

Mueller State Park Programs



Always hike with a map, water, and weather protection

May Park Programs

Friday, May 3: Star Party

Visitor Center Parking Lot 8:30-10:30 p.m.

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.

Saturday, May 4: Morning Bird Walk

Meet at Elk Meadow Trailhead 8:30 a.m.

Migrating birds are returning, while some have overwintered at Mueller, still others are passing through to summer breeding grounds further north. Come see and hear these along with a general nature hike. 1.5 mile slow-paced walk. Led by volunteer naturalist Michael along with Special Guest Joe LaFleur (local birding expert). You will be provided with some additional hints on bird identification.

Sunday, May 5: Junior Rangers in the Forest

Meet in front of the VC 1-2 p.m.

Ever wanted to learn more about the forest and critters at Mueller State Park? Mueller has lots of wildlife and wildlands to see. We will learn about the basics of Mueller State Park's wilderness and wildlife and complete the requirements to become a Junior Ranger! Children and their grown ups should attend together.

Friday, May 10: Skins & Skulls

Meet at the Visitor Center 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

Ever wonder what it'd feel like to pet a deer, skunk, or bear? This is your chance to do it in a way that is safe for you and wildlife. Explore a variety of fur and skulls of Colorado native animals.

Friday, May 10: Hug A Tree

Meet at Visitor Center 2 - 3 p.m.

Learn the basics of surviving outside in this active program! All participants will go home with a feeling of accomplishment and their own survival items. Best for ages 3+.

Saturday, May 11: Archery

Meet at the Livery 1-3 p.m.

Whether you're new or a pro to the sport, archery at Mueller is a great time to test your skills! All supplies are provided, simply come with your listening ears and a good attitude. All ages are welcome; foam bows are available for younger kids. Some adaptable equipment is also available-call for more details. There will be a safety briefing at 1 and 2 p.m. You must attend one of these briefings in order to participate.

Friday, May 17: Nature Crafts

Meet at Camper Services Building 2 - 3 p.m.

Get in touch with your creative side with this fun art program using items you can find outside! All ages are welcome. Guardians, please plan to stay with your child during the program.

Saturday, May 18: Fly Fishing Basics

Meet at Dragonfly Pond 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Learn how to fly fish and how it's different from other styles like bait fishing, trolling, and spinning. Use your new or seasoned skills to try to catch a fish at one of Mueller's favorite ponds.

May 18: Forest Bathing Walk

Meet at Outlook Ridge Trailhead 1 - 4 p.m.

Unwind & immerse in nature's beauty through the relaxing practice of Forest Bathing/*shinrin yoku*, rooted in Japan. Join Forest Therapy Guide Jane for this 1 mile wander to quiet the busy mind, open the senses & enjoy connecting closely with the land, ending with tea brewed from local

Forest Bathing continued...

plants. Min. age 12 recommended. Dress for the weather, bring water & backpack for hands-free. Registration requested by calling the Visitor Center at 719-687-2366 ex 0.

Tuesday, May 21: Hike Wapiti Trail

Meet at the south side of the VC parking lot 9 a.m.

Come along on this 1.5 mile general nature hike. See the beginning of Spring in the high country. Learn some of the montane trees and perhaps some of the birds of early spring. 1.5 mile slow-paced hike. Led by volunteer naturalist Michael.

Thursday, May 23: Nature Journaling for Adults

Meet at the Visitor Center 1 p.m.

Learn about a systematic yet creative approach to nature journaling. Discover that by observing and documenting natural objects, you become more alert and aware. In return, you possibly gain a deeper understanding of yourself. The theme this month is "Early Summer". Please come with your own journal/notebook and writing utensil. Usually lasts 1.5-2 hours.

Thursday, May 23: Moon Hike

Meet at Outlook Ridge Trailhead 9 p.m.

Watch the full moon rise over Pikes Peak and learn fun facts about the night sky. This is an easy one mile round trip hike. Dress for cool weather and bring a headlamp.

Friday, May 24: Knee High Nature

Meet at Camper Services Building 2 - 3 p.m.

Explore the wonders of nature at your level! Best for ages 3-5.

