



PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

MONTHLY REPORT FROM JEFF BRAUER, INTERIM DIRECTOR
OCTOBER, 2015
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UPCOMING PARKS AND RECREATION EVENTS

- **Saturday, November 7**
 - Big Rock Bowl Flag football tourney, Philip S. Miller Park, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
- **November**
 - Festival of Trees, Festival Park
- **Saturday, December 19-20**
 - State Championship Cyclocross Race, Rhyolite Regional Park, 6 a.m. – 4 p.m.
- **December 26 – January 31**
 - Christmas Tree Recycling Event, drop of locations will be at Centennial, Founders, Metzler Ranch and Paintbrush parks. Mulch from recycled trees will only be available at Founders, Metzler Ranch and Paintbrush parks through March 31 or when gone. Call 720-733-2260 for more information.
- **Sunday, January 10**
 - Nuggets Skills Challenge, Recreation Center, 10 a.m.
- **January 25-30**
 - Hoopla basketball tournament, Mesa Middle School.
- **Friday, February 12**
 - Daddy Daughter Ball – “Sweet Moments”, Douglas County Events Center, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
- **Monday, February 29**
 - Colorado Bluebird Project Monitoring Open House, Town Hall, 7 – 8 p.m.
- **Wednesday, March 9**
 - Colorado Bluebird Project Monitoring Open House, Public Safety Training Facility, 7 – 8:30 p.m.
- **Tuesday, March 29**
 - Ridgeline Wranglers season kick-off meeting, The Grange, 7 – 8 p.m.



Guided Quarry Tour

PREPARED BY BARBARA SPAGNUOLO, NATURAL RESOURCE SPECIALIST

At the request of the Castle Rock Senior Center, the Parks and Recreation staff offered a guided educational tour of the historic rhyolite quarry in The Meadows. This quarry, called the Santa Fe Quarry during its operation between 1889 and early 1900s, is located in the Red Hawk section of The Meadows on the northeast side of Coachline Drive. There is no public access as the site is under private ownership, but the Town Utilities Department has a permanent access easement for operation and maintenance of two public water towers at the top of the mesa. Parks and Recreation staff coordinated with the property owner (Castle Rock Development Company) and the Utilities Department to gain permission and access to tour the site. More than 40 people pre-registered for the tour and enjoyed a beautiful fall day exploring the mesa and learning about the quarry's history.



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Based on the overwhelming interest in this program this year as well as the large participant turnout last year when offered as a free tour in coordination with the Castle Rock Museum, staff will be considering offering this guided tour on a permanent annual basis. There definitely seems to be an interest in Castle Rock's rhyolite quarry history and the unique opportunity to explore a site not open to regular public use.



Halloween Spooktacular

PREPARED BY HEATHER ROSSITER, FACILITY COORDINATOR

This year's Halloween Spooktacular event was held at the Miller Activity Complex. Staff revamped the festival and many new games were added, including miniature golf, bowling for mummies and a scavenger hunt. Many of the older games got a face lift. The festival was huge success with over 1,100 people in attendance. Great feedback was received and overall people were excited for the new changes to the event.





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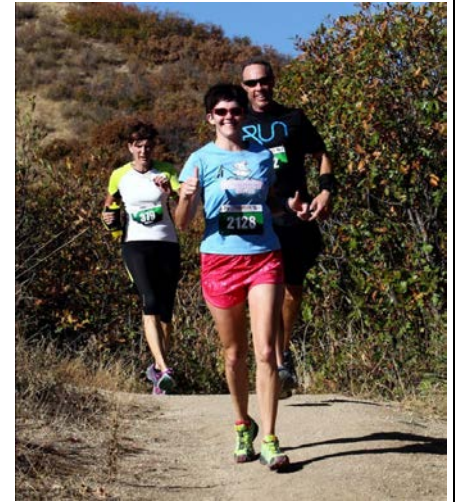
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live **BIGRUN** 5K/10K & Family Adventure Run

PREPARED BY RAINA BRIDGMAN, OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES/LEAGUE COORDINATOR

The weather held out perfectly for the 2nd running of the liveBIG RUN at Philip S. Miller Park. Approximately 120 runners/walkers enjoyed the sun and trails at the park in the 5K and 10K races and nearly that many more kids and their parents took on the Challenge Hill and obstacle course in the Family Adventure Run. In what is becoming a benchmark policy, several different Town departments cooperated seamlessly to make the event a success. Participation numbers are slightly down for the event this year from last but the trails

and the races overall have garnered high praise from participants. Next year's event will certainly be anticipated by Castle Rock runners and families alike.



