

Q Search for Lawn Service



(/profile/1442632/)



Home(/news_feed)



Discover(/discover)



For Sale & Free(/for_sale_and_free/?init_source=more_menu)



Notifications(/notifications)



Chats(/inbox)



Neighbors(/invitation_email?is=navbar_left)

+ Post



Post removed

See why

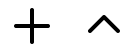


(/profile/01sQjzCnCCFY9LDms/?is=detail_author)

David Wood (/profile/0

9 Apr (/p/m3qpFGMnS

Chats



Q Search for Lawn Service

What's going on with Westminster and the Rocky Mountain Greenway?



First: thanks to Deb Duran and John Y, for feedback about the visibility of high-rez PNG files from last night. These may be hard to read if you use a browser, but (ironically) are more readable on smart phones, because the Nextdoor app allows you to zoom in. The best way to read the documents to come is by downloading them as PDFs. These and a bibliography are at <https://rockyflatsneighbors.org/flyer-and-bibliography/> (<https://rockyflatsneighbors.org/flyer-and-bibliography/>).

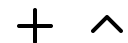
A brief introduction: I'm a retired physics professor living in Candelas (Arvada); I set up and maintain the pro-science and pro-Refuge website <https://rockyflatsneighbors.org/> (<https://rockyflatsneighbors.org/>). There is a great deal of information about the Rocky Flats cleanup, health, radiation, epidemiology, and rebuttals of misinformation there.

I have a great reluctance to use social media, but will entertain the idea that it COULD be used for reliable information. But I feel it is my professional responsibility to help people understand the Rocky Flats situation the way a physicist would. We would never ask, "how many picocuries of plutonium (Pu) per gram of soil of is there on Rocky Flats?" Instead, we'd start with "How does the (radiation) exposure from Pu compare to what we get from what's already there?" This lets me dispense with pesky units and focus on comparisons. The data will probably upend what you thought you knew about the Superfund cleanup and health risks. The DOE's focus on Pu without context basically infantilized meaningful discussion during and after the cleanup. (Yesterday's posting included graphics which put this right in your face.)

This posting is mostly about POLITICS. The next will be about SCIENCE, and a rebuttal to spectacularly wrong statements made before the Westminster city council on March 11 by the usual band of anti-nuclear activists. My angle will try always to be SHOW ME THE DATA.

Westminster owns the open space east of Indiana St, across from the Rocky Flats National Wildlife Refuge on the west side. A bridge funded by a federal grant is scheduled to span Indiana and connect pieces of the Greenway on either side, eventually to connect with more of the Greenway further north.

Chats





Q Search for **Lawn Service**

On March 11 of this year a fairly large group of anti-nuclear activists spoke before the Westminster city council. They argued that the city should abandon its (political and financial) commitments to the Greenway (just as the activists did to the Broomfield city council with the Jefferson Parkway in 2019) to avoid health risks to the public due to plutonium. Here's my favorite:

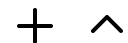
“. . . Building the overpass above Indiana Avenue to connect it with open space in Westminster would all but guarantee the transfer of plutonium far from the Refuge . . . Ultimately, the Greenway trails would not only put those using them at risk, but would also allow them to be tracked far outside the Refuge, thereby putting many other individuals including visitors to the Rocky Mountain National Park at risk.”

As we'll see, this is ludicrous. Let's try something outlandish and see if it sticks to the wall of public attention! I read a statement on March 11 in support of the Greenway, but was left feeling that the city will try to abandon those commitments. This will mean that those who DO use the Greenway will have to cross Indiana Street on their own.

These anti-nuclear groups have a history of over-stating opposition to use of the Refuge and claiming to represent people living around it. They also are responsible (in the absence of any evidence) for school district bans on visits to the Refuge. It is hard to overemphasize how unprepared local municipalities and school districts are: (I) they assume these visitors are their constituents (they almost definitely are NOT); (ii) they assume the speakers know what they're talking about (they are first-and-foremost anti-nuclear and get most facts completely wrong and don't give a rat's ass), and (iii) the instant the council hears the words “public safety” they scramble off whatever commitments they have like ticks jumping off a dead moose, despite what their own experts may tell them.

I wish these municipalities were happy to hear about science and epidemiology. But (for example, in Broomfield and possibly in Westminster) they don't care. So the wisest course to help along the Rocky Mountain Greenway is to overwhelm them with public support for it, to make it politically costly for them to NOT do their 'due diligence' about science. I will follow up with and email addresses for those to contact in a day or so.

Chats



Q Search for **Lawn Service**

The only graphic in this posting is survey results over the last 8 years showing that the Boulder-based Rocky Mountain Peace & Justice Center does NOT represent people living around the Refuge and that locals strongly support both the Refuge and the Greenway.



