



Castle Rock  
**PARKS &  
RECREATION**  
*November 2021*



LEARN MORE



[CRgov.com/ParksandRec](https://CRgov.com/ParksandRec)



[parks@CRgov.com](mailto:parks@CRgov.com)



## Upcoming Events

View up-to-date information at [CRgov.com/Events](http://CRgov.com/Events).

DECEMBER  
**17**  
**PARKING LIGHTS AND MOVIE NIGHTS  
FEATURING CHRISTMAS VACATION**  
4:30 - 6 p.m.  
The Event Pad at Philip S. Miller Park

DECEMBER  
**18**  
**PARKING LIGHTS AND MOVIE NIGHTS  
FEATURING ELF**  
4:30 - 6 p.m.  
The Event Pad at Philip S. Miller Park

DECEMBER  
**24**  
**EARLY FACILITY CLOSURE**  
Closing at 2 p.m.  
Recreation Center and  
Miller Activity Complex

DECEMBER  
**25**  
**FACILITY CLOSURE**  
All day  
Recreation Center and  
Miller Activity Complex

DECEMBER  
**31**  
**EARLY FACILITY CLOSURE**  
Closing at 2 p.m.  
Recreation Center and  
Miller Activity Complex

JANUARY  
**1**  
**FACILITY CLOSURE**  
All day  
Recreation Center and  
Miller Activity Complex





## Open Space & Trails

### MITCHELL CREEK CANYON TRAIL

Did you know several rock formations along Mitchell Creek Canyon Trail are ideal for bouldering? Bouldering is a non-technical form of free climbing performed close to the ground on small rock formations and rock walls. It's typically done without the use of ropes, harnesses, anchors and fixed hardware.

Thanks to volunteers from the Castle Rock and Denver Arc'Teryx stores, a new sustainable access route to the bouldering areas is available. In late October, in honor of National Public Lands Day, 16 volunteers joined the POST Partners Volunteer Program to build the access and close existing social trails. A new sign was also installed to mark the official route. Arc'Teryx staff have since expressed interest in adopting Mitchell Creek Canyon Trail for future trail building and community projects or special outdoor events.

National Public Lands Day is celebrated annually at public lands across the United States. A signature event of the National Environmental Education Foundation, it promotes both popular enjoyment and the volunteer conservation of shared public lands.







## POST Partners Volunteer Program

### 2021 TRAIL MAINTENANCE

The POST Partners Volunteer Program organizes trail maintenance groups for the Town of Castle Rock - the Ridgeline Wranglers, the Rhyolite Dirt Crew and the Keepers of the Rock. Together, the volunteers of these organizations dedicate hundreds of labor hours each year to maintaining numerous soft-surface trails.

The Ridgeline Wranglers maintain and improve Stewart Trail at Ridgeline Open Space. The group has approximately 50 active members, with six trained crew leaders. This year, 115 volunteers dedicated 345 hours to maintain the trail corridor, as well as the trail bed. The group met on six Saturdays from spring to fall.

The Rhyolite Dirt Crew helps maintain and improve the bike park at Rhyolite Regional Park. This year, 76 volunteers dedicated 152 hours to build up berms and jumps for user safety. Volunteers also focused on weed management on a total of five volunteer outings.

The Keepers of the Rock is an all-volunteer group who adopted the Town's namesake Rock Park in 2004 with the hopes of making significant improvements to the area. These volunteers are in-tune with Rock Park's environment and are committed to sustaining the park for the enjoyment of the people who use it. The group conducts monthly restoration outings from April through November. Throughout 2021, 25 volunteers completed 50 hours of volunteerism to remove graffiti and clear trail corridors. Approximately 20 percent of the Keepers of the Rock workforce this year consisted of court-ordered service from the Town's Teen Court program. This mutual partnership seeks to instill a positive work ethic in and reduces the recidivism rates of the first-time juvenile offenders within the community.





## Community Events

### PIE BAKE OFF

The fifth annual Pie Bake Off event was held on Nov. 6 at the Millhouse at Philip S. Mark, experiencing delicious success! Over 30 people attended to cheer on 11 contestants. Pies were judged on appearance, pastry quality, filling quality and overall flavor. The competition was open to local bakers and a new youth category was also offered.

In the adult category, third place went to a Blueberry Earl Gray Pie; second place was awarded to a Caramel Pear Pie; and first place to Judy's Apple Pie. Katherine won the youth category with a Key Lime Pie.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, changes were incorporated in this year's event to accommodate social distancing and abide by State health guidelines. Tables were spaced 6-feet apart and guests were asked to wear masks when entering and moving around the event. Additionally, staff served the beverages and pie to attendees so no self-service was available.





## Community Outreach

### MACARONI KIDS AWARD

The votes are in and the Town of Castle Rock Parks and Recreation Department did it again!

Macaroni Kids awarded Philip S. Miller Park as the Best Place to go for Outdoor Fun in Douglas County for the second consecutive year. With a wide variety of amenities, miles of paved and unpaved trails, an adventure playground, an amphitheater, Millhouse and the 200-step Challenge Hill, the park truly has something for everyone.

