

A portion of Devil's Backbone in Loveland



Department of Natural Resources and Colorado Parks and Wildlife

8 a.m. "Wildflower Hike" Join Wandering Botanist Kathy Keeler at Devil's Backbone Open Space to learn about our wildflowers, weeds and folklore. Hike rating: Moderate due to uneven terrain. Please dress appropriately for the weather and pack plenty of water for the trail. Program is free, but **registration is required**. Please go to offer.larimer.org to sign up. Direct questions to Molly at (970) 619-4565.

Tuesday, July 10, 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. OR 10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

9 a.m. "Tiny Trekkers" Join Larimer County naturalists for a program designed for your 2- to 5-year-old and you. This program at Devil's Backbone Open Space, located just west of Loveland off Hwy. 34, will be a morning filled with crafts, stories and fun facts! A parent or guardian **must** accompany the child for this hour-long program. After the program, feel free to explore the open space with your child! Program is free, but **registration is required**. Naturalists will present the same lesson at each session – pick the slot that works best for

Teddy Parker-Renga, Department of Natural Resources

Guided Hikes and Events

Saturday, July 7, 8:00 a.m. – 10:00

\$5.00 OFF Restaurant Coupon at CAFE ATHENS

by North Forty News LLC - June 19, 2018

\$2 Burgers on Mondays! - RYAN'S SPORTS GRILL

by North Forty News LLC - June 18, 2018

Buy 1 Pizza, Get 1 Free! at JJ'S BAR & GRILL W...

by North Forty News LLC - June 17, 2018

15% OFF Your Total Ticket at SUH SUSHI KOREAN BBQ

by North Forty News LLC - June 16, 2018

Kids Eat Free Every Sunday at HIBACHI

by North Forty News LLC - June 15, 2018

View All

Advertise Here Today!

SPECIAL OFFERS

Local promotions from local sponsors. Post your promotions here...anytime

Buy One, Get One FREE Pint! - Mash Lab Brewing

by North Forty News LLC - June 4, 2018

DreamHorse.com - Horses for Sale

by DreamHorse.com - April 27, 2018

DreamHorse.com - Buy, Sell & Promote Horses!

by DreamHorse.com - April 20, 2018

MAY 1 IS THE DATE!

by The Fiber Mill @ Rock Soup Ranch LLC - April 18, 2018

Love Horses? Shop, Sell or Just Dream!

you! Please go to offer.larimer.org to sign up. Direct questions to Molly at (970) 619-4565.

Saturday, July 14, 9:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m. “Stargazing with the Northern Colorado Astronomical Society” Join members of the Northern Colorado Astronomical Society (NCAS) for an up-close look at the night sky over the Rockies. Telescopes will be available for viewing stars, galaxies, planets and more. This open house-style program is located at the Devil’s Backbone Open Space parking lot, located just west of Loveland off Hwy. 34. Dress warmly for evening temperatures and bring binoculars if you have them. Program is free. Sign up at offer.larimer.org. Registration is encouraged, but not required. For up-to-date weather information, visit the NCAS website at www.nocoastro.org. Direct questions to Molly at (970) 619-4565.

Wednesday, July 18, 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. “Junior Ranger Hike” Have you always wanted to be a Junior Ranger? Now you can! Join Larimer County naturalists on a hike at Horsetooth Mountain Open Space, located just west of Fort Collins off County Road 38E, and get a Larimer County Junior Ranger Guide that will show you places to go, what to do and how to be safe outdoors. Junior Ranger Guides are also available at Larimer County trailheads. Hike rating: Moderate due to uneven trails. Please dress appropriately for the weather, wear appropriate footwear and pack plenty of water for the trail. Program is free, but a \$6 day-use fee applies. **Registration is required.** Please go to offer.larimer.org to sign up. Direct questions to Molly at (970) 619-4565 or mcasey@larimer.org.

