



Castle Rock
**PARKS &
RECREATION**
October 2021



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Upcoming Events

View up-to-date information at CRgov.com/Events.

NOVEMBER 20	STARLIGHTING 2 - 6 p.m. Downtown Castle Rock	DECEMBER 18	PARKING LIGHTS AND MOVIE NIGHTS FEATURING ELF 4:30 - 6 p.m. The Event Pad at Philip S. Miller Park
NOVEMBER 25	FACILITY CLOSURE All day Recreation Center and Miller Activity Complex	DECEMBER 24	EARLY FACILITY CLOSURE Closing at 2 p.m. Recreation Center and Miller Activity Complex
DECEMBER 3	FESTIVAL PARK STARLIGHT MARKET 3 - 8 p.m. Festival Park	DECEMBER 25	FACILITY CLOSURE All day Recreation Center and Miller Activity Complex
DECEMBER 4	FESTIVAL PARK STARLIGHT MARKET 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. Festival Park	DECEMBER 31	EARLY FACILITY CLOSURE Closing at 2 p.m. Recreation Center and Miller Activity Complex
DECEMBER 11	STORYTELLERS AND S'MORES 5 - 7 p.m. Festival Park	JANUARY 1	FACILITY CLOSURE All day Recreation Center and Miller Activity Complex
DECEMBER 17	PARKING LIGHTS AND MOVIE NIGHTS FEATURING CHRISTMAS VACATION 4:30 - 6 p.m. The Event Pad at Philip S. Miller Park		



Open Space & Trails

COLORADO FRONT RANGE TRAIL DESIGN

The Colorado Front Range Trail is a statewide-envisioned trail network that will eventually travel along Front Range communities, connecting New Mexico to Wyoming. With Castle Rock as a major crossroads, its proposed network will link Colorado Springs to the south and Denver to the north with over 80 miles of continuous trail.

In 2020, Town Council approved a services agreement with Short Elliott Hendrickson, Inc. (SEH) to design this section of trail through Castle Rock, completing design engineering, surveying and environmental, federal permitting and geotechnical services. The design will include approximately five miles in three separate areas in the Montaine, Terrain and Cobblestone Ranch neighborhoods.

The project's Conditional Letter of Map Revision (CLOMR) was submitted to Development Services for first review and comment on Nov. 1. Once approved, the CLOMR will be submitted to the Federal Emergency Management Agency for first review and comment. Construction and Temporary Erosion and Sediment Control plans will be submitted to Development Services for first review and comment on Nov. 19.

This project was identified in the Town Council-approved 2015 Castle Rock Parks and Recreation Master Plan. The design will be funded through the Conservation Trust Fund. A \$2 million grant awarded by the Great Outdoors Colorado Connect Initiative will help fund future project construction. Additional project partners include Douglas County, Stratus Terrain (the developers of Terrain), Toll Brothers, Inc. (the developers of Montaine), the Douglas Land Conservancy and the Colorado Agricultural Leadership Foundation.

CONCRETE REPAIR AND REPLACEMENT

Annual and ongoing repair and replacement of the Town's paved trail network is essential for maintaining and ensuring public access. Throughout 2021, this work was completed in the following areas by on-call contractor SaBell's Civil and Landscape, LLC. Repair and replacement is funded through sales tax allocated to the Transportation Fund and staff identify and prioritize repair needs annually through the budget process.

- Recreation Center - storm drain and drainage channel
- Bison Park - ADA compliance improvements
- Paintbrush Park - curb ramp and sidewalk repair and replacement
- Founders Park - pavilion concrete replacement
- Powerline Trail – general repair and replacement where necessary
- Philip S. Miller Park - cross-pan installation at entrance





POST Partners Volunteer Program

LEGACY TRAIL

Thanks to the efforts of staff and volunteers, an expanded portion of phase 2 of Legacy Trail is now officially open to the public. Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado hosted a women's-only work outing with 31 volunteers, equating to 284 hours of hard work in October! The group completed the 1,637 feet of trail that was initiated earlier this year, roughed in an additional 150 feet of future trail and installed six stones. The hope is that with a few more outings next year, the trail will be completed.

While there's more work to be done, over the last two years, crews have completed 2,500 feet of new trail headed east. Trail users should be aware this new section is an out-and-back route and does not yet connect back to Chuck's Loop. The temporary end of the new trail section is appropriately marked. Ultimately, phase 2 will connect to the existing Chuck's Loop Trail on the far eastern edge of the property.

Since 1984, Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado (VOC) has been motivating and enabling people to become active stewards of Colorado's natural resources. VOC works with conservation and land agencies and relies on thousands of people annually to provide a volunteer workforce for outdoor stewardship projects.

Look for more volunteer work days coming up in 2022. For more information about this property or the Town's partnership with Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado, visit

CRgov.com/LegacyTrail.



Community Events

CASTLE ROCK TRAIL FESTIVAL AND LIVEBIG RUN

Racers explored Castle Rock's beautiful trails, learned to liveBIG and supported a great cause at the Castle Rock Trail Festival on Saturday, Oct. 2 at Philip S. Miller Park. This epic trail event had something for everyone – from ultra-distance runners to families with children ages 5-12, and memories with the entire family were made winding through fun obstacles at the liveBIG Family Adventure Run.

