



# The Official Draper City Newsletter

# DRAPER FORWARD

JUL / AUG 2025  
draperutah.gov

## Mayor's Message *Conservation Easement and New Trails*

In 2012, Draper City purchased 2,400 acres of property from Zions Bank. This has come to be known as the SunCrest purchase. We paid Zions \$5.6 million for the property — \$2,240 per acre — with a sales tax revenue bond for the purchase. We took the risk because this was a fortuitous opportunity to purchase a literal mountain at a deep discount. This property was slated for homes and, had it been developed, would have added thousands more houses to the SunCrest development.

When purchased, we identified a few parcels to sell for development, including 100 acres next to Highland City and 255 acres along Deer Ridge Road. Several years after we purchased the land, we sold 110 acres located by Highland City for \$7.3 million and used the proceeds to pay off the bond and build new trails and trailheads, including Coyote Hollow, Peak View, and Deer Ridge Trailhead. The land in Deer Ridge already had utilities installed going up the mountain, so it made sense to sell it for housing. As we considered the geologic issues with the property, we decided not to sell and make it part of our open space.

Most of Draper's open space on the mountain is held in a

conservation easement by Salt Lake County, ensuring its protection in perpetuity; it will never be developed, and our citizens can enjoy it forever. On June 17, 2025, we held a ceremony with Salt Lake County to formally place the 255 acres into the conservation easement. With this addition the City has approximately 5,000 acres of dedicated open space held in the easement, helping make Draper the best place to live in Utah.

The Deer Ridge area is exploding with new trails and more opportunities for our citizens to enjoy this amazing mountain, including:

**Beware of Doug Trail**, a 1.25-mile multi-use, single-track, dirt trail loop in the upper area of the Deer Ridge Dog Off-Leash Area (aka Far Side Trails), is our fourth city dog park, allowing dogs to be off-leash in a mountain setting. Unique to be sure! Dogs must be under visual and voice control. The loop provides scenic views of Salt Lake and Utah valleys and is popular with all trail users, especially hikers and bikers with off-leash dogs.

**Rex Maneuver Foot Path** is a 1.0-mile foot-only, single-track, dirt trail loop in the upper area of the Deer Ridge Dog Off-Leash Area, allowing dogs to be off leash under visual and voice control. With scenic views of both Salt Lake and Utah valleys, the trail is popular with all users.

**Mayor's Trail** is a 2.2-mile multi-use, single-track dirt trail along the southern ridgeline of Traverse Mountain, from Lolo (Lehi) to Traverse Trail, and connects to Lehi's Dream Bike Trail in Lehi. It provides several trail loop options through its connections to Draper and Lehi City's trail systems, and is a direct result



of my great relationship with Lehi Mayor Mark Johnson. Our goal is to connect our cities via the two amazing trail systems and give citizens of both cities the ability to see the entire mountain. Lehi and Mayor Johnson have been amazing partners.

Currently under construction, **Off the Beaten Path** will be a hiking/horse-only trail beginning at the Deer Ridge Trailhead and circumnavigating the entire off-leash area. Dogs must be on leash. We hope to have it open by the beginning of July.

Also under construction, **Dobbins Way Trail** will be a multi-use trail beginning .40 miles down Maple Hollow North, crossing over to the Mayor's Trail. We hope to have it open by mid-July.

I am grateful to former Mayor Darrell Smith for his leadership, and to people like Clark Naylor, Ann Parr, and others who saw the

value of a trail system back when having a trail was no big deal, and this valley was not full. They were champions of trails and open space, Corner Canyon and our exceptional quality of life.

I am grateful to have been part of the city council that made the SunCrest purchase, along with council members Jeff Stenquist, Bill Rapplepe, Alan Summerhays, and Bill Colbert. I am grateful to our current council, Tasha Lowery, Marsha Vawdrey, Mike Green, Bryn Johnson, and Fred Lowry, who have an unwavering commitment to preserving our open space and building trails. They understand its value and how unique Draper is because of our canyon.

I hope you all have a wonderful summer and can get out on the trails. Use the new trailheads and enjoy our amazing open space.

