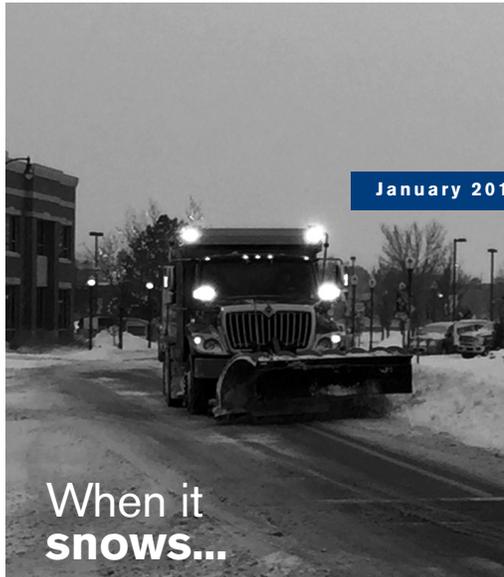


Your Town Talk

January 2017



When it snows...

Good to Know

When snow hits, Castle Rock's team works around the clock, so you and emergency crews have safe access to Town roadways. During snowstorms, main thoroughfares and school bus routes are the Town's main priority and are plowed for every snow event.

From Nov. 15 through March 15 – when days are shorter and temperatures are cooler – residents can expect plows to clear one emergency access lane on neighborhood streets when 4 inches of snow or more is expected to accumulate on the road. After March 15, the Town's threshold for plowing residential streets is 8 inches of accumulation on the road.

When it comes to ice, the Town has a huge ice-breaking machine and a plan. Busiest intersections are first, followed by streets pedestrians use most, such as school and walking routes. Then, as time and conditions allow, we head into neighborhoods.

Remember to shovel snow to your lawn, rather than the streets. It's free water and helps our road crews. Learn more at CRgov.com/snow.

Big changes ahead at Festival Park

Festival Park is the heartbeat of Downtown Castle Rock and is home to some of the community's most treasured events. Soon, this vital feature will be transformed. Construction is set to begin at the end of January.

Town Council approved the plan last year to reconstruct Festival Park. In partnership with the Downtown Development Authority and the Downtown Merchants Association, the Town's goal is to enhance the park into an urban center. This will help boost the success of Downtown businesses and will create an active public gathering place for both work and relaxation.

The park improvements will include a landing pavilion and fire pits, splash pad, great lawn, creek side picnic area, lighting and seating, and a gateway feature. Additionally, stream stabilization along Sellars Gulch will be done to remain consistent with national floodplain regulations. Pedestrian bridges between Town Hall and the park have likewise been incorporated into the plans.

It's also important to note, the park's design includes a permanent partial closure of Second Street. Traffic will only be permitted to enter Second Street westbound from Perry Street and will be required to exit through the alley north. This will allow for a pedestrian walkway and market plaza to be incorporated into the park.

Stay tuned for updates as construction progresses at CRgov.com/FestivalPark. Depending on weather, the park improvements should take about a year to complete.

New Councilmembers sworn in; Mayor, Mayor Pro Tem decided

This January, a new year means new Town leadership. In December, the Councilmembers in elected in 2016 were officially sworn in.

New Councilmembers Jess Loban (District 1), James Townsend (District 2) and Jason Bower (District 4) took their oaths of office during a regular Council meeting Tuesday, Dec. 6. At the same meeting, Council chose a new Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem.



Mayor Jennifer Green, left, with Mayor Pro Tem Renee Valentine.

District 3 Councilwoman Jennifer Green was chosen as Mayor. District 5 Councilwoman Renee Valentine was chosen as Mayor Pro Tem.

The Mayor presides at Council meetings and is recognized as the head of the Town government for all ceremonial and legal purposes. The Mayor has the same power and responsibilities of a Councilmember. The Mayor Pro Tem performs duties and has the same powers of the Mayor when the Mayor is unavailable.

Get to know all Councilmembers and find your election district online at CRgov.com/Council.

Council meets on the first and third Tuesdays of the month. View agendas at CRgov.com/agendas.

Just a reminder – new water rates take effect in February

Securing the Town's long-term water future; providing great-tasting, safe drinking water; and improving stormwater infrastructure throughout the community are all goals in the coming year for Castle Rock Water. As the department works hard to plan for the future, please keep in mind there will be a small change in water rates starting this month. The new rates will be reflected in customers' February bills.

Overall, residential customers can expect to see an average increase of about \$14 per year divided among several fees on their bill. Most of these charges will be seen in customers' water usage charges. For some time, these charges have been based off a tiered system. The more water customers use, the more they will pay.

Residential and commercial fee changes will also be seen in the stormwater fixed fee. This nominal increase will help pay for stormwater capital projects and increase flood protection throughout the community.