Rail Jam

PREPARED BY JENNIFER MARTIN, SPECIAL PROGRAMS SUPERVISOR

Skiers and Snowboarders for Christ in partnership with Snowsports 365 – firm that is

interested in bringing year round synthetic snow sports to Castle Rock in the near future - hosted their fifth annual Rail Jam event at Philip S. Miller

Park for the first time at this venue on Saturday, October 24. Skiers and snowboarders from all over Colorado compete to see who has the best trick. Vendors hosted a sample sale for great deals on ski and snowboard gear. Volunteers built a trick ramp in the hillside of Miller Park across from the Epic Adventure Tower (Castle Rock Zip Line Tours provided discounted jumps from the Tower for the day) and brought in truckloads of snow and ice from the mountains and Front Range ice arenas. The event had approximately 40- 50 riders and 200 spectators enjoying the event.





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STEP - Summer Trails Exploration Program

PREPARED BY BARBARA SPAGNUOLO, NATURAL RESOURCE SPECIALIST

This new program was recently recognized and highlighted by the Colorado Parks and Recreation Association (CPRA). At the annual Awards Banquet, CPRA presented Parks and Recreation staff with a Columbine Award for Programming based on the program’s creativity, innovation, results, execution, community benefit and overall contribution to the success and value of parks and recreation in the state of Colorado. This is the department’s first Columbine Award for design, innovation or programming. *Photo: STEP coordinator, Barbara Spagnuolo, with the Columbine Award and Courtney Glass with her own CPRA Award for Fitness Professional of the Year.*



Based on the success of the program in its inaugural year, staff will be considering offering STEP again next year. Although there were high participation numbers this year, many residents were not aware of the program, so it will be important to carry on the goals of the program – to encourage outdoor exercise and provide Castle Rock residents with an awareness of the many scenic hiking opportunities found right in their own backyard – in the future.

Fitness Professional of the Year – Courtney Glass

Courtney Glass was selected as Colorado Parks and Recreation (CPRA) Fitness Professional of the Year. This award is given to an up and coming leader among CPRA members. She was awarded based on her leadership, strategic thinking and planning, partner and coalition building, innovation and service skills.

Miller Activity Complex

MAC Birthday Parties

PREPARED BY MARCY JONES, YOUTH ACTIVITY COORDINATOR

October 2015 MAC Birthday Parties	
Batting Cages	0
Bump Soccer	2
Jumping Castle	0
Jumping Castle + Leisure Pool / Climbing Structure	2
Leisure pool / Climbing Structure	37
Sports Theme Party	2
Sports Theme Party + Leisure Pool / Climbing Structure	2



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Sports Theme Party + Trampoline	1
Trampoline	2
Trampoline + Leisure Pool / Climbing Structure	11
Total Parties	59
Revenue	\$10,297.00

Fitness

PREPARED BY COURTNEY GLASS, FITNESS/WELLNESS COORDINATOR

Program	Session Dates	Attendance	R/NR	Gross Revenue
Aero Fit	Sept. 15-Oct. 29	14	10/4	\$1145
FIT Moms	Sept. 14- Oct. 28	10	10/0	\$665
Power Hour Boot Camp	Sept. 14- Oct. 28	9	9/0	\$675

MAC Indoor Facility Rentals and Athletics

PREPARED BY NICOLE STEHLIK, ATHLETICS SUPERVISOR

Adult Sports

The adult soccer program received 34 team registrations between six different divisions. After six months of trying to build a women's program, staff has successfully developed a league with hopes to continue to expand this division in particular, which should help increase numbers closer to 40. The fall season is underway with 117 adult soccer teams that have participated since opening last year.

