



# PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

MONTHLY REPORT FROM JEFF BRAUER, DIRECTOR

JUNE 2018

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## UPCOMING PARKS AND RECREATION EVENTS

View and receive the most up-to-date information on events by subscribing at [CRgov.com/events](http://CRgov.com/events).

- **Free Fitness Fridays**
  - 8-9 a.m. every Friday through Labor Day
  - Amphitheater at Philip S. Miller Park
- **Free Yoga in the Park**
  - 9-10 a.m. every Sunday through Labor Day
  - Amphitheater at Philip S. Miller Park
- **Farmers Market**
  - 11 a.m.-3 p.m. every Sunday
  - Festival Park
- **Summer Concert Series featuring Big Bad Voodoo Daddy**
  - 6-10 p.m. Saturday, July 14
  - Amphitheater at Philip S. Miller Park
- **Raptors Over the Rock**
  - 6-7:30 p.m. Tuesday, July 17
  - Amphitheater at Philip S. Miller Park
- **Tunes for Trails/Perks for Parks free concert featuring That Eighties Band**
  - 6:30-8:45 p.m. Thursday, July 19
  - Amphitheater at Philip S. Miller Park
- **Summer Concert Series featuring Michael McDonald**
  - 6-10 p.m. Friday, July 20
  - Amphitheater at Philip S. Miller Park
- **Free live music on the Clubhouse patio featuring Call Us a Cab**
  - 5:30-8:30 p.m. Saturday, July 21
  - Red Hawk Ridge Golf Course
- **Reptiles Under the Rock**
  - 6-7:30 p.m. Tuesday, July 24
  - Amphitheater at Philip S. Miller Park
- **Western Heritage Welcome**
  - 6-9 p.m. Friday, July 27
  - Downtown Castle Rock
- **Free live music on the Clubhouse patio featuring Craig Spader**
  - 5:30-8:30 p.m. Saturday, July 21
  - Red Hawk Ridge Golf Course





## ➤ **Castle Rock Summer Jam featuring Big Head Todd & the Monsters**

- 2-10 p.m. Sunday, July 29
- Amphitheater at Philip S. Miller Park

## **Volunteers successfully restore water flow for native habitat in Sellars Gulch**

On Thursday, June 28, Castle Rock's Iglesia Nueva Vida church showed up to give back to the community. In one hour, 50 volunteers of all ages removed an introduced non-native plant called Common Watercress. This plant had created a dense monoculture along Sellars Gulch in the recently redesigned Festival Park. Large quantities of this plant were removed to restore water flows and the native habitat for the endangered Preble's Meadow Jumping Mouse and other wildlife dependent on a healthy riparian habitat for survival.



**BEFORE**



**AFTER**



## **PARKS, OPEN SPACE AND TRAILS – PLANNING AND CONSTRUCTION DIVISION**

PREPARED BY BRIAN PETERSON, MANAGER OF PARK PLANNING AND CONSTRUCTION

### **Central Service Center**

Construction for the new Central Service Center continued in April. This 13,000-square-foot building will host the Town's Parks Maintenance and Facilities divisions, located at the end of Caprice Drive near the former wastewater treatment plant. Building plans include five maintenance bays, indoor storage, a training facility, office space, a break room and a storage yard for equipment and material.

Since construction commencement, general contractor Taylor Kohrs has placed the south retaining wall, moved several thousand yards of soil and dug underground supports for the future building. The pre-engineered structure is on schedule to arrive on-site and will soon be erected.



### **TRAIL PROJECTS**

PREPARED BY RICH HAVEL, TRAILS PLANNER

### **McMurdo Gulch Trail**

The proposed McMurdo Gulch Trail will travel through the Terrain and Cobblestone Ranch neighborhoods, connecting the Woodlands Trail to the west and the Cherry Creek Trail to the east. This trail marks an important step in completing Castle Rock's connection to a larger statewide trail network known as the Colorado Front Range Trail.

In June, staff worked closely with Terrain developer, Starwood Land Venture, to plan the future alignment of the McMurdo Gulch Trail within their internal soft-surface network. This site development plan will be presented to local residents during an open house meeting on July 17.

## East Plum Creek Trail

The planned 2-mile southern extension of the East Plum Creek Trail will connect South Perry Street to Crystal Valley Parkway. This project will complete the Town's southern portion of the trail, while the Lanterns development will construct the final link to Castle Rock's southern limits. The trail will eventually connect to a Douglas County planned trail network.

