

## Frequently Asked Questions

### **What is a metro district and what do they do?**

A metro district is a governmental entity formed under the laws of the State of Colorado. A metro district has responsibilities to provide municipal services and has powers of taxation and the power to set fees and charges.

Meridian Ranch is served by the Meridian Service Metropolitan District (Service District) and the Meridian Ranch Metropolitan District (Ranch District). The Ranch District has entered into a perpetual Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with the Service District. This dual district structure is intended to ensure the orderly phased financing and development of the Meridian Ranch community and allows the metro districts the ability to phase the bonding and taxation of property in the community.

The Service District is responsible for the construction and maintenance of primary community wide improvements such as water, sewer, storm drains, streetlights, recreational and park facilities and parkway landscaping, the construction only of certain roads, and the collection of monthly service charges. The Ranch District is responsible for the funding and tax base needed to support the financing plan for capital improvements and for operations. Property owners in Meridian Ranch will elect the board of directors of the Ranch District. During the build out of the Meridian Ranch community, the board of directors of the Service District will consist of representatives of the developer.

Both metropolitan districts have monthly meetings of their respective boards of directors and the board meetings are open to the public. The management company that has been hired by the both districts to manage their business operations is Community Resource Services (“CRS”) and the district manager is Wayne Monson. CRS can be contacted at 303.381.4960.

### **Does the Service District have a website?**

You may find the website for Meridian Service Metropolitan District helpful in answering some of your questions. Go to [www.meridianranchmetro.org](http://www.meridianranchmetro.org).

### **What are the monthly fees for the Service District and what do we get for our monthly fees?**

Your monthly fees imposed by the Service District cover many services, including sewer, water, storm drain, street lighting, use and maintenance of the recreational facilities, and fees for the maintenance of parks, open space, trails, parkways, and entry and neighborhood monument signs. The fee schedule for the Service District is on the back page.

### **Can fees be increased?**

Yes, the board of directors of the Service District can vote to increase fees. The board will only increase fees if necessary to cover cost increases or to cover the cost of new services or regulations that might be imposed by local, state and federal agencies, along with new amenities that the community may desire.

### **What is the mill levy property tax imposed by the Meridian Ranch Metropolitan District?**

There is a 25 mill property tax imposed by the Ranch District. This mill levy property tax is to fund the bonded indebtedness that the Ranch District will incur to finance water and sewer infrastructure, street and landscaping improvements, the recreational facility, trail systems, drainage storm retention facilities and neighborhood parks provided by the Service District and to pay for the ongoing operation and maintenance of Service District facilities.

### **Who provides trash pickup services?**

Trash pickup services must be contracted directly with the trash disposal company by each individual homeowner. A Meridian Ranch homeowner's committee has negotiated a very good price for monthly trash pickup through Rocky Mountain Disposal, and most Meridian Ranch residents have contracted with them. Trash is picked up weekly by Rocky Mountain Disposal on Wednesdays and all cans should be returned to the garage area after pick up. For additional information contact Rocky Mountain Disposal at 719.492.2050.

### **Who provides gas, electric, and telephone, water and cable TV services?**

**Gas:** Black Hills Energy, 888.890.5554

**Electricity:** Mountain View Electric, 800.388.9881 or 719.495.2283

**Telephone service:** CenturyLink, 800.244.1111

**Water:** Meridian Service Metropolitan District, c/o CRS 719.495.5152

**Cable TV/Internet Service:** Comcast, 719.473.2731

### **Who provides police and fire protection?**

Police protection is provided by the El Paso County Sheriff's Department. Fire protection is provided by the Falcon Fire Department. The nearest fire station is located one block south of Meridian Ranch at 12072 Royal County Downs Rd. In case of emergency, call 911.

### **Who maintains streets and removes snow from the streets?**

El Paso County is responsible for the maintenance of and snow removal from streets. Homeowners are responsible for removing snow from the sidewalks and driveways in front of their house. The Service District is responsible for maintenance of trails and removal of snow on Service District trails.

