

Chatfield State Park



Who we are

Chatfield State Park is truly one of Colorado's full-service outdoor recreation areas. We offer traditional outdoor activities such as picnicking, boating, swimming, bicycling, hiking, fishing, wildlife viewing and camping. We also offer recreational pursuits that may be more unique to the area, such as open water swim practice, hot air ballooning, remote control model airplane flying, and off-leash dog exercise. Nestled against the foothills southwest of Denver, the park is a "hot-spot" for all things recreation.

Top attractions

- Campgrounds located near hiking, biking and horseback riding trails, with opportunities for wildlife viewing
- Well known for fantastic bird watching – with over 345 bird species living in or migrating through the area, it's considered an Important Bird Area by the National Audubon Society
- Numerous water recreation opportunities, including fishing, boating, paddle boarding and swimming
- A unique chance to fly a model airplane or go for a ride in a hot air balloon
- A 69-acre dog off-leash area with two ponds

Our partners

- Chatfield Marina
- Chatfield Stables
- Denver Audubon
- Denver Water
- Centennial Water & Sanitation District
- Jefco Aeromod'lers
- Lockheed Martin
- South Suburban Parks & Recreation
- South Metro Denver Chamber of Commerce
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary
- Douglas & Jefferson Counties

Challenges we face

- With increased visitation, balancing sustainable outdoor recreation opportunities with needed natural resource protection is becoming more and more difficult.
- Encroaching development is resulting in increased issues with trails, roads, facilities and public safety. There is significant concern regarding impacts to wildlife, development of social trails, light pollution and degradation of the viewscape and natural areas. Higher population in surrounding neighborhoods also increases the number of people entering the park without paying the entry fee, which affects park revenues and stretches park staff even further.
- Recreational trends are changing, particularly on the water and on trails. Accommodating a variety of user groups without conflicts and ensuring resource protection is a challenge.



KEN PAPALEO/HIGH COUNTRY COLORING

Volunteer activities

- Volunteer opportunities include serving as naturalists, campground hosts, trail hosts, natural resource maintenance and office support, and Dog Off Leash Area ambassadors.
- Annual volunteer recruitment open houses provide those interested with a chance to learn about all of the different opportunities available at the park.
- Other volunteer activities include Eagle Scout projects, large group projects and cooperative projects with the Denver Audubon.

Chatfield State Park

11500 N Roxborough Park Rd, Littleton, CO 80125
(303) 791-7275 • chatfield.park@state.co.us
Park Manager: Kris Wahlers

As of July 1, 2022

KEN PAPALEO/HIGH COUNTRY COLORING

Manager's message

Most people are familiar with the extensive outdoor recreational opportunities available at the park. What many overlook is the tremendous natural resource value that the park also has. Our wide range of vegetation and terrain makes excellent habitat for a diverse variety of mammals, herpetofauna, and especially birds. At Chatfield, we want to create a great and safe recreational experience for our visitors while enhancing and protecting the natural resources in the park.

Geography

Region: Northeast
County: Jefferson, Douglas
and Arapahoe
Year Acquired: 1975
Elevation (ft): 5,430
Miles From Denver: 15

Acreage

Total Acres: 5,381

Governmental

US Cong Dist: 4th, 6th, 7th
CO Senate: 4th, 16th & 30th
CO House: 25th, 28th, 39th & 43rd

Employees

Permanent: 16
Temporary: 52
Volunteers (FY 22): 151
Volunteer Hours (FY 22): 20,285

Annual Visitation

FY 22: ~1.82 million

Facilities

Boat Ramps
Boat Rental
Dog Off-leash Area
Dump Station
Group Picnic Areas
Laundry
Marina (seasonal)
Model Airplane Field
Mooring/Docking
139 Picnic Sites
Showers (coin operated)
Stables (year-round)
Swim Beach

Trails

Hard Surface: 16.4 miles
Hard Surface/Gravel: 4.4 miles
Gravel: 12.0 miles
Horseback: 12.0 miles
Total: 32.8 miles

Roads

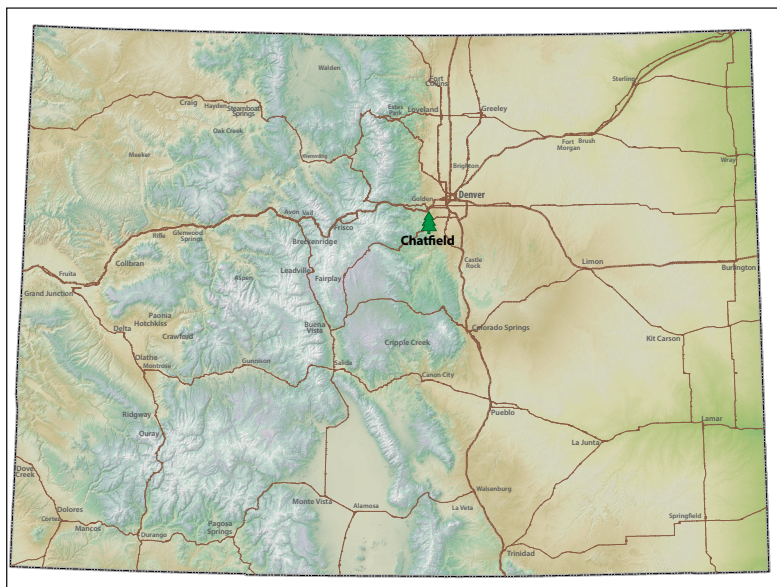
Paved: 20.3 miles
Unpaved: 1.8 miles

Recreation

Biking
Boating
Cross Country Skiing
Fishing
Hiking
Horseback Riding
Ice Fishing
Jet Skiing
Picnicking
Ranger/Nature Programs
Snowshoeing
Stand Up Paddle Boarding (SUP)
Swimming
Volleyball
Walking
Water Skiing
Wildlife/Bird Viewing
Winter Camping

Camping

Campsites (electrical, seasonal): 51
Campsites (full-hookup, seasonal): 102
Campsites (full-hookup/electrical Nov-April): 44
Group Facilities (year-round): 10



KEN PAPALEO/HIGH COUNTRY COLORING