Welcome to Your Park!

Rocky Mountain National Park is a special place in the hearts of many people. These mountains are home to flowers, forests and wildlife. For generations, this place has nourished the human spirit and connected us to the natural world. We invite you to explore your park, make your own memories, and discover what Rocky means to you. Enjoy it, protect it and be safe out there.

The Staff of Rocky Mountain National Park

Looking for Fun?

Rocky Mountain National Park has something for everyone! Make your trip memorable with these tips:

- Be inspired – How many times can you say, “Wow!” Find out by driving up Trail Ridge Road for spectacular views.
- Picnic in the park – Do lunch with a view. Consult your park map for picnic areas that offer do-it-yourself dining in the great outdoors.
- Join a ranger – Rangers can share unusual insights about the park and nature. Check out the ranger-led activities listed in the newspaper, attend an evening program or chat with a ranger at a visitor center.
- “Like” a lake – Take an easy stroll around Lily Lake, Sprague Lake or Bear Lake. Mornings and evenings are magical.
- Take in the night – Experience the park in the dark when nights skies are filled with diamond-like stars, and mountains are illuminated by moonlight.
- Get connected – Disconnect to reconnect with nature, yourself and your loved ones. Rocky is full of opportunities to connect with the natural world in a genuine way.

What You Need To Know About Accessing Bear Lake Road During Reconstruction

In early 2012, a major road construction project began on the lower section of Bear Lake Road. The project is almost done!

**Weekdays:** On weekdays through July 19, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Bear Lake Road, approximately one mile southwest of Moraine Park Visitor Center to Bear Lake, will be accessible by free shuttle bus only. Private vehicles will be allowed both directions prior to 9:00 a.m. and after 4:00 p.m. On weekdays, visitors in private vehicles who make the 9:00 a.m. cutoff time will be allowed to leave throughout the day. All visitors, in private vehicles or on shuttle buses, should expect at least two 20-minute delays in both directions through the construction area. There may be night closures during construction – those closures will be announced at least two weeks prior to occurring. There will be no construction delays between Park & Ride and Bear Lake.

**Weekends:** Private vehicles will be allowed all day on weekends. Although private vehicles will be allowed to travel on weekends through the construction area, shuttle buses will also be running.

The park’s three shuttle routes are modified again this summer during the construction. Please see the back page of this newspaper for the shuttle map and schedule.

Visitors who plan to go to the Bear Lake area on weekdays will have easier access if they plan ahead, hike early or hike late, and carpool. Visitors on weekdays who are unable to make the 9 a.m. cutoff time, may experience significant delays in transit and wait times at shuttle stops and visitors may want to explore other areas of Rocky Mountain National Park.

Rocky is approaching its Centennial anniversary in 2015. Bear Lake Road was completed in 1928 and until 2003, no significant improvements were made. No major road work has taken place on the lower section for more than 80 years. When this project is complete, just prior to the park’s hundredth anniversary, it will conclude over 47 miles of critical improvements on park roads since 2003.

Find more information on Bear Lake Road Reconstruction at www.nps.gov/romo
Bicycles in the Park

Bicycling is permitted on public roads, both paved and dirt, but not on trails. There are no bike paths, and many roads are narrow with little or no shoulders. Please ride cautiously.

During the Bear Lake Road reconstruction project, bicycle use is strongly discouraged on Bear Lake Road due to rough conditions and major delays. Bicycles in National Park Service areas must ride single file. There are no bicycle racks on shuttle buses.

Campfires

Campfires are permitted in campgrounds and picnic areas where fire grates are provided. Collecting vegetation, living or dead, is prohibited. Firewood is for sale in summer at all campgrounds and use of federal recreation sites (including National Parks) for active duty military personnel and dependents with required proper identification (CAC Card or DD Form 1173) for one year. Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), emotional support (“therapy animals”) are not service animals but are considered pets. They may not access trails, park buildings or other non-motorized areas. Service dogs-in-training are not service animals under ADA, but are considered pets.

Fishing

Obtain specific park regulations at visitor centers or park entrance stations. To fish in Rocky Mountain National Park, you must have a valid Colorado state fishing license.

Lost and Found

Please turn found items in at any park visitor center. To inquire about lost items, call the Backcountry Office at (970) 567-1442.

Fees

America the Beautiful – National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands Annual Pass - Free unlimited entry to federal recreation sites (including National Parks) for active duty military personnel and dependents with required proper identification (CAC Card or DD Form 1173) for one year.

