

Mueller State Park Programs



July 2021

Always hike with a map, water, and weather protection

Thursday July 1

Hike: Elk Meadow to Peak View Pond

10 a.m. Meet at Elk Meadow TH
Stroll down to Peak View Pond and see evidence of wildlife and aquatic insects. Led by Naturalist Marinne. Slow 1.5-miles.

Mountain Lion Touch Table

2 p.m. Meet at the Visitor Center
Learn about an apex predator that is at the top of the food chain! Join Naturalist Ben for a look inside the life of the elusive mountain lion.

History of Mining in the Pikes Peak Region

8:30 p.m. At the Amphitheater
The discovery of Gold in the Denver area in 1858, led to a mass migration to Colorado and the beginning of the mining industry that is still active today. Join Volunteer Paul as we hear how the gold industry led to Colorado's statehood.

Friday, July 2

Bird Walk

8:30 a.m. Meet at Elk Meadow TH
Get to know the birds of the area with Naturalist Linda on a slow-paced, 1.5-mile walk.

Knee High to Nature

2 p.m. Meet at Camper Services
Ages 3-6, Explore nature using your eyes, ears, and nose! Led by Volunteer Rusty.

Leave No Trace Basics

8:30 p.m. At the Amphitheater
Learn how to responsibly recreate in the outdoors by using the Leave No Trace Principles and practice proper techniques through hands-on instruction. Led by Naturalist Ben.

Saturday, July 3

Archery

10 a.m. Meet at Dragonfly Pond
Learn to shoot a bow and arrow! Ages 8 and up, equipment provided. Led by the Naturalist team.

Pond Safari

1 p.m. Meet at Dragonfly Pond
Explore the underwater world of the pond to see who lives there! Led by Volunteer Rose.

Geocaching

2 p.m. Meet at the Visitor Center
Learn how to use a GPS to find a geocache! Led by Naturalist Ben.

Tracks and Scat

8:30 p.m. At the Amphitheater
Learn to read the clues animals leave behind. Their tracks and scat may be the only clues left behind that show animals have been there! Led by Naturalist Marinne.

Sunday, July 4

Hike: School Pond

9 a.m. Meet at School Pond TH
Join Naturalist Marinne on a moderate, 2-mile hike on School Pond Loop. Watch for signs of wildflowers and birds!

Tree Touch Table

11 a.m. Meet at the Visitor Center
Discover the trees of Mueller off trail with hands-on examples of leaves, needles, and cones. Led by Naturalist Ben.

Monday, July 5

Hike: Cheesman Ranch

8 a.m. Meet at Grouse Mountain TH
Explore the Cheesman Ranch, where the Mueller family ran their cattle operation. Join Volunteer Naturalist Cindi on a moderate 5-mile loop. Bring plenty of water and snacks.

Crafty Critters

9 a.m. Meet at the Visitor Center
Join Naturalist Hannah on a short hike through the forest to learn about local animals and their habitat and make a craft to take home!

Hike: Grouse Mountain

10 a.m. Meet at Grouse Mountain TH
Hike to the highest point in Mueller State Park. Just under 1-mile round trip, this hike has almost 360-degree views of Pikes Peak and the Continental Divide! Led by Naturalist Ben.

Tuesday, July 6

Hike: Peak View Trail

9 a.m. Meet at Elk Meadow TH
Experience the subtle differences of habitats in Mueller with Naturalist Cassie. 1.5-miles

Hike: Homestead Trail

10 a.m. Meet at Homestead TH
Watch for signs of wildlife on this 2-mile hike in the backcountry with Volunteer Rose.

Wednesday, July 7

Hike: Cummings Cabin

9 a.m. Meet at Grouse Mountain TH
Join Naturalist Marinne on a 2-mile hike to the historic Cummings Cabin.

Fly Fishing

10 a.m. Meet at Dragonfly Pond
Learn the basics of fly-fishing with Volunteer Craig. 8 years and up. Equipment provided.

