

Barr Lake Oasis...

A Collection of Exciting Learning Opportunities and Nature Center News

May—June 2017

Spring Fishing Clinic

Saturday, May 6th from 8am to 1pm

100 FREE poles for the first kids to sign up for a day filled with fishing tips and giveaways!

Please call Nature Center for reservations at 303-659-6005. We'll meet at the boat ramp. The kids' pole drawings are at 8AM, 9AM and 10AM. Participant must be present to win.



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!

Reserve your spot for a Saturday trip from 10am-12 pm (except July 15th) or a Sunday trip from 11am-1 pm by calling the Nature Center at 303-659-6005.

Regular scheduled runs begin Mother's Day, May 13th. Look for a special run on Memorial Day too. *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.*

We Need Your Help

Show your appreciation for Barr Lake State Park through our annual Lake Appreciation Day volunteer event on **Saturday, July 15th 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
- Many fun activities from 12:30-3pm.

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

Wear Your Life Jacket at Work Day

Friday, May 19th, All Day

This is an easy event to participate in and document - just send us pictures or post it on our Facebook page www.Facebook.com/BarrLakeStatePark

Our staff will be wearing our life jackets so come see how handsome we all look! Get spouse/plus one, family, and friends to participate.

New Nature Center Hours

Starting on May 1st, the Nature Center summer hours are:

Saturday & Sunday – 9AM – 5PM

Monday through Friday– 9AM – 4PM

At the Nature Center, we sell daily and annual state park passes, process registrations for boats, OHVs and snowmobiles, plus issue hunting and fishing licenses. We also have snacks and beverages, a book store, as well as information about Barr Lake State Park and other Colorado state parks to make your visit more enjoyable.

Adult Polymer Clay Workshop

Sundays, May 21st and June 25th 1pm to 3pm

Create your own small owl ornament out of polymer clay, and then take it home to bake. Supplies provided.

Limited to 10 adults. RSVP required: 303-659-6005

EVENING ACTIVITIES at the Park

J.A.T.T. Bike Ride

Friday, April 28th – 6PM

Friday May 26th, June 30th, & July 28th at 6:30PM



Explore the Barr Lake 9-mile trail at dusk by bike “*Just At Twilight Time*”. 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.

Tuesday Evening Outings on the Eagle

Express 4:00pm to sunset

May 9th & 23rd, and June 6th & 20th

Sit back and ride aboard the Eagle Express for a rare evening excursion out to the bald eagle nest-viewing site. *Departure Time May Change* due to weather and the lengthening days. Space is limited to 10 people. Make a reservation by calling 303-659-6005 & confirm the departure time. Dress for the weather and bring your picnic dinner, water and bug spray. Meet at the boat ramp to enjoy the two- to three-hour journey.



Barr Lake Nature Center

13401 Picadilly Rd., Brighton, CO 80603 303-659-6005 ♦ barr.lake.nature.center@state.co.us

♦ www.facebook.com/BarrLakeStatePark and www.twitter.com/BarrLakeStPk

Support for educational programming at Barr Lake State Park is provided by the Friends of Barr Lake.

Sunset Pontoon Boat Tours*

Fridays, May 26th & June 23rd 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.*

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. CALL 303-659-6005 to RSVP.

The Man on the Moon Speaks



Wednesday, May 10th at 7:00 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 9th 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.

Other Workshops & Programming

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. No RSVP required.

May 13th - Tammy and Ira

May 20th - Betsy

June 3rd - Tammy and Ira

June 24th - Larry

Program designed for adults. All ability levels welcome.

Most events listed are free unless otherwise noted.

\$7 daily or annual parks pass required for all programs unless otherwise noted.



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Imagine the Prairie

Saturday, June 24th, 5 pm

Come explore the history of the Barr Lake area before it had a reservoir. We'll walk the Prairie Welcome Trail and discuss our part of the Great Plains as it was 150 years ago and how it differs from today. With a stop at the tipi, we'll discuss the plants, animals and people which used to call the area "home".

Immersion in Nature

Adults only: Fri May 5th & June 16th 10 am

Family walk: Sat May 13th & June 3rd 11am

Join us for a de-stressing walk in the park. Based upon the Japanese practice of "Shinrin-Yoku" also known as "forest bathing", this walk lasts around two hours with no destination or purpose other than to be in nature. Engage four of your five senses on the trail to breathe, touch, look, feel and hear the world around you. Meet at the Nature Center. Dress for the weather but leave your devices, gadgets and binoculars behind. No RSVP required.

FAMILY FUN

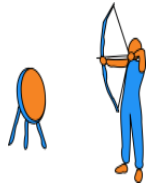
Spend Sundays together!

Sundays are great for getting out and enjoying nature with the family...

Basic Archery Instruction

Sundays, May 14th & May 28th and June 11th & June 25th, 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.



Adult Coloring Workshop

Sunday, May 14th and June 11th, 1pm to 3pm

Reignite your child-like creativity, even if you choose to color outside the lines. Join Ranger Michelle for a coloring party with a wildlife & nature theme. Reconnect with your fellow outdoors enthusiasts. We'll provide coloring pages, pencils, snacks and beverages. You bring your imagination. **RSVP by calling 303-659-6005 Recommended for ages 10 and up.**

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

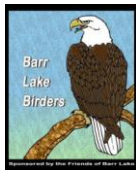
Thursdays, 10AM, May 4th & June 1st

Bring your pre-school child to listen to stories about the natural world. Join Ranger Danyel the first Thursday of every month, at 10 a.m. for a story, a snack and an easy craft. The subject on May 4th will be *Lady Bugs* and on June 1st will be *Trees*. **Please RSVP to 303-659-6005**
Program designed for children 3-5 accompanied by an adult.

