

Barr Lake Oasis...

A Collection of Exciting Learning Opportunities and Nature Center News

March-April 2019

Spring Fishing Clinic

Saturday, May 4th from 8am to 1pm

Join experts for a morning of fishing tips and instructional workshops. **FREE kid-sized rods** for the first **100** kids to sign up by calling **303-659-6005**. There are three kids workshops: 8AM, 9AM and 10AM and you must RSVP in advance to receive the equipment. We'll meet at the boat ramp.

Basic Archery Instruction

Sundays, March 10th, April 14th @ 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 students limited to 16 students, ages 6 to adult, registration is required. **Call 303-659-6005 to register.**

Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 20th 10am to 1pm



Bring your family and your Easter basket to gather eggs and fun nature facts. There will be crafts (by Bird Conservancy of the Rockies), face painting and lots of FUN!

Reservations are required.

LIMITED TO 100 KIDS, AGE 3 Y.O.—10 Y.O.

Call 303-659-6005 to register!

Activities include:

10-10:30am Join the Bird Conservancy of the Rockies for a fun filled program, "All About Eggs"

10:45am-Easter Egg Hunt - Kids will find Easter eggs filled with candy and fun nature facts

11:00am-1:00pm- Face painting and crafts.

Kite Festival

Saturday, April 27th from 10:00am-1:00pm

Get a **FREE** kite sponsored by the Friends of Barr Lake. Check out other kites and meet experts from other kite clubs. **Please RSVP 303-659-6005** so we have enough for all participants.



BioBlitz 2019

Saturday, April 27th 7:00am—2:00pm

Want to learn about Nature, live & in person, from experts in many fields? Come to the BioBlitz 2019 at Barr Lake State Park! The folks at Bird Conservancy of the Rockies and Colorado Parks & Wildlife are joining efforts to bring you the information you need to understand and enjoy our natural world in a more complete way.



What is a BioBlitz? It's an event that brings together natural resource experts, community volunteers, and members of the public to inventory all species (plants, mammals, birds, insects, fungi, etc.) in a specific area over a specific time period. Not only do you help with surveying our local resources, you're working with experts who can answer your questions and enhance your understanding of our beautiful natural world. (There might even be a BioBlitz dance!) Registration is through Bird Conservancy of the Rockies' website. **www.BirdConservancy.org/registration**

Be sure to download the **FREE** iNaturalist app and join the State Parks NatureFinder Project to document your observations. Volunteers will show you how.

*That same day, we're bringing out the Eagle Express! Celebrate Earth Day by enjoying a ride to the Gazebo and Great Blue Heron rookery Three tours available: 10am, 11:30am & 1pm. **Seating limited so reservations are required** by calling **303-659-6005**. Also, our Cheyenne-style tipi reopens this day. Come help us raise the poles on the Prairie!*



\$8 daily or annual parks pass required for all programs



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

303-659-6005 ♦barr.lake.nature.center@state.co.us

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Nature Walk & Talk

Fridays, March 15th & April 26th @ 10am

Saturdays, March 2nd & April 6th @ 10am

Share your knowledge, experiences and enthusiasm with other Barr Lake visitors and volunteers as we



discover and rediscover the park's hidden treasures. *No RSVP required. Program designed for adults. Meet at the Nature Center, dress for the weather.*

Bald Eagle Nesting Tour

Saturday, March 2nd & 23rd at 10am

Sundays April 7th & 28th at 11am

Make a date to come to Barr Lake for an Eagle Express ride to view the bald eagles! If all goes well, eaglets hatch in late March. As of 2018, Barr Lake bald eagles have fledged 56 young! **Join us for a unique opportunity to view our bald eagles guided by a naturalist!** Eagle Express rides to the Gazebo seat 13 so seats are limited – reservations required! Call 303-659-6005 to RSVP.

Guided Bird Walks, Saturdays @ 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 Tammy & Ira introduce birders of all ability levels to

Barr Lake's feathered residents and migrants. March and April are great months to view birds before the trees grow their leaves and the birds become more difficult to find. In addition to a variety of wintering songbirds, you may find the raptor and waterfowl watching this time of year to be exceptional!

