

# Check Out Colorado State Parks 2019

Check Out Colorado State Parks ([cpw.state.co.us/librarybackpack](http://cpw.state.co.us/librarybackpack)), the result of a partnership between Colorado Parks and Wildlife and the Colorado State Library, provides 297 Colorado libraries with two park passes and adventure backpacks filled with information and educational activities. Patrons of participating public, military, and academic libraries can check out a backpack for a week at a time to visit state parks for free. In 2019, 371 patrons completed a survey about their experience with the program:

Based on their experience with Check Out Colorado State Parks, patrons are likely to:

Recommend a visit to a state park (99%). Buy a day pass to visit a state park (79%). Buy an annual pass to state parks (57%).

Patrons learned about nature, state parks, and libraries.

86% of patrons agreed to the statement, "This park experience helped us learn more about nature."

94% of patrons agreed to the statement, "The Check Out Colorado State Parks program changed my view about what libraries have to offer."

Stories from patrons and libraries:

"We are seniors on a fixed income. This pass was wonderful to allow us to visit this park and its trails! Thanks! A great experience. Thanks for contributing to us in a special way!"

"We purchased a pass!"

"Castlewood Canyon State Park is a place we've always driven past and wondered about. We were so glad to finally explore it, and hope to go back."

"Up close viewing of turkey vultures at Castlewood Canyon was a first & an amazing experience for my daughter and I."

"Tiger salamander larvae are fascinating! The lost pond in Mueller State Park was full of them and we spent a long time watching them. They are such interesting looking creatures and none of us had ever seen anything like them in the wild before."

"We learned things about the bald and golden eagles we did not know. We appreciated the opportunity to access our State Parks via the SP Backpack Program and had no idea this

existed through the library system. Thank you!"

There were approximately 7,692 backpack checkouts in one year. That's 148 checkouts per week!

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