

## Major Area Parks

### City Parks

For more information, call the Colorado Springs Park and Recreation Department, 1401 Recreation Way, 385-5940, [www.springsgov.com](http://www.springsgov.com)

Available to city residents are 110 neighborhood, seven community and six regional parks. Additionally, there are five multi-use sport complexes.

**Acacia Park:** Downtown at Tejon and Bijou. Bandshell, shuffleboard, horse-shoes, playground, picnicking.

**Cottonwood Creek Park:** Dublin and Rangewood. Recreation center with indoor pool, baseball fields, in-line hockey, basketball, tennis, disc golf course, jogging trail.

**Garden of the Gods:** 30th St. and Gateway Rd. Shear red rocks and pillars. New visitors center with exhibits on flora and fauna and American Indian history. Coffee and gift shops, picnicking, naturalist-led walks, tram tour (fee).

**Memorial Park:** Pikes Peak and Hancock Ave. Prospect Lake swimming and boating, Sertich Ice Center, aquatics and fitness center, sports office. Olympic velodrome. Ball fields, tennis courts, jogging trail, playgrounds, bike path, picnicking. Firefighters and Veterans Memorials.

**Monument Valley Park:** Monroe St. to Kiowa St. along Monument Creek. Fishing, ball fields, outdoor swimming pool picnicking, playgrounds, tennis courts, trails, demonstration gardens.

**Palmer Park:** Academy Blvd. and Maizeland Rd. Natural area of trees and craggy rock formations. Ball fields, volleyball courts, stables, trails, scenic overlook, picnicking, Seven Castles geological point of interest.

**Quail Lake Park:** Cheyenne Mountain Blvd. and Quail Lake Rd. Non-motorized boating, fishing, jogging trail, playground, volleyball courts, sledding, picnicking.

**Red Rock Canyon:** Colorado Springs' newest park, contains 789 acres and borders the city's western boundary. The park's most prominent features are huge, jagged red sandstone formations. Trails and picnic areas are yet to be developed.

### El Paso County Parks

For more information, 2002 Creek Crossing, Colorado Springs 80906 (719) 520-6375 during office hours Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. [www.elpaso.com/parks](http://www.elpaso.com/parks)

**Bear Creek:** 21st at West Rio Grande Ave. Located in the Rocky Mountain foothills, there are ten miles of trails, ball fields, tennis courts, picnic areas and horseback riding. The Bear Creek Nature Center is within the park.

**Bear Creek Trailhead** extends along Bear Creek through the park and connects to the Paul Imemann Trail to Manitou Springs.

**Black Forest Park:** Derives its name from the 200 square miles of Ponderosa pine it is located in. Located at Shoup and Milam Road it holds playing fields, tennis courts and hiking trails.

**Fox Run:** Rollercoaster Road at Stella Drive. A thickly forested winter wonderland, perfect for snowshoeing and cross-country skiing. Ball fields, horseshoes, trails and ponds as well.

**Fountain Creek Park:** Along Fountain Creek between Widefield and Fountain. Located within a floodplain, it is home to water fowl, aquatic animals and 230 species of birds. Nature center.

**Fountain Creek Regional Trail** follows Fountain Creek for 10.5 miles and is great for hiking, biking and horseback riding.

**Homestead Ranch** was an original homestead site. Its topography is diverse, including Rattlesnake Butte which allows visitors vistas of the Front Range and Sange de Cristo mountains.

**New Santa Fe Trail**, located between Palmer Lake and Baptist Road, is 15 miles long and drops 1,200 feet in elevation. Great for hiking and biking with magnificent vistas.

**Paint Mines Interpretive Park**, located southwest of Calhan on Paint Mine Road. Geological formations include spires and hoodoos in colorful clay. The mines have evidence of human life as far back as 9,000 years. Four miles of trails and interpretive signage.



Quarry facings from mining days in Red Rock Canyon

PHOTO COURTESY FLOYD O'NEIL PHOTOGRAPHY STUDIO

**Palmer Lake Recreation Area:** Located at Hwy. 105 and County Line Road at the foot of the Ben Lomand Mountain. It is a favorite for fishing and birding with wide open views.

**Rock Island Trail** follows an abandoned railway line. The nine miles of gravel surface makes it a safe passage for non-motorized use.

**Widefield Park Disc Golf Course** is home of many state championships. The course can play from 4,944 to 7,908 feet. A brook runs down the center for a little excitement. Fontaine Blvd. at Drury Lane.

### Teller County Parks

For more information call 686-7955 or visit [www.co.teller.co.us/parks](http://www.co.teller.co.us/parks)

**American Eagles Overlook:** Starts in Victor at 3rd and Diamond, winding its way through the remains of a ghost town with wide open vistas, the road ends at a blacksmith shop and "shifters" shack giving a glimpse of gold mining history.

**Florissant Community Park:** 358 Circle Drive (off Hwy. 24) in Florissant. Ten acres of fun including basketball court, play lot, ballfield, picnic area and home of the new library.

**Four Mile Scenic Park:** In Florissant, on the Gold Belt National Byway, at the junction of Teller County Road #1 and Road #11. A pedestrian bridge over historic Hay Creek has over 50 brands memorialized in it from area ranches. Almost seven acres in size, the land is dedicated to agricultural and graphic interpretation.

**Hayden Divide Community Park:** Located at the junction of Hwy. 24 and 67, the perfect place for baseball or softball, play lots, concession stand, picnic area on 12.5 acre site.

**Sunnywood Neighborhood Park:** North of Woodland Park on Lovell Gulch Road. This four acre play area includes a t-ball field, volleyball and basketball courts, play lot and picnic area.

**Teller County Fairgrounds:** Located on Teller County Road #1 in Cripple Creek. Home of the Fair it has an arena, RV hook-ups, equestrian barn, pavilion, kitchen and picnic area.

### State Parks

For more information please call specific park or go to [www.parks.state.co.us](http://www.parks.state.co.us).

**J. L. Ranch (Cheyenne Mountain State Park):** Located along Hwy. 115 across from Fort Carson, it has 1,680 acres of breathtaking views of the Front Range. Phase one is slated to open Fall 2006 and, eventually, the park will have 18 miles of trails, a 1.5 mile mountain bike trail, campgrounds and picnic areas. Check the website periodically for updates.

**Lake Pueblo State Park:** I-25 to Pueblo, then U.S. Hwy. 50 west four miles, 640 Reservoir Rd., 561-9320. A spectacular water sport reservoir with 9,600 acres and 60 miles of shoreline. Two marinas, on-site fish hatchery, campsites and miles of trails.

**Mueller State Park:** In Divide off U.S. Hwy. 24, 687-2366. With approximately 5,000 acres and 55 miles of hiking/biking/horseback riding trails, this park offers wildlife viewing, new cabins and a wide variety of outdoor activities.

### National Park

For more information visit [www.fs.fed.us](http://www.fs.fed.us).

**Pike National Forest:** Comprised of 1,105,704 acres along the Front Range and Mosquito Mountains. It is the home of Pikes Peak, Barr National Recreation Trail, Manitou Park, Rampart Reservoir, Gold Camp Road and much more!