

## Boating/Water Sports

Boating, water-skiing, and swimming are among the most popular activities at the park. Areas are set aside for different activities to ensure a safe experience for all visitors. All motorboats and sailboats must be registered and have the required Aquatic Nuisance Species Stamp. OUT OF STATE BOATERS: Please see below for required ANS Stamp information. Boaters must observe navigation buoys, direction of travel, and lake zoning. Copies of the Colorado Boating Statutes and Regulations are available at the park entrance stations and boat ramps. Chatfield is open to boating from March 1 (as ice conditions permit) through November 30.

Swimming is not allowed at the marina, boat docks, any areas marked with Keep Out signs or buoys, and further than 75' from shore in the boating power zone. No one may swim from sunset until sunrise and anyone under the age of 13 must be accompanied by an adult. The swim beach is open Memorial Day through Labor Day.

## Aquatic Nuisance Species

Aquatic Nuisance Species (ANS) are non-native animals, plants, and diseases that are harmful to Colorado's native ecosystems. ANS are primarily spread by recreational boating and angling. ANS can live on the hulls, in the ballast tanks, or in standing water on vessels, and pose a significant and growing threat to Colorado. Please help to prevent the spread of these invasive organisms; CLEAN, DRAIN, and DRY your boat, waders, and other gear before moving between waters.

Boat inspections are MANDATORY prior to launch, and will be performed by park staff at Inspection Stations located at both boat ramps during posted hours of operation. To launch outside of inspection hours, a State Boat Inspection Seal and Receipt must be deposited in the drop box located at the boat ramps, and boater information must be written in the associated log book.

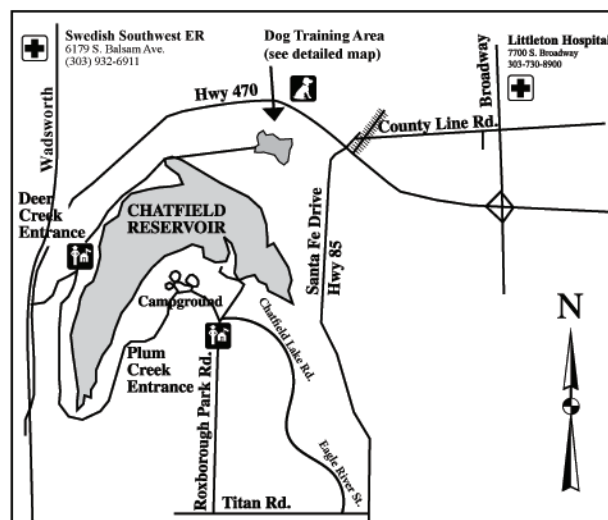
ANS Stamp: All motorboats and sailboats must have an ANS Stamp prior to launching in Colorado waters. Colorado residents will purchase the ANS Stamp at the time of vessel registration, which will automatically appear as an additional fee. Non-resident boaters can purchase the Stamp online at cpwshop.com, or at any CPW Office or sales location. Proof of purchase (electronic or printed receipt) must be retained by the operator, and available for inspection.

ANS Stamp funds make prevention and management of ANS in Colorado possible. Thank you for contributing to conservation and protecting our waters!

More information can be found on our website

<http://cpw.state.co.us/thingstodo/Pages/BoatInspection.aspx>

## Location



## Safety

The staff at Chatfield are committed to providing visitors with a positive recreation experience while protecting the natural resources. Park Rangers are fully trained law enforcement officers who work closely with local resources to keep visitors safe. Most park staff are trained in first aid and can assist during an emergency.

Emergency room care is available at Littleton Adventist Hospital, 7700 S. Broadway (Broadway and Mineral), and at Swedish Medical Center, 6196 S. Ammons Way (S. Wadsworth, between Coal Mine and Bowles).

In case of an emergency, call 911.



## Chatfield State Park

11500 N. Roxborough Park Rd • Littleton, CO 80125  
(303) 791-7275 • E-mail: [dnr\\_chatfield.park@state.co.us](mailto:dnr_chatfield.park@state.co.us)

[cpw.state.co.us](http://cpw.state.co.us)



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## Trails

Over 26 miles of hard surface and natural trails wind through the Chatfield area and provide Park visitors with an abundance of opportunities for wildlife viewing and bird watching. Trails are available for hiking, biking, dog walking, horseback riding and cross-country skiing and snowshoeing in the winter. Many trails are mobility device friendly.

## Picnicking

Numerous picnic sites with tables and grills are located throughout the park. Individual sites are available on a first-come first-served basis. Group Picnic sites are available by reservation by calling 1-800-244-5613.

## Passes, Permits

A Colorado State Park pass is required year-round on all vehicles entering the park. Campers are required to have a valid camping permit in addition to a park pass. Visitors who use the Dog-Off-Leash Area are required to have a DOLA pass in addition to the park pass.

Park passes are available at the entrance stations, park office and the campground office. Self serve stations accepting cash, check and credit card are available when stations and offices are not manned.

