

June 2016

Your Town Talk



Good to Know
July 4 fireworks

It's tradition to celebrate Independence Day with fireworks. This year, the Town of Castle Rock can help you celebrate right from your own backyard.

Fireworks will blast off this year from the butte above Red Hawk Ridge Golf Course, starting at sundown on Monday, July 4.

This high-flying show will be able to be seen from almost anywhere in Town. Some of the closer places to see the fireworks include Red Hawk Ridge Golf Course, the Ridgeline Open Space parking lot, or Bison Park.

There are no related park or trail closures, so gather your party and plan to catch this show at sundown.

Fireworks are legal in Castle Rock on July 4 only. If you use your own fireworks, please remember that, as a general rule, fireworks that leave the ground, explode or break off into pieces are not allowed. Castle Rock Fire and Rescue and Castle Rock Police remind you it is unlawful for anyone age 16 or younger to purchase any fireworks.

If you choose to use fireworks on July 4, please remember to keep them away from dry grass, homes and anything flammable. Be careful of loose clothing, stand several feet from the fireworks, and always have a bucket of water or fire extinguisher ready.

Also, check CRgov.com for updated fire restriction information.

Tell us your thoughts on TABOR

Due to contributions for major projects like the North Meadows Extension and Philip S. Miller Park, along with strong sales tax and other revenue growth, the Town has exceeded its TABOR revenue limit for the first time in this decade.

Now, Town Council has a decision to make, and Councilmembers want your input.

Council can either refund the money to taxpayers in some manner or ask voters to keep and spend the money on local services, such as public safety or transportation projects. Council wants your input to make that decision.

Here are some ways to provide that feedback:

- Log on to CRgov.com/2015TABOR to take an online poll and/or provide comments using an online form
- Attend an open house related to the 2017 Budget from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Monday, June 13, at the Castle Rock Recreation Center, 2301 Woodlands Blvd.
- Email Council at TownCouncil@CRgov.com
- Comment during the June 21 Council meeting, where this topic will be discussed again

The total surplus is \$714,580, and it is estimated a resident could get between \$30 and \$40 in a return, if given back to taxpayers. More details about TABOR and the options for the surplus are online at CRgov.com/2015TABOR.

Join us to continue the conversation about growth in Castle Rock

Castle Rock is thriving, and we all care about our future. Let's keep the conversation going.

The Town has hosted two open houses to hear what you think. Now, join us again, this time in your neighborhood. Two more open houses will be held:

- 6-8 p.m. Monday, June 20, at the Terrain Swim Club, 1600 Castle Oaks Drive
- 6-8 p.m. Tuesday, June 28, at The Grange in The Meadows, 3692 Meadows Blvd.

Councilwoman Renee Valentine (District 5) will attend the meeting in her district at the Terrain Swim Club. Mayor Paul Donahue (District 1) and Mayor Pro Tem Jennifer Green (District 3) will attend the open house in The Meadows, which they represent.

During these two open houses, we'll be seeking your feedback. Team members from Police, Fire, Roads, Water, Development Services and Finance will be there to listen and answer questions. Also, get neighborhood-related updates on roads, water and other important topics.

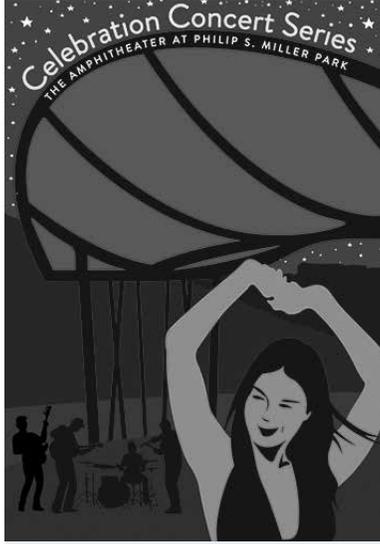
If you can't make a meeting, you can still contribute your thoughts at CRgov.com/growth.

In addition, the Town will be following up on questions asked during all open houses and from the online forms. Look for answers to your questions on our Facebook page (facebook.com/CRgov), on CRgov.com/growth and in this Your Town Talk newsletter.

Neighborhoods or HOAs that are interested in hosting an open house with the Town can contact Community Relations Manager Karen Carter by email at kcarter@CRgov.com, or by calling 303-660-1380.

Get your groove on!

