



# castlewood canyon state park

FY 07-08 PARK FACTS

## about the park

Castlewood Canyon State Park, located five miles south of Franktown on Highway 83 in eastern Douglas County, offers splendid opportunities for hiking, picnicking, rock climbing, sightseeing, photography and nature study. The park preserves 2,303 acres of the ecologically unique Black Forest region of Colorado. Visitors enjoy spectacular panoramic views of the Front Range from Pikes Peak to Longs Peak. Trails along Cherry Creek wind past the ruins of the Castlewood Dam, built around 1890. Exhibits and a slide show retell the dramatic events of August 3, 1933 when the dam broke and caused the second worst flood in Denver's history.

**total visitation, FY 07-08**  
(July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008)  
178,527

**county**  
Douglas

**congressional district**  
6

**state legislative districts**  
Senate 4  
House 45

**year became a state park**  
1964

**ownership**  
69% State Parks  
31% other

**land acres**  
2,621 acres

**water acres**  
0 acres

**elevation**  
6300'

## park inventory

**miles of road**  
paved 2.0  
unpaved 0.0

**miles of trails**  
hiking 14.5  
equestrian 1.0

**number of boat ramps**  
0

**number of campsites**  
0

**number of cabins/yurts**  
0

**number of picnic sites**  
55

**concessions at the park**  
none

**major buildings/structures**  
visitor center

group picnic area with three separate pavilions

Bridge Canyon Overlook viewing deck

Pike's Peak Amphitheater

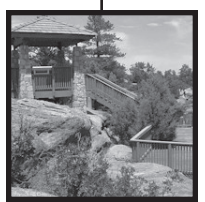


## top attractions

- Castlewood Canyon contains several popular rock-climbing areas that can be accessed from either side of the park.
- The Bridge Canyon Overlook and Pike's Peak Amphitheater are areas of spectacular beauty, and are often used for weddings and other special events.
- Castlewood Canyon offers a wide array of public interpretive programs and hikes on topics including nature photography, wildflowers, medicinal plants and area geology.
- A variety of trails passing through several diverse ecosystems showcasing both cultural and natural attractions.

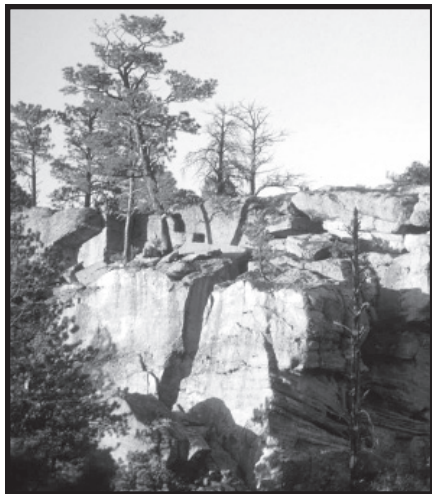
## contact information

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# challenges

- With their continuing popularity, the park visitor center, event facilities and trails are showing signs of age and wear. To continue to attract current and future park visitors, the following repairs and updates will need to be completed.
  - Renovation of visitor center interpretive displays to better teach park visitors, especially school children, the value and history of the park's resources and surrounding community.
  - Repairs and maintenance of the park event facilities to continue to attract large groups and special events.
- Replacement of foot bridges and water crossings at the Inner Canyon, Lake Gulch and Dam trails.  
Development of a sustainable trail system.



## ratios

**full-time staff to annual visitors**  
1:44,632

## partners

Friends of Castlewood Canyon

Park Volunteers

Balarat Outdoor Education Center –  
Denver Public Schools

Douglas County Parks and Open Space

## volunteer activity

Castlewood Canyon continues to recruit, train and maintain an outstanding volunteer corps. The park boasts more than 80 active volunteers who donate about 3,000 hours per year while leading school groups, facilitating public programs, performing "roving" patrol on the trails, greeting visitors in the visitor center, selling passes, building and maintaining more than 14 miles of trail, eradicating noxious weeds and many more invaluable services. The park also benefits from 5-15 Eagle Scout projects each year.

## vision statement for Colorado State Parks

*Colorado State Parks offer exceptional settings for renewal of the human spirit. Residents and visitors enjoy healthy, fun-filled interaction with the natural world, creating rich traditions with family and friends that promote stewardship of our natural resources. Park employees and their partners work together to provide ongoing and outstanding customer service through recreational programs, amenities and services.*

## budget and operations

### number of full-time employees

4.0

### number of temporary employees\*

10.0

*\*temporary employees are hired for periods up to six months in length*

### number of volunteers\*

240

### total volunteer hours contributed\*

8,448

*\*volunteer and volunteer hours figures are from calendar year 2007*

### total operating expenses

\$406,735

### capital construction expenses

\$6,466.12

### total revenue generated

\$278,443

## land acquisitions FY 07-08

none