Friday, July 20, 9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. “Geology Hike at Devil’s Backbone” Join Larimer County naturalists for an up-close introduction to the geology of Devil’s Backbone Open Space, located just west of Loveland off Hwy. 34. Learn about the rock layers that formed from 200 million-year-old beaches, lakes and rivers and the subsequent forces that have reshaped these layers into the unique landscape we see today. Hike rating: Moderate due to uneven surfaces. Please dress appropriately for the weather and pack some water. Program is free, but **registration is required.** Please go to offer.larimer.org to sign up. Direct questions to Molly at (970) 619-4565.

Saturday, July 21, 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. “The Wild World of Butterflies” Join Larimer County naturalists to learn about the dramatic world of butterflies, the people and parasites who love them, the people who poach them and the adaptations they use to survive. The program will be held at Eagle’s Nest Open Space, located near the Livermore/U.S. 287 junction. Please bring water and binoculars if you have them and dress appropriately for the weather. Hike rating: Moderate. Program is free, but **registration is required.**

by DreamHorse.com - April 17, 2018

[View All](#)

[Advertise Here Today!](#)

MOST RECENT ARTICLES

Anglers! The Elkhead Reservoir Fishing Classic begins June 23

OUTDOORS

⌚ JUNE 19, 2018 🗨️ 0

OUTDOORS & FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES 2018 COMPETITION & FESTIVAL LINE-UP

EVENTS

⌚ JUNE 19, 2018 🗨️ 0

Discovery Distilled: The Science of Beer, June 20 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm

EVENTS

⌚ JUNE 18, 2018 🗨️ 0

Cheyenne Veterans Affairs Nursing Home Receives 5-Star Rating

NEWS

⌚ JUNE 18, 2018 🗨️ 0

Community and Colorado’s Oil and Natural Gas Industry

BUSINESS & EDUCATION

⌚ JUNE 18, 2018 🗨️ 0

Please go to offer0.larimer.org to sign up. Direct questions to Molly at (970) 619-4565.

Tuesday, July 24, 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. OR 10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. “Tiny Trekkers”

Join Larimer County naturalists for a program designed for your 2- to 5-year-old and you. This program at River Bluffs Open Space, located just east of I-25 between Windsor and Timnath, will be a morning filled with crafts, stories and fun facts! A parent or guardian **must** accompany the child for this hour-long program. After the program, feel free to explore the open space with your child! Program is free, but **registration is required**. Naturalists will present the same lesson at each session – pick the slot that works best for you! Please go to offer0.larimer.org to sign up. Direct questions to Molly at (970) 619-4565.

Saturday, July 28, 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. “What About Ravens?”

Join Larimer County naturalists on a journey to learn about the ravens of Devil’s Backbone Open Space, located just west of Loveland off Hwy. 34. On this hike, you will learn about these brilliant birds – their adaptations, habitats, lore and more! This will be a 3-mile hike. Hike rating: Moderate due to uneven terrain. Program is free, but registration is required. Please bring snacks, plenty of water and binoculars if you have them and dress for the weather. Program is free, but **registration is required**. Please go to offer0.larimer.org to sign up. Direct questions to Molly at (970) 619-4565.



BOTANIST KATHY KEELER DEVIL'S BACKBONE OPEN SPACE

GEOLOGY HIKE AT DEVIL'S BACKBONE JUNIOR RANGER HIKE

STARGAZING WITH THE NORTHERN COLORADO ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY

THE WILD WORLD OF BUTTERFLIES TINY TREKKERS

WHAT ABOUT RAVENS

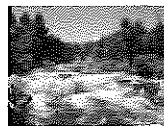


« **PREVIOUS**

Community invited to milestone event for Pianos About Town program

NEXT »

LCSO Emergency Services Requests Your Assistance While Enjoying the Rivers



Lakes around Loveland offer holiday fun

Options other than Lake Loveland for water recreation

BY PAMELA JOHNSON

REPORTER-HERALD STAFFWRITER

Thousands of people will flock to North Lake Park on Wednesday for Loveland's Fourth of July Celebration, staking out spots early for the fireworks display and enjoying a day filled with activities.

