**

### **Flood Overview**

- September 2013 brought unprecedented rainfall to the region causing significant flooding and extensive damage to both private property and city infrastructure. Total damage to city infrastructure and public lands is estimated at \$27.3 million, and private property damage is estimated at \$300 million.
- The National Weather Service has described the storm event as a 1,000-Year precipitation event – an event with a 1 in 1,000 probability of happening in any given year.

- 8,000 individuals and 6,000 households within the City of Boulder registered for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) assistance (14 percent of the city’s total households). Of those, approximately 1,700 had damage that made their unit not habitable until repairs were made. Two commercial properties were destroyed.

### **Flood Recovery Update Highlights**

- Due to the September 2013 flooding, the city was declared a national disaster and created the opportunity for possible reimbursement through FEMA, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the State of Colorado
- As of July 31, 2014, the city has spent approximately \$16 million on flood recovery, with remaining work on city infrastructure and public lands estimated at \$11.2 million, recovery efforts are 59 percent complete.
- Estimated reimbursements from FEMA, the State of Colorado and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) are anticipated to be \$14.5 million. To date, the city has received \$720,000 in reimbursements from FEMA and the State of Colorado.
- The city is also pursuing additional grant funding sources. The city has been awarded \$2.9 million for flood recovery and resilience projects from federal and state agencies, including:
  - Housing rehabilitation and temporary rental assistance;
  - Wastewater interceptor re-route;
  - Water and Sewer infrastructure in adjacent neighborhoods;
  - Stream restoration in Boulder Creek; and
  - Planning study in the west fourmile canyon creek area for Ponderosa Mobile Home Park and Foothills Community.
- The city has been invited to submit full applications for \$595,000 of resilience projects by two federal agencies, including:
  - Sediment and debris removal in waterways; and
  - Emergency generators at fleet services and the wildland fire station.
- The city is pursuing additional CDBG-DR funds in Rounds 2 and 3 (\$257 million available) along with countywide partners. The objectives of the preferred funding approach are intended to provide more predictability and allow the city to leverage funds more effectively.

### **Learning Together & Planning for the Future**

- The flood tested the city, county, and the community’s emergency preparedness and recovery plans, and resulted in many successes, as well as lessons learned and areas for additional work and coordination. The flood disaster also highlighted certain vulnerabilities in the city’s infrastructure.

- The city has begun development of a disaster recovery plan, to assist in being more resilient after a future disaster. The plan development includes:
  - Analysis of city policies and procedures; and
  - New or revised detailed planning documents, such as a debris plan, damage assessment plan and shelter plan.

The objective of this work is to be more prepared, maximize FEMA assistance and eligibility, and enhance communication, collaboration, and community preparedness.

### **Attachments**

- **Attachment A** – Flood Commemorative Event Poster
- **Attachment B** – BoCo Strong Countywide Flood Commemoration Events

# THE BOULDER FLOOD: ONE YEAR LATER.

## WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 10, 2014

### MUSEUM OF BOULDER, 2205 BROADWAY

#### AFTERNOON EVENT 1 - 5 P.M.

### The Science of Disaster Planning: Research and Response

The City of Boulder, in partnership with the Geological Society of America (GSA), is hosting this half-day science sharing event. Researchers and county leaders will engage in a dialogue about climate, geology and social behaviors related to the 2013 flood. Space is limited.

#### EVENING EVENT 6 - 8 P.M.

### Boulder Flood Tribute: Community Stories in Action

Join Mudslingers, first responders, volunteers and mayors for a night of stories, community and discussion. Fueled by Ignite-type presentations, community members will share their stories to commemorate the 2013 flood event.

**REGISTER TODAY!**

Call the Center for ReSource Conservation at 303-999-3020 X217

or visit [www.BoulderFloodinfo.net](http://www.BoulderFloodinfo.net)



# September Anniversary Events

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**Boulder Creek Flood Cleanup & Cookout, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m., Rocky Mountain Anglers, 1904 Arapahoe Ave., Boulder** - To participate as a group leader or for more information, contact Randy Hicks at 303-447-2400.

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**Lyons Flood History Exhibit, Redstone Museum, 340 High St., Lyons** - The Exhibit will include artifacts, photographs and stories related to the flood event and recovery. Week long.