— Mayor Troy K. Walker

## DRAPER CITY ANIMAL SERVICES TRAIL SAFETY, HOT VEHICLES, AND PETS

Pets are especially vulnerable to summer heat. One of the most serious risks is leaving an animal in a parked car. Interior temperatures can spike in minutes leading to heatstroke, severe health issues, or death. Never leave your pet unattended—always prioritize their safety and well-being.

To enjoying trails or hikes with pets, extra precautions are necessary. Some tips include:

- 1) Provide fresh, cool water. Carry a water bottle and silicone bowl for hydration.

- 2) Frequently rest in shaded areas, especially during peak heat hours.

- 3) Use wet towels, cooling mats, or cooling vests to regulate your pet's body temperature.

- 4) Hot pavement can burn paws. Check the ground temperature with your hand and stick to grass/dirt trails when possible.

- 5) Walk your dog in the early morning or late evening when it's cooler outside.

- 6) Keep walks short and avoid

strenuous activity on particularly hot days.

- 7) Look for signs such as excessive panting, drooling, fatigue, or difficulty breathing.

- 8) Use pet-safe sunscreen and/or lightweight, reflective pet clothing to prevent sunburn.

- 9) Dog booties can shield paws from hot surfaces and burns.

By following these guidelines, you can help ensure your pet stays cool, comfortable, and safe all summer long.



## DRAPER CITY AFTER-HOURS CONTACTS

Parks Department: (801) 831-7194  
Water Department: (801) 831-7212

Streets Department: (801) 831-7195  
Non-emergency Fire/Police: (801) 840-4000



1020 East Pioneer Road  
Draper, UT 84020  
(801) 576-6500

Postal Patron  
Draper, UT 84020

Standard Rate  
U.S. Postage  
paid by  
Draper City  
Permit No. 6



City Council Message

Council Member  
Marsha Vawdrey



If you’ve ever visited the Ballard Arena on a summer evening after sunset, you’ll understand why it’s one of my favorite spots in the city. Peaceful and scenic, it offers stunning views and captures the spirit of our community.

The arena was built in 1996 as part of Corner Canyon Park. According to the Deseret News, “The park, located in the South Mountain development at 13500 South and 1600 East, includes a full equestrian arena with room for future bleachers and stables. The land was donated to Draper by the developers of the 1,700-unit South Mountain subdivision as part of their development agreement with the city. The developers also spent about \$800,000 on site improvements. Salt Lake County contributed \$100,000 for construction of the equestrian arena.” Later additions by Draper City included the restrooms and concessions building, expanded

bleachers and parking, picnic tables and a large sunshade.

Today, the arena is home to several exciting annual events, including the Draper Days Rodeo, Horse Pull, Monster Truck rally, and potentially even a Demolition Derby. These events are made possible by the hard work of the 11-member Special Events Arena Committee and our great City staff responsible for organizing and staffing.

Earlier this year, KSL highlighted that Utah ranked #1 in the nation for volunteering since tracking began in 2002. Giving back strengthens our community and fosters a sense of connection and belonging.

Draper City currently has six official 11-member Commissions and Committees, along with at least four auxiliary groups—providing many

opportunities for residents to get involved and make a difference.

Another meaningful way to contribute is by supporting our local businesses. Recently, our sales tax revenue has seen a decline, which directly affects the City’s ability to fund important services. By choosing to shop and dine locally, we help sustain a vibrant, thriving community where people love to live and work.

With Draper Days and its many festivities just around the corner, now is a great time to dive into the fun and be part of what makes Draper so special. Apply to volunteer for Draper Days or in other capacities for Draper City at [draperutah.gov/volunteer](http://draperutah.gov/volunteer).

Councilmember  
Marsha Vawdrey

2025 MUNICIPAL PRIMARY ELECTION

Draper City will conduct its Municipal Primary Election on Tuesday, August 12, 2025.

This will be a vote-by-mail election. Ballots will be mailed to all active, registered voters beginning the week of July 22, 2025. Ballots must be received by August 12, 2025, to be counted. Please mail your ballot early to avoid delays.

