



Castle Rock
**PARKS &
RECREATION**
February 2022



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CRgov.com/ParksandRec



parks@CRgov.com





Upcoming Events

View up-to-date information at CRgov.com/Events.

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|-------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|---|
| <p>MARCH</p> <p>29</p> | <p>RIDGELINE WRANGLER SEASON KICK-OFF MEETING</p> <p>6 - 7:30 p.m.
Miller Activity Complex</p> | <p>MAY</p> <p>4</p> | <p>BASICS OF BIRDWATCHING CLASS (PART I)</p> <p>6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
Philip S. Miller Douglas County Library</p> |
| <p>APRIL</p> <p>5</p> | <p>RHYOLITE DIRT CREW SEASON KICK-OFF MEETING</p> <p>6 - 7:30 p.m.
Miller Activity Complex</p> | <p>MAY</p> <p>14</p> | <p>BASICS OF BIRDWATCHING GUIDED WALK (PART II)</p> <p>8 - 10 a.m.
East Plum Creek Trail</p> |
| <p>APRIL</p> <p>16</p> | <p>EARTH DAY WILLOW HARVEST AND PLANTING</p> <p>9 - 11 a.m.
East Plum Creek Trail</p> | <p>MAY</p> <p>18</p> | <p>BASICS OF BIRDWATCHING GUIDED HIKE (PART III)</p> <p>8 - 10 a.m.
Gateway Mesa Open Space</p> |
| <p>APRIL</p> <p>27</p> | <p>WILD IN OUR TOWN</p> <p>6 - 7 p.m.
Philip S. Miller Douglas County Library</p> | <p>MAY</p> <p>21</p> | <p>CLIMB4CHANGE</p> <p>6:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.
The Challenge Hill at Philip S. Miller Park</p> |



Parks, Open Space & Trails

COLORADO CLASSIC BASEBALL RESCINDS PROPOSAL FOR BALLFIELD COMPLEX AT COBBLESTONE RANCH PARK

On Tuesday, Feb. 8 more than 150 residents attended an open house to provide feedback on a proposed athletic field partnership at Cobblestone Ranch Park.

The first phase of the park's regional master plan is currently under construction. In summer 2022, playgrounds, picnic pavilions, pickle ball courts, half-court basketball, walking paths, bike features and restrooms will open to the public. Future phases will feature soccer fields, softball and baseball fields, walking trails and other amenities, but funding is not presently available to build the entire regional destination.

To gauge partnership options, the Town distributed a Request for Proposals to determine if any sports organizations were interested in a public-private partnership to help construct athletic fields and bring opportunity for sports play to the area sooner. The Town received one submission from Colorado Classic Baseball (CCB).

This tournament company, based in Douglas County, operates youth sports programs and tournaments throughout the Denver Metropolitan area between Fort Collins and Colorado Springs. CCB was seeking a base of operations in Castle Rock to hold regional and even national tournaments.

CCB's proposal was to construct six synthetic-turf baseball fields in a location generally consistent with the parks master planned fields, along with the option to construct an approximately 30,000 square foot indoor all-sport training facility. CCB proposed entering into a long-term lease agreement for a minimum of 25 years.

As a result of public feedback from the open house and over 1,000 online comments, however, Colorado Classic Baseball withdrew their proposal. Many residents expressed concerns related to potential traffic and high utilization. The Town will continue efforts to open phase one, while deferring the planning of additional phases at this time.





Rendering of *Still Wild*



Arts & Enrichment

TOWN COUNCIL APPROVES SCULPTURE FOR TOWN HALL PLAZA

Town Council approved the selection of a sculpture proposal for future installation in the Town Hall Plaza. The approval will authorize staff to proceed with a contract and project execution throughout 2022.

The Encore project redeveloped three lots in Downtown Castle Rock directly south of Town Hall and featured a public plaza area. To beautify and enhance this space, project developer Confluence Companies donated \$50,000 to the Town to purchase a public art sculpture for installation. The Town and therefore the Public Art Commission will be responsible for its future maintenance.

To launch the project, staff issued a call for entries to solicit proposals in fall 2021. More than sixty artists provided submissions. A selection committee consisting of members the Public Art Commission, the Parks and Recreation Commission, Town staff, Town Council Liaison Caryn Johnson and Tony DeSimone of Confluence Companies, narrowed the proposals to three finalists. The committee heard presentations from the finalists in January 2022 and recommended the selection of artist Amie Jacobsen with her proposal *Still Wild*.

Jacobsen is a life-long artist with two degrees in the industry. She also has over six years of metal working experience and has completed numerous art commissions. Her pieces can be found across Colorado and the nation in many public and private spaces.

The proposed sculpture is set to feature three wildflowers, all of which are native to Colorado, and the artist believes the piece will offer visitors a sense of the beauty and respite of nature in the newest civic gathering space located in the heart of downtown Castle Rock.

Sitting 15-feet tall and 8-feet wide, the sculpture will provide interest from afar and up close, and its three-dimensionality will offer distinctive views from all angles. The sculpture will also feature a unique lighting display during evening hours.

The selection committee sought an original work, distinctive in design, bright in color and subject matter and appropriate for public viewing of all ages. The proposed sculpture will offer a colorful contrast to the surrounding brown and tan brick and stone that dominates the plaza's color palette.

The piece will require minimal maintenance. In addition to cleaning the sculpture with water when dirt is present, the steel may occasionally require touch-up paint. The paint proposed to be used for the petals should last up to 10-20 years. Its LED lights may also require replacement overtime.

