

Mueller State Park Programs



July 2017

Always hike with a map, water, and weather protection

Saturday, July 1st

Hike: School Pond/Stoner Mill

8:00 am Meet at School Pond Trailhead Watch for wildlife, flowers and scenic views on this combined 3.5 trail with Naturalist Nancy.

Hike: Preacher's Hollow

10:00 am Meet at Preacher's Hollow Trailhead Celebrate summer with "nature's fireworks" by viewing the local wildflowers. Join Naturalist Russ on a gentle 2 mile loop trail.

Touch Table: Flowers of Mueller

2:00 - 4:00 pm Meet at Visitor Center Come celebrate "nature's fireworks" by viewing the wildflowers of Mueller State Park. Join Naturalist Penny and learn on which trails you can find them. Come by anytime.

Amphitheater: The Birds We Love

7:00 pm Diana Miller from the Pueblo Raptor Center will bring live birds of prey to see but not touch! Learn of the behavior and biology of hawks, owls, eagles and falcons. Please leave the pets in the camper. Dress warmly.

Sunday, July 2nd

Hike: Cahill Loop

10:00 am Meet at Grouse Mountain Trailhead Join Naturalists Jeremy and Sylvia on this moderate 2.5 mile hike, exploring the flora and fauna of Mueller all the way.

Archery for Beginners

2:00 - 4:00 pm Meet at the Livery Learn how to shoot with a bow and arrow. Lots of fun! Adults and kids 8 years and up will be able to give it a try.

Amphitheater: Hooves and Horns

8:30 pm Did you know that you can tell the age of a bighorn sheep by counting the rings on the horns, like tree rings? Learn about bighorn sheep that live just south of our park.

Monday, July 3rd

Children: Bird Feet, Bird Feathers

10:00 am Meet at Visitor Center All kids are welcome to come and learn through games and stories about the different types of bird feathers and feet.

Hike: Dynamite Cabin

1:00 pm Meet at Grouse Mountain Trailhead Savor the immense variety of wildflowers, trees and wildlife as you hike the Dynamite Trail with Naturalist Penny. This unique trail is rated easy to moderate and is 1.8 miles long.

Tuesday, July 4th

Hike: Rock Canyon

1:00 pm Meet at Rock Pond Trailhead Join Naturalist Penny on this trip through many montane micro-environments. This is a favorite trail at Mueller and is a moderate 5 mile hike.

Amphitheater: Coyote Tales

7:30 pm Coyotes are everywhere in the United States, including cities. Native Americans considered them the trickster and told many stories about old man coyote. Learn from Naturalist Penny about this adaptable creature both in the wild and in myth. Dress warm.

Wednesday, July 5th

Hike: Wapiti Trail

9:00 am Meet at the Visitor Center Explore the trees, wildflowers, tracks and views from the montane forest of Mueller with Naturalist Karleen. This is a 1 hour hike.

Thursday, July 6th

Hike: Discover Trees of Mueller State Park

9:00 am Meet at Wapiti Trailhead In this inquiry based activity, we'll explore the trees of Mueller and identify many different species. Join Naturalist Karleen for an hour hike.

Pond Safari

2:00 pm Meet at Dragonfly Pond Explore the amazing world of life in a pond! Discover what trout eat for breakfast. Fun and interesting for all ages, especially fishermen! Meet with Naturalist Linda.

Friday, July 7th

Hike: Cheesman Trail

8:00 am Meet at Grouse Mountain Trailhead Visit the many structures of the Cheesman Ranch, the best preserved historical buildings in the park. Hear about the rich history of Mueller State Park with Naturalist Cindi on this 5 mile moderate trail.

Hike: Elk Meadow

9:00 am Meet at Peak View Trailhead Examine tracks and signs of the animals that live in Mueller State Park as you hike Elk Meadow with Naturalist Russ. This unique trail is a moderate 3 miles.

Touch Table: Cougar and Bears

2:00 - 4:00 pm Meet at Visitor Center What makes cougars and bears the top predators in the park? Come examine these animal hides and skulls with Naturalist Penny.

Amphitheater: Bear Facts

8:30 pm The Black Bear can be one of the most exciting finds while hiking and camping. Join Naturalist Penny and explore the life of these amazing creatures. Dress warmly.

Saturday, July 8th

Hike: Outlook Ridge

8:00 am Meet at Outlook Ridge Trailhead Naturalist Nancy will lead this hike on Outlook Ridge loop including all the overlooks along the way. This hike is rated a moderate 4-5 miles.

