

# Barr Lake Oasis...

## A Collection of Exciting Learning Opportunities and Nature Center News

May—June 2014

### **We Need Your Help**

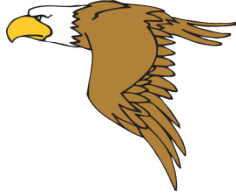
Show your appreciation for Barr Lake State Park through our annual Lake Appreciation Day volunteer event on **Saturday, July 12<sup>th</sup> from 8am-3pm**. Bring your family, friends, scout group, and/or coworkers for

- ◆ Volunteer projects from 8:00-11:00am
- ◆ BBQ lunch at 11:30am
- ◆ multiple fun activities from 12:30-3pm.

Free park admission for volunteers! **RSVP necessary for groups of five or more by calling 303-659-6005.**

### **Eagle Express\***

Reserve your spot for a trip to great wildlife watching opportunities aboard our universally accessible, motorized Eagle Express! Your destinations are the gazebo with a great view of the bald eagle nest and the heron and cormorant Rookery at mile marker three. But you never know what will fly, crawl, or gallop past the Eagle Express on the way there!



#### **- Public Rides..**

Reserve your spot for a Saturday trip from 10am-12 pm (except May 17<sup>th</sup> and July 12<sup>th</sup>) or a Sunday trip from 11am-1 pm by calling the Nature Center at 303-659-6005.

#### **- Group Rides..**

Do the members of your club or organization want to ride the Eagle Express? Make a reservation for your group. A Park Naturalist will provide interesting information on park wildlife and history as you travel the lake perimeter trail. The Eagle Express holds up to 13 passengers. Call the Nature Center at least two weeks in advance of your trip request at 303-659-6005.

*\*Weather and trail conditions permitting. The Eagle Express is a gift of Anheuser-Busch, Inc. Barr Lake encourages and appreciates donations for vehicle fuel, care, and maintenance.*

### **Saturday Guided Bird Walks at 9am**

Grab your binoculars and field guide, or check out a loaner set of ours, and enjoy an exciting morning of birding at Barr Lake. Park Naturalists enthusiastically introduce birders of all ability levels to Barr Lake's feathered residents and migrants. May and June are a great time to see nesting birds and their hatchlings.

**May 10<sup>th</sup> - Tammy and Ira**

**May 31<sup>st</sup> - Marilyn**

**June 14<sup>th</sup> - Tammy and Ira**

**June 28<sup>th</sup> - Marilyn**

*Program designed for adults. All ability levels welcome.*

### **National Safe Boating Week**

May 17<sup>th</sup> through May 23<sup>rd</sup> is designated safe boating week. The theme of this year's campaign – focused on promoting life jacket use – is "Wear It!" If you're planning to spend time boating this season, always wear your life jacket. We'll celebrate National Safe Boating Week with our Birding by canoe event.



### **Birding by Canoe**

**Saturday, May 17<sup>th</sup> 9am – 2pm**

Parents and children ages 7 and up can join Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory naturalists and Barr Lake State Park rangers for a day of learning basic canoeing and birding skills, which will culminate with a guided canoeing tour around the north end of the lake to see what birds can be observed while on the water! Participants are encouraged to bring their own canoe, kayak, and binoculars to utilize during the program. Pack a picnic lunch and beverage. Loaner binocs and canoes can be reserved prior to the program on a first-come, first-serve basis.

**Cost:** \$10/person + a \$7/vehicle or annual State Park pass for entrance into Barr Lake State Park.

**How:** Pre-registration and payment required. Register for this program by contacting Tyler Edmondson at [tyler.edmondson@rmbo.org](mailto:tyler.edmondson@rmbo.org) or 303-659-4348 ext. 15 and providing the number, names, ages, and payment for all participants. **Don't forget: you must bring all required boating safety equipment!**

### **Boating Safety Course**

**Monday, June 16<sup>th</sup>, 6 to 9pm**

Anyone operating a motorboat, including a personal watercraft or sailboat in Colorado must be at least 16 years old. Fourteen and 15-year-olds who successfully complete a state approved boating safety course, such as the one we are offering can operate a motorboat, jet ski or sailboat in Colorado. The course is open to adults as well as teens. Course is Monday, June 17<sup>th</sup> from 6pm to 9pm. Reservations required. The certification fee is \$15 per student and the student must bring a 1-by-1-inch photo, which will be laminated onto their operator card. Meet at the Nature Center. Please call our Littleton office at 303-791-1954 to make reservations.

### **Sunset Pontoon Boat Tours\***

**Fri., May 16<sup>th</sup>, May 30<sup>th</sup>, June 20<sup>th</sup> and July 4<sup>th</sup> at 7pm**

Enjoy the wonders of Barr Lake from a new perspective—the water! Join a Park Naturalist for a one-hour guided tour aboard Barr Lake's pontoon boat. You will meet new people, learn about boat safety and discuss the history of Barr Lake. Reserve your seat today. meet at the boat ramp.

*\*Space is limited to six participants. Registration is required and can be made by calling 303-659-6005. This program is made possible by your generous donations that support the care and maintenance of the boat.*

### **Free Canoe Class!**

Beat the summer heat and enjoy one of our canoe classes for adults and kids. The three-hour canoe classes will be held on June 28<sup>th</sup> from 9am – 12pm. There will be more dates announced soon. For more details and to register, please call the Nature Center at 303-659-6005. Class is designed for ages 12 through adult. Each participant 12-15 years old must be accompanied by a participating adult, and 16-18 year olds must have an adult permission form signed the morning of the class. Class size is limited to 10 people.

