

# Mueller State Park Programs



**May 2022**

**Always hike with a map, water, and weather protection**

Mueller State Park is open every day for hiking, camping and enjoying the outdoors! The Visitor Center is open 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. All programs are free with a valid park pass for each vehicle.

**Tuesday, May 3rd**

**Dark Sky Hike**

**8:00 p.m.** Meet at Outlook Ridge TH  
Watch the night sky unfold. Learn how to find constellations, the North Star and fun facts about the cosmos. Easy 1-mile round trip hike. Dress for cool weather. Bring headlamp.

**Wednesday, May 4th**

**Hike: School Pond**

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

**Friday, May 6th**

**Hike: Elk Meadow to Murphy's Cut**

**8:30 a.m.** Meet at Elk Meadow TH  
Enjoy great views of Pikes Peak and the rolling hills of Mueller with Volunteer Naturalist Cindi. Visit the historic site of the Midland Terminal Railroad. This unique trail is a moderate 4-miles.

**Saturday, May 7th**

**Hike: Outlook Ridge Loop**

**8:30 a.m.** Meet at Outlook Ridge TH  
Visit Lost Pond and see great views from Outlook Ridge on this 4-mile moderate hike. Led by Volunteer Naturalist Cindi. Bring water.

**Hike: Osborn Homestead**

**9:00 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 Rose. Moderate 3-miles.

**Walk: Forest Bathing and Ephemeral Art for Mother Earth**

**1:00-4:00 p.m.** Meet at the Visitor Center  
Celebrate Mother Earth with a Forest Bathing/Shinrin-Yoku 1-mile walk with an opportunity to play and create ephemeral art with elements we find (and leave), ending with forest tea! Enjoy reconnecting with yourself, others and nature through this mindful practice rooted in Japan. Min age 12. Pre-registration required at 719 687-2366.

**Wednesday, May 11th**

**Hike: Nobel Cabin**

**9:00 a.m.** Meet at Black Bear TH  
Head into the backcountry of Mueller with Volunteer Naturalist Penny. Visit Nobel Cabin, one of the many homesteader cabins left within the park. Moderate 4-miles. Bring water!

**Friday, May 13th**

**Hug a Tree to Survive – for Kids**

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

**Saturday, May 14th**

**Hike: School Pond**

**9:00 a.m.** Meet at School Pond TH  
Join Naturalist Ben on a moderate, 2-mile hike on School Pond Loop. Watch for signs of spring wildflowers and birds!

**Fly Tying Class**

**1:00 p.m.** At the Visitor Center  
Learn how to tie your own flies for fly-fishing! See the basics and give it a try. Led by Volunteer Naturalist Craig. Equipment provided.

**Sunday, May 15th**

**Full Moon Hike**

**8:00 p.m.** Meet at Outlook Ridge TH  
Watch the full moon rise over Pikes Peak. Learn fun facts about the night sky. Easy 1-mile round trip hike. Dress for cool weather. Bring headlamp. Led by Volunteer Naturalist Jim.

**Wednesday, May 18th**

**Bird Walk**

**8:30 a.m.** Meet at Elk Meadow TH  
Migrating birds are just arriving at Mueller for the breeding season! Come see and hear the spring birds as they are busy singing, courting and nesting. 1.5-mile slow paced walk. Led by Volunteer Naturalist Craig.

**Thursday, May 19th**

**Hike: Cheesman Ranch**

**8:30 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.



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**Friday, May 20th**

**Hike: Grouse Mountain Sketching Hike**

**8:30-11:00 a.m.** Meet at Grouse Mountain TH  
Join Volunteer Naturalists Eileen and Carrie on this easy out and back 2.3-mile hike to the top of Grouse Mountain, the highest point in Mueller State Park at 9,843 feet. Stop for an outdoor sketching session with local artist Cyndi and enjoy beautiful views of Pikes Peak and the Sangre de Cristo Range. No experience necessary for sketching, and supplies will be provide.