In June, the project's Conditional Letter of Map Revision (CLOMR) application and flood analysis was submitted to Castle Rock Water for review. Once the review is complete, department staff will submit a finalized application to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in July. The project is currently on schedule to begin construction in October.

## Hangman's Gulch Trail Drainage Improvements

The Town has begun phase three channel and trail improvements along Hangman's Gulch from I-25 to the confluence of the East Plum Creek. Improvements will include expansion of the outfall structure at the Union Pacific Railroad crossing and an upsize of the culvert crossing on the East Plum Creek trail at Hangman's Gulch.

HEI Civil began work in June on channel improvements between the railroad and I-25. A section of Hangman's Gulch Trail will remain closed from Front Street to the East Plum Creek Trail through the duration of the project. Residents are encouraged to stay up-to-date on scheduled trail closures at [CRGov.com/trailconditions](http://CRGov.com/trailconditions). The East Plum Creek Trail will also be impacted due to culvert work beginning on July 9, but a temporary detour will be available for trail users. Pending favorable weather, the project will be completed this fall.



## OPEN SPACE PROJECTS

PREPARED BY BARBARA SPAGNUOLO, NATURAL RESOURCE SPECIALIST



## National Trails Day

The National Trails Day event was held on Saturday, June 2 from 8 a.m.-noon at Rueter-Hess Reservoir. This year, participants were offered the opportunity to hike and paddle. Hikers could choose from a one-, two- or three-mile roundtrip guided hike



along the southeast reservoir rim and participants could rent or use their own kayaks, canoes and stand-up paddleboards.

A survey was sent out after the event to all participants that had pre-registered online. Responses were very positive and appreciative of the event itself, the event staff and the reservoir site. Respondents also had the opportunity to provide specific feedback on the event and possible future recreational amenities at the reservoir; a sampling of survey responses is provided below:

- I liked being able to make a reservation and complete waivers for kayak rental online.
- I enjoyed learning about the different native plants and the invasive species. It is helping us rethink our landscaping and choose plants that grow without as much water as grass.
- It was a nice hike with likeminded and friendly people.
- It was well organized, the water was awesome, fantastic experience.
- This event was wonderful. I can't wait for Hess to open to the public!
- Not enough parking spaces close to the water. Wished that there were porta-potties closer to the launch area.
- Comments on future amenities included:
  - A dedicated swim beach area with restrooms and a water station for refilling portable water bottles.... some picnic tables with shade... information posted about the various types of birds at the reservoir.
  - Small sailboat concession like at Chatfield State Park.
  - Biking/running trails, bathrooms and grills; a sandy beach; a few picnic shelters.
  - I would like additional similar events, maybe once a week.



- Additional parking and locations to launch a paddle board or kayak.

## **Special Programs and Events**

PREPARED BY JENNIFER REINHARDT, EVENTS SPECIALIST

Festival Park Grand Opening Weekend kicked off on June 1 with Casino Night. Attendees were treated to a free night of casino games, live music by Vintage Vocal Trio, food trucks and cocktails. The Grand Opening weekend was designed to showcase Festival Park's multi-faceted new design elements. The park is unique in that it can be host to concerts, weddings, movie nights, farmers' markets, races and more!



The Downtown Merchants Association hosted the first movie night at the reimagined Festival Park.



A variety of local produce, breads, honey, herbs, tamales and artisans are featured at the Festival Park weekly farmers' market



It was standing room only when the ultimate Fleetwood Mac tribute band hit the stage at Downtown After 5 on June 22. This popular Friday-after-work event brought thousands to Downtown Castle Rock to dance and reminisce great hits from the 70's and 80's. A highlight of the evening was a collaboration between the New Jersey based, globally touring band and Castle Rock's very own Castle View High School Marching Band closing the evening with TUSK.



## **Adaptive Recreation**

PREPARED BY DAVE QUINTANA, SPECIAL INTEREST COORDINATOR, AND REBECCA ERICKSON, ADAPTIVE RECREATION COORDINATOR

The third annual Morning Zumba fundraising event was held on Saturday, June 30 to raise awareness and funding for the Adaptive Recreation program. Nearly 100 supportive people came out to enjoy the cooler weather and groove to a Zumba fitness workout at the Amphitheater at Philip S. Miller Park. With much enthusiasm, instructors Heather Wiley and De Swiger promoted and organized the event, in addition to securing many prizes and gift donations. A total of 24 volunteer dancers set the stage for an hour and a half and \$641 was raised to ensure special needs programming continues to remain accessible in Castle Rock.