Primary Election ballots will include candidates for the two-year city council term. Utah County residents in Draper will also have school board candidates on their ballots. There are not enough candidates for the four-year city council term or mayoral seat to hold a primary election. Those candidates will be included on the ballot for the General Election.

A secure ballot drop box is available in the south parking lot of Draper City Hall for convenient ballot drop-off.

To ensure you receive your ballot, verify or update your voter registration at [vote.utah.gov](http://vote.utah.gov). You can also see candidate information and view a sample ballot at that website.

Draper City Hall will serve as an official voting location:

- Early voting will be held August 5–8, 2025, from 3:00 PM to 7:00 PM.
- On Election Day, August 12, 2025, polls will be open from 7:00 AM to 8:00 PM.

DRAPER CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT  
NEW HIRES



Isaac McKean grew up in Helena, MT until his junior year of high school when his family moved to Kaysville.

After graduation he served an LDS Mission in Brazil. Upon returning he attended UVU and met his wife, Ashley. He joined the Utah Army National Guard (ARNG) as a flight paramedic and lived in San Antonio, TX during training. He was hired by West Valley FD as a firefighter paramedic and trained as a National Guard critical care flight medic.

After four years he took a position as a Readiness NCO for the MTARNG MEDEVAC unit, maintaining their ability to provide essential SAR capabilities and managing HR needs. He was sent to Flight Instructor school and became the sole medic instructor in MT. With the ARNG he was part of significant natural disasters, acting as lead medic during multiple operations. He and the other crews were recognized for over 90 individual rescues.

Isaac ended his duties in MT and moved his family to Traverse City, MI. There he worked as a Supervisor Paramedic in Charlevoix and worked on developing training programs and standards of care for EMT’s and Paramedics.



Joshua Owen is originally from Southern California where he spent his childhood and finished high school. He enlisted in the US

Army after graduation and served four years at Ft. Bragg in North Carolina, where he met his wife.

He started his fire service career as a volunteer for a small fire department while serving in the military. Upon being honorably discharged from the Army, he started his professional career with Fayetteville FD in NC. He fell in love with the job and wanted to continue his education by going to paramedic school. During this time they decided to move back out west closer to his family. In his free time, Joshua ride bikes and spend time with his wife.

July 17th  
4-8 PM  
Draper Park

# CAR SHOW

Do you have a cool, classic, or vintage car you love to show off? This is a free, all-makes, all-models show.

**\$500 prize!**

Registration required, there are a limited number of entries. Secure your spot by completing the online application today!

Contact our Event Manager  
[Community.events@draperutah.gov](mailto:Community.events@draperutah.gov)  
(801) 576-6584  
[draperutah.gov/events](http://draperutah.gov/events)  
Use this QR code to apply now!

POLICE BLOTTER  
ELECTRIC SCOOTERS AND PARKS AND TRAILS DON'T MIX

The Draper Police Department would like to remind you that the operation of electric scooters and electric motorcycles is not allowed in any Draper City Park or on the trails. Use of these causes unnecessary damage and puts park visitors at risk. We appreciate your help and cooperation in keeping your parks beautiful and accessible to all.



- The DAY BARN at Draper Park
- 1166 E. Pioneer Road, across from the Library
- 50+ Artists
- Food Truck, Live Music, Door Prizes, Kids’ Art Booth
- Free Admission
- MORE INFO: [www.drapervisualartsfoundation.org](http://www.drapervisualartsfoundation.org)



Art in the Barn  
Annual  
Fine Art Show  
& Sale

Join us!  
Friday & Saturday  
August 15-16, 2025  
(10 am-7 pm)

ART in the BARN



DRAPER DAYS HISTORIC WALKING TOUR  
DRAPER HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Part of the story of Draper Days is remembering the past while we celebrate the present and look forward to the future. Every year Draper City’s Historic Preservation Commission hosts a walking tour of historic sites, giving the community an opportunity to learn about significant locations and people of Draper’s history.

