

July 2014

News From Around the Rock

# Your Town Talk



## Good to know

»» Summer fun has just begun. In its second year, *Splash in the Park* starts July 9. Come to Festival Park to cool off with a *Slip 'n slide*, *Super Soakers*, and other water-related activities. There will also be a bounce house. The Downtown Merchants Association sponsors this event, which runs 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesdays July 9 through July 30.

»» Looking for an evening activity? *Starlight Summer Movies* run first Saturdays of the month through Sept. 6. Visit [Downtowncastlerock.com/events](http://Downtowncastlerock.com/events) for a complete list. All are at Festival Park. A street fair with entertainment, kids' activities, food and more begins at 6 p.m. The movies begin around 8:30 p.m.

»» Consider helping your Town by joining a board or commission. These important committees study various topics and make recommendations to Town Council. There are still openings on the Election Commission, the Historic Preservation Board and the Public Art Commission. Learn more and apply online at [CRgov.com/bandc](http://CRgov.com/bandc).

## Douglas County Fair and Rodeo kicks off

Come celebrate the rich western heritage of Douglas County at the Douglas County Fair and Rodeo Aug. 7-10.

The Douglas County Fair and Rodeo continues to be a family tradition by bringing a can't-miss lineup of activities, including two stages, three professional rodeos, Xtreme Bulls, a carnival, an antique tractor pull, mutton-bustin', a stick-horse rodeo, pancake breakfast, exhibits and more.

### Fair hours:

Thursday, Aug. 7: 4 to 11 p.m.

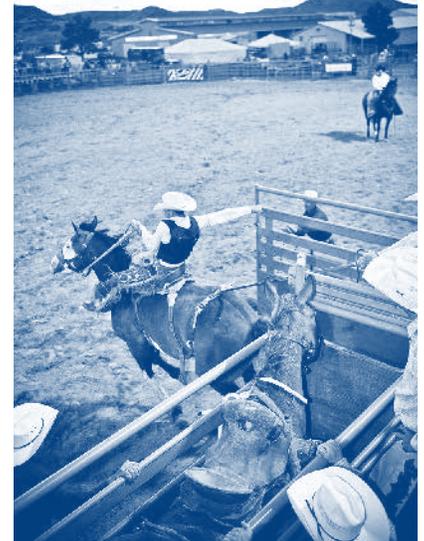
Friday, Aug. 8: noon to 11:30 p.m.

Saturday, Aug. 9: 10 a.m. to 11:30 p.m.

Sunday, Aug. 10: 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. (Grounds admission is free, compliments of Castle Rock Bank.)

The parade will step off at 9 a.m. on Saturday, Aug. 9 in Downtown Castle Rock. During Saturday night's rodeo, the Douglas County Fair and Rodeo will honor the 2014 inductees into the PRCA Hall of Fame.

For more information or to buy tickets visit [douglascountyfairandrodeo.com](http://douglascountyfairandrodeo.com). Or, purchase tickets at the box office at the Douglas County Events Center, 500 Fairgrounds Drive in Castle Rock, starting at 10 a.m. Wednesday, Aug. 6.



## Manage mosquitoes

Mosquito season is here, and the Town has a plan to manage the insects. The Town is working with OtterTail Environmental Inc. to identify, monitor and treat breeding sites, and to track population, species and potential West Nile carriers.

You can help. Make sure to clear standing water in rain gutters, buckets and plastic covers. Also, change water in bird baths, fountains and plant trays at least weekly. Finally, keep swimming pool water treated.

Report mosquito complaints, areas of standing water, get information on how to control mosquitoes and obtain information about mosquito-borne diseases on the company's website, [ottertail.us](http://ottertail.us), by calling 303-273-2878 or by emailing [PSA@ottertail.us](mailto:PSA@ottertail.us).

## Join CRPD for annual National Night Out

Castle Rock will join more than 37 million people in 15,000 communities across the country to celebrate the annual National Night Out Tuesday, Aug. 5.

National Association of Town Watch, a nonprofit organization dedicated to crime-prevention programs like neighborhood watch, started National Night Out in 1984 as an effort to promote involvement in crime-prevention activities.