Art and Nature for Beginners

9:00 - 11:00 am Meet at Visitor Center Join Naturalist Jim capturing the natural world at Mueller with colored pencils. This will be fun and easy for the first time artist or for those who have an interest in the outdoor world artistically. For adults or kids 7 years and older.

Hike: Turkey Cabin Overlook

1:00 pm Meet at Black Bear Trailhead Travel a trail not often visited but well worth the view with Naturalist Penny. See where a historic cabin used to stand. This is a 3.5 mile hike.

Patio Talk: Geology of the Pike's Peak Area

2:00 pm Meet at Visitor Center The rise and fall of the Rocky Mountains, mining for gold, volcanoes – learn what's under your feet in this short talk with a view!

Hike: Full Moon Hike

8:00 pm Meet at Outlook Ridge Trailhead Enjoy the awesome view of the full moon rising over Pikes Peak with Naturalist Jim. Learn some random facts and fun myths about our only natural satellite. We will be returning in the dark. This is a moderate 2 mile hike.

Sunday, July 9th

Pond Safari

1:00 - 3:00 pm Meet at Dragonfly Pond Explore the amazing world of life in a pond! Discover what trout eat for breakfast. Fun and interesting for all ages, especially fishermen! Meet with Naturalist Rose.

Hike: Homestead Trail

1:30 pm Meet at Homestead Trailhead Take a pleasant 2 mile hike through forest, meadows and rock formations with Naturalist Penny.

Amphitheater: Lynx, Lion and Bob

8:30 pm Lynx, mountain lions and bobcats are the only wild cats in Colorado. See why these elusive felines are at the top of the food chain. Join Naturalist Penny. Dress warm.

Monday, July 10th

Hike: Trains and Lost Towns

9:00 am Meet at Elk Meadow Trailhead Join Naturalist Penny and learn the history of the Midland Terminal and Colorado Midland Railways, the town of Tracey Hill and see Murphy's cut. This is a 3 mile hike.

Tuesday, July 11th

Fly Fishing Basics

10:00 am Meet at Dragonfly Pond Learn the difference between fly fishing and spin casting and give it a try. Equipment provided. For adults and kids 10 and up. Join Naturalist Linda.

Wednesday, July 12th

Hike: Wapiti Trail

9:00 am Meet at the Visitor Center Explore the trees, wildflowers, tracks and views from the montane forest of Mueller with Naturalist Karleen. This is a 1 hour hike.

Thursday, July 13th

Hike: Outlook Ridge

9:30 am Meet at Outlook Ridge Trailhead Explore with Naturalist Rose, the flora and fauna of this trail. You will be able to see beautiful vistas, a variety of habitats from the three overlooks.

Children: Raccoons

10:00 am Meet at Visitor Center Join Karleen to learn all about the little rascals. We will read a book, feel a real raccoon pelt and make a craft. PreK-1st.

Touch Table: Trees of Mueller

1:00 - 3:00 pm Meet at Visitor Center How old are the trees of Mueller State Park? Which type of tree makes good lumber or good homes for birds? Naturalist Rose will help you identify the trees of Mueller.

Amphitheater:

Prehistory of Mueller State Park Region

8:30 pm See a new program series on local history with Naturalist Paul on Thursdays nights this summer. First, learn about the geologic formation of the area and the earliest people – Paleo Indians!

Friday, July 14th

Hike: Lost and Geer Pond

9:00 am Meet at Lost Pond Trailhead Watch for water loving wildlife such as beaver, muskrat and redwing blackbirds with Naturalist Karleen. This is a 2.5 mile hike.

Amphitheater: Mueller Critters

8:30 pm The montane environment of Mueller State Park attracts a large variety of wildlife. Learn about these fascinating animals with Naturalist Russ. Dress warmly.

Saturday, July 15th

Pond Safari

11:00 am - 2:00 pm Meet at Dragonfly Pond Explore the amazing world of life in a pond! Discover what trout eat for breakfast. Fun and interesting for all ages, especially fishermen! Meet with Naturalist Russ.

Hike: Rule Creek Pond

1:00 pm Meet at Grouse Mt Trailhead Hike the old ranch roads on this loop with Naturalist Penny. We will go by Rule Creek and Cahill ponds and through rolling meadows.

