

Mueller State Park Programs



December 2023

Always hike with a map, water, and weather protection

Saturday, December 2

Hike: School Pond/Stoner Mill Loop

9 a.m. Meet at School Pond TH, if closed then meet at Preacher's Hollow TH. Enjoy this peaceful, approximately 3 mile hike with Volunteer Naturalist, Rose. Remember to dress in layers.

Sunday, December 10

Hike: Outlook Ridge/Lost Pond Loop

9:30 a.m. Meet at Outlook Ridge TH. Enjoy the views on this roughly 3 mile hike led by our Volunteer Naturalist, Rose. Come prepared for the weather to fully enjoy the experience!

Saturday, December 16

Hike: Rock Pond Loop

9 a.m. Meet at the Visitor Center. Get in some steps and join Volunteer Naturalist, Rose, on this 5 mile loop. This is a favorite trail in the park! Rated moderate to difficult due to the 700ft elevation change. Dress in layers and pack water and a snack.

Sunday, December 17

Snowshoe Hike One

10:30 a.m. Meet at the picnic tables at Outlook Ridge TH. Do you want to break in your new snowshoes? Join volunteer naturalists, Joe and Felicia Mendygral, for this snowshoe hike which is great for beginners. We'll do some stretching, warm-ups and discuss what to wear and pack. This is the first in a series of three snowshoe hikes where the distance will increase with each hike. Don't forget to bring water. **Need snowshoes or guidance on putting on a new pair? Arrive at 10am and you can borrow a pair (first come, first serve).** No snow? That's ok! We'll discuss all the key elements and go for a hike. First hike will be 1.5 miles.

Friday, December 22

Nature Ornaments

10 a.m.-12 p.m. Do you enjoy art and the outdoors? Join Naturalist, Anna, at the Visitor Center Auditorium to create ornaments for around your home using elements from nature! All ages and artistic levels are welcome.



Monday, December 25

Christmas Day Bird Hike

8:30 a.m. Meet at Elk Meadows TH.

Come see and hear birds of Mueller overwintering in the area. Learn the trees and some natural history along the way. 1-mile slow-paced walk. Led by Volunteer Naturalist Michael.

Wednesday, December 27

Touch Table: Antlers and Horns

12-2 p.m. Do you think reindeer have antlers or horns?

Come to the Visitor Center to find out! Discover the look, weight, and feel of various animal headgear. Led by Naturalist, Anna.

Don't forget about our annual FIRST DAY HIKES on January 1, 2024! More to come...

Monday, Jan 1, 2024 First Day Hike: Elk Meadow

9 a.m. Hopefully you wake up on the first day of 2024 feeling refreshed and ready for what's to come! Whether you want to simply enjoy the trails, or take a step towards meeting a New Year's resolution, you will enjoy this 2 mile hike with magnificent views of Pikes Peak! Meet Volunteer Naturalist, Rose, at the Elk Meadow TH.

Monday, Jan 1, 2024 First Day Hike: Forest Bathing

12-2:30 p.m. Meet at Outlook Ridge Trailhead, on the left just past the Visitor Center. Let nature welcome you into the new year on our **5th Annual First Day Forest Bathing/Shinrin Yoku Walk!** Enjoy immersing in the wonder & healing nature offers through this mindful wellness practice. Join Forest Therapy Guide & Volunteer Naturalist, Jane, on a 1 mile walk with creative invitations to unwind, quiet the mind, open the senses and connect closely with the forest, yourself and others. We close with tea brewed from local plants. Bring a sit pad/stool if you have one, water, snacks if you'd like & dress for changing weather (snow boots, waterproof pants suggested). Ages 12 and up. For this particular hike, please pre-register by calling the Visitors Center, (719)687-2366 x 0. We'll reschedule if below 30 degrees!