For those who want a different kind of lake experience leading up to the fireworks show, here's a look at five lakes in and around Loveland that offer swimming, fishing and/or boating.

Boyd Lake State Park: This 1,700-surface-acre lake, tucked right into Loveland at 3720 N. County Road 11C, offers picnicking facilities, swimming, biking, hiking, fishing, boating and camping. The state park features a swim beach near a picnic pavilion with a playground and is accessible all day long. The fee for a day pass is \$8, though other fees apply for camping, and the vessels allowed include personal watercraft as well as boats. People flock to Boyd Lake for fishing, boating and swimming, and the city's paved recreation trail connects to the state park as the trail connects Loveland to Fort Collins.

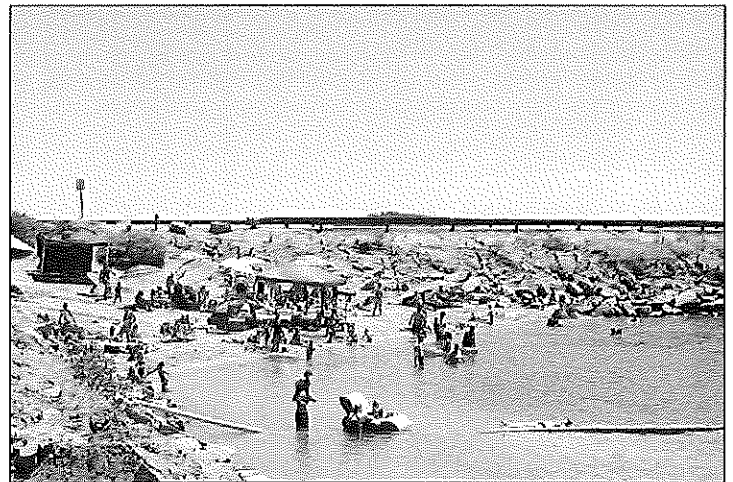
Carter Lake: A short drive southwest of Loveland, Carter Lake is three miles long and a mile wide, offering boating, fishing and swimming at 4011 S. County Road 31. Carter Lake has campgrounds, a swim beach and trails and is popular with motorboats and sailboats with boat ramps at the marina and at the South Shore Campground. Again, additional fees apply for camping, but the day rate into the lake is \$7 per vehicle or boat trailer or \$14 for both.

Boedecker Reservoir: A Colorado Parks and Wildlife state wildlife area, this lake west of Loveland offers a boat ramp for wakeless boating along with fishing, hiking trails

and bird watching. It is located on County Road 21 about a half mile south of West First Street. Quieter than Boyd or Carter, Boedecker is popular with anglers. There is no fee for Boedecker, which also features hiking trails.

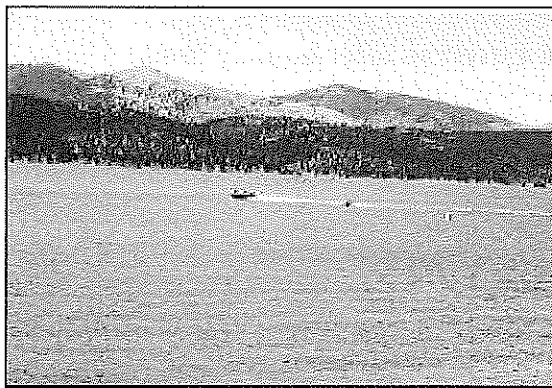
Pinewood Reservoir: Motorboats are not allowed on Pinewood Reservoir, but the 100-acre reservoir west of Loveland is popular with kayakers and others who prefer non-motorized boats as well as with anglers, who cast from their boats and the shore. A campground and a trail surround the reservoir, which is open to biking and picnicking, and another trail at Ramsay-Shockey Open Space is within the line of sight from the edge of the campground, which is past Carter Lake on County Road 18E. Again, additional fees apply for camping, but the day rate into the lake is \$7 per vehicle.

