

# Free Ranger Programs - Alpine & East Side



All children must be accompanied by an adult

Alpine		Length	Location	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<b>High Country Tails</b> - Come learn about amazing alpine animals and what they can tell us about living life on the mountaintops. <b>Ends 10/8</b>		30 minute talk	Alpine Visitor Center		2 p.m.	2 p.m.			2 p.m.	2 p.m.
<b>Daytime Programs - East</b>										
<b>Autumn Bird Walk</b> - Join a ranger in search of fall migrants in an excellent birding area. For all levels of birders. Bring binoculars and a field guide. <b>Ends 10/13</b>		1.5 hour walk	Upper Beaver Meadows Trailhead			8 a.m.				8 a.m.
<b>Autumn in the Rockies</b> - Cool crisp air, beautiful fall colors, and bugling elk. Come on an easy walk to discover the many changes taking place this time of the year. <b>Ends 10/6</b>		1 - 1.5 hour walk	Upper Beaver Meadows Trailhead			10 a.m.		2 p.m.		2 p.m.
<b>Lily Lake Stroll</b> -Enjoy an easy walk around a lovely lake beneath Longs Peak while exploring the natural and human forces that have shaped this landscape. <b>Ends 10/8</b>		1- 1.5 hour walk	Lily Lake parking lot		1:30 p.m.	1:30 p.m.			10 a.m.	1:30 p.m.
<b>Bear Necessities</b> - 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.		20-30 minute talk	Beaver Meadows Visitor Center	10:30 a.m.			10:30 a.m.		10:30 a.m.	10:30 a.m.
<b>Lumpy Ridge Hike</b> - Explore the history, dramatic views, and diverse ecosystems found in this unique corner of the park on a moderate 2 mile hike. <b>Ends 10/3</b>		2-2.5 hour hike	Lumpy Ridge Trailhead				1:30 p.m.			
<b>Amazing Beavers</b> - Beavers drastically change their environment, and they have wonderful adaptations to do so.		20-30 minute talk	Beaver Meadows Visitor Center		10:30 a.m.	10:30 a.m.		10:30 a.m.		
<b>Here Come The Beetles</b> - Pine bark beetles are rapidly transforming our forests. Learn what this means for all species who share the park.		20-30 minute talk	Fall River Visitor Center	2 p.m.	2 p.m.		2 p.m.		2 p.m.	
<b>Skins and Skulls</b> - Examine the skins, skulls, antlers, teeth and bones of many park mammals. Great program for children.		20-30 minute talk	Fall River Visitor Center			11 a.m.		11 a.m.		11 a.m.
<b>Elk Echoes</b> - Learn about elk adaptations, migration, and mating behavior. <b>Ends 10/8</b>		30 minute talk	Sheep Lakes Parking Lot	6 p.m.						
<b>Evening Programs - East</b>										
<b>Beaver Meadows Evening Program</b> Enjoy a wide variety of informative and entertaining programs.		45 minute talk	Beaver Meadows Visitor Center Auditorium							7 p.m.

## Free Park Movie

See the stunning 23-minute park movie at the Beaver Meadows Visitor Center from 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., and at the Kawuneeche Visitor Center during normal business hours. Available in Español (translation headsets available upon request) and English at Beaver Meadows. English only

at Kawuneeche. Features spectacular aerial footage of the rugged high country of Rocky Mountain National Park, as well as wildlife and park history. Captioned version available at Kawuneeche Visitor Center. Captioned and Audio Description versions available at Beaver Meadows Visitor Center.

## 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.



Scan this with your mobile device to download the Backcountry Camping Guide.

# Free Ranger Programs - West Side



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## Walks and Hikes

	Length	Location	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<b>Wilderness Connections</b> – A moderate hike on a new section of the Continental Divide Trail featuring a lovely meadow and creek. September only.	1.5-2 hours 2 miles	Onahu Trailhead					2 p.m.		2 p.m.
<b>Coyote Valley River Walk</b> - Explore ecology and history on this easy walk along the Colorado River. September only.	1 hour 1 mile	Coyote Valley Trailhead				10:30 a.m.			10:30 a.m.
<b>Rocky Mountain Heritage Walk</b> - Learn about the human history of the Kawuneeche Valley while strolling to the grounds of an historic guest ranch. September only.	1.5 hours 1 mile	Holzwarth Historic Site Parking Area		2:00 p.m.					
<b>Inside the Fence</b> – Go inside an enclosure to learn about moose, elk and beaver and to explore habitat recovery first hand. M-W-F in September, then October 8 only.	1 hour 1 mile	Holzwarth Historic Site Parking Area		10:30 a.m.		2 p.m.		10:30 a.m.	
<b>Beyond The Falls</b> - A pleasant stroll to Adams Falls and a spectacular view just beyond. Su-Tu-F in September, then October 7 only.	1.5 hours 1 mile	East Inlet Trailhead	2 p.m.		10:30 a.m.			2 p.m.	
<b>Seasons of Change</b> - Discover changing seasons and changing forests along the lovely Colorado River Trail. September only.	1.5 hours 1 mile	Colorado River Trailhead			2 p.m.		10:30 a.m.		

## Evening Programs - West

<b>Timber Creek Campground Evening Program</b> - Check at the campground or Kawuneeche Visitor Center for topics. Ends 9/22	1 hour presentation	Timber Creek Campground Amphitheater	7:45 p.m.	7:45 p.m.			7:45 p.m.	7:45 p.m.	7:45 p.m.
<b>Saturday Night in the Park</b> - Enjoy an evening program in the auditorium. For topics, inquire at the Kawuneeche Visitor Center. September 8 and October 6 only.	1 hour presentation	Kawuneeche Visitor Center Auditorium							7 p.m. 9/8 & 10/6

## Special Programs

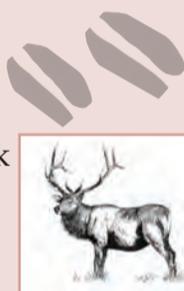
<b>Behind The Scenes</b> - Short videos documenting how the park addresses challenges like elk management, pine beetles, and bear safety. Daily in September, then October 6 and 8 only.	1 hour presentation	Kawuneeche Visitor Center Auditorium	3 p.m.						
<b>Skins and Things</b> - Examine the skins, skulls, antlers, teeth and bones of many park mammals. Daily in September, then October 6 and 7 only.	40 minutes	Kawuneeche Visitor Center	10 a.m.						

### Elk Day, Kawuneeche Visitor Center

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

Saturday, September 15 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 Kawuneeche Visitor Center with fun family activities to share. Please drop in!



## 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 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 Visitor Center Nature Trail
- Lily Lake
- Bear Lake Nature Trail (partially accessible)
- Alluvial Fan
- Forest Canyon Overlook Trail
- Tundra Communities Trail at Rock Cut

## 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 the park is using in the implementation of the 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, and Horseshoe Park areas. These enclosures are protecting important riparian willow and aspen habitat from elk browsing.



Elk enclosure fence