**Saturday, May 21st**

**Hike: Dynamite and Cahill Cabins**

**8:30 a.m.** Meet at Grouse Mountain TH  
Visit two homesteader cabins from the early 1900's. Hear how people lived in the mountains that long ago. Led by Volunteer Naturalist Cindi. Bring water and a snack on this 4-mile moderate hike.

**Hike: Rock Pond**

**9:00 a.m.** Meet at Rock Pond TH  
Enjoy a favorite trail and great time of year on this 5-mile hike to the beautiful Rock Pond! Descend into the backcountry 700 feet in elevation and through a lush valley where the beavers and black bears live. Difficult hike due to elevation change. Bring water, snack and good hiking shoes! Led by Volunteer Naturalist Rose.

**Fly Fishing**

**10:00 a.m.** Meet at Dragonfly Pond  
Learn the basics of fly-fishing with Volunteer Craig. For 8 years and up. All equipment provided.

**Hike: Peak View Trail**

**2:00 p.m.** Meet at Elk Meadow TH  
See thick forests, grassy meadows and scenic Peak View Pond! Gentle 1.5-miles with Naturalist Ben.

**Hiking Checklist**

**7:30 p.m.** At the Amphitheater  
Enjoy a quick and simple presentation from Naturalist Ben that discusses some of the essential and most helpful items to bring hiking with you. This presentation will focus on backcountry and front country, wilderness settings. Dress warm!

**Wednesday, May 25th**

**Fly Fishing**

**10:00 a.m.** Meet at Dragonfly Pond  
Learn the basics of fly-fishing with Volunteer Craig. For 8 years and up. All equipment provided.

**Friday, May 27th**

**Hike: Wapiti Nature Trail**

**9:00 a.m.** Meet at Wapiti TH  
Check out the Wapiti Nature Trail with Naturalist Ben and learn about all the unique characteristics of Mueller State Park's ecosystem. Keep an eye out for wildlife! Around 1-mile round trip.

**Knee High to Nature – Kids**

**2:00 p.m.** Meet at the Visitor Center  
Nature games and exploring for kids! Grown-ups welcome! Led by Volunteer Naturalist Rusty.

**Wild About Elk!**

**7:30 p.m.** At the Amphitheater  
Mueller is home to lots of elk, year-round! Discover these fascinating animals who are having their babies now and why they are called "Ghosts of the Forest". Join Naturalist Linda at the campground amphitheater tonight. Dress warm and bring a blanket to wrap up in!



**Saturday, May 28th**

**Archery**

**10:00 a.m.** Meet at Dragonfly Pond parking  
Learn to shoot a bow and arrow! Equipment provided. Must be 8 yrs. and up. Led by the Naturalist team.

**Hike: Grouse Mountain Trail**

**2:00 p.m.** Meet at Grouse Mountain TH  
Get to know Grouse Mountain, one of our most popular hikes with Naturalist Ben. Experience the highest point of the state park in an easy out and back hike. Around 1-mile round trip.

**Living Safely with Wildlife**

**7:30 p.m.** At the Amphitheater  
Ever wonder what to do if you encounter wildlife in a wilderness setting? Attend this presentation from Naturalist Ben and learn about safety tips and steps that you can take to ensure you are being safe around wildlife and respecting their homes. Dress warm and bring a blanket!

**Sunday, May 29th**

**Hike: School Pond**

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

**Spring Geocaching Adventure**

**2:00 p.m.** Meet at Outlook Ridge TH  
As we move into spring, join Naturalist Ben for a fun-filled afternoon of geocaching where we will see some of the unique signs of spring. Learn to use a GPS! All equipment provided

**Hiking Checklist**

**7:30 p.m.** At the Amphitheater  
Enjoy a quick and simple presentation from Naturalist Ben that discusses some of the essential and most helpful items to bring hiking with you. This presentation will focus on backcountry and front country, wilderness settings. Dress warm!

**Monday, May 30th**

**Bird Walk**

**8:30 a.m.** Meet at Elk Meadow TH  
Migrating birds are just arriving at Mueller for the breeding season! Come see and hear the spring birds as they are busy singing, courting and nesting. 1.5-mile slow paced walk. Led by Volunteer Naturalist Craig.