

# Barr Lake Oasis...

A Collection of Exciting Learning Opportunities and Nature Center News

May—June 2016

## Spring Fishing Clinic

**Saturday, May 7<sup>th</sup> 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.

## Wear Your Life Jacket at Work Day

**Friday, May 20<sup>th</sup>, 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](http://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. Then on Saturday is...



## Ready Set Wear It!

**Saturday, May 21<sup>st</sup> – 10am**

Last year we set a world record with 6,973 participants inflating/wearing their life jackets at 175 events around the world. It would be fantastic to set new world record on May 21, 2016. Besides, it is:

- ♦ A good opportunity to inspect all your life jackets for boating season
- ♦ Time to promote safe boating at your park by having people from community join you at your boat ramp (or location of choice) and have them put on a life jacket for event.

Document your participation by sending us pictures and number of participants.

## New Nature Center Hours

Starting on May 1<sup>st</sup> 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.



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)

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## We Need Your Help

Show your appreciation for Barr Lake State Park through our annual Lake Appreciation Day volunteer event on **Saturday, July 16<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
- 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.**

## 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 16<sup>th</sup>) 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 8<sup>th</sup>.**

*\*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.*

## J.A.T.T. Bike Ride

**Friday, May 6<sup>th</sup>, June 3<sup>rd</sup>, & July 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 pm**

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.



## 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)

## Evening Activities at the Park

### Tuesday Evening Outings on the Eagle

Express 4:00pm to sunset

**May 10<sup>th</sup>, May 24<sup>th</sup>, June 7<sup>th</sup>, and 21<sup>st</sup>**

**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.**

### Sunset Pontoon Boat Tours\*

**Friday, May 13<sup>th</sup>, May 27<sup>th</sup>, June 10<sup>th</sup>, & June 24<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.*

### 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

**Saturday, May 21<sup>st</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

**Monday, June 20<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.



## 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.

**May 14<sup>th</sup> - Marilyn**

**May 21<sup>st</sup> - Tammy and Ira**

**June 4<sup>th</sup> - Tammy and Ira**

**June 25<sup>th</sup> - Marilyn**

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

### Free Canoe Class!

**Saturday, June 11<sup>th</sup>, 9AM- 12 PM**

Enjoy one of our canoe classes for adults and kids. Boats and safety equipment are provided. Class size is limited to 7 people. 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.

## FAMILY FUN

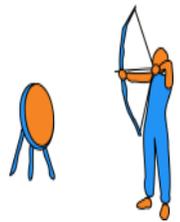
### Spend Sundays together!

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

### Basic Archery Instruction

**Sundays, May 8<sup>th</sup> & May 22<sup>nd</sup> and June 12<sup>th</sup> & June 26<sup>th</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.



### Adult Coloring Workshop

**Sunday, May 29<sup>th</sup> and June 19<sup>th</sup>, 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.**



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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.

### Toddler Story Time

**Thursdays, 10AM, May 5<sup>th</sup> & June 2<sup>nd</sup>**

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 5<sup>th</sup> will be **Flowers** and on June 2<sup>nd</sup> will be **Rainbows**. Please RSVP to 303-659-6005 Program designed for children 3-5 accompanied by an adult.

### Eaglet Explorer and Eagle Ranger

Barr Lake Summer Camp for Kids will cover a wide range of science and nature topics. Archery, a 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 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>th</sup> 10am-12pm

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

- Eagle Ranger June 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> 9am-12pm

This Camp is for rangers ages 7 - 13 only.

Accompanying adults are welcome but not required

### Barr Lake Birders

**Saturday, May 21<sup>st</sup> & June 18<sup>th</sup>, 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.

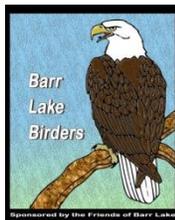
In addition to the monthly club meetings, we will enjoy field trips to off-park birding sites, dates & times to be determined.

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

### Friday Night Campfire Tales

**May 20<sup>th</sup> and June 17<sup>th</sup> 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!



## Adventure Overnight Camp ages 7 to 13 only

**Sat, June 4<sup>th</sup> @ 5 pm thru Sun, June 5<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 \$20. 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](http://www.FriendsofBarrLake.org)

### Art in the Park

**June 11th 10am – 1pm**

Look over the shoulder of an artist at work or take an art class with one of our instructors. Call the Nature Center (303-659-6005) to preregister for either one hour watercolor painting class at 10:00 am or 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. This event benefits the Friends of Barr Lake. We request a \$2 donation to enroll in the art classes, to cover the provided supplies.