Tickets on sale for new Celebration Concert Series, sponsored by Medved



June 11: Fab Four

July 30: Colorado Symphony

Aug. 27: Marshall Tucker Band

Sept. 24: Starship featuring Mickey Thomas

TICKETS ONLINE:
CRgov.com/PSMConcerts

Price range: \$35 to \$55 each

With one concert in the season already completed, you can now get a patron's package for \$800. It includes two tickets to each concert, a preferred parking pass, admission to the hospitality suite, early access to the venue and an unframed limited edition print.

Downtown After 5 is free, presented by Bellco Credit Union

This free event takes place on various Fridays this summer:

June 3: David Gerald's blues-infused soul rock with Cajun-style food trucks

July 8: Azucar Latin Band with spicy food trucks

Aug. 5: Ben Marshal Band's raw country sounds with BBQ and other Southern-inspired food trucks.

Sept. 16: Supermagick's soul, jazz rhythm and blues.



Annual Half Marathon set for June 25

Runners, lace up your sneakers, mark your calendar, and get that training schedule set. The Town is hosting its annual Half Marathon in about a month.

The event is set for 7 a.m. Saturday, June 25. The Half Marathon begins at Festival Park and continues through Downtown Castle Rock. Runners will finish the race with a scenic view along East Plum Creek Trail.

Course information and event registration is available at CRgov.com/run.

If 13.1 miles doesn't seem like your thing, don't worry, there are two other courses available. The 5-Mile Race takes the best parts of the Half Marathon course but cuts the distance. Plus, there's the Rock Challenge for athletes looking to achieve new heights with their fitness routines. The Rock Challenge will take adventurous runners up the steep ascent and descent of the iconic Town monument, the Rock. This course stretches a little more than 6 miles.

All three events will be professionally timed, and prizes will be awarded to the top finishers. More information at CRgov.com/run.

Looking for the most current info? Those who get their bill online get this newsletter the day bills are sent out. Stay current. Sign up for paperless billing at CRgov.com/H2Oaccess.

Events in Castle Rock

CRgov.com/events

June 11: Ducky Derby, 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Festival Park. Sponsored by the Rotary Club of Castle Rock, Castle Rock High Noon Rotary and the Rotary Club of Castle Pines. Your donation earns you a numbered ticket for a rubber ducky in the race.

June 11: Celebration Concert Series - The Fab Four, 7-10 p.m., Amphitheater at Philip S. Miller Park. Experience the best Beatles tribute ever with the Fab Four. Tickets on sale at CRgov.com/PSMConcerts.

June 13: Town Budget open house, 6-8:30 p.m., Castle Rock Recreation Center. Provide your feedback as the Town starts to plan its 2017 Budget.

June 18: Castle Rock Cruise In Car Show, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Downtown Castle Rock. A Father's Day weekend tradition, this year's car show is gearing up to be one of the best.

June 22: Bike to Work Day, 6:30-9 a.m., Festival Park. Ride your bike to work or throughout Town and stop by the park for breakfast and prizes.

June 25: Castle Rock Half Marathon, race starts at 7 a.m., Festival Park and Downtown. Choose one of three race distances, which all take you through charming Downtown and along East Plum Creek Trail. Registration and information is at CRgov.com/run.

June 25: Victoria's Block Party, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Castle Rock Chamber of Commerce, 420 Jerry St., Visit CastleRock.org for more information.

June 25: Castle Rock Fire and Rescue car seat check event, 9 a.m.-noon, Castle Rock Adventist Hospital, 2350 Meadows Blvd. Learn safety tips and Colorado laws; get recommendations regarding child passenger safety; and ensure your child's seat is properly installed.

July 6: Splash in the Park, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Festival Park. Cool off with free slip'n slides, super soakers and other water-related activities.

July 8: Downtown After 5, 5-8 p.m., Festival Park. Unwind and relax with live music, craft beer, cocktails and themed food trucks. This event features the Azucar Latin Band's salsa-inspired music. View a full schedule at CRgov.com/After5.

July 9: Slide the City, 9 a.m.-7 p.m., Front Street Bridge. Back for its second year, Slide the City is a 1,000-foot water slide set up over the Front Street Bridge. There will be live music, food and drinks. Learn more at DowntownCastleRock.com.

Your Town Talk

Thank you for your patience along Plum Creek Parkway



If you've driven Plum Creek Parkway, you know construction is underway. The Town is working to maintain the road and ensure infrastructure keeps up with demand. We appreciate your patience.

Work started in late May and is expected to last through mid-August, depending on weather.

