

# Your Town

News From Around the Rock

## Salak

OCTOBER 2022

### GOOD TO KNOW



### Fall family fun, all month long

Leaves are falling, and autumn is calling. If you're ready to celebrate pumpkin spice and everything nice, we have the perfect solution. Join the Town for tons of fall fun:

#### FALL FESTIVAL

**Saturday, Oct. 15**

Experience the fall season from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Festival Park with family activities, seasonal food and craft vendors, and a creepy, crawly animal presentation from Nature's Educators. Learn more at [CRgov.com/RockAnimals](http://CRgov.com/RockAnimals).

#### SPOOKTACULAR

**Saturday, Oct. 22**

Join us from 1 to 4 p.m. at Philip S. Miller Park to celebrate all things not-so-spooky. Family friendly costumes are encouraged, but not required. Activities include games, prizes, food and candy. Learn more at [CRgov.com/Spooktacular](http://CRgov.com/Spooktacular).

#### PIE BAKE-OFF

**Saturday, Nov. 5**

Don't be afraid to take whisks in the Town's annual pie baking competition. Open to all bakers, there will be two categories for judging – fruit and non-fruit. Junior bakers are also welcome in the youth age group. Registration and more information at [CRgov.com/Pies](http://CRgov.com/Pies).

## Public safety, roads, water remain top budget priorities

**P**ublic safety will continue as a top priority in the Town's 2023 Budget, which Town Council was set to approve on second reading in early October.

To meet this priority, a portion of the Town's sales tax will be reallocated from its Transportation Fund to the General Fund, to allow for the hiring of four police officers and four firefighters in 2023.

Enhancing the Town's roads will remain a priority, with construction of the Crystal Valley interchange expected to begin in 2023, along with \$18.5 million in annual pavement maintenance. Another project planned is the widening of Fifth Street between Gilbert Street and Founders Parkway/Ridge Road.

Securing the Town's water future will remain a key priority. To help provide for nearly \$300 million in investments over the next five years, a rate increase of 3.9% for the typical residential customer is recommended for 2023.

No tax increases are recommended. The Town's property tax is proposed to remain \$35.53 annually for a median-valued home.

To maintain strong Parks and Recreation, improvements would continue at Butterfield Crossing and Mitchell Gulch parks, and Plum Creek North Park would be constructed. Visit [CRgov.com/2023Budget](http://CRgov.com/2023Budget) to view the budget and related documents.

## Council election to be held in November

The ballot for this November's election will include candidates for Castle Rock Mayor and District 3 and 5 Councilmembers. Ballots will be in the mail the week of Oct. 17 for the Nov. 8 election.

Incumbent Jason E. Gray will be the only candidate on the ballot for Mayor. Districts 3 and 5 both have multiple candidates:

**District 3** (eastern portions of The Meadows, Castle Highlands, Red Hawk and Wolfensberger Road corridor west of Prairie Hawk Drive)

- Dean Legatski
- Kevin Bracken

**District 5** (southeast Castle Rock)

- Caryn Johnson
- Max Brooks
- Caryn Ann Harlos

Only registered voters within Districts 3 and 5 will have those candidates on their ballots. The Mayoral candidate will be on the ballots of all registered voters in Town. To find your election district, visit [CRgov.com/ElectionDistricts](http://CRgov.com/ElectionDistricts).

Write-in candidates could still be declared; visit [CRgov.com/2022Election](http://CRgov.com/2022Election) in mid-October for any updates.

The Town conducts its elections by mail ballot. To register to vote, update voter information, get a replacement ballot, find ballot drop box and voting locations, and more, visit [DouglasVotes.com](http://DouglasVotes.com).

## Fire won't wait, plan your escape

Fire Prevention Week is Oct. 9-15, and Castle Rock Fire and Rescue — in partnership with the National Fire Protection Association — is using this opportunity to encourage families to develop a home fire escape.

Today's homes burn faster than ever. You may have as little as two minutes to safely escape a home fire from the time the smoke alarm sounds. Your ability to get out of a home during a fire depends on an early warning from smoke alarms and advance planning. Everyone needs to be prepared and practice a home fire escape so they know what to do when the smoke alarm sounds. Given that every home is different, every home fire escape plan will also be different.

