

# Naturalist Notes



## MISSION

*El Paso County Parks Nature Centers connect people to their natural and cultural resources and inspire them to become stewards for the parks and our environment.*



Friends  
of El Paso County  
Nature Centers  
Baldy Creek  
Fountain Creek

Volunteer Highlight	2
Winter Poetry	3
Volunteer Corner	3
2024 Donors	4
Partners in the Park, Sponsors & Allies	5
2024 Annual Snapshot	6-7
Meet the Interns!	8
Recreation Updates	9
Fox Run Nature Center	9
Nature Camper Profile	10
FC Happenings	11
BC Sightings	11
Upcoming Programs	12



## In Search of the Why

*by Brenda McCreight, Interpretive Program Coordinator, BCNC*

We built the Visually Impaired Person Trail and recorded signs inside the Exhibit Hall in hopes that people who were blind or had limited vision would be able to better access what we provide. But I can count on two hands the number of people who've checked out our Pen Friend audio devices. It's a lot of work to maintain the signs and recordings and sometimes I don't see the value.

Until...

A boy arrives at the Exhibit Room with his mom and homeschooling group. He stands to one side alone as if he's trying to figure out how to begin. Then, I realize he's blind and can't access our exhibits well. I approach his mom with our Pen Friend, and after a quick introduction, my new friend grabs it. His head cocks to one side as he listens intently to each reading, touches the artifacts, and discusses with me and his mom what he already knows and what he's learning. After a half hour or more, his mom says it's time to go. He thanks me and I thank him for the fun time.

And suddenly, all the work is worth it. 🐾



*Almost two years ago, students from the Colorado School for the Deaf & Blind test the Pen Friend.*



*The Pen Friend is a device that helps visitors hear information in the Bear Creek Exhibit Room and along the Songbird Trail. It is FREE to borrow.*



**Pikes Peak Birding and Nature Festival**

**May 15 - 18, 2025**

**Registration Opens March 22**

[pikespeakbirdingandnaturefestival.org](http://pikespeakbirdingandnaturefestival.org)

## EXECUTIVE BOARD

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Nature Centers*

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### Bear Creek Nature Center

245 Bear Creek Road  
Colorado Springs, CO 80906  
719-520-6387

### Fountain Creek Nature Center

320 Pepper Grass Lane  
Fountain, CO 80817  
719-520-6745

Editor: Jessica Miller

[elpasocountynaturecenters.com](http://elpasocountynaturecenters.com)



## Volunteer Highlight: Sally Ziegler!

*by Kelly Ann Blanchard, Volunteer Coordinator*

Seeking a volunteer who will dress up as any animal you need? Look no further than Sally Ziegler!



*Bear with her: Sally promotes the Bear Run at Fossil Craft Brewing.*

Since 2022, Sally has proficiently volunteered at the desk and on field trips but also fills unique roles within our organization. When we needed an Easter Bunny mascot, Sally jumped at the chance. Soon after, she eagerly donned a bear suit as part of the planning committee for our annual Bear Run, a 5K race involving all things bear!

Before joining our ranks, Sally was an early childhood teacher for more than 30 years. Now, she is a part-time substitute teacher for the Colorado School for the Deaf and the Blind. She looks forward to more involvement with our diversity programs, such as the Trailability program and VIP (Visually Impaired Persons) trail. Sally was raised in New York, but grew up in Colorado. She has been with her long-time partner, Tony, for 29 years. They have one yellow lab named Timbre ("which means doorbell in Spanish!" says Sally) and one betta fish named Pretty Boy Floyd. Her favorite place to travel is Tony's place near Hartsel, CO. "The sky is so big and



*We've found Sally to be somebunny very helpful for events and education!*

Thank you, Sally, for all you do! 🐾



*Above: Sally can often be found helping at Bear Creek Nature Center.*

*Below: Sally represented our Trailability Program at last summer's Fest-ABLE event at the Independence Center.*



the mountains are always changing. The natural beauty takes my breath away," Sally said. While Sally enjoys connecting with children and families, her favorite part about volunteering at the nature centers is interacting with the staff. "The positive energy in and around the nature center is tangible," said Sally. "This role has helped me become more deeply involved in my community and grateful for all of the natural beauty in my backyard."