Youth Sports

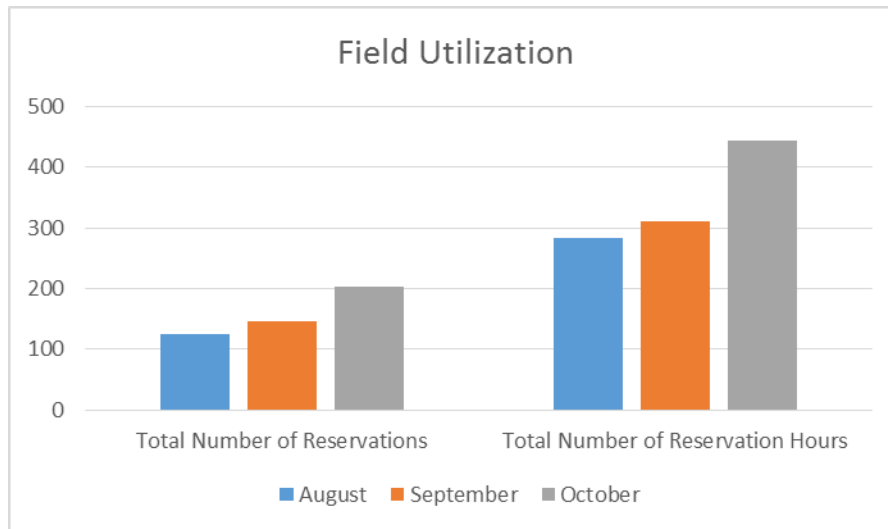
The SuperTots program classes are held Tuesday through Friday mornings and offer toddler soccer, baseball, football and lacrosse camps. These classes have doubled in size. SuperTots is an affiliate of the Skyhawks organization and together with staff have been working on increasing the numbers in these particular programs through various marketing avenues, adjusting class descriptions and camp formats. Previous to the current offerings there were enough registrants to fill two classes per week. Currently, there are two classes per day, with only Thursdays canceling this session.

The winter youth soccer league that runs from November through December finished taking registration. There are 29 teams this season, which is an increase of 12 more teams than last season. Games will be held on Mondays, Tuesday, Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays. The MAC partners with Colorado Storm to run these leagues, as MAC staff handles all the administrative procedures with registration, rosters, payment and Storm handles all the onsite supervisors and officials.

MAC Facility Rentals

Due to the relatively warm temperatures with little rain in October, the MAC did not receive as many extra rentals that typically come from outdoor leagues needing to

move indoors when poor weather arrives. However, as the numbers displayed below it has started to pick up. While November has less than 20% availability during weekday peak hours of 4 p.m. – 11 p.m. and less than 50% availability during full weekend hours of 8 a.m. -9 p.m.



Parks, Open Space and Trails – Planning and Construction Division

Philip S. Miller Park

PREPARED BY JEFF SMULLEN, SUPERINTENDENT OF PLANNING AND CONSTRUCTION

MW Golden Constructors continues to work toward the completion of phase two of Philip S. Miller Park, which will add four picnic pavilions, restrooms, a one-mile, accessible paved trail loop, millhouse events pavilion with a 125 person capacity, pond, outdoor amphitheater with covered stage, 215 parking spaces, public art and additional trees and grassy play areas. New opportunities for play, picnicking, walking, running, concerts, weddings, special events and more will be available when the project is complete.



During the month of October, parking lots and the splash pad were installed and Chevcon Concrete began pouring and preparing the remainder of core plaza for

concrete. In addition, Chevcon has completed all amphitheater stair concrete and exterior siding, veneer stone, and drywall at the restroom and millhouse. Restroom and millhouse plumbing, electrical and mechanical systems are also being installed along with large trees throughout the project.



Looking ahead in November, construction activities will include the substantial completion of concrete flatwork, the amphitheater stage canopy foundations, fine grading of the site and metal roofing on both buildings. Irrigation work will also continue and the picnic pavilions and amphitheater stage canopy are scheduled to arrive on site.

Staff will also present a change order to Town Council in November to cover the cost of additional elements not included in the initial design and MW Golden's contract, such as conduit routing for temporary amphitheater electrical cables, company switches, amphitheater house lighting and security system equipment and conduits. Funding for the change order and additional items described above was approved through the third quarter budget amendment. In addition, an extension of time to February 23, 2016 will be included in the change order to make up for lost time in April, May and early June.

Festival Park

The Festival Park redesign concept was presented to Town Council on October 20, 2015. The purpose of the project is to expand the event space for Festival Park, provide access to the creek and add new amenities within the park including restrooms, a splash pad, pavilion, fireplaces, playground and the conversion of much of second street to street plaza.

Town Council supported the conceptual redesign of Festival Park as presented by Design Workshop and directed staff to bring back a detailed plan for implementing the project, including the necessary construction drawings, phasing schedule of the project, and funding for construction.



FESTIVAL PARK
Help create our future park. REDESIGN

DRAFT



DESIGNWORKSHOP

Grant Administration

Staff prepared an application for a Local Parks and Outdoor Recreation Grant from Great Outdoors Colorado to help leverage other partnerships and existing funds associated with the proposed improvements to Festival Park in Downtown Castle Rock. Festival Park is an important anchor for downtown events and has numerous civic gatherings, displays, entertainment, public art, community events and educational programs such as Oktoberfest, Starlight Movie Series, Splash in the Park and Spring Up the Creek. The proposed redesign of the park will improve upon the full potential of the park with additional amenities and act as a destination and community gathering location. It will also provide even greater opportunities for drop-in use. The Town has requested a maximum allowable award of \$350,000. Grant awards will be announced on March 17, 2016. If awarded, the Town has up to two years, or until March 18, 2018, to complete construction of the improvements.