**BoCo Strong Flood Commemoration Week Kickoff Event, 12-4pm at Gateway Park Fun Center, 4800 28th St, Boulder** -

Sharing stories of resilience from communities throughout the county. Family friendly, activities for kids, food, music, and recovery and resiliency booths.

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**Flood Reflections: One Year Later, 5-7pm, Museum of Boulder, 2205 Broadway, Boulder** - Temporary “pop-up” display commemorating the 1st Anniversary of the Boulder County Floods.

**Boulder 2013 Floods: The What and Why of Forecasting a Record Flood Event, 7 – 8pm, Museum of Boulder, 2205 Broadway, Boulder** - Doors open at 5pm for viewing of the display. Nzette Rydell - National Weather Service will be presenting.

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**The Science of Disaster Planning: Research and Response, 1-5pm** - The City of Boulder in partnership with the Geological Society of America are hosting a half-day science sharing event. Researchers and county leaders will engage in a dialogue about climate, geology and social behaviors related to the 2013 Flood. Space is limited. Call the Center for ReSource Conservation at 303-999-3020 x 217 to reserve your seat.

**Boulder Flood Tribute: Community Stories in Action, 6 – 8pm, Museum of Boulder, 2205 Broadway** - Join Mudslingers, first responders and mayors for a night of stories, community and discussion. Fueled by Ignite-type presentations, community members will share their stories to commemorate the 2013 Flood. Info: [www.BoulderFloodInfo](http://www.BoulderFloodInfo).

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**Flood Reflections: One Year Later, 5-7pm, Museum of Boulder, 2205 Broadway, Boulder** - Temporary “pop-up” display commemorating the 1st Anniversary of the 2013 Flood.

**One Year After the Flood: Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks, 7 – 8pm, Museum of Boulder, 2205 Broadway, Boulder** - Doors open at 5pm to view the display. Dave Sutherland will be presenting.

**Rockin’ Rollout: An overview and discussion of recovery priorities for the town of Lyons and surrounding areas, 6-8pm, Wildflower Pavilion, Planet Blugrass** - Presented by the leads of the various Flood Recovery Working Groups.

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**Day of Caring 2014: A Day to Give Back, A Day to Make a Difference: Foothills United Way's 20th Annual Day of Caring, 8am-12:30pm.** - Go to <http://volunteer.unitedwayfoothills.org/dayofcaring2014> for more information.

**Forests to Faucets and Floods, 9am-1pm** - Guided bus tour that follows the City of Boulder's water supply from source to stream and discusses the impacts of the 2013 Flood. The tour costs \$10 which includes lunch. Call the Center for ReSource Conservation at 303-999-3020 x 217 to reserve your seat.

**One Year Strong 3-D Mural Unveiling, 1:45pm, Fork Restaurant, Lyons** - Mural created by Jake and Kaylee Sue Pinello, Rachel Tallent, and Sally Truitt

**Lyons - Six Islands Parade, Main Street 2-3pm, recognition and reflection event following the parade at Sandstone Park** - Interactive parade where each 'islanded' community of Lyons parades a decorated float, with a unique, community designed pirate flag.

**Lyons Islands One Year Strong Parade, Main Street (end at Sandstone park) 2-3 pm** -Interactive parade where each 'islanded' community of Lyons parades a decorated float, with a unique, community designed pirate flag (gift to attendees).

**Jamestown Flood Commemoration Open House, 3-8pm.**  
**Jamestown Town Hall, 118 Main Street** - Flood related displays by local artists, recovery slideshow, authors and the labyrinth.

**Lyons Community Barbecue 4-7pm and Football Game 7pm kickoff, Lyons Middle/Senior High School** - The 18th Annual Lyons Community Barbecue will be held before the first home football game. Lyons Middle/Senior High School is proud to invite the entire extended community of Lyons to the school 'on the Island' to meet, talk and reflect.

**Solidarity in Sandstone, Sandstone Park 3-4pm, Lyons** - Music and speakers to remember our strengths and acknowledge our struggles. The Watergirls, Emily Flemming, and more!