## Winter Poetry Corner

by Andy Talley, Interpretive Program Coordinator, Fountain Creek Nature Center

When snow blankets the landscape, the quietness helps us observe and admire, think and reflect. Cold, silent days inspired Andy's haiku and limerick. What words might nature inspire you to share? 🐦



### Hoarfrost

Sparkling in the mist  
Branches glisten with the sun  
A hoarfrost morning



### Winter Bees

Bees don't think that winter is funny  
They prefer when it's warm and it's sunny  
So they hide in their hive  
To stay warm and alive  
They all cuddle up with their honey



## Volunteer Corner

by Kelly Ann Blanchard, Volunteer Coordinator

Our volunteers are top notch! Special shoutout to our newest volunteers: **Julia Tomsen** and **Annette Megneys**. Welcome to the team!



Frank and Geta untangle and hand out light necklaces.

**January Jubilee:** On a cold day in January, 10 volunteers and 7 staff gathered at Bear Creek Nature Center to kick back, relax, and enjoy a hot lunch. Staff brought homemade soups made with love and volunteers provided sides and dessert. The highlight was playing bird trivia and bingo after lunch. Looking forward to next year!

**Annual Volunteer Recognition Dinner:** Our annual Volunteer Recognition Dinner is coming up on Tuesday, March 25, 2025, from 5:00-7:30 p.m. at Fountain Creek Nature Center. We love treating our volunteers to a catered dinner, live music, and an awards presentation highlighting all of their achievements in 2024.

**Become a Volunteer** – Interested in joining our volunteer team with El Paso County Nature Centers? Please contact the Volunteer Coordinator, Kelly Ann Blanchard, at [bfcvolunteers@gmail.com](mailto:bfcvolunteers@gmail.com).

**Bear Creek by Candlelight:** Thank you to the MANY volunteers that helped at this annual event. Enjoy these pictures of our helpful elves! 🐾



Judy F., Lynn, and Patty turn on hundreds of lights for luminaries.



Francine and Judy G. help kids make crafts with pinecones.



Volunteer band Peppergrass serenaded us with festive tunes.

## Thank you to our 2024 Donors

### **Steward: \$1,000 - \$5,000+**

Anonymous  
Betty & Bob Odello  
Frank Megorden  
*in memory of Paula Megorden*  
Glendyne Wergland  
*in Memory of Paula Megorden*

### **Champion: \$500 - \$999**

Sandy & Bobby Lewis  
Anonymous  
The J&R Group  
Theresa Odello  
Jim Mariner  
*in Memory of Anne Mariner*  
The Family of Paula Megorden  
*in Memory of Paula Megorden*  
Anonymous

### **Guardian: \$250 - \$499**

Anonymous  
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Damon Winters & Jane Zook  
Lynn Wilson  
Melissa Walker  
Todd & Jeannie Marts  
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Art & Jennifer Hofmeister  
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Michael & Carol Collins  
Savannah Bryant  
Nancy Bernard & Sue Wilson  
*in Memory of Rex Miller*  
Katherine Bassein  
*in Memory of Beth Ann Bassein*

### **Advocate: \$51 - \$99**

Lisa Post  
Belkys Cintron  
Eileen Somers  
Rick & Donna Flores  
*on behalf of the Peppergrass Band*  
Patty Nyquist-Heise  
Theron Jeppson  
Richard Sebastian-Coleman

### **Friend: \$1 - \$50**

Jessica Waters  
Carol Vogan  
Adam & Shelby Powell  
Margie Pavri  
Holly Niewinski  
Estella Montoya  
Don & Barb Meyer  
Pat Grove  
Anonymous  
*in Memory of Grant Gordon*  
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Barbara Bowen  
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Judy Rogers  
Anonymous  
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Anonymous  
*in Honor of Eileen Sommers*  
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Eli Wright  
Orianna Scheer  
Chris Marne  
Wendy Howell  
Elizabeth Gagnon  
Anonymous  
Ariana Stiles  
Jennifer Shipman  
Judith Kilgore

## Partners in the Parks

**Partners in the Parks** was created fourteen years ago to provide financial support for El Paso County Parks, Trails, Open Spaces, and Nature Centers. Partners donate a gift of **\$5,000 annually** for three years to provide essential operating and maintenance support.

