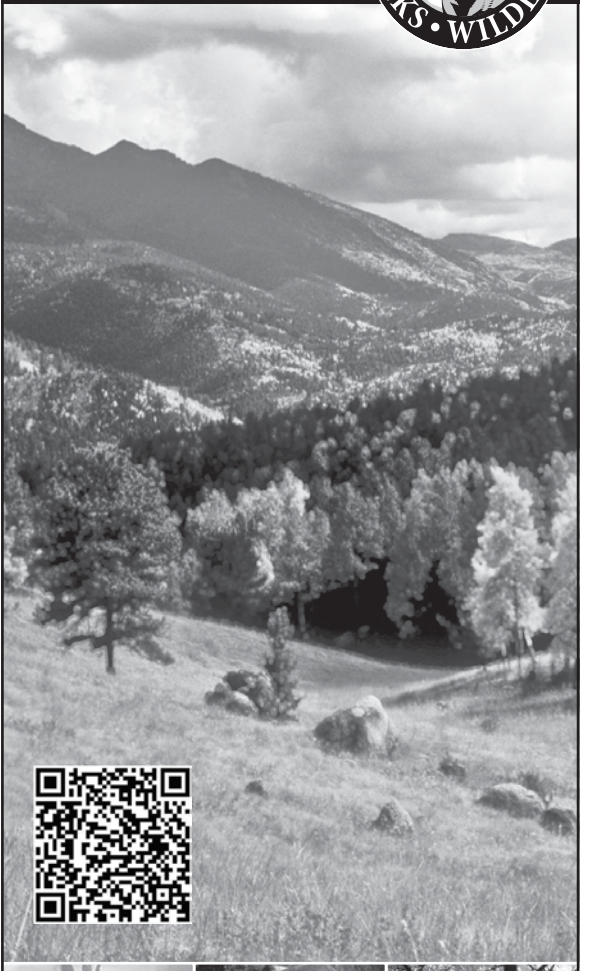
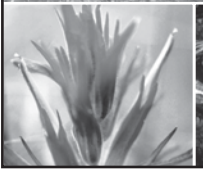
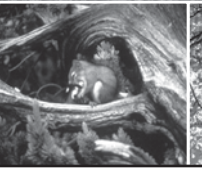
COLORADO PARKS & WILDLIFE

Mueller State Park

ENJOY YOUR STATE PARKS







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Welcome to Mueller State Park. You are surrounded by over 5,100 acres of spring-fed meadows, mixed forests and massive rock outcroppings of Pikes Peak Granite.

Once hunting grounds of Native Americans, the land is rich in wildlife including elk, deer, black bear, mountain lions and small mammals. Pioneers passed through the area in the late 1850's during the Pikes Peak or Bust gold rush – which actually happened in Denver. Prospectors trampled through the land during the 1890's Gold Rush to Cripple Creek and Victor. Lumber was harvested for nearby towns, mines and railroads. Cattle grazing and farming were occasionally supplemented by bootlegging, horse thievery and cattle rustling. The Mueller Family began purchasing local ranches in the 1950's to assemble a large cow/calf operation. The family soon realized the true value of their land lay in preservation for future generations and thus Mueller State Park was born. The park opened to the public in August of 1991.

The park supports a variety of plant-life ranging from native grasses and wildflowers to stands of spruce, Douglas-fir, ponderosa pine, limber pine and aspen. The park's topography varies from dense forest stands of conifer and aspen to rolling grasslands interrupted by dramatic rock outcroppings. This contrast results from an ancient up-thrust of Pikes Peak to the east and volcanic action to the south and west.

Visitors may enjoy year-round outdoor activities including camping, picnicking, hiking, mountain biking, horseback riding, wildlife viewing and nature photography. Winter activities include snowshoeing, sledding and cross-country skiing. Several campsites remain open year around.

Passes and Permits

Visitors to Mueller State Park are required to possess a current parks pass. A daily pass is valid from the day purchased until noon the following day. An annual pass or Keep Colorado Wild pass is valid at any Colorado State Park. For annual pass holders who own additional vehicles, multiple passes are available at a reduced fee. An Aspen Leaf annual pass is available to Colorado seniors at a discounted rate. Passes are available at the park entrance, or at the visitor center.

Colorado disabled veterans displaying Colorado Disabled Veteran (DV) license plates are admitted free without a pass.

A current fee schedule for Colorado State Parks is available online at www.cpw.state.co.us.

Picnicking

Preacher's Hollow, Outlook Ridge, Bootlegger and Lost Pond are the four scenic picnic areas along Revenuer's Ridge. Preacher's Hollow, Outlook Ridge, Bootlegger and Lost Pond are the four scenic picnic areas along Revenuer's Ridge.

