Garden of the Gods Adventure Series
Programs and Events
March 2020

Garden of the Gods Visitor & Nature Center is celebrating its 25th Anniversary of service to the Park in 2020. In celebration, we are pleased to present a year of special programs and events as part of the Garden of the Gods Adventure Series. The series features top naturalists, interpreters, historians and special guests presenting an array of exciting adventures, talks, demonstrations, walks and hikes that will highlight the many unique characteristics of Garden of the Gods Park while encouraging awareness of this National Natural Landmark. Proceeds benefit the Park through the non-profit 501(C)3 Garden of the Gods Foundation. Thank you for your support of our non-profit mission to provide public education and revenue to help maintain and conserve the park.

Reservations required for all programs listed at https://www.gardenofgods.com/things-to-do/things-1/adventure-programs
Questions? Call (719) 219-0104 or email programs@gardenofgods.com

Garden of the Gods History Hike
Saturday, March 7, 2020, 10:00 am-12:00 pm
$5 per person, reservations required at www.gardenofgods.com
Come hike through history at the Garden of the Gods. Join a city of Colorado Springs Park Interpreter to explore the human history of the park. Along the way you will see sites where structures once stood, and hear the stories of people who contributed to the park’s fascinating history. This program starts in the Red Rocks Room followed by an approximately 2.5 mile loop hike that will start and end at the Visitor Center. Dress for the weather, wear hiking shoes, and bring a daypack with water, snacks, a hat and sunscreen.

Knitting with a View
Sunday, March 8, 2020, 2:30 pm-4:30 pm
$5 per person, reservations required at www.gardenofgods.com
Join us for a relaxing afternoon of knitting or crocheting at the Garden of the Gods Visitor and Nature Center. Meet fellow hand-crafters and enjoy the best view in Colorado Springs! This is an informal gathering, and not a structured class. Bring your own projects, and/or make an easy charity project. Jennifer Heiny, Park Interpreter, and experienced knitter and crocheter, will be on site to answer your or Garden of the Gods questions. The group will meet in Bean Sprouts Café.

Learning to Write Personal Reflections and Journals
Sundays, 2 session workshop on March 15 and 22, 2020, 1:00 pm-3:00 pm
$10 per person, reservations required at www.gardenofgods.com
Words have power. Words trigger memories. In this two session workshop explore writing personal reflections and journals with a brief walk in Garden of the Gods. Along the way you will explore ways to express feelings and observations in words. We’ll also discuss some of the health benefits, both physical and mental, from writing. In the second session you’ll have the opportunity, to share what you’ve written from the first week’s walk with the class and receive positive feedback and encouragement. Led by award winning writer, journalist, and photographer David Short. Meet in the Red Rocks Room, bring a notebook.

Hike with a Naturalist
Friday, March 20, 2020, 2:30 pm-4:30 pm
$5 per person, reservations required at www.gardenofgods.com
Join a Garden of the Gods park naturalist on a 2.5 mile hike from the Visitor and Nature Center through the Central Garden. The focus will be on the nature behind the park designation of National Natural Landmark. Bring your questions! Cameras and binoculars welcome. Dress for the weather with hiking shoes, and bring a hat, water and sunscreen.