Barr Lake Birders

Saturday, May 27th & June 24th,
10am – 12pm

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**



Housebuilding for kids

Birdhouse building, that is!

Saturday, June 24th 9:30 am – 12:00 pm

Kids ages 9-13 will put together a birdhouse kit to take home for decorating. We will talk about why you should put up a bird house, what else you can do after mounting the house and then talk about the house wren, a species to which the house is geared. Limited to 10 kids/10 houses. Free event.

*****RSVP required; call 303-659-6005*****

Friday Night Campfire Tales

May 12th and June 16th from 7pm to 8pm

Enjoy a good story and roast marshmallows around the campfire with a ranger, followed by kids craft in the Nature Center. Please RSVP 303-659-6005. We don't want to run short of marshmallows! *The fire will be ready at 6:30 if your family wants to bring hot dogs to cook over the fire.*

Adventure Overnight Camp *ages 7 to 13 only*

Sat, June 3rd @ 5 pm thru Sun, June 4th at 10 am

Take advantage of a rare opportunity to spend the night in the park. Kids will enjoy a grilled dinner, play games, work in teams, exercise their nocturnal skills in observing wildlife on a night hike, sleep under the stars (in their own tent), and relish a hearty breakfast with new friends. Parents may participate as event chaperone. **Fee per child is \$25 payable at time of registration. A MAXIMUM 25 SLOTS AVAILABLE FOR THIS EVENT so registration is required.** An outline and list of supplies will be shared after registration.

Friends of Barr Lake Events

Join the Friends of Barr Lake in some great activities that will expand your understanding and appreciation of the Park. For information about joining the Friends of Barr Lake, go to www.FriendsofBarrLake.org

Art in the Park

June 10th 10am – 1pm

Walk the trails to meet artists at work. We will also run a shuttle around the park to visit the working artists on site. In the Nature Center, visit a display of local creations and meet the creators.



Let's Go to the Drive In Movie!

Saturday, July 29th, 7pm – 9:45pm

(\$1 Donation per person to Friends of Barr Lake)
It's a night out for the kids! Have your little ones bring a box big enough to sit inside of comfortably and we'll help them decorate it to look like their very own car! We'll be showing the hilarious movie *Angry Birds!* BYODinner, although water, soda, and popcorn will be available for an additional donation.

Movie starts at 8:05 pm. Please RSVP to 303-659-6005

Lend Your "FRIENDS" a Hand

Save June 23rd for the Great Duck Race and supporting the Friends of Barr Lake!

The Greater Brighton Chamber of Commerce is hosting their 20th Annual Great Duck Race & Pool Party on June 23rd at the Brighton Oasis Aquatic Park. You can help the Friends of Barr Lake by buying Duck Race Tickets by buying a duck when they come on sale! See the Greater Brighton Chamber of Commerce website for details: www.brightonchamber.com



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Bird Conservancy of the Rockies

Birding4Buck\$

Saturday, May 13th at 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM



Join us for a morning of birding with expert mentors and raise funds for Summer Nature Camp scholarships!

Birders of all abilities (including first-timers!) may participate in the count. Invite your friends, family, neighbors and community members to sponsor your birding in support of a worthy cause! Sponsorship can be based on the number of species seen (ex. \$1 per species), or it can be a flat amount (ex \$25 for the day). Last year, our teams spotted a total of 56 bird species in two hours!

Suitable for ages 7 & up

\$3/participant (Includes admission to BBQ for the Birds!)

For more information, please contact contact Allison Fowle at (303) 659-4348 x18 or allison.fowle@birdconservancy.org.

Stick around afterwards for our 14th Annual BBQ for the Birds!



14th Annual BBQ for the Birds

Saturday, May 13th at 11:00 AM – 4PM

SAVE THE DATE for our 14th Annual BBQ for the Birds-- celebrating birds (of course!) as well as our generous volunteers, members, partners and other supporters.

This year, we are hosting the BBQ on International Migratory Bird Day!

<http://www.migratorybirdday.org/> Planning is underway -- more details forthcoming as they are available. Birding4Buck\$ is also planned for earlier on the same day. Stay tuned for more details coming soon! RSVP for the BBQ at

<http://www.birdconservancy.org/bbqrsvp/> or contact allison.fowle@birdconservancy.org. Both events are being held at the Old Stone House at 14500 Lark Bunting Ln, Brighton, CO 80603. Regular state park admission required.



Birding by Canoe

Saturday, May 20th from 9 am to 12:30 pm

Join Bird Conservancy for morning of birding on Barr Lake! The program fee is \$10/participant and online registration is required. www.birdconservancy.org or contact allison.fowle@birdconservancy.org.

Summer Camp

Bird Conservancy offers summer nature camps for kids ages 2-17, running June through August. Day camp sessions are available for all ages, including a Leaders-in-Training program for teens. Overnight camps are available for ages 12 and up, taking place just outside Rocky Mountain National Park. All camps are about getting kids outside to have fun and explore nature while making friends, developing leadership skills and gaining insights into their relationships with themselves, others and the world around them. For more information, please visit our website (<http://www.birdconservancy.org/what-we-do/education/colorado-programs/summer-camps/>) or contact allison.fowle@birdconservancy.org.

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



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