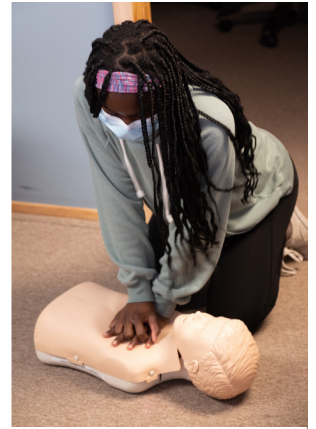




Castle Rock
**PARKS &
RECREATION**
February 2021



LEARN MORE



CRgov.com/ParksandRec



parks@CRgov.com





Upcoming Events

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

MARCH
31
RIDGELINE WRANGLERS AND PHILIP S. MILLER PARK TRAIL PARTNERS SEASON KICK-OFF MEETING
6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
Virtual Event

APRIL
4
FACILITY CLOSURE
Castle Rock Recreation Center and Miller Activity Complex

APRIL
14
RHYOLITE BIKE PARK DIRT CREW SEASON KICK-OFF MEETING
6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
Virtual Event

APRIL
17
EARTH DAY WILLOW HARVEST AND PLANTING
9 - 11 a.m.
East Plum Creek Trail

MAY
22
CLIMB4CHANGE
6:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Challenge Hill at Philip S. Miller Park



Adaptive Recreation

NIGHT TO SHINE

Although this year's Night to Shine looked a little different due to the pandemic, the Adaptive Recreation Division, Castle Oaks Covenant Church and the Wellspring Community were excited to honor 60 guests and 60 caregivers at the free event. Sponsored in part by the Tim Tebow Foundation, Night to Shine offers an unforgettable prom night experience to community members with special needs ages 14 and older.

The mission of the Tim Tebow Foundation is to bring faith, hope and love to those needing a brighter day on their darkest hour; their 2021 sponsorship amount, which was provided to Castle Oaks Covenant Church, was \$4,500. On Friday, Feb. 12, Night to Shine celebrated its seventh anniversary as thousands from around the world came together through socially-distanced and virtual formats to honor and serve those with disabilities. Though the festivities looked a little different this year, nothing could keep the hope and love from shining as bright as ever, and the Parks and Recreation Department was privileged to provide this event to local families.

The 2021 event was held outdoors at the Amphitheater at Philip S. Miller Park to accommodate social distancing. The guests were welcomed with Disney characters, lights and over 100 cheering volunteers as they drove around the decorated park. The "Shine-thru, Drive-thru" area featured a red carpet, music, lights, a gift kit, a photo booth and meals to go, which were donated by the generosity of Chick-fil-A. Everyone enjoyed the festive, prom-night experience from the safety of their vehicles.



“ I wanted to thank you and the entire group of volunteers who made Night to Shine so spectacular! We held an event afterwards (socially distanced, of course) for a small group of families whose adult children attend a bible study I teach at Castle Oaks Covenant Church. I was unable to see what you guys did in person... [but] I wish you could have seen the faces of virtually every person who walked in the door afterwards. There was joy, smiles, laughter, remark after remark of how wonderful you all made the experience. I cannot tell you how much your effort was appreciated. If you can forward this to all the people who froze their buns off getting this remarkable event done, please do! We are so blessed to live in Castle Rock and receive such love and support from the community. God bless each and every person involved in Night to Shine! - Deb S. ”



Community Events

DADDY DAUGHTER BALL

Fathers and daughters turned out on Sunday, Feb. 7 as the Parks and Recreation Department hosted its annual Daddy Daughter Ball. To accommodate social distancing, this year's event was held at the Recreation Center's Panorama Hall in four, hour-and-a-half sessions. All four sessions experienced sold-out attendance with 50 participants. The guests enjoyed the dance's theme, which was spring, and Boy Scouts sold roses, corsages and boutonnieres. Ted Spring Photography was also in attendance for families who wanted to snap a special photograph to commemorate the event.





