



# PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

MONTHLY REPORT FROM JEFF BRAUER, DIRECTOR  
MAY 2018  
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## UPCOMING PARKS AND RECREATION EVENTS

View and receive the most up-to-date information on events by subscribing at [CRgov.com/events](http://CRgov.com/events).

- **Free Fitness Fridays**
  - 8-9 a.m. every Friday through Labor Day  
The Amphitheater at Philip S. Miller Park
- **Free Yoga in the Park**
  - 9-10 a.m. every Sunday through Labor Day  
The Amphitheater at Philip S. Miller Park
- **Farmers Market**
  - 11 a.m.-3 p.m. every Sunday  
Festival Park
- **Tunes for Trails/Perks for Parks free concert featuring FACE Vocal Band**
  - 6:30-8 p.m. Thursday, June 21  
The Amphitheater at Philip S. Miller Park
- **Downtown After 5 featuring TUSK the Ultimate Fleetwood Mac Tribute**
  - 5:30-9 p.m. Friday, June 22  
Festival Park
- **Back the Blue Castle Rock Half Marathon**
  - 6 a.m.-noon Saturday, June 23  
Festival Park
- **Morning Zumba in the Park**
  - 9-10:30 a.m. Saturday, June 30  
The Amphitheater at Philip S. Miller Park
- **Recreation Center and Miller Activity Complex holiday closure**
  - Wednesday, July 4
- **Summer Concert Series featuring Big Bad Voodoo Daddy**
  - 6-10 p.m. Saturday, July 14  
The Amphitheater at Philip S. Miller Park
- **Raptors Over the Rock**
  - 6-7 p.m. Wednesday, July 17  
The Amphitheater at Philip S. Miller Park



## CSU camps finally underway at Philip S. Miller Park

Through a unique partnership with Colorado State University (CSU), the Parks and Recreation Department is excited to offer new, youth sport day-camps to residents. Available to participants ages five through fifteen, camps include Music and Movement, Outdoor Adventure, FunLIFE and Multi-sport. Camp programming centers on instilling healthy and active lifestyle habits so participants gain invaluable life skills. Instead of focusing on the specialization of one activity or sport, these camps encourage campers to be well-rounded, imparting confidence, healthy living, personal growth and social skills. Learn more and register online at [CRgov.com/Registration](http://CRgov.com/Registration).



## PARKS, OPEN SPACE AND TRAILS – PLANNING AND CONSTRUCTION DIVISION

PREPARED BY BRIAN PETERSON, MANAGER OF PARK PLANNING AND CONSTRUCTION

### Central Service Center

Construction for the new Central Service Center (CSC) continued in April. This 13,000-square-foot building will host the Town's Parks Maintenance and Facilities divisions, located at the end of Caprice Drive near the former wastewater treatment plant.

Building plans include five maintenance bays, indoor storage, a training facility, office space, a break room and a storage yard for equipment and material. In May, general contractor Taylor Kohrs commenced earthwork activities and utility installation.



## Meadows Neighborhood Park

On April 17, Town Council approved the Park Master Plan for the next neighborhood park that will be located in The Meadows near Aspen View Academy Charter School. Since approval was received, Landscape Architect Norris Design has developed 90 percent of the necessary construction documents. These documents have been submitted to the Town's Development Services Department for review and approval. Once the documents are in place, the project will then go to bid to select a contractor for the project. Park amenities will include pickleball courts, hammocks, permanent yard games, pavilions, wild flower gardens, playgrounds and so much more! Construction is anticipated to begin this fall.



## Festival Park

Exciting things took place at Festival Park in May. A second fire pit was installed west of the open lawn and behind the splash pad. Park users will be able to turn the fire pit on and off at their convenience. In addition, the splash pad was started up just in time for the grand opening celebration in June and hot summer days! Four elements spray water out of stacked stone walls, ten elements spray water up from the ground and one element bubbles water out of a rock. Kids and parents alike are already enjoying staying cool.



