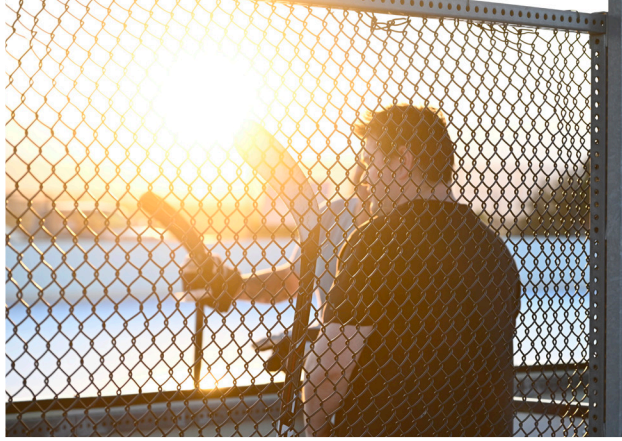




Castle Rock  
**PARKS &  
RECREATION**  
September 2024  
Monthly Report





# UPCOMING

## Events

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

OCTOBER  
**11**  
**EMERALD PARK GRAND OPENING CELEBRATION**  
5 to 7 p.m.  
Emerald Park

OCTOBER  
**20**  
**FALL FESTIVAL FEAT. CREEPY CRAWLIES AROUND THE ROCK**  
10 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
Festival Park

OCTOBER  
**26**  
**SPOOKTACULAR**  
1 to 4 p.m.  
Philip S. Miller Park

NOVEMBER  
**2**  
**PIE BAKE OFF**  
10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
Millhouse at Philip S. Miller Park

NOVEMBER  
**23**  
**STARLIGHTING**  
2 to 6 p.m.  
Downtown Castle Rock and Festival Park

Join us for the Festival Park Farmers Market, recurring through Oct. 20.



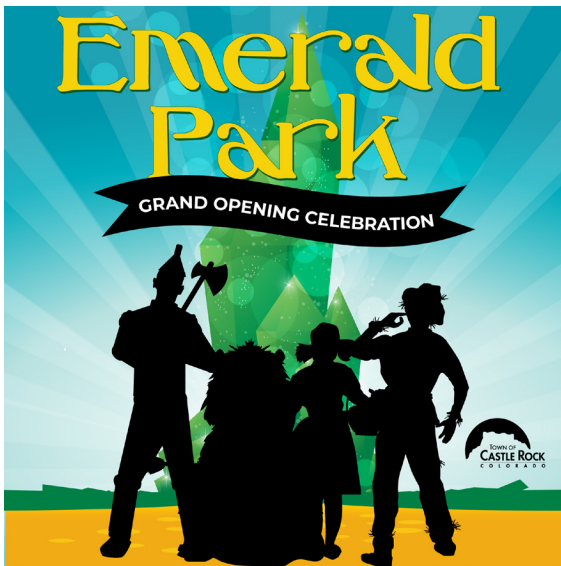
# CAPITAL PROJECT UPDATES

## *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](http://CRgov.com/ProjectUpdates) unless noted otherwise.

### JOIN US FOR THE EMERALD PARK GRAND OPENING CELEBRATION

There's no place like... a neighborhood park, and the Town of Castle Rock's newest one is nearly complete. We'll pull back the curtain at the grand opening celebration from 5 to 7 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 11.



Lions and tigers and bears, oh my! Join us at Emerald Park, 2225 Emerald Drive, and be among the first to experience what our park wizards have created.

Dress for a visit to the Emerald City and enjoy games, activities, music, food trucks and more.

Named Emerald Park following public input last year, the property sits adjacent to Plum Creek Golf Club. In 2019, Town Council approved the purchase of the 7.6-acre property to preserve it for future park development.

The design for the park was determined based on community input and features half-court basketball, pickleball courts, plaza areas with shade and seating, bocce ball courts and space for other yard games, and an all-season restroom. Two playgrounds — one for ages 2 to 5, and one for ages 5 to 12 — a boulder play structure, a looped walking path, walkway lighting and a new parking lot round out the park amenities.

### PARTNERSHIP TO ACQUIRE LOST CANYON RANCH AWARDED COSA BLUE GRAMA AWARD

The Town of Castle Rock was recently awarded a Blue Grama Award by the Colorado Open Space Alliance. The recognition for Outstanding Achievement in Community Partnership and Collaboration celebrates the partnerships that made the acquisition and preservation of Lost Canyon Ranch possible.