Lon Hagler Reservoir: This lake, located west of Loveland off County Road 16E, is managed for trophy bass, sunfish and rainbow trout, yet anglers often catch catfish, yellow perch and bluegill as well, according to online information. This reservoir, which is managed by Colorado Parks and Wildlife and is free, offers quality fishing from both boat and shoreline. There are two boat ramps, wildlife viewing, an archery range and hiking trails at the reservoir, but camping is prohibited.



Beach-goers beat the heat at Carter Lake swim beach west of Berthoud on Tuesday.

PHOTOS BY HANK GRAHAM / Loveland Reporter-Herald



A speed boat gives a wild ride to fun-seeking tube riders at Carter Lake swim beach west of Berthoud on Tuesday.

Thursday, 06/28/2018 Pag.A08

All contents Copyright © 2018 Daily Reporter-Herald. All rights reserved. Please review new arbitration language here. 6/28/2018

NEWS, SPORTS & EVENTS

99¢ Per Month

Connect Now
 (http://offers.coloradoan.com/specialoffer?gps-source=BENBjul&utm_medium=nanobarap&utm_source=bounce-exchange&utm_campaign=18SUMMER20)



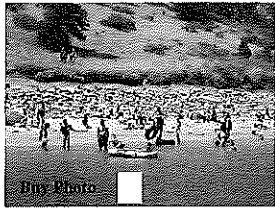
FORT COLLINS
 HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING
 "BIG ENOUGH TO SERVE, SMALL ENOUGH TO CARE"

Contact Us Today!

Up to \$3,900 Off New Systems!
 Up to 72 Months Financing

Try these six summer activities to try at Horsetooth Reservoir's outdoor playground

Mikaela Rodenbaugh, Fort Collins Coloradoan Published 3:17 p.m. MT July 9, 2018



(Photo: Mikaela Rodenbaugh/The Coloradoan)

Horsetooth Reservoir is a popular destination near Fort Collins, especially when summer days turn hot.

There are a number of different activities visitors can try at the reservoir, but it's best to plan ahead and arrive early if you want to make the most out of one of Northern Colorado's premier outdoor playgrounds.

Here's a look at what to know about summertime recreation opportunities at the reservoir.

Boat rentals and tours

Where: Inlet Bay Marina Boat Rentals, 4314 S. Shoreline Drive, and Buckhorn Ridge Outfitters, 9634 Alfalfa Way in Loveland ([book online](http://www.inletbaymarina.com/)) (<https://buckhornridgeoutfitters.com/>)

When: [Inlet Bay Marina Boat Rentals](http://www.inletbaymarina.com/) (<http://www.inletbaymarina.com/>) is open 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekdays and 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday; and Buckhorn Ridge Outfitters is open 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily.

Cost: \$10-\$375 depending on duration and type of boat

There are multiple options at Inlet Bay Marina for those who are interested in journeying out onto the water but don't own a boat.

If you are more interested in having a guided tour, Buckhorn Ridge Outfitters offers pontoon boat tours and fly fishing tours at the reservoir. If you are interested in one of these tours, you can book them online or call ahead at 602-640-3664 rather than visiting the Loveland storefront location.

More information is available at [inletbaymarina.com](http://www.inletbaymarina.com/boat-rentals/) (<http://www.inletbaymarina.com/boat-rentals/>) and buckhornridgeoutfitters.com (<https://buckhornridgeoutfitters.com/>).

Camping and cabins

Where: Horsetooth Reservoir

When: Reserve a site 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily

Cost: \$15-\$60 per campsite, depending on amenities. Reservation fee of \$8.75.

Camping at this reservoir managed by the Larimer County Natural Resources Department is popular, so make sure to reserve a campsite or cabin in advance by calling 970-619-4570. This also helps you to avoid a \$2.50 walk-in fee. If you come on a weekend, be aware there is a two-night minimum stay required until October. Sites range from basic sites without electricity (there are few of these) to sites with electric hook-ups (no RV or camper necessary) to cabins with electricity, air conditioning and heat.

