

Barr Lake Oasis...

A Collection of Exciting Learning Opportunities and Nature Center News

November-December 2016

We hope you all have a safe and tasty Thanksgiving Day.

Barr Lake State Park will be open all day Thursday, November 24th, Thanksgiving Day. The Nature Center, however, will be closed, allowing staff and volunteers to share the holiday with their families.

Visit Barr Lake Nature Center this fall!

The Nature Center hours are changing!

Starting November 1st

Open every day 9am-4pm

Enjoy innovative wildlife exhibits; shop for great clothing, diverse natural history books, and unique bird gift items; savor a cup of hot coffee or tea; and get cozy on comfortable leather furniture while watching interesting birds at the feeders right outside the windows.

Guided Bird Walks

Collect your binoculars and field guides, or check out a loaner set of ours, and enjoy an exciting morning of birding at Barr Lake State Park. Enthusiastic Park Naturalists will introduce birders of all ability levels to Barr Lake's feathered residents and migrants. In addition to a variety of wintering songbirds, you may find the raptor and waterfowl watching this time of year to be exceptional! Program designed for adults on Saturdays at 9am. All ability levels welcome.



November 12th – Tammy & Ira

November 26th – Betsy

December 3rd – Family Bird Walk

December 10th – Tammy & Ira

Veterans Day



Friday, November 11th, 10am to 2pm

Barr Lake State Park salutes our veterans with free park admission and Eagle Express rides for you and your family into the wildlife

refuge. Enjoy a bowl of warm chili in the Nature Center after your tour, sponsored by the Friends of Barr Lake. Tours start at 10:00 am and 12:30 pm. **Please call the Nature Center at 303-659-6005 to reserve your seats on the Eagle Express which is limited to 13 passengers.**

Winter Birdfeeding Workshop

Saturday, November 12th at 10am

Providing suet, seeds and nuts to backyard birds during the winter offers the fats and carbohydrates needed to fuel their internal furnace. Join Ranger Michelle in making striped Suet-sicles for your feathered friends.

Winter Wonders Holiday Trail

Generously Sponsored by United Power

Saturday, December 17th 6pm to 9pm

Join us for a short hike to celebrate the wonders of winter on our lighted bridge and Niedrach Trail. Fun activities will include lighted trail, kids' crafts, face painter and a visit from Santa Claus. **Please visit us on Facebook for weather updates!**

4th Annual

Barr Lake's Week-long Sale and Holiday Open House



December 3rd - 11th

Save 20% and shop with a purpose

Beat the mall crowds and parking hassles! Shop for great gifts and stocking stuffers, all on sale. We carry a wide variety of childrens' books, puzzles, and gadgets; field and hiking guides; natural history books; stuffed animals and puppets; numerous bird items and ornaments; fabulous clothing, and more. Your purchases support great programs at Barr Lake.

Holiday Open House

Saturday, December 3rd



Bring your family and friends to enjoy Barr Lake's Holiday Open House and savor delicious holiday refreshments. It's a day filled with something for everyone, see schedule below!!

- 9am-4pm Save 20% and shop with a purpose

All bookstore items and clothing are on sale!

- 9am Bird walk

- 10am-2pm Craft making for kids

Make a pinecone bird feeder or holiday ornament

Full Moon Hikes

Envision yourself taking an evening hike while experiencing the rising full moon.

Explore Barr Lake at dusk with Park Naturalists and enjoy a fall evening outdoors!



Trek through History

Monday, November 14th at 5:30pm

Walk through the history of Barr Lake on this informative stroll through time. Please meet at the Nature Center. *Suitable for all ages, dress for being outdoors.*



Solstice Moon Hike

Wednesday, December 21st at 5:30pm

Bundle up and share part of the longest night of the year with Naturalist Larry and the last quarter of the moon. Warm up with hot chocolate and cookies at the Nature Center after your Solstice Moon Hike. Suitable for all ages, dress for being outdoors. All ages welcome, meet at the Nature Center.

Operation Free Bird

Saturday, November 19th, 12pm - 4pm

Hyland Hills 1800 W. 89th Ave, Denver, CO, 80260

Operation Free Bird is a community event designed to bring the less-fortunate citizens in the Adams County Colorado area together with local agencies, businesses and organizations. The main idea is to supply any family in need with everything needed for a complete Thanksgiving dinner, thus the name "Operation Free Bird". Talon the Red-tailed Hawk will be there to cheer on the festivities!



Find us on Facebook

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.

The Great Waddle Walk-off

Friday, November 25th 10am

Thinking you might over-do it at Thanksgiving? It's all about family, friends and delicious food, but wouldn't it be nice to add an adventure outdoors where you can stretch your legs and fill your lungs with wonderful fresh air, instead of suffering "couch-potato-it is"?

Come to Barr Lake State Park! We have a peaceful 3-mile stroll planned that is the perfect way to socialize with old friends and maybe make a few new ones, all while enjoying Mother Nature. Dogs are welcome, so don't forget your four-legged family members, too!

Pedal the Perimeter

Sundays, November 6th & December 4th, 1PM
(Weather & trail conditions permitting)

Explore Barr Lake's nine mile Lake Perimeter Trail by bicycle! Sunday afternoon is a great time in the park, and wildlife abounds! Join a park volunteer for a special tour around the lake.

Be sure to bring water and a helmet as well as your favorite bike. *Limited to 30 participants, so call 303-659-6005 to RSVP. This event may be cancelled or postponed due to trail and/or weather conditions.*



Archery Programs

Sunday, November 20th at 11am-1pm

Turkey Shoot!!!

Sunday, December 18th at 11am-1pm

Snowflake Shoot!!!



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, November 13th & December 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.



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

Other Fun Programs!

32nd Annual City of



Brighton

Turkey Trot 5K
Run/Walk



Saturday, Nov 19th 8:30am to noon

Please drop by to say "hi to Talon, park staff, and volunteers at the Brighton Recreation Center. We hope to see you there.

City of Brighton 18th Annual Festival of Lights Parade

Saturday, December 13th at 5pm

Join park staff and volunteers as we showcase our fully-lighted patrol vehicle and boat as well as an equestrian entry to join in the celebration of the "Hometown Holiday Tradition" parade in downtown Brighton.

America's State Parks First Day Hikes

On Thursday, **January 1, 2017**, Barr Lake State Park will be participating in the America's State Parks' First Day Hikes. This hike at the park will be a great opportunity to view bald eagles.

Reservations are required! To sign up, please call the Nature Center at 303-659-6005.

Starting time: 11 a.m.

Meeting place: Nature Center

Description: 3-mile easy hike with opportunity to observe all types of wildlife, including many species of birds. Dogs are welcome!

Barr Lake's staff encourages you to start the New Year by enjoying the outdoors and seeing the eagles. Spotting scopes will be available for visitors to use on the hikes.

Give the gift of the great outdoors!

Annual park passes provide entry into over 42 amazing Colorado State Parks, not just Barr Lake. The Annual Park Pass is \$70 and is valid for a year. The Aspen Leaf



Pass is \$60 for Colorado-resident seniors who are 64 years or older and is also valid for a year. Annual park passes make great holiday gifts. Give the gift that keeps on giving....the great outdoors.

School and Scout Programs

Is your school class or scout group interested in a nature program? Experienced volunteer naturalists and staff provide interesting and educational guided visits. Call us at least two weeks in advance to schedule a visit.

e-Mailing list

Would you like to receive the Barr Lake Oasis via email? If so, please send an Oasis e-mailing request to barr.lake.nature.center@state.co.us

"Autumn, the year's last, loveliest smile."

~William Cullen Bryant



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