



Castle Rock
**PARKS &
RECREATION**
*June 2026
Monthly Report*



UPCOMING

Events

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

JULY
18
Summer Concert Series feat. Jackson Dean
6 to 10 p.m.
Amphitheater at Philip S. Miller Park

JULY
24
Western Heritage Welcome Cattle Drive
6 to 8 p.m.
Downtown Castle Rock

AUGUST
1
Colorado Day Festival
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Amphitheater at Philip S. Miller Park

AUGUST
1
Summer Concert Series feat. Fitz and the Tantrums
6 to 10 p.m.
Amphitheater at Philip S. Miller Park

AUGUST
7
First Fridays feat. Six Million Dollar Band
5:30 to 9 p.m.
Festival Park

AUGUST
15
Summer Concert Series feat. Cheap Trick
6 to 10 p.m.
Amphitheater at Philip S. Miller Park

AUGUST
18
Animals Around the Rock feat. Reptiles Under the Rock
6 to 7 p.m.
Millhouse at Philip S. Miller Park

AUGUST
20
Tunes for Trails / Perks for Parks feat. Santa Rios
6:30 to 9 p.m.
Amphitheater at Philip S. Miller Park

UPCOMING *Events*

Recurring Summer Events

Join us for the following events, recurring throughout the summer. View up-to-date information at [CRgov.com/Events](https://www.CRgov.com/Events).



Yoga in the Park



Sundays 8:30 - 9:30 a.m. | The Amphitheater at Philip S. Miller Park
Mondays 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. | Festival Park

CAPITAL PROJECT UPDATES

Parks, Open Space & Trails

The following updates summarize general progress that occurred throughout the month on capital projects managed through the Parks and Recreation department; for background information and additional details visit CRgov.com/ProjectUpdates.

Lost Canyon Ranch Open Space prepares for visitors

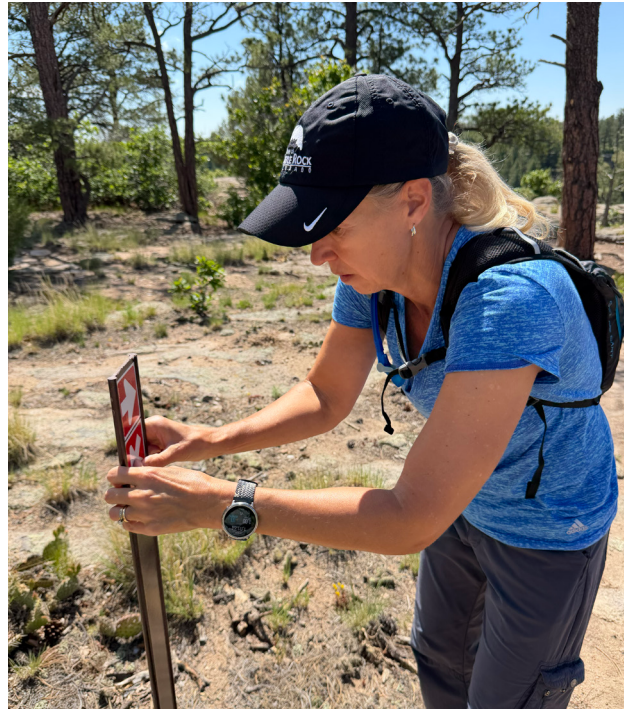
Lost Canyon Ranch Open Space continues to take shape as one of Castle Rock's most significant conservation and recreation projects. This 681-acre property was preserved to protect its rolling grasslands, ponderosa forests, canyon landscapes and wildlife habitat, while providing low-impact public access balanced with long-term resource stewardship.

June marked the final stages of preparation ahead of the property's July 13 public opening, following a dedication ceremony planned for July 8. Major construction is now complete on the Willow Creek Path, Turkey Track Loop, Gobbler's Pass, Pronghorn Path, Bootlegger's Loop, Lost Moccasin Trail, Echoes of Ancestors Trail and Big Bear Hollow. Construction will continue through the end of the summer on Rustler's Ridge and Golden Eagle Loop as additional trail segments are completed. Staff also continue refining trail connections between parking areas and trail loops to support a safe and intuitive visitor experience.