The 2021 Castle Rock Trail Festival courses included:

- 50K (approximately 31.06 miles)
- Half Marathon (13.1 miles)
- Race starts at 8:30 a.m.
- 10K (6.2 miles)
- 5K (approximately 3.1 miles)
- liveBIG Family Adventure Run (approximately 1.2 miles with family-friendly obstacles)

A total of 154 participants received a t-shirt, custom finisher medal, professional chip timing, free photo download following the event and post-race refreshments.

The liveBIG race was created to help people share the outdoors with their friends and family while also exercising their bodies and minds. All proceeds from this event go to the Town's Therapeutic Recreation Program, which promotes an active lifestyle for community members who have cognitive and physical disabilities.





FALL FESTIVAL FEATURING CREEPY CRAWLIES AROUND THE ROCK

From changing leaves to cooler temperatures, there's something special about fall in Castle Rock.

On Saturday, Oct. 16, at Festival Park, hundreds gathered to celebrate all things pumpkin, spooky and seasonal at the Fall Festival. Over 40 vendors featured locally made food, crafts, candles, soaps, artwork and pottery, all put on by the LOCAL Colorado, the organizer of the Sunday Farmers Market. Families also played outdoor games, decorated pumpkins and made fall crafts.

The Town and the Douglas Land Conservancy joined in the fun by having Nature's Educators present Creepy Crawlies Around the Rock. This educational, Halloween-themed animal booth included some of Castle Rock's creepiest creatures such as owls, vultures, snakes, frogs and other invertebrates.

SPOOKTACULAR

Over 1,200 young goblins, princesses and superheroes came out to celebrate all things not-so-spooking at the Town's annual Spooktacular celebration on Saturday, Oct. 23 at Philip S. Miller Park. Activities at this free event included bounce houses, carnival-style games, and of course, candy galore.

Due to the popularity of this event, families were asked to attend according to the following schedule: 1-2 p.m. was a sensory hour for kids who needed a quieter space to play; 2-3 p.m. was for attendees with last names starting with letters A-L; and 3-4 p.m. was for attendees with last names starting with letters M-Z.





Arts & Enrichment

FALL BREAK CAMPS

Staff hosted a fun-filled week of camps during fall break, in which over 50 children attended! The Recreation Center played hosted I2LL: STEMplicity Games and Clay Creation and Craft Camps, which 24 children attended.

The popular Athletics and Adventure Rock Rec Camp had 30 participants. Each day consisted of sports, hikes, afternoon craft time and swimming or trampoline time at Philip s. Miller Park. The last day of camp was officially deemed costume day to celebrate Halloween, and both campers and staff spent the day in full Halloween spirit. One of the children's favorite activities was erupting pumpkins.

NEW MURAL BRINGS POSITIVITY TO TRAILS AND DOWNTOWN

To instill community cheer and good spirit, the Town of Castle Rock Public Art Commission in partnership with the Castle Rock Artist Cooperative joined forces to install yet another mural installation in Downtown Castle Rock as part of the Painting Positivity Campaign.

Painting Positivity launched earlier this year and to date has featured the unveiling of a mural at the Fort CPA Group, a variety of street and trail art installations and free, pre-postaged postcards for community members to spread messages of love.

The Town's newest mural was installed in the stairway adjacent to the junction point of the Sellars Gulch and East Plum Creek trails. The stairway connects trail users to Festival Park and the Douglas County administration building at 100 Third Street in Castle Rock, and onlookers will undoubtedly enjoy the mural's vibrant, bright flowers for years to come. Its artist, Dan Toro, is from Wyoming and has over a decade of experience as a muralist with installations featured across the country.





Red Hawk Ridge

FOOD AND BEVERAGE

The Food and Beverage Division at Red Hawk Ridge is exceeding budgeted revenue by \$102,091 in 2021, an excellent position heading into the final two months of the year. Kitchen staff remains a concern and management will make a concerted effort to recruit during the offseason in preparation for 2022. Food shortages from vendors have also presented problems maintaining a full menu throughout the season. The division's current focus is shirting to holiday parties for the remainder of the year with three currently booked for the 2021 season.





Park Operations & Maintenance

HOLIDAY LIGHTING

Town staff began hanging holiday lights and decorations throughout Downtown. Residents were advised to watch for installation crews along the sides of Wilcox and Perry streets and in Festival Park. Staff will be working days and nights in preparation for the annual Starlighting celebration on Saturday, Nov. 20.

CENTENNIAL PARK HILLSIDE GRASS CONVERSION

Staff recently converted a section of Kentucky bluegrass at Centennial park to a native grass blend. Staff first removed the bluegrass and then prepped the area for conversion. A contractor was then utilized to seed spray 100 pounds of mixture containing wheatgrass, fescue and rye. The new grass reduced the park's irrigation area from 22,097 square feet to 2,916 square feet, which will reduce water consumption by nearly 200,000 gallons per year. The improvement will also help reduce the area's future maintenance requirements.