Contact Dana Nordstrom at [dananordstrom@elpasoco.com](mailto:dananordstrom@elpasoco.com) to become a partner.

### *Partners in the Parks for Bear Creek Nature Center*

Gold Hill Mesa

The Scott Lauther Foundation



### *Partner in the Parks for*

*Fountain Creek Nature Center*

Olson Plumbing & Heating Co.



## Program Sponsors and Allies

719 Kindness Rocks  
Adventures Out West  
Aiken Audubon Society  
Amazon  
Animal ER Care  
ASEZ WAO  
Archery School of the Rockies  
Bear Creek Garden Association  
Bear Creek Senior Living  
Bird Conservancy of the Rockies  
Broadmoor Garden Club  
Black Bear Diner  
Boy Scout Troop 71  
Boy Scout Troop 220  
Scout Troop 1268  
Boy Scout Cub Pack 24  
Bricks & Minifigs North  
Buffalo Gals/ Picnic Basket  
Cheyenne Mountain Zoo  
Cerberus  
City of Colorado Springs  
Color Me Mine - Colorado Springs  
Colorado Field Ornithologists  
Colorado Parks and Wildlife  
Colorado Springs Pioneers Museum  
Colorado Springs Astronomical Society  
Colorado Springs School  
Colorado Springs Utilities Volunteers  
Colorado Springs Visitors Bureau  
Cool Science  
Corral Bluffs Alliance  
Criterium Bike Shop  
Cronk Art & Curiosities  
CSU Extension  
Denver Butterfly Pavilion

Earthwise Pet Supply  
El Paso County  
El Paso County Search and Rescue  
El Pomar Foundation  
Elevate Wheel Company  
Fancy Ass Pet Photography  
Fossil Craft Beer Company  
Food to Power  
Fountain Creek Watershed District  
Fountain Farmers 4-H Club  
Fountain Valley School  
Friends of El Paso County Nature Centers  
Furry Friends  
Garden of the Gods  
Girl Scouts of Colorado  
Glen Eyrie  
Gold Hill Mesa  
Harding Nursery  
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Jack Quinn's  
Kids on Bikes/ Pedal Station  
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Manitou Strings  
Mary's Mountain Cookies  
Medicine Wheel Trail Advocates  
Milberger Farms, Pueblo  
MTB with Stacy  
Monarch Larva Monitoring Project  
Mountain Equipment Recyclers  
Mountain View Electric Association  
Native Plant Masters  
Nature & Wildlife Discovery Center  
Nothing Bundt Cakes

OCC Brewery  
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Paninos  
Papa Murphy's Pizza, Fountain, CO  
Patsy's Candy  
Peaceful Warriors Yoga  
Pet Pantry  
Phantom Canyon Brewing Company  
Pikes Peak Library District  
Pikes Peak Beekeeping Association  
Pikes Peak State College  
Pikes Peak Jazz & Swing Society  
Pikes Peak State College  
Pikes Peak Trout Unlimited  
Procyling  
Ranchlands at Chico Basin Ranch  
R.M. Dinosaur Resource Center  
Rock Ledge Ranch  
Scott Lauther Foundation  
Sovereignty Wines  
Sugarplum Cake Shoppe  
Sunbelt Rentals  
The Honey Cottage  
Texas Roadhouse  
The Pet Gal  
The Independence Center  
The J & R Group  
The Nature Conservancy  
Toyota  
University of Colorado, Colorado Springs  
UpaDowna  
Vanguard Skin Specialists  
Wild Birds Unlimited  
Wimberger's Old World Bakery  
YMCA of the Pikes Peak Region

