



Castle Rock
**PARKS &
RECREATION**
April 2021



LEARN MORE



CRgov.com/ParksandRec



parks@CRgov.com



Upcoming Events

In response to COVID-19, many Town events have been modified to ensure the safety of community members. View up-to-date information at CRgov.com/Events.

MAY
16 | 23
30

FARMERS MARKET

9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Festival Park

MAY
21

MURDER MYSTERY DATE NIGHT

6:30 - 10 p.m.
The Millhouse at
Philip S. Miller Park

MAY
22

CLIMB4CHANGE

6:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Challenge Hill at
Philip S. Miller Park

JUNE
4 | 11
18 | 25

FITNESS FRIDAYS

8 - 9 a.m.
The Amphitheater at
Philip S. Miller Park

JUNE
4

FITNESS FRIDAYS FEATURING GOT GROOVE

5 - 9 p.m.
Festival Park

JUNE
4

FIRST FRIDAYS 5K RUN SERIES

5:30 p.m.
Festival Park

JUNE
5

NATIONAL TRAILS DAY

8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Gateway Mesa Open Space

JUNE
6 | 13
20 | 27

YOGA IN THE PARK

9 - 10 a.m.
The Amphitheater at
Philip S. Miller Park

JUNE
6 | 13
20 | 27

FARMERS MARKET

9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Festival Park

JUNE
17

TUNES FOR TRAILS FREE CONCERT FEAT. WOODLAND PARK

6:30 - 9 p.m.
The Amphitheater at Philip S. Miller Park

JUNE
19

SUMMER CONCERT SERIES FEAT. 38 SPECIAL

6 - 10 p.m.
The Amphitheater at Philip S. Miller Park

JUNE
25

PARKING LIGHTS AND MOVIE NIGHTS FEAT. CARS

8:30 - 10 p.m.
Event Pad at Philip S. Miller Park

JUNE
26

PARKING LIGHTS AND MOVIE NIGHTS FEAT. TALLADEGA NIGHTS

8:30 - 10 p.m.
Event Pad at Philip S. Miller Park



Community Events

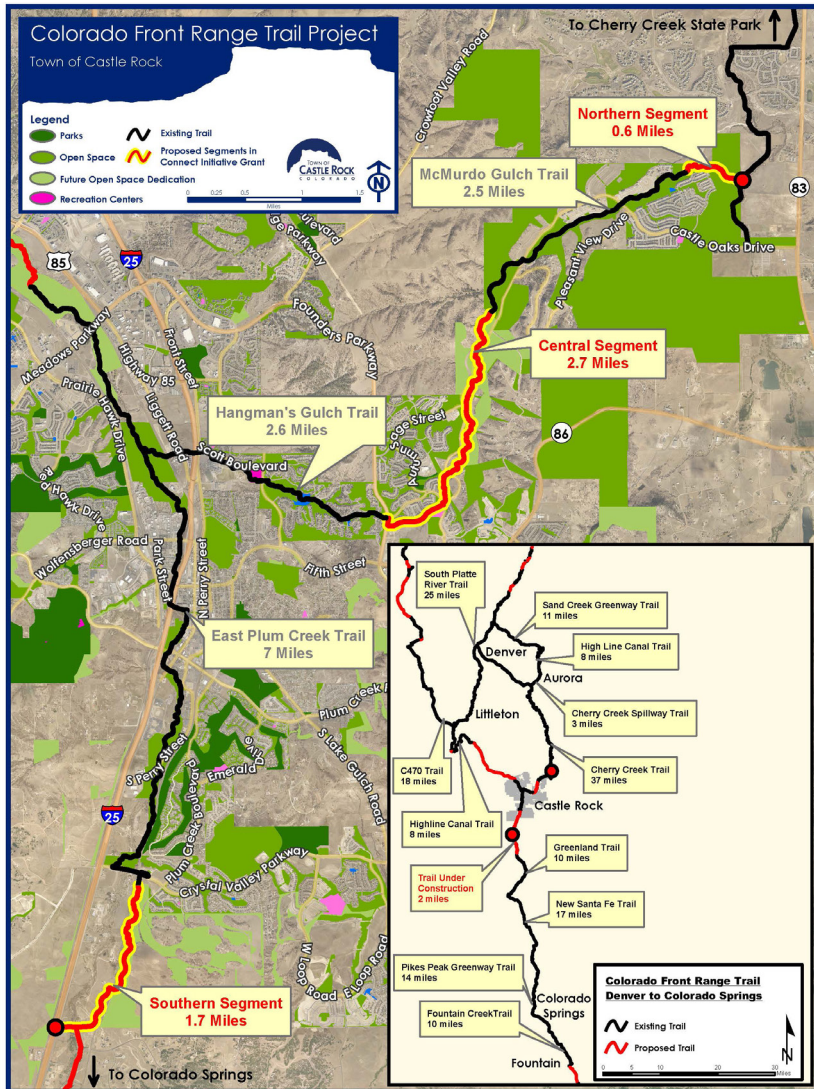
2021 SUMMER CONCERT SERIES TICKETS NOW ON SALE

