



Castle Rock
**PARKS &
RECREATION**
March 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](https://www.castlerockco.gov/CRgov.com/Events).



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



NATIONAL TRAILS DAY
8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Gateway Mesa Open Space



Parks, Open Space & Trails

COBBLESTONE RANCH PARK PHASE ONE UPDATE

Throughout 2020, the Park Planning and Construction Division designed the first phase of Cobblestone Ranch Park. Situated on the eastern edge of Castle Rock, this 168-acre property was acquired to serve as a regional destination, much like Philip S. Miller Park.

The development of approximately 12 acres throughout 2021 will form the center of this future regional park, providing: an entry road off of Castle Oaks Drive, off-street parking, picnic pavilions, a playground for 2-5 year olds, a playground for 5-12 year olds, an asphalt pump track, half-court basketball, a great lawn area, sidewalks and landscaping.

The project was put out to bid on March 31, and staff held a mandatory pre-bid walk through on April 7. While the base bid packages will include the costs of the amenities listed above along with infrastructure, three alternates were also requested from the contractors: a synthetic softball field, a permanent restroom and six pickleball courts. Alternates will be selected for development as the budget and bid environment allow. The engineer's estimate for the base bid is approximately \$5.3 million, which is available in the Parks and Recreation Impact Fee Fund.

Once a final contractor is selected in April, staff will seek Town Council approval of a construction contract in May and project development will commence.

PARK IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

The Parks and Recreation Capital Improvement Plan identifies the need for improvements to many of the Town's existing parks. Butterfield Crossing, Mitchell Gulch and Plum Creek area parks will receive the first round of renovations throughout 2021, prioritizing safety and accessibility improvements, life cycle replacement and improving user experience.

The department contracted professional landscape architecture firms to engage residents and staff in the renovation planning process. In February 2020, Design Concepts was awarded the design contract to create the overall improvement plan for Butterfield Crossing Park; DHM Design was selected to develop plans for Mitchell Gulch and Plum Creek area parks.

Both firms first met with Parks and Recreation Department staff to review current and future programming needs and maintenance issues and discuss potential enhancements for each site. Using these discussions as a starting point, the firms then posted surveys and online forms in June 2020 to help convey needed repairs to community members and to solicit public feedback for improving these older parks.

After incorporating public and staff feedback, renovation concept sketches were created for each park site and posted on the Town's website for resident review and additional public comment in fall 2020. Input from these surveys was then incorporated into renovation master plans for each park, which will be used when prioritizing future renovation work.

The next step in the planning process is to finalize new contracts with these existing design firms to create the construction drawings, specifications and bid documents for each site. The design and review process is expected to take six months. Completed plans will be submitted to Development Services for approval and the projects will be distributed for competitive bidding once permits are in place. Construction is expected to begin after future Council approval. Funding will be allocated in accordance with the need based on the bids received. Approximately \$4.5 million is currently available in the Conservation Trust Fund, which includes lottery and Douglas County Shareback revenues.



