



The official newspaper  
of Rocky Mountain National Park  
Summer - 2013  
June 16 - July 19  
1st Edition

NPS/Ann Schonlau

## Welcome to Your Park!

Rocky Mountain National Park is a special place in the hearts of many people. These mountains are home to flowers, forests and wildlife. For generations, this place has nourished the human spirit and connected us to the natural world. We invite you to explore your park, make your own memories, and discover what Rocky means to you. Enjoy it, protect it and be safe out there.

*The Staff of Rocky Mountain National Park*

## Looking for Fun?

Rocky Mountain National Park has something for everyone! Make your trip memorable with these tips:

- ✓ **Be inspired** – How many times can you say, “Wow!” Find out by driving up Trail Ridge Road for spectacular views.
- ✓ **Picnic in the park** – Do lunch with a view. Consult your park map for picnic areas that offer do-it-yourself dining in the great outdoors.
- ✓ **Join a ranger** – Rangers can share unusual insights about the park and nature. Check out the ranger-led activities listed in the newspaper, attend an evening program or chat with a ranger at a visitor center.
- ✓ **“Like” a lake** – Take an easy stroll around Lily Lake, Sprague Lake or Bear Lake. Mornings and evenings are magical.
- ✓ **Take in the night** – Experience the park in the dark when nights skies are filled with diamond-like stars, and mountains are illuminated by moonlight.
- ✓ **Get connected** – Disconnect to reconnect with nature, yourself and your loved ones. Rocky is full of opportunities to connect with the natural world in a genuine way.

## Visitor Centers



### East of the Divide – Estes Park Area

#### Alpine Visitor Center

Open daily 9 a.m.-5 p.m. (weather permitting)  
Features extraordinary views of alpine tundra, displays, information, bookstore, adjacent gift shop, cafe, and coffee bar. Call (970) 586-1222 for Trail Ridge Road conditions.

#### Beaver Meadows Visitor Center

Open daily 8 a.m.-6 p.m.  
Features spectacular free park movie, information, bookstore, large park orientation map, and backcountry permits in an adjacent building.

#### Fall River Visitor Center

Open daily 9 a.m.-5 p.m.  
Features life-size wildlife displays, a children’s discovery room, information, and a bookstore.

#### Sheep Lakes Information Station

Open 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. through August 18.  
Horseshoe Park is a good place to look for wildlife, including bighorn sheep and elk. Information and ranger programs are available.

### West of the Divide – Grand Lake Area

#### Kawuneeche Visitor Center

Open daily 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. Features free movies, exhibits on wonders of the park, information, a bookstore, and backcountry permits.

#### Moraine Park Visitor Center

Closed for the season.



Alpine Visitor Center

## What You Need To Know About Accessing Bear Lake Road During Reconstruction

In early 2012, a major road construction project began on the lower section of Bear Lake Road. The project is almost done!

**Weekdays:** On weekdays through July 19, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Bear Lake Road, approximately one mile southwest of Moraine Park Visitor Center to Bear Lake, will be accessible by free shuttle bus only. Private vehicles will be allowed both directions prior to 9:00 a.m. and after 4:00 p.m. On weekdays, visitors in private vehicles who make the 9:00 a.m. cutoff time will be allowed to leave throughout the day. All visitors, in private vehicles or on shuttle buses, should expect at least two 20-minute delays in both directions through the construction area. There may be night closures during construction – those closures will be announced at least two weeks prior to occurring. There will be no construction delays between Park & Ride and Bear Lake.

**Weekends:** Private vehicles will be allowed all day on weekends. Although private vehicles will be allowed to travel on weekends through the construction area, shuttle buses will also be running.

The park’s three shuttle routes are modified again this summer during the construction. Please see the back page of this newspaper for the shuttle map and schedule.

Visitors who plan to go to the Bear Lake area on weekdays will have easier access if they plan ahead, hike early or hike late, and carpool. Visitors on weekdays who are unable to make the 9 a.m. cutoff time, may experience significant delays in transit and wait times at shuttle stops and visitors may want to explore other areas of Rocky Mountain National Park.

Rocky is approaching its Centennial anniversary in 2015. Bear Lake Road was completed in 1928 and until 2003, no significant improvements were made. No major road work has taken place on the lower section for more than 80 years. When this project is complete, just prior to the park’s hundredth anniversary, it will conclude over 47 miles of critical improvements on park roads since 2003.

Find more information on Bear Lake Road Reconstruction at [www.nps.gov/romo](http://www.nps.gov/romo)



# Important Information

## Visitor Services

### Horseback Riding

- Wild Basin Livery  
Allenspark (303) 747-2222
- Sombrero Ranch  
Estes Park: 1895 Big Thompson Ave.  
(970) 586-4577 - open year-round.  
Allenspark: 211 Main St.  
(303) 747-2551  
Grand Lake: 304 W. Portal Rd.  
(970) 627-1083
- Winding River Resort  
Grand Lake: 1447 County Rd. 491,

- (970) 627-3215
- National Park Gateway Stables  
Rocky Mountain Gateway near the Fall  
River Entrance on U.S. 34  
(970) 586-5269
- CowPoke Corner Corral Stables  
YMCA Road on Highway 66 at Glacier  
Lodge (970) 586-5890
- Hi Country Stables  
In Rocky Mountain National Park:  
Moraine Park (970) 586-2327

- Glacier Creek (970) 586-3244
- Meeker Park Stables  
Meeker Park (303) 747-2266
- Jackson Stables  
YMCA of the Rockies Livery  
(970) 586-3341
- Beaver Mountain Livery at  
Aspen Lodge Resort & Spa  
6120 Hwy 7 (970) 577-3448

## Gifts and Food

- Trail Ridge Store  
Gifts, cafe, and coffee bar.  
(970) 586-1839

## Mountaineering

- Colorado Mountain School  
Rock Climbing  
Estes Park, (800) 836-4008

## Bicycles in the Park

Bicycling is permitted on public roads, both paved and dirt, but not on trails. There are no bike paths, and many roads are narrow with little or no shoulders. Please ride cautiously.



During the Bear Lake Road reconstruction project, bicycle use is strongly discouraged on Bear Lake Road due to rough conditions and major delays. Bicycles in National Park Service areas must ride single file. There are no bicycle racks on shuttle buses.

## Campfires

Campfires are permitted in campgrounds and picnic areas where fire grates are provided. Collecting vegetation, living or dead, is prohibited. Firewood is for sale in summer at all park campgrounds. Campfires can be prohibited during periods of high fire danger.



## Firearms

A federal law allows people who legally possess firearms under federal, Colorado, and local laws, to possess firearms in Rocky Mountain National Park. It is the visitor's responsibility to understand and comply with all applicable state and federal firearms laws.

- Hunting, recreational shooting, and target practice are not allowed in Rocky Mountain National Park.
- Federal law prohibits firearms in certain facilities in this park; those buildings are posted with signs at public entrances.
- If you have questions, please contact the Park Information Office at (970) 586-1206.

## Fishing

Obtain specific park regulations at visitor centers or park entrance stations. To fish in Rocky Mountain National Park, you must have a valid Colorado state fishing license.



## Lost and Found

Please turn found items in at any park visitor center. To inquire about lost items, call the Backcountry Office at (970) 586-1242.

## Pets and Service Animals

Pets are allowed in the park but only in picnic areas, campgrounds and along roadsides. Pets are never allowed on trails or in meadow areas. Pets must be on leashes no longer than 6 feet when outside vehicles. For the safety of your pet and for the protection of park wildlife and other visitors, pets and their food should not be left unattended. You may not leave your pet unattended in vehicles if it creates a danger to the animal or if it becomes a public nuisance. Pets may not be left tied to vehicles, trees or other objects. A Pet Brochure is available at visitor centers and lists all regulations.