America the Beautiful – National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands Senior Pass - A lifetime pass for U.S. citizens or permanent residents age 62 or older.

For your convenience, free WiFi is available in and around the Beaver Meadows Visitor Center and the Kawuneeche Visitor Center.

Hearing impaired persons may call the TTY at (970) 567-1319 from 8 to 5 daily

Dial 911 to report emergencies

To help preserve alpine tundra:

• Stay on trails where they exist.
• Never walk single file off trail.
• Step on rocks or gravel wherever possible.
• The tiny plants thank you.

The Official Park Website is http://www.nps.gov/romo

Follow us on Twitter @ RMNPOfficial

Like us on Facebook @ Rocky Mountain National Park

Pets and Service Animals

Pets are allowed in the park but only in picnic areas, campgrounds and along roadsides. Pets must be on leashes no longer than 6 feet when outside vehicles. For the safety of your pet and for the protection of park wildlife and other visitors, pets and their food should not be left unattended. You may not leave your pet unattended in vehicles if it creates a danger to the animal or if it becomes a public nuisance. Pets may not be left tied to vehicles, trees or other objects.

A Pet Brochure is available at visitor centers and lists all regulations.

Service animals that have been individually trained to perform specific tasks for the benefit of persons with disabilities are allowed in the park. A service animal that is allowed in park facilities, trails, etc., must be doing so in the service of a disabled person. Under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), emotional support (“therapy animals”) are not service animals but are considered pets. They may not access trails, park buildings or other non-motorized areas. Service dogs-in-training are not service animals under ADA, but are considered pets.

Gifts and Food

• Trail Ridge Store
• Gifts, cafe, and coffee bar.

Mountaineering

• Colorado Mountain School
• Rock Climbing

Estes Park, (800) 836-4008

Picnicking

Picnic areas are located throughout Rocky Mountain National Park. Check the park map for specific locations.

Food Storage

Do not attract wildlife, including black bears, to your campsite. Keep a clean camp! Never leave food items unsecured or unattended. Improperly stored or unattended food items will result in a violation notice. “Food items” include food, drinks, toiletries, cosmetics, pet food and bowls, and odoriferous attractants. Garbage, including empty cans, food wrappers, etc., must be disposed of in trash or recycling receptacles.

See page 8 for food storage while camping.

Take Only Pictures

Regulations prohibit disturbing and taking any natural features including pinecones, rocks, antlers, artifacts, soil, rocks, or vegetation in the park. The use of metal detectors within the park is not allowed.

Viewing Wildlife

When viewing any wildlife, please:

• Obey wildlife closure areas and “no stopping” traffic zones.
• Use parking areas along the road.
• If not available, pull your vehicle completely off the road and do not park on vegetation.
• Approaching animals may cause them stress, leading to disease or illness.
• If you cause an animal to move or change its behavior, you are too close!
• Wildlife can be unpredictable. For your safety and theirs, enjoy and photograph wildlife from a distance.
• Never feed wildlife, including birds and chipmunks.
Mountain Climbing
Specialized skills and equipment may be required to safely reach a summit. Spring and early summer climbing can present unique challenges since lingering snow and ice are present. Summiting Longs Peak is not a hike, but a climb. Ask for information before you climb or visit the park website at http://www.nps.gov/romo/planyourvisit/longspeak.htm

Hiking Safety
With over 350 miles of trails, the park offers a vast array of choices. Many higher trails and shaded areas can hold snow well into July. Please check at a visitor center for current conditions before hiking. Even on short day trips, be sure to pack gear for all types of weather (sun, rain, snow, wind). Windproof/waterproof clothing is essential gear to wear or carry.

Trail Tips. Stay together: this is the most important tip that comes from the experience of park search and rescue teams! Be prepared for the rigors of the hike. The keyhole Route can experience very severe consequences. It is recommended that anyone expecting to hike it be well below treeline or back in your car before the storm hits. If you are caught out in the open during a lightning storm, do not seek shelter under a tree or rock overhang. You want to squat down as low as you can, keeping both feet together and avoid being the tallest thing around you. Keep your pack, hiking poles, and all metal away from you while you are exposed.

Falling Trees
Falling trees are an ever-present hazard. When traveling or camping in the forest, trees can fall without warning. Be particularly watchful when it’s windy, or following a snowstorm when branches are heavy with snow. Avoid parking where trees could fall.

