

onsidered one of the "crown jewels" in Colorado's extensive state park system, Cheyenne Mountain State Park is the result of strong partnerships and years of thoughtful planning. Acquired in June 2000 through a partnership between the City of Colorado

Springs, Colorado State Parks, Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO), Colorado Lottery, El Paso County and other local private organizations, the park represents the protection of one of the last significant open spaces along the southern section of the Colorado Front Range.

Formerly the JL Ranch, the park is situated just south of Colorado Springs. The 1,680 acre park lies beneath the eastern flank of Cheyenne Mountain, and border the plains of Colorado in a stunning transition from plains to peaks. The land is in remarkable natural condition and diverse wildlife viewing opportunities abound due to the property's relatively undisturbed and unfragmented nature.

Opened in October 2006 as the only state park in El Paso County, Cheyenne Mountain offers superior facilities and recreational opportunities. Foremost among the park's offerings is the trail system consisting of 20 miles of hiking and biking trails. These pathways allow visitors ample opportunities to explore the park's natural beauty. Along with great trails, the park offers a Visitor Center with gift shop and interpretive displays, picnicking, wildlife viewing, and will soon offer camping, group picnicking, as well as full-service cabins and a first-class Event Center.

## VISITOR CENTER AND GIFT SHOP

At our Visitor Center, learn more about the park's diverse natural resources with engaging displays and hands-on activities for kids or just relax on the couch while enjoying the amazing view. The Visitor Center is also home to "The Trail's End" the park's book and gift shop filled with books inspired by Colorado, distinctive gift items for all ages, as well as custom Cheyenne Mountain State Park clothing and mementos.

# REGULATIONS

Cheyenne Mountain State Park is managed and maintained for your enjoyment and for the protection of the park's natural resources. Please observe the following rules for the safety and enjoyment of all park visitors.

- At this time, the park is open for day-use only. No camping is allowed.
- All open fires must be contained within grills or the metal fire rings provided.
- Smoking is not allowed on the trails or in the backcountry.
- Pets are not allowed on the trails
- Pets are allowed in the developed areas (i.e. parking lots and picnic sites) and must be leashed at all times.
- Equestrian use is not allowed in the park.
- No climbing or rappelling on rock formations.
- · Vehicles must remain on designated roads and parking areas.
- Tree cutting or wood gathering is not permitted.
- Place trash and litter in proper receptacles.
- No hunting is allowed in the park.

All visitors entering the park are required to display a current Colorado State Parks Pass on their vehicle windshield. A daily pass is valid from the day purchased until noon the following day. An annual pass is good at any Colorado State Park for the calendar year. Annual pass holders with additional vehicles may purchase multiple passes at a reduced fee. Passes are sold at the Visitor Center and park entrance. A Self-service pass dispenser is available at the entrance when the stations are closed.

Colorado disabled veterans displaying Colorado Disabled Veteran (DV) license plates are admitted free without a pass. Colorado seniors, 64 years or age or older, qualify for the Aspen Leaf annual pass available at a discounted rate.

# FIRST AID/EMERGENCIES

Park rangers are trained and equipped to provide minor first aid. In an emergency, go to the Visitor Center, entrance station, or dial 911 on any phone.



The highlight of any visit is the park's 20 miles of trails. Open to hiking and biking, visitors have 16 trails to choose from. Visitors can wander through grasslands filled with prairie dogs, or explore the pines and try to catch a glimpse of an elk. Dogs and horses are not permitted on the trails. Please see the map in this brochure for more information.

#### PICNICKING

Nestled within scrub oak and along a meandering trail, the park's 41 day-use picnic sites offer great views for family and friends enjoying a day at the park. A table and grill are provided at each site and they are available year-round on a first-come, firstserve basis.

### WILDLIFE

Wildlife abounds in Cheyenne Mountain State Park. Deer, elk, black bear, cougar, as well as coyote, fox, and prairie dogs are just some of the animals that call the park home. A wide variety of birds can also be found, including red-tail hawks, golden eagles, and wild turkey. Find out more about Colorado's wildlife from the Division of Wildlife at www.wildlife.state.co.us.

## **NATURE STUDY**

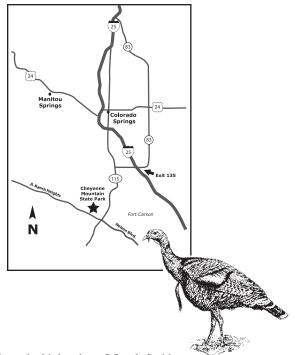
The park is an excellent outdoor classroom. Evening programs and nature hikes are available weekly during the spring and summer months and periodically in the fall and winter. Park naturalists enjoy presenting programs or leading groups along the trails, exploring and sharing the wonders of nature. Program announcements are located at the Visitor Center and entrance station as well as posted on the park's event calendar at www.parks.state.co.us.

# FRIEND'S GROUP

"We get by with a little help from our friends..."

The Friends of Cheyenne Mountain State Park is a non-profit group that serves to protect, enhance, and preserve the natural state and spectacular beauty of the park. Their dedication to helping staff promote and improve the park, and its recreational and educational opportunities means a better park experience for every visitor.

If you would like to join the Friends and play an important part in Colorado's newest state park, pick up an application at the Visitor Center or visit the Friends at: www.cmspfriends.org.



All photos in this brochure @Quade Smith.



Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, D.C. 20013-7127.

Cheyenne Mountain State Park 410 JL Ranch Heights Colorado Springs, CO 80926 719-227-5250

For current information on all of your Colorado State Parks visit us online at www.parks.state.co.us.

Any person who is excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program of the Colorado Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation on the grounds of race, creed, color, sex, age, handicap, or national origin, should contact the park manager, the nearest local regional office, the Division headquarters in Denver, Colorado - telephone (303) 866-3437 - or the National Park

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### AREA ATTRACTIONS

Colorado Springs has a rich natural and cultural history, and Cheyenne Mountain State Park is the perfect place to kick off your Pikes Peak region adventure. Area Attractions from the Garden of the Gods, to a ride up "America's Peak" on the cog are just a few must-see activities in the area. Find out more at www.experiencecoloradosprings.com.

### **FUTURE PLANS**

Many years of planning went into Cheyenne Mountain State Park and it is still a work in progress. Over the next few years, new and exciting facilities are planned. Here is an overview of what is coming:

- 51 full hook-up sites and 10 walk-in basic sites, as well as a camper services building with showers, laundry facilities, playground, a small retail store, and activity room.
- Group Picnic area that will accommodate groups up to 200 with a covered pavilion, large grills, restroom facilities, as well as a playground and volleyball court.
- Distinctive full-service cabins ranging up to four bedrooms will accommodate groups of many sizes. Additionally, the Lodge will provide space for meetings, reunions, and smaller gatherings.
- The Event Center, with a dramatic overlook, will provide a first-rate facility, including a full-catering kitchen for weddings, banquets, conferences, and groups up to 250 people. A nearby path leads to an outdoor wedding site that features stunning views.