Service animals that have been individually trained to perform specific tasks for the benefit of persons with disabilities are allowed in the park. A service animal that is allowed in park facilities, trails, etc., must be doing so in the service of a disabled person. Under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), emotional support ("therapy animals") are not service animals but are considered pets. They may not access trails, park buildings or other non-motorized areas. Service dogs-in-training are not service animals under ADA, but are considered pets.

## Picnicking

Picnic areas are located throughout Rocky Mountain National Park. Check the park map for specific locations.

## Food Storage

Do not attract wildlife, including black bears, to your campsite. Keep a clean camp! Never leave food items unsecured or unattended. Improperly stored or unattended food items will result in a violation notice. "Food items" include food, drinks, toiletries, cosmetics, pet food and bowls, and odoriferous attractants. Garbage, including empty cans, food wrappers, etc., must be disposed of in trash or recycling receptacles.

See page 8 for food storage while camping.

## Take Only Pictures

Regulations prohibit disturbing and taking any natural features including pinecones, rocks, antlers, artifacts, soil, rocks, or vegetation in the park. The use of metal detectors within the park is not allowed.

## Viewing Wildlife

When viewing any wildlife, please:

- Obey wildlife closure areas and "no stopping" traffic zones.
- Use parking areas along the road. If not available, pull your vehicle completely off the road and do not park on vegetation.
- Approaching animals may cause them stress, leading to disease or illness. If you cause an animal to move or change its behavior, you are too close!
- Wildlife can be unpredictable. For your safety and theirs, enjoy and photograph wildlife from a distance.
- Never feed wildlife, including birds and chipmunks.



## Entrance Fees

Automobile Entrance Fee - Single-family vehicle entrance fee is valid for seven consecutive days, including date of purchase. \$20

Rocky Mountain National Park Annual Pass - Provides unlimited entry to this park for one year from the date of purchase. \$40

Rocky Mountain National Park/ Arapaho National Recreation Area Annual Pass - Provides unlimited entry to both areas for one year from the date of purchase. \$50

America the Beautiful - National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands Annual Pass - Available to everyone which provides access to, and use of, federal recreation sites that charge an entrance or standard amenity fee for one year from date of purchase. \$80

America the Beautiful - National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands Senior Pass - A lifetime pass for U.S. citizens or permanent residents age 62 or older. \$10

America the Beautiful Military Pass - Free unlimited entry to federal recreation sites (including National Parks) for active duty military personnel and dependents with required proper identification (CAC Card or DD Form 1173) for one year.

America the Beautiful - National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands Access Pass - A free lifetime pass for U.S. citizens or permanent residents with a permanent disability.

Fees may be paid by check, cash, or credit card.

## Park Phone Numbers

**Bear Lake Road Reconstruction and Trail Ridge Road status: (970) 586-1222**

Call Park Information (970) 586-1206 with your questions. We are available to assist you from 8 to 4:30 daily.



Hearing impaired persons may call the TTY at (970) 586-1319 from 8 to 5 daily



**Dial 911 to report emergencies**

## Walking on the Alpine Tundra

You may walk, with care, on the alpine tundra. However, there are four Tundra Protection Areas in which you must stay on trails as you walk. These include: the area surrounding the Alpine Visitor Center, Forest Canyon, Rock Cut, and Gore Range overlooks.

## To help preserve alpine tundra:

- Stay on trails where they exist.
- Never walk single file off trail.
- Step on rocks or gravel wherever possible. The tiny plants thank you.



For your convenience, free WIFI is available in and around the Beaver Meadows Visitor Center and the Kawuneeche Visitor Center.



The Official Park Website is <http://www.nps.gov/romo>  
Follow us on Twitter @ RMNPOfficial  
Like us on Facebook @ Rocky Mountain National Park

# Stay Safe



## Mountain Climbing

Specialized skills and equipment may be required to safely reach a summit. Spring and early summer climbing can present unique challenges since lingering snow and ice are present. Summiting Longs Peak is not a hike, but a climb. Ask for information before you climb or visit the park website at <http://www.nps.gov/romo/planyourvisit/longspeak.htm>

## Hiking Safety

With over 350 miles of trails, the park offers a vast array of choices. Many higher trails and shaded areas can hold snow well into July. Please check at a visitor center for current conditions before hiking. Even for short day trips, be sure to pack gear for all types of weather (sun, rain, snow, wind). Windproof/waterproof clothing is essential gear to wear or carry.

**Trail Tips.** Stay together: this is the most important tip that comes from the experience of park search and rescue teams! Be prepared for the rigors of high elevation -- drink plenty of water, and travel at a pace where you can still talk and breathe easily. If you feel poorly, descend to a lower elevation. Pack it in, pack it out, including remains of all your food (pits, peels, etc.), and facial tissues. Let nature's sounds prevail; avoid loud voices and noises. Pets are not allowed on park trails.

## Longs Peak Keyhole Route

The Keyhole Route is NOT a hike! It is a climb with exposure requiring scrambling where an unroped fall would likely be fatal. The route has narrow ledges, loose rock, and steep cliffs. A permit is not required. The best route follows red and yellow bulls-eyes. If you lose the bulls-eyes you are likely off route and will encounter more difficult climbing with more severe consequences. It is important to retrace your steps back to the bulls-eyes before continuing. The Keyhole Route can experience winter-like conditions at any time, requiring greater skill and judgment. Be prepared to turn back during sudden, drastic weather changes. The high elevation may affect your condition and judgment. Careful descent is the best treatment. Don't have summit fever: enjoy the experience, but be willing to turn around at any time.



Scan with your mobile device for the Keyhole Route Site Bulletin.

## High Elevation

A large number of visitors to this park each year experience symptoms of altitude sickness. Symptoms range from headache and dizziness to nausea and eventually unconsciousness. Rocky Mountain has the highest average elevation of any national park -- even the main road climbs to 12,183 feet! The road is higher than most U.S. mountains. High altitude can also aggravate existing medical conditions such as heart and lung diseases. Take your time and be sure to drink plenty of water. Avoid drinking untreated water from streams and lakes as it may be contaminated with giardia. The only cure for altitude sickness is to **go down** to a lower elevation.

## Lightning

People are killed by lightning every year in Colorado. Afternoon storms are frequent and can bring an unhappy end to a hike. Watch for approaching storms and be well below treeline or back in your car before the storm hits. If you are caught out in the open during a lightning storm, do not seek shelter under a tree or rock overhang. You want to squat down as low as you can, keeping both feet together and avoid being the tallest thing around you. Keep your pack, hiking poles, and all metal away from you while you are exposed.

## Falling Trees

Falling trees are an ever-present hazard. When traveling or camping in the forest, trees can fall without warning. Be particularly watchful when it's windy, or following a snowstorm when branches are heavy with snow. Avoid parking where trees could fall.

## Wood Ticks

Summer is synonymous with wood ticks. Starting each summer season hikers become reacquainted with one of our most persistent parasites. Ticks don't jump onto you from trees, in fact they don't jump at all. They usually hang onto low-lying vegetation with two legs while holding the other six out like tiny grappling hooks. As you walk by, they hitch a ride and then begin to search for a nice spot to attach themselves. Take the time to inspect yourself before you consider your day's activity done. Their favorite spots include any warm, moist area they can find. Protect yourself with an insect spray designed to discourage ticks. Some hikers tuck their pant legs into their socks, or wear gaiters to keep ticks away from their skin.

Enjoy your visit to Rocky Mountain National Park and remember to check for hitchhikers.



