



DECEMBER  
2024  
Newsletter

DECEMBER MEETING – SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14

Holiday Party at Debbi Novotny's

121 Mill Creek Road

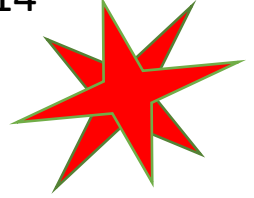
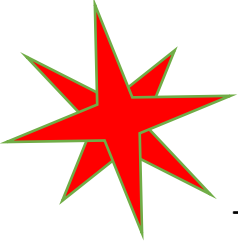
1-5 p.m.

Bring a side dish for 6-8 people.

The Club will provide the main course and adult beverages.

Spouses, prospective members and significant others are welcome

If you "plant" to attend, please RSVP not later than **Tuesday, December 10** to Linda Yowell at 303-898-8017 or via email, rickyowell7682@msn.com



UPCOMING MEETING TOPICS for 2025

Thursday, January 9 – "Dinner & Movie"

Thursday, February 13 – Tree Trimming & Pruning by David LaCroix. Summit Tree Service

Thursday, March 13 – Make a Terrarium with Debbi Novotny

Thursday, April 10 – Rain Barrels

Thursday, May 8 – Rock Painting with Larrice Sell and Wendy Binninger

UPCOMING HOLIDAY EVENTS

Idaho Springs Tree Lighting and Holiday Ramble

Saturday, November 30

Santa photos & story time at the Club Hotel Annex at 3:00

Caroling procession to Citizen's Park at 4:30, tree lighting at 5:00

"Meet Me Under The Mistletoe" Holiday Market at The Argo Mill

Sunday, December 1 from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Local vendors, bike exchange, live music, holiday treats, decorated bike parade at 4 p.m.

Mill Creek Valley Historical Society Christmas Sale

Saturday and Sunday, December 7-8,

9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

The drawing for Ken Nelson's 37 snowflake ornaments is on Dec. 8

**BATTERY-POWERED TOOLS MAKE LIFE SO MUCH EASIER!**

**PUT ONE ON YOUR CHRISTMAS LIST**



- RYOBI ONE+ 18V Cordless Battery 1 Gal. Chemical Sprayer with 2.0 Ah Battery and Charger
- This sprayer is lightweight and easy to use. No pumping required!



- 40V MAX 120 MPH 90 CFM Cordless Battery Powered Handheld Leaf Blower & Vacuum Kit with (1) 1.5Ah Battery & Charger
  - Both are available at local big box stores.

### **December Craft Fairs and Other Events**

**Idaho Springs Visitors Center Holiday Sale**

**Saturday, November 30**

**15% off total sale of \$50 or more**

**20% off total sale of \$100 or more**

**Bear Creek High School Holiday Fair**

**Saturday, December 7 from 9-4**

**9800 W. Dartmouth Place/160 vendors**

**Gilpin Arts & Crafts Fair**

**December 14 from 10- 4 and 15 from 12 – 4**

**Gilpin County Recreation Center**

# THE PROCESS OF CUTTING DOWN A 51' FOOT TREE



Dave starts by removing the limbs from the bottom up  
The bucket truck allows him to get most of the way to the top.



A rope and pulley system was  
used to control the fall of the  
two upper leader sections.



Small sections of the trunk are cut and allowed to fall to the ground, some going right into the trailer below!



