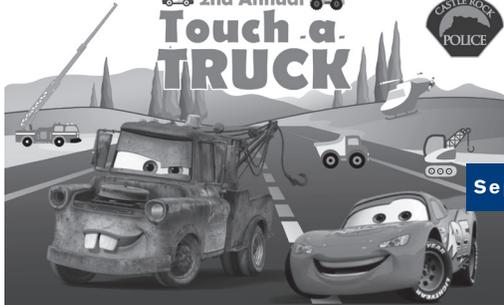


Free Family Fun Event!

## 2nd Annual Touch-a-TRUCK

Hosted By:



**Touch-A-Truck** will take place Saturday, Sept. 16 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Castle View High School, 5254 N. Meadows Drive, Castle Rock.

September 2017

News From Around the Rock

# Your Town Talk

## 2018 Budget focuses on public safety and infrastructure

Public safety and infrastructure are the primary focus items within the Town's Proposed 2018 Budget.

The budget includes \$2 million to operate and add 12 staff for the upcoming Fire Station 152 in Crystal Valley, as well as five new positions in the Police Department. It also includes \$20.53 million in transportation initiatives, along with water system improvements.

No tax increases, nor any water rate increases for existing customers, are proposed within the budget.

The \$241.2 million budget includes \$102.3 million for capital improvements, debt and transfers between funds and \$125.2 million for operations. In addition to public safety and infrastructure, the budget emphasizes these priorities:

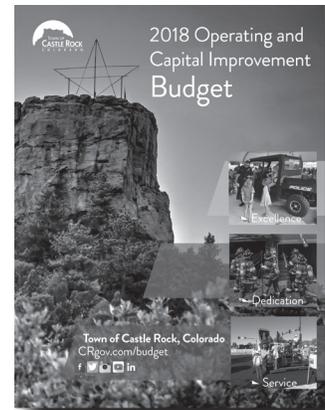
- Maintain strong Parks and Recreation
- Support economic development
- Manage Town finances conservatively
- Strengthen our unique community identity

The budget provides for property tax revenue growth of 5.5 percent, as allowed by the Town Charter.

This means the Town's property tax rate for 2018 will be equal to or less than the 2017 rate of 1.473 mills, which totals \$39.61 in annual Town property tax on a median-valued (\$373,254) home.

The entire budget, a four-page budget in brief and the Town Manager's budget message all provide additional details and are posted at [CRgov.com/2018Budget](http://CRgov.com/2018Budget).

Town Council is set to finalize the budget at its Sept. 19 meeting, which begins at 6 p.m. at Town Hall. Public comment is welcome.



## Town Council sets special election for citizen-initiated Charter amendment

Should the Town Charter be amended to allow the Mayor to be elected by all voters in Town? That's the question facing voters this November in a special election approved by Town Council at its Aug. 15 meeting.

In mid-July, the acting Town Clerk announced there were a sufficient number of valid registered-voter signatures in a citizen-initiated effort seeking to change language in the Town Charter regarding how the Mayor is selected. State Statute required Town Council to set the ballot language and call a special election.

The special election has been set for Tuesday, Nov. 7. Head to [CRgov.com/2017SpecialElection](http://CRgov.com/2017SpecialElection) to learn more about the election and read the ballot question.

In Douglas County, all elections are coordinated by mail ballot. For this Town of Castle Rock special election, ballots will be mailed Monday, Oct. 16. Completed ballots will need to be returned by 7 p.m., Tuesday, Nov. 7. Voters should return their ballots by mail, or to one of two locations: Town Hall (100 N. Wilcox St.) or Douglas County Elections (125 Stephanie Place).

## Good to Know

### Touch-A-Truck

The second Annual Touch-a-Truck event will take place Saturday, Sept. 16 from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at Castle View High School, 5254 N. Meadows Drive. This is a free and fun family event with special guests Tow Mater and Lightning McQueen, and will include Castle Rock Police and Castle Rock Fire & Rescue vehicles, Elbert County Sheriff vehicles, U.S. Army vehicles, Douglas County Bomb and SWAT, and many more. The event is sponsored by the Castle Rock Police Department.

### Final Summer Concert Series

Great music, perfect temperatures and spending time under the stars is the recipe for a beautiful evening in Castle Rock. Back for its second year, this series brings amazing performances to the Amphitheater at Philip S. Miller Park. Get your tickets now at [CRgov.com/PSMConcerts](http://CRgov.com/PSMConcerts). There are two concerts remaining:

**HALFWAY TO HAZARD**, Friday, Sept. 22, at 7 p.m. The band's name comes from the opening words of "Cold," the first song David Tolliver and Chad Warrix wrote together several years after each had put Kentucky in their rear view mirror and ended up in Music City.

### Public Lands Day

Celebrate Public Lands Day Saturday, Sept. 30 by enjoying a guided nature preserve hike from 9 to 11 a.m. on Douglas Land Conservancy protected land at the Woodlands Bowl Open Space across from the Castle Rock Recreation Center. In addition to the hike, help install three new interpretive signs on the property. All ages are welcome. Snacks, water, and equipment will be provided. Meet at the Castle Rock Recreation Center, 2301 Woodlands Blvd.

# Castle Rock Fire Department earns national accreditation for second time

Residents are used to Castle Rock winning awards for their Town and its services. Now, Castle Rock Fire and Rescue has added another notch to the Town's belt by re-earning accreditation, proving once again they're a world-class organization. A shiny new plaque will soon be displayed at Castle Rock's Fire Headquarters, as the department was again honored with international accreditation.

For the 81 men and women who work for the Castle Rock Fire and Rescue Department, it's more than just the honor. This re-accreditation award represents their ongoing commitment to improving services for our community. Of the department staff, two-thirds directly contributed to this re-accreditation effort.