March 9th & 23rd

April 6th & 27th

Program designed for adults. All ability levels welcome.

Toddler Story Time

Thursdays, March 7th and April 4th 10am

Bring your pre-school child to listen to stories about the natural world. Join Ranger Danyel the first Thursday of every month for a different story sure to entertain your little one. **March will be about Toads and April's topic is Chicks!** *Program designed for children 3-5 accompanied by an adult. Please RSVP 303-659-6005.*

Full Moon Walks

Explore Barr Lake at dusk!

Envision yourself taking a short brisk evening walk with a Park Naturalist.



See the dates and descriptions below for all the details!

Moon walk programs are designed for adults and families with children age 6 and up.

Limited to 15 participants; RSVP required by calling 303-659-6005. Meet at the Nature Center.

“Spring is Sprung!” Moon Hike

Wednesday, March 20th at 6:30pm

Barr Lake's wildlife is responding to the coming of spring. Discover these changes while on a vernal equinox **and** full moon **and** Super Moon walk to the gazebo.

“Myth Busters” Moon Hike

Friday, April 19th at 7:00pm

Are bats really blind? Can owls turn their heads 360°? Do prairie dogs have a vocabulary? Dispel common myths, misunderstandings, and widespread folklore about wildlife and nature while on a full moon walk.

Adult Polymer Clay Workshop

Sundays, March 31st & April 28th 1pm to 3pm

Unleash your creativity while learning how to make a cute nature-themed ornament out of polymer clay. Free supplies and instruction provided for this fun Make-It-Take-It-Bake-It (in your home oven) craft. Limited to 10 participants, 16 or older, so be sure to RSVP by calling 303-659-6005.

Spring Break Day Camp

Monday, March 25th 10am – 12pm for ages 4-6

Friday, March 29th 9am – 12pm for ages 7-12

Spring Break Camps connect kids to the outdoors while building their appreciation for science. Our camps will feature age-appropriate activities such as crafts, hikes and exploration of the natural world. *Limited to 25 kids per camp. Call 303-659-6005 to RSVP.*



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Barr Lake Birders

A Birders' Club for kids ages 6-15

Saturdays, March 23rd & April 20th 10am – 12pm

Children will enjoy a community atmosphere while learning about the birding world during once a month club meetings and during participation in various field trips to other birding sites.

No experience is required, just an interest in birds.



Please RSVP: 303-659-6005 Parents, please plan to attend our first meeting of 2018 to help us make a few decisions such as dates and times for club meetings, car pools for field trips

and the use of technology. We want to make this easy for you and exciting for your children.

INFO YOU CAN USE

HUNTER SAFETY IN COLORADO

In order to buy a license in Colorado, hunters born on or after Jan. 1, 1949 need to possess a hunter education card certifying he or she has passed Hunter Safety Classes. It's an easy 3-step process:

- 1) Pre-register for the In-Person Component
- 2) Study and pass the \$24.50 course.
- 3) Complete your Conclusion Class.

Colorado Parks and Wildlife Requirements

Important! You must pre-register for the Conclusion Class before beginning the online course. If you have not pre-registered, go to <https://www.registered.com/programs/colorado/99/>. Instructions for accessing the online portion will then be sent to you.

You must pass both the online course and Conclusion Class in order to complete your hunter education requirements. Passing the online course does not guarantee you a spot at the Conclusion Class.

There is no minimum age requirement to take this online course. You do not have to be a resident of Colorado to take this online course.

After this Course

After passing the online course, you are required to attend the Conclusion Class to complete your hunting safety certification. The next available Conclusion Class at Barr Lake State Park is on March 2nd. Go to <https://registered.com/events/view/135460> for additional details.



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Would you like to receive this newsletter automatically? Send an email to dnr_barrlake.naturecenter@state.co.us with SUBSCRIBE in the subject line, and we'll take care of the rest.