## Mountain Lions and Bears

There are no grizzly bears in Rocky Mountain National Park. Mountain lions and black bears are powerful and potentially dangerous. Here are some general guidelines for traveling in backcountry areas of Rocky Mountain where wildlife may be encountered:

- 1) **Travel in Groups** and make noise as you hike. Keep your group, especially children, close together.
- 2) **Do Not Approach** a mountain lion or bear.
- 3) **Stay Calm** when you see a mountain lion or bear.
- 4) **Stop**; back away slowly. Never turn your back and run.
- 5) **Leave immediately** if bear cubs are present, or if a bear huffs, pops its jaw, stomps a paw, or if a bear or mountain lion doesn't leave the area.
- 6) **Stand Tall and Look Large.** Raise your arms. Protect small children by picking them up.
- 7) If approached, **make loud noises**, shout, clap hands, clang pots and pans.
- 8) If attacked by a mountain lion or bear, **Fight Back!**



## Swift Water

Mountain streams can be deadly dangerous, especially during high runoff. Remain back from the banks of streams and rivers. Provide proper supervision for children, who by nature, tend to be attracted to water. Rocks at streamside and in the stream are often slippery, and water beneath them may be deep. Powerful currents in park streams can quickly pull a person underwater and pin him/her below the surface. Melting snow feeds our streams resulting in extremely cold water temperatures.

## Hypothermia

Hypothermia is a serious and sometimes fatal condition brought on by exposure to wet and cold. The core body temperature drops to a level that impairs normal muscle and brain activities. Symptoms include drowsiness, loss of judgment or coordination, slurred speech, and uncontrolled shivering. If these symptoms occur, warm the chilled person with dry clothing and warm, nonalcoholic liquids. Get back to your car and seek medical attention. Carry a windproof/snowproof outer shell and extra layers of clothing. Drink plenty of water; high elevation, wind, and cold can dry us out and chill us.

Most importantly, stay dry!



## Essentials to Wear and Carry

- Lots of water
- High-energy food
- Layers of clothing (jackets & pants), including insulating, windproof clothing like synthetic or wool
- Sturdy footwear & extra socks
- Storm gear
- Hat and gloves
- Sunglasses with UV protection
- Sunscreen
- First aid kit
- Topographic map & compass/GPS
- Flashlight or headlamp
- Waterproof matches
- Pocket knife
- Whistle
- Common sense!

## Rocky Mountain National Park Mileages and Elevations

Destination	Elev (feet)	Beaver Meadows Visitor Center	Fall River Visitor Center	Kawuneeche Visitor Center
Alluvial Fan	8610	6.9	3.3	41.8
Alpine Visitor Center	11796	23	23	20.6
Aspenglen Campground	8220	8.2	0.4	47.5
Bear Lake	9475	10.5	16.3	51.3
Bear Lake Road Junction	8200	1.4	7.2	42.2
Beaver Meadows Entrance	8200	1.2	7.4	42.4
Beaver Meadows Visitor Center	7840	0	8.6	43.6
Deer Ridge Junction	8930	4.3	4.3	39.3
Estes Park Downtown	7522	2.5	4.4	48
Fall River Entrance	8280	8.3 thru park	0.3	43.3
Fall River Visitor Center	8250	6.0 thru town	0	49.3
		8.6 thru park		43.6
		5.7 thru town		49.3
Glacier Basin Campground	8500	6.3	12.1	47.1
Glacier Gorge Trailhead	9240	9.4	15.1	50.1
Grand Lake Entrance	8715	43.2	43.2	.4
Grand Lake (town)	8367	49.3	49.3	1.4
Holzwarth Historic Site	8884	35.7	35.7	7.9
Kawuneeche Visitor Center	8720	43.6	43.6	0
Milner Pass / Poudre Lake	10758	27.3	27.3	16.3
Moraine Park Campground	8160	3.2	9.0	44
Moraine Park Visitor Center	8140	2.7	8.4	43.4
Old Fall River Rd/Endovalley Turnoff	8540	6.1	2.5	41.4
Park & Ride	8770	6.3	12.1	47.1
Timber Creek Campground	8900	38	33	8.2
Wild Basin Entrance	8390	13.2	18.5	59

# Free Summer Ranger Programs - Alpine & East Side



All children must be accompanied by an adult

Programs may be cancelled due to high winds or lightning

Alpine		Length	Location	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<b>Tundra To Trees</b> - Hike an ancient Ute trail that leads from alpine heights down through old growth forest. Plan to carpool for this moderate 4-mile hike. Bring warm clothing, rain gear, water & snacks. 7/6 - 8/17		4 hour hike	Milner Pass parking lot							9:00 a.m.
<b>High Country Geology</b> - The park's spectacular scenery represents a chapter in a long history of geologic events. Join us on this hike over the tundra and experience the effects of these processes. 7/3 - 8/7		3 hour hike	Alpine Visitor Center flagpole				9:00 a.m.			
<b>Tundra Nature Walk</b> - Exhilarate your senses with alpine views and miniature wildflower gardens. Dress warmly; plan to caravan to the location. Ends 8/11		1.5-2 hour hike	Alpine Visitor Center	10:00 a.m.	10:00 a.m.	10:00 a.m.	10:00 a.m.	10:00 a.m.	10:00 a.m.	10:00 a.m.
<b>All About Lightning</b> - Learn why lightning can be a hair-raising experience and find out how to minimize your risk of being struck.		30 minute talk	Alpine Visitor Center	2:00 p.m.		2:00 p.m.		2:00 p.m.		
<b>High Country Tails</b> - Discover what alpine animals can tell us about living life on the mountaintops.		30 minute talk	Alpine Visitor Center				2:00 p.m.			2:00 p.m.
<b>Plants</b>										
<b>Lily Lake Wildflower Walk</b> - Take time to stop and smell the roses, and enjoy learning about the variety of flowers blooming this season. Easy walk. Ends 8/11		1.5 hour hike	Lily Lake parking lot	2:30 p.m.			2:30 p.m.			2:30 p.m.
<b>Children's Programs</b>										
<b>Junior Ranger Program</b> - Earn your Junior Ranger badge! Join a ranger for a variety of programs and activities at the Junior Ranger Headquarters. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Ends 8/17		30 minute program	Junior Ranger Headquarters at Hidden Valley	10:00 11:30 1:00 2:30	10:00 11:30 1:00 2:30	10:00 11:30 1:00 2:30	10:00 11:30 1:00 2:30	10:00 11:30 1:00 2:30	10:00 11:30 1:00 2:30	10:00 11:30 1:00 2:30
<b>Andy Aspen Puppet Show</b> - Andy Aspen says, "Please, fence me in!" Join Andy, his puppet friends and a ranger for a compelling the story of how elk, big fences, aspen groves and animals get along in the park these days. Ends 8/17		20-30 min. puppet program	Fall River Visitor Center							10:00 a.m.
<b>Wildlife</b>										
<b>Tracking Wildlife</b> - Put your detective skills to the test, uncover clues, and learn about the animals that call Upper Beaver Meadows home.		1-1.5 hour walk	End of Upper Beaver Meadows Road		2:30 p.m.	2:30 p.m.	2:30 p.m.		2:30 p.m.	
<b>Bighorn Basics</b> - Sheep Lakes in Horseshoe Park is a popular viewing area for bighorn sheep. Learn about this majestic symbol of Rocky. Ends 8/18		30 minute talk	Sheep Lakes Information Station	10:30 a.m.	10:30 a.m.	10:30 a.m.	10:30 a.m.	10:30 a.m.	10:30 a.m.	10:30 a.m.
<b>Amazing Beavers</b> - Beavers drastically change their environment, and they have wonderful adaptations to do so.		30 minute talk	Beaver Meadows Visitor Center		10:30 a.m.		10:30 a.m.		10:30 a.m.	10:30 a.m.
<b>All About Elk</b> - Learn about this magnificent animal, and its current status in the park.		1-1.5 hour walk	West Alluvial Fan parking lot		2:30 p.m.	10:00 a.m.		10:00 a.m.	2:30 p.m.	
<b>Where's the Wildlife?</b> - Rocky has very watchable wildlife. With a few tips, you can find the best spots to view them.		30 minute talk	Beaver Meadows Visitor Center	10:30 a.m.		10:30 a.m.		10:30 a.m.		
<b>Predators of Rocky</b> - Discover the secret lives of Rocky's predators and how they shape the ecosystem.		30 minute talk	Fall River Visitor Center	11:00 a.m.		11:00 a.m.		11:00 a.m.		2:30 p.m.
<b>Horseshoe Park Wildlife</b> - What is that out there? Join a ranger to learn about the wildlife that call Horseshoe Park Home. Ends 8/18		30 minute talk	Sheep Lakes Information Station	2:00 p.m.	2:00 p.m.	2:00 p.m.	2:00 p.m.	2:00 p.m.	2:00 p.m.	2:00 p.m.
<b>Birds of Upper Beaver Meadows</b> - Join a ranger to seek bluebirds, woodpeckers, wrens, and flycatchers in a rich mixture of aspen and pine woodlands. Bring binoculars and a field guide.		1.5 hour hike	End of Upper Beaver Meadows Road		7:00 a.m.	7:00 a.m.	7:00 a.m.	7:00 a.m.		7:00 a.m.