Trailhead and site improvements advanced significantly throughout the month. Additional site furnishings were installed, including chicanes, fencing, gate access infrastructure, bear-resistant trash receptacles, split-log benches and bike racks. Traffic calming improvements along Lost Canyon Ranch Road were completed, and construction of the new entry gate progressed with stone masonry and gate installation completed, allowing staff to begin programming access control systems in preparation for opening.

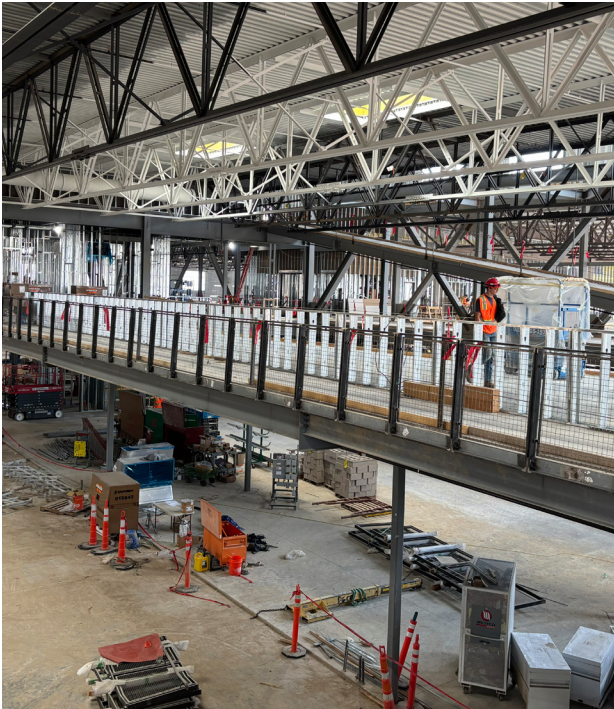
Wayfinding and visitor information also remain a primary focus. Staff continue evaluating trail signage through field testing and trail walks, making adjustments as needed to improve navigation throughout the property. Temporary signage will support the July opening, while permanent wayfinding signs, kiosks and trailhead graphics will be finalized, fabricated and installed following completion of the remaining trail construction.

These final preparations reflect the Town's commitment to delivering a safe, enjoyable and well-managed outdoor recreation experience while protecting the property's unique natural and cultural resources. With opening day approaching, Lost Canyon Ranch Open Space is poised to become one of Castle Rock's premier destinations for passive outdoor recreation.



CAPITAL PROJECT UPDATES

Parks, Open Space & Trails



Castle Rock Sports Center construction continues

Construction continued this month on the Town's much-anticipated new indoor recreation facility, the Castle Rock Sports Center. The 145,000 square-foot facility will serve as a premier destination for sports, recreation and community wellness in Castle Rock.

June marked another major milestone as the facility was successfully transitioned to CORE Electric power, allowing construction to move beyond temporary power and supporting continued interior buildout. Progress throughout the month focused on building systems, interior construction and continued advancement of the aquatics complex. Mechanical, electrical and plumbing rough-in continued across the mezzanine level, while one-sided drywall installation and lower-level interior framing advanced throughout the building. Construction of the locker rooms also progressed, with concrete masonry unit walls now complete and overhead mechanical, electrical and plumbing work continuing.

Significant work also occurred within the recreation and competition areas. Railings were installed in the recreation gymnasium and Competition Gym C, and guardrails were added in additional building areas as interior spaces continued to take shape. Staff also completed an in-wall rough-in review to verify building systems before wall construction proceeds.

Construction of the aquatics facilities continued to make substantial progress. The foundation for the competition pool was completed during the month, and crews began constructing the competition pool walls. By early the end of the month, nearly all building concrete had been placed, with only the pool deck remaining. Work will continue this summer with construction of the fitness patio roof.

Site development also continued outside the building. The east retaining wall is now complete, construction of the west retaining walls is underway and utility installation has shifted to the south side of the facility as overall site improvements continue.

Photos at left show, from top to bottom, the cardio and track area, followed by the exterior competition gymnasium lobby.

The facility, located on 10.1 acres off Prairie Hawk Drive, remains on track for a summer 2027 opening.