What response (itself very illuminating!) should you expect to this posting?

*Ad hominem attacks (attack the messenger [me] not the message)

*Rejection of any information from the DOE or the CDPHE, since they are 'covering up'.

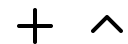
*Appeals to experts from the 1970s and early 1980s ('appeal to authority', a logical fallacy) rather than anything current or relevant

*Appeals to 'anecdotal': (Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English): information which is presented as if it is the result of serious research, but which is actually based on what someone thinks but cannot prove.

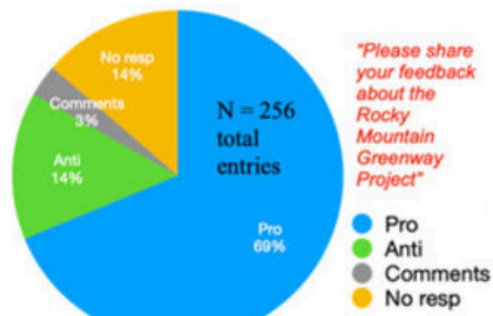
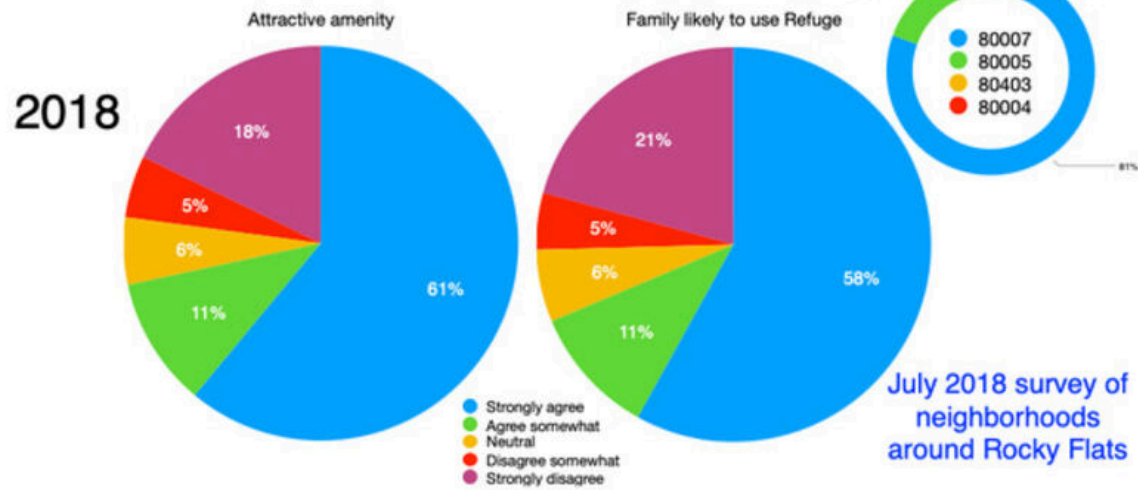
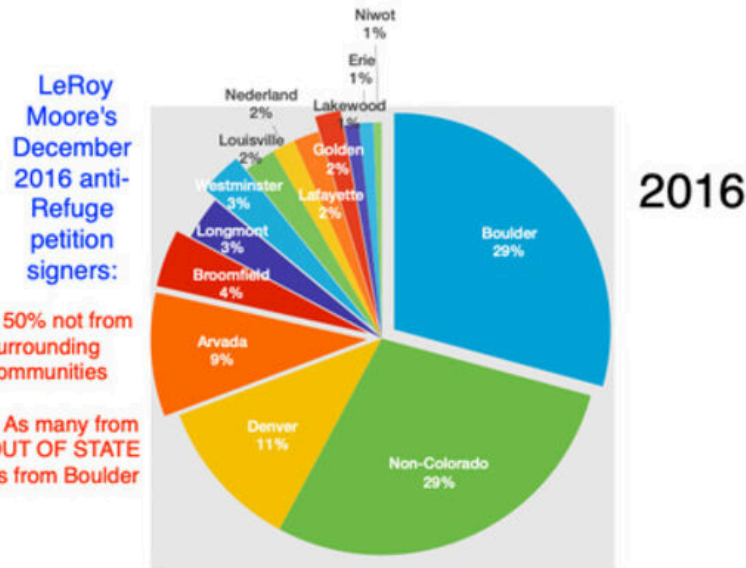
*Fishing for legitimacy by noting that several school districts shut down school trips to the Refuge, and they must know what they're doing. (No they don't—Peace&Justice reps visited and scared them, then a cascade of such bans were made 'out of solidarity', not from evidence at any point).