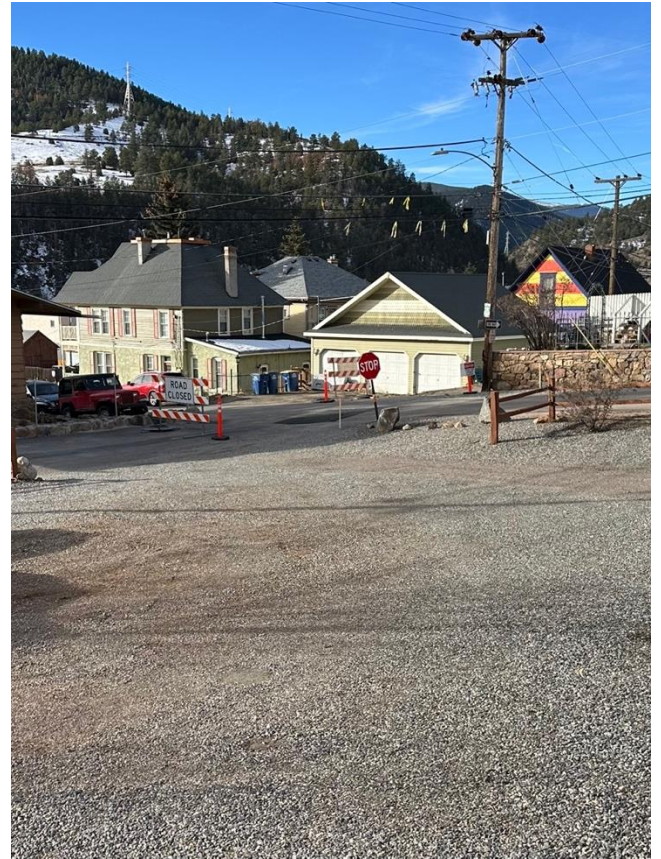
The remaining trunk is cut to fall in a certain direction.



The thud when the trunk hit the ground was audible!



The stump is cut down to size.



A stump grinder was used to remove the stump.

I'm sure you're asking why the tree was removed...

Dave La Croix of Summit Tree Service, who was a presenter at our 2024 Master Gardener program, came to look at some other trees that needed to be trimmed and pointed out that this tree was leaning toward our house! We thought it might be better to be pro-active rather than wait for it to come down in our frequent high winds.

Amy Tomlinson

Soiree Du Noel Historique  
An Historic Holiday Evening

by the Historical Society of Idaho Springs and the IS Elks Lodge  
Friday, December 6, 6:00 p.m.

Idaho Springs Elks Lodge  
\$45 per person

Dinner, entertainment, silent auction and more!

Tickets can be obtained at [eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com) or at the IS Visitors Center

## Planting Amaryllis Bulbs In Containers - About As Easy As It Gets



- Amaryllis bulbs are graded by size; generally, a larger bulb means more flower stalks and blooms.
- For a starting point, plant amaryllis bulbs about eight weeks before you want them to bloom.
- Bulbs can be ordered online or purchased at big box stores and nurseries in late October or early November for blooming around the December holidays.

### How to Plant

Amaryllis bulbs benefit from soaking their roots in room-temperature water for 12-24 hours prior to planting. This produces a healthier and more vigorous plant that blooms faster. Soak just the roots, not the bulb. Use a water glass or other container that's a little smaller than the bulb to allow the roots to dangle in the water without the bulb falling inside and getting stuck.

You need a pot about 2 inches wider than the bulb with adequate drainage holes. If your bulb did not come with a puck of coir, grab some fresh potting soil. Fill the bottom of the pot with enough soil so that the bulb's top third will be exposed. Set the bulb onto the soil. Then fill the rest of the pot, again leaving the top third of the bulb exposed. Water thoroughly, (if coir was used it will be wet so give it a day or two before watering) and set it in a bright, warm spot. You'll likely see growth begin in a week or less.

If the bulb had already sprouted when you removed it from the box, just give it time. It will turn green and begin growing in a few days. Turn the pot daily so the flower stalk grows straight up. Amaryllis grow and bloom best with at least four hours of sunshine per day. Too much shade may prevent them from blooming again the following year. Let them soak up the light, even after blooming, to replenish the energy stored in the bulb for next year. Indoors, a grow light can be useful to produce the largest, healthiest plants.

That's it!

Next month: what to do with your bulbs after they bloom.