JUNE OPERATIONS

Updates in Parks and Recreation

Community investment

Sponsorships and scholarships expand recreation access

The department's Pickleball Banner Sponsorship Program continued to attract strong community and business support in its second full year, with 21 organizations participating in 2026. The program provides local businesses with high-visibility advertising at some of Castle Rock's busiest outdoor pickleball courts while generating revenue that supports the department's Scholarship Program and helps expand access to recreation opportunities.

The Scholarship Program continues to reduce financial barriers by providing assistance for recreation programs, facility memberships and passes to qualifying residents. Applications are reviewed quarterly by a committee that considers financial need, temporary hardship and other qualifying circumstances. Twenty-two scholarship applications were reviewed during the June 15 application cycle, continuing the department's commitment to ensuring recreation opportunities remain accessible to the community.

The program's impact is reflected in feedback received from participating families. One scholarship recipient recently shared that access to Recreation Center memberships allowed family members to improve their health, build confidence and remain active throughout the summer. The parent noted that her husband has lost more than 110 pounds since January through regular use of the facility, while she developed strength through Body Pump classes, her younger daughter gained confidence in swimming through weekly pool visits and her older daughter was able to maintain her fitness before shoulder surgery by using the fitness equipment. The family concluded by thanking the financial aid committee, saying the scholarship had "blessed our family immensely."

Together, the Pickleball Banner Sponsorship Program and Scholarship Program demonstrate how partnerships with local businesses directly support equitable access to recreation while creating lasting health and wellness benefits for Castle Rock residents.

Art and Culture Grant awards approved

In June, Town Council approved funding for 14 projects through the Town's 2026-2027 Art and Culture Grant Program, awarding nearly \$64,000 from the Public Art Fund to support community art, cultural programming and arts education.

The funded projects include public murals, sculptures, interactive art installations, free community concerts, performing arts programming and educational initiatives that will expand access to arts and culture throughout Castle Rock. Many of the projects are expected to be completed and publicly accessible beginning in 2026, with all grant-funded programs and installations scheduled for completion by the end of 2027.

The annual Art and Culture Grant Program supports nonprofit organizations, businesses, artists, educators and community groups whose projects enhance Castle Rock's cultural landscape, encourage creativity and provide meaningful artistic experiences for residents and visitors.



One of 14 projects approved for funding through the Town's 2026-2027 Art and Culture Grant Program.

JUNE OPERATIONS

Updates in Parks and Recreation

Operations

Volunteer onboarding and compliance

Staff completed volunteer onboarding and compliance tracking across several Parks and Recreation programs in preparation for summer operations. Athletics onboarded 121 youth sports coaches supporting Tee-to-Pitch, Machine Pitch, baseball and softball, with all coaches completing required background checks, waivers, abuse prevention training, concussion training and acknowledgment of the coach code of conduct before participating.

POST Partners completed onboarding for 33 Crew Leaders and Trail Ambassadors who will support stewardship projects, educational programs and trail activities. Therapeutic Recreation also onboarded nine volunteers, including six supporting iCan Bike Camp and three assisting with Special Olympics programs.

At Red Hawk Ridge Golf Course, compliance tracking continued for 52 volunteer marshals. Staff also updated the Golf Volunteer Handbook to reflect current policies, procedures and expectations, and added new volunteer photos to the department's image library for future recruitment and program communications.

Together, these efforts strengthened volunteer readiness, supported consistent safety and compliance standards and helped ensure programs were appropriately staffed for summer operations.

Birthday party program maintains steady demand

The department's birthday party program continued to provide recreation experiences for Castle Rock families throughout June, with activity levels remaining consistent with the previous year across the Miller Activity Complex, Recreation Center and Burgess Pool.

A total of 497 children attended birthday parties during the month, compared to 512 children in June 2025. While attendance was slightly lower, the average party size continued to increase, growing from 12.2 children per party in 2025 to 13.1 in 2026. This ongoing trend reflects fewer parties with larger groups of attendees. June also included one fewer weekend than the previous year, resulting in a higher average number of parties hosted per weekend.

Looking more broadly, second-quarter bookings remained nearly identical to 2025, demonstrating continued demand for the program despite a slight decline in parties hosted during the first half of the year. Staff continue to receive bookings for upcoming celebrations and anticipate participation levels will remain comparable to last year as summer and fall reservations continue to develop.