Thursday, July 8

Bird Walk

8:30 a.m. Meet at Elk Meadow TH
Get to know the birds of the area with Volunteer Craig as he guides you through the Spruce-Fir forests of Mueller. Slow-paced 1.5-miles.

Skins and Skulls

11 a.m. Meet at the Visitor Center
Get a hands-on experience with the skins and skulls of animals you might find here in the park and learn fun facts from Volunteer Rose.

History of Railroads in the Pikes Peak Region

8:30 p.m. At the Amphitheater
Railroads were the most efficient method during the gold rush to move large amounts of heavy machinery and ore. 5,000 miles of railroads were built through some of the most demanding terrain, and made the settlement of Colorado

possible. Volunteer Paul presents this history series every Thursday!

Friday, July 9

Hike: Preachers Hollow

9:15 a.m. Meet at Rock Pond TH
Celebrate summer with "nature's fireworks" by joining Volunteers Eileen and Carrie as you view the local wildflowers. This is a gentle 2-mile loop trail.

Earth Walk

2 p.m. Meet at the Visitor Center
A quiet walk to explore details in nature, Ages 5 and up. 1-mile. Led by Volunteer Rusty.

Saturday, July 10

Hike: School Pond and Stoner Mill

8 a.m. Meet at School Pond TH
Experience School Pond in the beautiful morning light and continue to Stoner Mill with Volunteer Nancy. Moderate 4-mile hike.

Hike: Osborn Homestead

9 a.m. Meet at Black Bear TH
Imagine what it was like to homestead here and survive living off the land! Hear the Osborn family story! Led by Naturalist Marinne. 3-miles

Paper-Making

2 p.m. Meet at the Camper Services
Come make your own paper – interesting and fun! Led by Naturalist Ben.

Dark Sky Hike

9 p.m. Meet at Outlook Ridge TH
Easy one-mile round trip. Learn fun facts about the night sky, identify the North Star and constellations. Bring headlamp. Led by Volunteer Jim.

Sunday, July 11

Hike: Lost Pond to Outlook Ridge

9 a.m. Meet at Lost Pond TH
Explore the forest with Naturalist Marinne to experience flowers, trees, animals and the beautiful Lost Pond. Moderate 3 miles.

Bird Touch Table

11 a.m. Meet at the Visitor Center
Discover fascinating facts about the birds of Mueller at a "touch table" with Volunteer Rose.

Hike: Outlook Ridge

1 p.m. Meet at Outlook Ridge TH
Explore the forest and see an overlook of the Continental Divide! Led by Volunteer Penny.

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Monday, July 12

Hike: Rock Pond

8 a.m. Meet at Outlook Ridge TH
Join Naturalist Ben on a trip down to the montane forest to a lush canyon and scenic pond. This is a moderate to steep 5-mile hike, 700 feet elevation change. Bring lots of water.

Bear Hike

9 a.m. Meet at Grouse Mountain TH
Learn about the bears that call Mueller home! We will discuss proper safety and how to be 'bear aware' as well as try to spot Yogi and Boo-Boo! Led by Naturalist Hannah.

Tuesday, July 13

Hike: Elk Meadow

8 a.m. Meet at Elk Meadow TH
Join Naturalist Cindi and be on the lookout for elk as you explore the beautiful views of Pikes Peak and learn about the history of Mueller State Park. Moderate 4-miles.

Hike: Homestead Trail

9 a.m. Meet at Homestead TH
Watch for signs of wildlife on this 2-mile hike in the backcountry with Naturalist Cassie.

Pond Safari

2 p.m. Meet at Dragonfly Pond
Explore the underwater world of the pond to see who lives there! Led by Naturalist Linda.

Wolf Biology

7 p.m. At the Amphitheater
Wolves are amazing, social animals. Learn the facts from myths. Maybe you'll see one for real! Led by Volunteer Ellen.

Wednesday, July 14

Hike: Geer Pond

9 a.m. Meet at Lost Pond TH
Explore Geer Pond, Mueller's largest pond and the wetlands around it. Great for wildflowers in summer. 2-miles led by Naturalist Marinne.