Here, the celebration is from 5 to 8 p.m. at the White Pavilion Downtown and will showcase a variety of public safety resources such as the K-9 unit, vehicles, SWAT equipment and more.

## Project partnerships, TABOR put Town in a Catch-22

Big projects cost big dollars. That's why the Town attempts to leverage local taxpayers' investments in them, by negotiating with other entities for contributions toward the total.

For example, both the State and the County have pledged millions to help complete the North Meadows Extension.

But this prudent move could have unintended consequences, because the contributions could cause the Town to exceed revenue limits established by Colorado's Taxpayer Bill of Rights (TABOR). When that happens, TABOR requires the Town to either refund the "excess" money, or get voters' approval to keep it to invest into the community.

In the case of North Meadows, the contributions already are being used for their intended purpose. So, if refunds became necessary, they would come at the expense of future road, park, public safety and economic development investments. The Town, then, is in a Catch-22 between the proactive practice of partnering to fund regional projects and TABOR revenue constraints that do not allow the Town to retain such contributions.

For now, the Town believes it can manage the delivery of the contributions to keep revenues within TABOR limits. Management, however, may be a temporary solution.

Ultimately, voters could decide whether the Town can keep such cooperative funding or whether it should hold back and build a project only when the Town could afford it on its own.

## Visit the online transparency portal

This Town Talk newsletter is just one way the Town strives to maintain clear, open and direct communication lines with our residents.

Another way we attempt to achieve that value is through the Transparency Portal on our website. Simply click that button from any page on CRgov.com to find information on public meetings, elections, financials (including budgets, pay information and the Town's current TABOR status) and more.

**Water conservation tip**  
[CRgov.com/waterwiser](http://CRgov.com/waterwiser)

The dog days of summer are even more enjoyable when spending time outdoors. While July is the hottest month in Colorado, it's also the hardest on your lawn. Typically, as temperatures peak, Kentucky Bluegrass needs more water. Don't just set and forget your water clock. Use a cycle and soak method to make sure roots are watered deeply but sprinklers shut off before runoff begins. This could mean watering multiple times a day but for shorter lengths of time. Additionally, don't use fertilizer with high amounts of nitrogen. Nitrogen promotes faster growth, which requires more water. Head to [CRconserve.com](http://CRconserve.com) for more conservation tips.

### CONTACTS

Town information	303-660-1015
POST Partners	303-814-7456
Downtown events	303-688-7488
Museum	303-814-3164

## Events in Castle Rock

**July 12:** Castle Rock Farmers Market, 8 a.m. to noon, Third and Elbert streets. Includes local produce, cheese from Wisconsin, olive oil and more. Runs every Saturday through Oct. 4.

**July 14:** A Day On the Greens, 11 a.m. shotgun start, Pradera Country Club, 5225 Raintree Drive, Parker. Charitable golf tournament to benefit the Douglas/Elbert Task Force.

**July 15:** Coffee with a Cop, 10-11 a.m., Manna Restaurant, inside Castle Rock Adventist Hospital. Informal conversations with Castle Rock Police.

**July 19:** Castle Rock WineFest, 2-8 p.m., The Grange in The Meadows. Presented by the Castle Rock Chamber of Commerce, this event will feature more than two dozen wineries and more than 180 varieties of Colorado wine. Learn more and purchase tickets at [castlerockculture.com](http://castlerockculture.com).

**July 19:** Summer OutRock Car Show and Concert Series, 3-9 p.m., Outlets at Castle Rock. Vintage cars, trucks and motorcycles on display. Fundraiser for the Morgan Adams Foundation, which is dedicated to helping children who have cancer.

**Aug. 19:** American Cancer Society's Relay for Life, 4 p.m. to 7 a.m. on Aug. 20. An organized, overnight fundraising walk. Also includes activities and entertainment. Learn more and register at [relayforlife.org](http://relayforlife.org).

## On the Web

Castle Rock Water strives to provide the community with a safe and reliable supply of drinking water. Each year, the department distributes its Water Quality Report, so you know where your water comes from and how it measures up to EPA standards. The report is packed full of information from Castle Rock Water and the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. Learn more at [CRgov.com/WaterQuality](http://CRgov.com/WaterQuality).