

Your Town *News From Around the Rock* Talk

NOVEMBER 2022

GOOD TO KNOW

Town begins truck route program

Town Council approved Castle Rock's truck route program in October. The program identifies and marks designated routes for commercial drivers to follow when in our community and will help reduce cut-through freight traffic in residential areas. Please watch for the official route signage, expected to be installed by the end of 2022. After signs are posted, commercial freight traffic will need to traverse along the Town's designated routes to make their deliveries. For more information and to view the route map, visit CRgov.com/TruckRoute.

Holiday safety tips

- Thanksgiving is the leading day of the year for home fires involving cooking equipment. Stay in the kitchen when you're cooking on the stovetop to keep an eye on the food. And, check on your turkey frequently while it's cooking.
- As you deck the halls for the holidays, choose decorations that are flame-resistant or flame-retardant. Avoid placing decorations close to heat sources.
- Beware of porch pirates: If you aren't able to bring delivered packages inside immediately, consider having your items delivered somewhere else — like work.
- If you would prefer to do your holiday shopping in stores, don't leave any valuables — including phones, sunglasses, wallets, purses, gifts or shopping bags — in plain view in your car.

Season of the Star shines

There's something magical about the holidays in Castle Rock. Whether it's carriage rides in Downtown, or a chat with Santa at Philip S. Miller Park, the Town has something for everyone this season. Celebrate the Season of the Star at these holiday events:

STARLIGHTING — Saturday, Nov. 19, 2 to 6 p.m. in Downtown Castle Rock

FESTIVAL PARK STARLIGHT MARKET — Friday, Dec. 2, 3 to 8 p.m. and Saturday, Dec. 3, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. at Festival Park

REINDEER GAMES — Saturday, Dec. 3, 1 to 4 p.m. at The Millhouse and Amphitheater at PSM Park

STORYTELLERS AND S'MORES — Saturday, Dec. 10, 5 to 7 p.m. at Festival Park



Plus, see the Downtown holiday decorations in style with carriage and trolley rides. Horse-drawn carriage rides will take place Wednesdays through Saturdays. Tickets go on sale at noon Wednesday, Nov. 9, on Downtown Castle Rock's social media pages — @DowntownCastleRock on Facebook or @DTCastleRock on Instagram. Information about the carriage rides is available at DowntownCastleRock.com/Carriage-Rides. New in 2022, rides on the Town trolley will be offered Mondays and Tuesdays. Reservations are not required for these free rides. Details about Season of the Star are at CRgov.com/StarSeason.

Follow the Town's snow removal progress with PlowTracker

Ready or not, it's that time of year to start thinking about winter. Not to worry, the Town is prepared, and our plow team is standing by to return our roads to normal travel as quickly as possible following each storm. When heavy snowfall begins, be sure to track their progress in real time at CRgov.com/PlowTracker. Plow tracks are labeled with a blue dot.

From Nov. 15 through March 15, snow accumulation must exceed 4 inches on the roadway before being cleared by plows. Streets are classified as either primary or residential streets based on function, traffic volume and importance to the community. Primary streets are then split into first and second priority, and residential streets are split into third and fourth priorities.

Priority No. 1: High-volume primary streets that connect major sections of Town, such as Plum Creek Parkway, Wolfensberger Road or Mikelson Boulevard

Priority No. 2: Smaller primary streets and roads that provide access to schools

Priority No. 3: Residential streets

Priority No. 4: Cul-de-sacs and alleyways

To see what priority level your street is, visit the new interactive map at CRgov.com/Snow.

Making ColoradoScape the norm

Town Council approved landscape regulations restricting lawns in the front yards of new homes. As of Jan. 1, 2023, new development will no longer be allowed to plant grass in the front yard and will be limited to 500 square feet in the back. Castle Rock Water has been working with builders on design elements to be sure landscapes are conducive to the “ColoradoScape” design.



This term was coined by Castle Rock Water to describe a low-water landscape that has seasonal interest, with plants that are adaptive to the Castle Rock environment. The design specs require 75% plant coverage by plant maturity (typically within three years).

While high-water-use Kentucky Bluegrass has not been allowed as a turf in new building since 2018, this new regulation will make bigger strides toward the goal of an 18% reduction in water use by 2050. Castle Rock has enough water for new development, and this goal is about being efficient with those resources. The regulation applies to new development only and not existing homes.

Water customers who want to convert to a ColoradoScape can get rebates for turf removal, ideas for design and the prescribed plant list, with more than 275 plants, at CRconserve.com.

Town continues to invest in outdoor recreation for residents

In October, work to provide residents with more chances to explore the outdoors got underway or continued around Town.

A kickoff event marked the beginning of renovations at Mitchell Gulch Park. Located in the Founders Village neighborhood and now more than 25 years old, it will undergo renovations to improve accessibility, address life-cycle replacements and enhance the user experience. Renovations are expected to be completed in summer 2023.

Construction of three segments of trail that will complete the Colorado Front Range Trail through Castle Rock is also beginning this fall. Segments will be constructed in Cobblestone Ranch, Terrain and Montaine, opening to the public in fall 2023. When complete, these trails will connect Colorado Springs with the Cherry Creek Regional Trail and Chatfield State Park.

Also underway is construction of a parking lot to provide access to recently built trails at Metzler Family Open Space. The lot and access road off of East Allen Street and Founders Parkway, as well as installation of wayfinding signage, will allow hikers, mountain bikers and walkers to discover this amazing property. The parking lot and access road are slated to be completed by spring 2023.



Water conservation and efficiency tip:
CRconserve.com

Visit CRgov.com/Water for troubleshooting tips

Calling a professional plumber may be warranted with any water issue; however, there are a couple of things you might try before you make that call. Need help finding your meter? Want to see if you potentially have a leak? Do you have low pressure? Do you have excessive water running off your sidewalk? Visit CRgov.com/Water and find answers to these questions and more.

EVENTS

CRgov.com/Events

Nov. 5: Pie Bake-Off, 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., The Millhouse at Philip S. Miller Park

Nov. 12: Tree Lighting, 4 to 8 p.m., Outlets at Castle Rock

Nov. 15: Town Council meeting, 6 p.m., Town Hall Council Chambers

Nov. 19: Castle Rock Starlighting, 2 to 6 p.m., Downtown Castle Rock

Dec. 2: Festival Park Starlight Market, 3 to 8 p.m., Festival Park

Dec. 3: Festival Park Starlight Market, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Festival Park

Dec. 3: Reindeer Games, 1 to 4 p.m., PSM Park

Dec. 6: Town Council meeting, 6 p.m., Town Hall Council Chambers

Dec. 10: Storytellers and S'mores, 5 to 7 p.m., Festival Park

Prepare your landscape for winter

You've likely already blown out your irrigation system, but there are other steps you can take to keep your landscape healthy. Make sure hoses are detached from spigots and drained, but keep them handy and ready for potential winter watering. When natural precipitation is less than 1 inch per month and temperatures are above 40 degrees, watering plants and trees may be necessary. Now is also the time to mulch — add 4 inches of mulch around trees or newly planted shrubs, but keep the mulch a full 6 inches from the base of the plant or tree trunk. Wrap the trunks of young and thin-barked trees to protect them from sunscald and frost cracks. Use a light-colored crepe paper tree wrap, starting from the bottom and wrapping up all the way to the first branch. Remove the wrap in early spring. Find more winterizing tips at CRconserve.com.



Find us online:
CRgov.com

Volunteer in Castle Rock

Give back by signing up to volunteer in Castle Rock this holiday season and beyond. Visit the Town's volunteer website at CRgov.com/Volunteer to explore opportunities to make a difference within the community.