VOLUNTEER AT BARR LAKE

New Volunteer Basics, March 9th 11am – 4pm

Do you love beautiful scenery, getting fresh air and that great feeling after a hard day's work? How would you like to meet friends, learn a new skill, and work together as part of a project team? Join Barr Lake's family of volunteers in helping the park to thrive and improve. Sign up at the CPW Volunteer Page to contact our park manager.

<http://cpw.state.co.us/aboutus/Volunteers/Pages/Opportunities.aspx#/>

Previous signup online required before attending training.

MAINTENANCE CLOSURE!

Mar 11th – 12th

We have some Spring Cleaning to do at the Nature Center, and to get it done efficiently and completely, we're closing the building for a couple of days. We're sorry for any inconvenience. See you on March 13th!

Friends Corner

News from the Friends of Barr Lake Birds and Brews

Monday, Feb 25th 6pm – 9pm

Copper Rail Bar & Grill, Brighton, CO

Join the Friends of Barr Lake for food, fun and fabulous prizes, all while helping a worthy organization raise funds for recreational, educational and conservation efforts in the park. See the FOBL website for details:

www.FriendsofBarrLake.org

Seventh Annual Raptor Run

Saturday, April 14th – 5k @ 9am,

Friends of Barr Lake's fun event to benefit educational programming at the park. Please wear your favorite raptor hat or t-shirt to show your wild side. For more details go to the Friends website:

<https://friendsofbarrlake.org/raptor-run/>



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Bird Conservancy Events

Our friends at the Bird Conservancy of the Rockies have lots of neat events coming up.

To register go to

www.BirdConservancy.org/registration

Spring Migration Camp, ages 5-12,

March 25-29, 9am-4pm. Daily, Cost: \$210

This camp is focused on birds during spring migration. Come have fun and learn about the incredible journey of migration. Campers will hone their birding skills along our local trails, discover what resources migrating birds need through fun and interactive activities, create bird-themed crafts, and much more!

Location: Bird Conservancy's Environmental Learning Center, 14500 Lark Bunting Lane, Brighton, CO 80603

All About Raptors! Program for Homeschool,

Friday, March 8th, 2019 9am-11:30am, Cost: \$5/child, \$1/adult

Take a hike with Bird Conservancy naturalists, keeping an eye out for birds of prey and the habitats they live in. After the hike, Nature's Educators will present four local live raptors!

Location: Bird Conservancy's Environmental Learning Center, 14500 Lark Bunting Lane, Brighton, CO 80603

Birding4Bucks & Camp Reunion,

Saturday, March 16th, 2019, 9am-12pm, Cost: \$3/child, \$1/adult

Join us for a day of Spring birding and help us raise scholarship funds to send kids to Bird Camps!

Participants will be broken up into groups led by birding mentors to see who can spot the most species. All birding ability levels are welcome and encouraged to participate in this family-friendly competition for a good cause!

Location: Bird Conservancy's Environmental Learning Center, 14500 Lark Bunting Lane, Brighton, CO 80603

MORE THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT

Pheasants Forever annual banquet March 9th

DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel DTC
7801 E. Orchard Road

Greenwood Village, CO 80111

To Register for the Banquet:

Banquet Tickets -

<https://www.pheasantsforeverevents.org/event/3506>

Or contact Tim Berges at
303-946-9441 or email
Tim_Berges@yahoo.com

National Junior Ranger Day April 20, 2019

What's cooler than being a park ranger? Being a junior park ranger, of course. Even though the official day is April 20th, all kids are welcome to come apply to join the Colorado State Park Junior Ranger Program and earn a badge. See the attendant at the Nature Center reception desk for more details.

Fishing Season at Barr Lake Now, 2019

So long as there is open shore, there's fishing at Barr Lake. Be sure to have a park pass and your valid/current fishing license, and you're all set to catch the big fish at Barr Lake State Park. Check our Facebook page or the Fish Reporter page to find out what's biting.

PARK UPDATES!

- *Weekend Eagle Express Tours resume
Mother's Day, Sunday, May 12th 11AM*
- *3D archery range reopens April 1st.*
- *The Equestrian Playground and Horse
Trailer Parking is currently available.*
- *Boat ramp opening date soon, depending
upon weather conditions. Watch our
Facebook page for updates.*



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