Fitness programs continue to grow

The department's fitness and wellness programs continued to experience strong participation throughout June, reflecting sustained community demand for both group fitness classes and personalized training services. During the month, group fitness classes recorded 4,360 participant check-ins, with senior-focused programming accounting for 1,706 visits, highlighting the continued popularity of wellness opportunities for older adults.

Group fitness attendance has continued to trend upward over the past three years. While year-over-year increases are influenced in part by improvements to attendance tracking and reporting procedures implemented since 2025, current data also reflects continued growth in community participation and provides a more complete picture of program utilization.

Personal training services also maintained strong momentum, with 122 sessions conducted in June, representing a 34% increase over the same month in 2025. Continued demand, even during what has traditionally been a slower season, has prompted staff to recruit additional certified personal trainers to expand scheduling flexibility and prepare for future growth.

Seasonal programming also continues to perform well. The department's Summer Fitness Series has generated strong attendance at Festival Park and the Amphitheater at Philip S. Miller Park, extending fitness opportunities into the community and providing accessible outdoor recreation experiences throughout the summer months.

In support of ongoing operations, staff completed routine preventive maintenance on cardiovascular and strength equipment to ensure a safe and reliable experience for members. The division also welcomed a new yoga instructor, expanding the schedule with additional Yoga in the Park offerings and a new 75-minute Vinyasa Flow class.

JUNE OPERATIONS

Updates in Parks and Recreation

Recreation enhancements

Red Hawk Ridge Golf Course equipment upgrades approved

In June, Town Council approved the purchase of new maintenance equipment for Red Hawk Ridge Golf Course. The investment will replace aging equipment that has exceeded its useful life, helping improve reliability, reduce maintenance downtime and support efficient day-to-day operations.

The new equipment includes mowers, bunker maintenance equipment, utility vehicles, sprayers, aeration equipment and other specialized tools used to maintain course conditions. The purchase is part of the Town's long-term capital improvement plan and will help ensure Red Hawk Ridge continues to provide a high-quality golf experience for residents and visitors.

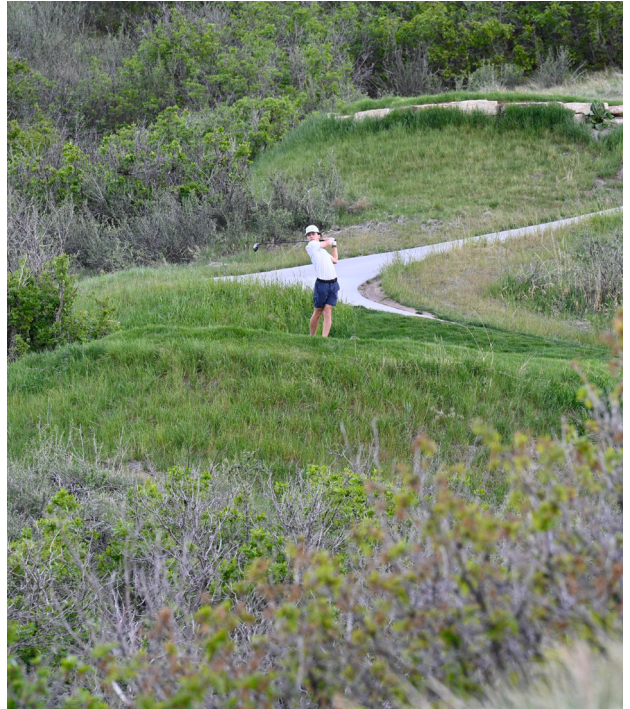
Castle Rock Day at Rueter-Hess Reservoir returns Aug. 16

Parks and Recreation staff are preparing for the annual Castle Rock Day at Rueter-Hess Reservoir, which will take place Sunday, Aug. 16, from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. The annual event provides Castle Rock residents with a unique opportunity to enjoy one of the region's premier outdoor recreation destinations while encouraging healthy, nature-based recreation.

Participants will have access to a variety of outdoor activities, including hiking, stand-up paddleboarding, fishing and non-motorized boating. Visitors may bring their own kayak, canoe or paddleboard or rent equipment on site. Online reservations are required, with registration completed per vehicle through Castle Rock Parks and Recreation. As part of the event, the reservoir's parking fee will be waived for registered Castle Rock participants.

