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## Living in Coyote Country



The Colorado Division of Wildlife (DOW) is asking people to take precautions with their pets when living in coyote country. Several recent coyote attacks on pets have taken place in open space areas and private yards in neighborhoods adjacent to Bible Park, George Wallace Park, and other nearby neighborhoods.

Remember, coyotes are **not** pets, but wild animals that are predators and should be treated with caution and respect. There are several precautions people can take to decrease the odds of an attack:

### **Pets**

- Keep pets on a leash when walking them.
- While at home, pets should not be allowed to roam freely, even in an enclosed yard. There is a risk of predation, especially at night.
- Feed pets inside in an effort to keep pet food from attracting coyotes and other wildlife.
- Provide human supervision while outdoors, even in your own backyard.
- Do not allow pets (or children) to run loose in areas where there is coyote activity
- Keep pets in fenced areas or kennels; split rail fences and invisible fences will not keep your pet safe from predators. Pet kennels and runs should have a fully-enclosed roof.

### **Discouraging Coyotes near Homes**

- Frighten coyotes with loud noises; use unnatural odors (such as ammonia) to clean trash cans.
- **REMOVE ALL FOOD ATTRACTANTS**, such as pet food, table scraps on compost piles, fallen fruit, and spilled seed beneath birdfeeders.
- Remove vegetation/brush that provides cover for coyotes; trim lower limbs of shrubs/conifer trees.
- Use yard lights with motion detectors, appearance of the sudden light can frighten coyotes.

### **DO NOT FEED Wildlife**

Many urban coyote conflicts often center on feeding issues. When people feed wildlife, it doesn't take long to teach a wild animal to associate people with food. It is very difficult to convince a habituated coyote to return to wild ways.

### **Children**

- Remind children not to approach or feed any wildlife.
- If children feel threatened by the presence of coyotes or other wildlife, they should stay in a group and walk slowly to an area where adults are present.
- Make sure your child understands that a coyote is a wild dog and should be treated with caution.

## Coyote Encounters

- Coyotes are usually wary of humans and will avoid people whenever possible. Aggressive behavior toward people is not normal and is often a result of habituation due to feeding by humans.
- Never feed or attempt to "tame" a coyote.
- Do not turn your back or run from a coyote.
- If approached or followed by a coyote, make loud noises, yell and make yourself look big.
- If the coyote approaches to an uncomfortably close distance, throw rocks or other objects at the coyote.
- Adults should keep themselves between the coyote and small children.

While attacks on humans are extremely rare, people should still take precautions. Encounters with aggressive coyotes should be reported to the Colorado Division of Wildlife at (303)297-1192. For more information, please ask for a copy of "Living with Wildlife in Coyote Country" at your local Division of Wildlife office or find it on the web at:

<http://wildlife.state.co.us/WildlifeSpecies/LivingWithWildlife/Mammals/CoyoteCountry.htm>

*The Colorado Division of Wildlife (DOW) is the state agency responsible for managing wildlife and its habitat, as well as providing wildlife related recreation. DOW is funded through hunting and fishing license fees, federal grants and Colorado Lottery proceeds through Great Outdoors Colorado.*

## Denver Police Citizen Academy

Have you ever wanted to know what the police know? Now is your chance. Join the Denver Police Department's *Denver Police Citizen Academy*. The academy is a free 12 week program, open to the public, helping citizens learn more about the department's programs (SWAT, K-9, Gang Unit, Investigations, etc).

If you have further questions or to register for the Academy, contact Technician Mike Rappe at [Mike.Rappe@denvergov.org](mailto:Mike.Rappe@denvergov.org) or call 720-913-6878. You will need to fill out an application and sign the Citizen Advisory Form which authorizes a criminal record clearance.

### 2008 Academy Schedule

**April 9th – June 25<sup>th</sup> (registration ends April 8<sup>th</sup>)**

September 17th – December 3rd

*All Classes are from 6:30pm- 9:30pm*

Denver Police Department Academy

2121 Akron Way Denver, Colorado

## Eyes on Our Parks and Parkways

Our southeast Denver Parks Superintendent has reported that many backflows have been stolen from our parks and medians in southeast Denver. You are encouraged to call the police immediately if you see any suspicious activities in these areas, especially at night time. It would be helpful if you are able to give a description of the car and license plate number if you think it is related to the problem.