## Thank You!





# El Paso County Nature Centers 2024 SNAPSHOT

*Our mission is to connect people to their natural and cultural resources and inspire them to become stewards of our parks and the environment.*



## Impact by the Numbers:

- 1061 Nature Center & Recreation Programs
  - 33,853 Participants
- 4,762 Volunteer Hours
  - Valued at \$159,479\*
  - \*Based on national average \$33.29/hr
- 414 Environmental Ed. Field Trips
  - 6,721 Students Reached
- 16 Nature Camps
  - 385 Campers
- 82 Trailability Program Participants
- 47,787 Non-Program Visitor Contacts
- 4.9 Average rating out of 5.0
- Staff and Volunteers
  - 6 Full Time Staff
  - 2 Part Time Staff
  - 4 Seasonal Staff
  - 80 Volunteer Naturalists

## Accomplishments & Updates

In 2024, El Paso County Nature Centers achieved remarkable milestones! At Bear Creek, we updated and designed new signage, launched a trail camera project, and celebrated the impactful work of the Bear Creek Restoration Crew. Fountain Creek Nature Center saw a rise in teen and adult volunteers, created new field guides, and completed an ADA-accessible ramp entrance. Both centers improved online registration for memberships, making it easier for the community to join and support us. Our Trailability program grew significantly, with more participants and donations, while invasive plant removal efforts enhanced the habitat behind Fountain Creek.

The Bear Run continued its tradition of success, and our centers were honored with awards from the Gazette, VCOS, and TOSC. Staff completed extensive training to better serve the public, ensuring another year of excellence in 2025!



[elpasocountynaturecenters.com](http://elpasocountynaturecenters.com)



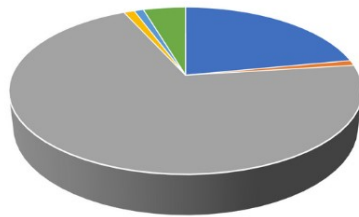
# INNOVATIVE NEW PROGRAMS

- Partner Appreciation Event
- Puppet Theater Matinee
- Coats of a Different Color
- Some Flew Away but Whooo Stayed?
- Accessibility Day
- Women's Outdoor Survival
- A Bug's Life in Winter
- Dragonflies & Damselflies
- Mapping our Site Sensory Hike
- Reptile Baby Shower
- TREEmendous
- Eclipse Talk and Solar Viewing
- Organic Vegetable Gardening
- Surfin' the Food Web

- Terrific Tarantulas
- Stroll(er) Hike
- Wildlife Detectives
- Prehistoric Predators
- Volunteer Potluck
- Rad Reptiles
- Baby Names in Nature
- Nature Math
- Clever Coyote
- Rascally Raccoons
- Lucky Ladybugs
- Who Gives a Hoot?
- Bugs & Beasts
- Ants in Action

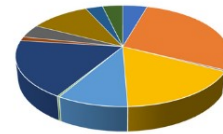
## FINANCIAL REPORT

Revenue \$262,327



- Contributions \$59,058
- Program Fees \$188,491
- Interest \$2,763
- Memberships \$2,718
- Refunds (\$3,107)
- Merchandise Sales \$12,403

Expenses \$180,480



- Equipment/Supplies \$7,942
- Fox Run Nature Center \$803
- Marketing \$16,308
- Admin \$32,999
- Training / Memberships \$7,740
- Exhibits/Displays \$5,602
- Educational Programs \$50,385
- Park & Nature Center Support \$30,000
- Books & Subscriptions \$517
- Insurance \$2,311
- Volunteer Program \$19,299
- Merchandise Purchases \$6,573

## 2024 Awards Received

- Achievement Award in Universal Accessibility (VIP Trail) from National Association of County Park & Recreation Officials
- Excellence in Inclusion Award from Visit Colorado Springs
- Trail Inclusivity Champion Award from Trails and Open Space Coalition