Rueter-Hess Reservoir is managed by the Rueter-Hess Recreation Authority, a regional partnership that includes the Town of Castle Rock and five neighboring agencies. Through this partnership, the Town is able to provide residents with annual opportunities to experience the reservoir's recreational amenities, including trails, boating access and the popular 132-step incline, while supporting regional collaboration in outdoor recreation.

Residents can learn more and reserve their vehicle at CRgov.com/RueterHessRec.

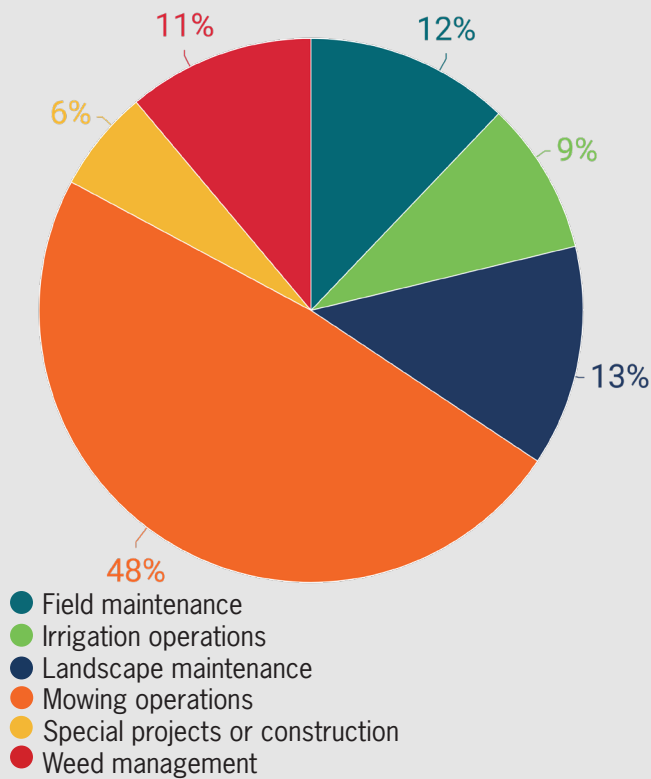


JUNE OPERATIONS

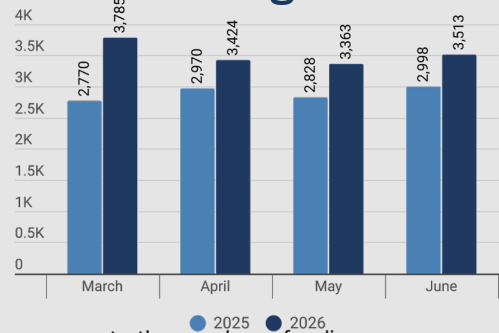
By the Numbers

Parks Maintenance and Operations

This chart provides a breakdown of Parks Maintenance and Operations activities and areas of focus for the month.



RockREC Registrations



This data represents the number of online program registrations completed via the RockREC app or the desktop version of the site, Recreation.CRgov.com, in 2025 and 2026.

POST Partners Volunteer Program



242
volunteers



525
volunteer
hours



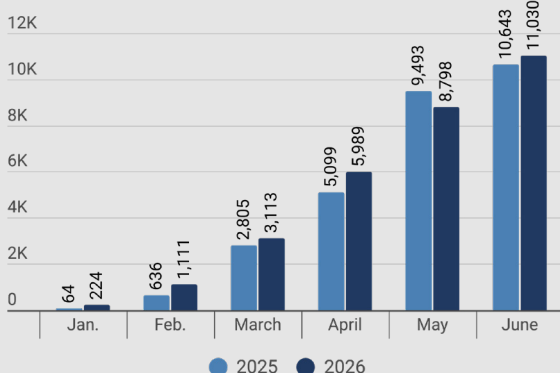
23
events



84
trash bags
collected

Red Hawk Ridge Golf Course

Year-to-date golf rounds are 5.3% higher than the same period last year.



Park Pavilion and Trolley Rentals

The Town Trolley is available for rent for a variety of events, including field trips, historic landmark tours, weddings, nights on the town, and special event parking transportation.

9
trolley
rentals



Pavilions at Town parks are also available for rent throughout the year, with the rest being available on a first-come, first-served basis. Rental numbers for both assets typically surge in warmer months.

213
pavilion
rentals