Wood Ticks
Summer is synonymous with wood ticks. Starting each summer season hikers become reacquainted with one of our most persistent parasites. Ticks don’t jump onto you from trees, in fact they don’t jump at all. They usually hang onto low-lying vegetation with two legs while holding onto the cut grass or weeds, as if they were shrubbery. If you see a tick on your skin, it is safer to leave it alone, then carefully remove it with a tick remover or small, blunt instrument. Do not try to pull it off your skin with your fingers, as this can spread infection. Do not use petroleum jelly or alcohol to remove ticks. If you have a tick in your skin, it is best to let a professional remove it. Ask your doctor if you are allergic to tick saliva. If you are not allergic, you can treat the tick bite with a cold compress or ice. Do not use ice on a infectious dog bite or cat bite.

Vet Tips
Mountain Lions and Bears

Mountain Lions and Bears are not a hike, but a climb. Ask for information before you climb or visit the park website at http://www.nps.gov/romo/planyourvisit/longspeak.htm

Mountain Lions and Bears
There are noizzly grizzlies in Rocky Mountain National Park. Mountain lions and black bears are powerful and potentially dangerous. Here are some general guidelines for traveling in backcountry areas of Rocky Mountain where wildlife may be encountered:

1) Travel in Groups and make noise as you hike. Keep your group, especially children, close together.
2) Do Not Approach a mountain lion or bear.
3) Stay Calm when you see a mountain lion or bear.
4) Stop; back away slowly. Never turn your back and run.
5) Leave immediately if bear cubs are present, or if a bear huffs, pops its jaw, stomps a paw, or if a bear or mountain lion doesn’t leave the area.
6) Stand Tall and Look Large. Raise your arms. Protect small children by picking them up.
7) If approached, make loud noises, shout, clap hands, clang pots and pans.
8) If attacked by a mountain lion or bear, Fight Back!

Swift Water
Mountain streams can be deadly dangerous, especially during high runoff. Remain back from the banks of streams and rivers. Provide proper supervision for children, who by nature, tend to be attracted to water. Rocks at streamside and in the stream are often slippery, and water beneath them may be deep. Powerful currents in park streams can quickly pull a person underwater and pin him/her below the surface. Melting snow feeds our streams resulting in extremely cold water temperatures.

Hypothermia
Hypothermia is a serious and often fatal condition brought on by exposure to wet and cold. The core body temperature drops to a level that impairs normal muscle and brain activities. Symptoms include drowsiness, loss of judgment or coordination, slurred speech, and uncontrolled shivering. If these symptoms occur, warm the chilled person with dry clothing and warm, nonalcoholic liquids. Get back to your car and seek medical attention. Carry a windproof/snowproof outer shell and extra layers of clothing. Drink plenty of water; high elevation, wind, and cold can dry us out and chill us. Most importantly, stay dry!
**Free Summer Ranger Programs - Alpine & East Side**

All children must be accompanied by an adult. Programs may be cancelled due to high winds or lightning.

### High Country Geology -
Tatra National Park of Slovakia and Poland
Ends 8/17

High Country Tails -
Join a ranger to learn about the wildlife that alpine animals can tell us about living life on the mountaintops.
Ends 8/18

High Country Tails -
The park’s spectacular scenery represents a chapter in a long history of geologic events. Join us on this hike over the tundra and experience the effects of these processes. 7/3 - 8/7

High Country Tails -
In the test, uncover clues, and learn about the animals that call Upper Beaver Meadows home.
Ends 8/17

High Country Tails -
Discover what alpine animals can tell us about living life on the mountaintops.
Ends 8/11

### Plants
Lily Lake Wildflower Walk -
Take time to stop and smell the roses, and enjoy learning about the variety of flowers blooming this season. Easy walk.
Ends 7/6 - 8/17

### Wildlife
Tundra To Trees -
Hike an ancient Ute trail that leads from alpine heights down through old growth forest. Plan to carpool for this moderate 4-mile hike. Bring warm clothing, rain gear, water & snacks. 7/6 - 8/7

Tundra Nature Walk -
Exhilarate your senses with alpine views and miniature wildflower gardens. Dress warmly; plan to caravans to the location.
Ends 8/17

All About Lightning -
Learn why lightning can be a hair-raising experience and find out how to minimize your risk of being struck.
Ends 8/17

Bighorn Basics -
Learn about this magnificent symbol of Rocky.
Ends 8/17

All About Elk -
Meet a ranger to learn about the wildlife that call Sheep Lakes in Horseshoe Park.
Ends 8/17

Horseshore Park Wildlife -
What is that out there? Join a ranger to learn about the wildlife that call Horeseshore Park Home.
Ends 8/17

