



## TOWN OF BRIGHTON NEWS

### DECEMBER 2023



Winter is a time for dreams and planning lively possibilities.

**GENERAL ELECTION RESULTS.** Congratulations to Brighton’s newly elected officials. Jeff Bossard and Lise Brunhart were each elected to 4-year terms which begin in January 2024. It was a close race thanks to Adrienne Aldous, Gavin Gnung, and Heidi Westfall who also ran with some great ideas for the future of Brighton. Lively possibilities await with this kind of community involvement.

### WINTER TRAVEL TIPS IN BIG COTTONWOOD

**UTA SKI BUS SERVICE.** The Cottonwood Canyons winter bus season will run from November 26 until April 13, with 5 busses in each canyon running every 30 minutes (traffic permitting). Additional surge buses are planned on holidays and weekends. Season Resort Passholders ride for free. The Cottonwood Connect Ski Shuttle is also available. If the canyon parking capacity is reached, **UPHILL ROAD CLOSURES** will be activated.



#### FAQ.

How can I stay updated on canyon road status? [Road Conditions](#)

What is an Uphill Road Closure? [Closures Restrictions](#)

What is an Avalanche Closure? [UDOT Avalanche Info](#)

How do I get a parking reservation at Brighton? [Parking at Brighton](#)

How do I get a parking reservation at Solitude? [Parking at Solitude](#)

Can I still get a Tire Inspection Sticker and where would I go? [UDOT Sticker Program](#)

How can I make reservations on the Cottonwood Connect Bus Service? Cottonwood Connect Ski Shuttle

## NOVEMBER 2023 MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS



Congratulations to Brighton's newly elected officials. Councilman Jeff Bossard was re-elected for a second 4-year term. Lise Brunhart was also elected for a 4-year term to replace Jenna Malone who is retiring this year. We are very lucky to have these dedicated individuals working on behalf of our town. The Proposition to raise the sales tax rate by .5% also passed by a surprising 83% of the vote. It will be put into effect sometime in 2024 at the discretion of the Town Council.

## IMPORTANT LAND USE NOTICES

### BUILDING PERMIT REQUIREMENTS

Many home repair projects have been underway due to the big snow of 2023. MSD Planners are urging people to check to see if a building permit is required before starting any repair or remodeling projects. Here's a handy guide:

[FAQs for Building Permits](#)

The fine for building without a permit is rather expensive, as you can see from the new Fee Schedule [Fee Schedule](#). So, protect yourself and your budget. See if you need a permit before you start!

### NON-CONFORMING USES & STRUCTURES

A Public Hearing was held on December 12th at 6:30 PM for the public to address an amendment to the Town of Brighton Municipal Code section 19.88 to repeal and replace the Nonconforming Uses and Noncomplying Structures chapter. After the hearing, the Town Council passed the ordinance. For more info, visit this link: [Non-Conforming Use Ordinance](#)

### SHORT TERM RENTAL HANDBOOK APPLICATION & RENEWAL INFORMATION

The MSD and the Town of Brighton have compiled a handbook of helpful guidelines and forms for Short-Term Rental owners. See the STR Handbook [at this link](#):



## WASATCH FRONT WASTE & RECYCLING

**Illegal Dumping.** Trash placed on top of or on the ground outside the compactor or containers violates provisions of General Sanitation Regulations. Anyone who violates these regulations is subject to a Class B misdemeanor, pursuant to Section 26A-1-Criminal, Civil and Administrative Penalties. (<https://slco.org/health/regulations/>). If you see any illegal dumping, please contact the Salt Lake County Health Department at 385-468-4100, or your local non-emergency UPD at 801-840-4000.

As a reminder, in the summer the WFWRD has trailers available to rent for 3-4 days; \$190.00 for bulk waste, and \$55.00 for green waste. Town of Brighton and Big Cottonwood residents are allowed to reserve one trailer per year at no charge. They can choose either one green waste trailer or one bulk waste trailer. For more information: [Rent a Trailer Online](#)

**Cardiff Fork Containers.** The WFWRD containers have been removed for the season and will be returned in April-May 2024, weather permitting. Please know that our team is working hard to find a container site to replace the one that had to be removed at the base of the canyon. Please reach out to Justin Tuft if you have any ideas on a location. (385) 468-6340 [jtuft@wasatchfrontwaste.org](mailto:jtuft@wasatchfrontwaste.org).

**Recycle Your Gift Wrapping!** Please remember that paper-based wrapping paper is recyclable; but plastic or Mylar wrapping, and bows/ribbons, are not recyclable. If you're not sure whether your wrapping paper gets the green light for the blue recycle bin, try the scrunch test. Take your wrapping paper and scrunch it up into a ball. If the ball keeps its shape, it is likely recyclable. If it opens back up into a sheet, it is likely not. For any recycling questions or concerns, please call (385) 468-6337.

Not sure where to recycle an item? Choose the "Recycle Right" icon then type any material into the search space to see how to dispose of it properly. <https://wasatchfrontwaste.org/how-recycle> . Happy Holidays!



## COTTONWOOD CANYONS FOUNDATION

**Volunteers needed for two winter programs:** Ski with a Ranger and Snowshoe with a Naturalist. These are fun, enlightening opportunities to spend time in the canyons while sharing stewardship and watershed protection principles. More information can be found [here](#).