Arts & Enrichment

RETURN TO WELLNESS WITH CULTURAL PROGRAMMING

As the Parks and Recreation Department continues to safely increase its services in accordance with public health guidelines, expanded opportunities are now available for those interested in arts and enrichment. Throughout February, patrons enjoyed everything from line dancing to painting.

KIDZART

At the KidzArt Imagine! Weekly Drawing Class, five students powered up their creative energy. Participants were exposed to a variety of artistic styles, mediums and materials as they crafted original drawings.

At the new KidzArt Youth Paint Pictionary Night, four students enjoyed painting a 12-by-16-inch canvas with friends, followed by several rounds of Pictionary. The participants left the class with a sense of accomplishment as each had completed a beautiful artwork that they could share with their families and friends.

At the new KidzArt Family Style Acrylic Paint Class, eight students and their family members enjoyed a morning of creativity and fun while painting a 12-by-16-inch canvas in acrylic. Even the grown-ups - whether mom, dad, grandparents or aunts and uncles - had a blast.

LINE DANCE AEROBICS

Dancers combined elements of cardio, balance and flexibility in the division's newest class, Line Dance Aerobics. In this low pressure and fun environment, 15 students got their heart rates pumping and endorphins flowing. Due to the program's success, additional sessions will be offered in both March and April – it's time to slim down and stay fit!

ADULT POTTERY

Over 30 students enjoyed Adult Pottery throughout the month. This class focused on throwing and hand building techniques, along with other basic skills. Adult pottery will continue to be offered in the spring, and kids will also have the opportunity to take a spin at the wheel at the Summer Clay Creations camps in June and July.

UPCOMING KIDZART PROGRAMS

Spring Break Camp

Ages 5 - 13
Spark Imagination
9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Monday - Friday
March 15 - 19

Summer Camps

Ages 5 - 12
Our Green eARTh!
9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Monday - Friday
July 12 - 16
World Explorers
9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Monday - Friday
June 21 - 25

Painting & Pictionary Youth Paint Nights

Ages 6 - 14
Little Sea Turtle
5 - 7 p.m.
Friday, March 26
Beach Dog
5 - 7 p.m.
Friday, April 23

Family Style Acrylic Paint Classes

Ages 5 - 12, plus one adult
Cup of Warmth
9:45 - 11:45 a.m.
Saturday, March 27
Full Bloom Bouquet
9:45 - 11:45 a.m.
Saturday, April 24

Imagine! Weekly Drawing Classes

Ages 5 - 13
Spectacular Spring
4:45 - 6 p.m.
Thursdays, April 1 - 22



Aquatics & Community Outreach

LEARN TO SAVE A LIFE CAMPAIGN GENERATES TRACTION FOR POSITIVE SKILL DEVELOPMENT

“The right people. The right training. The right time. It all came together to save a life at a fitness center in Aurora recently,” said 9News anchor Kyle Clark in February. A man had collapsed on a treadmill, and it was other patrons and staff at the facility who saved his life.

The likely reality of this story is precisely why the Parks and Recreation Department takes great strides in continuously offering a variety of American Red Cross trainings. More than 85% of cardiac arrests happen at home, which means a victim is likely to be a loved one. Learning CPR can help people gain confidence in knowing that they have the skills to save a life too.

Throughout February, the Aquatics and Community Outreach divisions teamed up to promote the three trainings offered through the department. The American Red Cross First Aid, CPR and AED Training is for anyone who wants to learn how they can provide care, to help those with minor to life-threatening injuries. The American Red Cross Babysitting and Childcare Course prepares students for work as a babysitter through hands-on skills training and scenario practices. The American Red Cross Lifeguard Training Program prepares participants for professional work as a lifeguard through hands-on skills training, water rescues and scenario practices.