The summer season is right around the corner with great music, warm temperatures and delicious food and drinks. Celebrate the sounds of a perfect summer at the 2021 Summer Concert Series. Season Lawn Passes for general admission to all five concerts are also available. Learn more and purchase tickets at CRgov.com/PSMConcerts.

FARMERS MARKET RETURNS TO FESTIVAL PARK

Support Colorado vendors and small business at your local farmers market in Festival Park. Beginning in May, the market will run from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. every Sunday through September. Hosted by the Local Colorado, vendors will feature a curated assortment of handcrafted foods and spices, homegrown produce and beautiful crafts and art.





Parks, Open Space & Trails

DESIGN NEARING COMPLETION FOR COLORADO FRONT RANGE TRAIL THROUGH CASTLE ROCK

The Colorado Front Range Trail is a statewide-envisioned trail network that will eventually travel along Front Range communities, connecting New Mexico to Wyoming. With Castle Rock as a major crossroads, its proposed trails will link Colorado Springs to the south and Denver to the north with over 80 miles of continuous trail.

In 2020, Town Council approved a services agreement with Short Elliott Hendrickson, Inc. (SEH) to design this section of trail through Castle Rock, completing design engineering, surveying and environmental, federal permitting and geotechnical services. The design will include approximately five miles in three separate areas in the Montaine, Terrain and Cobblestone Ranch neighborhoods.

SEH submitted 90% of design to the Town of Castle Rock, and appropriate department personnel will review design documents to provide comments. Comments will be incorporated into the final trail design prior to bidding out the project in fall 2021. Construction will likely commence in early 2022.

This project was identified in the Town Council-approved 2015 Castle Rock Parks and Recreation Master Plan. The design will be funded through the Conservation Trust Fund. A \$2 million grant awarded by the Great Outdoors Colorado Connect Initiative will help fund future project construction. Additional project partners include Douglas County, Stratus Terrain (the developers of Terrain), Toll Brothers, Inc. (the developers of Montaine), the Douglas Land Conservancy and the Colorado Agricultural Leadership Foundation.



POST Partners Volunteer Program

WILLOW HARVEST AND PLANTING

To celebrate ten years of Earth Day activities with the POST Partners Volunteer Program, volunteers restored disturbed riparian habitat at the annual Earth Day Willow Harvest and Planting event.

Almost 70 people of all ages harvested mature willow stakes from healthy riparian habitat along East Plum Creek. The stakes were then immediately planted at three creek crossings of the southern extension of the paved East Plum Creek Trail between South Perry Street and Crystal Valley Parkway. These locations had been disturbed during construction of the trail in 2019, but this restoration event had been cancelled last year due to COVID-19. Participants also learned about the importance of and threats to riparian habitat, such as reducing downstream flooding, improving water quality and stabilizing streambanks.

Over 1,100 individual willow stakes were planted and will regrow to establish shrubs along the creek. Volunteers also collected trash and debris after planting hundreds of stakes. The stakes at these three crossings will be monitored over the next few months as well as annually to determine growth success.

Past willow replanting efforts along East Plum Creek and Sellars Gulch have resulted in a success rate of more than 75% plus new plant growth in those areas. Informational signs were placed near the newly planted stakes alerting trail users to their purpose and requesting avoidance of the restoration areas.