### **What are the recreational facilities and who can use the recreational facilities?**

The Meridian Ranch Recreation Center is owned by the Service District and managed by the YMCA of the Pikes Peak Region. The Recreation Center is being built out in three phases and is located on the corner of Londonderry Drive and Angeles Rd. The first and second phases are completed and include a fitness and aerobics center, activity rooms, an indoor gymnasium, and an outdoor swimming pool with a slide, a graduated slope children's area and lap lanes. An indoor swimming pool is planned for the future.

All Meridian Ranch homeowners and their families are eligible to use the Meridian Ranch recreational facilities. Guests can also use the facilities when escorted by a Meridian Ranch resident. A limited number of guest passes are permitted per year per household. Please visit the recreation center or call 719.495.7119 for details.

Additionally, the community includes trail systems and neighborhood parks. Four neighborhood parks, The Greens Park, The Fairway Heights Park, Double Eagle Park and the Fox Point Park are completed and ready for use. There are playgrounds, walking paths, picnic and grass areas, swing sets, jungle gyms and an outdoor basketball court.

**Does membership at the Meridian Ranch Recreation Center allow me to use other YMCA facilities?**

No. Your membership in the Meridian Ranch Recreation Center is not a YMCA membership. Likewise, YMCA members do not have access to the Meridian Ranch Recreation Center.

**Why does the YMCA operate the Meridian Ranch Recreation Center?**

The YMCA offers a proven system that brings tremendous expertise to the Recreation Center. Additionally, the YMCA offers programs and services beyond what the District would be able to do on its own.

**Are non-residents permitted to use the Meridian Ranch Recreation Center?**

The Recreation Center is intended for the use and enjoyment of Meridian Ranch residents. Non-resident monthly membership use of the facilities and programs is on a space available basis and requires the payment of out-of-district fees as established from time to time. Non-residents without monthly memberships are allowed to participate in some YMCA programs such as Sports, Youth Programs, Summer/Day Camp and Fitness Classes on a space available basis and requires the payment of out-of-district fees. The programs may or may not take place inside the Recreation Center.

**Why are non-residents allowed to participate in fee based programs?**

Allowing non-residents to participate in fee-based programs helps cover the costs associated with offering such programs and increases the number of participants, which provides for a better experience for our residents (i.e., having enough participants to make sports teams). Residents are allowed to register for fee-based programs several weeks prior to non-residents. Additionally, non-residents are charged a higher fee than the resident rate.

**Can Meridian Ranch residents use the Woodmen Hills recreation center, and vice versa?**

Each recreation center is owned by a separate metropolitan district. Residents of each community pay the park and recreation fee to the district in which they reside. Therefore, they do not have resident privileges to use both facilities. However, because Meridian Ranch and Woodmen Hills provide fee-based programs at both facilities, residents of both communities pay the resident price for these fee-based programs regardless of which recreation center is offering the program.

**With whom do I speak regarding issues with the exercise equipment?**

If you find that a piece of equipment needs service, please notify the on-site YMCA staff immediately and they will schedule the repair with the equipment contractor. You can also fill out a comment card at the front desk or send an email to [rec\\_center@MRmetro.org](mailto:rec_center@MRmetro.org)

**Who makes the policies, procedures and rules for the facility and YMCA programs?**

All policies, procedures and rules for the facility are decided by the Service District Board of Directors based on the recommendations of the YMCA of the Pikes Peak Region and resident feedback. Most of the standards in place are for the safety and protection of residents, guests, staff, and program participants. If you have any questions or concerns regarding any facility and/or program, policies, procedures, or rules please direct your question to YMCA staff.

**Who is responsible for facility repairs, improvements, and the landscaped areas at the Recreation Center?**

The Service District manages all major facility repairs such as issues with the pool or with electrical, plumbing, HVAC issues in the Recreation Center building, structural and window damage, facility improvements such as flooring and expansion, and landscaping. The YMCA addresses maintenance issues such as facility cleanliness, touch-up paint, pool chemical maintenance, clogged toilets and lighting. If you identify a problem, please notify a YMCA staff member and he/she will either take care of the issue or notify the Service District.

**Who determines the days and times of operation?**

The Service District Board of Directors decides when the building will be open based on facility utilization, recommendations of the YMCA and resident feedback.