## Junior Ranger Program

Hey, Kids! Come to The Junior Ranger Headquarters!

Located at Hidden Valley along Trail Ridge Road, this is a place just for you! Join a ranger-led program, complete your Junior Ranger book, and earn a badge. The Junior Ranger activity booklets are offered for kids of all ages and are available at most visitor contact stations. The Junior Ranger Headquarters is open from June 16 – August 17, and programs are offered 4 times a day, 7 days a week! Programs are geared for kids ages 6-12, and it is free to participate. A parent or adult must be present with children at all times.



Headquarters is open 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. daily.  
Jr. Ranger Programs are at 10, 11:30, 1:00 & 2:30 daily.



## Walks, Talks, and Hikes



Length

Location

SUN

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT

All children must be accompanied by an adult

**Lumpy Ridge Hike** - Explore the history, dramatic views, and diverse ecosystems found in this unique corner of the park on a moderate 2 mile hike.

2-2.5 hour hike

Lumpy Ridge Trailhead

9:00 a.m.

9:00 a.m.

**Life on the Edge** - From elk to pikas, forest trees to tiny alpine flowers, park life comes in all shapes and sizes. Discover how this diversity of life is changing.



30 minute talk

Fall River Visitor Center

11:00 a.m.

11:00 a.m.

11:00 a.m.

**Lily Lake Stroll** - Enjoy an easy walk around a lovely lake beneath Longs Peak while exploring the natural and human forces that have shaped this landscape.



1-1.5 hour walk

Lily Lake parking lot

10:30 a.m.

10:30 a.m.

10:30 a.m.

**Hot Topics in the Park** - Want to hear the very latest news about bear and beetle or other management challenges in the park? Join us for two short movies and a Ranger to answer questions.



30 - 45 minute discussion

Beaver Meadows Visitor Center Auditorium

3:00 p.m.

3:00 p.m.

3:00 p.m.

3:00 p.m.

3:00 p.m.

3:00 p.m.

3:00 p.m.

### Evening Programs

**Aspenglen Evening Program** - Enjoy a wide variety of informative and entertaining programs. See the weekly schedule at a visitor center for program topics. Dress warmly.



45 minute talk

Aspenglen Campground Amphitheater

9:00 p.m.  
6/16-7/13

9:00 p.m.  
6/16-7/13

9:00 p.m.  
6/16-7/13

9:00 p.m.  
6/16-7/13

9:00 p.m.  
6/16-7/13

8:30 p.m.  
7/14-9/1

8:30 p.m.  
7/14-8/26

8:30 p.m.  
7/14-8/28

8:30 p.m.  
7/14-8/30

8:30 p.m.  
7/14-8/31

### Beaver Meadows Evening Program

Enjoy a wide variety of informative and entertaining programs.



45 minute talk

Beaver Meadows Visitor Center Auditorium

7:30 p.m.  
Artist Night

7:30 p.m.

**Moraine Park Evening Program** - Enjoy a wide variety of informative and entertaining programs. See the weekly schedule at a visitor center for program topics. Dress warmly.



45 minute talk

Moraine Park Campground Amphitheater

9:00 p.m.  
6/16-7/13

9:00 p.m.  
6/16-7/13

7:30 p.m.

9:00 p.m.  
6/16-7/13

9:00 p.m.  
6/16-7/13

9:00 p.m.  
6/16-7/13

9:00 p.m.  
6/16-7/13

8:30 p.m.  
7/14-9/1

8:30 p.m.  
7/14-8/26

8:30 p.m.  
7/14-8/28

8:30 p.m.  
7/14-8/30

8:30 p.m.  
7/14-8/30

8:30 p.m.  
7/14-8/31

### Night Sky Programs

**Astronomy in the Park** - Join a park ranger and local astronomers to discover the magic of the night sky. Dress warmly, bring binoculars and a flashlight.

30 minute program followed by viewing

End of Upper Beaver Meadows Road

8:30 p.m.  
June 28

8:15 p.m.  
July 12 & 26

8:00 p.m.  
August 9 & 30

All Astronomy in the Park programs are on a Friday evening at the times and dates above.

**Stories Behind the Moon & Stars** - The night sky comes alive through storytelling and fun activities. Celebrate darkness at the Estes Park Memorial Observatory. The observatory is located at 1600 Manford Avenue near the Estes Park High School and Stanley Park Fairgrounds. Dress warmly. Bring binoculars and a flashlight.



1-1.5 hour program

Estes Park Memorial Observatory

8:30 p.m.  
June 21

8:15 p.m.  
July 5 & 19

8:00 p.m.  
August 2 & 16

All Stories Behind the Moon & Stars programs are on a Friday evening at the times and dates above.

## International Sister Parks

Rocky Mountain National Park and the Tatra National Parks in Slovakia and Poland have recently renewed their sister park relationship. Because they have similar mountain terrain and ecosystems, and are seeking solutions to common issues, the three parks are exchanging information and expertise to better manage these great preserves for the benefit of all.



Tatra National Park of Slovakia and Poland

## Rocky Mountain Field Seminars

### Outdoor Adventures in Rocky Mountain National Park



**Grand Lake Safari Bus Adventure** (all ages)  
Every Tuesday June 11 - September 3

**Trail Ridge Road Bus Adventure** (all ages)  
Every Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, June 12, September 6

**Plant & Wildflower Identification with a Naturalist** (adults)  
June 26; July 10, 17, 24, 31; August 14

**Kids' Hiking Series** (kids 7 - 15) June 29; July 13, 27; August 17

**Intro to Outdoor Digital Photography** (adults) July 19-21

**Rocks & Minerals of RMNP** (adults) July 25

**Mountain Lion: RMNP's Top Predator** (adults) August 24-25

Ask at any visitor center for more information.



970-586-3262  
www.rmna.org

## Free Park Movie



See the stunning 23-minute park movie at both the Beaver Meadows Visitor Center from 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. and 4:00 p.m.-5 p.m. and at the Kawuneeche Visitor Center during normal business hours. This film features spectacular aerial footage of the rugged high country of Rocky Mountain

National Park, as well as wildlife and park history. A Captioned version is available at Kawuneeche Visitor Center and Captioned and Audio Description versions are available at Beaver Meadows Visitor Center. Available in both Español (translation headsets available upon request) and English at Beaver Meadows and Kawuneeche visitor centers.

# Free Summer Ranger Programs - West Side



All children must be accompanied by an adult

Programs may be cancelled due to high winds or lightning

## Walks and Hikes



### Length

### Location

### SUN

### MON

### TUE

### WED

### THU

### FRI

### SAT

**Hike Through History** - Discover hidden remnants of mining and dude ranch history along the Colorado River on this gentle 3-mile hike.

3 hours,  
3 miles

Colorado River Trailhead

9:30 a.m.

**Inside the Fence** - Go inside an enclosure to learn about moose, elk and beaver and to explore habitat recovery first hand.

1 hour,  
1 mile

Holzwarth Historic Site parking area

2:30 p.m.