Saturday, May 25: Fly Fishing Basics

Meet at Dragonfly Pond 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Learn how to fly fish and how it's different from other styles like bait fishing, trolling, and spinning. Use your new or seasoned skills to try to catch a fish at one of Mueller's favorite ponds.

Sunday, May 26: Junior Rangers by the Pond

Meet at Dragonfly Pond 1-2 p.m.

Ever wanted to learn more about the aquatic critters at Mueller State Park? Mueller has lots of wildlife and wildlands to see, including wildlife in and around the ponds. We will learn about the basics of Mueller State Park's wilderness and aquatic wildlife and complete the requirements to become a Junior Ranger! Children and their grown ups should attend together. Meet at Dragonfly Pond.

Thursday, May 30: Nature Journaling for Adults

Meet at the Visitor Center 1 p.m.

Learn about a systematic yet creative approach to nature journaling. Discover that by observing and documenting natural objects, you become more alert and aware. In return, you possibly gain a deeper understanding of yourself. The theme this month is "Early Summer". Please come with your own journal/notebook and writing utensil. Usually lasts 1.5-2 hours.

Friday, May 31: Knots & Lashing

Meet at Camper Services Building 2 - 3 p.m.

Want to learn another good survival skill? Knot tying is important when building outdoor shelters, fishing, and rescuing yourself or others. Learn how to tie two commonly used knots. Everyone will create a project to take home. Best for ages 6+.

Mueller State Park Programs



Always hike with a map, water, and weather protection

June Park Programs

Saturday, June 1: Bird Walk

Meet at Elk Meadow Trailhead 8:30 a.m.

Migrating birds are arriving at Mueller for the breeding season. Come see and hear the spring birds as they are busy singing, courting and nesting. One mile slow-paced walk. Led by volunteer naturalist Michael.

Sunday, June 2: Basic Fly Fishing

Meet at Dragonfly Pond 10 a.m.

Learn how to fly fish and how it's different from other styles like bait fishing, trolling and spinning. Use your new or seasoned skills to try and catch a fish at one of Mueller's favorite ponds.

Sunday, June 2: Rock Art Table

At the Visitor Center 2 - 4 p.m.

Are you looking for a new way to create art? Come learn about historic rock art in Colorado. There will be supplies to create your very own designs.

Sunday, June 2: Sunset Stroll

Meet at Outlook Ridge Trailhead 8 p.m.

Come enjoy a moderate hike on Outlook Ridge Trail, enjoy the sunset and learn a little about the animals active at dusk and dawn. Dress for cool weather as the sun goes down and don't forget your flashlight.

Monday, June 3: Hike to Osborn Cabin

Meet at Black Bear Trailhead 10 a.m.

Come along to visit one of the park's historic buildings and learn about who has lived on the land we know as Mueller. This will be a moderate two mile hike.

Monday, June 3: Junior Rangers in the Forest

Meet in front of the Visitor Center 1 p.m.

Ever wanted to learn more about the forest and critters at Mueller State Park? Mueller has lots of wildlife and wildlands to see. We will learn about the basics of Mueller State Park's wilderness and wildlife, and complete the requirements to become a Junior Ranger. Children and their grown ups should attend together.

Tuesday, June 4: Bird Walk

Meet at Elk Meadow Trailhead 8:30 a.m.

Migrating birds are arriving at Mueller for the breeding season. Come see and hear the spring birds as they are busy singing, courting and nesting. 1.5 mile slow-paced walk, roughly two and a half hours.

Tuesday, June 4: Skins & Skulls

Meet outside the Visitor Center 10 a.m -12 p.m.

Ever wonder what it'd feel like to pet the wildlife? This is your chance to do it in a way that is safe for you and the wildlife. Explore a variety of fur and skulls of Colorado's native animals.

Wednesday, June 5: Fly Fishing Basics Plus

Meet at the Visitor Center 9 a.m.

Enhance your fly fishing knowledge in this fly fishing plus class which will include a three hour classroom portion. Here, you will learn about entomology and fly choice. Then end with an hour or more time on the water.