## Camping

Camping reservations are required. Reservations can be made online at [www.cpwshop.com](http://www.cpwshop.com) or by calling 1-800-244-5613. Reservations are available year round. Reservations can be made a maximum of 6 months in advance or even the day of your trip. Group campsites are also available for reservation.

The Chatfield campground offers 197 individual campsites.

All sites have an electrical RV hook-up (20-30-50 amp) service, a picnic table, fire ring, and grill. In addition, 146 sites are considered full hook-up, and offer water and sewer connections, seasonally. Shower and flush comfort stations are located throughout the campground. A sewage dump station is located near the campground for use by registered campers. A fee is charged for non-registered campers to use the facility. It is illegal to dump wastewater, including dishwater and sewage, anywhere else.

A camping permit is required in addition to a Parks pass for persons using the campground. Campers may only stay a maximum of 14 days in any 28 day period. Quiet hours are observed from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. and generators may not be operated during quiet hours.



## Wildlife

Chatfield's acres of prairie and riparian areas provide habitat to a multitude of wildlife species. Over 345 species of birds have been sighted at the park. A Watchable Wildlife kiosk is located on top of the dam and provides information on key places within the Park to see wildlife. Beaver and muskrat are often seen in the Park's wetland and pond areas. Whitetail, mule deer, coyotes, fox, mountain lion and bear live or feed in the area. Less developed, natural areas of the park are located on the south side along the Plum Creek and Platte River. Park programs and interpretive walks are offered throughout the year. A schedule of activities can be found on the website or by contacting the park office.



## Fishing

In addition to a healthy population of trout and bass, Chatfield has walleye, channel catfish, yellow perch, crappie, bluegill, sunfish, and carp. The reservoir is periodically stocked with rainbow trout and other fish. Springtime presents superb walleye and trout opportunities, while bass, perch, crappie and catfish are most frequently caught during the summer. Ice fishing is usually under-way by mid-December. Check the Park website and at the entrance for current conditions.

An accessible fishing pier is located near the marina on the east side of the lake. An accessible trail provides access to the South Platte River.

## Dog Off-Leash Area

The fenced Dog Off-Leash Area (DOLA) at the north end of the park provides dog enthusiasts with 69-acres of space for exercising their pets. The Chatfield DOLA includes walking trails, two small ponds, two parking lots and restrooms. An annual DOLA pass or a daily DOLA pass is required, in addition to a park pass. Pets must be under voice control while inside the DOLA and on a leash while walking between vehicles and the entrance to the DOLA. Leashed pets are allowed throughout the park except at the swim beach. Owners are required to clean up and dispose of pet waste throughout the park.



## Horseback Riding

Horse trailer parking, corrals, unloading ramps and a trailhead are located on the Park's west side, south of the Deer Creek entrance. Horses are available for rent at the Chatfield Stables, located south west of

COLORADO PARKS & WILDLIFE

# Chatfield State Park

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[cpw.state.co.us](http://cpw.state.co.us)

the swim beach. Riders must stay on designated trails. Horses are prohibited at picnic sites, campsites, the swim beach and along the reservoir shoreline.

Visitors may leave horses in the corrals overnight if they are camping in the campground, two miles from the corrals. Owners must provide their own feed and water containers, as grazing is not allowed. Water faucets are only available at the corrals.

## Balloons/Model-planes

Chatfield State Park is one of the most popular hot air balloon launch areas on the Front Range. Balloons launch from the Montgolfier Balloon Port, near the Deer Creek entrance. A balloon permit is required in addition to a vehicle park pass.

For model airplane pilots, the Chatfield Model Airplane field offers paved runways, frequency posts and field regulations for radio-controlled aircraft. The airfield is located south of the campground. Radio-controlled devices, including drones and boats, are prohibited throughout the main park area.



## History

The South Platte River and its riparian area brought many tribes to the area. Among them were Mouache Ute, Jicarilla Apache, Comanche, Kiowa, Lakota, Arapahoe, and the Cheyenne. The first non-native settlers came to the Chatfield area in search of gold in 1858. Prospectors discovered the precious metal in the vicinity of Cherry Creek and the South Platte River.

