

# Mueller State Park

## Programs



June 2018

Always hike with a map, water, and weather protection

**Friday, June 1<sup>st</sup>****Hike: Calypso Orchids****9:00 am** Meet at the Visitor Center

On this easy 1.5 mile hike, join Naturalist Jim to look for one of the most beautiful flowers in the park. They only bloom for about a week!

**Touch Table: Meet a Tiger Salamander****2:00-4:00 pm** at the Visitor Center

Join Naturalist Erin to meet Colorado's only salamander species and our State Amphibian! Discover what they eat and how they live.

**Saturday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>****Hike: Elk Meadow to Murphy's Cut****8:30 am** Meet at Elk Meadow Trailhead

Join Naturalist Cindi on this 3.5-4 mile hike that will take you winding through forest and open meadows that showcase Raspberry Mountain, Pikes Peak and Sentinel Point. Travel to the cut made for the Midland Terminal Railroad tracks and loop back to see Peak View Pond.

**Hike: Bird Walk****8:30 am** Meet at Elk Meadow Trailhead

Join Naturalist Craig to look for birds on this easy 2 mile walk. Learn about bird's behavior, habitats, food and more!

**Amphitheater: The History of Mueller****8:00 pm** Meet at the Amphitheater

From Native Americans to today, learn about all of the people who lived off the land here and the events that led to Mueller becoming a State Park. This event is led by Naturalist Erin.

**Monday, June 4<sup>th</sup>****Walk: Trees of Mueller/ Wapiti Trail****2:00 pm** Meet at the Visitor Center

Join Naturalist Erin for a short 0.8 mile walk to learn about the different trees at Mueller. You can make a tree identification book and learn some interesting facts about trees.

**Wednesday, June 6<sup>th</sup>****Touch Table: Horns and Antlers****2:00-3:00 pm** Meet at the Visitor Center

Join Naturalist Cassie to see a variety of horns and antlers that came from animals in the Pikes Peak area. Find out who has horns and who has antlers. Feel how heavy they are! Drop in!

**Thursday, June 7<sup>th</sup>****Ecology Hike****9:30 am** Meet at the Visitor Center

Join Naturalist Linda on this 0.8 mile loop to explore how the plants and animals live and prosper in this mountain environment.

**Amphitheater: History of Early Explorers & Military in the Pikes Peak Region****8:30 pm** The Spanish from Mexico were amongst the earliest explorers in Colorado as they searched unsuccessfully for gold! After the Louisiana Purchase, the US Army was sent to explore and map the new land. Next came exploring mountain men and government mapping teams in search of a route to build the railroad to California. Naturalist Paul is presenting this history series, a new one every Thursday night! Dress warmly!**Friday, June 8<sup>th</sup>****Hike: Rock Pond****8:30 am** Meet at the Visitor Center patio

Join Naturalist Cindi on this 5-mile loop. Highlights on this trail are two beautiful ponds, Rock and Geer and a narrow canyon with creeks and a waterfall. We may even see some Calypso or Lady Slipper Orchids! This is a moderate to difficult hike due to hills.

**Hike: Cahill Cabin****10:00 am** Meet at Grouse Mountain Trailhead Join Naturalists Jeremy and Sylvia on this historic 3-mile loop to the old Cahill Cabin and Pond. This hike is rated moderate for hills.**Archery for Beginners****2:00 pm** Meet at Dragonfly Pond Archery is a fun and safe sport! Join Naturalists Jeremy and Sylvia to learn how to hold a bow, nock an arrow, aim, shoot and more. Ages 8 and up are welcome.**Amphitheater: Animal Trivia****8:30 pm** Meet at the Amphitheater The old fashioned shaving brush came from which animal's fur? Native Americans thought this animal's tail was a delicacy to eat! Join Naturalists Jeremy and Sylvia for fun facts about the animals that live at Mueller State Park. Dress warmly!**Saturday, June 9<sup>th</sup>****Fly Fishing for Beginners****2:00 pm** Meet at Dragonfly Pond Parking Lot Join Naturalists Linda and Erin to learn the art of acting like an insect! Fly fishing involves lures that look just like aquatic insects and the skill to make your lure act like one.**Amphitheater: Pony Express & Cattle Drives****7:00 pm** Meet at the Amphitheater Come join Guest Speaker Ken Valles and hear the incredible story of the Pony Express, which includes Colorado Territory and doughnuts! The brief enterprise was adventurous, exciting, tasty and dangerous. Plus, re-live the early cattle drives, hear about the cowboys, the real and the reel. Weather-permitting, there will be photos, video, and a display of artifacts, replicas, and suggested books/videos. Dress warmly!**Sunday, June 10<sup>th</sup>****Hike: Geer Pond/ Lost Pond****9:00 am** Meet at Lost Pond Trailhead