The sculpture will be fabricated throughout 2022 for an anticipated late summer/early fall installation.



Community Events

DADDY DAUGHTER BALL

All were welcome to attend the semi-annual Daddy Daughter Ball on Saturday, Feb. 5. Dancers of all ages and family combinations – not just daddies and daughters – got their passports ready for an evening of music and fun as this year’s theme was, “Going Around the World.”

The Douglas County Events Center hosted over 1,400 participants from 6-9 p.m. Families enjoyed taking professional photographs together, fancy desserts and refreshments, and the Teen Advisory Group raffle, which raised over \$800 for the community volunteer group.

For the second year in a row, the Department plans to host an additional ball in the summer at the Amphitheater at Philip S. Miller Park on Saturday, Aug. 20 – get ready to mark your calendars for some outdoor fun and polish those dancing shoes!



Recreation Facilities

FEBRUARY FACILITIES UPDATE

Facility admissions in February and during Presidents' Day Weekend increased significantly over 2021, demonstrating a strong return to wellness.

Presidents' Day Weekend saw a 130 percent increase in admission over 2021 at the Miller Activity Complex and a 116 percent increase in admission over 2021 at the Rec Center. Similarly, when compared to 2021, February admissions increased by over 200 percent at the Miller Activity Complex and over 65 percent at the Rec Center.





Fitness & Wellness

GROUP FITNESS CONTINUES TO EXPAND

Exciting news! The Recreation Center and Miller Activity Complex (MAC) are now offering even more group fitness classes. Don't miss out on the "New for 22" programs included with daily admission, a punch pass or membership.

Some highlights include:

- Trampoline Fitness at the MAC –Tuesdays, 7:30-8:15 a.m. This fast and fun 45-minute cardio circuit on the trampolines is sure get your heart pumping for a low-impact workout.
- Functional Fitness at the MAC- Tuesdays, 8:15-9 a.m. This high-intensity session uses a variety of fitness styles to take your workout to the next level.
- Yoga Foundations at the Recreation Center – Thursdays, 5:30-6:30 p.m. This class is appropriate for all levels and introduces flow-style movements to bring warmth, breath and awareness to the body before transitioning to a soothing yin practice, where postures are held for a deeper release.

View the full fitness class schedule online at CRgov.com/Schedules.

Class registration is required and opens 48 hours beforehand. To register, visit CRgov.com/GroupFitness.



Athletics & Adventure

WINTER SPORTS OVERVIEW

The Athletics Division's winter youth basketball season experienced great success with 748 participants. A new league for kindergartners was added, and the program reached full capacity with eight teams. The popular Hoopla tournament was also held in February and the youth athletes competed in small-sided 3v3 games, a skills challenge and a tournament for 4th through 8th grade all-star teams. Much fun was had by all at Hoopla and throughout the season!

Also new this winter season was the opportunity for the littlest of athletes to participate in clinics where leagues aren't yet offered due to age. New programming featured Blastball with 55 participants, Little Dribblers with 60 participants and Little Spikes with 43 participants. These offerings will continue throughout the year and will vary based on season. Volleyball was also offered for the first time during the winter with 221 players.

Indoor adult soccer leagues wrapped up and hosted 24 men's and coed teams over two sessions. Adult volleyball had 16 teams over two sessions as well.

Registration for spring outdoor and indoor sports is now available for youth and adults at [CRgov.com/Registration](https://www.castlerock.gov/Registration).

NEW CLIMBING PROGRAM OFFERED THROUGH ATHLETICS & ADVENTURE DIVISION

New to climbing? Belay on with Castle Rock to learn the fundamentals of climbing and bouldering, how to transition from indoor to outdoor, safety, gear and rope management. For ages 14 and up, this class includes four Saturdays of climbing from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Castlewood Canyon State Park, as well as classroom training from 6-7 p.m. on the first and third Friday of each month. Equipment and transportation are provided. Learn more and sign-up for the Adventure Climbing program at [CRgov.com/Registration](https://www.castlerock.gov/Registration).





POST Partners Volunteer Program

MEMORIAL TRIBUTE PROGRAM

The Parks and Recreation Department knows how difficult it is to lose loved ones and how important it is to keep memories alive. This is why the Town's POST Partners Volunteer Program has developed the Memorial Tribute Program, which offers donors an opportunity to purchase a Memorial Bench or Memorial Tree in honor of a loved one.

Benches are placed in areas of need throughout the Town's parks and along paved trails. The benches are 6-feet wide and have a powder-coat finish in the same color as other permanent fixtures in the area. The cost for a bench is \$1,500, which includes shipping and handling, assembly, installation and an engraved, inset plaque that includes the honoree's name(s).

Trees are planted at Town parks or along trails and donors can choose from one of six varieties to honor the memory of loved ones. Varieties include the Southwestern White Pine, Flowering Crabapple, Linden, Blue Spruce, Hackberry and Norway Maple. A gold leaf is placed on the Tree Legacy Program memorial plaque at Town Hall. Transplanting seasons are in the spring and late fall, when trees are dormant. The current estimated cost for a memorial tree is \$500.

Throughout 2021, one tree was planted at Philip S. Miller Park. Two benches were installed at Philip S. Miller Park and one bench was installed along Native Legend Trail.

For more information on either of the tribute programs, visit CRgov.com/ParksandRec or contact POST Partners Volunteer Coordinator Marcy Jones at mjones@CRgov.com.