Amphitheater: Coyote Tales

7:30 pm Coyotes are everywhere in the United States, including cities. Native Americans considered them the trickster and told many stories about old man coyote. Learn from Naturalist Penny about this adaptable creature both in the wild and in myth. Dress warm.

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Sunday, July 16th

Patio Talk: Our Diverse Universe

10:00 am Meet at Visitor Center patio
Enjoy light refreshments as you learn about the benefits of biodiversity as well as threats to it and steps to restore it.

Hike: Geer Pond

1:00 pm Meet at Lost Pond Trailhead
Watch for water loving wildlife such as beavers, muskrats and redwing blackbirds with Naturalist Karleen. This hike is 2.5 miles.

Monday, July 17th

Hike: Nobel Cabin

9:00 am Meet at Black Bear Trailhead
Join Naturalist Penny on a 4 mile hike to Nobel Cabin. Imagine what it was like to homestead this area without modern amenities and learn about some of Mueller State Park's early residents.

Touch Table: Owls

2:00 - 4:00 pm Meet at Visitor Center
Have you ever wondered what an owl pellet is or how to identify owl feathers? Naturalist Penny will share with you a variety of owl knowledge. Stop by anytime.

Tuesday, July 18th

Children: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

10:00 am Meet at Camper Services
Join Naturalist Penny as we practice the 3 R's through stories, songs and hands on activities.

Hike: Cahill Loop

1:00 pm Meet at Grouse Mountain Trailhead
Join Naturalist Penny on this moderate 2.5 mile hike exploring the flora and fauna of Mueller all the way.

Wednesday, July 19th

Hike: Wapiti Trail

9:00 am Meet at the Visitor Center
Explore the trees, wildflowers, tracks and views from the montane forest of Mueller with Naturalist Karleen. This is a 1 hour hike.

Hike: Rock Canyon

9:30 am Meet at Rock Pond Trailhead
Join Naturalist Rose on this trip through many montane micro-environments. This is a favorite trail at Mueller and is a moderate 5 mile hike.

Thursday, July 20th

Hike: Ranger Ridge

1:00 pm Meet at School Pond Trailhead
See the beauty of summer with Naturalist Penny on this scenic 2 mile hike. The trail is rated difficult due to the long steep hill.

Children: Insect Inspection

2:00 pm Meet at the Visitor Center
Come learn all about nature's creepy crawly creatures. Join Naturalist Karleen as we inspect the different parts of an insect and make a fun craft.

Amphitheater:

Native Americans of the Pike's Peak Area

8:30 pm New Thursday history series with Naturalist Paul. Tonight, explore the history of the local tribes and the impact of European/American contact during the 1600's - 1800's.

Friday, July 21st

Hike: Rock Canyon

8:00 am Meet at Rock Pond Trailhead
Join Naturalist Cindi on this trip through many montane micro-environments. This is a favorite trail at Mueller and is a moderate 5 mile hike.

Hike: Elk Meadow

1:00 pm Meet at Elk Meadow Trailhead
Examine tracks and signs of the animals that live in Mueller State Park as you hike Elk Meadow with Naturalist Penny. This unique trail is a moderate 2 miles.

Amphitheater: Friends in the Night

8:30 pm Learn about the facts and myths surrounding the only flying mammal. They may have a face only their mother could love but they actually are very beneficial to man. Come and learn about these interesting creatures. Dress warm.

Saturday, July 22nd

Hike: The Golden Eagle Trail

9:00 am Meet at Black Bear Trailhead
Golden Eagle is the name of this infrequently hiked trail. Join Naturalist Penny to journey to the border of Dome Rock and view interesting rock formations on this 4.5 mile hike.

Children: What's the Buzz - Bees

2:00 pm Meet at Visitor Center
Join Naturalist Penny and explore the amazing life of bees through stories, hands-on activities.

Star Party

8:30 pm Meet at Visitors Center
The Colorado Springs Astronomical Society will have several telescopes set up outside of the Visitor's Center for everyone to view the stars and planets of the night sky.

Sunday, July 23rd

Hike: Outlook Ridge

1:30 pm Meet at Outlook Ridge Trailhead
Explore with Naturalist Penny, the flora and fauna of this trail. You will be able to see beautiful vistas, a variety of habitats and Lost Pond on this 2 mile loop.