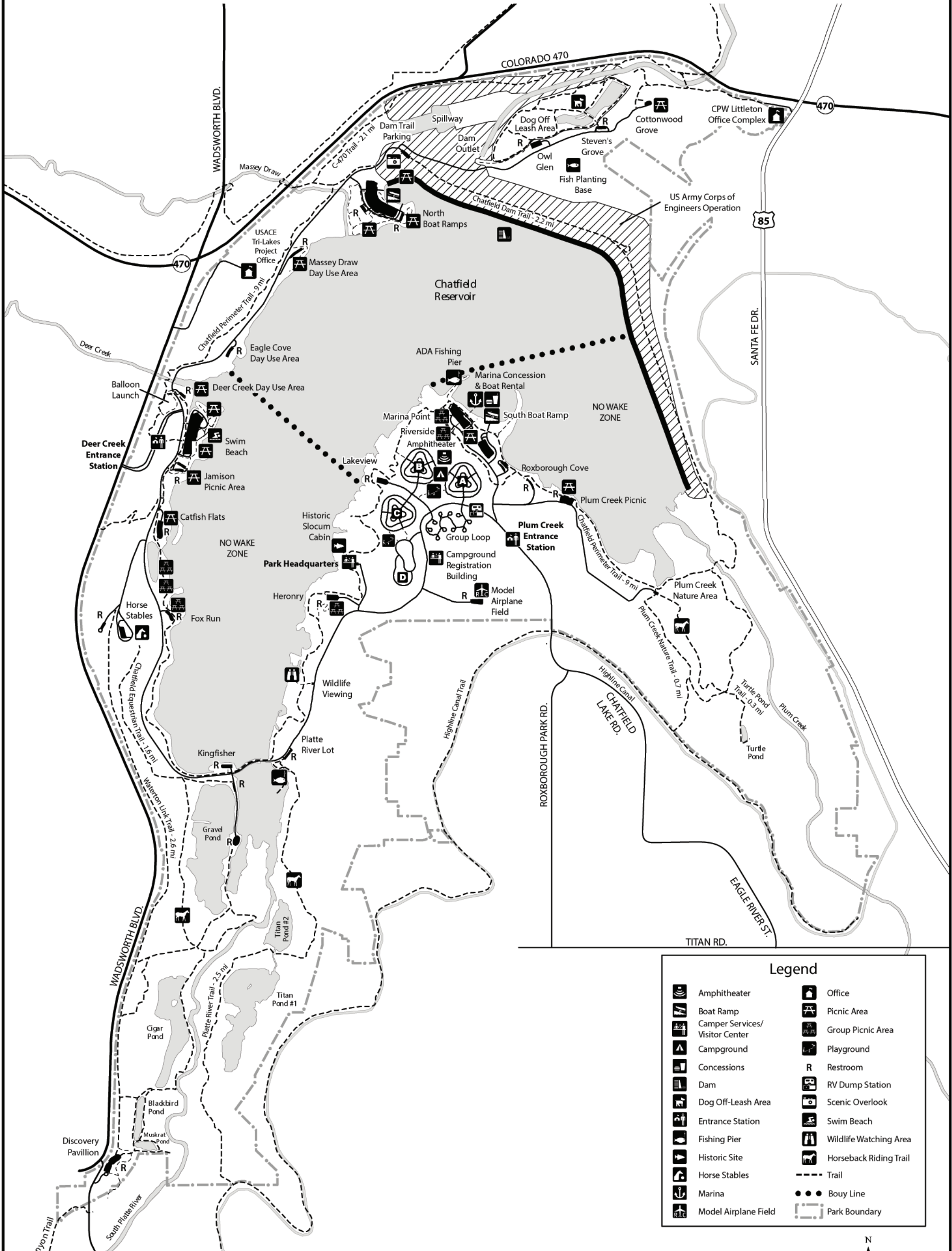
In 1870, Isaac W. Chatfield, a Union lieutenant in the Civil War, bought land at the confluence of the South Platte River and Plum Creek. Chatfield farmed the land until he moved in 1879. The area and a nearby road still bear his name.

The area continued to grow as an agricultural community, and small activity centers and subdivisions were built.

On June 16, 1965, the rain swollen Plum Creek caused the Platte River to jump its banks and sweep away homes and businesses throughout the area as well as Denver. The result was 13 deaths and over \$300 million in damages.

As a control measure, in August 1967, two years after the flood, the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers began development of the \$85 million project and in 1973 work began on the dam. In 1974 Colorado State Parks entered a long-term lease to manage the 5,600-acre recreation area. The dam was completed in 1975, resulting in a 1,500 surface acre reservoir and 3,895 acres of land. Chatfield State Park was officially opened in 1975.

# Chatfield State Park



## Regulations

1. Vehicles must remain on designated roads or in parking areas.
2. Fires are permitted only in the fire rings and grills provided. Fires are not permitted on the swimbeach.
3. Pets must be on a leash at all times.
4. Hunting, fireworks, and model rockets are prohibited throughout the park
5. Keep your park clean! Place litter in the receptacles provided.
6. Camping is permitted in designated campsites only.

## Concessions

**Chatfield Marina** - Boating supplies, groceries, boat/sailboat rentals and lessons, fuel docks, patio restaurant, snack bar, slip rentals, boat storage.

**Open:** April - October.

**Information and Reservations:** (303) 791-5555 • [www.chatfieldmarina.com](http://www.chatfieldmarina.com)

**Chatfield Stables** - Stable horses for lease, trail rides, hayrack rides, riding lessons.

Open May - September, 9-6 p.m. Winter rides by appointment

**Information:** (303) 933-3636 [www.chatfieldstables.com](http://www.chatfieldstables.com)