

# Your Town

## News From Around the Rock

# Salak



## Let it snow

»As snow starts to fall, the Town's priority is to maintain safe streets, with a focus on main roads and school bus routes. From Nov. 15–March 15, residents can expect plows to clear one emergency access lane on neighborhood streets when 4 inches of snow or more is predicted to accumulate on the road. After March 15, that threshold is 8 inches of snow. The Town asks for your help, too. Please yield to plow drivers, and avoid passing them on the right. Also, please remember property owners are legally required to clear snow on sidewalks adjacent to their property within 48 hours after 2 inches of snow has accumulated.

## Upcoming work

»Our Town is rooted in deep history, and with that history comes the need to spruce things up. The sewer lines in some areas of Town have aged and need a face-lift to ensure they continue functioning properly. Crews will be working on repairs in a neighborhood near Rock Park for the next few weeks. The trench work will be conducted on Barbi Court, Corona Court, Gigi Street, Mountain View Drive, Oakwood Drive, and Parkview Court. Resident should use caution and obey any posted lane closures. Learn more at [CRgov.com/sewerrehab](http://CRgov.com/sewerrehab).

## Proposed 2015 Budget reflects community growth, core priorities

Castle Rock is a changing, growing community, and the Town's 2015 budget process is reflective of that reality.

Typically, the Town's leaders try to include potential projects for the coming year in the draft budget. However, Town Council is still considering vast information and is not expected to select all of its 2015 priorities until the year is underway.

Meanwhile, Council is required to adopt the Town's 2015 Budget in December. So, Council presently is considering a "base budget" that would maintain current levels of service and complete currently approved projects but that would not include new projects until after Council decides its 2015 priorities.

In a high-growth community like Castle Rock, a base budget does not mean a stagnant one. The proposed budget includes funds for priority projects like the Legacy Water Projects, the North Meadows Extension, Philip S. Miller Park and economic development initiatives. It also proposes additional positions to help Town departments maintain levels of service, as the Town's population has increased by about 20 percent since 2010.

The only proposed cost increase for residents is 82 cents on the monthly water bill. There are no new taxes proposed. The owner of a \$300,000 home would continue paying only \$40 a year in property tax to the Town.

In total, the proposed budget projects nearly \$189 million in Town expenditures – about \$98 million toward debt payments, interfund transfers and capital improvements, and \$91 million for operations.

View full details at [CRgov.com/2015Budget](http://CRgov.com/2015Budget).

## Celebrate the holidays in Castle Rock

Whether it's the elf on the shelf, the lighted tree or just being with family and friends, there are signs the holiday season is fast approaching.

In Castle Rock, there are many traditions, starting with the annual Starlighting celebration, which this year will be Nov. 22. The celebration includes carriage rides, hot chocolate, live entertainment and, of course, Santa. The official ceremony starts at 5 p.m. View a schedule online at [CastleRockCulture.org](http://CastleRockCulture.org).

A newer tradition, the Rink at the Rock, opens the weekend of Starlighting. The charming outdoor rink is in its third year Downtown and runs through February 2015. Learn more at [RinkattheRock.com](http://RinkattheRock.com).

Did you know shopping locally is a gift to your community? The services your Town provides, such as fire, police, road maintenance and more, are funded mostly through sales tax. So, when you're looking for that perfect gift, think locally and give a gift to your neighbor, too.

## Meet me at the MAC at Miller Park

The wait is over! Finally, Philip S. Miller Park is open to the public.

The park opened with a bang last month. More than 10,000 people came out to celebrate. Now, the party is over, and it's time to get down to the business of fun.

The first phase of the park includes more than 8 miles of native-surface and concrete-paved trails, a 200-step challenge staircase, an outdoor lighted synthetic-turf field and the Miller Activity Complex, the MAC, which is the park's crowning feature.

The MAC is an indoor sports facility, aquatic center, and more! It houses both a full-sized synthetic-turf field and a half-sized synthetic-turf field, a trampoline area, a children's climbing structure, a lap and leisure pool, drop-down batting cages, an 18-hole golf simulator, and party rooms.

Now that the celebration is over, the park and MAC are open to the public during regular hours.

The MAC is open 8 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday through Friday, and 8 a.m.-8 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Admission prices, pool hours and reservation information can be found at [CRgov.com/MAC](http://CRgov.com/MAC).

But, there's more on the way. An outdoor adventure playground and zip line course should be opening soon.

## Join a Town board or commission

If you're looking to serve your Town, consider joining a board or commission. There are currently three vacancies.

The Board of Adjustment has one opening to fill a partial term expiring May 31, 2015. The Utilities Commission also has an opening to fill a partial term ending May 31, 2017. The Design Review Board has one opening to fill a partial term ending Aug. 31, 2017. This seat must be filled by a Downtown property owner.

Applications and more information are online at [CRgov.com/BandC](http://CRgov.com/BandC).



## CONTACTS

Town information	303-660-1015
Downtown events	303-688-7488
Chamber	303-688-4597
The MAC	303-733-2222

## Events in Castle Rock

**Nov. 1-13:** A nationwide search is underway for Castle Rock's next Town Manager. Community input is requested regarding the experience and management and leadership characteristics desired for the next person in this important position. (The Town Manager is like a CEO for the Town – he or she leads the Town's staff in implementing the Town Council's policies and direction.) A short questionnaire will be online through 5 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 13 for the purpose of providing feedback. Visit [CRgov.com/Manager](http://CRgov.com/Manager).

**Nov. 18:** Coffee with a Cop, 10-11 a.m., Lost Coffee, 3980 Limelight Ave. Informal conversations with Castle Rock police.

**Nov. 27:** 10th annual Turkey Rock Trot, 8:30 a.m.-noon, Douglas County Fairgrounds, 500 Fairgrounds Drive. This family friendly run/walk benefits the Douglas Elbert Task Force Food Bank. Learn more and register at [rocktrot.com](http://rocktrot.com).

**Nov. 27:** All Town offices, the Recreation Center and the new MAC will be closed in observance of Thanksgiving.

**Nov. 29:** Holiday Fair and Artisan Show, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Douglas County Fairgrounds. Celebrate Small Business Saturday and kick-start your holiday shopping with small businesses from around the state.

**Dec. 5:** Castle Rock Chorale concert, 7:30 p.m., St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church. Sounds of the holiday season.

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

**waterwiser!**

Shorter days and cooler temperatures are in the air. While residents should start thinking about blowing out their irrigation systems, protecting trees is also important. Winter watering can take place when temperatures are above freezing. Until it snows, trees may need water about once a month. It's also a good idea to wrap young, thin-barked, trees with a paper tree wrap. During winter months, daytime temperatures can still be warm enough to promote the vascular flow of sap within trees. When temperatures dip below freezing at night, the sap can freeze and cause cracking of the bark and damage the tree. Tree wraps can help protect the tree from weather damage.

**On the Web**

Before the weather heads south for the winter, make sure to say a proper farewell to fall with a last round of golf. The Town's golf course, Red Hawk Ridge, has a new website. Now, it's even easier to book a tee time, look up league and lesson information, or plan an event. Check it out at [redhawkridge.com](http://redhawkridge.com). You can also stay connected through the course's Facebook page.