**Beyond The Falls** - A pleasant stroll to Adams Falls and a spectacular view just beyond

1.5 hour,  
1 mile

East Inlet Trailhead

10:00 a.m.

**Mountain Wildflowers** - A ranger will lead you to the best current blooms and explore why they're special. Caravan to this week's flowers. Ends 8/13

2 hours

Kawuneeche Visitor Center flagpole

2:00 p.m.

**Rocky Mountain Heritage Walk** - Learn about the human history of the Kawuneeche Valley while strolling to the grounds of an historic guest ranch. Starts 6/22. Wednesdays only after August 17.



1.5 hour,  
1 mile

Holzwarth Historic Site parking area

10 a.m.

2:30 p.m.

**Wilderness Connections** - A moderate hike on a new section of the Continental Divide Trail featuring a lovely meadow and river.

1.5 to 2 hours,  
2 miles

Onahu Trailhead

9:30 a.m.

## Children's Programs

**Junior Ranger Program** - Join a ranger for a short program and activities to earn your Junior Ranger badge. 6/19 - 8/17

1 hour

Kawuneeche Visitor Center

2 p.m.

2 p.m.

2 p.m.

2 p.m.

2 p.m.

**Web Walkers** - Explore a section of the Colorado River. Activities are designed for children 6-12 years old. Ends 8/15



1 hour

Coyote Valley Trailhead

10:00 a.m.

10:00 a.m.

**Come Bug a Ranger** - Learn fun facts about insects. Puppets, stories and activities for children 4-10 years old. Ends 8/14



1 hour

Holzwarth Historic Site parking area

10:30 a.m.

**A Walk Backwards** - Step back in time and experience life on a 1920s dude ranch...chores, games, period costumes. For children 6-12. Registration required at Kawuneeche Visitor Center or (970)627-3471. Ends 8/9



2 hour activity

Holzwarth Historic Site parking area

9:45 a.m.

## Talks & Activities

**Holzwarth Historic Site** - Tour a 1920s-era dude ranch for a taste of early homesteading and tourism. Buildings Closed (No Tours) Thursdays.



Drop-in tour

Holzwarth Historic Site parking area

..... 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily except Thursdays .....

**Skins and Things** - Examine the skins, skulls, antlers, teeth and bones of many park mammals.



40 minutes

Kawuneeche Visitor Center

3:15 p.m.

3:15 p.m.

3:15 p.m.

3:15 p.m.

3:15 p.m.

3:15 p.m.

3:15 p.m.

**Ranger's Flyfishing School** - Learn about the park's fish management program, stream ecology, and flycasting. Bring your flyfishing gear or borrow the ranger's. 6/24 - 8/12

3 hour activity

Timber Creek Campground amphitheater

8:30 a.m.

**Behind the Scenes** - See short videos documenting how the park addresses challenges like elk management, pine beetles, and bear safety. Starts 6/22



1 hour discussion

Kawuneeche Visitor Center

10:30 a.m.

10:30 a.m.

**Sisters of Courage** - Learn about the pioneer experience through the story of the remarkable Harbison sisters and their family. Includes a 1/2 mile walk to the homestead site. Starts 7/1

2.5 hour activity

Kawuneeche Visitor Center flagpole

1 p.m.

**Exploring with a Camera** - Focus on composition, light and basic tips to improve your pictures during this photography walk. Ends 8/2

1-1.5 hour activity

Timber Lake Trailhead

2:30 p.m.

## Greening Your Park



### Recycling Available in Major Park Locations

Glass, plastic #1 though #7 and aluminum may be recycled in park campgrounds and at major park locations. Look for our distinctive recycling containers or ask at any visitor center or campground for their locations.



Help us reduce the use of plastic water bottles! There is limited potable drinking water in the park. Please remember to bring your own reusable water containers and refill them at park visitor centers.



All children must be accompanied by an adult

## Evening Programs



Length Location SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT

**Timber Creek Evening Program** - Presentation available nightly at Timber Creek. Check at the campground or Kawuneeche Visitor Center for topics.



1 hour presentation

Timber Creek Campground amphitheater

9 p.m.  
6/16 -8/10  
8:30 p.m.  
8/11 - 9/2

9 p.m.  
6/16 -8/10  
8:30 p.m.  
8/11 - 9/2

9 p.m.  
6/16 -8/10  
8:30 p.m.  
8/11 - 9/2

9 p.m.  
6/16 -8/10  
8:30 p.m.  
8/11 - 9/2

9 p.m.  
6/16 -8/10  
8:30 p.m.  
8/11 - 9/2

9 p.m.  
6/16 -8/10  
8:30 p.m.  
8/11 - 9/2

9 p.m.  
6/16 -8/10  
8:30 p.m.  
8/11 - 9/2

**Saturday Night in the Park** - Enjoy an evening program in the auditorium. For topics, inquire at the Kawuneeche Visitor Center.



1 hour

Kawuneeche Visitor Center auditorium

7:00 p.m.

**Walk Into Twilight** - Enjoy a leisurely stroll as darkness, night sounds and wildlife fill the valley. Bring warm clothes, good hiking shoes, and a flashlight. Ends 8/11

2 hour walk

Onahu Creek Trailhead

8 p.m.  
6/16 -7/28  
7:30 p.m.  
8/4 -8/11

**Old Ranch Campfire** - Roasting marshmallows (bring 'em), tall tales (the old wrangler will tell 'em) and campfire songs bring back the old days. Dress warmly. Ends 8/9



2 hours, 1 mile walk

Holzwarth Historic Site parking area

7:00 p.m.

## Night Sky Programs

**Celestial Wilderness** - Use a telescope to explore the astronomy of Rocky's night sky. If overcast, meet at Kawuneeche Visitor Center for indoor presentation. Ends 8/10

1-1.5 hour activity

Harbison Meadow parking area. If overcast, Kawuneeche Visitor Center

9:00 p.m.  
6/19 -7/27

8:45 p.m.  
8/3 - 8/10

## "Fire On the Mountain"

Fire! The word can bring wonder, excitement and fear. But to those who manage America's national parks, the word is an accepted part of the challenging vocabulary of ecosystems. Rocky Mountain National Park's own Fern Lake Fire started with an illegal campfire on Tuesday, October 9, 2012, in steep and rugged Forest Canyon. Firefighters from across the country battled it for two months before the spread of the nearly 3,500-acre blaze was temporarily halted by an early December snowstorm.

Large fires in high elevations of the Rocky Mountains are different than many other areas of the country. They are infrequent and have the potential for high consequences and big impacts on the landscape. The Fern Lake Fire was no exception. Largely inaccessible, Forest Canyon had been untouched by fire for at least 800 years. A long-term drought had left fuels tinder-dry, and the forest fuel layer there can exceed twenty feet deep. Trees killed by mountain pine beetle and windy conditions in the canyon only increased the danger to firefighters.

Park fire managers knew from the beginning it was going to be a long-term event. There was limited ability to fight the fire directly because of high winds, steep terrain, and beetle-killed trees. Firefighter safety is the park's number one priority. The high winds impacted both air operations and safety of firefighters.

Wildfire experts anticipate that we can expect fires to continue at this level unless conditions change. Continued drought will intensify the number of fires in our forests. The trend indicates larger and more rapidly spreading fires can be expected. The number of acres burned nationally has been at historic highs for six of the last nine years. There is no indication that this trend will reverse soon.

And this fire? The last time smoke was seen was January 7, however, it will not be called "out" until no smoke or heat is detectable.



Fern Lake Fire burning in Forest Canyon.



Fern Lake Fire from Trail Ridge Road.



## This Park Paper

The park newspaper is produced by Rocky Mountain National Park in cooperation with -- and funding provided by -- the Rocky Mountain Nature Association. Printed on recycled paper.