ARBOR DAY

April 2021 marked the Town's 35th anniversary of participating in the Tree City USA program. Sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation in cooperation with the National Association of State Foresters and the USDA Forest Service, this program recognizes that trees are a vital component of the infrastructure in cities, providing environmental and economic benefits. To celebrate, 41 volunteers donated 82 hours of their time planting 29 trees at Gemstone and Philip S. Miller parks. The volunteers also picked up trash to further beautify these public spaces.



EARTH DAY	64	128	\$3,653.12	5		
	volunteers	volunteer hours	value of service*	staff		
ARBOR DAY	41	82	\$2,340.28	10	2	29
	volunteers	volunteer hours	value of service*	staff	bags of trash	trees planted



Register for
trail condition alerts
via text or email

CRgov.com/NotifyMe

Community Outreach

NEW FEATURE AVAILABLE TO RECEIVE TRAIL STATUS NOTIFICATIONS

Coloradans see over 300 days of sunshine per year. While folks are often excited to get outdoors, the Town's soft-surface trails may not be so ready. Hiking and biking on muddy trails can cause severe damage. Now, residents can stay even more up-to-date on trail conditions through CRgov.com/NotifyMe. A new subscription list, Trail Conditions Alert, was added so users can opt in to receive email and/or text notifications to know before they go. This feature has been advertised on the Town's Facebook page and business cards will be available for public distribution at recreation facilities. A trail conditions map is also available at CRgov.com/Maps, and trail condition updates are also posted to CRgov.com/TrailConditions.

TRAILS THURSDAY CAMPAIGN PROVIDES ANNUAL REMINDER TO WATCH FOR SNAKES

As spring gets underway, there's a lot to look forward to here in Castle Rock. One thing most people don't eagerly anticipate? Rattlesnakes coming out of hibernation. While these reptiles are often a misunderstood member of the natural landscape, hikers should be wary of encountering them on a trail. If you're hitting the trails on a warm morning, be sure to keep an eye out for rattlesnakes in your path. And, don't forget to keep Fido on a tight leash if you're in rattlesnake country.





Parks Operations & Maintenance

NEW STAIRS CONSTRUCTED FOR LEGACY TRAIL AT GATEWAY MESA OPEN SPACE

Park Operations and Maintenance staff members John Jorgensen, Rodney Seleen and Jesse Vail constructed 19 steps made from six-by-six inch landscape timbers along the Legacy Trail at Gateway Mesa Open Space. The stairs took approximately 80 staff hours to complete but help to stabilize a steeper section of trail, easing user experience.

Construction of Legacy Trail was initiated in 2019 through partnership with Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado. VOC is a statewide organization that provides skilled crew leaders and a volunteer workforce for outdoor stewardship projects, including invasive species management, habitat restoration, recreation improvements and trail construction and maintenance.

While designed by the Town's Trail Planner, the new hiking-only trail is being built by volunteers and crew leaders coordinated through VOC. Due to the length of the new trail, and the terrain, the project has been completed in multiple phases throughout 2019 and 2020. A final phase will be coordinated this year to construct the remaining 3,000-foot section, providing an additional and more eastern connection to Chuck Loop's Trail.

2021 volunteer outings will celebrate National Trails Day on Saturday, June 5 and feature a women's only workday on Sunday, Oct. 9. More information and registration details are available at CRgov.com/LegacyTrail.





Arts & Enrichment

COMMUNITY MEMBERS ASKED TO HELP CREATE POSITIVITY THROUGH IMAGERY

If a picture is worth a thousand words, our community certainly has a lot to say. As part of the 2021 joint public art program “Painting Positivity,” the Town’s Public Art Commission and the Castle Rock Artist Cooperative invited the public to submit photographs throughout April of what positivity means.

Selected photos will be used to create several large- and small-scale images or mosaics in street art throughout Castle Rock this summer. The images may be utilized in public art installations such as vinyl wraps, murals or other forms of art, and businesses may feature these temporary pieces on buildings and sidewalks.

While the past year has been challenging, this campaign seeks to use art to trigger important conversations and be the drop of positivity, creating a ripple effect. Images submitted by the public will hopefully initiate these conversations and make positivity the star attraction.

Stay informed on public art initiatives by signing up for email updates at CRgov.com/NotifyMe.