*\$7 daily or annual parks pass required for all programs*

### **Tuesday Night Eagle Express Twilight Rides**

**May 6<sup>th</sup>, May 20<sup>th</sup>, June 3<sup>rd</sup> and June 17<sup>th</sup> 4:00pm**

Barr Lake Nature Center

13401 Picadilly Rd., Brighton, CO 80603 303-659-6005 • [barr.lake.nature.center@state.co.us](mailto:barr.lake.nature.center@state.co.us)

• [www.facebook.com/BarrLakeStatePark](http://www.facebook.com/BarrLakeStatePark) and [www.twitter.com/BarrLakeStPk](http://www.twitter.com/BarrLakeStPk)

Support for educational programming at Barr Lake State Parks provided by the Friends of Barr Lake

Sit back and ride aboard the Eagle Express for an evening excursion out to the bald eagle nest-viewing site with park naturalists. Only 13 seats are available, so make a reservation by calling 303-659-6005. Dress for the weather, bring water, dinner bug spray. Meet at the Boat ramp to enjoy the one- to two-hour journey.

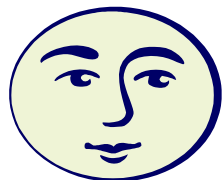


## **Full Moon Hikes**

*Explore Barr Lake at dusk! These two programs are designed for adults and families with children age 6 and up. They begin at the Nature Center and conclude there with refreshments after the hike.*

### **The Man on the Moon Speaks**

**Wednesday, May 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm**



And man does he have a lot to share with you! Come discover some interesting relationships and little known moon facts. Is there really a dark side of the moon, what are its phases, and much more?

### **Summer Strawberry Full Moon**

**Friday, June 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm**



Did you ever wonder if the plants in your backyard are edible or medicinal? Enjoy a full moon adventure exploring the uses of plants around Barr Lake. Be enchanted by the folklore of strawberries and other plants on this summer solstice journey.

### **Concert on the Prairie**

**Saturday, June 21<sup>st</sup>, 7pm to 9pm**

Join us for a unique evening opportunity to enjoy the sounds of Colorado Southern Band. Admission is \$10 to support the Friends of Barr Lake. Refreshments will be available. Dress for the weather and bring bug spray.



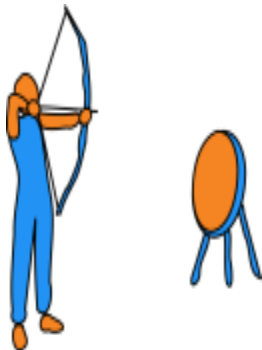
### **Twilight Bike Ride**

**Friday, June 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm**

Explore the Barr Lake 9-mile trail at dusk by bike. Call 303-659-6005 to RSVP. Be sure to bring a light, water and a helmet. Twilight is a quiet time in the park and wildlife abounds. Come join a naturalist for this special time of day at the Park.

### **Basic Archery Instruction**

**Sundays, June 15<sup>th</sup> and June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 11am – 1pm**



Join the Barr Lake rangers for this Introduction to Archery event. Loaner equipment will be on hand for use during class. Number of participants limited to 16 students, ages 6 to adult, registration is required. Call the Nature Center at 303-659-6005 to register.

### **Kids' Age-specific Programs**

Please pay particular attention to the different age requirements for each program. No younger or older

children are allowed! Only 15 slots are available for each program, the overnight camp has a fee. Reservations are required by calling 303-659-6005!

### **Toddler Story Time**

Bring your pre-school child to listen to stories about the natural world. Join Ranger Michelle the first Tuesday of every month, at 10 a.m. The subject on May 6<sup>th</sup> will be Fish and On June 3<sup>rd</sup> will be Boating. Program designed for children 3-5 accompanied by an adult

### **Barr Lake Birders**



**Saturday, May 24<sup>th</sup> 2 pm – 4 pm**

Children will enjoy a community atmosphere while learning about the birding world during once a month club meetings of the Barr Lake Birds, a new birding club exclusively for kids ages 6 -15. No experience is required, just an interest in birds and the outdoors.

In addition to the monthly club meetings, we will enjoy field trips to off-park birding sites, dates & times to be determined.

Call the Nature Center to sign up! 303-659-6005

### **Adventure Overnight Camp ages 7 to 13 only**

**Sat, June 7<sup>th</sup> at 5 pm through Sun., June 8<sup>th</sup> at 10 am**

Take advantage of a rare opportunity to spend the night in the park. Kids will eat dinner, play games, work in teams, exercise their nocturnal skills in observing wildlife on a night hike, sleep under the stars, and relish a hearty breakfast with new friends. No accompanying adults. Fee per child is \$15. An outline and list of supplies will be shared after registration.

### **Summer Eaglet Explorer and Eagle Ranger Programs**

Barr Lake Summer Camp for Kids will cover a wide range of science and nature topics. Archery, craft, and a nature hike are some of the activities the kids will enjoy. We will host an award ceremony on the final day of both camps.

- **Eaglet Explorer June 23 and 24 10am-12noon**

This Camp is for explorers ages 3-6 only, with accompanying adult.

- **Eagle Ranger June 26 and 27 9am-12noon**

This Camp is for rangers ages 7 - 13 only.

Accompanying adults are welcome but not required.

### **Alerts for Equestrian and Trail Users**

On Saturday, May 17<sup>th</sup> there will be hundreds of runners circling the lake for the Adams County Deputy District Attorney Sean May Memorial Run/Walk.

### **e-Mailing list**

Would you like to receive the Barr Lake Oasis via email? If so, please send a request to [barr.lake.nature.center@state.co.us](mailto:barr.lake.nature.center@state.co.us)

**Barr Lake Nature Center • 13401 Picadilly Rd., Brighton, CO 80603**

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