Thursday, July 15

Outlook Ridge Sketching Hike

8:15-10:30 a.m. Meet at Outlook Ridge TH
Join Volunteers Eileen and Carrie on this 3-mile hike past beautiful views of Pikes Peak and rock outcroppings. Stop for an outdoor sketching session with local artist Cyndi at Lost Pond before ascending to the trailhead. No experience necessary for sketching, and supplies will be provided. Moderate due to steep hills.

Hike: Preachers Hollow



10 a.m. Meet at Preachers Hollow TH
Join Volunteer Rose to search for wildlife and explore a lesser-known valley! One of the best places for wildflowers! 2-mile hike.

Archery

10 a.m. Meet at Dragonfly Pond
Learn to shoot a bow and arrow! Ages 8 and up, equipment provided. Led by the Naturalist team.

Hike: Grouse Mountain

2 p.m. Meet at Grouse Mountain TH
Hike to the highest point in Mueller and see a fabulous view of the mountains to the west! One-mile roundtrip with Naturalist Marinne.

History of Agriculture in the Pikes Peak Region

8:30 p.m. At the Amphitheater
Agriculture became a major industry in Colorado beginning in 1860's - driven by the need to feed the miners in Colorado, the desire for land by Civil War Veterans, and the evolution of agricultural Technology. Hosted by Naturalist Paul.

Friday, July 16

Fly Fishing

10 a.m. Meet at Dragonfly Pond
Learn the basics of fly-fishing with Volunteer Craig. 8 years and up. Equipment provided.

Hike: School Pond

1 p.m. Meet at School Pond TH
Join Naturalist Marinne on a moderate, 2-mile hike on School Pond loop. Watch for signs of summer wildflowers and birds!

Un-Nature Trail

2 p.m. Meet at the Visitor Center
Do you have good observation skills? Ages 5 and up. Led by Volunteer Rusty.

Skins and Skulls

7 p.m. At the Amphitheater
Get a hands-on experience with the skins and skulls of animals you might find here at the park as well as what to do if you encounter wildlife. Hosted by Naturalist Marinne.

Saturday, July 17

Hike: Geer Pond Mash-up

8 a.m. Meet at Outlook Ridge TH
This is a mini-mashup hike connecting trails #7, 25, 26, 12, 13 and back on #1 to the trailhead. We will view Geer pond, Bacon Rocks, and beautiful vistas on this hike. About 4 miles RT. Led by Volunteer Nancy.

Bird Walk

8 a.m. Meet at Elk Meadow TH
Get to know the birds of the area with Naturalist Linda as she guides you through the Spruce-Fir forests of Mueller. Slow-paced 1.5-miles.

Fantasy Forest Puppet Show

10 a.m. Meet at the Visitor Center
What are "Stinky" Inky and Poco Billy, the little Bighorn Sheep doing in Mueller State Park? Who is going to win the "Best Animal" award for Colorado? What animals will you see on your "walk" in the park? Come join Cathy Kelsay, puppeteer/storyteller from Fantasy Forest Entertainment as she tells her creative stories about these questions and more in the visitor center. Be prepared for lots of interactive fun and laughter.

Nature Hike

10 a.m. Meet at the Visitor Center
Easy and slow one-mile round trip hike. Learn about the Mueller Ecosystem as we take a leisure stroll to identify plants and animals. Discover the joys of nature journaling. Led by Volunteer Jim.

Watercolor Painting

1 p.m. Meet at Camper Services
Get inspired by the colors of summer to create a beautiful greeting card. Supplies provided. Led by Naturalist Marinne.

A Night Under The Stars

8:30 p.m. Meet at the Visitor Center
Explore the Milky Way and find constellations and planets in the night sky! Colorado Springs Astronomical Society will be hosting with their telescopes and knowledgeable volunteers! Bring a chair and blanket.