After the event, families who participate in the Adaptive Recreation program headed to the Millhouse at Philip S. Miller Park to enjoy a meet and greet luncheon. New program coordinator, Rebecca Erickson, along with Tracy Meredith, David Quintana, Jacob Coyle and Austin Schlecht met with families and showcased the program's new wheelchair accessible van.





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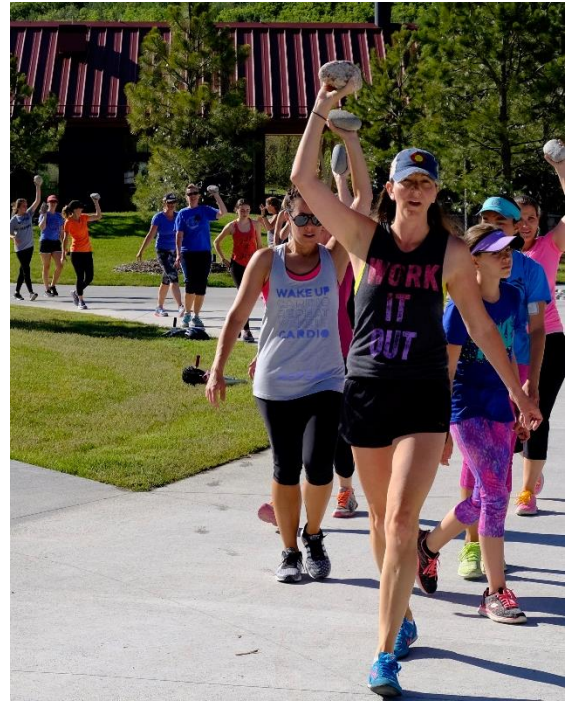
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### Fitness

PREPARED BY COURTNEY GLASS, FITNESS / WELLNESS SUPERVISOR

The Fitness Division's third annual Summer Fitness Series is in full swing at the Amphitheater at Philip S. Miller Park! Residents enjoy free outdoor fitness programming weekly June through August. Yoga in the Park is held on Sunday mornings from 9-10 a.m. and Fitness Fridays, which showcases a diverse array of fitness classes, is held on Fridays from 8-9 a.m. Yoga in the Park attendance has been steadily over 100 and Fitness Friday classes see 35-50 exercisers each week.



### Athletics

PREPARED BY SCOTT SMEETON AND MATT GASSER, ATHLETICS SUPERVISORS

The summer is the busiest season for the Athletics Division. All sports are up and running and performing very well including machine and coach-pitch baseball, tee ball, softball, track and field and adult softball, pickleball and indoor soccer. Town-managed athletic fields and facilities are being used at near-full capacity and through an intergovernmental agreement with the Douglas County School District, elementary, middle and high school fields and facilities are near full capacity as well. More than 1,300 youth and nearly 650 adults are participating in summer athletic programs.



### Red Hawk Ridge Golf Course

PREPARED BY BOB PERSICHETTI, HEAD GOLF PROFESSIONAL



### Financial

The golf course achieved record revenue in June coming in at \$529,811, which is \$96,342 above the 10-year average. Year-to-date the golf fund is \$125,553 ahead of projections for the first half of 2018. In addition, tournaments are trending at budget and leagues should experience moderate growth for the 2018 season. Staff is growing more concerned, however, regarding the potential negative impact that the current



drought may have on course conditions and future revenue. Provided weather and course conditions do not adversely affect play, the golf fund is on track to achieve budgeted goals for the year.

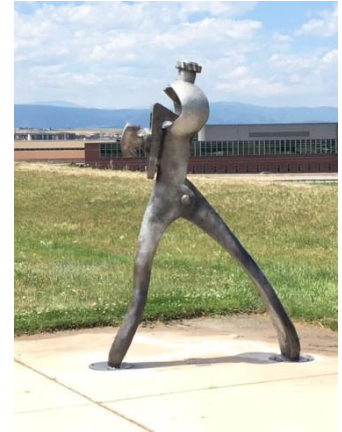
	Current Month	Budget	Previous Year	Year to Date	Previous Year
Total Revenue	\$529,811	\$511,482	\$517,098	\$1,341,155	\$1,220,203
Total Rounds	6,186	6,112	5,934	16,220	15,049
Avg. Income/Player	\$85.65	\$83.68	\$87.14	\$82.69	\$81.08
Golf Shop Sales	\$36,168	\$30,988	\$39,280	\$108,297	\$82,818
F&B Sales	\$94,349	\$84,040	\$91,600	\$220,577	\$198,315

