

Barr Lake Oasis...

A Collection of Exciting Learning Opportunities and Nature Center News

May—June 2018

Spring Fishing Clinic

Saturday, May 5th from 8am to 1pm

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

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

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 bookstore, as well as information about the Friends of Barr Lake, Barr Lake State Park and other Colorado state parks to make your visit more enjoyable.

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 14th) 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.*

Adult Polymer Clay Workshop

Sunday, June 24th 1pm to 3pm Unleash your creativity while learning how to make a cute nature-themed ornament out of polymer clay.

Supplies and instruction provided for this fun make it, take it and bake it (in your home oven) craft. Limited to 10 participants, 16 or older, so be sure to RSVP by calling **303-659-6005**.



We Need Your Help

Show your appreciation for Barr Lake State Park through our annual Lake Appreciation Day volunteer event on **Saturday, July 14th 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 18th, 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.

At 10AM, we're going to have a FACEBOOK LIVE event! Tune into our Facebook page and join us for a lively conversation!

EVENING ACTIVITIES at the Park

J.A.T.T. Bike Ride

Fridays May 4th, June 1st, July 6th, August 3rd, & Sept 7th at 6:00PM

Explore the Barr Lake 9-mile trail at dusk by bike "*Just At Twilight Time*". **Call 303-659-6005 to RSVP. Limited to 25 bikes.** 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.

Sunset Pontoon Boat Tours*

Fridays, May 25th & June 22nd 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.***



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

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Full Moon Hikes

Explore Barr Lake at dusk! The two programs listed below 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. Limit 15 participants.**



The Man on the Moon Speaks

Tuesday, May 29th 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? Limit 15 participants.

Summer Solstice & the Strawberry Moon

Wednesday, June 27th 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. Limit 15 participants.



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 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!

May 12th, Tammy and Ira

June 2nd, Tammy and Ira

Program designed for adults. All ability levels welcome.

Basic Archery Instruction

Sundays, May 13th & May 27th and June 3rd & June 24th, 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.**



Nature Walk & Talk

Fridays, May 18th & June 22nd @ 10am

Saturdays, May 26th & June 9th @ 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.*

Tuesday Evening Outings on the Eagle

Express 4:00pm to sunset

May 8th & 22rd, and June 5th & 19th

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.



Colorado Public Lands Day

Saturday, May 19th 9am-1pm

Bring your family, friends and coworkers for a day of outdoor fun, stewardship and community at Willow Bay. Activities include clean up and tree planting, free lunch and other fun goings-on. For more information and to register, please call 303-637-8072 or email rpetersen@adcogov.org. This event is sponsored by Colorado Weed Management Association, Adams County Colorado, Colorado Parks & Wildlife, Colorado for Healthy Landscapes, Denver Bassmasters, Bird Conservancy of the Rockies, ArborForce, the Trust for Public Land, and the CSU Extension Master Gardener program.

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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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.

International Mud Day

Friday, June 29th 10am – 12pm

International Mud Day aims to connect children around the globe through the earth. Connect with others on June 29. Wear your old clothes. Use our sandbox toys. Play in mud! (We suggest bringing a change of clothes for the ride home, too!)

Barr Lake Birders

Saturdays, May 5th & June 23rd, 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**

Friday Night Campfire Tales

May 11th and June 15th from 7pm to 8pm

Enjoy a good story and roast marshmallows to make s'mores around the campfire with a ranger, followed by kids craft in the Nature Center. Please RSVP 303-659-6005. Number of participants limited to 25 kids, and 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 9th @ 5 pm thru Sun, June 10th @ 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 due at time of registration; cash or check only. Make checks payable to the Friends of Barr Lake. A MAXIMUM 30 SLOTS AVAILABLE FOR THIS EVENT so registration is required.** An outline and list of required supplies will be shared after registration.

Toddler Story Time

Thursdays, May 3rd and June 7th 10am-12pm

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. **May will be about growing a garden of pumpkins and April's topic is ducklings!** Program designed for children 3-5 accompanied by an adult.

Please RSVP 303-659-6005.

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

May 12th 10am – 1pm

Extend your Mother's Day celebration by taking Mom to enjoy artwork in a natural setting! 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 21st, 6pm – 9pm

(\$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 *Yogi Bear: Life's a Pic-A-Nic!* 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

Themed Birthday Parties at the Park!

Have you ever wanted a unique birthday party to honor your child's birthday? Parties will include a nature related craft and hike. Call the park to schedule your next celebration. Cost is \$5 per child or \$7 per child if requesting a cake provided by the park. Accompanying adults are free. *\$7 per vehicle entrance fee still applies. Contact the Nature Center 303-659-6005 for additional information.*



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Other Park Info and Updates!

EDUCATION ROOM or MEADOWLARK PAVILION RENTAL

Our Education Room is available for your small event, such as weddings, parties, club meetings or business functions. If you're looking for a sylvan get-together, rent our Meadowlark Pavilion group picnic shelter. Contact the Nature Center for price and availability.

EQUINE PLAYGROUND

Come play with your horse at Barr Lake! With the financial help of The Friends of Barr Lake, the Natural Trail Riders group from the Brighton area designed and installed a 66-foot round pen with a ride through gate. Other obstacles are the slalom, barrels for working equitation, rope gate, log jam, bridge, weave with logs, car wash with noodles, log jumps, figure 8 and teeter totter. Bring your horse and come play, be safe and take care of the obstacles. At this time, no RSVP required.



GEOCACHING AT THE PARK

Do you enjoy following clues and visiting new locations? Are you good at reading a GPS or a map & compass? Geocaching could be the activity for you! Combine science and adventure to visit new areas around the park or around the state! Barr Lake is home to several cache locations and you're invited to find them. Go to Geocaching.com for more details about our caches and other caches around the world!



BINOCULAR AND GUIDEBOOK LOANER PROGRAMS

Did you forget your binoculars or guidebooks? We have free loaners available at the Nature Center.

EAGLES, OSPREY & OWLS! OH MY!

Do you like raptors? May and June are a great time to see these big bad birds nesting in the park, especially owls, eagles and osprey. Owls are the earliest to hatch. Eaglets hatch late March, right around the time the Osprey arrive in the park. Also, keep an eye out for a variety of other birds of prey hunting at Barr Lake, such as hawks, harriers and falcons.

Bird Conservancy of the Rockies

Birding by Canoe

Saturday, May 19th 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 at www.birdconservancy.org or contact Stacey.monahan@birdconservancy.org.



Summer Camp

Bird Conservancy offers summer nature camps for kids ages 4-17, 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. New this year is our Family Campout where you can get to know the camp staff and other camp families through games, hikes and a campfire. 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 stacey.monahan@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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