# Camping 2013

PARK CAMPGROUNDS	Reservable for summer?	First-Come, First-Served Sites	Summer Firewood/Ice	Max RV/Trailer Length	Summer Dump Station	Designated Accessible Sites	Tent Pad Size	Summer Ranger-led Evening Programs Offered	Summer Drinking Water, Flush Toilets	Food Storage Lockers	Location and Brief Description
<b>Aspenglen</b> Elevation 8,220 ft 53 Sites First-come, first-served Sept 24 – 28 (closes for season noon Sept 29)	●		●	30 ft	No; use Moraine Park or Timber Creek		13 ft x 15 ft	●	●	●	Situated in a pine forest near Fall River just inside the Fall River Entrance on US Hwy 34 west of Estes Park.
<b>Glacier Basin</b>	<b>CLOSED 2013</b>										
<b>Longs Peak</b> Elevation 9,405 ft 26 Sites		●	● No ice	Tents only			13 ft x 15 ft		●	●	In a pine forest, nine miles south of Estes Park. Turn west at the Longs Peak Area sign.
<b>Moraine Park</b> Elevation 8,150 ft 244 Sites Now thru Sept 14, reservations for A, C, D & E Loops; B Loop 1st come, 1st served. All loops 1st-come, 1st-served 9/15 thru 9/28. Then closed temporarily for repaving.	●	●	●	Limited number of sites up to 40 ft	●	●	Varies	●	●	●	<i>Moraine Park Campground was not burned in the Fern Lake Fire.</i> Located in a ponderosa pine forest above the meadows of Moraine Park, this campground is a short distance into the park on Bear Lake Road. Access the free summer shuttle buses to Bear Lake and Estes Park from the campground.
<b>Timber Creek</b> Elevation 8,900 ft 98 Sites		●	● No ice	30 ft	●	●	Varies	●	●	●	On the park's west side near the Colorado River, 10 miles north of the town of Grand Lake on US Hwy 34. Due to the Bark Beetle, most trees were removed, so there is no campground shade.

**Overnight stays** in Rocky Mountain National Park must be in a campground (or a backcountry site). You may not stay overnight in your car or RV along a road or at a trailhead.

**It is common for all park campgrounds to fill up on most summer days and fall weekends.**

**Reservations** for late-May through September can be made six months to one day in advance and are highly recommended. Make a reservation online at [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov) or call 1-877-444-6777.

#### Fees to Camp

- When the water is off (winter), Timber Creek and Moraine Park Loop B campgrounds are \$14/site/night.
- When the water is on (summer), all campgrounds are \$20.00/site/night.
- America the Beautiful Senior and Access Pass holders receive a 50% discount on camping fees.
- Park entrance fees and camping fees can be paid by cash, check or credit card any time of year.

#### STAY LIMITS

The maximum length of stay is seven nights total between June 1 and September 30, plus an additional 14 nights between October 1 and May 31. Stay limits are on a parkwide basis rather than on a per campground basis.

#### At All Standard Campsites

- No more than eight people may camp at a given site.
- All campsites, including RV sites, have a tent pad, picnic table and fire grate.
- Shared food storage lockers are available throughout all campgrounds.
- Tents must fit on the tent pad; two or three tents are allowed, as long as they fit.
- There are no electric, water or sewer hookups at any park campsites.
- Showers - Bring a solar-heated shower bag to hang in the stall facility (no running water) at Moraine Park Campground. There are no other shower facilities in the park, but showers are available in nearby communities. Portable showers are prohibited except in the solar shower facility in Moraine Park Campground. Remember, toiletries attract wildlife and need to be properly stored when not in use.

#### Pets

All campgrounds allow pets with certain restrictions: they must be on a leash no longer than six feet; pet owners must pick up and dispose of pet excrement in trash receptacles; pets may not make noise that impact visitors or wildlife. Pets are never allowed on any park trails or in meadow areas. Pets should never be left unattended. Keep a clean camp! Never leave pet food unsecured or unattended.

#### Food Storage

Do not attract wildlife, including black bears, to your campsite. Keep a clean camp! Never leave food items unsecured or unattended. Improperly stored or unattended food items will result in a violation notice. "Food items" include food, drinks, toiletries, cosmetics, pet food and bowls, and odoriferous attractants. Garbage, including empty cans, food wrappers, etc., must be disposed of in trash or recycling receptacles. Hummingbird feeders and bird feeders are attractants for wildlife such as raccoons, elk, deer, and bears and are not allowed in campgrounds. Coolers, dirty stoves, grills, non-disposable tableware and cookware must be washed and stored in the same manner as food. Camp kitchens must be kept clean and individual items properly stored. In campgrounds, store all food items in food storage lockers; if full, store food items by one of the following methods:

- Inside vehicle trunks; be sure windows are closed and doors are locked.
- In vehicles without trunks, items should be placed as low in the vehicle passenger compartment as possible and covered from sight, with windows closed and doors locked.
- Visitors with convertibles or motorcycles are encouraged to use food storage lockers, available in all park campgrounds. Food storage lockers, which are approximately 3 ft x 4 ft x 3 ft are shared with other visitors and cannot be locked. Food storage locker symbols are located on all campground maps.

## Backcountry Camping

Permits are required for all overnight backcountry camping, and reservations are recommended for summer. Camping is allowed only in designated sites and areas. Permits may be obtained at the Beaver Meadows Backcountry Office or Kawuneeche Visitor Center. For further information write to: Backcountry Office, Rocky Mountain National Park, Estes Park, Colorado 80517 or phone (970) 586-1242. The administrative permit fee of \$20 is required for backcountry permits between May 1 and October 31; there is no charge in winter.

#### Sprague Lake Accessible Backcountry Campsite

Reservations and information are available through the Backcountry Office at (970) 586-1242. This site accommodates 12 campers with a maximum of five wheelchair users at the camp. The administrative permit fee is \$20 from May 1 to October 31.



**For your safety and the protection of park wildlife, carry in/carry out, commercially-made, hard-sided, bear-resistant food storage canisters are required of all backcountry campers parkwide between May 1 and October 31.**

Canisters may be rented or purchased at outdoor shops in surrounding communities. Pack out all garbage.



# Resources and More

## Tell Me More About the Fences

Research has shown that the elk herd in Rocky Mountain National Park and the Estes Valley, is larger, less migratory and more concentrated than it would be under natural conditions. As a result, willow and aspen stands were declining, depriving other wildlife of the important habitat they need. Fences are one of the many tools we are using in the implementation of the park's Elk and Vegetation Management Plan.

Each fall since 2008, the park has installed enclosure fences on elk winter range in the Moraine Park, Beaver Meadows, Kawuneeche Valley and Horseshoe Park areas. These enclosures are protecting important riparian willow and aspen habitat from elk browsing.



**After Two Years...**



October 2009

August 2011

## Bark Beetle Impacts From Canada to Mexico



Bark beetles are native insects that have shaped the forests of North America for thousands of years. Bark beetles range from Canada to Mexico and can be found at elevations from sea level to 11,000 feet. Rocky Mountain National Park is just one relatively small area where trees are dying from the beetle epidemic. Because the task is enormous, the park's priorities for mitigation of the effects of beetles are focused on removing hazard trees and hazard fuels related to the protection of life and property.

There is no effective means of controlling a large beetle outbreak in such a vast area as the park's backcountry, which comprises about 95% of the park. Therefore, in the backcountry, bark beetle populations are allowed to fluctuate under natural processes with some limited mitigation work occurring around designated backcountry campsites.

To make park roads, trailheads, picnic areas & campgrounds safe for visitors, dead & dying trees are cut and stacked. Each winter, when snows are deep, teepee shaped piles of slash are burned while some of the wood is made available to the public through firewood sales.