Watch for water loving wildlife such as beaver, muskrats and redwing blackbirds with Naturalist Erin. This hike is 2.5 miles.

**Hike: Elk Brain Teaser Hike****1:00 pm** Meet at the Visitor Center

On this easy 1 mile guided-hike, join Naturalist Pat to solve a nature riddle about elk by finding and deciphering clues left along the trail. For adults and children ages 7 and up.

**Monday, June 11<sup>th</sup>****Hike: Dynamite Cabin****2:00 pm** Meet at Grouse Mountain Trailhead Savor the immense variety of wildflowers, trees and wildlife as you hike the Dynamite Trail with Naturalist Erin. Easy to moderate 1.8 miles long.**Amphitheater: Animals of Mueller****8:30 pm** Meet at the Amphitheater Have you heard an animal scurrying about, but when you look under a bush or behind a tree, it is gone? Join Naturalist Erin to find out more about the animals that live at Mueller - the small and the large. Dress warmly!**Tuesday, June 12<sup>th</sup>****Hike: Buffalo Rock****8:00 am** Meet at Grouse Mountain Trailhead Hike past the historic Cheesman Ranch and continue through an open meadow with beautiful views of Pikes Peak. I often see wild turkeys on this hike and there should be some wildflowers in bloom. Bring insect repellent, sunscreen, dress in layers and have sturdy footwear. Join Naturalist Nancy to hike this 3.5-4 mile loop.**Pond Safari****10:00 am** Meet at Dragonfly Pond What is that swimming in the water? Join Naturalist Linda to find out what types of amazing pond life are in the water and find out why they are important.**Wednesday, June 13<sup>th</sup>****Touch Table: Skins and Skulls****2:00-3:00 pm** Meet at the Visitor Center Join Naturalist Cassie to explore the skins and skulls of animals that call Mueller State Park their home. Come by any time.**Thursday, June 14<sup>th</sup>****Hike: Cahill Cabin****9:15 am** Meet at Grouse Mountain Trailhead Travel back in time with Naturalists Eileen and Carrie as you hike a 3 mile loop to the old Cahill Cabin and Pond. We will also visit the Lost Still! This is a moderate hike due to hills.**Amphitheater: History of Fur Trade in the Pikes Peak Region****8:30 pm** Meet at the Amphitheater Beginning in 1820, the trade in Beaver Fur was the industry of Colorado for over 30 years and lead to the exploration of Colorado. Join Naturalist Paul to learn the history of the Pikes Peak Region. Check out his history series every Thursday night! Dress warmly!**Friday, June 15<sup>th</sup>****Woodland Park Farmer's Market****8:00 am -1:00 pm** in Woodland Park Come see us at the Woodland Park Farmer's Market every other Friday starting today!**Walk: School Pond Wildflowers****9:00 am** Meet at the School Pond Trailhead Join Naturalists Gretchen and Paul for this gentle 1.5 mile walk. We will search for many types of wildflowers and will identify them.**Saturday, June 16<sup>th</sup>****Hike: Cheesman Ranch****8:30 am** Meet at Grouse Mountain Trailhead Learn about the rich history of Mueller State Park as you see the sights, breathe in the mountain air and look for wildlife and wildflowers. Visit the many structures of the Cheesman Ranch, the best preserved historical buildings in the park. Naturalist Cindi will guide you on this 5 mile long but moderate trail. Bring plenty of water and a snack!**Children's Program: Black Bears****2:00 pm** Meet at Camper Services Building Join Naturalist Erin to learn about one of the largest mammals that lives at Mueller. We will learn what they eat and how they live.**Amphitheater: Predator Prowlers****7:00 pm** Meet at the Amphitheater Join Naturalist Erin for hands-on activities and games to discover the importance of black bears, mountain lions, foxes and other predators. We will look at skins, skulls and tracks to identify and learn about these common Mueller animals. Dress warmly!