Kids Geology Hike
Saturday, March 28, 2020, 9:00 am-10:00 am
$5 per person, reservations required at www.gardenofgods.com
Garden of the Gods Rocks! Come join us for a new way to spend Spring Break. Garden of the Gods is known for its amazing rock formations, and this fun and lively presentation is a behind-the-scenes, crash course in nature and geology. Park Interpreter and Rock Hound Jennifer Heiny leads this unique indoor outdoor experience. The fun begins indoors, and (weather permitting) will end with a personalized guided nature walk out into the heart of the Park. Bring a water bottle, and dress for the outdoors. This program is designed for students 3rd Grade and older. Children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.
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| Daily           | 10:00 am and 2:00 pm | FREE Guided Nature Walks  
Join a short nature walk guided by park staff or volunteers. Weather dependent. Meet at the Garden of the Gods Visitor Center near the American flagpole. |
| Mondays         | 9:30 am          | Bighorn Sheep-Monarch of the Mountains  
Join us to learn about Colorado’s state mammal while using optics to look for these majestic animals from our deck. Presented by Volunteer Michelle McMurray |
| Mondays         | 11:00 am         | The Noisy Magpie-A Real Bird Brain  
What is that black and white bird with the long tail? Join us to learn more about these intelligent birds that have a lot of character. Presented by Volunteer Carol Wilcox |
| Tuesdays        | 3:45pm            | Cocoa and a Story  
Join us for a science themed story time, targeted for elementary school agers. Stay and relax after or enjoy themed coloring pages. The program is free but a drink or healthy snack purchase from Bean Sprouts Café required. |
| Tuesdays        | 3:45pm            | Wellness Walk  
Enjoy a FREE morning group walk in the park. Meet in the lower lobby at the Garden of the Gods Visitor Center. Maps are provided for a 1, 2, or 3 mile route. Register in person. |
| Wednesdays      | 9:00 am          | Rattlesnakessssss  
Join volunteer Jane Gasko to learn about the most misunderstood reptile of the American West. |
| Wednesdays      | 4:00 pm          | Gallop in the Garden Weekly 5K Fun Run/Walk  
A fun way to get in your weekly 5k walk, hike or run. Register in the lower lobby between 4:00 pm and 6:00 pm on Thursdays. Maps for 5k routes provided at check-in. Earn fun prizes from our sponsors, or complete 10 runs to get a Gallop in the Garden shirt for only $10! |
| Weeks March 13 and 20 | 10:00 am    | Preschool Program-Story and Craft  
FREE, reservations required by calling (719) 219-0108. Designed for ages 2-5. Children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. |
| Saturday        | 8:00 am          | Connect with the Garden Hike  
This one-hour morning hike is designed to connect visitors with the natural beauty of Garden of the Gods. Park Interpreter Bowen Gillings will lead hikers in a brief discussion before and after the hike, allowing for a quiet, meditative, and appreciative experience on the trail. Each month’s hike follows a different trail or set of trails. Hikes are on rough dirt, gravel, rock, and concrete and are not stroller friendly. Trails are all rated easy to moderate. Meet at Siamese Twins Trailhead (parking lot #14) off Garden Drive. Please, bring water and dress appropriately for the conditions. Questions? Call (719) 219-0108. |
| Sundays         | 12:00 pm         | Wild Cats of Garden of the Gods  
Join Park Interpreter, Larry Jones to learn about mountain lions and bobcats in the park. |

PLEASE NOTE: The Spring Equinox Evening Hike on Friday, March 20 is booked full and no more tickets are available. However, there will be more exciting astronomy hikes coming up in 2020. You can follow the Garden of the Gods Visitor & Nature Center on Facebook or visit www.gardenofgods.com for announcements of future astronomy hikes.
Garden of the Gods Adventure Series, April 2020

Garden of the Gods Visitor & Nature Center is celebrating its 25th Anniversary of service to the Park in 2020. In celebration, we are pleased to present a year of special programs and events as part of the Garden of the Gods Adventure Series. The series features top naturalists, interpreters, historians and special guests presenting an array of exciting adventures, talks, demonstrations, walks and hikes that will highlight the many unique characteristics of Garden of the Gods Park while encouraging awareness of this National Natural Landmark. Proceeds benefit the Park through the nonprofit 501(C)3 Garden of the Gods Foundation. Thank you for your support of our non-profit mission to provide public education and revenue to help maintain and conserve the park.


Questions? Call (719) 219-0104 or email programs@gardenofgods.com

Garden of the Gods History Hike
Friday, April 3, 2020, 11:00 am-1:00 pm
$5 per person, reservations required at www.gardenofgods.com

Come hike through history at the Garden of the Gods. Join a city of Colorado Springs Park Interpreter to explore the human history of the park. Along the way you will see sites where structures once stood, and hear the stories of people who contributed to the park’s fascinating history. This program starts in the Red Rocks Room followed by an approximately 2.5 mile loop hike that will start and end at the Visitor Center. Dress for the weather, wear hiking shoes, and bring a daypack with water, snacks, a hat and sunscreen.

Knitting with a View
Sunday, April 5, 2020, 2:30 pm-4:30 pm
$5 per person, reservations required at www.gardenofgods.com

Join us for a relaxing afternoon of knitting or crocheting at the Garden of the Gods Visitor and Nature Center. Meet fellow hand-crafters and enjoy the best view in Colorado Springs! This is an informal gathering, not a structured class. Bring your own projects, and/or make an easy charity project. Jennifer Henry, Park Interpreter, and experienced knitter and crocheter, will be on site to answer yarn or Garden of the Gods questions. The group will meet in Bean Sprouts Café.

Geology Hike with Jay Temple
Saturday, April 11, 2020, 9:00 am-12:00 pm
$5 per person, reservations required at www.gardenofgods.com

Please join us for a hike with geologist Jay Temple to learn about the beautiful rock features at Garden of the Gods and the geology of Colorado’s Front Range. Program starts in the Red Rocks Room at the Garden of the Gods Visitor & Nature Center followed by a moderate (2.3 mile) hike into the park. Dress for the weather, wear sturdy hiking shoes, and bring water, a hat and sunscreen.