**You are invited to join the Canyons Camp program:** monthly gatherings centered around engaging our community with information about canyons ecology in a fun and informative group setting. Sign up for more information [here](#).

The Town of Brighton commends the work being done by the CCF on behalf of Big Cottonwood Canyon. If you would like to donate, please know that your contribution will directly support

the trails and plants stewardship efforts, as well as work to educate future stewards. Check out the 2023 Annual Report and support the canyons [here](#).



Photo courtesy of the Utah Historical Society

## SKI TOURING

*Big Cottonwood Historical Society - Wayside Tales of the Wasatch*

Ski touring took off briefly thanks to James Laughlin (*pronounced Lock-lin*), owner of the Alta Lodge. He learned to ski in Switzerland where he enjoyed the European ski hut program. After WWII, the National Ski Association formed a special committee to begin such a program in the US. In 1942, Laughlin wrote an article titled *A Plea for Huts in America*. It read, in part:

*We must have ski huts in America for high mountain touring. Not just occasional isolated huts here and there, but groups of two and three related huts, because ski touring is the real cream of skiing.*

With encouragement from Felix Koziol, Wasatch National Forest Supervisor, the committee petitioned the Salt Lake County Commission for \$3900 to begin the project. The Commissioners were so impressed that they budgeted \$5000!

The first huts were constructed in 1948 by Wasatch Mountain Club volunteers. Each hut had a 2-burner stove, unisex toilet, and a deep powder front door near the roof. During construction, Mountain Club members knew it would be difficult to haul in the mattresses on foot, so they convinced some friends at the Utah National Guard to air-drop them during a training flight. But because of high winds on the day of the drop, the mattresses sailed joyfully into the sky like Frisbees, landing in canyons far and wide. All were later retrieved and hiked into place.

Another surprising wind problem surfaced when outhouse contents were whirled skyward and rained down on the pristine mountain experience. (Darn that Bernoulli principle!) The plan for 14 ski huts was never finished due to improved UDOT roads. The wooden hut near Snake Creek in Brighton burned in 1965. The prefab metal hut at Germania remained until the 1970's.

The old Quonset hut near the top of Alta's Supreme lift remains as a memory of Wasatch connections, dreams, & possibilities. As back country skiing becomes more popular every year, ski huts may be revived as a means to create wide-ranging mountain adventures that could be the real cream of skiing (and hiking) envisioned by James Laughlin so long ago.

## MSD Community Survey

Let Your Voice Be Heard

The MSD is seeking input from the residents we serve. We have put together a quick, 4-question survey for our community members. This survey will serve the residents of **Magna, Kearns, White City, Emigration Canyon, Copperton and the Town of Brighton**. Simply scan the QR code below or if you would prefer to go online visit:

<https://bit.ly/45LMh5o>



## NEW FOREST SERVICE JOBS AVAILABLE

The Forest Service is making an effort to fill several positions that were temporary with full-time positions. Consider this opportunity as a great way to start a career with generous benefits such as retirement, health insurance, and paid holidays. Over 50 Recreation positions need to be filled. For more information: [Careers | US Forest Service](#)





Examples of your 'office' here on the  
**Uinta-Wasatch-Cache  
National Forest**

WHAT WILL YOU DO??

- ✓ Run a chainsaw
- ✓ Build a rustic bridge
- ✓ Groom a ski trail
- ✓ Patrol the Wilderness
- ✓ Pack a horse (or mule)
- ✓ Maintain a scenic toilet
- ✓ Dig dirt with friends
- ✓ Build a retaining wall
- ✓ Hike to your work site
- ✓ Build a fence
- ✓ Have fun and do good work!!





## UPCOMING EVENTS

**DECEMBER 17** | **Santa arrives in person!** ▪ Silver Fork Lodge ▪ 4-6 pm ▪ Free for every kid!  
Locals Night ▪ Silver Fork Lodge ▪ 6 pm ▪ \$20/person ▪ Everyone Welcome!

**DECEMBER 16** | **Community Christmas Dinner** ▪ 6 pm ▪ Brighton Chapel ▪ Bring a dish to share  
Entrée is provided ▪ Everyone welcome!

## MEETINGS

### **Brighton Town Council**

2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the Month – 6:30 pm – Fire Station – Hybrid meeting - [Meetings | Brighton Utah](#)  
OR [www.utah.gov/pmn](http://www.utah.gov/pmn) (You can subscribe to this website to receive automatic notifications.)

**Brighton Institute Meeting** (no December meeting)

**BCCA Community Council** (no December meeting)

### **Brighton Planning Commission Meeting**

3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the Month – 6:00 pm – Fire Station #108 or virtually at  
<https://slco.webex.com/meet/wgurr> [Meetings | Brighton Utah](#)

## RESOURCES

### **Environmental Dashboard**

The Central Wasatch Commission's Environmental Dashboard has some great information about our canyon. Access the Environmental Dashboard at this link: <https://cwcedb.utah.edu/>

### **Big Cottonwood Historical Society**

Check out stories about Big Cottonwood: [Historical Society — BRIGHTON INSTITUTE \(thebrightoninstitute.org\)](#) If you have pictures, stories, or documents, let us know! Join in the adventure to discover and share canyon history!



