



# PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

MONTHLY REPORT FROM JEFF BRAUER, DIRECTOR

SEPTEMBER 2018

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

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

- **Groundbreaking Ceremony for Deputy Zack S. Parrish III Memorial Park**
  - 5 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 17
  - Open field north of Aspen View Academy Charter School
- **Castle of Terror**
  - 7-10 p.m. Oct. 13, 19, 20, 26 and 27
  - Castle Rock Fire Training Center
- **Creepy Crawlies at the Rock**
  - 1-3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 20
  - Festival Park
- **Spooktacular**
  - Noon-1 p.m. – Sensory friendly
  - 1-2 p.m. – Last names A-L
  - 2-3 p.m. – Last names M-Z
  - Saturday, Oct. 27
  - Miller Activity Complex
- **Pie Bake Off**
  - 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 3
  - The Millhouse at Philip S. Miller Park
- **Castle Rock Starlighting**
  - 2-7 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 17
  - Downtown Castle Rock
- **Recreation Center and MAC Closed**
  - Thursday, Nov. 22



## Castle Rock Parks and Recreation brings home gold in national award competition

Whether it's exploring a new trail, burning calories at the Recreation Center or attending an event at Festival Park, the Town's parks and recreation amenities are top-notch and the nation is now taking notice. Late September, the Castle Rock Parks and Recreation Department accepted the National Recreation and Parks Association's 2018 Gold Medal Award.



The Gold Medal Award honors communities throughout the United States that demonstrate excellence in long-range planning, resource management and innovative approaches to delivering superb parks and recreation services.



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The Town's Parks and Recreation Department submitted a comprehensive review and assessment of its funding, staffing, resources, programs and accomplishments in pursuit of the award. After being named as a finalist in the Class IV category (communities which service populations of 30,001-75,000), the department submitted a 5-minute video and other application materials to be reviewed by a panel of five parks and recreation professionals.

"Receiving the Gold Medal Award is a true testament to the successful collaboration between active residents and community leaders," said department Director Jeff Brauer. "We celebrate this recognition with the community and are honored to provide world-class facilities and programming that enhance the quality of life in Castle Rock. This shared vision drives our department to be the best in our profession, the orchestrator of fun and the heart of our community."

The department has been a finalist for the Gold Medal Award three times, and was also the national award winner in 2012. The 2018 Gold Medal Award was presented by the American Academy for Parks and Recreation Administration in partnership with the National Recreation and Park Association.

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

PREPARED BY BRIAN PETERSON, MANAGER OF PARK PLANNING AND CONSTRUCTION

### **Meadows Neighborhood Park**

Throughout September, Parks staff prepared to seek Town Council approval for naming the Town's next neighborhood park. Staff gathered input through an online survey from mid-July to the end of August. Respondents submitted over 700 suggestions with 77 percent preferring a park name that honors Zackari Parrish, the Douglas County Sherriff Deputy and former Castle Rock Police Officer who was killed in the line of duty. On Oct. 3, Town Council approved naming the park Deputy Zack S. Parrish III Memorial Park.

Park Planning and Construction Manager, Brian Peterson, held the project's kick-off meeting with general contractor GoodLand Construction, Inc. and landscape architect Norris Design. Contract documents and permits were returned from Development Services, allowing construction to commence! In the coming weeks, construction fencing will be installed and best management practices implemented prior to grading.

The 5.5-acre park, at the intersection of Low Meadow Boulevard and Red Hawk Drive, is planned to include infrastructure for playing pickle ball, bocce ball, cornhole and



horseshoes. Picnic shelters, trails, a playground and a multi-use field round out the major planned amenities.

A groundbreaking ceremony will be held at 5 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 17. The ceremony is open to the public. A grand opening ceremony will also be held upon project completion in spring 2019.

## Central Service Center

The Town's new Central Service Center is beginning to take shape. 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.



Once the structure's steel work was completed, siding and roofing installation commenced. Intermountain Rural Electric Association (IREA) placed the main electrical that will feed the building and set the permanent transformer. IREA ran all of the underground electrical that will feed the light poles and security on the site as well. Water lines and storm sewer installation was also completed, and landscapers began placing permanent irrigation behind the structure's south retaining wall.



Inside the building plumbers worked on the underground plumbing for the maintenance bays, restrooms and break rooms, while electricians ran conduits to the main electrical distribution room.

## TRAILS

PREPARED BY RICH HAVEL, TRAILS PLANNER

## East Plum Creek Trail

The southern extension of the East Plum Creek Trail is a planned 2-mile segment that will connect its current ending at South Perry Street to Crystal Valley Parkway. The project's construction plans are currently being reviewed by Town departments for final approval.



On Sept. 20, an invitation to bid was distributed through the Rocky Mountain E-Purchasing System for the development of the trail. A mandatory pre-bid meeting was held on Sept. 27 in which 20 contractors attended. Bids were due on Oct. 4 and staff will seek approval of a construction contract with Town Council on Oct. 16. Once a contract is approved, construction will commence in November.

## Hangman's Gulch Trail and Drainage Improvements

In September, the Parks Division continued working with Castle Rock Water on channel and trail improvements along Hangman's Gulch. Improvements included the expansion of the outfall structure at the Union Pacific Railroad crossing and an upsize of the culvert on the East Plum Creek Trail. Final stormwater improvements and grading along the upper reach of the gulch was completed. Seed, mulch, and blanketing was applied as a finishing touch prior to opening the trail for public use. Temporary fencing was also placed along the culvert. Permanent railing is being fabricated and will be installed in early November.