**An infected tree will have pitch tubes on its trunk and boring dust (frass) at the base of the tree. Sometimes the tree will be successful in repelling or "pitching out" beetles and they are occasionally found imbedded in a pitch out.**

## Protect Bears!

Black bears live in Rocky Mountain National Park. The park has a relatively small bear population. Research suggests there are 20 to 24 bears in the park, which is one of the lowest densities of black bears in the country. This research also indicates that in the past twenty years human food and garbage were about 15 times more commonly utilized than in 1984-1991, when previous research occurred.

Unfortunately, many people think wildlife agencies will "just relocate" a habituated bear. That rarely happens. Habituated bears are killed. We all need to take action so a bear does not start down this deadly path.

## You Can Save The Life of A Bear!

When using trash containers please make sure the door is latched. Bears have broken in to cars in the park. Try not to leave any food or trash in your vehicle. If you must, store it in the trunk. If your vehicle does not have a trunk, put any scented items low in the vehicle and cover them. Close your windows and lock your doors. If camping in the park use food storage lockers. Food storage canisters are required for backcountry campers. The actions you take can truly save the life of a bear!

### Keep Wildlife Wild

Never feed wildlife. A fine may be issued to violators. Animals can kick, bite, or gore you. They can become dependent on human food and lose the ability to feed naturally. Wildlife also carry diseases which can be transmitted to humans, such as rabies and plague. Photograph animals from the roadside.



**Please don't feed me!**



**Don't let this happen to you!**





# Hiking Trails

With over 350 miles of trails, the park offers a vast array of hikes. A small selection of trails is described below. Check at a visitor center for current conditions. Additional hiking guides, books and maps are available for purchase at all park visitor centers. See page 3 for safety tips.

## EAST SIDE TRAILHEADS:

Trail:	Location:	Round Trip Distance:	Elevation Gain:
Deer Mountain	<b>Deer Ridge Junction</b> The summit offers great views of beautiful peaks and deep valleys.	6 miles	1083 feet
Gem Lake	<b>Lumpy Ridge Trailhead</b> Steep Trail climbs through mature ponderosas and aspen all the way to Gem Lake. Great panoramas of Longs peak.	3.3 miles	971 feet
Estes Cone	<b>Lily Lake Trailhead</b> Great views are a reward of this strenuous hike to the top of a peak.	7.4 miles	2369 feet
Eugenia Mine	<b>Longs Peak Trailhead</b> Hike to an abandoned mine site.	2.8 miles	508 feet
Twin Sisters	<b>Lily Lake Trailhead</b> Hike to a mountain top for great views of mountains and plains.	7.4 miles	2338 feet
Sandbeach Lake	<b>Sandbeach Trailhead (Highway 7/Wild Basin)</b> A steady uphill trail leads to a lake with beautiful views.	8.4 miles	1971 feet

## FAMILY FRIENDLY TRAILS: Easy walks. Some are accessible. Some allow strollers. Most have educational brochures or exhibits. No pets, please.

Lily Lake	  <b>On Highway 7 south of Estes Park</b> Wildflowers, waterfowl, and greenback cutthroat trout may be seen on a level walk around the lake.	.8 mile loop	20 feet
Alluvial Fan	 <b>Horseshoe Park on the road to Endovalley Picnic Area</b> ¼ mile paved, steeper grade from east & west parking lots. See evidence from 1982 flood. Interpretive signs.	.25 mile	20 feet
Tundra Communities Trail	 <b>At Rock Cut on Trail Ridge Road</b> View the miniature world of the Tundra and enjoy sweeping views of the park. Paved trail & interpretive signs.	.5 mile	260 feet




## WEST SIDE TRAILHEADS:

Trail:	Location:	Round Trip Distance:	Elevation Gain:
Onahu Creek/ Green Mountain Loop	<b>Onahu Creek Trailhead or Green Mt. Trailhead, Kawuneeche Valley</b> Excellent loop trail through quiet forest and meadow along flowing mountain creeks.	7.6 miles	1100 feet
Granite Falls	<b>Green Mountain Trailhead in Kawuneeche Valley</b> Quiet forest and flowing mountain waters. Longer loop (13.6 miles) is possible, coming out on the Onahu Creek Trail.	10.4 miles	1406 feet
Timber Lake	<b>Timber Lake Trailhead, Kawuneeche Valley</b> Lots of elevation gain on hike to a beautiful backcountry lake.	10.6 miles	2060 feet
Lulu City	<b>Colorado River Trailhead, north of Timber Creek Campground</b> A gentle trail to a historic site. A longer return loop is available via the Grand Ditch to Red Mountain Trail.	7.4 miles	350 feet
Little Yellowstone Canyon	<b>Colorado River Trailhead, north of Timber Creek Campground</b> An extension of the Lulu City hike, deeper into park wilderness.	9 miles	990 feet
Red Mountain	<b>Colorado River Trailhead, north of Timber Creek Campground</b> A steep trail featuring some great views of mountains and valleys in the park.	11 miles	2565 feet
Lone Pine Lake	<b>East Inlet, on the far east end of Grand Lake</b> A longer hike near Grand Lake to a high lake. The trail continues beyond to other lakes.	11 miles	1494 feet
Cascade Falls	<b>North Inlet Trail off Tunnel Road in Grand Lake</b> A relatively level walk to Cascade Falls.	6.8 miles	300 feet
Shadow Mountain Lookout	<b>East side of Shadow Mountain Lake, just south of Grand Lake</b> Steep hike to a historic fire lookout with spectacular views.	9.4 miles	1533 feet
East Shore Trail	<b>East side of Shadow Mountain Lake, just south of Grand Lake</b> 2.6 miles to Green Ridge Campground; a side loop trail to Ranger Meadows reconnects with main trail, adding 1.4 miles.	5.2 miles	100 feet

## TRAIL RIDGE ROAD TRAILHEADS:

Alpine Ridge Trail	<b>Near Alpine Visitor Center</b>	.5 mile	200 feet
Ute Trail	<b>Across the road from Alpine Visitor Center, as well as other access points</b> Tremendous, open views above treeline; start and finish early before lightning and thunderstorms!	1-8 miles	1038 feet

## FAMILY FRIENDLY TRAILS: PETS ARE NOT PERMITTED ON ANY PARK TRAILS.

Coyote Valley Trail	  <b>Coyote Valley on Highway 34, north of Kawuneeche Visitor Center</b> Follows the bank of the Colorado River, with views of the Never Summer Mountains. Packed gravel, level grade. Interpretive signs. See moose, songbirds, and wildflowers.	1 mile	10 feet
Adams Falls	<b>East Inlet, located on the far east end of Grand Lake</b> A beautiful short hike near Grand Lake. The trail continues beyond the falls to lush meadows.	.6 mile	80 feet
Holzwarth Historic Site	 <b>8 miles north of Kawuneeche Visitor Center on Highway 34.</b> Explore a historic homestead cabin and 1920's dude ranch. Brochures, interpretive signs & tours available.	1 mile	10 feet

## Leave No Trace



With 3 million visitors every year, the wild lands of Rocky Mountain National Park are heavily used. While hiking, camping, and all your park activities, do your part to preserve this national treasure by following the seven easy Leave No Trace Ethics:

- Plan ahead and prepare
  - Travel and camp on durable surfaces
  - Dispose of waste properly
  - Leave what you find
  - Minimize campfire impacts
  - Respect wildlife
  - Be considerate of other visitors
- For more information visit <http://www.lnt.org/>

# Elevate Your Shopping Experience



Trail Ridge Road

Take the trail to the clouds and not only will you find breathtaking vistas, you'll find the best selection of Rocky Mountain National Park souvenirs including an amazing selection of authentic Native American gifts. Plus, enjoy a bite to eat at our café and coffee bar.



VISIT US AT THE TOP OF TRAIL RIDGE ROAD



trailridgegiftstore.com

## Rocky Mountain Nature Association

www.rmna.org



Love Rocky Mountain National Park? Help us make it even better!

If you've walked the Lily Lake Trail, explored the Fall River Visitor Center, or introduced a child to nature through the park's Junior Ranger Program, you know our work.