COSA is a statewide organization of local and regional open space programs, working cooperatively to share information, create public awareness and foster partnerships needed to protect and preserve the special places of Colorado. This prestigious annual award recognizes achievements made in open space conservation, management, or community engagement through partnerships and collaborative efforts.

The acquisition of the 681-acre Lost Canyon Ranch, finalized in May 2024, represents a remarkable conservation success that was realized through partnerships between the Town, Castle Rock Water, Douglas County, Douglas Land Conservancy, Great Outdoors Colorado and The Conservation Fund.

“Castle Rock residents regularly name the preservation of open space as a top priority in biannual community surveys.

The Town is honored that COSA has recognized the great achievement toward that goal that was made possible through these committed partners coming together,” said Town of Castle Rock Mayor Jason Gray.



Through this innovative collaboration, Lost Canyon Ranch — one of the last undeveloped large-acreage properties near Castle Rock — is now permanently protected as open space. This ecologically and historically significant land is preserved from development and the natural, scenic and cultural resources contained within the property will remain a vital resource for the residents of Castle Rock, Douglas County and Colorado.

# UPCOMING

## Fall Events

Fall is in the air, and there's no better way to celebrate than at one of our free events this month.

### SPOOKTACULAR

Celebrate all things not-so-spooky at the Town of Castle Rock's annual Spooktacular. Young trick-or-treaters are invited to join the celebration Saturday, Oct. 26, at the Amphitheater at Philip



S. Miller Park.

Enjoy children's activities at this free event including carnival-style games, a fall photo display for selfies by the pond and candy galore. Plus, don't miss a chance for kids

to win yummy baked goods during a rousing game of musical cakes! Take your family-friendly costumes for a test run and don't forget to bring a bag to collect treats.

Because of the popularity of this event, families are asked to attend according to the following schedule:

1 to 2 p.m. — sensory hour, for kids who need a quieter space to play  
2 to 3 p.m. — last names starting with letters A through L  
3 to 4 p.m. — last names starting with letters M through Z  
Many nonfood prizes and treats will also be available for those with allergy concerns. A nutritional values binder will also be provided for parents. This is an outdoor event, so please dress for the weather.

### FALL FESTIVAL

There is something special about this season at Festival Park, so head down to enjoy fall fun from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 20. The Fall Festival is full of activities, seasonal vendors and all things autumn, as well as a Halloween-themed animal booth from Nature's Educators.

Shop from your Festival Park Farmers Market favorites, plus many more harvest-themed vendors at this event organized by the LOCAL Colorado. You'll find locally created seasonal treats and holiday gifts, fall produce and much more.

Families can also participate in activity stations such as outdoor games, pumpkin decorating, fall crafts and a festive photo booth. And don't miss your chance to buy a locally grown

pumpkin to carve or decorate. Food, drinks, treats, beer and mead will be available to purchase from some of your favorite local vendors.

Douglas Land Conservancy

will also join the fun with Creepy Crawlies Around the Rock, presented by Nature's Educators. This educational animal booth will include some of Castle Rock's creepiest creatures such as snakes, toads and other invertebrates. More information is available at [CRgov.com/RockAnimals](http://CRgov.com/RockAnimals).





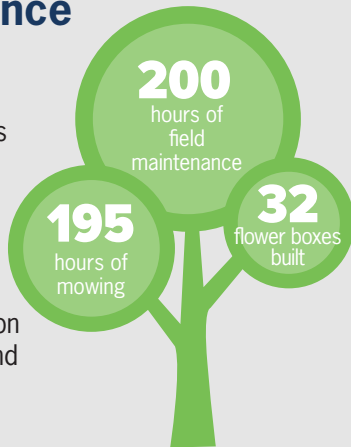
# SEPTEMBER OPERATIONS

## By the Numbers

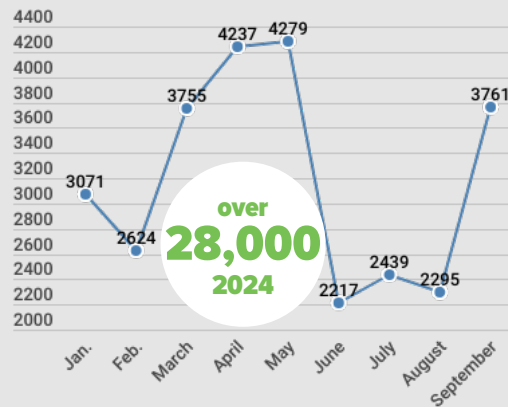
### Parks Maintenance and Operations

This month the Parks Maintenance and Operations division spent

- 540 hours on holiday light installation;
- 40 hours on weed management;
- 24 hours on construction and special projects; and
- 252 hours on irrigation maintenance.