## OPEN SPACE PROJECTS

PREPARED BY BARBARA SPAGNUOLO, NATURAL RESOURCE SPECIALIST

## Colorado Bluebird Project

The 2018 season of the Colorado Bluebird Project ended with a potluck celebration for volunteers at the Millhouse at Philip S. Miller Park. Attendees enjoyed a slideshow of photos, followed by a presentation summarizing the breeding activity at all of the 32 sites the volunteers monitored throughout Castle Rock.



The data collected from April through August was reviewed, evaluated and added to NestWatch. Maintained by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, NestWatch is the nationwide monitoring program with a breeding database. The data that is provided by Castle Rock and other citizens from across the country has helped scientists collect valuable information related to the successes and failures of nesting birds.

The data below summarizes the results from the 188 boxes that were monitored in 2018:

- 254 nesting attempts
- 1,127 eggs laid
- 857 fledglings successfully left the boxes, including:
  - 323 Mountain Bluebirds
  - 166 Western Bluebirds

- 361 Tree Swallows
- 7 Black-capped Chickadees
- 270 unhatched eggs due to weather, nonviable states or predation

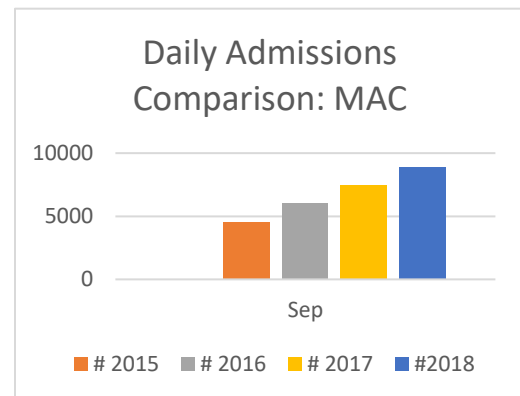
2018 marked the 12th consecutive year of data collection for the project. It was also the first year where a Western Bluebird, as opposed to a Mountain Bluebird, laid the first egg of the breeding season. One volunteer stated, "We've really enjoyed doing this, it's been very enriching and interesting to see the birds evolve and grow."

## Facility Operations

PREPARED BY DAN WAHL, RECREATION FACILITIES SUPERVISOR

### Miller Activity Complex

In what is typically the slowest month of the year at the MAC, daily admissions increased by 19 percent in September over 2017.



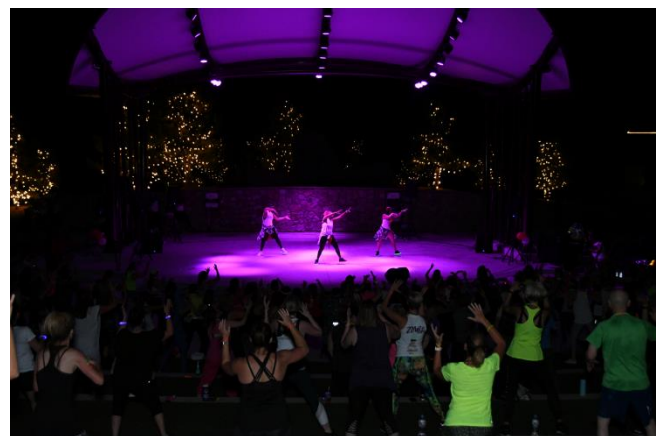
### Community Recreation Center

Attendance at the Community Recreation Center also picked up in September with over 16,000 paid admissions. Recreation staff continued to make improvements to the facility, building on the momentum of the successful August maintenance closure. Projects included the replacement of all restroom and locker room partitions. A new and durable rustproof material was used that will not require repainting. The facility's identification signage was also replaced. The new signs have a clean, modern look and are ADA compliant with braille.

## Adaptive Recreation

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

On Friday, Sept. 14, 200 people attended the Third Annual Zumba Glow fitness fundraiser event benefiting the Adaptive Recreation program. More than 30 volunteers ensured the evening was successful for the 185 participants. Fitness staff Heather, Van and De did an excellent job of organizing dance instructors, marketing the program and soliciting donations from businesses. Nearly \$2,000 was raised at the event. Castle Rock's Adaptive Recreation program is designed to enhance the quality of life for individuals with disabilities through participation in recreation.





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## Red Hawk Ridge Golf Course

PREPARED BY BOB PERSICHETTI, HEAD GOLF PROFESSIONAL

### Financial



The golf course fell short of budgeted revenue by \$8,500 in September, but exceeded the 10-year monthly average by \$55,580. Overall, the weather was favorable for golf with rain affecting only one day of play. Year-to-date, the golf fund is \$82,526 ahead of revenue projections.

Expenditures are trending above budget on several line items due to the additional business and revenue the course has generated. Staff is meeting with the Town's Finance Department to seek approval of a fourth quarter budget amendment to account for the variances in payroll, equipment repair and maintenance, pro shop merchandise and concession merchandise.

	<b>Current Month</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Previous Year</b>	<b>Year to Date</b>	<b>Previous Year</b>
Total Revenue	\$429,796	\$438,296	\$416,064	\$2,826,813	\$2,650,132
Total Rounds	5,161	5,349	4,838	33,796	31,675
Avg. Income/Player	\$83.28	\$81.94	\$86.00	\$83.64	\$86.00
Golf Shop Sales	\$26,905	\$20,750	\$31,702	\$208,020	\$188,308
F&B Sales	\$64,432	\$70,326	\$69,647	\$482,793	\$451,254