Wednesday, June 5: Sight and Sound Hike

Meet at the Visitor Center 9 a.m.

An easy and slow one mile round trip hike. Search for the small, beautiful Calypso orchid and listen for the echoing song of the migratory Hermit Thrush.

Thursday, June 6: Hiking Challenge Begins

Meet at the Visitor Center parking lot 8:15 a.m.

Join volunteer naturalists Carrie and Eileen to hike 37 trails this summer. The challenge starts with trails #4 and #6. Estimated 3.25 miles. Dress in layers and bring water. Don't want to do the whole challenge? That's okay, join us anytime.

Thursday, June 6: Sight and Sound Hike

Meet at the Visitor Center 10:00 a.m.

An easy and slow one mile round trip hike. Search for the small, beautiful Calypso orchid and listen for the echoing song of the migratory Hermit Thrush.

Thursday, June 6: Prehistoric History of the Pikes Peak Region

Meet at the Amphitheater 8 p.m.

Colorado has a fascinating prehistoric past which has led to the beautiful landscape and the people of today. Dress warm as evenings in early June can be cool.

Thursday, June 6: Dark Sky Hike

Meet at Outlook Ridge Trailhead 8:30 p.m.

Watch the night sky unfold. Learn how to find the north star, constellations and fun facts about the cosmos. Easy one mile round trip hike. Dress for cool weather. Bring a headlamp.

Friday, June 7: Hike to Rock Pond

Meet at Rock Pond Trailhead 9 a.m.

Join Interpretive Naturalist Penny on this trip through many montane micro-environments. This will be a moderate 5 mile hike.

Friday, June 7: Mysteries of Mueller

Meet at the Amphitheater 7 p.m.

Sit around the campfire for story time with Naturalist Allison where we will talk about Mueller's lesser known history. Come for the smores, stay for the mysteries. There will be discussion of crime during the program.

Saturday, June 8: Wapiti Nature Hike

Meet at Wapiti Trailhead 9 a.m.

Learn about the unique characteristics of Mueller State Park on this natural history hike. Look for spring wildflowers, birds and trees. One mile slow-paced loop. Meet at the South end of the Visitor Center parking lot. Led by volunteer naturalist Michael.

Saturday, June 8: Tree Cookie Crafting

Meet at Camper Services 2 p.m.

Make a souvenir to take home, made with a real slice of aspen. Get crafty with the whole family.

Sunday, June 9: Hike: Observation Through the Senses

Meet at Wapiti Trailhead 9 a.m.

Come observe nature in a new way as we focus in with different senses. This easy one mile hike is suitable for the whole family.

Sunday, June 9: Outlook Ridge Hike

Meet at Outlook Ridge Trailhead 2 p.m.

Wander with volunteer naturalist Lisa experiencing flowers, trees and animals on the trail. This will be a moderate hike.

Sunday, June 9: Sunset Stroll

Meet at Outlook Ridge Trailhead 8 p.m.

Come enjoy a moderate hike on Outlook Ridge Trail, enjoy the sunset and learn a little about the animals active at dusk and dawn. Dress for cool weather as the sun goes down and don't forget your flashlight.

Mueller State Park Programs



Always hike with a map, water, and weather protection

Monday, June 10: Sight and Sound Hike

Meet at the Visitor Center 9 a.m.

An easy and slow one mile round trip hike. Search for the small, beautiful Calypso orchid and listen for the echoing song of the Hermit Thrush.

Monday, June 10: Sketch Hike

Meet at Outlook Ridge Trailhead 8:30 a.m.

Join volunteer naturalists Eileen and Carrie on this three mile hike past beautiful views of Pikes Peak and rock outcroppings. Stop for an outdoor sketching session with local artist Cyndi before ascending to the trailhead. No experience necessary for sketching, and supplies will be provided. This two and a half hour hike will be moderate.

Monday, June 10: Junior Rangers in the Forest

Meet in front of the Visitor Center 1 p.m.

Ever wanted to learn more about the forest and critters at Mueller State Park? Mueller has lots of wildlife and wildlands to see. We will learn about the basics of Mueller State Park's wilderness and wildlife and complete the requirements to become a Junior Ranger. Children and their grown ups should attend together.