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**June 2018**

**Always hike with a map, water, and weather protection**

**Monday, June 18<sup>th</sup>**

**Hike: Osborn Homestead**

**9:30 am** Meet at Black Bear Trailhead  
Visit the Osborn Homestead to take in some views and travel back in time with Naturalist Rose on this 3 mile moderate hike.

**Tuesday, June 19<sup>th</sup>**

**Hike: Mash-up Hike**

**8:00 am** Meet at Outlook Ridge Trailhead  
Join Naturalist Nancy to combine 6 different trails to create and approx. 4-5 mile loop. This hike will start at Outlook Ridge (#7) to Geer Pond (#25), follow the short trail to Beaver Ponds (#26), then a section of Homestead (#12) to Black Bear (#13) and will finish up on Revenuer Ridge (#1) back to the trailhead. These mash-ups give a bit of variety to your hiking experience. You will see meadows, a pond, views and wooded trails and there should be some wildflowers in bloom too. Bring insect repellent, sunscreen, dress in layers and have sturdy footwear.

**Wednesday, June 20<sup>th</sup>**

**Hike: Elk Meadow Loop**

**9:00 am** Meet at Elk Meadow Trailhead  
Join Naturalist Erin on this 2 mile loop hike that will take you winding through forests and open meadows. Watch for wildflowers and signs of wildlife!

**Touch Table: Trees**

**2:00-3:00 pm** Meet at the Visitor Center  
Join Naturalist Cassie to discover the secrets trees can tell us! They are food, home and history books all in one. Also learn how to identify the trees in the park. Drop in!

**Thursday, June 21<sup>st</sup>**

**Touch Table: Mule Deer**

**12:00-2:00 pm** at the Visitor Center  
Join Naturalist Erin at the Visitor Center to learn more about these important members of our ecosystem. We will also discover the adaptations which help them to survive! Come by any time.

**Amphitheater: History of Mining in the Pikes Peak Region**

**8:30 pm** Meet at the Amphitheater  
The discovery of Gold in the Denver area in 1858, led to a mass migration to Colorado and the beginning of the mining industry that is still active today. Join Naturalist Paul to learn the history of the Pikes Peak Region and check out his history series every Thursday night! Dress warmly!

**Saturday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>**

**Outdoor Skills Day - 10 am - 3 pm**

The biggest day of fun all summer!!! We will have activities throughout the park including: fishing, archery, target shooting, camping, a cave simulator, Bear Aware, geocaching, fly fishing, s'mores, prizes and more! All activities are free with a valid vehicle pass.



**Sunday, June 24<sup>th</sup>**

**Hike: School Pond**

**9:00 am** Meet at School Pond Trailhead  
Join Naturalist Erin for this 2 mile moderate hike. This is a nice hike through forests, meadows and over gentle hills.

**Amphitheater: Elk and Deer of Mueller**

**7:00 pm** Meet at the Amphitheater  
Mule Deer and Elk are much more important to an ecosystem than you might think! Join Naturalist Erin to find out what makes them so important and the adaptations that help them to survive at Mueller. Dress warmly!

**Monday, June 25<sup>th</sup>**

**Hike: Bird Walk**

**8:30 am** Meet at Elk Meadow Trailhead  
Join Naturalist Craig to look for birds on this easy 2 mile hike. Learn about bird's behavior, habitats, food and more!