**Become a Member or donate today!**

### At RMNA Stores, Your Purchase Makes A Difference

Visit RMNA stores in any park visitor center for the best Rocky Mountain National Park t-shirts, games, jewelry, books, maps and other great park items. Proceeds support important educational, interpretive and research programs in the park. Drop by today!

- Alpine Visitor Center
- Beaver Meadows Visitor Center
- Fall River Visitor Center
- Kawuneeche Visitor Center
- Longs Peak Ranger Station



## EDUCATIONAL ADVENTURES & TOURS

IN THE PARK!

ROCKY MOUNTAIN FIELD SEMINARS



Photography • Wildlife • Star Tours • Hiking • Classes for kids!

Call 970-586-3262 [www.rmna.org](http://www.rmna.org)

Ask at any visitor center for more information

## THE RIDES OF A LIFETIME



### NATIONAL PARK GATEWAY STABLES

- ♦ All rides are in Rocky Mountain National Park
- ♦ Two-hour, half-day and full-day rides on scenic trails
- ♦ Beautiful, well-kept horses for all riding abilities

Rocky Mountain Gateway near the Fall River Entrance on U.S. 34  
(970) 586-5269

cowpokecornercorral.com or, nationalparkgatewaystables.com

### COWPOKE CORNER CORRAL

- ♦ Extended half-day to full-day rides in beautiful Rocky Mountain National Park
- ♦ Friendly and family oriented

YMCA Road on Highway 66 at Glacier Lodge  
(970) 586-5890



38 YEARS EXPERIENCE!

Open through Oct. 13  
Visa, MC and Discover accepted

# Shuttle Bus Information

The park's three shuttle bus routes will be modified during the Bear Lake Road Reconstruction Project.

This summer one section of Bear Lake Road will be accessible by free shuttle bus only. This section is the area of road approximately one mile southwest of Moraine Park Visitor Center to Bear Lake. This will occur weekdays, from May 28, through July 19, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Private vehicles will be allowed both in directions prior to 9:00 a.m. and after 4:00 p.m. Private vehicles will be allowed all day on weekends. On weekdays, visitors in private vehicles who make the

9:00 a.m. cutoff time, will be allowed to leave throughout the day. All visitors, in private vehicles or on shuttle buses, should expect at least two 20-minute delays in both directions through the construction area. There will be no construction delays between Park & Ride and Bear Lake. There may be night closures during periods of road construction. Night closures will be announced at least two weeks prior to occurring.



The first bus on the Moraine Park and Bear Lake routes will depart from the Moraine Park Visitor Center at 7 a.m. and the last bus will leave at 7 p.m.

The last bus of the day on the Moraine Park and Bear Lake routes will leave Bear Lake and Fern Lake trailheads at 7:30 p.m.

Buses on the Moraine Park Route will run between the Moraine Park Visitor Center and the Fern Lake bus stop with stops at Moraine Park Campground,

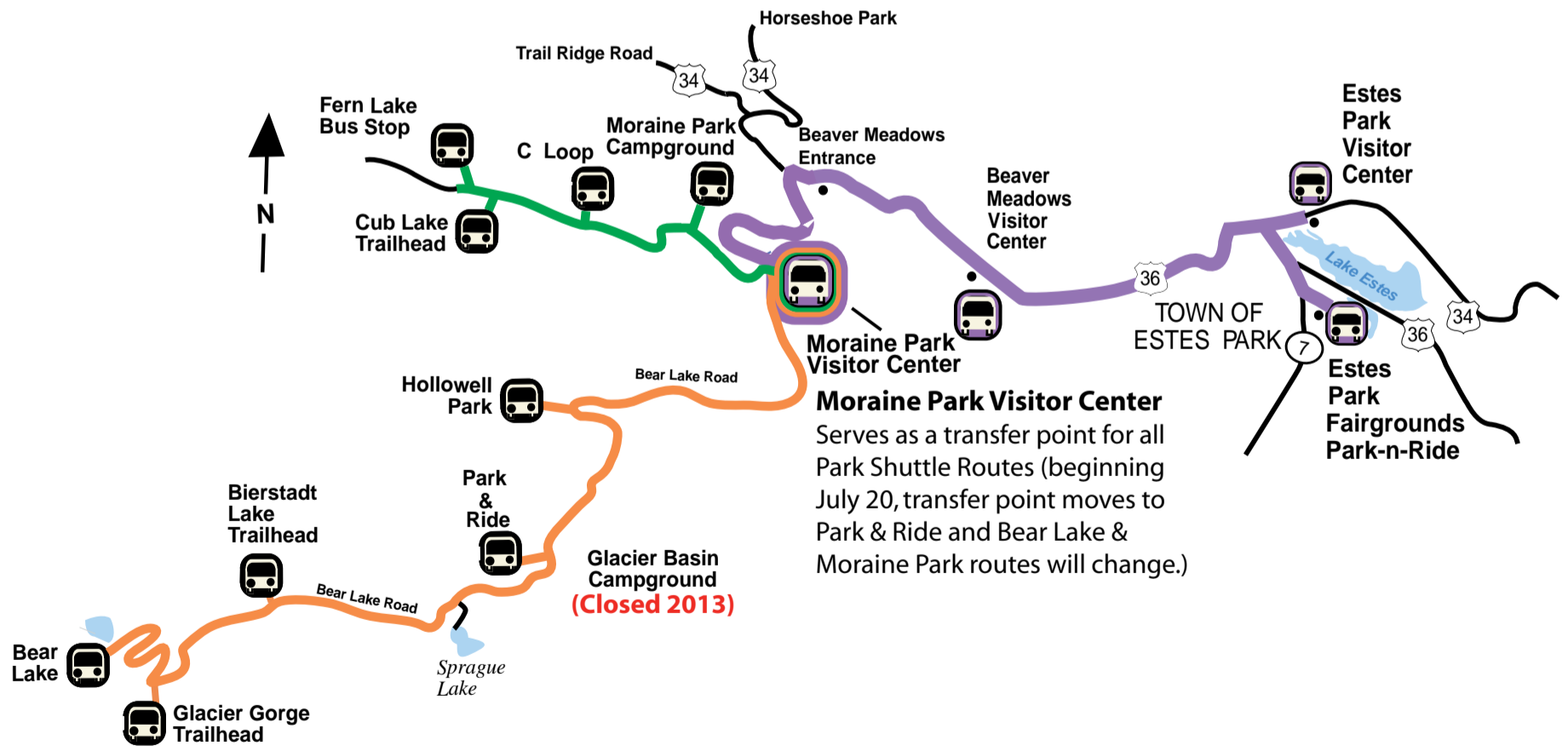
Cub Lake Trailhead and Fern Lake bus stop. Moraine Park Route buses will run every 20 minutes.

Buses on the Bear Lake Route will run between Moraine Park Visitor Center and Bear Lake with stops at Hollowell Park, Park & Ride, Bierstadt bus

stop, Glacier Gorge Trailhead and Bear Lake. Bear Lake Route buses will run every 15 minutes but may be delayed during periods of road construction.

Buses on the Hiker Shuttle Route will make stops at the Estes Park Fairgrounds Park-n-Ride, the Estes Park Visitor Center, the Beaver Meadows Visitor Center, and the Moraine Park Visitor Center where passengers will transfer to buses on either the Bear

Lake Route or the Moraine Park Route. The first bus will leave the Fairgrounds Park-n-Ride at 6:30 a.m., and the last bus will leave the Moraine Park Visitor Center bound for Estes Park at 8 p.m. The Hiker Shuttle will run on an hourly schedule early and late in the day, switching to a half-hour schedule from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.



## Hiker Shuttle Express Route

Stops at Moraine Park Visitor Center, Beaver Meadows Visitor Center, the Estes Park Visitor Center, and the Fairgrounds only

## Bear Lake Route

Expect delays

## Moraine Park Route

Expect some delays



## Shuttle Bus Stop