



July 2021

News From Around the Rock

Your Town Talk

Good to Know

Water conservation is the reason; beauty is the goal

The heat and drought is a constant reminder that Castle Rock is in a semi-arid environment. That means using native or adaptive plants in our landscape is really important. Castle Rock Water is hosting its third annual ColoradoScape Contest Thursday, July 15, through Sunday, Aug. 15. Enter to win a new front-yard makeover worth \$8,000. The goal is to have a beautifully landscaped yard full of colorful flowers, stunning shrubs and striking trees, not a water-guzzling lawn. Plus, converting to ColoradoScape could save as much as 60% in water use!

The winner will get a professionally designed and installed ColoradoScape, and an updated irrigation system with a smart controller. To enter, post a short video on social media (Facebook, Instagram or Twitter) about how your lawn sucks water. Be sure to set your privacy settings to public, and tag "Town of Castle Rock Government" or @CRgov.

Learn more about the contest and view previous years' winners at CRconserve.com/Contest.

Don't miss the Summer Concert Series

Tickets are on sale now for Castle Rock's premier live music events. Nestled in the beautiful setting of Philip S. Miller Park, The Amphitheater is the perfect place to spend a summer night. Tickets for the entire series and more information are available at CRgov.com/PSMConcerts.

New land donation becomes open space

Residents know open space is part of the quality of life in Castle Rock. And, a new land donation is helping the Town keep that commitment.

Town Council recently accepted a land donation from the Estate of Robert F. Metzler. The gift consists of about 60 acres of property, including a homestead, generally along Founders Parkway and Crowfoot Valley Road.

As part of the agreement, the Metzler estate has donated a conservation easement, which limits the uses of the property going forward and preserves the natural state of the land. Douglas Land Conservancy, a local nonprofit focused on land conservation in Douglas County, holds the conservation easement and will help ensure the property, including a four-acre tract containing the homestead and ranch buildings, are managed appropriately.

By accepting this donation, the Town has committed to a first phase of improvements, which includes 2.5 miles of soft-surface trails and parking.



Western Heritage Welcome set for July 30

While Castle Rock may be a thriving community, the Town's western heritage is alive and well. Celebrate everything cowboys, horses and steer at this year's Western Heritage Welcome Friday, July 30.

The Old West will truly come to life to celebrate the arrival of the Douglas County Fair and Rodeo. Watch as cowhands drive a heard of longhorn steer and cattle through Downtown Castle Rock. Starting at Rock Park, the herd will continue along Perry Street to Festival Park. Grab a spot along Perry Street between Fifth and Second streets for the best views.

The festivities begin at 6 p.m. Following the steer drive, don't miss free western-themed activities, food trucks, cowboy-themed cocktails and entertainment for the whole family in Festival Park.

More about the Western Heritage Welcome is at CRgov.com/WesternHeritage. This year's Douglas County Fair and Rodeo runs Aug. 5-8. Get tickets at douglascountyfairandrodeo.com.

National Night Out is Aug. 3

Castle Rock Police Department invites the Castle Rock community to National Night Out from 5 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 3, at Philip S. Miller Park.

This nationwide event promotes a strong sense of community, giving first responders and neighbors the opportunity to meet one another and build camaraderie to make our neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live.

Don't miss this fun opportunity to interact with CRPD specialized units, as well as Castle Rock Fire and Rescue first responders. Demonstrations, hands-on activities and giveaways will be part of the festivities. CRPD will also be serving up free hamburgers, hot dogs and beverages.

Learn more at CRgov.com/NightOut.

Know before you go

Wondering what road and lane closures are happening around Town? There's an easy way to check before you start your drive. Visit CRgov.com/Roadwork to view a map of all lane and road closures. To check the status on annual neighborhood roadwork, like slurry seal, visit CRgov.com/PMP.

Construction begins on Town's newest park

Community input was an important part to creating the plan for Cobblestone Ranch Park. Now, construction is getting underway.

The 166-acre site is located along Castle Oaks and Arabella drives. The \$5.6 million first phase of the project is set to include picnic areas, a large playground, a pump track for biking, a half-court for basketball, a green lawn and other landscaping, sidewalks and off-street parking. Additionally, Town Council added six pickleball courts and a plumbed restroom to the plan.