POST Partners Volunteer Program

CELEBRATE NATIONAL VOLUNTEER MONTH, SIGN UP TO MAKE AN IMPACT

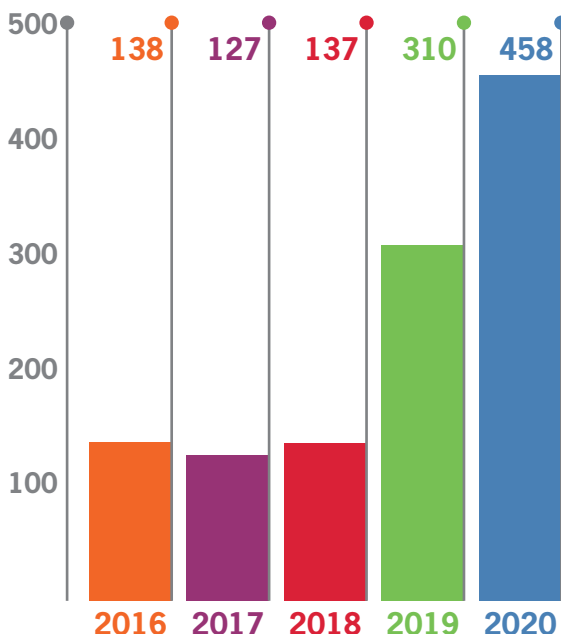
To honor and promote the value of volunteerism, April is designated as National Volunteer Month. The Town's POST Partners program relies on the dedication of volunteers to maintain and beautify open space and trails, clean up trash and monitor bluebird boxes. The program also organizes special volunteer events, such as Earth Day Willow Harvest and Planting and National Trails Day. Custom group projects and partnerships may also be coordinated upon request.

The POST Partners Program was launched in 2007 as a way to provide meaningful and impactful opportunities to community members to donate services and enjoy the results of hard work and team efforts, serve as stewards of public lands, generate pride in parks systems and demonstrate a commitment to the Town and local environment. Early partners included the Rotary Club, Civitan, Boy Scout Troops, Keepers of the Rock and individuals interested in assisting with small projects. In its first year, 2,263 hours of volunteerism were logged, and, over the last 14 years, the program has grown exponentially. In 2020 alone, 733 volunteers provided 3,500 hours of help, equating to a \$89,005 value of service.

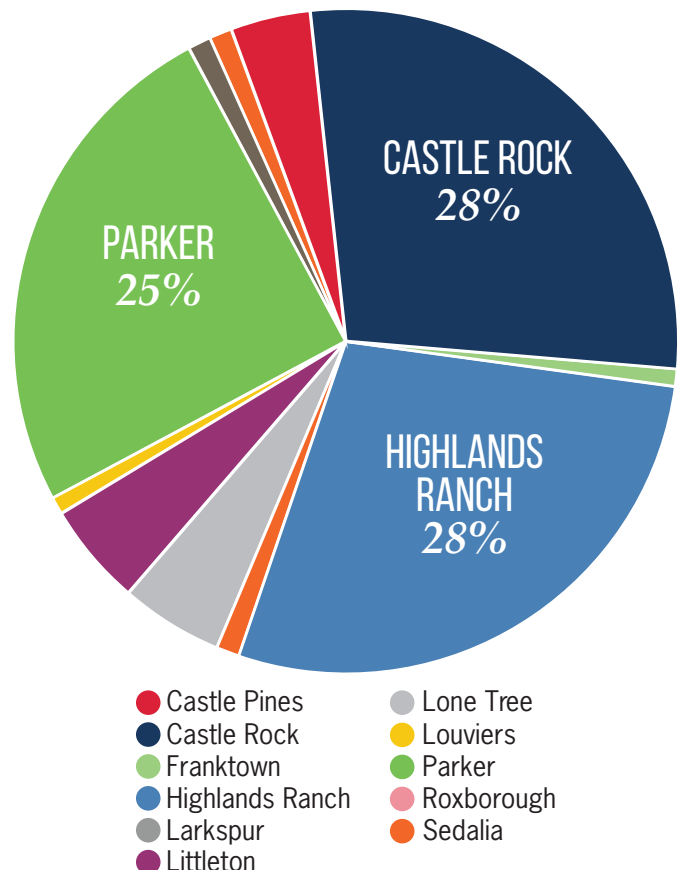
To better connect residents with local and regional volunteer opportunities, the Town of Castle Rock also works with the Partnership of Douglas County Governments to provide a one-stop-shop website and registration platform, Volunteer Connect Douglas County. Individuals, families and groups looking for ways to help can easily get linked to nearby organizations, and opportunities range from one-time community events to short- and long-term commitments. In 2020, more than 15,000 individual users registered through the portal, an increase of 884 when compared to 2019; 458 of these individuals signed up for POST Partners opportunities.