Tuesday, June 11: Bird Walk

Meet at Elk Meadow Trailhead 8:30 a.m.

Migrating birds are arriving at Mueller for the breeding season. Come see and hear the spring birds as they are busy singing, courting and nesting. 1.5 mile slow-paced walk, roughly two and a half hours.

Wednesday, June 12: Hike: History of Pikes Peak

Meet at Elk Meadow Trailhead 1 p.m.

Enjoy views of Pikes Peak as we learn all about it, from when it formed to those who lived in its shadow. This will be a moderate 1.5 mile hike.

Thursday, June 13: Hiking Challenge #2

Meet at School Pond Trailhead 8:15 a.m.

Join volunteer naturalists Carrie and Eileen while we hike trails #3 and #23. About four steep miles. Dress in layers and bring water. Don't want to do the whole challenge? That's okay, join us anytime.

Thursday, June 13: Nature Journaling for Adults

Meet at Outlook Ridge Trailhead 1 p.m.

Learn about a systematic yet creative approach to nature journaling. Discover that by observing and documenting natural objects, you become more alert and aware. In return, you possibly gain a deeper understanding of yourself. Please come with your own journal/notebook and writing utensil. Usually lasts 1.5-2 hours.

Thursday, June 13: History of Native Americans in Pikes Peak Region

Meet at the Amphitheater 8 p.m.

This talk discusses the history of the Native Americans in the development of Colorado from the 1470s to 1880s. Dress warm and join us for this interesting period in the history of the Pikes Peak region.

Friday, June 14: Basic Fly Fishing

Meet at Dragonfly Pond 10 a.m.

Learn how to fly fish and how it's different from other styles like bait fishing, trolling and spinning. Use your new or seasoned skills to try and catch a fish at one of Mueller's favorite ponds.

Friday, June 14: Wild Watercolor

At the Visitor Center 1 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Whether you're a beginner or a pro, come let creativity guide you. Enjoy painting the nature that brings you joy.

Friday, June 14: Tracking and Trailing

Meet at Camper Services 2 p.m.

Learn about wild creatures at Mueller, how you can find them not only with tracks. Ages 6 and up.

Saturday, June 15: Pond Safari

Meet at Dragonfly Pond 10 a.m.

Explore the underwater world of a pond to see who lives there. Hands-on fun for kids. Learn about ecosystems, water quality and aquatic creepy crawlies. Learn about the trout vs. carp dichotomy and some brief words about the water quality of Dragonfly Pond and the life therein. Led by volunteer naturalist Michael.

Sunday, June 16: Forests and Fire

Meet at Outlook Ridge Trailhead 10 a.m.

Come on a short nature hike along Outlook Ridge and learn about how our forests are adapted to fires. This will be a moderate hike.

Monday, June 17: Beneficial Bugs Walk

Meet at Peak View Trailhead 10 a.m.

Tired of sweating the big stuff? Come and enjoy the small things. Learn about the beneficial bugs in the environment here at the park. This will be an easy 30 minute hike.

Monday, June 17: Junior Rangers in the Forest

Meet in front of the Visitor Center 1 p.m.

Ever wanted to learn more about the forest and critters at Mueller State Park? Mueller has lots of wildlife and wildlands to see. We will learn about the basics of Mueller State Park's wilderness and wildlife and complete the requirements to become a Junior Ranger. Children and their grown ups should attend together.

Thursday, June 20: Hiking Challenge #3

Meet at School Pond Trailhead 8:15am

Join volunteer naturalists Carrie and Eileen while we hike trails #21 and #2. Estimated 4.75 miles with hills. Dress in layers and bring water. Don't want to do the whole challenge? That's okay, join us anytime.

Thursday, June 20: History of Early Explorers & Military in Pikes Peak Region

Meet at the Amphitheater 8pm

The Spanish from Mexico were amongst the earliest European explorers of Colorado as they searched unsuccessfully for gold. Come learn more about the exploration of this region. Dress warm and join us for this interesting period in the history of the Pikes Peak region.