**Sounds of Lyons - Crazy About You, 8 pm Rogers Hall, 4th and High Street, Lyons** - A stunning tapestry of Classical, Flamenco, Jazz, Folk, and Original music with guitarist Alfredo Muro, flutist Emma Shubin, singer Shannon Johnson, dancers, and the Sage Ensemble.

**Flood Reflections: One Year Later, 3-9pm, Museum of Boulder, 2205 Broadway, Boulder** - Temporary "pop-up" display commemorating the 1st Anniversary of the 2013 Flood.

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**Cyclists 4 Lyons, 9 am, Bohn Park, South Second Ave., Lyons** - An all-day event with food, live music, beer, silent and live auction, pro cyclist appearances, and great rides – all to benefit the Lyons Community Foundation. Gov. Hickenlooper will be at Bohn Park at 4:30pm.

**Flood Reflections: One Year Later, 10am-7pm, Museum of Boulder, 2205 Broadway, Boulder** - Temporary "pop-up" display commemorating the 1st Anniversary of the 2013 Flood.

**Longmont Neighborhood Commemorative Events, the Valley, the Greens, Champion Greens neighborhoods as well as St. Vrain Mobile Home Park** - The City of Longmont is supporting individual neighborhoods, that were impacted by the flood, to have neighborhood based events to commemorate the anniversary of the flood.

**Colorado United Day of Service** - Sponsored by Serve Colorado, Governor's Commission on Community Service  
Visit [www.ColoradoUnited.com](http://www.ColoradoUnited.com) for more details or to volunteer.

**Sounds of Lyons - Life True 8 pm Rogers Hall, 4th and High Street, Lyons** - Four short documentary films by Jem Moore, a coffee grower, a Buddhist calligrapher chef, an activist singer-songwriter and an immigrant massage therapist, all interconnected by the sublime Late Beethoven String Quartets opus 130 & 132.

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**Flood Reflections: One Year Later, 12-5pm, Museum of Boulder, 2205 Broadway, Boulder** - Temporary “pop-up” display commemorating the 1st Anniversary of the 2013 Flood.

**Boland Memorial Dedication, 1-2pm, Lyons Elementary School, Lyons** - Boland Lane, a sandstone bench, and a plaque will be dedicated.

**Redstone Museum Flood Display and Heroes Poster Dedication, 2-3pm, Lyons Redstone Museum, 340 High Street** - Photos, books, displays, and videos about the flood.

**Sounds of Lyons - 3-6pm, Sandstone Park, 4th and Broadway** - Local musicians with a national presence including Taarka, The Songbirds and Grantias come together to commemorate the Great Flood and share a sense of new hope with their friends and neighbors.

**Community Picnic and Flood Open Mic, 6-9pm. Wildflower Pavilion, Planet Bluegrass, Lyons**

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**Flood Reflections: One Year Later, 5-7pm, Museum of Boulder, 2205 Broadway, Boulder**- Temporary “pop-up” display commemorating the 1st Anniversary of the 2013 Flood.

**The 2013 Flood in Historical Context, 7 – 8pm, Museum of Boulder, 2205 Broadway, Boulder** - Doors open at 5pm for viewing of the display. Kevin Houck - Colorado Water Conservation Board will be presenting.

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**Flood Reflections: One Year Later, 5-7pm, Museum of Boulder, 2205 Broadway, Boulder** - Temporary “pop-up” display commemorating the 1st Anniversary of the 2013 Flood.

**Boulder’s Waterworks, Past and Present, 7 – 8pm, Museum of Boulder, 2205 Broadway, Boulder** - Doors open at 5pm for viewing of the display. Silvia Pettem – Boulder Historian will be presenting.

Following the 2013 Flood, a wide variety of Boulder County residents and organizations from all sectors of the county have come together to form the LTFRG. In addition to identifying and addressing individual unmet needs, the LTFRG has learned from other communities hard hit by disaster the importance of engaging all parts of the community about how to rebuild stronger and better. BoCo Strong was formed to champion community engagement and build community resilience.

The BoCo Strong calendar will include all the flood commemoration events that are being planned across the county. Please share your events. The BoCo Strong website will also share any and all photos, videos and stories.

Visit [www.BoCoStrong.org](http://www.BoCoStrong.org) to get updates and see the calendar. Submit your events to [bocostrong@gmail.com](mailto:bocostrong@gmail.com).