Accreditation is earned through the Commission on Fire Accreditation International, a lengthy process that includes community input, a detailed evaluation of current practices, and a commitment to continuous self-improvement. Currently, just over 200 of more than 26,000 departments nationwide have earned the honor.

"The Castle Rock Fire and Rescue Department has worked hard to be the best at what we do in all aspects of the services we provide," Fire Chief Art Morales said. "We felt that we were worthy of accreditation, and we embraced the challenging accreditation process. We know that through re-accreditation, our community will continue to have one of the best fire departments in the nation."

The journey to accreditation began years ago with a community survey, which indicated residents wanted a quick and timely response from highly trained staff. The department set out to determine how current practices met those goals and to discuss ideas for improvement.

For more information about accreditation, contact the Fire Chief's Office, 303-660-1066 or email [fire@CRgov.com](mailto:fire@CRgov.com).

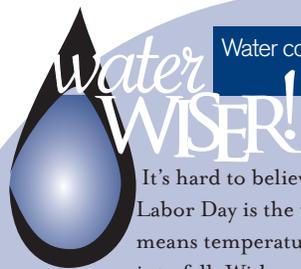
## Roundup your unwanted chemicals; Household Chemical Roundup Sept. 30

As summer celebrations come to an end, welcome in fall on the right foot. Clean out the garage, and don't miss the Douglas County Household Chemical Roundup Saturday, Sept. 30.

The chemical roundup is the perfect opportunity to get rid of unwanted household chemicals. If those chemicals are not disposed of properly, they can contaminate the environment and landfills. Did you know one drop of oil can contaminate more than one million drops of water?

Drop off unwanted chemicals between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. at the Castle Rock Water building, 175 Kellogg Court. Head to [CRgov.com/roundup](http://CRgov.com/roundup) for more information and a complete list of accepted items.

A contribution of \$25 is requested to help offset the high costs of hazardous waste disposal. This is a joint event between Castle Rock Water and the Tri-County Health Department to prevent pollution and help protect trash handlers.



Water conservation and efficiency tip  
[CRconserve.com](http://CRconserve.com)

It's hard to believe, but summer is winding down. Labor Day is the unofficial end of summer, and that means temperatures will continue to cool off as we head into fall. With only a few weeks left in irrigation season, it's time to start thinking about protecting your yard for the winter season. Learn about seasonal irrigation tips at Castle Rock Water's Winterization Workshop. This year's class is scheduled for 6 to 8:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 12 at the Operations Building, 175 Kellogg Court. Find out about seasonal fertilization, pruning, mulching and aeration at this free class. Registration is required. More information is available at [CRgov.com/WinterWorkshop](http://CRgov.com/WinterWorkshop). Questions? Call 720-733-6017 or email [waterconservation@CRgov.com](mailto:waterconservation@CRgov.com).



Summer Concert Series  
Get your tickets!

Visit [CRgov.com/PSMConcerts](http://CRgov.com/PSMConcerts).

## Events in Castle Rock

**Sept. 7:** Animals of Pokemon, 5:30-7:30 p.m., the Amphitheater at Philip S. Miller Park. This free event will let kids meet the animals behind the popular game.

**Sept. 9-10:** 28th Annual Colorado Artfest, Sept. 9 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sept. 10 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. This two-day event will be held in the parking lot of the Outlets at Castle Rock. Delight in the artistic impressions of more than 170 Artists from across the country. Adults \$5; seniors 60+ \$3; children 16 and under free; active military and first responders free on Sept. 10. More information at [coloradoartfest.com](http://coloradoartfest.com).

**Sept. 9:** 10th Annual Pooch Plunge, 10 a.m. to noon, Butterfield Crossing Pool. The dog days of summer are almost over. What better way to celebrate than one last splash with your favorite canine?

**Sept. 9:** Boy Scouts Troop 780 6th Annual ChiliFest, 4-8 p.m., Douglas County Fairgrounds, 500 Fairgrounds Road. Tickets are \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door. More information at [castlerockchilifest.com](http://castlerockchilifest.com).

**Sept. 12:** Winterizing Workshop, 6-8:30 p.m., Castle Rock Water Building, 175 Kellogg Court.

**Sept. 15:** Real Zumba Glow in the Park, 7:30-9:30 p.m., the Amphitheater at Philip S. Miller Park, \$10.

**Sept. 16:** Touch-A-Truck, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Castle View High School. The second Annual Touch-A-Truck event is free and family-friendly, with special guests Tow Mater and Lightning McQueen, and will include Castle Rock Police and Castle Rock Fire & Rescue vehicles, Elbert County Sheriff vehicles, U.S. Army vehicles, Douglas County Bomb and SWAT, and many more.

**Sept. 22:** Summer Concert Series featuring Halfway to Hazard, 7 p.m., the Amphitheater at Philip S. Miller Park.

**Sept. 27:** Douglas County High School Homecoming Parade, 1:30-2:30 p.m.

**Sept. 30:** Household Chemical Roundup, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Castle Rock Water building, 175 Kellogg Court.

**Sept. 30:** Public Lands Day, 9-11 a.m., Woodlands Bowl Open Space, across from the Castle Rock Recreation Center.

**Sept. 30:** Oktoberfest, 1-9 p.m., Wilcox Square area and surrounding streets.

[CRgov.com](http://CRgov.com)

## On the Web: Festival Park project updates

Crews have been hard at work, and big changes are happening at Festival Park. As work continues, traffic patterns may need to be adjusted to accommodate construction. Stay up-to-date on the progress and find out more about the project at [CRgov.com/FestivalPark](http://CRgov.com/FestivalPark). Or, sign up for email updates at [CRgov.com/NotifyMe](http://CRgov.com/NotifyMe).