The outreach campaign successfully engaged the public and recruited new trainees in all programs. The campaign featured a series of Facebook posts, the installation of window decals at facilities and inclusion in the Foundation of Douglas County School’s newsletter, which also included a \$5 registration coupon. Learn more about and sign up for upcoming trainings and certifications at CRgov.com/Registration.

LEARN TO SAVE A LIFE CAMPAIGN OUTREACH

COMMUNITY CPR **CPR & MORE**
LEARN TO SAVE A LIFE

2,792 Reaches, 9 Likes, 44 Engagements

3,284 Reaches, 7 Likes, 164 Engagements

BABYSITTING BOOTCAMP **CPR & MORE**
LEARN TO SAVE A LIFE

2,437 Reaches, 7 Likes, 48 Engagements

LIFEGUARD TRAINING **CPR & MORE**
LEARN TO SAVE A LIFE

2,726 Reaches, 34 Likes, 324 Engagements

COMMUNITY CPR **CPR & MORE**
LEARN TO SAVE A LIFE



Parks Operations & Maintenance

NEW SCOREBOARDS INSTALLED AT METZLER RANCH COMMUNITY PARK

New scoreboards were installed for the baseball/softball fields at Metzler Ranch Community Park. All four boards feature light-emitting diodes (LEDs), which will lead to approximately 75% energy savings compared to the incandescent bulbs in the previous boards. Additional benefits include hand-held wireless controllers, white outline striping for improved readability and an ability to present the remaining game time to spectators. The new scoreboards will be enjoyed by all at the most highly utilized baseball/softball fields in Castle Rock.

NEOTREKS IMPLEMENTED FOR PLOW OPERATIONS MANAGEMENT

The Park Operations and Maintenance Division launched its use of NeoTreks in February. NeoTreks, a software development company in Castle Rock, offers a subscription-based snow plow tracking solution designed to assist organizations with the management of snow removal activities. During snowstorms that require plowing, the division maintains over 90 miles of trails, 20 parking lots, three facilities and various school zones.

The division's plow trucks are set up with GPS receivers and cellular-enabled tablets. The technology sends real-time data to a central office, where operations staff use the PlowOps mapping console. This web-based dashboard allows staff to track driver locations, manage plow routes, assign routes to drivers and view snow removal status. The PlowOps tool can also be used to create a paperless report that contains the beginning and ending mileage of each driver's shift and provides options for drivers to report obstacles while plowing, such as utility holes, all at the touch of a button on their tablets.

NeoTreks also has the capability of connecting real-time data to a public-facing website. While at this time the reporting data is internal facing, there are future plans to incorporate public facing data into an interactive department map in 2021. Residents will then be able to track where plows have been and anticipate how much time is expected before their favorite park is cleared.

This software was made available in partnership with the Town of Castle Rock's Division of Innovation and Technology, who received a \$5,000 SIPA grant award for project funding. Staff is considering expanding the use of the tool to monitor additional operations such as turf and open space mowing and fertilizer applications in future phases.





Parks, Open Space & Trails

NOXIOUS WEED MANAGEMENT PLAN – PUBLIC INPUT PERIOD

Non-native plants that displace or out-compete native vegetation are listed as noxious weeds by the Colorado Department of Agriculture, who manage the enforcement of the Colorado Noxious Weed Act on all private and public properties throughout the state. These plants can have significant environmental and economic impacts – like degrading the natural habitat, replacing native vegetation, reducing agricultural productivity, causing wind and water erosion, impeding recreational access and posing an increased wildfire threat. To ensure compliance with state law, the Town recently established a Noxious Weed Advisory Board, drafted a noxious weed management plan and will be soon update the Municipal Code to acknowledge the Noxious Weed Act. The draft noxious weed management plan will be available for public feedback through Friday, March 26. For additional information on noxious weed management in Castle Rock, to submit feedback or to view a copy of the draft management plan, visit CRgov.com/NoxiousWeeds.