New lanes will be added to help with access to Interstate 25, and the "dip"

will be removed from westbound Wilcox Street at Plum Creek Parkway Intersection. Get full details of the work planned online at CRgov.com/PCroadwork.

Stay informed and plan your commute

To do this work safely, some lane and intersection closures will be necessary, along with some detours. At least one lane of through traffic will be maintained in both directions on Plum Creek Parkway. Still, drivers may consider alternate routes, or giving themselves extra time.

Get route ideas and a link to Google's traffic map at CRgov.com/PCroadwork. While there, sign up for updates. View a map of all Town lane and road closures at CRgov.com/roadwork.

Castle Rock Public Works Department earns accreditation

When we get into our cars and drive where we need to go, we might be thinking about a lot of different things. However, we likely aren't thinking about the detailed work that goes into designing and maintaining that roadway, the traffic signals or that construction zone. We leave that to the professionals.

In Castle Rock, those professionals are our Public Works employees. They are constantly monitoring all aspects of transportation for the safety of our traveling public, and they were recently recognized for excellence in their field.

The Castle Rock Public Works Department has earned accreditation through the American Public Works Association. The department is only the 110th agency in North America to earn this prestigious distinction since 1997. In fact, less than 1 percent of public works agencies have earned accreditation.

Like any industry, public works personnel operate within industry standards. In their industry, the American Public Works Association defines 609 management practices or criteria. Of those, 318 applied to the Town of Castle Rock's Public Works Department.

To earn accreditation, the Town met or exceeded all of the criteria. Four of the Town's practices were selected as model practices for North America. The honor is significant not only in number, but also for those of us on the road.

For Castle Rock residents, this accreditation means knowing those who take care of our road infrastructure are doing so in line with nationally vetted standards, the best dollar value, the most sustainability and a commitment to continuous improvement.

Learn more about your Town roads at CRgov.com/roads.

Good to Know

Wolfensberger bridge open

A new pedestrian bridge near Philip S. Miller Park now offers a safe connection to much of the Town's trail system. Construction on the new Wolfensberger Pedestrian Bridge has been underway for the past several months. Recently, the bridge officially opened at the Philip S. Miller Park Phase 2 Grand Opening Celebration.

The bridge connects Philip S. Miller Park and Ridgeline Open Space to create a continuous 17-mile native surface trail loop that brings together more than 650 acres of park space.

This important connection provides a safe, grade-separated crossing that creates a gateway into Castle Rock and enables more large special events to be held at Philip S. Miller Park. The bridge is also an important component of a large future trail loop connecting the East Plum Creek Trail and The Meadows with Downtown.

Seasonal trail closures

The temperatures are rising, the sun is shining, and more people are headed outdoors. Summer is the perfect time to enjoy the Town's more than 75 miles of trails. However, the warmer months are also the perfect time for special events. Castle Rock is lucky to have a wide range of special events that come into Town. Many of those events bring people Downtown, some bring people to the new Amphitheater at Philip S. Miller Park, while others bring people to our trails – and that could mean trail closures.

The Town has a ton of information about different trail routes at CRgov.com/trails. So, before you head out, it's a good idea to check CRgov.com/trailconditions. There, you will find information on whether a trail is closed for construction, mud season, or a special event. You can also watch for closures on the Town's Facebook page (facebook.com/CRgov).

We want to hear from you!

The East Plum Creek Trail is the main trail that travels through Town. It is not only the Town's most widely used trail, but it is also part of a larger statewide trail system – the Colorado Front Range Trail. That trail system will eventually connect communities along the Front Range from Wyoming to New Mexico. Now, the Town is working to build the final southern trail connection in Castle Rock.

Currently, the trail travels 6 miles from Castle View High School to South Perry Street. The last southern segment to be constructed is a 2-mile stretch from south Perry Street to Crystal Valley Parkway.

As the planning for the project starts, we want to hear from you. Visit CRgov.com/EPCTrailConstruction to find out more about the project and fill out our online feedback form.

Castle Rock Water gets the gold

Providing great-tasting drinking water, completing the community's long-term water plan, and encouraging residents to continue their conservation efforts are all priorities for Castle Rock Water. Now, the department is being recognized for its efforts and has been named a leader in the water industry.

In May, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment presented Town Council the Gold Award in the Pursuing Excellence Program for Castle Rock Water's efforts in going above and beyond regulatory compliance. Castle Rock Water is the first water provider in Colorado to receive the Gold Tier award.