Work on the first phase is expected to be completed in spring 2022. View the full master plan and renderings of the final park plan, or get updates on the project's progress, at CRgov.com/FutureParks.

Keeping Castle Rock great

Castle Rock is a great place to live, in large part because of the Town's amazing amenities and outstanding services – particularly from the Fire and Police departments.

Every additional person who comes into the community – whether for a few days or for good – drives a need for more resources.

It's important to ensure all who enjoy Castle Rock pay their fair share. That's why Town Council is considering asking voters this fall to increase Town tax rates for the first time since 1994.

Adding a tax of about \$15,000 to the construction of a new home could allow the addition of 75 fire and police staff over the next five years. Adding \$7.25 to the cost of a \$125 hotel stay could enhance the funds available for maintaining open spaces, trails, parks and more.

These taxes would have minimal financial impacts on current Town residents but could pay dividends relative to their quality of life.

Another potential ballot question is requesting a 10-year time out from revenue restrictions of the State's TABOR law. A strong year of retail sales; a pass-through of County funds for a park project; and an upcoming I-25 interchange have the Town bumping up against these restrictions. A 10-year timeout would allow the Town to maximize resources to meet police, fire, EMS, parks and roads needs.

A request to increase to the Town's sales tax by 1 cent on each \$10 purchase is also under consideration. Decisions are expected in July and August. Learn more at CRgov.com/OurFuture.

water
WISER!

Water conservation and efficiency tip
CRconserve.com



It's Smart Irrigation Month, so here are the top three tips for better irrigation! Following these tips can help prevent water waste (and unnecessary spikes in your water bill). Being smart with your irrigation can also increase the health of your landscape and reduce maintenance.

1) Ensure sprinklers spray from head-to-head for efficient coverage and to prevent brown spots; 2) Upgrade nozzles to new rotary models that reduce evaporation and apply water at a slower, easier-to-absorb rate; 3) Install a weather-based smart controller that makes efficient irrigation as easy as a push of a button on an app. Castle Rock Water can help you with product rebates, tips and workshops, available at CRconserve.com.

Events in Castle Rock CRgov.com/Events

July 7: Wellness Wednesday - Yoga in the Park, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., Festival Park.

July 9, 16, 23, 30 & Aug. 6: Fitness Fridays, 8 to 9 a.m., The Amphitheater at Philip S. Miller Park.

July 10: Ridgeline Wranglers Trail Maintenance Event, 8:30 to 11:30 a.m., Ridgeline Open Space.

July 10: Summer Concert Series – Parmalee, 6 to 10 p.m., The Amphitheater at Philip S. Miller Park.

July 11, 18, 25 & Aug. 1: Festival Park Farmers Market, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Festival Park.

July 11, 18, 25 & Aug. 1: Yoga in the Park, 9 to 10 a.m., The Amphitheater at Philip S. Miller Park.

July 13: Raptors Over the Rock, 6 to 7:30 p.m., The Amphitheater at Philip S. Miller Park.

July 14: Wellness Wednesday - Chalk in the Park, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Festival Park.

July 15: Tunes for Trails, Perks for Parks – That Eighties Band, 6:30 to 9 p.m., The Amphitheater at Philip S. Miller Park.

July 17: Castle Rock WineFest, 2 to 8 p.m., Butterfield Crossing Park.

July 21: Wellness Wednesday - Yoga in the Park, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., Festival Park.

July 23: Pedal the Moon, 7 to 10 p.m., Festival Park.

July 30: Western Heritage Welcome, 6 to 9 p.m., Perry Street in Downtown Castle Rock.

July 31-Aug. 8: Douglas County Fair & Rodeo, Douglas County Fairgrounds.

July 31: Boots & Brews, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Festival Park.

Aug. 3: National Night Out, 5 to 8 p.m., Philip S. Miller Park.

Aug. 5: Summer Concert Series – The Beach Boys (sold out), 6 to 10 p.m., The Amphitheater at Philip S. Miller Park.

Aug. 6: First Fridays – TUSK a tribute to Fleetwood Mac, 5 to 9 p.m., Festival Park.

CRGOV.COM

On the Web: Fact or fiction?

If you have questions about your Town, we want to help you get accurate information. Log on to CRgov.com/Facts to submit your question. The webpage is a one-stop resource for important topics in the community.