Garden of the Gods Walkabout
Sunday, April 19, 2020, 9:00 am-12:00 pm
$10 per person, reservations required at www.gardenofgods.com

Take a walkabout with wildlife expert Elise Hughes Berheim in Garden of the Gods Park! Elise has a Master’s Degree in Wildlife Sciences and a passion for connecting people to nature through education in the outdoors. Elise is the founder of Environmental Experiences LLC. Expect a moderate hike between 3.5 miles. Dress for the weather, wear hiking shoes and bring water, a hat and sunscreen. Elise provides snacks for the mid-hike break. Bring your wildlife questions and a sense of adventure! All ages welcome but children must be accompanied by a parent or responsible adult. Meet in the Red Rocks Room.

Hike with a Naturalist
Friday, April 24, 2020, 2:30 pm-4:30 pm
$5 per person, reservations required at www.gardenofgods.com

Join a Garden of the Gods park naturalist on a 2.5 mile hike from the Visitor and Nature Center through the Central Garden. The focus will be on the nature behind the park designation of National Natural Landmark. Bring your questions! Cameras and binoculars welcome. Dress for the weather with hiking shoes, and bring a hat, water and sunscreen.

Writing With a View
Sunday, April 26, 2020, 2:30 pm-4:30 pm
$5 per person, reservations required at www.gardenofgods.com

Come join us for a productive afternoon at the Garden of the Gods Visitor and Nature Center. Meet fellow writers during this structured event that combines inspiring views and a bit of local flavor with creative writing fuel. A series of four writing prompts following Pikes Peak Region themes will help you put words on the page. Bring your laptop, tablet, or pen and paper. Writers of all experience levels welcome. Bowen Gillings—park interpreter, local author, and all-around good guy—will be on site to facilitate the event and address any Garden of the Gods questions. Writers meet in the Bean Sprouts Café at the Visitor and Nature Center. Space limited to 20 writers due to seating limitations.
### FREE Presentations and Programs

FREE short educational presentations are provided by dedicated and knowledgeable park staff and volunteers. This schedule is subject to change. All FREE Presentations are in the Red Rocks Room unless otherwise noted. Questions? Call (719) 219-0108

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<td><strong>Gallop in the Garden Weekly 5K Fun Run/Walk</strong>&lt;br&gt;A fun way to get in your weekly 5k walk, hike or run. Register in the lower lobby between 4:00 pm and 6:00 pm on Thursdays. Maps for 5K routes provided at check-in. Earn fun prizes from our sponsors, or complete 10 runs to get a Gallop in the Garden shirt for $10!</td>
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<td><strong>Fridays</strong>&lt;br&gt;April 10 and 24</td>
<td>10:00 am</td>
<td><strong>Preschool Program—Story and Craft</strong>&lt;br&gt;Reservations required. PLEASE NOTE THIS PROGRAM IS CURRENTLY FULL. Call (719) 219-0108 for info on waitlist. Designed for ages 2-5. Children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.</td>
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<td><strong>Saturday</strong>&lt;br&gt;April 25</td>
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<td><strong>Connect with the Garden Hike</strong>&lt;br&gt;This one-hour morning hike is designed to connect visitors with the natural beauty of Garden of the Gods. Park Interpreter Bowen Gillings will lead hikers in a brief discussion before and after the hike, allowing for a quiet, meditative, and appreciative experience on the trail. Each month’s hike follows a different trail or set of trails. Hikes are on rough dirt, gravel, rock, and concrete and are not stroller friendly. Meet at High Point (parking lot #9) on Ridge Road. Please, bring water and dress appropriately for the conditions.</td>
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<td><strong>Wild Cats of Garden of the Gods</strong>&lt;br&gt;Join Park Interpreter, Larry Jones to learn about mountain lions and bobcats in the park.</td>
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### City Nature Challenge 2020: Colorado Springs

**April 24-27**

Get to know your wild neighbors by being a part of the 2020 City Nature Challenge in Colorado Springs! Explore our community’s biodiversity by identifying as many species of wildlife, birds, plants and bugs as possible within the city limits— that includes regional parks, open spaces, city parks and even your own backyard!

How to get started? It’s easy and FREE. Download the iNaturalist app to your mobile device. Search under Projects for “Colorado Springs” and find the City Nature Challenge 2020: Colorado Springs, then select join. Find nature in all its forms, use the app to take a picture and upload your photos to iNaturalist. Members of the iNaturalist community will help with identification. It’s as simple as that!

Specific to Garden of the Gods during the City Nature Challenge we will have Nature Walks and Animal Touch Tables where visitors can learn about and use the iNaturalist app.

For more info and educator resources visit www.citynaturechallenge.org