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EL PASO COUNTY  
COLORADO



BEAR CREEK



FOX RUN



FOUNTAIN CREEK

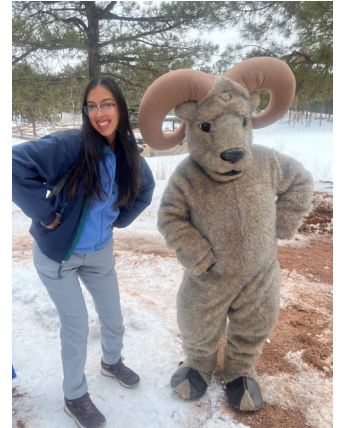




## Bear Creek Nature Center Spring Interns

by Kylee Taylor, Bear Creek Nature Center

Cierra is interning at BCNC this semester! She is a full-time student at Pikes Peak State College where she studies zoo keeping technology and is also employed full-time as a pediatric dental assistant. She will be graduating this May and upon graduation, she plans on returning to school to get her bachelor's degree in biology to be even better prepared for her future career. Once all her schooling is complete, her ideal career would be in conservation, such as an animal sanctuary, or an animal dentist. Her job as a dental assistant has created a new passion for dentistry so combining her love for animals and dentistry is an easy fit. We can't wait to see Cierra's personable nature blossom at all our programs and events this spring! 🐾



Hello! My name is Kamryn, and I will be interning at Bear Creek Nature Center for the spring semester. I am currently studying zoology at Pikes Peak State College and should hopefully graduate soon. My main goal with this degree is to help bridge the gap between people and the wildlife around us, as well as inspire others to take an interest in helping protect the planet. Some things I enjoy doing in my free time are crafting, playing video games, watching tv, and exploring new restaurants. My favorite animal is a tiger, and I really like the color purple. I am excited to spend the next few months learning and teaching alongside you, and your kids. Adventure awaits, see you soon! 🐾



## The First of Two Spring Interns at Fountain Creek Nature Center

by Victoria Dinkel, Fountain Creek Nature Center

Emily landed in Colorado in 2018 after living in Washington D.C., California, and Germany, where she was born. She joins the Fountain Creek Nature Center team this spring as an intern from Pikes Peak State College's Zoology program. Emily recalls her favorite animal being fish from an early age, a love that was fostered with frequent trips to the aquarium with her mom. After graduation, she hopes to find a career at the intersection of education and nature –



something she'll have great experience with once her internship is over!

In Emily's free time, she likes to create art by drawing, sewing, dabbling in animation, and creating faux taxidermy. Using felt, embroidery, vinyl, and sometimes fake cat whiskers, Emily creates beautiful insect replicas like the one shown to the left. During her time at Fountain Creek, Emily is looking forward to developing her skills as an educator and working on outdoor projects. 🐦





## Recreation Services Updates by Ryan Dorough, Recreation Program Specialist

*“To appreciate the beauty of a snowflake, it is necessary to stand out in the cold.” — Aristotle*

With the holidays behind us and a fresh year ahead, it's the perfect time to embrace new outdoor experiences in the County! Whether you're sharpening outdoor skills, capturing breathtaking landscapes, or simply enjoying the changing seasons, there's something for everyone.

After the success of our summer and fall programs, we're excited to partner again with Femme Trek for a winter/spring Cold Weather Hiking Essentials and Outdoor Skills workshop at Fox Run Regional Park on March 1st. Early March brings some of the snowiest days, making it ideal for learning winter hiking techniques. This hands-on session covers layering for warmth, fire and shelter building, and navigating snowy trails with microspikes. If conditions allow, participants can try snowshoeing while enjoying fresh hot cocoa.

Photography enthusiasts can capture Rainbow Falls this winter. Viewings return on two Saturdays in February, with a more private experience available at the Rainbow Falls Photography Workshops on March 8, led by 3Peaks Photography. Whether photographing ice formations, vibrant morning rainbows, or mastering long exposure, each program offers a unique way to experience this historic site. Stay tuned for more recreation updates! 🐾



*This photograph of Rainbow Falls taken by Charles Weitfle in the mid-1800s is a testament to the fall's popularity through history. Think you can take a better photo?*



## Fox Run Nature Center: Recreational Integrity

*by Theresa Odello & Jessica Miller*

We are nearing 90% completion of the Fox Run Nature Center design! As we wait on a timeline for construction, we are seeking support in the form of grants, signatures, and letters. Learn more at [www.tdg-frnc.com](http://www.tdg-frnc.com).

