



who we are

Chatfield State Park offers a wealth of recreational activities, conveniently located on the southeast side of the Denver metropolitan area. Additionally, Chatfield State Park is truly one of Colorado's full service outdoor recreation areas. Available activities include picnicking, boating, swimming, wildlife viewing, bicycling, hiking, fishing, camping and other activities. Other more unique recreational pursuits that can be found at Chatfield which are not readily available at many locations around Colorado include an off-leash dog exercise area, dog tracking, water dog rescue training, triathlete swimming practice, scuba instruction, hot air ballooning, and remote control model airplane flying.

Visitors to Chatfield State Park spend over \$9.5 million annually at local businesses.

Source: Corona Research, **Colorado State Parks Marketing Assessment**, "Visitor Spending Analysis 2008-2009."

top attractions

- Camping
- Hiking
- Fishing
- Biking
- Picnicking
- Swimming
- Model airplane flying
- Horseback riding
- Boating
- Hot air ballooning
- Bird watching
- Wildlife viewing
- Environmental and education programs

our partners

- Audubon Society of Greater Denver
- Centennial Water & Sanitation District
- Civil Air Patrol, Dakota Ridge Composite Squadron
- Chatfield Ballooning Association/Chatfield Balloonport
- Chatfield Marina
- Chatfield Stables
- Chatfield Community Association
- Colorado Division of Wildlife
- Denver Water
- Highlands Ranch Metro District
- Jeffco Aeromodelers
- Lockheed Martin
- Platte Valley Pony Club
- Rocky Mountain Balloon Festival
- South Suburban Parks & Recreation
- South Metro Denver Chamber of Commerce
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary

challenges we face

- A proposal to increase water storage by raising the level of the reservoir would greatly affect the swim beach, marina, and other park facilities, possibly eliminating 500 acres of the park's upland habitat while creating significant water level fluctuations.
- Chatfield State Park has traditionally operated at the thinnest of fiscal margins, sacrificing long-term infrastructure and facility maintenance for short-term fiscal savings. This approach continues to weaken the investment in park infrastructure.
- Housing and urbanization are rapidly surrounding the park, resulting in increased issues about trails, roads, facilities, and public safety. Higher neighborhood population also increases the number of people entering the park without paying the entry fee, which affects park revenues and stretches park staff even further.

our enduring vision

Colorado State Parks offer exceptional settings for renewal of the human spirit. Residents and visitors enjoy healthy, fun-filled interaction with the natural world, creating rich traditions with family and friends that promote stewardship of our natural resources. Park employees and their partners work together to provide ongoing and outstanding customer service through recreational programs, amenities and services.

statistics and ratios

Visitation FY 09-10: **1,633,878**

Estimated expenditures within 50 miles of the park: **\$9,510,147 (2008-2009)**

Full-time staff: **15**

Visitor to full-time staff ratio: **108,925:1**

Temporary employees: **72**

Volunteers: **84**

Volunteer hours contributed: **10,320**

County: **Jefferson, Douglas, and Arapahoe**

Congressional District: **6**

State Legislative Districts

Senate: **22, 26 and 30**

House: **25, 38, 43 and 44**

expenses/revenue

Total operating expenses: **\$2,025,755**

Total construction expenses: **\$ 694,766**

Total revenue generated: **\$ 1,935,101**

Self-sufficiency ratio: **96%**
(FY 09-10 revenues/operating expenses)

land acquisitions FY 09-10

There were no new acquisitions in FY 09-10.

volunteer activities

- Volunteer opportunities include naturalists, campground hosts, trail hosts, maintenance support, office support and Dog Off Leash Area ambassadors.
- Annual volunteer recruitment open houses allow interested people to learn about all of the different volunteer opportunities available at the park.
- Other volunteer activities include Eagle Scout projects, large group projects and cooperative projects with the Audubon Society of Greater Denver.

park inventory

Year became a state park: **1975**
Land acres: **3,895**
Water acres: **1,423**
Elevation: **5,430'**

Ownership

State Parks: **0%**
Other: **100%**

Miles of Roads

Paved: **33.3**
Unpaved: **1.6**

Miles of Trails

Hard Surface Trails: **26.0**
Biking: **26.0**
Horse: **24.0**

Boat ramps: **2**

Marinas: **1**

Picnic sites: **139**

Campsites: **197**

plus 10 group campsites

Concessions at the park:

Chatfield Marina and
Boat Rental
Chatfield Paint Horse Stables

Major buildings/structures:

Group picnic areas **4**
Shower buildings **6**
Maintenance shop
Park office
Swim beach complex

to contact us:

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42 great
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Colorado State Parks