These backflows are *very* costly so your quick action could save some taxpayer dollars and help apprehend the culprits at the same time. The purpose of a backflow device or check valve is to prevent fresh city water contamination. The device prevents water from siphoning back into the city water lines.



# Wabash Bridge Survey Results

On February 26<sup>th</sup>, a community meeting was held to discuss Arapahoe County's proposal to build a bridge connecting E. Iliff Ave. to E. Yale Ave. via Wabash Street, crossing the Cherry Creek. Approximately 150 people attended the meeting. At the meeting a survey was conducted to gather constituent opinion on the bridge. In addition, constituents were able to take the survey on our website. In total, 130 surveys were counted: 82 from the Feb. 26<sup>th</sup> meeting and 48 gathered from the website. Here are the results:

## Where do you live?

Denver: 90.8% (118)  
Arapahoe County: 8.5% (11)  
No Answer: .8% (1)

## What times do you travel on Yale/Yosemite?

Peak Hours (7-9am & 4-6pm): 23.8% (31)  
Off-Peak Hours: 14.6% (19)  
Both: 56.9% (74)  
No Answer: 4.6% (6)

## What issues are most important?

Traffic and noise increases: 62.3% (81)  
School and pedestrian safety: 41.5% (54)  
Wildlife & open space preservation: 11.5% (15)  
Needed improvement in the area  
(e.g. traffic light at Yale/Syracuse): 15.4% (20)  
Adequate access for cars and emergency vehicles: 3.8% (5)

## What is your opinion of the Wabash Bridge?

Opposed: 36.9% (48)  
In favor: 21.5% (28)  
In favor, but only with conditions  
(e.g. improvements to intersection): 30.0% (39)  
Pedestrian/Emergency Bridge only: 6.2% (8)

## How often do you travel on Yale/Yosemite in a week?

5+ times: 63.8% (83)  
1-4 times: 30.8% (40)  
Never: 4.6% (6)  
No Answer: .8% (1)

## Would you use the proposed Wabash Bridge?

Yes: 49.2% (64)  
No: 42.2% (60)  
Maybe: 3.8% (5)  
No Answer: .8% (1)

## New Information

Arapahoe County has sent an official letter to Denver stating that they plan to move forward with building the bridge.

Councilwoman Lehmann is now meeting with Kelly Brough, Mayor's Chief of Staff, and Bill Vidal, Manager of Public Works, to discuss the contents of the letter and to decide what Denver's next steps will be on this issue. We will continue to keep you updated.

## Summer Camp with Denver Parks + Recreation



Denver Parks & Recreation is offering 6 outdoor-based day camps held in our parks and 11 indoor camps held at various recreation centers throughout the metro Denver area. All programs are licensed and offer activities in arts & crafts, sports & fitness, playground & water games, field trips, and special events. Most day camps start the second week in June and conclude the first week in August. **Summer Camp registration has begun**, so hurry and sign up as camps fill quickly. Registration is limited. Registration for non-residents will begin on Monday, May 5, 2008.

For more information visit <http://www.denvergov.org/Recreation>. You can pick up the new spring and summer recreation program brochure at the nearest recreation center, Denver Public Library, or at the Children's Museum of Denver.

## Denver Celebrates National Poetry Month

April is National Poetry Month and Denver's Office of Cultural Affairs would like to invite you to celebrate the month by participating in a wide range of poetry activities taking place throughout Denver. A complete list of events can be found at [www.denvergov.org/poetry](http://www.denvergov.org/poetry).

**Poetry Flash Mob.** Tuesday, April 1, 12 p.m. To kick off Poetry Month, the public is invited to join with poets for a simultaneous reading along the 16<sup>th</sup> Street Mall. Anyone interested should meet on the 16<sup>th</sup> Street Mall at Glenarm.

**Open Mic Night.** Every Friday, 10:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome to share their poetry at Mercury Café's (2199 California St.) Open Mic Nights.

