



Castle Rock  
**PARKS &  
RECREATION**  
Monthly Report:  
*December 2020*

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[CRgov.com/ParksandRec](https://CRgov.com/ParksandRec)



[parks@CRgov.com](mailto: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://CRgov.com/Events).

JANUARY

1-31

**CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING**  
Douglas County Fairgrounds and Founders, Metzler Ranch and Paintbrush parks

FEBRUARY

7

**DADDY DAUGHTER BALL**  
11 - 8 p.m.  
Castle Rock Recreation Center

FEBRUARY

18

**COLORADO BLUEBIRD PROJECT OPEN HOUSE**  
7 - 8 p.m.  
Virtual Event

MARCH

4

**COLORADO BLUEBIRD PROJECT NEST BOX MONITOR TRAINING**  
6:30 - 8 p.m.  
Virtual Event



## Community Events

Castle Rock's Season of the Star looked a little different this year, but the spirit of the season was alive and well. The season kicked off before Thanksgiving with the 88th Annual Starlighting celebration, which featured two viewing locations, as well as limited attendees due to the pandemic. The beloved tradition, which included local celebrity hosts, live music and vendors was capped off with a beautiful firework display on top of The Rock as the star was lit. The Town provided a live stream of the event for residents to enjoy from their homes.

The festivities continued into December, with a variety of activities that were designed to allow for social distancing, while maintaining community spirit and good cheer. Residents could reserve a horse-drawn carriage ride through Downtown Castle Rock to enjoy the dazzling lights. The Rink at the Rock was open for fun-filled ice skating sessions. Festival Park's Starlight Market got holiday shopping underway during a two-day open air market that included more than 30 specialty-item vendors, seasonal food and drink and live holiday music from Ian Wagner, The Denver Dolls and On the Rocks.

Over at Philip S. Miller Park, additional light displays, a musical light show in the amphitheater and two drive-in movies added to the magic of the season. A few hundred residents were able to experience a bit of nostalgia as family members bundled up and came out to watch holiday favorites National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation and Elf from their cars on a large, 30-foot screen. A surprise visit from Santa, Buddy the Elf and The Grinch brought smiles and laughter to all who attended.

All of the Season of the Star events were free to attend or low cost, foster community spirit and provided a wonderful way to spend time with the family and friends during the holiday season, especially in 2020.





## Arts & Enrichment

### YOUTH HOLIDAY WORKSHOP

The Parks and Recreation Department's Arts and Enrichment Division helped busy families this holiday season by hosting a youth holiday gift workshop at the Miller Activity Complex. The kids got busy while creating one-of-a-kind artistic presents so parents could finish their shopping. The gifts were wrapped and ready to be shared to spread cheer and joy.

### PUBLIC ART SURVEY

Bringing distinctive public art to community is the mission of the Town of Castle Public Art Commission and to stay in touch with the vision of its residents, the Commission issued a survey in October to celebrate National Arts and Humanities Month. The survey closed

in December and 300 responses were submitted. The feedback will help shape the future of public art and will ensure the public art program better reflects the values and preferences of residents. Survey highlights are below.

**91.3%** think public art adds value to communities

In a typical year, respondents experience art:

Monthly **32.76%**

Every few months **32.08%**

Weekly **25.26%**

### What does public art mean to you?

"Seeing art in unexpected places or while taking care of routine business brings feelings of happiness and safety to me."

"We love to see art throughout our town! It's been wonderful for our children to see art as a profession and that it's appreciated in our community."

"It makes our community special and unique. Public art highlights Castle Rock artists as well as other local artists. It is something that brings people together – to view and to experience."

"It should be accessible to everyone, part of an experience. It should be celebratory of a place or time, commemorative of a specific person or event, or reflective of our community and its past, present and future."

# POST Partners Volunteer Program

## 2020 SUMMARY

Despite the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, many individuals still chose to safely make a positive community impact by donating their time and efforts. The POST Partners Volunteer Program successfully pivoted its offerings while limiting group sizes and following public health guidelines. Throughout 2020, volunteers helped to construct new trail at Gateway Mesa Open Space, monitor bluebird nest boxes and maintain existing trails at Rock Park, Rhyolite Regional Park and Ridgeline Open Space, in addition to small-group outings.