Fire won't wait. Plan your escape. Visit [CRgov.com/FirePreventionWeek](http://CRgov.com/FirePreventionWeek) to start making your home escape plan today.

## Provide input on Crowfoot Valley Road widening recommendations

Join us for the Crowfoot Valley Road widening project open house from 4 to 6 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 27, at Fire Station 155, 3833 Crowfoot Valley Road. The project team is seeking feedback on its updated design recommendation for the widening of Crowfoot Valley Road from Knobcone Drive to Macanta Boulevard. The updated recommended design includes wider and taller roadway medians to encourage slower driving speeds. This project is a collaborative effort between the Town and Douglas County. For more information or to provide comments through Nov. 10, visit [CRgov.com/Crowfoot](http://CRgov.com/Crowfoot).

## Share your thoughts on water conservation

Securing long-term water for the community is Castle Rock Water's primary goal, and conservation is key to that plan. The Water Efficiency Master Plan identifies the need for and how to promote water conservation. It's updated every seven years, and we would like your input on the new plan.

The focus of the plan is to conserve 18% more water, saving the community 1,610 acre-feet of water per year. This equates to potentially avoiding \$56 million or more in future investments. Castle Rock Water customers have already reduced demand by 20% through water schedules and budgets; rebates for fixtures and turf removal; water leak detection; and park field retrofits.

Please take 5 minutes to answer a handful of questions to help guide the path for long-term conservation. Let us know what programs are working, if we need to be more stringent and what our role should entail. Find the questions at [CRgov.com/WEMPSurvey](http://CRgov.com/WEMPSurvey).



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

### Shower better to save water and money

How can you potentially save 2,900 gallons of water, the amount of electricity needed to power a home for 13 days, and more than \$70 in energy and water costs every year? By showering better! According to the Environmental Protection Agency, showering is one of the top ways we use water in the home, accounting for nearly 17% of indoor water use. Every time you shower, you also use energy to heat the water. But, you can shower better by replacing your old showerhead with a WaterSense-labeled model. You can also conserve water and save money by taking the next step: Reduce showers to less than seven minutes, and limit them to every couple of days, as needed. Shower better for a strong water future — and cost savings for you.

## EVENTS

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

**Oct. 7: Date Night — Comedy**, 6 p.m.,  
The Amphitheater at Philip S. Miller Park

**Oct. 8: Wildfire preparedness presentation**, 10 to 11:15 a.m.,  
Fire Headquarters/Station 151

**Oct. 15: Fall Festival**, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.,  
Festival Park

**Oct. 18: Town Council meeting**, 6 p.m.,  
Town Hall Council Chambers

**Oct. 22: Spooktacular**, 1 to 4 p.m.,  
PSM Park

**Oct. 27: Crowfoot Valley Road widening open house**, 4 to 6 p.m., Fire Station 155

**Oct. 28: Fangtastic Festival**,  
noon to 3 p.m., Festival Park

**Nov. 1: Town Council meeting**, 6 p.m.,  
Town Hall Council Chambers

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

## Play it spooky safe this season

Before heading out for trick-or-treating this year, keep these tips in mind to make sure those little witches and goblins stay safe: Be sure costumes are bright, reflective and flame-retardant. Carry a flashlight, and remember to practice safe street-crossing by using crosswalks and walk signals. Plus, always trick or treat with an adult. It's also a good idea for parents to make sure candy is well wrapped and identifiable before breaking into the treats. Finally, drivers, slow down, and watch for children in the street. Have a happy and safe Halloween, Castle Rock!



 Find us online:  
[CRgov.com](http://CRgov.com)

### Enjoy Town's many outdoor spaces

The Town's parks, trails and open spaces are great places to visit year-round. From hiking and biking to snowshoeing and cross-country skiing, there is always something to do. Stay up to date on trail conditions, fitness routes and more at [CRgov.com/ParksAndRecMap](http://CRgov.com/ParksAndRecMap).