**Art from Ashes.** First Fridays, 7:00 p.m. Youth are invited to express their experiences and challenges in a therapeutic peer environment at Art from Ashes. Writing and presenting their own words draws youth into community and helps them to develop their creative voice. For locations, please visit [www.denvergov.org/poetry](http://www.denvergov.org/poetry)

**Workshops.** Organizations such as Lighthouse Writers Workshop offer workshops and classes for those interested in developing their own poetry skills.

## Press Your Luck, Sponsor a Duck



4<sup>th</sup> Annual  
**Denver Rubber Duck Drop**  
Sunday, May 4<sup>th</sup>, 12:30pm- 3pm  
George Wallace Park

### Race to Win Fabulous Prizes

4 Round-Trip Tickets on Southwest  
Whole Foods Gift Certificates  
Winter Park Ski/Board Passes  
Restaurant Gift Certificates  
And Much, Much More

Come and watch sponsored rubber ducks drop into Goldsmith Gulch and race for fabulous prizes while raising money for our Southeast Denver Public Schools: *Bradley International, Holm, Samuels, Slavons, and Southmoor Elementary.*

### **How it Works:**

Participants can sponsor one duck for \$5 or five ducks for \$20. Sponsors of the winning ducks will receive amazing prizes. Ducks will drop into the water at 2pm. To sponsor a duck visit Whole Foods Market at Tamarac, any participating elementary school before the race, or at George Wallace Park on the day of the race. With your sponsorship, you will receive a numbered entry ticket that corresponds to a numbered rubber duck. You do not need to be present to win.

### **Come Early to Participate in the Duck Fest:**

In addition to the excitement of watching the race, the Duck Drop will include a Duck Fest starting at 12:30pm. The Duck Fest will feature fun, interactive exhibits to entertain race spectators. Come enjoy children's crafts, face painting, a bubble tower, Biker Jim's famous gourmet hot dogs, and much more.

For any additional information, a list of prizes, and a map to the event, please visit [www.DenverRubberDuckDrop.com](http://www.DenverRubberDuckDrop.com) or call our office at 303-504-5781.

## And The Award Goes To....

Every year the City and County of Denver recognizes nominated City employees who have gone above and beyond, exemplifying the values of the City's goals. We are proud to announce that our Southeast Parks & Recreation Field Superintendent, **Jim Kellner**, won an honorable mention "5281 award" for his work in keeping Denver parks thriving during drought & heavy usage, increased designated parkland and community relations, all with minimal resources.

Congratulations Jim! We are happy to have you a part of the SE parks system.



## FREE Mulch and Compost Sale!

Help your garden grow this year with Denver Recycles mulch from the *TreeCycle* program and compost made from the *LeafDrop* program. Go to one of the following pick up sites on **Saturday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>** from **8am to 3pm**, and don't forget to bring your pitchforks & shovels, containers (trash bags), and tarps. For more information call 720-865-6810 or visit [www.denvergov.org/denverrecycles](http://www.denvergov.org/denverrecycles).

### Mulch Pick-Up locations:

- \* *Veteran's Park* (Iowa & Vine St.)
- \* *Sloan's Lake Park* (Sheridan & 17<sup>th</sup> Ave.)
- \* *Bear Creek Park* (South of Dartmouth on Raleigh)
- \* *Havana Nursery* (10450 Smith Road)

**Compost Pick-Up** is available only at the **Havana Nursery** (10450 Smith Road). Compost prices are \$3 per 10 gallon bag or 28.50 per cubic yard.

## Fraud Alert: No Such Thing as a Free Lunch!

The old saying, "There is no such thing as a Free Lunch" is as true today as it ever was. Sure, an invitation to a "Free Lunch" at an upscale restaurant from an investment company is enticing. However, seniors should be aware that there is a hook.

Advertised with names like "Seniors Financial Survival Seminar" or "Senior Financial Safety Workshop," these seminars offer "free" advice by "experts" on how to attain a secure retirement, or offer financial planning or inheritance advice. Many advertisements promise to not sell you anything. Securities and investment regulatory entities investigating these "Free Lunch" seminars uncovered that in follow-up sales pitches, which take place after a number of casual phone conversations, the salesperson recommends liquidating existing investments and using the proceeds to buy indexed or variable annuity products, which may be unsuitable for seniors.