The award named the Town's steps to be a leader in the industry and share best practices with other organizations. The department was also recognized for a wide range of plans exemplifying advancing water technologies. Those plans included the H2OAccess billing system; the installation of mixers to the Town's distribution system to help maintain great water quality; and an extensive energy management plan that has reduced energy usage.

As part of the award, Castle Rock Water received a \$1,000 prize. That money will be donated to the Douglas County Task Force to assist low-income customers with their water bills.

Step into summer with STEP

Any resident will tell you, Castle Rock is full of great ways to enjoy the outdoors. Beautiful parks, well-planned trails and abundant open space all make the community a wonderful place to call home. Experience the great-outdoor side of the community and join in on a summer tradition.

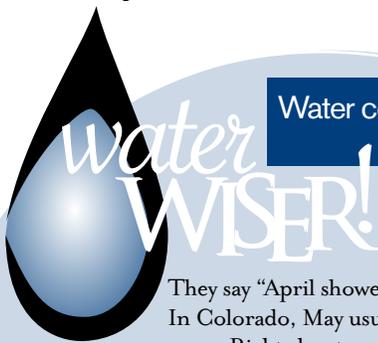


For the second year, the Town is inviting everyone to get outside with the Summer Trails Exploration Program, or STEP.

The summer-long program kicks off with the American Hiking Society's National Trails Day on Saturday, June 4. Spend the summer exploring the Town's trails, and you can be entered to win an outdoor-themed prize. The program will continue through Labor Day, Monday, Sept. 5.

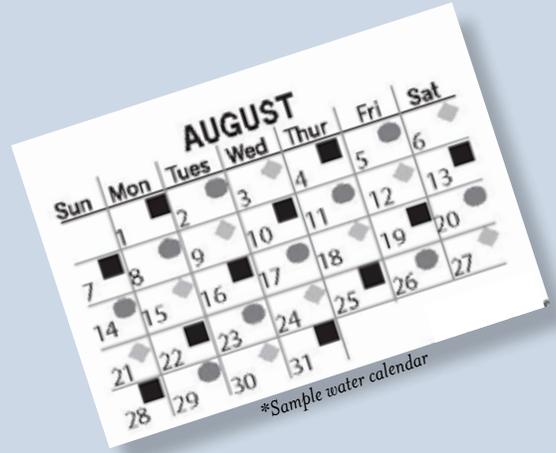
Head to CRgov.com/STEP to download the online registration form and a tracking log. Then, it's easy. Every trail hiked will earn you one entry for the drawing. Visit all 16 participating trails to get 16 entries into the drawing. Plus, the first 50 participants who sign up will receive a free T-shirt celebrating the inaugural year of the program.

More information, including a map and details of each participating location, is online at CRgov.com/STEP.



Water conservation and efficiency tip
CRgov.com/waterwiser

They say "April showers bring May flowers." In Colorado, May usually brings rain, hail and even snow. Right about now, many residents are ready for summer. As temperatures begin to warm up, make sure your lawn and irrigation systems are ready for the changing season. Several short watering cycles are usually best to avoid creating runoff, wasting water and increasing water bills. Turn on each watering station and watch to see how long it takes before water runs off. Set the timer to shut off just before water runoff begins. This is called the "cycle and soak" method, and it is the best way to water deeply, but less often, and promote a healthier deep-root system.



Watering Restrictions

The countdown has begun, and summer is right around the corner. So, as we all prepare for the official start of landscape season, the Town wants residents to know watering restrictions will be in effect again this year.

Restrictions will be in place during June, July and August. Residents will be required to follow a circle, diamond, square schedule throughout the season. That schedule should have already arrived in mailboxes.

In addition to the every-third-day watering schedule, residents will also be restricted to approved watering times.

Per the watering restrictions, residents are only allowed to water before 8 a.m. and after 8 p.m. on their specified watering day.

This restriction will allow residents to water only during the cooler, more humid times of day. This is when evapotranspiration – a measurement of how much water needs to be used to replace water lost through evaporation and transpiration – is at its lowest, and watering is most effective.

Nonresidential watering times will not change.

For more information about watering restrictions, the watering schedule or no-watering windows head to CRgov.com/waterschedule.

crgov.com

On the Web: Go paperless!

Just as every drop of water counts, so does every piece of paper. Go paperless and win! Use your H2OAccess account to sign up for paperless billing before July 31 and be entered into a drawing to win a \$50 water credit. More at CRgov.com/H2OAccess.