**Who is responsible for distributing information regarding the Recreation Center to the residents of Meridian Ranch?**

Meridian Ranch provides information on its web site regarding the Recreation Center at [www.meridianranch.com](http://www.meridianranch.com) and the YMCA provides program information at [www.ppymca.org](http://www.ppymca.org). There are also facility and program flyers located at the Recreation Center. For information regarding recreation programs, contact the YMCA at 719.495.7119. For information regarding District facilities contact the District Manager at 719.495.5152.

**Is there a homeowner's association? How are the CC & R's enforced?**

Meridian Ranch does not have a homeowner's association. However the Meridian Ranch community is governed by Conditions, Covenants, and Restrictions (CC & R's), which are enforced by Design Review Councils. The Design Review Councils are independent non-profit corporations and are funded by annual fees. The current annual fee per residence for Design Review Council No. 1 is \$110.00 and Design Review Council No. 2 is \$115.00.

While there is not a charge for original landscape design review, a nominal fee will be charged for subsequent design reviews for items such as playground equipment, storage facilities, change of paint color and additional landscaping.

Design Review Councils are managed by Warren Management Group. The phone number for Design Review Council No. 1 is 719.685.8727 and its website is [www.meridianranchdrc.org](http://www.meridianranchdrc.org). The phone number for Design Review Council No. 2 is 719.685.8728 and its website is [www.meridianranchdrc2.com](http://www.meridianranchdrc2.com).

**How is the award-winning Antler Creek Golf Course associated with Meridian Ranch?**

The Antler Creek Golf Course is a privately owned and operated 18-hole golf course, built in conjunction with the Meridian Ranch community. Open daily to the public, the dunes style course offers from 5,393 to over 8,000 yards of play, a full service pro-shop and restaurant. For additional information on Antler Creek Golf Course and CreekView Grill, visit [www.AntlerCreekGolf.com](http://www.AntlerCreekGolf.com) or call 719.494.1900.

**In what school district is Meridian Ranch?**

Meridian Ranch is located in Falcon School District 49, providing education for K-12 students. For information on District 49, call 719.495.3601 or log on to its website, [www.d49.org](http://www.d49.org). Meridian Ranch Elementary serves Pre-Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade and is located on Rainbow Bridge Drive north of Londonderry Drive. Falcon Middle School serves 6<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade and is located west of Meridian Road at 9755 Towner Avenue in Falcon Hills. Falcon High School in Meridian Ranch is located off Eastonville Rd., north of Londonderry Drive.

**MERIDIAN SERVICE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT FEE SCHEDULE**  
**Effective 2/1/14**

**WATER**

*Water Resource Fee	\$29.84 per month
*Water Use Fee (Includes 5,000 gallons per month usage)	\$15.81 per month

**ADDITIONAL WATER USE RATES**

5,001 to 10,000 gallons per month usage	\$3.33 per 1,000 gallons
10,001 to 15,000 gallons per month usage	\$3.50 per 1,000 gallons
15,001 to 20,000 gallons per month usage	\$4.42 per 1,000 gallons
20,001 to 30,000 gallons per month usage	\$14.38 per 1,000 gallons
Above 30,000 gallons per month usage	\$17.58 per 1,000 gallons

Water Rate Reduction for new lawns/landscaping:

Meridian Ranch homeowners may request a water rate reduction for three consecutive months after installing new lawns/landscaping, provided the following criteria are met:

- The amount of irrigated landscaped area is less than 2,500 square feet. An inspection will follow the request.
- The request is made within one year from the closing date of the initial sale of a new home.

All water used during the three consecutive months will be charged at the lowest current rate class. To request a water rate reduction, please call the District at 303.381.4960.

**SEWER**

Sewer Charges - Residential	\$37.13 per month
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**RECREATION**

Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Trails, Entry Features and Drainage	\$41.82 per month
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**STREET LIGHTING**

Street Lighting*	\$3.75 per month
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**OTHER**

Water Service Turn Off Fee	\$50.00 per occurrence
Water Service Turn On Fee	\$50.00 per occurrence
Delinquent Payment Fee	\$11.00 per occurrence
Return Check Fee	\$27.00 per occurrence
Transfer of Account Fee	\$22.50 per occurrence
Meter Tampering Penalty Fee	\$550.00 plus est. water usage per occurrence

\* Per Single Family Equivalent (SFE)