### Prevention:

- Turn down Free Lunch Seminars!
- Contact the National Association of Securities Dealers (NASD) for a free broker check at 1-800-289-9999 or [www.nasdbrokercheck.com](http://www.nasdbrokercheck.com).
- Contact your state securities regulator. In Colorado, call the **Colorado Division of Securities at 303-894-2320**

**Need help or have a question? Call the Denver DA Fraud Line: 720-913-9179**

# April Calendar of Events

## Denver Police Citizen Advisory Board Meeting.

**Thursday, April 3, 2008 at 6:00pm.** Denver Police Department- District Three (1625 S. University Blvd.) CABs objective is to form a partnership of communication with the community. For any questions, please contact Tech Tony Burkhardt, [Anthony.Burkhardt@denvergov.org](mailto:Anthony.Burkhardt@denvergov.org) or Tech Cari Jimenez @ [cari.jimenez@denvergov.org](mailto:cari.jimenez@denvergov.org).

## Denver Center for the Performing Arts FREE DAY: *Doubt*

**Thursday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30pm** (ticket office opens at 4:30pm). Ricketson Theatre at DCPA (1103 13<sup>th</sup> St.) 303-893-4000. No reservations; box office opens 2 hours before performance; one ticket per person; first-come first-served; no children under 6 years old.

## Laying of the MLK Memorial Wreath Ceremony

**Friday, April 4<sup>th</sup> at 6pm.** City Park: "I Have a Dream Monument" (17<sup>th</sup> & Esplanade). You are invited to participate in a Laying of the Memorial Wreath Ceremony, in honor of the 40th anniversary of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

## Denver Botanic Gardens at Chatfield FREE DAY

**Friday, April 4<sup>th</sup>.** 8500 Deer Creek Canyon Rd, Littleton. 303-973-3705; [www.botanicgardens.org](http://www.botanicgardens.org)

## Denver Art Museum FREE DAY

**Saturday, April 5<sup>th</sup>.** 100 West 14th Avenue Parkway. 720-865-5000; [www.denverartmuseum.org](http://www.denverartmuseum.org)

## 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Doors Open Denver

**Saturday, April 12<sup>th</sup> – Sunday, April 13<sup>th</sup>.** Celebrate the 150th anniversary of the founding of Denver. Doors Open Denver 2008 will celebrate by opening doors representing "150 Years of Denver Architecture." This free weekend event invites citizens to experience Denver's built environment in a new way – from inside many buildings that are not ordinarily, or are only partially, open to the public. Find more information at: [www.denvergov.org/doorsopendenver](http://www.denvergov.org/doorsopendenver)

## The Principled Politician: The Ralph Carr Story

**Tuesday, April 15<sup>th</sup>. 1pm and 7pm.** Colorado History Museum (1300 Broadway). 9 News legislative reporter Adam Schragger examines Governor Ralph Carr's decision to stand up for Japanese Americans after the attack on Pearl Harbor. \$7/members, \$8.50/nonmembers. Reservations required. For more info: 303/866-4686; [www.coloradohistory.org/programs/lectures.htm](http://www.coloradohistory.org/programs/lectures.htm)

## Growing Up in Colorado

**Saturday, April 19<sup>th</sup>. 11am to 3pm.** Colorado History Museum (1300 Broadway). What was it like to grow up in Colorado one hundred years ago? Learn how children in the Victorian age had fun. Free for adults with museum admission, and Saturday museum admission is free for children under 12. For more information: 303/866-4686; [www.coloradohistory.org/programs/kids\\_fam\\_hexp.htm](http://www.coloradohistory.org/programs/kids_fam_hexp.htm)

## Denver Museum of Nature & Science FREE DAY

**Sunday, April 20<sup>th</sup>.** 2001 Colorado Blvd. 303-322-7009; [www.dmns.org](http://www.dmns.org)

## Denver Botanic Gardens FREE DAY

**Tuesday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>.** 1005 York St., Denver. 720-865-3500; [www.botanicgardens.org](http://www.botanicgardens.org)

## Starz Pan African Film Festival

**Wednesday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>- Sunday, April 27<sup>th</sup>.** Starz Film Center (900 Auraria Pkwy). A slate of films, panels, and workshops exploring the African-American experience. [www.panafricanarts.org](http://www.panafricanarts.org)

*Contact my office:*

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