As part of the application process, staff presented a resolution to Town Council supporting the grant application for the completion of the Festival Park Project on November 3, 2015.



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Downtown Holiday Lights

PREPARED BY BOB MALONEY, PARKS SUPERINTENDENT

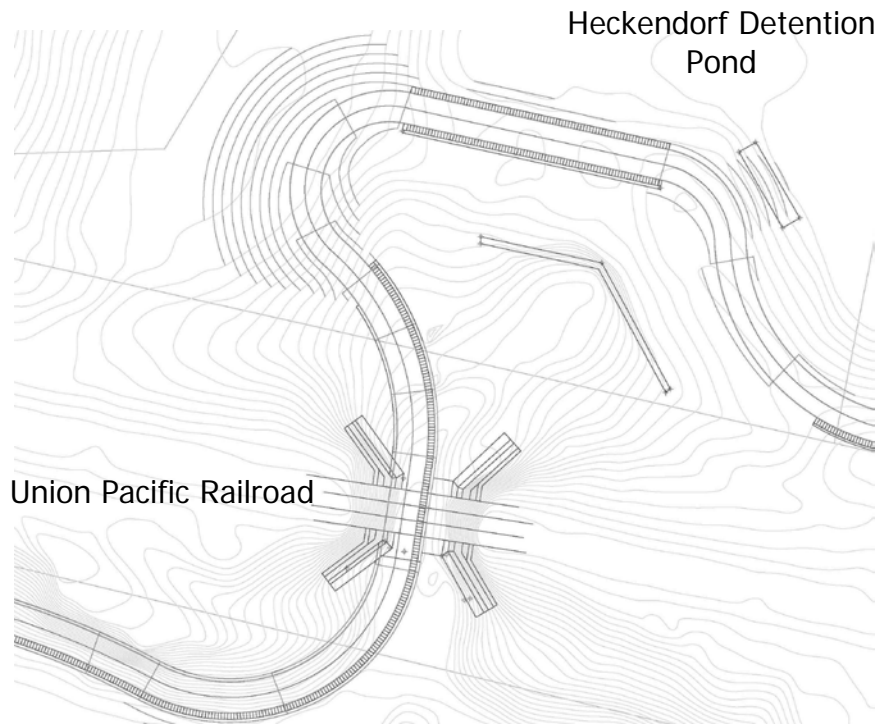
The Parks Division has been busy with lighting approximately 100 trees with more than 50,000 twinkling lights in the downtown area along Wilcox Street and at Town Hall for the holiday season as part of the annual Starlighting celebration on November 21.

Trail Projects

PREPARED BY RICH HAVEL, TRAILS PLANNER

East Plum Creek Trail South

Rich Havel, Trails Planner continues to work on the preliminary design that will be used to identify land acquisition needs as well engineering assistance needs for floodplain, hydraulic and structural analysis. The preliminary design work will also allow staff to begin the process of engaging the Army Corps of Engineers, FEMA and Union Pacific Railroad for compliance with federal regulations and right of way issues.



A major portion of the planned two mile trail will pass through the open space tree canopy, riparian corridor and rolling topography along the beautiful Hier and Gannon open space. The trail will also cross East Plum Creek twice and will pass beneath a Union Pacific Railroad bridge structure. The trail will provide an important bicycle and pedestrian link between Crystal Valley, Heckendorf Ranch, Plum Creek and the future Lanterns development with Downtown Castle Rock and northern and eastern neighborhoods, schools and public facilities.

Initial grading, drainage structures and wall design has been completed from Crystal Valley Parkway, through the Union Pacific Railroad and north onto Hier and Gannon Open Space. An additional 3,300 LF of trail has been designed which include a draft plan for grading, a preliminary trail structure under the Union Pacific Railroad, 850 LF of retaining wall and three storm water drainage culverts. Staff will continue to work on pushing the trail design further north as time allows between current trail projects.



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Wolfensberger Pedestrian Bridge

The Wolfensberger Bridge Project will link Philip S. Miller Park with Ridgeline Open Space, creating a continuous 17-mile trail loop and connecting 650 acres of park and open space property. The project will provide an important link between a future major trail loop through Town, increase opportunities for special events and enhance the experience of trail users.

Plans have been reviewed by Development Services and a Public Works Permit has been issued for the project. A preconstruction meeting will be held the first week in November and construction on footings and foundations for the bridge will begin by mid-November.