

Backcountry Camping

Permits are required for all overnight backcountry camping. Camping is allowed only in designated sites and areas. The administrative permit fee is \$20 per trip from May 1 to October 31. 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.

Effective May 1, 2009, for your safety and the protection of park wildlife, carry in/carry out food storage canisters are required of backcountry campers in the park.

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



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.

Junior Rangers



Free Junior Ranger books are available at park visitor centers for children ages 12 and under. A successfully completed book earns a badge!

You are an important part of this park. Stay in touch. Contact us anytime at: romo_junior_ranger@nps.gov

Los libros de guardaparque juveniles son para niños que tiene 12 años o menos. se pueden obtener sin costo en el centro de visitantes del parque. Si se completa el libro con éxito puede recibir una insignia!

Free Ranger Programs - Alpine & East Side



All children must be accompanied by an adult

Alpine	Length	Location	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Alpine Aspects - Discover the survival strategies tundra plants and animals use to live in gale-force winds, driving snow and a severely short summer. Ends 10/12	30 minute talk	Alpine Visitor Center	2 p.m.						2 p.m.
Daytime Programs - East									
Autumn Bird Walk - Join a ranger in search of fall migrants in an excellent birding area. For all levels of birders. Bring binoculars and a field guide. Ends 10/12	1.5 hour walk	Upper Beaver Meadows		8 a.m.		8 a.m.			8 a.m.
Tyndall Gorge Walk - Explore the breathtaking glacial landscape and lush subalpine forests above Bear Lake on this moderate hike. Ends 9/26	1.5 hour walk	Bear Lake parking lot			9:30 a.m.	9:30 a.m.	9:30 a.m.	9:30 a.m.	
Moraine Park Nature Walk - Discover what lives and grows around Moraine Park Visitor Center. Ends 10/12	1 hour walk	Moraine Park Visitor Center	10 a.m.	10 a.m.	10 a.m.	10 a.m.			10 a.m.
Western History Walk - Stroll along Moraine Park for this 2-part walk. Thursday: The Pioneers. Friday: The Moraine Community. Runs 9/10 to 9/25	1.5 hour walk	Moraine Park Visitor Center					10 a.m.	10 a.m.	
Bear Necessities - The bear went over the mountain, the bear went over the mountain...to see this terrific program. Join a ranger to learn all about black bears. Ends 10/12	20-30 minute talk	Fall River Visitor Center	11 a.m.	11 a.m.					11 a.m.
Bear Lake Stroll - Enjoy an easy walk around a lovely subalpine lake and learn about the natural and human forces that have shaped this landscape. Ends 10/12	1 hour stroll	Bear Lake parking lot		1:30 p.m.	1:30 p.m.	10 a.m.			1:30 p.m.
Amazing Beavers - Beavers drastically change their environment, and they have wonderful adaptations to do so. See their work first hand. Ends 10/12	1 hour talk	Sprague Lake Picnic Area	1:30 p.m.			1:30 p.m.		1:30 p.m.	1:30 p.m.
All About Autumn - Find out what the wildlife and plants are up to during this changing time of year. Ends 10/12	1-1.5 hour walk	Upper Beaver Meadows	2 p.m.		2 p.m.	2 p.m.	2 p.m.	2 p.m.	
Here Come The Beetles - Pine bark beetles are rapidly transforming our forests. Learn what this means for all species who share the park. Ends 10/12	20-30 minute talk	Moraine Park Visitor Center	2:30 p.m.	2:30 p.m.					2:30 p.m.
Skins and Skulls - Examine the skins, skulls, antlers, teeth and bones of many park mammals.	20-30 minute talk	Beaver Meadows Visitor Center	3 p.m.						3 p.m.
Elk Echoes - Learn about elk adaptations, migration, and mating behavior. Programs held simultaneously at both locations. Ends 10/12	30 minute talk	Sheep Lakes Parking Lot & Moraine Park VC Amphitheater	6 p.m.	6 p.m.	6 p.m.	6 p.m.	6 p.m.	6 p.m.	6 p.m.
Evening Programs - East									
Beaver Meadows Evening Program Enjoy a wide variety of informative and entertaining programs.	45 minute talk	Beaver Meadows Visitor Center Auditorium							7 p.m.

