

Your Town Talk

April 2017



Good to Know

Spring up the season

Celebrate the change of season while doing something good for the environment at this year's Spring Up the Creek. The annual event will be held from 8 to 11 a.m., Saturday, May 6. Join us at a new location – Douglas County High School (far north parking lot). The Town, along with Douglas County, Castle Pines Metro District, Plum Creek Reclamation Authority and the Chatfield Watershed Authority, hosts the event to promote the importance of protecting the environment. In addition to cleaning up trash, this year, volunteers are encouraged, but not required, to also clean up dog waste. Preregistration and more information are available at CRgov.com/SpringUp.

Beautiful landscapes made easy

Looking to spruce up the yard, but not sure where to start? Garden In A Box is a selection of professionally designed perennial gardens, with plants perfect for Castle Rock. The do-it-yourself garden kits come with 15 to 30 starter plants, a comprehensive care guide, and a plant-by-number map. All of the plants are locally grown in Colorado, and, once established, will need little, or no irrigation to thrive. The gardens are offered by Castle Rock Water in partnership with the Center for ReSource Conservation in support of our community's commitment to water conservation. Learn more at ConservationCenter.org/gardens.



Festival Park reimagined – update

Construction is officially underway, and big changes are happening fast at Festival Park. The work in Sellars Gulch is moving upstream, and the rock work in the gulch can be seen from the Wilcox Street Bridge. Additionally, crews have started work on the shade structure near the corner of Second and Perry streets.

In partnership with the Downtown Development Authority, Downtown Merchants Association and the Town, the goal is to transform the park into a modern downtown center.

Stay up-to-date as construction progresses throughout summer and fall at CRgov.com/FestivalPark. Or, sign up for email updates at CRgov.com/NotifyMe.

Conquer conservation: Mayor's challenge to "Fill the Rock" back for second year

Castle Rock is a community that understands conservation. For years, residents have made great strides in making sure our entire community cuts back. While the Town has embraced the call to conserve by saving more than 20 percent over the last 10 years, Mayor Jennifer Green and Castle Rock Water want to take water efficiency to the next level.

Of course, our Town landmark, the Rock, is solid. But what if we could "fill" it with water? Join Castle Rock Water, Mayor Green and other Castle Rock residents in taking a pledge to conserve water and help the environment. This fun, free pledge will only take a few minutes to complete, but could add up to big savings for our community. Pledge to take a shorter shower, fix that leaky faucet, wash only full loads of laundry, or invest in Energy Star appliances. We'll track those savings during April to "fill" the rock!

Head to CRconserve.com/WaterPledge April 1-30 to take the pledge and "fill" the Rock. The Town is partnering with the Wyland Foundation, as well as the National League of Cities, EPA Office of Water and the U.S. Forest Service to encourage communities around the country to take the online pledge to conserve. Not only do we want to "fill" the Rock with water savings, we want to get more pledges than our surrounding communities. Help us come out as the most water-conscious community in Colorado.

If Castle Rock is ranked among the top-pledging communities, the Town's participants could get entered to win one of more than 1,000 prizes provided by the Wyland Foundation, worth a total of \$50,000.

Get more information, or take the pledge, at CRconserve.com/WaterPledge.

Help update local laws related to animals

As a home rule municipality, the Town of Castle Rock has its own set of local laws and codes. From time to time, those local laws need to be reviewed. A topic currently being discussed relates to animals, and the Town wants resident feedback.

The Town will host an open house from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 11, at Town Hall, 100 N. Wilcox St. Learn about the current ordinance and give your feedback on what you like, as well as what might need to change. If you can't attend, visit CRgov.com/animals to provide feedback online.

Tell us about dogs, cats, chickens, or bees. The Town is also looking for feedback related to licensing requirements; the number and kinds of animals allowed; breed-specific bans; regulations related to pet shops, kennels or doggie daycares; as well as handling activities such as fostering, rescues and feral cats.

Resident feedback will be provided to Town Council and will be taken into consideration regarding changes that may be made to Town Code related to animals. An update to Council is anticipated as early as May. Please note that these codes are separate from HOA rules and regulations.

Rebate rewards water-wise residents

As the season begins to turn, more residents will be headed outdoors. But, before irrigation season officially begins, the Town is encouraging residents to keep conservation in mind.

Town Council recently approved the 2017 Conservation Rebate Incentive Program, which encourages residents to be water-conscious and offers several rebates as part of an overall conservation plan.

On average, 50 percent of a resident's water consumption is used outdoors. The incentive program encourages residents to transition from inefficient landscaping to more water-conscious alternatives. It's funded with water restriction violations and tier 4 conservation surcharges. Funds are limited, and rebates are awarded on a first-come, first-served basis.