**Tuesday, June 26<sup>th</sup>**

**Hike: Cheesman Ranch**

**9:30 am** Meet at Grouse Mountain Trailhead  
Learn about the rich history of Mueller State Park as you see the sights, breathe in the mountain air and look for wildlife and wildflowers. Visit the many structures of the Cheesman Ranch, the best preserved historical buildings in the park. Naturalist Rose will guide you on this 5 mile long but moderate trail. Bring plenty of water and a snack!



**Wednesday, June 27<sup>th</sup>**

**Hike: Tiger Salamander**

**9:00 am** Meet at Lost Pond Trailhead  
Join Naturalist Erin on a 1 mile hike to Lost Pond and discover tiger salamanders! They are the State Amphibian of Colorado.

**Auditorium: Moon Talk - Part 1**

**7:00 pm** Meet at the Visitor Center  
Join Naturalist Pat for an indoor talk about moon mythology and the science behind moon phases. This is for ages 8 and up and there is a maximum of 25 people. Please sign up at the Visitor Center or by calling (719) 687-2366 ext.104 (sign up for one or both!) Dress warmly!

**Hike: Moon Walk - Part 2**

**8:00 pm** Meet at the Visitor Center patio  
Join Naturalist Pat for a guided, night hike on a moonlit trail and test your knowledge of nocturnal animals and moon trivia along the way. Bring flashlights and your curiosity. This is for ages 8 and up. There is a maximum number of 25 people. Please sign up at the Visitor Center or by calling (719) 687-2366 ext.104 (sign up for one or both!) Dress warmly and bring your own flashlight!

**Thursday, June 28<sup>th</sup>**

**Hike: Osborn Cabin**

**9:15 am** Meet at Black Bear Trailhead  
Visit the Osborn Homestead to take in some views and travel back in time with Naturalists Eileen and Carrie on this 3 mile moderate hike.

**Archery for Beginners**

**2:00 pm** Meet at Dragonfly Pond Parking Lot  
Archery is a fun and useful skill! Join Naturalists Linda and Erin to learn how to hold a bow, nock an arrow, aim, shoot and more. Ages 8 and up are welcome.

**Amphitheater: History of Railroads in the Pikes Peak Region**

**8:30 pm** Meet at the Amphitheater  
Mining requires transportation to move large amounts of heavy machinery and ore. Railroads were the most efficient method of transportation in the gold rush era. From 1870 to 1910, 5,000 miles of railroads were built through some of the most demanding terrain, and made the settlement of Colorado possible. Join Naturalist Paul to learn the history of the Pikes Peak Region and check out his history series every Thursday night! Dress warmly.

**Friday, June 29<sup>th</sup>**

**Hike: Rock Pond**

**9:30 am** Meet at the Visitor Center patio  
Enjoy seeing two beautiful ponds, Rock and Geer Ponds and hike through a narrow canyon with creeks and a waterfall. We will see many wildflowers and hear bird songs. This is a moderate to difficult hike due to hills. Join Naturalist Rose on this 5 mile loop.

**Saturday, June 30<sup>th</sup>**

**Hike: Nobel Cabin**

**8:30 am** Meet at Black Bear Trailhead  
Imagine what it was like to homestead here and learn of Mueller's early residents! Join Naturalist Cindi on a 4 mile hike.

**Auditorium: Prayer Trees**

**1:30 pm** Meet at the Visitor Center  
Learn about how the Ute Indians modified trees for navigational, spiritual, burial, medicinal, nutritional and educational purposes. Prayers Trees are now called Culturally Modified Trees. Join guest speaker, John Anderson for a presentation about the culture and the spirituality of the Ute. Hike at 3 pm to see one!

**Hike: Prayer Trees**

**3:00 pm** Meet at the School Pond Trailhead  
Join guest speaker, John Anderson for a hike to see a modified tree near School Pond and to learn more about the Ute. This is a 1.5 mile hike.

**Amphitheater: Beaver Builders**

**7:00 pm** Meet at the Amphitheater  
Did you know that beavers are a keystone species? That means that they are a crucial part of the ecosystem. Join Naturalist Erin to find out why this is and learn how beavers live. One person will dress up as a beaver as we discuss adaptations that make beavers well designed to survive in riparian habitats.