Heart of the Rockies

Teachers, Parents, Students!

Rocky Mountain National Park's "Heart of the Rockies" education program provides an outdoor classroom to children throughout the region. Teachers who are interested in participating in this program may contact the park's Education Specialist at (970) 586-3777, or through the website at www.heartoftherockies.net



Free Ranger Programs - West Side



All children must be accompanied by an adult

Walks and Hikes

		Length	Location	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Life at the Source - Just downstream from the source of the Colorado River, habitats provide homes for hardy plants and animals. Ends 9/25		1.5 hours, 1 mile walk	Colorado River Trailhead		2:30 p.m.		2:30 p.m.		2:30 p.m.	
Coyote Valley River Walk - Explore the valley ecology and history on this easy walk along the Colorado River. Saturdays only after 9/26. Ends 10/10		1 hour walk	Coyote Valley Trailhead			2:30 p.m.		2:30 p.m.		2:30 p.m.
Skins and Things - Examine the skins, skulls, antlers, teeth and bones of many park mammals. Weekends only after 9/27. Ends 10/10		40 minutes	Kawuneeche Visitor Center	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.
Junior Ranger Program - Join a ranger for a short program and activities to earn your Junior Ranger Badge. Ends 9/20		1.25 hour program	Kawuneeche Visitor Center	2 p.m.						
Evening Programs - West										
Timber Creek Evening Program - Check at the campground or Kawuneeche Visitor Center for topics. Ends 9/25		1 hour presentation	Timber Creek Campground Amphitheater						7:45 p.m.	7:45 p.m.
Saturday Night in the Park - Enjoy an evening program in the auditorium. For topics, inquire at the Kawuneeche Visitor Center.		1 hour presentation	Kawuneeche Visitor Center Auditorium							7 p.m. 9/12 & 10/10

Special Programs

Elk Day, Holzwarth Historic Site Picnic Area

10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Saturday, September 12 only

Learn all about these bugling beauties in a special day of elk activities. Rangers will be on hand from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Holzwarth Historic Site picnic area with fun family activities to share. Please drop in!



"America's Best Idea," Kawuneeche Visitor Center

7 p.m. - 1 hour program

Saturday, September 26 only

A new film series on the national parks airs beginning Sept. 27 on PBS. Join us for a video about the making of this epic including behind the scenes footage, interviews, and excerpts from the film.



Resurface work at Timber Creek Campground, an ARRA-funded project

The National Park Service will undertake more than 750 projects at parks across the U.S. to create jobs, restore and protect our nation's parks, and preserve our heritage for future generations. The projects reflect an investment of \$750 million in our national park system under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009.

Rocky Mountain National Park has received over \$2.5 million in ARRA funding for a variety of important projects. Some of the projects include replacing numerous footbridges on trails throughout the park; eliminating hazardous trees killed by mountain pine beetles; rehabilitating the Alpine Ridge Trail; replacing a deteriorated boardwalk at Many Parks Curve; and resurfacing roads in two campgrounds. Whether you are hiking on trails or enjoying the views, we hope these projects will improve your overall experience at Rocky Mountain National Park.



Family-Friendly Trails

Tight on time? Try one of these short walks in Rocky Mountain National Park. Some are accessible.

Some allow strollers. All have educational brochures or signs.

Pets are not permitted on any park trails.

On the West Side

- Coyote Valley Trail
- Lulu City/Colorado River Trail
- Holzwarth Historic Site

On the East Side

- Sprague Lake
- Moraine Park Museum Nature Trail
- Lily Lake
- Bear Lake Nature Trail (partially accessible)
- Alluvial Fan
- Forest Canyon Overlook Trail
- Tundra Communities Trail at Rock Cut

Tech Talk

Rocky Mountain National Park is committed to keeping you informed on park issues, places to visit, and things to do. Check out these podcasts:

- Hydration
- Rocky Celebrates Wilderness
- Lightning Safety
- The Mountain Pine Beetle



RMNP Podcasts

Check out nps.gov/romo and click on PHOTOS & MULTIMEDIA for more podcasts, blogs, and videos!