This year’s tour features the James A. Baynard & Martha Ellen Cossgrove house (12736 S. Boulter St.), David J. & Emma Hansen Smith house (12660 S. 1565 E.), Mary Smith

house (12544 S. 1565 E.), Lauritz Heber and Emma Wright Shipley Smith house (12423 S. 1565 E.), Joseph M. and Celestia Ann Brown Smith house (12357 S. 1565 E.), and the Antone and Iona Nelson House (12358 S. 1565 East).

Interested parties may park along Relation Street for the tour, which will be held Tuesday, July 15 at 6:00 PM. Don’t miss this exciting opportunity to learn about Draper’s past from those who know the most about it!







DRAPER DAYS  
**PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT**  
MENS • WOMENS • MIXED DOUBLES

**\$40**  
PER TEAM

JULY 11 & 12  
SOUTHFORK PARK

LEARN MORE & REGISTER  
DRAPERUTAH.GOV/DRAPERDAYS

draper days  
*Softball*  
adult coed all-nighter

**\$295**  
PER TEAM

JULY 18  
GALENA HILLS PARK

LEARN MORE & REGISTER AT  
DRAPERUTAH.GOV/DRAPERDAYS





DRAPER DAYS  
**5K FUN RUN**

**\$27**  
PER PARTICIPANT

JULY 12  
DRAPER CITY PARK

LEARN MORE & REGISTER  
DRAPERUTAH.GOV/DRAPERDAYS

DRAPER DAYS  
**basketball**  
3-ON-3 TOURNAMENT

**\$70**  
PER TEAM

JULY 19  
GALENA HILLS PARK

LEARN MORE & REGISTER AT  
DRAPERUTAH.GOV/DRAPERDAYS





DRAPER DAYS  
**strider**  
BIKE RACE

**\$30**  
per participant

JULY 12  
DRAPER CYCLE PARK  
AGES 3 - 5

LEARN MORE & REGISTER  
DRAPERUTAH.GOV/DRAPERDAYS



JULY 18 - 19

2025

FREE CONCERTS



THE  
**FRONTMEN**

with *COLE HARTLEY*

July 19, 7 PM

**GROOVE MERCHANTS**

with *MOON JUICE* and the winners of Draper Idol

July 18, 7 PM

both shows followed by fireworks

<b>Rodeo</b> July 11 & 12 7:30 PM	<b>Horse Pull</b> July 14 7:00 PM	<b>Historic Walking Tour</b> July 15 6:00 PM	<b>Heritage Banquet</b> July 16 6:00 PM	<b>Draper Idol</b> July 16 7:30 PM
<b>Movie Night</b> July 16 9:15 PM	<b>Car Show</b> July 17 4:00 PM	<b>Children's Bike Parade</b> July 17 6:00 PM	<b>Park Events</b> July 18 5:00 PM	<b>Parade</b> July 19 9:00 AM
<b>Pancake Breakfast</b> July 19 After Parade	<b>Park Events</b> July 19 11:00 AM	learn more at <b>draperutah.gov/draperdays</b>		

Thank you to our Gold, Silver, and Bronze Level sponsors!





DRAPER FORWARD

RECREATION PROGRAMS

FLAG FOOTBALL

Youth ages 4 - 13

This is a high energy, high participation league for boys and girls. This fast action game lets everyone throw, run, catch, and play defense.

Where: Galena Hills Park  
Length: 7 weeks, beginning August 25  
Cost: \$55 per participant

FALL SOCCER

Youth ages 6 - 13

Featuring smaller teams for more involved play, improved skills, more shots and scoring, this program is a great way to learn and build perseverance, teamwork skills, and make new friends.

Where: Galena Hills Park  
When: 7 weeks, beginning August 18  
Cost: \$57 (Pre-K-2), \$62 (3-4), \$65 (5-7)

EVIL SCIENTIST

Youth ages 6 - 11

In this exciting after-school science class, students participate in fun, hands-on experiments exploring space, the planets, and rocket design.

Where: Parks and Recreation Office  
When: Two sessions, September - December  
Cost: \$99 for six classes

ADULT KICKBALL

Adults ages 16+

This is a great low-stress/high-activity game that allows adults to recreate, get some exercise, socialize, and have fun.

