



# ARAPAHOE COUNTY Proclamation

## PROCLAMATION ESTABLISHING JULY 2025 AS PARK AND RECREATION MONTH

**WHEREAS**, parks and recreation are integral to communities throughout Colorado and Arapahoe County, which encompasses over 805 square miles from the High Plains to the Rocky Mountain foothills; and

**WHEREAS**, Arapahoe County has built or improved more than 78 miles of trails, supported more than 190 parks and trailhead projects, and protected more than 32,000 acres including Dove Valley Regional Park, Richmil Ranch, Bijou Basin Open Spaces and 45 miles of the High Line Canal Trail system; and

**WHEREAS**, parks and recreation promote health and wellness, improving the physical and mental health of Arapahoe County's 695,000+ residents while encouraging physical activities through hiking trails, outdoor recreation, local sports and activities for all ages and abilities; and

**WHEREAS**, parks and recreation connect people to nature's beauty and solace while preserving the county's agricultural heritage, with programming including CSU Extension summer camps, naturalist education, and historical programming at places such as 17 Mile House Farm Park that are critical to childhood development and lifelong learning; and

**WHEREAS**, parks and recreation increase Arapahoe County's economic prosperity through increased property values, expansion of the local tax base, increased tourism to destinations like the Arapahoe County Fairgrounds and Events Center, and attraction of businesses seeking quality-of-life amenities; and

**WHEREAS**, parks and recreation are fundamental to environmental well-being, protecting critical wildlife corridors, preserving native prairie ecosystems, maintaining water quality along the South Platte, Cherry Creek and numerous creek and river basins in the Eastern Part of the County, ensuring future generations inherit healthy natural environments, scenic viewsheds, and thriving biodiversity; and

**WHEREAS**, Arapahoe County's park system serves residents across 13 municipalities and unincorporated areas, fostering community connections and encouraging public participation in conservation efforts through volunteer programs, citizen science, and educational initiatives that foster shared responsibility for protecting natural resources; and

**WHEREAS**, the U.S. House of Representatives has designated July as Park and Recreation Month; and

**WHEREAS**, Arapahoe County recognizes the immeasurable benefits derived from parks and recreational resources and the dedicated professionals who maintain and operate these vital community assets; and

**WHEREAS**, the County's stewardship ensures responsible growth and sustainability commitments for future generations.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of County Commissioners of Arapahoe County, Colorado, that July 2025 is hereby proclaimed as **Park and Recreation Month in Arapahoe County**. We encourage all members of our community—from Aurora to Littleton, from Sheridan to Deer Trail—to get outside and take advantage of all the parks, trails, open spaces, and recreational opportunities our County has to offer, and to support the continued development and preservation of these essential community resources.



Commissioner Carrie Warren-Gully



Commissioner Jessica Campbell



Commissioner Leslie Summey  
Chair of the Board



Commissioner Jeff Baker  
Chair Pro Tem



Commissioner Rhonda Fields