The later postings be mostly carefully-chosen graphics to tell the story of Rocky Flats safety. Can't stand the wait? --If you lived your life on the eastern boundary of the Refuge (in the 'wind blown area' with the most residual Pu), the yearly radiation dose you'd get from Pu in soil is about 400x smaller than what you already get from background radiation, excluding radon (by far the largest dose per year).

Chats

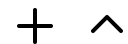


Q Search for Lawn Service



Not sure of date

Chats





Reactions



13



0



0



0



0



0



(/profile/019Yy5Zzddf8RLWj6/?is=feed_commenter)

Joe L. (/profile/019Yy5Zzddf8RLWj6/?is=detail_comr

Dave, thanks for taking the time and energy to prepare this post. Any thoughts or suggestions on how to organize to get the facts presented?

Share



(/profile/01sQjzCnCCFY9LDms/?is=feed_commenter)

David Wood (/profile/01sQjzCnCCFY9LDms/

Joe (/profile/019Yy5Zzddf8RLWj6/):

sorry to be so long in responding. Many living around the Refuge are fairly familiar with the facts. The REASON to get the facts out there is really to help local city councils not to do stupid things--Superior and Broomfield come to mind since they backed out of Jefferson Parkway support on the ostensible basis of 1 hot particle. Another compelling reason is that anti-Refuge activists reject information from the CDPHE and the DOE, undermining public trust like anti-vaxxers and the CDC or WHO. Do they mitigate their

Chats



Q Search for **Lawn Service**

radon? Do they happily undergo CT scans? You bet--selective attention. Those who read my more recent posts have facts and a bibliography at hand.



There's not much hope or point of trying to respond to nonsense on social media. One problem for 'the facts' is that anti-nuclear groups can be counted on to overwhelm city council meetings in hefty numbers--10 or more sometimes. The people who know the facts (or those who planned the Superfund cleanup) are much quieter. If science-supporters attended in similar numbers the activists would probably quiet down very quickly.

So there are TWO ways to help:

(i) Sign up to the rockyflatsneighbors mailing list at

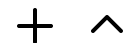
<https://rockyflatsneighbors.org/contacts/>
(<https://rockyflatsneighbors.org/contact> s/), and

(ii) Keep an eye on the activist websites and let others on the RFN mailing list (itself quiescent) know when there appears to be an important event coming up. I have TRIED to do this but there's only one of me.

Fairly active

<https://rockyflatsdownwinders.com/>
(<https://rockyflatsdownwinders.com/>)
<https://www.facebook.com/RockyFlatsPuP>
layground
(<https://www.facebook.com/RockyFlats>

Chats



Q Search for Lawn Service



PuPlayground)

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/rockyflatsdownwinders>

(https://www.facebook.com/groups/rockyflatsdownwinders)

<https://www.facebook.com/CandelasGlowS/>

(https://www.facebook.com/CandelasGlowS/)

<https://www.facebook.com/events/339604886729785>

(https://www.facebook.com/events/339604886729785)

Rocky Flats Right to Know

Quiescent

<https://www.rockyflatsrighttoknow.com/>

(https://www.rockyflatsrighttoknow.com/)

<https://www.facebook.com/ROCKYFLATSRIGHTTOKNOW>

(https://www.facebook.com/ROCKYFLATSRIGHTTOKNOW)

<https://www.facebook.com/rockymountainpeaceandjusticecenter>

(https://www.facebook.com/rockymountainpeaceandjusticecenter)

<https://www.rmpjc.org/rockyflatsnuclearguardianship>

(https://www.rmpjc.org/rockyflatsnuclearguardianship)

<https://candelasglows.com/>

(https://candelasglows.com/)

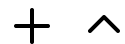
<https://rockyflatsglows.com/>

(https://rockyflatsglows.com/)

<https://www.psrcolorado.org/rocky-flats>

(https://www.psrcolorado.org/rocky-flats)

Chats



flats) : News



Stop the plutonium parkway
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/928121244020849/>
(<https://www.facebook.com/groups/928121244020849/>)

Thanks for your interest.

Share



Scott Plummer (/profile/01pyQxPMZ-dDC7Mtx/?is=detail_comn)

(/profile/01pyQxPMZ-dDC7Mtx/?is=feed_commenter) Listen to this guy. He speaks the truth with data to back it up.

Share



Tod Anderson (/profile/01WXCdrNpzh5hf2WX/?is=c)

(/profile/01WXCdrNpzh5hf2WX/?is=feed_commenter) David, thanks for putting all this together and standing up to the outright lies from the Rocky Mountain Peace and Justice Center which has been doing this since the 1980s.

Share