Birds of Upper Beaver Meadows -
Join a ranger to seek bluebirds, woodpeckers, wrens, and flycatchers in a rich mixture of aspen and pine woodlands. Bring binoculars and a field guide.
Ends 8/11

### Children’s Programs
Junior Ranger Program -
Earn your Junior Ranger badge! Join a ranger for a variety of programs and activities at the Junior Ranger Headquarters. Children must be accompanied by an adult.
Ends 8/17

Andy Aspen Puppet Show -
"Please, fence me in!" Join Andy, his puppet friends and a ranger for a compelling the story of how elk, their environment, and they have wonderful adaptations to do so.
Ends 8/17

### Junior Ranger Program
**Hey, Kids! Come to The Junior Ranger Headquarters!**
Located at Hidden Valley along Trail Ridge Road, this is a place just for you! Join a ranger-led program, complete your Junior Ranger book, and earn a badge. The Junior Ranger activity booklets are offered for kids of all ages and are available at most visitor contact stations. The Junior Ranger Headquarters is open from June 16 – August 17, and programs are offered 4 times a day, 7 days a week! Programs are geared for kids ages 6-12, and it is free to participate. A parent or adult must be present with children at all times.

Junior Ranger Headquarters is open 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. daily.

Jr. Ranger Programs are at 10, 11:30, 1:00 & 2:30 daily.
Lumpy Ridge Hike - Explore the history, dramatic views, and diverse ecosystems found in this unique corner of the park on a moderate 2-mile hike.

Life on the Edge - From elk to pikas, forest trees to tiny alpine flowers, park life comes in all shapes and sizes. Discover how this diversity of life is changing.

Lily Lake Stroll - Enjoy an easy walk around a lovely lake beneath Longs Peak while exploring the natural and human forces that have shaped this landscape.

Hot Topics in the Park - Want to hear the very latest news about bear and beetle or other management challenges in the park? Join us for two short movies and a Ranger to answer questions.

Evening Programs

Aspenglen Evening Program - Enjoy a wide variety of informative and entertaining programs. See the weekly schedule at a visitor center for program topics. Dress warmly.

Moraine Park Evening Program - Enjoy a wide variety of informative and entertaining programs. See the weekly schedule at a visitor center for program topics. Dress warmly.

Night Sky Programs

Astronomy in the Park - Join a park ranger and local astronomers to discover the magic of the night sky. Dress warmly, bring binoculars and a flashlight.

Stories Behind the Moon & Stars - The night sky comes alive through storytelling and fun activities. Celebrate darkness at the Estes Park Memorial Observatory. The observatory is located at 1600 Manford Avenue near the Estes Park High School and Stanley Park Fairgrounds. Dress warmly. Bring binoculars and a flashlight.

International Sister Parks

Rocky Mountain National Park and the Tatra National Parks in Slovakia and Poland have recently renewed their sister park relationship. Because they have similar mountain terrain and ecosystems, and are seeking solutions to common issues, the three parks are exchanging information and expertise to better manage these great preserves for the benefit of all.

Free Park Movie

See the stunning 23-minute park movie at both the Beaver Meadows Visitor Center from 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. and 4:00 p.m.-5 p.m. and at the Kawuneeche Visitor Center during normal business hours. This film features spectacular aerial footage of the rugged high country of Rocky Mountain National Park, as well as wildlife and park history. A Captioned version is available at Kawuneeche Visitor Center and Captioned and Audio Description versions are available at Beaver Meadows Visitor Center. Available in both Español (translation headphones available upon request) and English at Beaver Meadows and Kawuneeche visitor centers.
### Free Summer Ranger Programs - West Side

**All children must be accompanied by an adult**

Programs may be cancelled due to high winds or lightning.