Amphitheater: Nocturnal Animals

8:30 pm Although the night seems peaceful, as though everyone is sleeping, there is actually a LOT going on. Join Penny as you learn more about the animals that go "bump" in the night. Dress warmly.

Monday, July 24th

Patio Talk: Prey and Predator

1:00 pm Meet at Camper Services
Much can be learned from the skull of an animal. Was it a prey or predator, was it healthy, did it live a long life and what was its preferred diet. Come learn with Naturalist Penny.

Amphitheater: Timber Wolves

7:00 pm The wolf is an often misunderstood member of a thriving ecosystem. Naturalist Ellen Walker will explain the facts and fiction about the timber wolf, its pack behavior, and it's very special role as an apex predator. If you watch carefully, you might see a wolf watching you carefully, courtesy of Peggy's Colorado Wolf Adventures! No pets allowed.

Tuesday, July 25th

Auditorium: Whose Track is That?

10:00 am - 12:00 pm Meet at Visitor Center
Have you ever looked at a track in the mud and wondered what animal left it? Naturalist Pat will help you to identify whose track is that!

Wednesday, July 26th

Hike: Wapiti Trail

9:00 am Meet at the Visitor Center
Explore the trees, wildflowers, tracks and views from the montane forest of Mueller with Naturalist Karleen. This is a 1 hour hike.

Thursday, July 27th

Children: Discover Mountain Lions

2:00 pm Meet at the Visitor Center
Learn all about Mueller's top predator, the mountain lion with Naturalist Penny.

Amphitheater: Fur Trade

8:30 pm New Thursday night history series with Naturalist Paul. Explore the activities of the fur traders in the Pike's Peak region.

Friday, July 28th

Hike: Cahill Loop

10:00 am Meet at Grouse Mountain Trailhead
Join Naturalists Jeremy and Sylvia on this moderate 2.5 mile hike, exploring the flora and fauna of Mueller all the way.

Art and Nature for Beginners

1:30 - 3:30 pm Meet at Visitor Center
Join Naturalist Jim capturing the natural world at Mueller with colored pencils. Fun and easy for the first-time artist or those who have an interest in the outdoor world artistically. For adults and kids 7 years and older.

Archery for Beginners

2:00 - 4:00 pm Meet at the Livery
Learn how to shoot with a bow and arrow. Lots of fun! Adults and kids 8 years and up will be able to give it a try.

Amphitheater: The Cat in our Backyard

8:30 pm Did you know that mountain lions eat an average of one deer a week, if they can catch them. The program includes how to co-exist with mountain lions and how to keep safe from mountain lion attacks.

Saturday, July 29th

FINE ART SHOW

9:00 am - 5:00 pm At the Visitor Center
Internationally acclaimed artist Lee Cable, and others will have their work on display all day July 29-30. This art show and sale is presented by the Friends of Mueller State Park.

Art and Nature for Beginners

9:00 - 11:00 am Meet at Visitor Center
Join Naturalist Jim capturing the natural world at Mueller with colored pencils. Fun and easy for the first-time artist or those who have an interest in the outdoor world artistically. For adults and kids 7 years and older.

Hike: Preacher's Hollow

9:30 am Meet at Preacher's Hollow Trailhead
Celebrate summer with "nature's fireworks" by viewing the local wildflowers. Join Naturalist Russ on a gentle 2 mile loop trail.

Amphitheater: Horns All Around

8:30 pm Is a mountain goat really a goat? Is the mountain goat native to Colorado? Does it hurt when two Bighorn Sheep butt heads? These and many other questions will be answered by Naturalist Penny. Dress warmly.

Sunday, July 30th

Art and Nature for Beginners

9:00 - 11:00 am Meet at Visitor Center
Join Naturalist Jim capturing the natural world at Mueller with colored pencils. Fun and easy for the first-time artist or those who have an interest in the outdoor world artistically. For adults and kids 7 years and older.

Hike: Homestead Hike

1:30 pm Meet at Homestead Trailhead
Take a pleasant 2 mile hike through forest, meadows, and rock formations with Naturalist Penny.

Amphitheater: Those Sly Foxes

8:30 pm Foxes run free in our imagination, folktales and legends. They are known to be clever, sly and wily. Get to know the real fox with Naturalist Penny. Dress warmly.

Monday, July 31st

Hike: Aspen Trail

9:15 am Meet at School Pond Trailhead
Are you ready for a challenge? Join Naturalist Penny on this invigorating hike with its six roller coaster hills!