Where: Galena Hills Park  
When: 7 weeks, beginning August 18  
Cost: \$285 per team

Register online at [draperutah.gov/programs](https://draperutah.gov/programs)

COMMUNITY EVENTS



5:00 - 9:00 PM  
Smith Fields Park  
13390 South 300 East

Purchase fresh, locally grown produce, artisan goods, and delicious food in a friendly, social gathering place. Food trucks will be on-site at the market.

Learn more at [draperutah.gov/farmersmarket](https://draperutah.gov/farmersmarket)



6:00 - 8:00 PM  
Draper City Park  
12500 South 1300 East

Draper PD demonstrates their services and programs — with lots of cool police gear and vehicles — for the public at Safety Day.

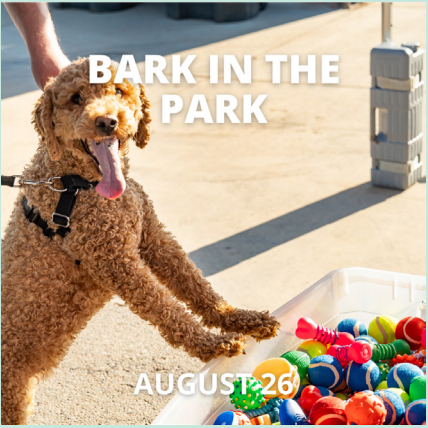
Learn more at [draperutah.gov/safetyday](https://draperutah.gov/safetyday)



7:30 PM  
Andy Ballard Arena  
1600 East Highland Drive

Experience the heart-pounding excitement of watching Utah's best monster trucks roaring around the dirt track at the Ballard Arena!

Learn more and get tickets at [draperutah.gov/monstertruck](https://draperutah.gov/monstertruck)



6:00 - 8:00 PM  
Galena Dog Park  
715 West 12300 South

Does the love of your life lick, bark, and wag its tail? Then join us on National Dog Day for this celebration for dogs and their owners!

Learn more at [draperutah.gov/bark](https://draperutah.gov/bark)

Learn more at [draperutah.gov/events](https://draperutah.gov/events)



at RIVER BOTTOMS

**JULY 12 - 13**

2-Round Disc Golf Shotgun Tournament  
Rotary Park / 958 West 12300 South  
Open to anyone age 16+  
Amateur Division: \$80 / Pro Division: \$100  
Registration opens May 13

Register now at [draperutah.gov/draperdays](https://draperutah.gov/draperdays)

The race is in September.  
Training starts today.



**September 20**  
7:00 - 11:00 AM  
Andy Ballard Arena

Half Marathon — \$55  
5K and 10K — \$25

Register by August 21 to guarantee Race Shirt

Register at [draperutah.gov/half](https://draperutah.gov/half)



*Dancing in the Stars*

**A BIG BAND TRIBUTE**

**September 12, 13, and 15**  
Gates: 7:00 PM | Show: 8:00 PM

**Draper Amphitheater**  
944 Vestry Rd.

Tickets on sale soon, get tickets at [draperutah.gov/amphitheater](https://draperutah.gov/amphitheater)



**DRAPER**  
AMPHITHEATER



**August 1, 2, 4, 8, 9 & 11**  
Gates: 8:00 PM — Show: 8:30 PM  
Draper Amphitheater  
944 Vestry Rd., Draper, UT 84020  
\$10 (ages 3 - 12) / \$12 (ages 13+)

get tickets at [draperutah.gov/amphitheater](https://draperutah.gov/amphitheater)

**PIE**

BAKING CONTEST

**Saturday, July 19**  
**Draper Park**  
**12:30 PM**

Show off your baking skills with a delicious pie and win a prize!  
Learn more at [draperutah.gov/draperdays](https://draperutah.gov/draperdays)



**CITY INFORMATION**

**MAYOR**  
Troy K. Walker

**CITY COUNCIL**  
Mike Green  
Bryn Heather Johnson  
Tasha Lowery  
Fred Lowry  
Marsha Vawdrey

**CITY MANAGER**  
Mike Barker

**CONTACT**  
(801) 576-6500  
[draperutah.gov](https://draperutah.gov)

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