Sunday, July 18

Hike: Osborn Homestead Loop

9 a.m. Meet at Black Bear TH
Visit the Osborn Homestead and hear what it was like to live in the area in the old days! This 3-mile moderate hike is led by Naturalist Marinne.



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Fur Touch Table

11 a.m. Meet at the Visitor Center
Get to know the wildlife of Mueller with our fur collection, meet outside the visitor center. Hosted by Naturalist Ben.

Monday, July 19

Hike: Cahill Loop

8 a.m. Meet at Grouse Mountain TH
Enjoy a popular hike to visit the historic homestead of the Cahill brothers. This trail has great views of Pikes Peak. Moderate 3-miles with Volunteer Cindi.

Junior Ranger Expedition

9 a.m. Meet at the Visitor Center
Earn your Junior Ranger badge by participating in this trail expedition to discover local flora and fauna, learn about outdoor safety, and practice natural resource stewardship. This adventure, led by Naturalist Hannah, will include a hike and activity.

Small Animal Touch Table

11 a.m. Meet at the Visitor Center
Who are all the little squirrels and other creatures that live here? Find out with Naturalist Ben as your host.

Tuesday, July 20

Hike: Livery Trail

9 a.m. Meet at Lost Pond TH
Watch for birds along the Livery and Revenuer's Ridge Trails. 2-miles led by Naturalist Cassie.

Fly Fishing

10 a.m. Meet at Dragonfly Pond
Learn the basics of fly-fishing with Volunteer Craig. 8 years and up. Equipment provided.

Wednesday, July 21

Hike: Homestead Trail

8:30 a.m. Meet at Homestead TH
Watch for signs of wildlife on this 2-mile hike in the backcountry with Naturalist Marinne.

Pond Safari

1 p.m. Meet at Dragonfly Pond
Explore the underwater world of the pond to see who lives there! Led by Naturalist Marinne.

Thursday, July 22

Hike: Preacher's Hollow

8:30 a.m. Meet at Preachers Hollow TH
Loads of beautiful wildflowers on this 2-mile gentle loop trail. Led by Naturalist Ben.

Salamander Hike

2 p.m. Meet at Elk Meadow TH
Enjoy a 1.5-mile hike to Peak View Pond to search for the Tiger Salamander and other aquatic critters. Led by Naturalist Marinne.

History of Tourism in the Pikes Peak Region

8:30 p.m. At the Amphitheater
Early Native Americans were perhaps the earliest users of Colorado Hot Springs as a place to rest and meditate; followed by tourists from all over the US as they flocked to Colorado beginning in the 1870s. From the first ski area near Mueller to outdoor recreation today, this region is one of the most visited places in the US. History every Thursday with Volunteer Paul.

Friday, July 23

Hike: Black Bear Trail

9 a.m. Meet at Black Bear TH
Enjoy a scenic hike into the backcountry. Look for signs of wildlife along the trail with Naturalist Marinne.

Hug a Tree to Survive – for Kids

2 p.m. Meet at the Visitor Center
Basic survival in the woods for kids. Fast-moving, go home with survival items! Ages 5 and up! Led by Volunteer Rusty.

Full Moon Hike

9 p.m. Meet at Outlook Ridge TH
Bring a headlamp. Watch the sunset in the west with the full moon rising over Pikes Peak. Learn fun facts about the night sky with Volunteer Jim. Easy 1-mile round trip hike.

Saturday, July 24

Hike: Dynamite Cabin

8:30 a.m. Meet at Grouse Mountain TH
This area of Colorado has extensive history. Come explore the Dynamite Cabin and the deep forest around it. Led by Naturalist Marinne. 2-miles.

Archery

10 a.m. Meet at Dragonfly Pond
Learn to shoot a bow and arrow! Ages 8 and up, equipment provided. Led by the Naturalist team.

Tree Cookie Painting

2 p.m. Meet at the Camper Services
Paint a take home craft from nature, with Naturalist Marinne. Supplies provided.