#### Walks and Hikes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Walks and Hikes</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Length</th>
<th>SUN</th>
<th>MON</th>
<th>TUE</th>
<th>WED</th>
<th>THU</th>
<th>FRI</th>
<th>SAT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hike Through History - Discover hidden remnants of</td>
<td>Colorado River Trailhead</td>
<td>3 hours, 3 miles</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mining and dude ranch history along the Colorado</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>9:30 a.m.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>River on this gentle 3-mile hike.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2:30 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inside the Fence – Go inside an enclosure to</td>
<td>Holzwarth Historic Site parking area</td>
<td>1 hour, 1 mile</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>learn about moose, elk and beaver and to explore</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>habitat recovery first hand.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2:00 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beyond The Falls - A pleasant stroll to Adams</td>
<td>East Inlet Trailhead</td>
<td>1.5 hour, 1 mile</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Falls and a spectacular view just beyond</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>10 a.m.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mountain Wildflowers - A ranger will lead you</td>
<td>Kawuneeche Visitor Center flagpole</td>
<td>2 hours</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>to the best current blooms and explore why they’re</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2:30 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>special. Caravan to this week’s flowers.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ends 8/13</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rockies Mountain Heritage Walk - Learn about the</td>
<td>Holzwarth Historic Site parking area</td>
<td>1.5 hour, 1 mile</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>human history of the Kawuneeche Valley while</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>10 a.m.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>strolling to the grounds of an historic guest</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2:00 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ranch. Starts 6/22. Wednesdays only after August</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wilderness Connections - A moderate hike on a</td>
<td>Onahu Trailhead</td>
<td>1.5 to 2 hours, 2 miles</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>new section of the Continental Divide Trail</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>9:30 a.m.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>featuring a lovely meadow and river.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Children's Programs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Children’s Programs</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Length</th>
<th>SUN</th>
<th>MON</th>
<th>TUE</th>
<th>WED</th>
<th>THU</th>
<th>FRI</th>
<th>SAT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Junior Ranger Program - Join a ranger for a short</td>
<td>Kawuneeche Visitor Center</td>
<td>1 hour</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>program and activities to earn your Junior Ranger</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>badge. 6/19 - 8/17</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Web Walkers - Explore a section of the Colorado River.</td>
<td>Coyote Valley Trailhead</td>
<td>1 hour</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Activities are designed for children 6-12 years old.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ends 8/15</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Come Bug a Ranger - Learn fun facts about insects.</td>
<td>Holzwarth Historic Site parking</td>
<td>1 hour</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Puppets, stories and activities for children 4-10</td>
<td>area</td>
<td></td>
<td>10:30 a.m.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>years old. Ends 8/14</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>9:45 a.m.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Walk Backwards - Step back in time and experience</td>
<td>Holzwarth Historic Site parking</td>
<td>2 hour activity</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>life on a 1920s dude ranch...chores, games, period</td>
<td>area</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>costumes. For children 4-12. Registration required at</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kawuneeche Visitor Center or (970)627-3471. Ends 8/9</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Talks & Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Talks &amp; Activities</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Length</th>
<th>SUN</th>
<th>MON</th>
<th>TUE</th>
<th>WED</th>
<th>THU</th>
<th>FRI</th>
<th>SAT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Holzwarth Historic Site - Tour a 1920s-era dude ranch</td>
<td>Holzwarth Historic Site parking</td>
<td>Drop-in tour</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>for a taste of early homesteading and tourism.</td>
<td>area</td>
<td></td>
<td>10:30 a.m.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buildings Closed (No Tours) Thursdays.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>4:30 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skins and Things - Examine the skins, skulls, antlers,</td>
<td>Kawuneeche Visitor Center</td>
<td>40 minutes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>teeth and bones of many park mammals.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3:15 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ranger's Flyfishing School - Learn about the park's</td>
<td>Timber Creek Campground</td>
<td>3 hour activity</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fish management program, stream ecology, and flycasting.</td>
<td>amphitheater</td>
<td></td>
<td>3:15 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bring your flyfishing gear or borrow the ranger's</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3:15 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fish. 6/24 - 8/12.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3:15 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Behind the Scenes - See short videos documenting how</td>
<td>Kawuneeche Visitor Center</td>
<td>1 hour discussion</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the park addresses challenges like elk management,</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>10:30 a.m.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pine beetles, and bear safety. Starts 6/22.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>10:30 a.m.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sisters of Courage - Learn about the pioneer</td>
<td>Kawuneeche Visitor Center</td>
<td>2.5 hour</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>experience through the story of the remarkable</td>
<td>flagpole</td>
<td>activity</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harbison sisters and their family. Includes a 1/2 mile</td>
<td></td>
<td>1 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>walk to the homestead site. Starts 7/1.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exploring with a Camera - Focus on composition,</td>
<td>Timber Lake Trailhead</td>
<td>1-1.5 hour</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>light and basic tips to improve your pictures during</td>
<td></td>
<td>activity</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>this photography walk. Ends 8/2.</td>
<td></td>
<td>2:30 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Recycling Available in Major Park Locations

Glass, plastic #1 through #7 and aluminum may be recycled in park campgrounds and at major park locations. Look for our distinctive recycling containers or ask at any visitor center or campground for their locations.
Timber Creek Evening Program - Presentation available nightly at Timber Creek. Check at the campground or Kawuneeche Visitor Center for topics.