Macaroni Kids hosts this nominations-based contest each year, and award winners have the honor of knowing that Douglas County families think they are the greatest. The winners are promoted by Macaroni Kids in their weekly e-newsletters and website, which features local events and activities for moms, kids and families.

### TRAILS THURSDAY CAMPAIGN PROVIDES IMPORTANT REMINDER

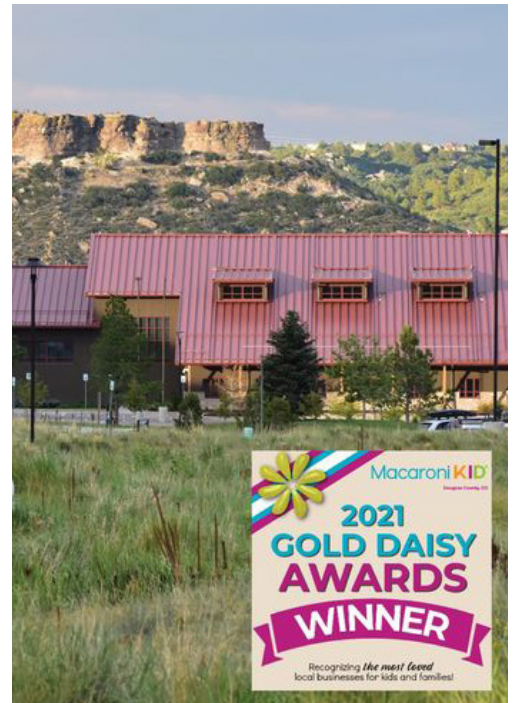
According to the National Recreation and Park Association, local parks and trails provide great opportunities for everyone to get outside. Spending as little as 20 minutes per day outdoors can help reduce stress. Nearly all (96%) of U.S. adults say they spend some time outside every day.

Here are some more facts:

- Fifty-eight percent of U.S. adults spend more than 30 minutes a day outside
- One-third of all U.S. adults spend more than an hour a day outside
- Gen X (39%) is more likely than adults overall (33%) to spend more than an hour outdoors daily
- Gen Z (9%) is more likely than adults overall (4%) to not go outside during the day

With this in mind, get outside and enjoy some of Castle Rock's beautiful parks, open spaces and trails!

The Trails Thursday Facebook campaign serves to educate the public on trail etiquette and use. Past posts have included reminders about poop scooping, advising users to avoid the trails when muddy and notifications on closures due to special events or construction. These posts also remind the public to check trail conditions prior to heading out the door for a hike or ride at [CRgov.com/TrailConditions](https://www.castlerock.org/CRgov.com/TrailConditions).





## Athletics & Adventure

### TEAM WELCOMES NEW ATHLETICS SUPERVISOR

The Parks and Recreation Department is excited to announce that its new Athletics Supervisor, Kent Lansville, has officially joined the division. A Colorado native, Kent grew up being active and played three sports throughout childhood into high school. Sports and recreation have always been an integral part of his life. Through participation in athletics, Kent learned the value of being both goal-oriented and hard-working, which have helped him throughout his professional life. Kent also coaches varsity high school baseball and loves helping players achieve their dreams and grow as athletes.

Kent lends 23 years of experience in directing, supervising and managing within the corporate restaurant industry, where he led many people to success. In order to be a larger part of his children's lives, Kent left this industry for a role in the Town's Parks Operations and Maintenance Division and is excited to help the Department in this new role and division, where the priority is to create a positive experience for the community through athletic programming.

Kent's responsibilities will include: supervising youth and adult programs, as well as camps and clinics; managing athletic personnel, including staff, coaches, officials, referees, independent contractors and volunteers; preparing cost analysis and reporting data to track programming success; budgeting for programs, activities and events; and, continuing to assess and meet the needs of residents to improve and grow the programs offered.





## Arts & Enrichment

### HOLIDAY CARD CONTEST

The Town of Castle Rock's holiday card winner was officially announced. Congratulations goes to freshman Reese of Colorado Early Colleges, Castle Rock for her winning digital art entry, "Happy Holidays!"

The Public Art Commission reviewed the submissions. Reese's winning artwork will be featured on the cover of the Town's holiday card. Reese was also recognized at the Town Council meeting on Nov. 16 and she received a \$100 gift card to Hobby Lobby. Reese loves to draw animals and loves downtown because, "It's very fun to just be able to hang out there and get to look around."

The Public Art Commission also recognized the contest's runner-up on Facebook - eighth-grader Zoe of Academy Charter School - for her string art submission of, "The Rock at Dusk."





## Park Operations & Maintenance

### NEW SYNTHETIC TURF INSTALLED AT BUTTERFIELD PARK

Identified as a priority in the Parks and Recreation Capital Improvement Plan, staff recently replaced the synthetic turf on the athletic field at Butterfield Park. The Town's General Fund provides funding for the replacement of large capital items such as turf, which is initially funded through growth but must be replaced using sales-tax based revenues. A 15-year replacement schedule is typically used for synthetic turf. Contractor Academy Sports Turf completed the project in November.

Over 42,000 square feet of new synthetic turf replaced the original turf, which was installed in 2005.