The development of the following five goals, which we're calling **Recreational Integrity**, will guide the design of programming and services offered at the Fox Run Nature Center.

- Design elements will ensure that the facility and surrounding grounds are **accessible to a diverse audience** including those with disabilities.
- Strive to ensure that its staff, volunteers, visitors, participants, and all others involved with the organization **reflect the community** we serve.
- Work consistently to promote universal access to facilities, programs, and other opportunities, by actively **inviting, engaging, and collaborating** with people from all walks of life.
- Will celebrate and recognize the unique contributions of all people and provide opportunities for shared **learning, growth, and understanding**.
- **Protect our natural and cultural resources** that tell our history and promote a more sustainable future. 🦋



*The Fox Run Nature Center will be a hub for the community to connect to our natural resources.*



## Nature Camper Profile

by Kylee Taylor, Interpretive Program Specialist, Bear Creek Nature Center

Name: Violet George  
Age & Grade: 9yo, 4<sup>th</sup> grade  
Years in Nature Camp: 2 (5 camps)

In need of a relaxing mud spa at Bear Creek? Violet has you covered! "It's freezing cold in the creek. I like to get dirty but only if I can wash it off or change my clothes." Violet has been nature camper at Bear Creek's summer camps for two summers and by now, is an old hat; guiding younger campers (including her brother!) through the ins and outs of camp. Her advice for new campers? "It's really fun! We learn about the water cycle



*Violet's not afraid to get messy and make memories with other nature campers in the creek!*



*Violet was invited to be a Happy Trails Ambassador!*

and wildlife here. My brother even likes it, and he really likes playing video games." While at camp, Violet has learned a lot. Notably, she's able to identify many of the plants around the park, including the mountain mahogany and its seeds amazing adaptations in our otherwise dry climate. Violet noted that she also loves going on long hikes, catching creek critters, and building forts at camp. She was invited to share her knowledge and stewardship ethos as a camp ambassador at the annual Happy Trails fundraiser in August of 2024. She said that being a camp ambassador was her biggest challenge conquered at camp, "Talking in front of people and being asked questions I didn't know made me really nervous but, in the end, I had a lot of fun sharing the skunk pelt with the guests." This summer, Violet is looking forward to just being outside, playing games, and seeing her camp friends again. 🐾

### TEEN VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Build leadership skills, spend days outside, and help connect kids to nature by helping us with Summer Nature Camps!

Volunteer opportunities continue year-round.

Applications, interviews, and training required.

**Fountain Creek Nature Center**  
Jessica Miller, Supervisor  
jessicamiller@elpasoco.com

**Bear Creek Nature Center**  
Mary Jo Lewis, Supervisor  
maryjolewis@elpasoco.com

Apply by May 10, 2025



### Rick's Cartoon



Turtle Mom's brumation blues

*Rick Flores is a nature center volunteer who keeps us laughing with his nature observations.*





## Fountain Creek Happenings

by Victoria Dinkel, Interpretive Program Specialist, Fountain Creek Nature Center

Creativity abounds at El Paso County Nature Centers year-round! Having a personal passion for the arts, I've been striving to incorporate more artistic programming into our schedule. Annually, we offer the Holiday Craft & Vendor



*A participant paints a clay bird to keep.*

Fair which supports local creatives, and the Rotating Art Exhibit has been a success since its inception in 2023. In 2024 we also hosted a pottery painting program, a butterfly pinning workshop, photography classes, and our very first art sale at the Happy Trails Fundraising Dinner.