## Open Space and Trails

PREPARED BY JOHN JORGENSEN, OPEN SPACE

In June, Open Space Maintenance staff members completed the following objectives:

- Installed two public art pieces at Festival and Metzler Ranch parks
- Cleaned debris from hard-surface trails
- Assisted in the National Trails Day event at Rueter-Hess Reservoir
- Conducted corridor clearing on soft surface trails at Philip S. Miller Park and at Ridgeline, Quarry Mesa and Memmen Ridge open spaces to minimize overgrowth
- Reshaped bike jumps at Rhyolite Regional Park to make the jumps more user friendly
- Tilled Rhyolite Regional Park and seeded the tilled area with wildflowers
- Completed the second rotation of weed mowing operations on Town-managed property
- Installed two hammock poles and a hammock at Festival Park





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### **Parks Field and Turf Maintenance**

PREPARED BY CORY WHITE, PARKS AND OPEN SPACE SUPERVISOR

With baseball and softball seasons in full swing, the field crew stayed busy prepping and chalking for over 70 games at four locations in June. The Town of Castle Rock was once again awarded the honor of hosting the Arapahoe Youth League's World Series tournament at Metzler Ranch Park. Staff takes great pride in hosting this event for two weeks every summer that draws in teams from all across the Denver-metro area. In addition, staff maintained the warning-track edging on all of the baseball and softball fields at Metzler Ranch and Paintbrush parks, giving the fields a crisp and clean feel.



To prepare for the neighborhood's annual Independence Day celebration, the Maintenance Division replaced the volleyball court at Baldwin Park. Over a four-day period, crews installed new timbers, enforced the timbers with 3-foot rebar anchors, installed a brandnew net and tilled and weeded the grass surrounding the pit. The project received high praise from neighbors!



A total of eight staff members comprising two full-time employees and six seasonal employees stayed busy mowing, edging and trimming over 127 acres of turf each week. Due to water restrictions, the decision was made to raise the mowing height from 3 inches to 4 inches. This action puts less stress on the turf and requires less water.

Lastly, as part of ongoing maintenance, seven synthetic-turf fields were swept and groomed to maintain playability and safety.

### **Streetscapes and Irrigation Maintenance**

PREPARED BY IAN HAMILTON, PARKS AND OPEN SPACE SUPERVISOR

Throughout June, the irrigation controllers located in Downtown Castle Rock were revamped. Staff added radio links to irrigation timers and connected them to the central control system, Maxicom. This action will result in improved water efficiency and a reduced evapotranspiration.



In addition, staff completed landscape renovation projects on Perry Street and Plum Creek Parkway by adding new mulch and plants to beautify Castle Rock's streetscapes.



Perry Street



Plum Creek Parkway

## Pavilion Rentals

PREPARED BY TARA MCGRAW, SR. OFFICE ASSISTANT

June Pavilion Rentals	Number of Bookings	Reserved Hours	Approximate Attendance
<b>Bison Pavilion</b>	11	61	824
<b>Butterfield Pavilion</b>	9	68	970
<b>Centennial Pavilion</b>	25	68.25	1730
<b>Festival Park Pavilion &amp; Events</b>	14	118.75	9170
<b>Founders Pavilion</b>	7	46	344
<b>Matney Pavilion</b>	7	40.50	305
<b>Mosman Pavilion</b>	3	18	129
<b>Philip S. Miller Park Pavilion - Core Plaza</b>	12	58.25	730
<b>Philip S. Miller Park Pavilion #1</b>	17	84.50	865
<b>Philip S. Miller Park Pavilion #2</b>	29	89.50	2059
<b>Philip S. Miller Park Pavilion #3</b>	26	87	319
<b>Rhyolite Pavilion</b>	16	91.75	833
<b>Rock Park Pavilion</b>	1	6	25
<b>Wrangler Park Pavilion</b>	8	46	279
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>185</b>	<b>883.50</b>	<b>18,582</b>



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### **Town Trolley Rentals**

PREPARED BY TARA MCGRAW, SR. OFFICE ASSISTANT

June experienced eight trolley rentals. The Town Trolley ran for many cherished events including Music in The Meadows, the Tunes for Trail/Perks for Parks free concert series, the car show, Downtown after 5, a Rotary Club museum tour and a private wedding held at the Millhouse at Philip S. Miller Park. For a form of transportation for any event, the Town Trolley is a wonderful choice being enjoyed by many.