Saturday Night in the Park - Enjoy an evening program in the auditorium. For topics, inquire at the Kawuneeche Visitor Center.

Walk Into Twilight - Enjoy a leisurely stroll as darkness, night sounds and wildlife fill the valley. Bring warm clothes, good hiking shoes, and a flashlight. Ends 8/11

Old Ranch Campfire - Roasting marshmallows (bring 'em), tall tales (the old wrangler will tell 'em) and campfire songs bring back the old days. Dress warmly. Ends 8/9

Night Sky Programs

Celestial Wilderness - Use a telescope to explore the astronomy of Rocky's night sky. If overcast, meet at Kawuneeche Visitor Center for indoor presentation. Ends 8/10

**“Fire On the Mountain”**

Fire! The word can bring wonder, excitement and fear. But to those who manage America’s national parks, the word is an accepted part of the challenging vocabulary of ecosystems. Rocky Mountain National Park’s own Fern Lake Fire started with an illegal campfire on Tuesday, October 9, 2012, in steep and rugged Forest Canyon. Firefighters from across the country battled it for two months before the spread of the nearly 3,500-acre blaze was temporarily halted by an early December snowstorm.

Large fires in high elevations of the Rocky Mountains are different than many other areas of the country. They are infrequent and have the potential for high consequences and big impacts on the landscape. The Fern Lake Fire was no exception. Largely inaccessible, Forest Canyon had been untouched by fire for at least 800 years. A long-term drought had left fuels tinder-dry, and the forest fuel layer there can exceed twenty feet deep. Trees killed by mountain pine beetle and windy conditions in the canyon only increased the danger to firefighters.

Park fire managers knew from the beginning it was going to be a long-term event. There was limited ability to fight the fire directly because of high winds, steep terrain, and beetle-killed trees. Firefighter safety is the park’s number one priority. The high winds impacted both air operations and safety of firefighters.

Wildfire experts anticipate that we can expect fires to continue at this level unless conditions change. Continued drought will intensify the number of fires in our forests. The trend indicates larger and more rapidly spreading fires can be expected. The number of acres burned nationally has been at historic highs for six of the last nine years. There is no indication that this trend will reverse soon.

And this fire? The last time smoke was seen was January 7, however, it will not be called “out” until no smoke or heat is detectable.

Fern Lake Fire from Trail Ridge Road.

This Park Paper

The park newspaper is produced by Rocky Mountain National Park in cooperation with -- and funding provided by -- the Rocky Mountain Nature Association. Printed on recycled paper.
Backcountry Camping

Permits are required for all overnight backcountry camping, and reservations are recommended for summer. Camping is allowed only in designated sites and areas. Permits may be obtained at the Beaver Meadows Backcountry Office or Kawuneeche Visitor Center. For further information write to: Backcountry Office, Rocky Mountain National Park, Estes Park, Colorado 80517 or phone (970) 586-1242. The administrative permit fee of $20 is required for backcountry permits between May 1 and October 31; there is no charge in winter.

Sprague Lake Accessible Backcountry Campsite

Reservations and information are available through the Backcountry Office at (970) 586-1242. This site accommodates 12 campers with a maximum of five wheelchair users at the camp. The administrative permit fee is $20 from May 1 to October 31.

For your safety and the protection of park wildlife, carry in/carry out, commercially-made, hard-sided, bear-resistant food storage canisters are required of all backcountry campers parkwide between May 1 and October 31. Canisters may be rented or purchased at outdoor shops in surrounding communities. Pack out all garbage.
Bark beetles are native insects that have shaped the forests of North America for thousands of years. Bark beetles range from Canada to Mexico and can be found at elevations from sea level to 11,000 feet. Rocky Mountain National Park is just one relatively small area where trees are dying from the beetle epidemic. Because the task is enormous, the park’s priorities for mitigation of the effects of beetles are focused on removing hazard trees and hazard fuels related to the protection of life and property.

There is no effective means of controlling a large beetle outbreak in such a vast area as the park’s backcountry, which comprises about 95% of the park. Therefore, in the backcountry, bark beetle populations are allowed to fluctuate under natural processes with some limited mitigation work occurring around designated backcountry campsites.

To make park roads, trailheads, picnic areas & campgrounds safe for visitors, dead & dying trees are cut and stacked. Each winter, when snows are deep, teepee shaped piles of slash are burned while some of the wood is made available to the public through firewood sales.