Camping/Cabins

The campground is located in a picturesque forest setting of spruce, fir and aspen with panoramic views of the surrounding mountain ranges. The park has 3 fully furnished rental cabins and 138 campsites including 22 walk-in tent sites, a reservable group campground, 4 Backcountry campsites, and 2 equestrian sites for horse campers only. The campground can accommodate motor homes, trailers and tents. A camper services facility with flush restrooms, coin-operated showers and laundry facilities is centrally located in the campground. All sites, except the walk-in tent sites, have electric hookups. Water hydrants with drinking water are available throughout the campground. There are no sewer hookups, but a dump station is available. Please use this facility. It is illegal to dump any waste or sewage, including dishwater, on the ground or vegetation.

To reserve a campsite or cabin, call 1-800-244-5613 or online at cpwshop.com.

Trails

Over 44 miles of trails invite visitors to explore the park's natural and historical resources. Trails vary from short, leisurely walks to challenging, full-day hikes. Most trails are open to hikers, mountain bikers and equestrians with a few ecologically fragile areas restricted to hikers only. A horse-trailer parking and unloading area is provided. Winter cross country skiing and snowshoeing can be enjoyed on a variety of terrain. There are 37 trails in the park. Each trail is named and numbered. Trail users should use established and marked trails. Trailhead and parking areas are easily accessible from the main roads in the park. Trail maps are available at the Visitor Center and park entrance.

Fishing and Hunting

Fishing in park ponds is fair at best. Only shore fishing is permitted. Some ponds are occasionally stocked with fingerlings. Dragonfly Pond is stocked once a year with catchable fish for Outdoor Skills Day. To reach most ponds involves a hike of 1½ to 2 miles into the backcountry. A Colorado fishing license is required and CPW bag and possession limits apply. Fishing with flies and lures is strongly encouraged. Hunting is limited and controlled. Information on seasons and regulations is available at the Visitor Center. Hunting is not permitted between the Friday before Memorial Day to the Tuesday after Labor Day. Hunters are asked to check with a Park Ranger if they harvest an animal. Please refer to the park's hunting brochure for specific information.

Nature Programs and Hikes

The park offers three self-guided nature trails – The Children's Dragonfly Trail at Dragonfly Pond; The Wapiti Trail at the Visitor Center and the Northern Meadows Nature Trail that starts at Grouse Mountain Trailhead. Naturalist -led hikes and activities are offered year round, while amphitheater programs are presented during the summer. Check our website or park bulletin boards for details. To learn more about the park's wildlife, geology and history, stop by the exhibits in the Visitor Center.

Cautions

The park's high altitude and mountainous terrain require visitors to take precautions against:

- Overexertion: Allow extra time and rest occasionally.
- Dehydration: The climate is dry; take water along; do not drink from streams or ponds.
- Ultraviolet Rays: The sun is a greater factor at this altitude. Wear protective clothing, sunscreen and sunglasses.
- Hypothermia: Weather can change rapidly. Take warm, water-repellent clothing.
- Lightning: Storms occur frequently in the region. During threatening skies and weather, seek shelter and avoid hilltops or tall or isolated trees.
- Precipitous Rocks and Old Mines: Avoid edges, watch footing and supervise children carefully.
- Avoid Getting Lost: It is recommended that trail users have a trail map with them.
- Altitude Sickness: Take a few days to acclimate to altitude. Stay hydrated and well nourished. If symptoms persist go down to lower elevation.

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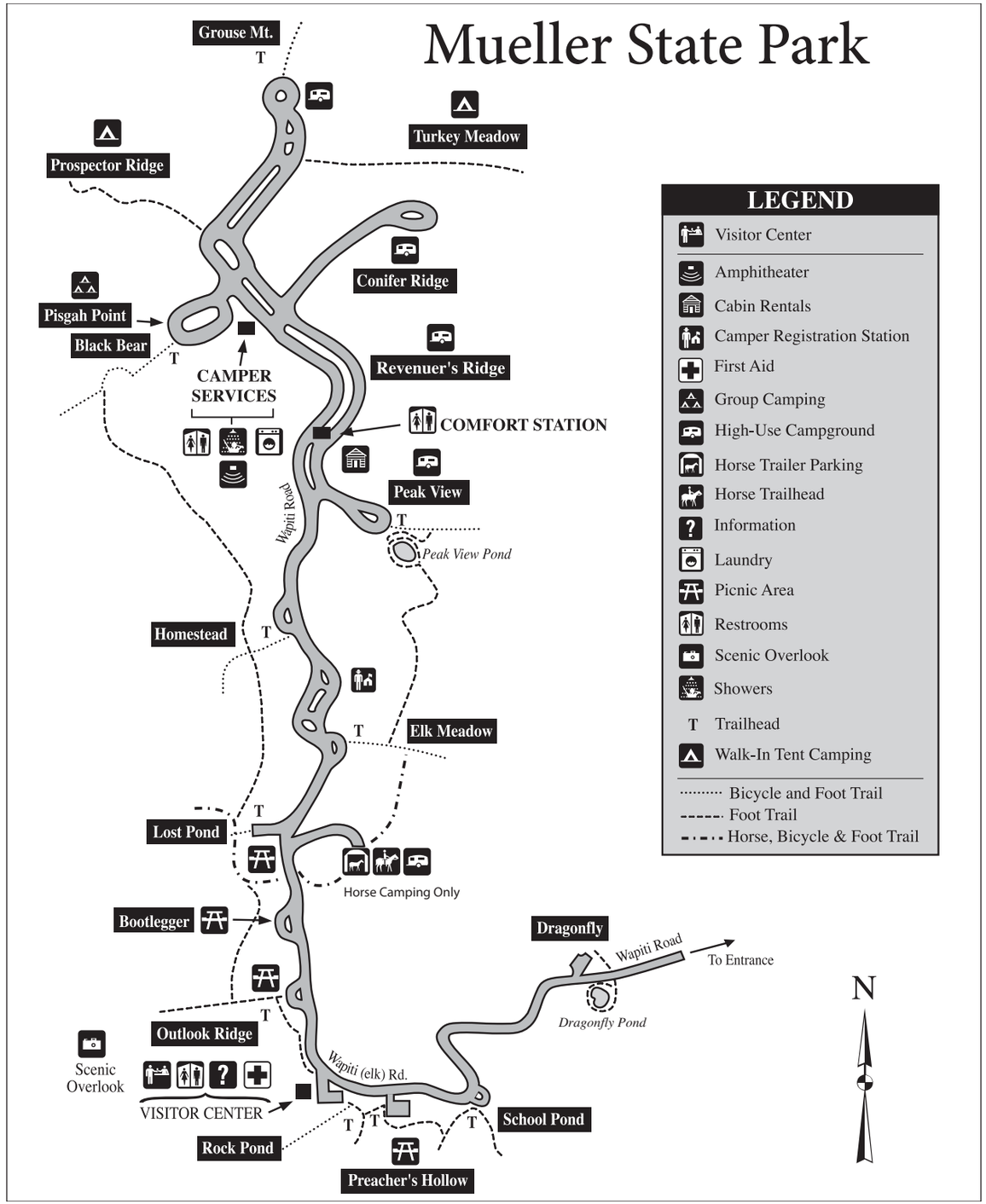