Nature Bingo

7 p.m. Meet at the Amphitheater
Come join us for a fun twist on a classic camp game. This style of bingo will include fun characteristics of plants and animals. Led by Naturalist Ben.

Sunday, July 25

Gold Panning

11 a.m. Meet near the Livery
Learn about gold panning, the art, history and skill, with Naturalist Marinne.

Hike: Cheesman Ranch

1 p.m. Meet at Grouse Mountain TH
Explore the Cheesman Ranch, where the Mueller family ran their cattle operation. Join Volunteer Penny on a moderate 5-mile loop. Bring plenty of water and a snack.

Monday, July 26

Hike: Cheesman Ranch

8 a.m. Meet at Grouse Mountain TH
Explore the Cheesman Ranch, where the Mueller family ran their cattle operation. Join Volunteer

Naturalist Cindi on a moderate 5-mile loop. Bring plenty of water and snacks.

Animal Safety Hike

9 a.m. Meet at Outlook Ridge TH
Learn how to minimize encounters with local wild inhabitants. Hosted by Naturalist Hannah.

Tuesday, July 27

Hike: Geer Pond

9 a.m. Meet at Lost Pond TH
Explore Geer Pond, Mueller's largest pond and the wetlands around it. Great for wildflowers in summer. 2-miles led by Volunteer Rose.

Hike: Grouse Mountain Trail

9 a.m. Meet at Grouse Mountain TH
Hike to the highest point in the park to enjoy the almost 360 degree views of Pikes Peak and the Continental Divide. Led by Naturalist Cassie.

Wednesday, July 28

Hike: Preachers Hollow

8:30 a.m. Meet at Preachers Hollow TH
Join Naturalist Marinne on a 2-mile hike to search for wildlife and wildflowers.

Watercolor Painting

1 p.m. Meet at the Visitors Center
Get inspired by the colors of summer to create a beautiful greeting card. Supplies provided. Led by Naturalist Marinne.



Thursday, July 29

Hike: Cahill Loop

9 a.m. Meet at Grouse Mountain TH

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Enjoy a favorite trail to visit the historic homestead of the Cahill brothers and see great views of Pikes Peak. Moderate 3-miles with Naturalist Marinne.

Junior Ranger Adventure

1 p.m. Meet at Dragonfly Pond
Join Naturalist Ben for an adventure around Dragonfly Pond. See some wildflowers and aquatic insects! Complete some of your Junior Ranger book!

History of How Colorado Became A State

8:30 p.m. At the Amphitheater
A fun part of studying history, is tracing the connection of events, which lead to today. In this talk, we trace the connection of Henry VIII of England's desire for a male heir to Colorado Statehood! Led by Volunteer Paul, every Thursday.

Friday, July 30

Pond Safari

10 a.m. Meet at Dragonfly Pond
Explore the underwater world of the pond to see who lives there! Led by Naturalist Linda.

Nature Crafts

2 p.m. Meet at the Camper Services
Make fun items using materials from nature! Ages 3 and up. Led by Volunteer Rusty.

Sunset Hike

7 p.m. Meet at Outlook Ridge TH
Unwind with a calm and relaxed hike out to Raven Ridge Overlook. Enjoy the natural beauty and colors that the sky provides for us. Led by Naturalist Ben.

Saturday, July 31

Hike: Rock Pond

8 a.m. Meet at the Visitor Center
Join Volunteer Naturalist Nancy on a trip down in the montane forest to a lush canyon and scenic pond. This is a moderate to steep 5-mile hike, 700 feet elevation change. Bring lots of water.

Fly Fishing

10 a.m. Meet at Dragonfly Pond
Learn the basics of fly-fishing with Volunteer Craig. 8 years and up. Equipment provided.

Camp Bingo

11 a.m. Meet at Lost Pond Picnic Area
Join us on a bingo adventure around the Lost Pond Picnic area. Led by Naturalist Ben.

Campfire Cooking

7 p.m. Meet at Lost Pond Picnic Area
Join us for campfire cooking tips and tricks at the Lost Pond Picnic area with Naturalist Marinne.