Lastly, system development fees will also be increased in 2017. These are the fees paid by developers to make improvements to our system and help fund our long-term renewable water plan.

Same great service, different name

Castle Rock Water is official! Starting in January, the Town of Castle Rock Utilities Department will officially be renamed Castle Rock Water. The department has been using the name Castle Rock Water for some time, so this change is purely a technicality.

Customers will not see any changes in their bill or service. Visit CRgov.com/water for more information about everything happening with Castle Rock Water.

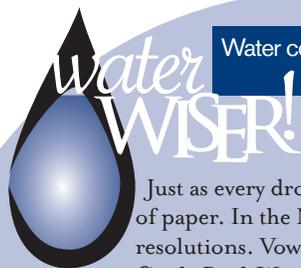
Town Hall construction begins, water bill payment box to move temporarily

As the Town strives to maintain levels of service, sometimes, more space is needed. That's why an addition to Town Hall is being constructed through fall 2017. The project is being funded by developer/builder user fees, and not general tax dollars.

The work means some changes for those visiting Town Hall during construction. First, the east doors, nearest the parking lot, will be closed for the duration of the project; use the west doors at Wilcox Street instead.

Also, the water bill payment drop box is being temporarily moved from just southeast of the building to along the one-way lane on the east side of the parking lot. Once the addition is complete, a new entrance to Town Hall will make conducting business simpler for the public. Meanwhile, construction could disrupt area traffic flow and parking.

Before visiting, check CRgov.com/DowntownConstruction for critical updates, such as closures of the driveway from Wilcox Street, which would necessitate entry from South Street.



Water conservation and efficiency tip
CRgov.com/waterwiser

Just as every drop of water counts, so does every piece of paper. In the New Year, many people will be making resolutions. Vow to stay organized in 2017, and help Castle Rock Water serve you better, by signing up for paperless billing. Log in to your H2OAccess account to go paperless. Don't have an account? Sign up at CRgov.com/H2OAccess. By creating an H2OAccess account, you will get 24/7 access to your water account – plus the ability to pay your bill online, schedule automatic payments and view 12 months of statement history. Going paperless allows you to receive a monthly water bill reminder via email – which also includes Your Town Talk. Save time, stay organized and help the environment by opting to go paperless.

CONTACTS

Town information	303-660-1015
Library	303-791-7323
Recreation Center	303-660-1036
The MAC	303-733-2222

Events in Castle Rock

Jan. 1-31: Christmas tree recycling at Douglas County Fairgrounds.

Jan. 8: Nuggets Skills Challenge, 10 a.m., Recreation Center.

Jan. 10: Coffee with a Cop, all day at the B&B Cafe. Get to know Castle Rock police officers in a relaxed atmosphere.

Jan. 12: Castle Rock Historical Society and Museum's free monthly presentation, 6:45-8 p.m., Philip S. Miller Library. Presenter Ed Weising speaks about humorous hoaxes, sleazy scams and scurrilous schemes in Colorado history. Refreshments served at 6:45 p.m. Presentation starts at 7 p.m.

Jan. 16: Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Town offices closed. Recreation Center and MAC open normal hours.

Jan. 21: Castle Rock Preschool Fair, 10 a.m.-noon, Ridgeline Community Church, 555 Heritage Ave. Meet representatives from Castle Rock's local preschools. Free and family friendly.

Jan. 26: CDOT public meeting about the I-25 PEL Study, 5-7 p.m., Douglas County Fairgrounds and Events Center – Kirk Hall. Formal presentation begins at 5:30 p.m. Between Monument and C-470, I-25 experiences congestion on numerous days throughout the week. CDOT has initiated a Planning and Environmental Linkages Study to identify immediate and long-term solutions for this vital stretch of highway. Learn more at this meeting.

Daddy Daughter Ball 2017 - Sparkle and Shine!

Leave a little sparkle wherever you go! You're her first love and ultimate super hero. Dads, show your little girl how to really shine at the Town's annual Daddy Daughter Ball.

This year's event is from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 10, at the Douglas County Events Center, 500 Fairgrounds Drive. Tickets are on sale now at the Recreation Center, the MAC, located at Philip S. Miller Park, and at CRgov.com/ddball17.

Advance tickets are \$25 per couple (\$35 for nonresidents). Admission at the door is \$35 per couple (\$45 for nonresidents). Tickets for additional daughters are \$8 each.



All ages are welcome! Join us for a night of dancing, music and fun. Refreshments and dessert will also be served.

More information at CRgov.com/ddball17.

CRgov.com

On the Web:

Weigh-in on public art!

How can public art enliven Castle Rock's public places? Questions exploring this and related themes will be online from mid-January to early February, as part of the Public Art Commission's effort to update the Town's Public Art Master Plan. Please take time to provide your feedback – and to learn more about the Town's public art program – at CRgov.com/publicart. The update is expected to be completed by mid-2017.