More information can be found [online at larimer.org](https://www.larimer.org/naturalresources/parks/horsetooth-reservoir/) (<https://www.larimer.org/naturalresources/parks/horsetooth-reservoir/>).

Fishing and boating

Where: Horsetooth Reservoir

When: 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily

Cost: Day pass for parking \$7, fishing license, \$26

Horsetooth Reservoir contains walleye, smallmouth bass, perch, trout and other species of fish and offers good fishing whether on the shore or from a boat. Fishing is permitted throughout the reservoir, however, you cannot fish on foot within 100 feet of the dam.

Visit [larimer.org](https://www.larimer.org/naturalresources/parks/horsetooth-reservoir) (<https://www.larimer.org/naturalresources/parks/horsetooth-reservoir>) to learn more about fishing at Horsetooth, including limits on the amount of fish you can catch per day and state licensing information. An annual resident fishing licence costs \$26 for adults and is free for youths age 15 and younger (<http://cpw.state.co.us/Documents/RulesRegs/Brochure/fishing.pdf>).

Hiking, biking, horseback riding and climbing

[Fullscreen](#)

Where: [Horsetooth Mountain Open Space](https://www.larimer.org/naturalresources/parks/horsetooth-mountain) (<https://www.larimer.org/naturalresources/parks/horsetooth-mountain>), [Other area trails](#) **Explore Horsetooth Reservoir in Fort Collins**

When: The trailhead to Horsetooth Mountain is open daily 24/7; Soderberg Open Space trailhead is open dawn to dusk; reservoir day-use areas are open 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily

Cost: Day pass are \$7 at Horsetooth Reservoir; \$6 for other permitted county open spaces

There are a number of trails that are ideal for hiking and mountain biking that surround the reservoir. The list of trails will also let you know which trails are open for horseback riding. Additionally, if you're more of a rock climber, there are various rocks that are good for bouldering and rope climbing.

For climbing information, visit [mountainproject.com](https://www.mountainproject.com/area/105744295/horsetooth-reservoir) (<https://www.mountainproject.com/area/105744295/horsetooth-reservoir>); for a list of trails visit [larimer.org](https://www.larimer.org/naturalresources/trails) (<https://www.larimer.org/naturalresources/trails>).

Paddle boarding

Where: Stand-up paddleboarding at the South Bay, Sunrise and Satanka Bay in Horsetooth Reservoir

When: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily

Cost: Cost of rentals range between \$20-\$95 depending on duration of rental

Stand Up Paddleboarding is a company that offers paddle board rentals, kayak rentals and paddle board yoga lessons to Horsetooth patrons. In addition to locations on the shoreline of Horsetooth, there are also retail locations and opportunities for classes from the company.

Learn more about the rates and classes available at [nocosup.com](https://www.nocosup.com/) (<https://www.nocosup.com/>).

Swimming and scuba diving

Where: South Bay and Sunrise swim beaches

When: 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily

Cost: Day pass \$7, scuba classes and equipment are a separate cost

There are two swim beaches at Horsetooth that are portioned off with buoys to show where the zone to swim ends. Each beach is a swim-at-your-own risk area, so be sure you are a confident swimmer. Be aware that cliff diving is prohibited throughout the reservoir as some areas are deceptively shallow.

If you're looking for a more unique experience, you might opt to take a scuba class with [High Plains Scuba](https://www.highplainsscuba.com/) (<https://www.highplainsscuba.com/>). The most popular area for scuba classes is Sunrise, where infrastructure from the relocated town of Stout and parts of an old rock quarry can be spotted underwater. For scuba diving, call ahead at 970-498-5610.

Larimer County offers grants for community nature projects

By Pamela Johnson

Reporter-Herald Staff Writer
Loveland Reporter-Herald

Posted: Thu Jul 12 17:50:12 MDT 2018

Grants for community open lands, garden and nature projects are available through the Larimer County Department of Natural Resources.