Friday, June 21: Hug A Tree

Meet at Camper Services 2 p.m.

Basic survival for kids (and parents). Ages 5 and up.

Friday, June 21: Hike to Osborn Cabin

Meet at Black Bear Trailhead 9 a.m.

Visit the Osborn Homestead to take in some views and travel back in time on a 3 mile moderate hike.

Saturday, June 22: Morning Bird Journey

Meet at Lost Pond Trailhead 7:30 a.m.

Enjoy time to explore the woods in search of birds. For you birders, this will be a great time to see how many birds you can add to your list. This is a moderate, roughly 3.5-4 mile hike. Estimated time is 3 - 3.5 hours.

Mueller State Park Programs



Always hike with a map, water, and weather protection

Saturday, June 22: Basic Fly Fishing

Meet at Dragonfly Pond 10 a.m.

Learn how to fly fish and how it's different from other styles like bait fishing, trolling and spinning. Use your new or seasoned skills to try and catch a fish at one of Mueller's favorite ponds.

Saturday, June 22: Colorado Raptors

Meet at the amphitheater 7 p.m.

Join us by the campfire to learn about Colorado's dinosaurs in the sky, raptors! Also known as birds of prey like eagles, owls, hawks, and falcons.

Monday, June 24: Forests and Fire

Meet at Outlook Ridge Trailhead 9 a.m.

Come on a short nature hike along Outlook Ridge and learn about how our forests are adapted to fires. This will be a moderate hike.

Monday, June 24: Junior Rangers in the Forest

Meet in front of the Visitor Center 1 p.m.

Ever wanted to learn more about the forest and critters at Mueller State Park? Mueller has lots of wildlife and wildlands to see. We will learn about the basics of Mueller State Park's wilderness and wildlife and complete the requirements to become a Junior Ranger. Children and their grown ups should attend together.

Tuesday, June 25: Hike to Osborn Cabin

Meet at Black Bear Trailhead 9 a.m.

Come along to visit one of the park's historic buildings and learn about who has lived on the land we know as Mueller. This will be a moderate two mile hike.

Tuesday, June 25: Wild Watercolor

At the Visitor Center 1 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Whether you're a beginner or a pro, come let creativity guide you. Enjoy painting the nature that brings you joy.

Wednesday, June 26: Women of the West

At Elk Meadow Trailhead 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.

The park was home to many hard working women. Meet Naturalist Allison on the trail to experience and hear about the daily lives of women who lived in Mueller.

Thursday, June 27: Hiking Challenge #4

Meet at Elk Meadow Trailhead 8:15 a.m.

Join volunteer naturalists Carrie and Eileen while we hike trails #18, #19 and #22 past beautiful views of Pikes Peak. Estimated five miles. Dress in layers and bring water. Don't want to do the whole challenge? That's okay, join us anytime.

Thursday, June 27: Nature Journaling for Families

Meet at Outlook Ridge Trailhead 1 p.m.

Learn about a creative approach to nature journaling. Discover what you can uncover when slowing down to observe nature. Please come with your own journal/notebook and writing utensil.

Thursday, June 27: History of Fur Trade in Pikes Peak Region

Meet at the Amphitheater 8 p.m.

Learn about this 'first industry' of the Pikes Peak region that led to the future development of the west. Dress warm and join us for this interesting period in the history of the Pikes Peak region.

Friday, June 28: Rock Art Table

At the Visitor Center 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.

Are you looking for a new way to create art? Come learn about historic rock art in Colorado. There will be supplies to create your very own designs.

Friday, June 28: Nature Crafts

Meet at Camper Services 2 p.m.

Make cool things with help from Mother Nature. Ages 3 and up.

Friday, June 28: Star Party

Visitor Center Parking Lot 9 p.m. - 11 p.m.

The Colorado Springs Astronomical Society will have several telescopes set up outside of the Visitor Center for everyone to view the stars and planets of the night sky.

Saturday, June 29: Outdoor Skills Day

10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Enjoy learning new skills or testing honed ones including: archery, target shooting, geocaching, camping, dutch oven cooking and more. All skill levels and abilities are welcome.