### Concert on the Prairie

**Saturday, June 18<sup>th</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. Buy your tickets in advance at the Nature Center or pay at the door. Refreshments will be available. Dress for the weather and bring bug spray.

### Let's Go to the Drive In Movie!

**Saturday, August 6<sup>th</sup>, 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 **Finding Nemo!** BYODinner, although water, soda, and popcorn will be available for an additional donation.

Movie starts at 8:15 pm. Please RSVP to 303-659-6005



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## Lend Your "FRIENDS" a Hand

### Help the Friends of Barr Lake build a fishing pier.

The Greater Brighton Chamber of Commerce is hosting their 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Great Duck Race & Pool Party on June 25<sup>th</sup> at the Brighton Oasis Aquatic Park. You can help the Friends of Barr Lake by buying Duck Race Tickets at the Nature Center. For each ticket sold at the Nature Center between now and May 8<sup>th</sup>, the Friends of Barr Lake will get 40% of your purchase. Every ticket sold May 9<sup>th</sup> through June 25<sup>th</sup> will earn the Friends \$1 per ticket. The tickets are sold in three different increments:

1 Ticket = \$5 (Duckling)

5 Tickets = \$20 (Quack Pack)

13 Tickets = \$50 (Flock)

Additionally, families wishing to attend the duck race may participate by purchasing the Family Fun Pack for \$50. See the Greater Brighton Chamber of Commerce website for details: [www.brightonchamber.com](http://www.brightonchamber.com)

### Bird Conservancy of the Rockies

#### **Birding4Buck\$**

Saturday, May 21<sup>st</sup> at 8:00 AM - 11:30 AM in MDT



Join Bird Conservancy of the Rockies in our 1st annual Birding4Buck\$. Make a difference by raising scholarship funds for our Summer Nature Camp scholarship programs! This is the first year for this special

fundraising event created especially for families, homeschoolers, community members and volunteers. Spend the day outside in nature having fun, all while supporting a great cause! Don't worry - you don't have to be an expert birder to participate. Expert birders will lead each group and help with identification.

#### **How it works:**

Ask friends, family, neighbors and any other community members to sponsor your bird watching for our event. 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).

Participants are asked to secure a minimum donation of \$25 to participate in this event. There will be great prizes awarded for the individual with the most money raised, and the most species seen!

#### **Birding4Buck\$ BBQ:**

Stick around for our annual BBQ for the Birds celebration from 12:00 pm – 4:00 pm! Enjoy music, tasty food, and other family-friendly activities. BBQ is free for Bird Conservancy members, volunteers, and Bird4Buck\$ participants who successfully raised their \$25 donation.

#### **Guidelines:**

-Get your pledges lined up before the day of the event.

-Come to the Birding4Buck\$ event on Saturday, May 21<sup>st</sup> in the morning, to bird-watch in small groups with expert Bird Conservancy volunteers and staff to help you see as many species as possible!

-Conduct your tally (species seen or heard only, no need to count individuals).

-Let your supporters know how you did and share in your excitement!!

Note: All pledges are tax deductible and donors will upon request, be given a receipt.

#### **IMPORTANT DETAILS:**

**Age:** Open to all levels of birders, including beginners ages 7 and up.

**Time:** Our exact time is TBA but will be in the morning, on Saturday, May 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Location:** Start at the Old Stone House at 14500 Lark Bunting Lane, Brighton, CO 80603

**To Register:** Contact Emily at

[lily.hynson@birdconservancy.org](mailto:lily.hynson@birdconservancy.org) with the full names of each participant, age, and fundraising goal (minimum \$25).

#### **What to bring:**

Participants should wear comfortable hiking shoes, dress in layers, and bring rain gear, a water bottle, sunscreen, bug repellent, binoculars, and a field guide (if possible). Loaner binoculars and field guides will be available. Water and snacks will be provided for time in the field, and a lunch and other activities will be provided afterwards during Bird Conservancy's annual BBQ for the Birds.

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



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