The department is accepting applications for its Small Grants for Community Partnering program, which in the past has funded everything from work on community gardens to a pollinator garden at the Loveland Visitor Center to bluebird boxes placed at area open spaces.

Over the past 11 years, the county has awarded \$287,800 in grants to 192 projects throughout Larimer County, all with money from the Help Preserve Open Space sales tax. The grants were capped at \$2,000, but that amount has been increased to a maximum of \$3,000.

This year, 11 projects received a total of \$20,646, with Loveland Youth Gardeners receiving one of three \$3,000 grants to help pay for a greenhouse and to expand the community gardens for the nonprofit that mentors teens and teaches them life skills through the garden.

Another 2018 Loveland-based grant — \$1,014.50 — went to Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado toward a medicine wheel garden with native plants at High Plains Environmental Center. Two years ago, Audubon Rockies Habitat Hero received \$2,000 for a pollinator garden at the Loveland Visitor Center. The garden, now a year old, was celebrated on Tuesday with a ribbon cutting.

Grants of up to \$3,000 are available for community, neighborhood and group projects that protect or enhance natural areas, link to existing public open spaces or parks, offer environmental education, nature interpretation and outdoor experiences or involve research on Larimer County's open spaces, according to information from Larimer County. One of the 2018 grants went to the Denver Museum of Nature and Science to study mass extinction and do geologic fieldwork at the Lykins Formation at Red Mountain Open Space.

Grants also are available for projects that connect people to the land via farming or offer increased access to natural areas, according to Larimer County.

Applications for 2019 grants, which will be announced in March, are due Aug. 30. Details are available online at larimer.org/small-grants.

Pamela Johnson: 970-699-5405, johnsonp@reporter-herald.com

Close Window

Send To Printer

Ribbon cutting held for pollinator garden at Loveland Visitor Center

By Pamela Johnson

Reporter-Herald Staff Writer
Loveland Reporter-Herald

Posted: Tue Jul 10 17:07:48 MDT 2018

Special guests at a celebration of a pollinator garden were the bees crawling all over bright, native plants, the dragonfly buzzing other greenery and butterflies perching on coneflowers.

"As if to illustrate our point, there's pollinators all over the place," said Jim Tolstrup, executive director of the High Plains Environmental Center and native plant expert.

Tolstrup was one of a handful of people who gathered Tuesday to celebrate the Habitat Heroes Pollinator Garden outside the Loveland Visitor Center, 5400 Stone Creek Circle.

He designed the garden, featuring 16 different native plants, that was a cooperative effort between the city of Loveland, High Plains Environmental Center, Jax, Loveland Visitor Center and Audubon Rockies.

The Habitat Hero garden was supported by a grant from the Larimer County Department of Natural Resources along with expertise, money and other support from all the partners, who also donated time and elbow grease to plant the garden a year ago.

The garden serves as an example and education to those who stop by the center on the beauty and role of native plants, which conserve water, provide habitat for wildlife and pollinators and more. The bugs pollinate the flowers and serve as food for songbirds, all part of the native ecosystem.

The Habitat Hero program, through Audubon Rockies, is designed to encourage landscaping that is designed to attract and benefit birds, pollinators and wildlife, like the garden at the Loveland Visitor Center.

Bees of all sizes seemed particularly drawn toward the bright orange flowers of the butterfly milkweed, a species that Tolstrup said can be finicky but when it takes hold is "rock solid."

Loveland parks crews maintain the garden, which replaced a dying patch of juniper with bright colors and beauty, though horticulture supervisor Nancy Schmachtenberger said "maintenance is nil."

"We do a little bit of weeding, but otherwise the garden takes care of itself. Every time I've been out here, butterflies and bees are here. That's what we want."

Pamela Johnson: 970-699-5405, johnsonp@reporter-herald.com

Close Window

Send To Printer