Bark Beetle Impacts From Canada to Mexico

An infected tree will have pitch tubes on its trunk and boring dust (frass) at the base of the tree. Sometimes the tree will be successful in repelling or “pitching out” beetles and they are occasionally found imbedded in a pitch out.

Protect Bears!

Black bears live in Rocky Mountain National Park. The park has a relatively small bear population. Research suggests there are 20 to 24 bears in the park, which is one of the lowest densities of black bears in the country. This research also indicates that in the past twenty years human food and garbage were about 15 times more commonly utilized than in 1984-1991, when previous research occurred.

Unfortunately, many people think wildlife agencies will "just relocate" a habituated bear. That rarely happens. Habituatated bears are killed. We all need to take action so a bear does not start down this deadly path.

You Can Save The Life of A Bear!

When using trash containers please make sure the door is latched. Bears have broken in to cars in the park. Try not to leave any food or trash in your vehicle. If you must, store it in the trunk. If your vehicle does not have a trunk, put any scented items low in the vehicle and cover them. Close your windows and lock your doors. If camping in the park use food storage lockers. Food storage canisters are required for backcountry campers. The actions you take can truly save the life of a bear!

Keep Wildlife Wild

Never feed wildlife. A fine may be issued to violators. Animals can kick, bite, or gore you. They can become dependent on human food and lose the ability to feed naturally. Wildlife also carry diseases which can be transmitted to humans, such as rabies and plague. Photograph animals from the roadside.

Don’t let this happen to you!
### EAST SIDE TRAILHEADS:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trail</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Round Trip Distance</th>
<th>Elevation Gain</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Deer Mountain</td>
<td>Deer Ridge Junction</td>
<td>6 miles</td>
<td>1083 feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gem Lake</td>
<td>Lumpy Ridge Trailhead</td>
<td>3.3 miles</td>
<td>971 feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estes Cone</td>
<td>Lily Lake Trailhead</td>
<td>7.4 miles</td>
<td>2369 feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eugenia Mine</td>
<td>Longs Peak Trailhead</td>
<td>2.8 miles</td>
<td>508 feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Twin Sisters</td>
<td>Lily Lake Trailhead</td>
<td>7.4 miles</td>
<td>2338 feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sandbeach Lake</td>
<td></td>
<td>8.4 miles</td>
<td>1971 feet</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### FAMILY FRIENDLY TRAILS:

- **Lily Lake**: On Highway 7 south of Estes Park - .8 mile loop - 20 feet
- **Alluvial Fan**: Horseshoe Park on the road to Endovalley Picnic Area - .25 mile - 20 feet
- **Tundra Communities Trail**: At Rock Cut on Trail Ridge Road - .5 mile - 260 feet

### WEST SIDE TRAILHEADS:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trail</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Round Trip Distance</th>
<th>Elevation Gain</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Onahu Creek/Green Mountain Loop</td>
<td>Onahu Creek Trailhead or Green Mt. Trailhead, Kawuneeche Valley</td>
<td>7.6 miles</td>
<td>1100 feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Granite Falls</td>
<td>Green Mountain Trailhead in Kawuneeche Valley</td>
<td>10.4 miles</td>
<td>1406 feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timber Lake</td>
<td>Timber Lake Trailhead, Kawuneeche Valley</td>
<td>10.6 miles</td>
<td>2060 feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lulu City</td>
<td>Colorado River Trailhead, north of Timber Creek Campground</td>
<td>7.4 miles</td>
<td>350 feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Little Yellowstone Canyon</td>
<td>Colorado River Trailhead, north of Timber Creek Campground</td>
<td>9 miles</td>
<td>990 feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red Mountain</td>
<td>Colorado River Trailhead, north of Timber Creek Campground</td>
<td>11 miles</td>
<td>2565 feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lone Pine Lake</td>
<td>East Inlet, on the far east end of Grand Lake</td>
<td>11 miles</td>
<td>1494 feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cascade Falls</td>
<td>North Inlet Trail of Tunnel Road in Grand Lake</td>
<td>6.8 miles</td>
<td>300 feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shadow Mountain Lookout</td>
<td>East side of Shadow Mountain Lake, just south of Grand Lake</td>
<td>9.4 miles</td>
<td>1533 feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Shore Trail</td>
<td>East side of Shadow Mountain Lake, just south of Grand Lake</td>
<td>5.2 miles</td>
<td>100 feet</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### TRAIL RIDGE ROAD TRAILHEADS:

- **Alpine Ridge Trail**: Near Alpine Visitor Center - .5 mile - 200 feet
- **Ute Trail**: Across the road from Alpine Visitor Center, as well as other access points - 1-8 miles - 1038 feet