Learn more about volunteering through POST Partners and throughout the County at VolunteerConnectDC.org. Upcoming opportunities include Arbor Day Tree Planting, Earth Day Willow Harvest and Planting, along with clean up events and trail maintenance.

POST PARTNERS VOLUNTEERS
REGISTERED THROUGH
VOLUNTEER CONNECT DOUGLAS COUNTY



REGISTERED
VOLUNTEER CONNECT DOUGLAS COUNTY
VOLUNTEERS BY AREA





Parks Operations & Maintenance

COMMUNITY GARDEN PLOTS NOW AVAILABLE

Spring is in the air, the 2021 gardening season has nearly arrived and applications are now available for plots in the Glovers Park Community Garden. Everyone is invited to grow vegetables, fruits and herbs in this publicly-owned space at 534 Gilbert Street. Residents can lease one of the 23 available spots for the growing season for \$40. Only one plot is granted per household, and applications are approved on a first-come, first-served basis. Learn more about the community garden and [reserve your spot online](#).





Athletics & Adventure

SPRING BREAK CAMPS

The department hosted a variety of spring break camps in March through its Youth Division, including half- and full-day options. With 98 total campers, the division hit a spring break record!

SPECIALTY CAMPS	27 campers
ATHLETIC CAMP	27 campers
ROCK REC CAMP	26 campers
BEFORE & AFTER CARE	18 campers





WINTER ATHLETICS RECAP

Despite the pandemic, the Athletics Division went above and beyond to offer safe programming to interested community members during the pandemic. Normally, winter youth athletic programming utilizes eight local school gyms. Due to restrictions, only four gyms were available for use. Overall, participation dropped, with many former participants citing mask mandates as reasons for not returning. For adult athletics, basketball was not offered due to restrictions and limited facility usage, but drop-in basketball will start later this spring. Volleyball and soccer participants were able to continue league play while wearing masks, but multiple teams did opt out due to the mandate. The division looks forward to continuing to offer an increased number of sports and serving a larger audience in future months as public health restrictions hopefully lessen and teams head outdoors.



Athletics WINTER SPORTS RECAP

YOUTH SPORTS



400

basketball participants



125 indoor flag football
participants



140

volleyball participants

ADULT SPORTS



4

coed volleyball teams



6

coed soccer teams

Spring and summer registration is
now open for:

baseball, softball, track and
athletic summer camps

Spring and summer registration is
now open for:

arena flag football, basketball,
cornhole, kickball, pickleball, soccer,
softball and volleyball



Red Hawk Ridge Golf Course

WET WEATHER KICKS OFF 2021 GOLF SEASON

OPERATIONS

The golf season started with snowy conditions, limiting play to 24 days during the first quarter 2021. The precipitation is beneficial during the winter months but has negatively affected revenue. Although the course is \$25,491 behind projections as of April 11, staff remain optimistic about business levels moving forward.

MAINTENANCE

March proved difficult for maintenance with one of the worst blizzards in recent times and a very active weather pattern. Maintenance crews worked to clear snowdrifts and prepare the course for play as soon as possible. March is typically when staff accomplish the majority of course aeration and button up outstanding projects. While greens were completed at the end of March, most of the fairway core cultivation has been pushed into early April. Looking ahead, staff will soon initiate renovation bunker work on holes 6 and 17. Fertilizer is being applied to the entire course for the spring growing season and general conditions look very good following winter.

PROGRAMS

Red Hawk Ridge offers a variety of leagues for all types of golfers, from the beginner to the advanced. Upcoming programs will include:

- Junior Golf Academy (ages 6-16)
- Introduces kids to the fundamentals in a fun and friendly environment.
- Junior Golf Leagues (ages 7-17)
- Introduces youth golfers to a tournament format experience.
- Competitive Men's League
- Coed League
- Senior League
- Men's Club
- Ladies Club

Learn more about the 2021 season and register online at RedHawkRidge.com.