## TRAIL PROJECTS

PREPARED BY RICH HAVEL, TRAILS PLANNER

## Native Legend Trail

Castle Rock Development Company completed the construction of 1.3 miles of 8-foot wide concrete trail to connect the Native Legend and the East Plum Creek trails near The Meadows Town Center. Construction crews finalized grading work and completed the installation of seeding, erosion control blankets and tree plantings. The trail is now open to the public. Staff will monitor vegetation growth and hardscape improvements in the future to monitor the project's success.

## East Plum Creek Trail

The planned 2-mile southern extension of the East Plum Creek Trail will connect South Perry Street to Crystal Valley Parkway. This project will complete the Town's southern portion of the trail, while the Lanterns development will construct the final link to Castle Rock's southern limits. The trail will eventually connect to a Douglas County planned trail network.

In May, the site survey for additional field information was completed which allowed the engineering team to finalize the design to Crystal Valley Parkway. Final grading plans and hydrologic analysis will soon be completed in preparation for an application required by the Federal Emergency Management Agency for a Conditional Letter of Map Revision. This application will be submitted in June.



## OPEN SPACE PROJECTS

PREPARED BY BARBARA SPAGNUOLO, NATURAL RESOURCE SPECIALIST

## Environmental Education Programs

A two-part bird-watching educational series was held in May for the general public. This free program has been offered to residents for seven consecutive years. The program is designed to introduce as many people as possible to the enjoyment of birdwatching and combines wildlife observations with a recreational and social activity. The series encourages residents to get outside, explore nature and learn about local wildlife in Castle Rock. At least 40 to 50 new individuals attend the program each year.



The first part of the series, Basics of Bird-watching, was an introductory class. Participants are provided information regarding field guides, binoculars, local birding spots and general tips. The second part of the series was an outdoor guided birdwatching walk. On the second Saturday in May, participants walked along East Plum Creek Trail in the downtown area searching for bird species and improving bird identification skills. Due to the abundance of healthy riparian habitat that favors a



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diverse range of migratory songbirds, the East Plum Creek Trail is a great place for bird watching with easy access from downtown or northern neighborhoods. The final count of bird species seen during the 2-hour outdoor guided walk was 20. This number was a low tally when compared to previous years, but included an amazing interaction between a Great Horned Owl and a Red-tailed Hawk as they briefly fought in flight as the group of delighted birdwatchers looked on.

## Special Programs and Events

PREPARED BY HEATHER ROSSITER, SPECIAL PROGRAMS SUPERVISOR, AND JENNIFER REINHARDT, EVENTS SPECIALIST

In May, the Special Events division hit the ground running – the month was full of races, runs, walks and graduations.

On Saturday, May 5, Ridgeline Rampage held the ninth annual cycling race. 2018 marks the third year the group has hosted the event at Philip S. Miller Park. More than 400 cyclists from all over Colorado tested their skills on the single-track course.

On Thursday, May 10, more than 600 people came out to enjoy the fresh air and entertainment of the Future Tour, featuring Jordan Feliz, at the Amphitheater at Philip S. Miller Park. Additional performers included special guests Blanca and For All Seasons. This event marked the first of many successful concerts scheduled in this year’s Summer Concert Series lineup.



The REAL Climb4Change Adaptive Recreation fundraiser was held on Saturday, May 12. Volunteers, businesses and families with children with cognitive and physical disabilities banded together to host this race up the 200-step Challenge Hill at Philip S. Miller Park. Participants ascended 178 feet as they climbed to make a positive community impact. Since Climb4Change’s inception, program registration has increased 70 percent and the event has raised thousands of dollars to ensure everyone in the community has access to recreational opportunities. This year’s event raised \$6,759 in sponsorships and donations in addition to registration fees. The Wellspring Community held its first ever Walk of Empowerment on May 19. The mission of the Wellspring Community is to provide a work, enrichment and educational community where adults with special needs are empowered to live full, productive and satisfying lives in a nurturing environment. This fundraising



event was held at the Millhouse at Philip S. Miller Park. Nearly 250 people attended, despite the pouring rain.

On Sunday, May 20, youth triathletes ages 5 to 14 competed at Tri the Rock, the Town's annual event held at Butterfield Park and Pool. Tri the Rock encourages kids to get active and try something new. To that end, a portion of every registration is donated back to each participants' school or tri-club. The school with the most participants gets the honor of displaying the Tri the Rock trophy for the next year!