# POST Partners: 2020 YEAR IN REVIEW

## HIGHLIGHTS

72 volunteer events in 2020



2020 Highlights  
733 volunteers  
3,500 volunteer hours  
\$89,005 value of service

## PROGRAMS

56 community partners  
1,000+ volunteer hours



Colorado Bluebird Project  
105 volunteers  
1,000+ volunteer hours  
\$25,430 value of service  
Festival of Trees  
19 sponsors  
\$2,500 in sponsorships  
Memorial Benches  
5 benches donated  
Dog Waste Stations  
37 stations

## OUTINGS

488 volunteer hours



Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado  
48 volunteers  
384 volunteer hours  
4 days  
\$9,765.12 value of service  
Public Lands Day  
26 volunteers  
104 volunteer hours  
\$2,644.72 value of service

## TRAIL GROUPS

219 volunteers



Keepers of the Rock  
64 volunteers  
127 volunteer hours  
\$3,230 value of service  
Ridgeline Wranglers  
106 volunteers  
271 volunteer hours  
\$6,891 value of service  
Rhyolite Dirt Crew  
49 volunteers  
98 volunteer hours  
\$2,492 value of service



## Parks, Open Space & Trails

### PLUM CREEK DEMOLITION

In late 2019, Town Council approved a resolution for the acquisition of 7.6 acres from non-course land on the Plum Creek Golf Club for future park development. The site, located on the north side of Emerald Drive, contained a run-down pool, pump house and tennis courts.

Throughout 2020, Park Planning and Construction staff hosted several public surveys to gather feedback on the design of the future neighborhood park's master plan. To further prepare for future park development, demolition commenced in November and was completed in December. All of the existing structures were removed, including the pool, the pool restrooms and lockers, the shade cabana, the hot tub and the tennis courts. Once demolition was complete, contractor AGISI Environmental Services backfilled with imported soil and will soon seed the area. The master plan will be finalized in early 2021.





## Recreation Facilities

### RETURN TO WELLNESS: RECREATION FACILITIES ARE NOW COVID BEST PRACTICE CERTIFIED BUSINESSES

The Miller Activity Complex and the Recreation Center are now both certified as COVID Best Practice Businesses! This program encourages business to implement safety measures beyond what is already required by public health orders and guidelines to slow the spread of COVID-19. The certification reassures residents and patrons that both facilities are adhering to enhanced guidance.

To achieve the certification from the Tri-County Health Department and the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, appropriate training and protocols were implemented to demonstrate:

- Workplace policies and practices to protect employee and patron health
- Cleaning and sanitizing regimens
- Measures to ensure proper social distancing
- Customer sanitizing stations available
- Communication with employees and public

As a Best Practices Business, the Miller Activity Complex and the Recreation Center are part of the 5 Star State Certification Program, which allows for reduced restrictions based on the State's COVID dial and public health trends.

For more information on the program, please visit [douglas.co.us/certify-my-business/](https://douglas.co.us/certify-my-business/).

### 2020 ATHLETIC FIELD RENTALS AT THE MILLER ACTIVITY COMPLEX

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, the Miller Activity Complex hosted 1,286 unique users at its synthetic-turf athletic fields during private rental sessions. The rental process was updated and adjusted to ensure compliance with public health guidelines. This change included creating an online calendar that had set times users could 'rent' the field. Each slot was set up in 1.5 hour blocks, which allowed time for staff to manage the flow of incoming and outgoing traffic and track user capacities at any given time.

# Adaptive Recreation

## 2020 YEAR IN REVIEW





### HIGHLIGHTS

 **238** individuals with developmental disabilities served

 **85** family members of individuals with developmental disabilities served

 **17** programs offered, within COVID regulations

 **58** Adaptive Swim participants, through mid-March

 **2** Special Olympics teams, 1 basketball and 1 swim

 **117** volunteer hours

 **22** volunteers

 **12** community partners

### PROGRAMS & PARTICIPATION

**2** Adaptive ballet

**8** Summer camps

**25** Sports at the park

**8** NSCD Ski/Board

**2** Adaptive pottery

**7** Open gym gymnastics



**7** Popup! Art Lab

**8** Special Olympics Basketball Team

**10** Holiday Drive-In Movie

**25** Family Fun Night at the Epic Sky Trek

**25** Family Fun Night at the Rec Center Leisure Pool

**75** Night to Shine dance

**13** Therapeutic horseback riding lessons

**11** Denver Nuggets game

**4** Cookies with Wellspring Community

**7** Adaptive Soccer with the Colorado Rapids

**7** Special Olympics Swim Team



### FUNDING

GRANTS  
RECEIVED

**\$25,000**

from the Douglas County  
Developmental Disabilities  
Mill Levy grant

SCHOLARSHIPS  
GIVEN

**\$25,082+**

\$10,082 going towards  
Adaptive Rec programs, and  
over \$15,000 going towards  
Adaptive Aquatics programs

IN-KIND  
DONATIONS GIVEN

**\$1,890**

to our community partners,  
Wellspring Community and  
Special Olympics, for MAC  
and Rec Center facility usage