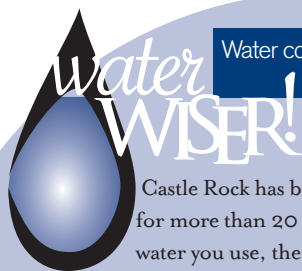
The smartscape renovation incentive is the most popular rebate in the program and rewards residents for replacing high-water-use plant material, such as Kentucky Bluegrass, with either xeriscape or hardscape. Residents can earn \$1 per square foot for all high-water-use plant material removed. A minimum of 250 square feet must be removed to qualify. The maximum rebate given is \$1,500 per address.

A household can only qualify for each rebate once.

Other rebates include:

- Smart irrigation controllers (50 percent of the controller cost up to \$300)
- Rotary nozzle retrofit (up to \$5 per nozzle and \$2,000 maximum for nonresidential customers)
- Rain sensors (50 percent of the sensor cost up to \$50)

Find more water-saving tips and rebate applications at CRconserve.com.



Water conservation and efficiency tip
CRgov.com/WaterWiser

Castle Rock has been using a tiered water rate structure for more than 20 years. In a tiered structure, the more water you use, the more you pay. Fees start with a customer's average winter monthly consumption.

Fees are then progressively charged at a higher rate. Each April, a customer's average winter monthly consumption is updated. Changes will appear in this month's bill. An average winter monthly consumption is calculated by averaging indoor water used during the months of November, December, January and February. Additionally, wastewater rates are also recalculated annually. More information is available at CRgov.com/WaterRates.

CONTACTS

Town information	303-660-1015
Library	303-791-7323
Recreation Center	303-660-1036
The MAC	303-733-2222

Events in Castle Rock

April 8: Grand opening of World War I exhibit, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Castle Rock Museum, 420 Elbert St. Be the first to see a new exhibit. Event includes re-enactors in uniform displaying their own collections of memorabilia.

April 10: Third and Perry Roundabout Open House, 9-10:30 a.m. or 5-6:30 p.m., Castle Rock Fire and Rescue Headquarters, 300 Perry St. Learn what's next for this construction project.

April 11: Coffee with a Cop, 10-11 a.m., Castle Rock Senior Center, 2301 Woodlands Blvd. Get to know your local police officers in a relaxed atmosphere.

April 19: Transportation Master Plan Open House, 6-7:30 p.m., Douglas County High School, 2842 Front St. Weigh in as the Town gets closer to completing its next long-range plan for transportation. Learn more at CRgov.com/TMP.

April 20: Senior Life Expo, 2-6 p.m., Douglas County Events Center, 500 Fairgrounds Road. This free event is where Douglas County seniors and their family members will be able to speak with more than 70 senior-related businesses and organizations from throughout the County. Participating partner lists, seminar schedules and information is available at castlerockseniorcenter.org, or by calling 303-688-9498.

April 22: Castle Rock Fire and Rescue Department Open House, 1-3 p.m., Station 154 along Prairie Hawk Drive in The Meadows. Learn wildland mitigation and ways to protect your home. Also, learn how firefighters fight wildland fires.

April 25: Applications for Town board and commissions due, 5 p.m. to Town Hall, 100 N. Wilcox St. Be involved by serving on a board or commission. Learn more, view vacancies and apply online at CRgov.com/BandC.

April 26: Plum Creek Parkway Water Purification Facility Tour, 10-11 a.m., 1929 Liggett Road. Watch as your water gets purified by touring the Town's state-of-the-art water purification facility. Reservations are required. Please call 720-733-6000, or visit CRgov.com/WaterTours.

April 29: Drug Take Back, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Castle Rock Police Department, 100 Perry St. Turn in unused or expired medications for safe disposal.

May 5: Cinco de Mayo Concert, 6-10 p.m., Downtown along Perry Street, between Fourth and Fifth streets. Join the celebration for bounce houses, live music, food vendors and family activities.

During April: If you visit Town Hall to drop off your water payment, please use the South Street entrance. The parking lot entrance from the west (at First Street) will be closed this month as construction continues on the Town Hall addition.

crgov.com
On the Web:
Keep up with Parks & Rec!

Summer is a busy time of year. With vacations, kids' activities and community events, it's hard to keep up with everything happening in Castle Rock. Sign up for Parks and Recreation's new email list to stay connected. Get a monthly update straight to your inbox. Plus, sign up for additional program updates like aquatics, youth activities and more. Log on to CRgov.com/NotifyMe for more information.