As we jump into 2025, I'll be continuing the Rotating Art Exhibit and have an exciting line-up of local artists already – make sure to visit each month to see the new pieces! I'll also be launching a sticker design contest in March so each center can have their own, *highly requested*, stickers for sale (more details will be available on our website and social media). In addition to visual arts, we'll be dipping into the literary arts with the first edition of Andy's Poetry Corner in this issue, and more programming as the year goes on.

Interested in the Rotating Art Exhibit or other art-related opportunities? Contact me at [victoriadinkel2@elpasoco.com](mailto:victoriadinkel2@elpasoco.com)! 🐦



*This artist delicately maneuvers a butterfly's wings for display*



*Right: Victoria's Rotating Art Exhibit is updated monthly with local nature art to admire and purchase.*



## Bear Creek Sightings

by Kylee Taylor, Interpretive Program Specialist, Bear Creek Nature Center

Wandering through the Gambel Oak groves here at Bear Creek, I noticed something that piqued my curiosity. The oak trees still had leaves on them! They were brown, crinkled, and not at all what I envisioned for deciduous trees in winter. So, as a naturalist does, I began to wonder *why* there were still leaves on the oaks and if they served any purpose. Turns out, they do! Gambel Oaks are members of a special



*There's a special, scientific reason why we can enjoy Gambel Oak leaves all winter...*

group of deciduous trees, also called *everciduous*. Other trees in the *everciduous* category include beech, hornbeam, and witch-hazel. These trees don't complete the process of cutting all nutrients off from the leaf stem until spring, when new buds grow. Most deciduous trees finish this process, called *abscission*, in the fall and then lose their leaves.

The Gambel oaks keep their withering or *marcescent* leaves all winter, for several reasons. Trees and shrubs that grow in poor, dry soil like those at Bear Creek use this adaptation to shade the ground to help

snow melt and rain evaporate more slowly, deter deer and other herbivores from nibbling on new leaf buds, and, when they do let their leaves grow, to create mulch to further aid in holding in water around the shrubs. Don't you just love nature? 🐾

**El Paso County Nature Centers**  
**245 Bear Creek Rd.**  
**Colorado Springs, CO 80906**

## Spring Program Highlights



### **Children's Mindfulness - Move Your Body, Find Your Calm**

Wednesday, March 5, 2:00-3:30 p.m.  
or Saturday, March 8, 1:00-2:30 p.m.

### **Pikes Peak Beekeepers Association - Beekeeping School**

Saturday and Sunday, March 15 & 16, 8:30 a.m.-3:45 p.m.

### **Storytelling Moonlight Hike and Star Party at Kane Ranch Open Space**

Friday, April 11, 7:30 p.m. ~ 7:45 p.m. ~ 8:00 p.m.

### **Toddling Along**

Saturday, April 12, 9:30-10:30 a.m.

### **Community Science: Bumble Bee Atlas Workshop**

Saturday, May 24, 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.



### **Adult Birding Club**

Year-long program meeting twice per month

### **Fountain Creek Restoration Crew**

Saturday, April 5, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

**eBird Workshop** - Saturday, April 12, 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

**Beneficial Beavers** - Thursday, March 13, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

### **World Water Day Walkabout**

Saturday, March 22, 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

### **Chocolate Bunny Egg Hunt**

Saturday, April 19, 9am, 11am, 1pm, 3pm

**Family Fun Day** - Saturday, May 3, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

## Spring Recreation Highlights

**Women's Cold Weather Hiking Essentials and Outdoor Skills** - Saturday, March 1, 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.

### **Rainbow Falls Photography Workshops**

Saturday, March 8, 10:00 a.m. & 1:00 p.m.

### **Bunco at Fountain Creek Nature Center**

Saturday, March 28, 5:00 p.m.

**SoCo Collab Frost Fest at Bear Creek Regional Park**  
Saturday, May 10, 1:00 - 5:00 p.m.

### **Free Archery Day**

Saturday, May 24, 10:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

### **Prairies Hikes at Paint Mines Interpretive Park**

Friday, May 30, 1-3pm & Saturday, May 31, 9am-12pm

[www.elpasocountynaturecenters.com](http://www.elpasocountynaturecenters.com)