Help Protect Your Park

For your safety and to help us conserve park resources, we must ask that you please respect the following:

1. Motor vehicles are permitted only on designated roads, parking areas and the pavement at campsites.
2. Fires must be attended in person by an adult at all times and extinguished when not attended.
3. Pets are prohibited on all trails, in the backcountry, in all park buildings and at any of the ponds.
4. Camping is permitted in designated campsites only.
5. Use proper receptacles for trash, sewage and wastewater. Food is required to be properly stored so as not to attract bears or other wildlife. Do not feed wildlife including putting out bird feeders.
6. Down and dead wood may be used in grills and fire rings, but fuel wood may not be removed from the park. Firewood may be purchased at the entrance station or Visitor Center.
7. Target shooting is not permitted anywhere in the park!!
8. Quiet hours are enforced from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. for the comfort of all campers.
9. Day use hours are 5 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Report any problems or direct inquiries to a Park Ranger.

Emergencies

Park Rangers are trained and equipped to give first aid. Assistance can also be obtained at the Visitor Center. In an emergency, dial 911. An emergency room facility is located in Woodland Park at Pikes Peak Regional Hospital (16420 West Highway 24).

Nearby Attractions

In addition to the sites and activities within Mueller State Park, the region has many attractions within a short driving distance.

The historic mining towns of Cripple Creek and Victor can be reached by taking a scenic drive along Highway 67 south. The area offers mine tours, gold panning, rides on the narrow gauge railroad and limited stakes gambling. Pikes Peak, America's mountain, towers 14,115 feet directly east of the park. It can be reached by taking Highway 24 east to the turnoff in Cascade.

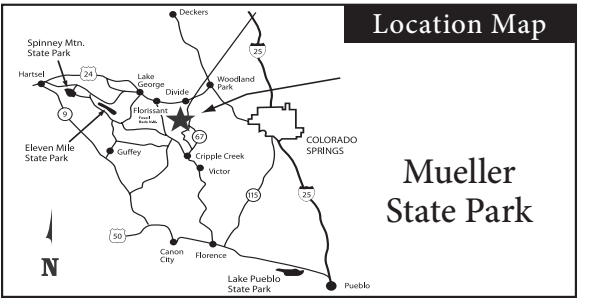
Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument with volcanic fossils of plants, insects and giant redwoods is 12 mile drive west of the park.

Eleven Mile and Spinney Mountain State Parks, located near Lake George, consistently produce some of the best trout fishing in the state.

Colorado Springs, about 30 miles east of the park has a variety of local attractions, including the U.S. Air Force Academy, Garden of the Gods, Cheyenne Mountain Zoo, Cave of the Winds and the U.S. Olympic Complex Training Center.

Community Facilities

Gas, groceries, restaurants, gifts, lodging and religious facilities are available in the nearby communities of Divide, (4 miles to the north), Woodland Park (11 miles to the east), Cripple Creek (15 miles to the south) and Victor (17 miles to the south).



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PO Box 39 • Divide, CO

(719) 687-2366 • mueller.park@state.co.us

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COLORADO LOTTERY

Funded in part by Great Outdoors Colorado through Colorado Lottery proceeds.

06/2023