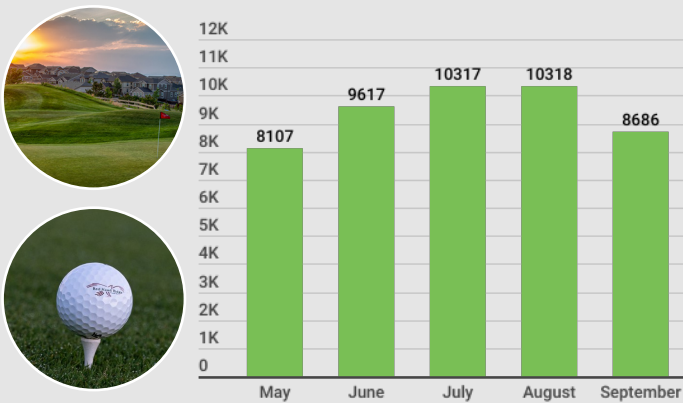


### RockREC Registrations



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

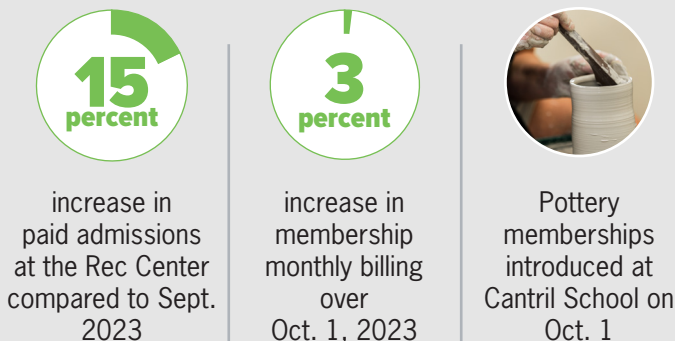
### Red Hawk Ridge Golf Course



### POST Partners Volunteer Program



### Facility Operations



### 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.



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 rise with warmer weather.



# THERAPEUTIC RECREATION

## Summary

### THERAPEUTIC RECREATION ZUMBA DANCE CREW

In preparation for the Glow Dance Party this month, Therapeutic Rec participants were invited to learn a Zumba program. Nine participants showcased their new skills on the Amphitheater stage to kick off the fundraising event!

The Glow Dance Party raised over \$4,000 for the Therapeutic Recreation program through over 240 registrations and sponsorships. In addition to the Glow Dance Zumba Crew, four other programs were offered in Therapeutic Recreation in September, including Inclusive Pickleball, Special Olympics Golf, Adaptive Swim Lessons and Adapted Flag Football. These programs served 55 individuals ages three to 28.



# SUMMER CAMPS 2024 RECAP

**11**  
weeks of  
summer  
camps



**2,627**  
summer  
camp  
participants

**1,969**  
participants  
in state-  
licensed  
camps



**75** staff,  
including aides,  
counselors and  
coordinators



**610**  
participants  
in specialty  
camps

**\$** **\$648K+**  
gross revenue generated

**4,681**  
waitlisted campers

**48**  
therapeutic campers,  
with 35 more waitlisted

## What parents said

- “Staff is friendly & the kids have a great time. Thanks for doing all the fun activities & making sure they’re busy during the summer.”
- “The Staff was incredible and created a wonderful experience for the kids! The camp was very organized and well run!”
- “Our son always loves these camps and the camp counselors. Katie is AWESOME and always responsive if we have questions about registration or want to try to get onto a waiting list.”

## What staff said

- “I thought all the coordinators and supervisors did a good job of listening to what people needed and adjusting as they need to, very flexible.”
- “Loved superhero week! It was a lot of fun for the kiddos. Most of the crafts were also super fun. I also liked how there was switching between the weeks for Multisport in terms of which sports were played. And for Great Outdoors, pretty much all the activities we do are fantastic and the kids love them.”