### FAMILY FRIENDLY TRAILS: PETs NOT PERMITTED ON ANY PARK TRAILS.

- **Coyote Valley Trail**: Follows the bank of the Colorado River, with views of the Never Summer Mountains. Packed gravel, level grade. Interpretive signs. See moose, songbirds, and wildflowers.
- **Adams Falls**: East Inlet, located on the far east end of Grand Lake - .6 mile - 80 feet
- **Holzwarth Historic Site**: 8 miles north of Kawuneeche Visitor Center on Highway 34 - 1 mile - 10 feet

---

### Leave No Trace

With 3 million visitors every year, the wild lands of Rocky Mountain National Park are heavily used. While hiking, camping, and all your park activities, do your part to preserve this national treasure by following the seven easy Leave No Trace Ethics:

- Plan ahead and prepare
- Travel and camp on durable surfaces
- Dispose of waste properly
- Leave what you find
- Minimize campfire impacts
- Respect wildlife
- Be considerate of other visitors

For more information visit [http://www.lnt.org/](http://www.lnt.org/)

---

**Hiking Trails**

With over 350 miles of trails, the park offers a vast array of hikes. A small selection of trails is described below. Check at a visitor center for current conditions. Additional hiking guides, books, and maps are available for purchase at all park visitor centers. See page 3 for safety tips.
Take the trail to the clouds and not only will you find breathtaking vistas, you'll find the best selection of Rocky Mountain National Park souvenirs including an amazing selection of authentic Native American gifts. Plus, enjoy a bite to eat at our café and coffee bar.

VISIT US AT THE TOP OF TRAIL RIDGE ROAD

trailridgeshoutore.com

WITH OVER 350 MILES OF TRAILS, THE PARK OFFERS A VAST ARRAY OF HIKES. A SMALL SELECTION OF TRAILS IS DESCRIBED BELOW.

CHECK AT A VISITOR CENTER FOR CURRENT CONDITIONS. ADDITIONAL HIKING GUIDES, BOOKS AND MAPS ARE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE AT ALL PARK VISITOR CENTERS. SEE PAGE 3 FOR SAFETY TIPS.
Shuttle Bus Information

The park's three shuttle bus routes will be modified during the Bear Lake Road Reconstruction Project.

This summer one section of Bear Lake Road will be accessible by free shuttle bus only. This section is the area of road approximately one mile southwest of Moraine Park Visitor Center to Bear Lake. This will occur weekdays, from May 28, through July 19, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Private vehicles will be allowed both in directions prior to 9:00 a.m. and after 4:00 p.m. Private vehicles will be allowed all day on weekends. On weekdays, visitors in private vehicles who make the 9:00 a.m. cutoff time, will be allowed to leave throughout the day. All visitors, in private vehicles or on shuttle buses, should expect at least two 20-minute delays in both directions through the construction area. There will be no construction delays between Park & Ride and Bear Lake. There may be night closures during periods of road construction. Night closures will be announced at least two weeks prior to occurring.

The first bus on the Moraine Park and Bear Lake routes will depart from the Moraine Park Visitor Center at 7 a.m. and the last bus will leave at 7 p.m. The last bus of the day on the Moraine Park and Bear Lake routes will leave Bear Lake and Fern Lake trailheads at 7:30 p.m.

Buses on the Moraine Park Route will run between the Moraine Park Visitor Center and the Fern Lake bus stop with stops at Moraine Park Campground, Cub Lake Trailhead and Fern Lake bus stop. Moraine Park Route buses will run every 20 minutes.

Buses on the Bear Lake Route will run between Moraine Park Visitor Center and Bear Lake with stops at Hollowell Park, Park & Ride, Bierstadt bus stop, Glacier Gorge Trailhead and Bear Lake. Bear Lake Route buses will run every 15 minutes but may be delayed during periods of road construction.

Buses on the Hiker Shuttle Route will make stops at the Estes Park Fairgrounds Park-n-Ride, the Estes Park Visitor Center, the Beaver Meadows Visitor Center, and the Moraine Park Visitor Center where passengers will transfer to buses on either the Bear Lake Route or the Moraine Park Route. The first bus will leave the Fairgrounds Park-n-Ride at 6:30 a.m., and the last bus will leave the Moraine Park Visitor Center bound for Estes Park at 8 p.m. The Hiker Shuttle will run on an hourly schedule early and late in the day, switching to a half-hour schedule from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

The park shuttle runs every 20 minutes.